


# CCT

Fall 2016

Columbia  
College  
Today 

**ROBERT A.M. STERN '60**  
THE RENOWNED ARCHITECT  
CONSIDERS THE PAST WHILE  
LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

**THE LIONS' KING**  
PETER PILLING LEADS NEW  
ERA IN COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

**CONVOCATION**  
CLASS OF 2020  
EMBARKS UPON ITS  
COLUMBIA JOURNEY



## HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION

Students  
explore career  
paths through  
real-world work  
experiences





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## Within the Family

# Class of 2020 Prepares To Roar

Nothing signals the end of summer and the dawning of a new academic year quite like the sight of enthusiastic students in brightly colored T-shirts pushing large bins filled with life's essentials to residence halls around Morningside Heights, accompanied by wide-eyed first-year students and anxious parents.

On August 29, I pulled my Prius to the curb at Amsterdam near West 115th Street to drop off my daughter, Deborah BC'14, for work. Before I could put the car in park, a group of NSOP students (that's New Student Orientation Program for those unfamiliar with Columbia acronyms, pronounced EN-sop) started heading toward us with bright smiles and clapping hands, bins in tow, welcoming us to campus. My daughter, who had been an NSOP leader during her Barnard days, waved at them with a big smile of her own.

Move-in Day/Convocation, usually the Monday before Labor Day, is one of my favorite days of the year, a milestone for students and parents alike. Having been there and done that, as both a student and a parent, I know it is a day of significant transition for all.

For the first-years, it marks the beginning of an exciting chapter in their lives, a time of growth and uncertainty and mistakes and learning. It's the start of a unique time of exploration and adventure. They will settle in to their new homes in the morning and experience the pageantry of Convocation in the afternoon, with an often tear-filled goodbye shared with parents and other loved ones along the way.

Parents fall into two groups. For parents who are saying goodbye to their only or youngest child, it is the first true taste of empty-nesting. For those who will be going home with the first-year's siblings, it's a portent of the separation that's to come.

I barely remember my move-in experience in fall 1967. I recall my parents dropping me off near the gates of Carman Hall and helping me bring my belongings to my room on the fourth floor, overlooking West 114th Street. There was no Convocation program, as best I can recall, so we said goodbye and I was on my own. Of course, that's all relative, as my parents' apartment in Brooklyn was just a subway ride away (which made it easy to drop off laundry).

In 2010, my move-in experience as a parent was nothing short of amazing. I had some idea of what to expect, as I had observed the process for CCT many times, but like so many things, you don't fully appreciate it until you go through it yourself. Talk about a well-oiled machine: It was barely an hour from the time an NSOP volunteer unloaded our car until my daughter was unpacked and settling into her room in Brooks Hall. The spirit and energy of the students who helped us was

infectious and helped make "losing" (if only temporarily) our only child less painful.

Move-in Day leads into Convocation, with its parade of flags representing all of the first-years' home states and countries; the Alumni Procession, in which former students march with their class year banners by decade and which shows the incoming students that the relationship they are beginning with the College lasts

for a lifetime; and the welcoming address from Dean James J. Valentini, whose thought-provoking remarks never fail to amuse and inspire.

It's a full day, but it's just the start of eight days of NSOP programs and activities throughout New York City designed to embrace and energize first-years. This year's schedule included academic events such as their first Literature Humanities class, covering *The Iliad*; a New York Mets game and the hit Broadway show *Something Rotten*; tours of New York neighborhoods to introduce newcomers to the city; and even a trip to Bed, Bath & Beyond.

The program was planned by a student committee that worked all summer under the guidance of members of the Division of Undergraduate Student Life. Its theme, "NSOP Out Loud," was chosen by the NSOP committee "to reflect the community you are joining," according to the 56-page schedule, which explained: "During your time at Barnard College and Columbia University, you have the opportunities to live out loud: be the actor on stage, athlete on the field, student in the classroom, or voice in society. Your voices are ringing from all corners of the globe, echoing your individual experiences, backgrounds, and personalities. Columbia and Barnard are a symphony of voices, each one unique and special, resounding with its own tune. What sounds will you create? What symphonies will you join? Put your sound out there. Discover yourself. BE LOUD!"

That sounds good to me. Roar, Class of 2020, Roar!



JILL SHOMER

*Alex Sachare*

Alex Sachare '71  
Editor in Chief



## Scholar's Lion

I thoroughly enjoyed reading “The Scholarly Artist” [Summer 2016]. My interactions with Greg Wyatt ’71 during the late 1990s left me impressed and inspired. In the well-written article by Shira Boss ’93, JRN’97, SIPA’98, I wish it had been mentioned that *Scholar’s Lion* was a project conceptualized and initiated as the graduation gift of the Class of 1996. Our class marshals met with Mr. Wyatt a number of times between 1995 and completion of the project to speak about our vision for a gift to the campus. I feel comfortable speaking for my class when I say that we are eternally grateful for the recent addition of a plaque with our class year to the base of this monumental addition to an already picturesque campus. At the same time, we acknowledge the fact that this project would not have been possible without the generosity of Mr. Wyatt, other members of the Class of 1971 and those listed on the initial plaque.



ANNE RYAN HEATWOLE JRN '09

**Dr. Uchenna Acholonu Jr. '96**  
New Hyde Park, N.Y.

### General Donovan

The Summer 2016 “Did You Know?” item on William J. Donovan (Class of 1905, LAW 1908), “Columbia’s CIA Connection,” had errors and significant omissions. Donovan received the Distinguished Service Cross in WWI but was also awarded the highest American military decoration, the Medal of Honor, as well as the Distinguished Service Medal. He thus enjoyed

the singular honor of being awarded the three highest U.S. medals for wartime service. However, Donovan did not receive the Purple Heart, a medal instituted in 1932. Stripes on a uniform’s right sleeve indicated WWI combat wounds.

After Donovan returned from France in 1919, Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin Delano Roosevelt recruited his Law School friend as an agent of the Office of Naval Intelligence, and over the years the Republican Donovan made several overseas trips in a private capacity to gather intelligence for Roosevelt, the aspiring Democratic politician. After Roosevelt became President, he sent Donovan to report on the Ethiopian War from the Italian side and to observe Spanish Civil War operations. In winter 1940–41, under British auspices, Donovan undertook a 10-week information-gathering and secret diplomacy mission for the President in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. By the time he became coordinator of information in mid-1941, Donovan had been collecting intelligence for Roosevelt for more than 20 years.

After his command of the Office of Strategic Services in WWII, Donovan began writing a book about Revolutionary War intelligence as organized by the true “Father of American Intelligence,” George Washington. He depicted espionage as an honorable American tradition, implicitly rebutting post-war Republican isolationists and advocating what became the CIA. In 1948, Donovan encouraged Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to accept the presidency of Columbia. But five years later, after his election as U.S. President, Eisenhower dashed Donovan’s hopes to become CIA director. Donovan’s unpublished manuscript is housed in Columbia’s Rare Book & Manuscript Library. A University monument to Donovan stands appropriately on the bridge between the main campus and the [Arthur W. Diamond] Law Library.

**Brian R. Sullivan '67, GSAS'84**  
Rockville, Md.

*Editor’s note: Although the Purple Heart was instituted in 1932, it was retroactively awarded to those wounded in WWI who had previously received Meritorious Service Citation certifi-*

### 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](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus).



ates or those authorized to wear wound chevrons. The monument mentioned in this letter is Tightrope Walker, on Revson Plaza near the Law School, created by Dutch artist Kees Verkade and installed in 1979. According to the Columbia University Libraries, "In choosing to depict two tightrope walkers, one balancing upon the shoulders of the other, Verkade wanted to display the courage and controlled daring of Gen. Donovan."

## Good Memories

My Summer 2016 issue arrived this past weekend and I was saddened to learn that Jim McMillian '70 had passed away. Thank you for your mentions of Jim, both in the editor's column and "Obituaries."

When I was growing up in the Columbia neighborhood (my father worked in the Barnard administration), I was lucky to go to the old gym in those years when Jim was leading the Lions (along with some other impressive players, including Heyward Dotson '70, LAW'76). My dad brought tickets home and I remember walking to the games with him through the old tunnel and being overwhelmed by the noise and energy in the tight quarters of that gym. It was a wonderful window for Columbia basketball and I enthusiastically followed Jim's career into the NBA, proud to have seen him play so brilliantly for the Lions. I was so sorry to learn that Jim died.

On another note, thank you for the notice of WKCR marking 75 years [Spring 2016]. It's a truly remarkable place. I am happy to identify the people in the 1983 photo below. (I guess it reminds me how much WKCR meant to me in my Columbia years that I recall each of those pictured, including the guest musician that day; those musician sessions were great.) Left to right: Terumasa Hino, jazz trumpeter; Courtney Munroe



GS'88, host of "Sounds of the Caribbean"; Ashley Kahn '83, and a subject of a profile in that same issue; Andy Caploe '83; Brooke Wentz BC'82, BUS'88, host of "Transfigured Night"; me; and Phil Hubbard GS'86, jazz host.

Many thanks to you and the CCT team. You do a wonderful job keeping us up to date on Columbia's remarkable progress as well as helping us keep up with one another.

**Jonathan Abbott '84**  
Newton, Mass.

## Representing CC

You have created in [the Summer 2016] issue of CCT a most memorable representation of Columbia College, and I compliment you on this outstanding achievement.

**Sol Fisher '36**  
Pleasant Hill, Calif.

## A Good Chemist

I enjoyed the profile of chemistry professor Laura Kaufman '97 ["The Essentials," Summer 2016] and was surprised that she was able to take a variety of non-science courses when she was enrolled at the College. Because my schedule as a chemistry major in the 1950s was filled with required science and math courses in addition to the Core, I was only able to take a second year of Lit Hum and one semester of Eric Bentley's course in modern drama. Kaufman was on the fence between applying to graduate school in chemistry or in English. Perhaps, before she made her choice, she read the words of Bazarov, the nihilist, in Turgenev's *Fathers and Sons*: "A good chemist is twenty times as useful as any poet."

**Martin Feldman '58**  
Silver Spring, Md.

## A Question To Explore

I was amazed to read, in [the Class of 1952 Class Notes in the Summer 2016 issue,] Max Frankel '52, GSAS'53's pointed criticism of administration excess. Could this be the start of a probe into how and why in recent years universities have grown richer and students poorer? It is crushing for a 22-year-old to be saddled with debt. It stifles freedom to explore and create. Have students been sold a bill of goods? Are there legal remedies? These are questions for a great reporter to explore.

**Barry J. Spinello '62**  
Templeton, Calif.

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AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
Bernice Tsai '96

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## Message from the Dean

# Taking Advantage of Summer Opportunities

**T**he summer is an important time for Columbia College students, giving them the opportunity to apply skills gained through their Core courses and in their majors and to acquire real-world experiences that foster career exploration and prepare them for the future. Summer internships, global opportunities and research experiences are an extension of our liberal arts education, challenging our students to adapt to new environments, giving them exposure to different ways of thinking and helping them develop skills and learning agilities that will benefit them throughout their lives.

Each summer, hundreds of College students intern, study abroad or do research through Columbia-sponsored programs, and hundreds of others acquire jobs on their own or through LionSHARE, our online jobs and internships database. This past summer, our students worked at art museums, community based-organizations, public health organizations, film production companies, theater companies, law firms, financial service agencies and startups. They also traveled to Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Mumbai, Seoul, Shanghai and Singapore for internships; studied language, literature, archaeology, environmental sustainability and business on Columbia global programs; and did research in libraries and labs on campus and around the world.

In fact, one of the distinguishing qualities of a Columbia College education is access to so many of these experiences. We offer one of the highest number of internships compared to our peers; last year, 8,624 internships were posted on LionSHARE. We're also offering more summer global opportunities than ever before, including unique programs related to students' coursework like Art and Music Humanities in Paris, an archaeology program at Hadrian's Villa outside Rome, and a language and business program in Shanghai. Three years ago, we kicked off the Presidential Global Fellowship, which funds rising sophomores to study on a Columbia global program during the summer.

We have also increased summer support for students. Funds from the Alumni and Parent Internship Fund and the Work Exemption Program can now be used for

low-paying internships (below minimum wage) as well as unpaid internships. This past summer we gave out the greatest amount of APIF funding ever, to 108 students, and supported 91 Columbia College students through WEP. And we have several new funds — including several gifts from alumni and friends — for students interning at start-ups, working at nonprofits engaged in the pre-



vention of genocide and mass atrocities, and studying in Japan, Poland or Israel.

We know that there are still obstacles that prevent our students from taking full advantage of summer opportunities. Housing costs can be expensive in New York or in any city that isn't the student's hometown, and housing and travel costs can be significant for studying abroad. This is why one of our goals through Core to Commencement ([college.columbia.edu/campaign](http://college.columbia.edu/campaign)), our campaign to enhance our undergraduate experience, is to guarantee every student at least one fully-funded summer opportunity. I have also enlisted the Board of Visitors to determine how the College can enhance the summer experience, better prepare our students to take advantage of these opportunities and help students take advantage of the opportunities open to them.

We know that even more students are looking for summer internship opportunities that are relevant to their studies and to their post-graduation plans, and that many students consider study abroad experiences necessary to be competitive in the job market. We want to provide them with opportunities to develop teamwork and collaboration, to learn research methods, to build communication skills and technological literacy, and to develop expertise in a particular field so they can build upon that to develop their careers and prepare for their lives after Commencement.

**James J. Valentini**  
Dean

Dean James J. Valentini with students in the Columbia Experience Overseas Internship program at a reception for the Core to Commencement Campaign in Seoul in June.

### BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE

To read about experiences some College students had this past summer and to learn about available internship funding programs, go to "How I Spent My Summer Vacation," page 16.



## Professors Breslow, Foner, Jackson To Receive Alexander Hamilton Medal

By Alex Sachare '71

Three distinguished faculty members who have dedicated their careers to research, scholarship and educating Columbia College students — University Professor Ronald Breslow, the DeWitt Clinton Professor of History Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69 and the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences Kenneth T. Jackson — will each be presented an Alexander Hamilton Medal on Thursday, November 17, at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner in Low Rotunda.

The medal, named in honor of one of our nation's founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778), is the highest honor awarded to a member of the College community for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor. It is presented by the Columbia College Alumni Association, Dean James J. Valentini and President Lee C. Bollinger. Proceeds from the black-tie dinner directly benefit College students by supporting the priorities of the College, including the Core Curriculum and financial aid.

Breslow heads a research group at Columbia that is pursuing studies in several different areas, including trying to prepare artificial enzymes that can imitate the function of natural enzymes. He has received more than 75 national and international awards for his research, teaching and professional roles including the U.S. National Medal of Science, a Great Teacher Award, the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching and the Pupin Medal. Breslow discovered the chemical mechanism used by Vitamin B1 in biology, the fundamental system for special stability in molecules with magic numbers of pi electrons, and the phenomenon of special instability in molecules with other special numbers of electrons, for which he coined the word "antiaromaticity." He also created molecules with anti-cancer properties now in human use.

Breslow also played a key role in the evolution of the College, heading a committee in the early 1980s that studied the feasibility of coeducation. He earned an A.B. in 1952, A.M. in 1954 and Ph.D. in 1956, all from Harvard, and has taught at Columbia since 1956.

Foner, who specializes in the Civil War and Reconstruction, slavery and 19th-century America, is one of only two people to serve as president of the Organization of American Historians, American Historical Association and Society of American Historians. He has been the curator of several museum exhibitions, including the prize-winning "A House Divided: America in the Age of Lincoln," at the Chicago Historical Society. His book *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery* won the Pulitzer, Bancroft and Lincoln prizes for 2011. His latest book is *Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad*.

After graduating from the College, Foner was a Kellett Fellow who received a second B.A. from Oxford's Oriel College in 1965

before returning to Columbia for a Ph.D. He has received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement, a Great Teacher Award, a Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching, the Lionel Trilling Book Award and the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching. Foner began teaching at Columbia in 1969 and following a stint at CCNY returned in 1982.

Jackson is a noted urban historian, a preeminent authority on New York City and the author of several books including *Crabgrass*



Left to right: Ronald Breslow; Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69; Kenneth T. Jackson.

*Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States* and *The Encyclopedia of New York City*. He is the director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for American History at Columbia, where he has taught courses in urban, social and military history. He is perhaps best-known for his class "The History of the City of New York," which includes numerous field trips and a nighttime bicycle ride from Morningside Heights through Manhattan to Brooklyn.

Jackson graduated from Memphis in 1961 and earned an M.A. in 1963 and a Ph.D. in 1966, both from Chicago. After serving in the Air Force, he joined the Columbia faculty in 1968 and has taught here ever since while also lecturing at hundreds of colleges, universities, civic groups and historical societies around the world. He has received the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching and a Great Teacher Award and was president of the Urban History Association, the Society of American Historians, the Organization of American Historians and the New-York Historical Society.

### CCT Web Extras

To read profiles of each honoree from CCT's archives, go to [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

For more information on the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, contact Suzy Alpert, associate director, College events and programs: [sa3173@columbia.edu](mailto:sa3173@columbia.edu) or 212-851-7846, or go to [college.columbia.edu/alumni/celebrate/events/alexander-hamilton-award-dinner](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/celebrate/events/alexander-hamilton-award-dinner).



VICTORIA CAMPA

## Chelsea Miller '18

By Nathalie Alonso '08

As one of six siblings — five sisters and one brother — raised by a single mother, **Chelsea Miller '18** learned to value female kinship and empowerment from an early age. Now, as founder and CEO of WEBelieve (Women Everywhere Believe; [webelieve.nyc](http://webelieve.nyc)), she works to provide that kind of support for pre-teen and early teen girls of color from underserved communities in New York City.

Miller runs WEBelieve with five other young women, including Oten Iban '18, Akua Obeng-Akrofi '18 and Shalon Conley BC'18. In January, the group launched its first initiative, Dare to Dream, an eight-week program at Democracy Prep Harlem Middle School designed to help participants forge bonds with one another and build confidence — about 15 girls met two or three times a week to engage in activities that ranged from discussions about historical figures of color and social justice issues to making their own natural hair care products. “Knowing that they can rely on one another even when we’re not there, creating a safe space for them — that was really important,” says Miller, a Kluge Scholar.

WEBelieve is now focused on expanding its reach by launching chapters in

other U.S. cities, with an eye on hosting a conference in New York City next spring. Thus far, most of the organization’s funding has come from a grant that Miller secured from the ANNpower Vital Voices Initiative, a partnership between ANN INC. (the parent company of clothing retailers Ann Taylor and LOFT) and the Vital Voices Global Partnership, an NGO that fosters female leadership.

A first-generation American, Miller draws much of her inspiration from her Jamaican-born mother, Hazel Ferguson, a social worker turned clinical psychologist who runs a foster care group home for girls in her two-family house in Brooklyn. “I’ve seen her love of service — selfless service,” says Miller. “She’s always been my role model.”

As an ANNpower Fellow during her senior year of high school, Miller attended a two-day forum in Myanmar hosted by the Women’s Forum for the Economy and Society, an experience that kindled her interest in international politics. And as a 2015 Presidential Global Fellow — a program for first-years that covers the fees and expenses associated with a Columbia global program — Miller participated in the Istanbul/Tunis Summer Program in Democracy and Constitutional Engineering, through which she learned about the

### fast facts

**HOMETOWN:** Brooklyn, N.Y.

**MAJOR:** Political science

**CLUBS:** Columbia NAACP (VP), Columbia Political Science Students Association, Multicultural Recruitment Committee

**KUDOS:** New York Public Advocate Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, Jackie Robinson Scholar

challenges of democratic transitions. This past summer, she completed The Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Summer Enrichment Program, a six-week program organized by Howard University that introduces undergraduates to current issues and trends in international affairs. Miller aspires to be a U.S. diplomat and has thought about running for public office, all while turning WEBelieve into a global organization. “I want to be a champion for women’s rights internationally,” she says. “Change making — that’s what I see myself doing.”

*Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for [LasMayores.com](http://LasMayores.com), Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website.*



## Alice in Wonderland Has a Columbia Degree!

**In addition** to falling down rabbit holes and talking to cats and caterpillars, Alice had other adventures, such as receiving an honorary degree from Columbia.

In May 1932, Alice Pleasance Hargreaves, the real-life inspiration for Lewis Carroll's famous tale, came to Columbia for a celebration marking the centenary of the author's birth. At 10, Hargreaves asked family friend Charles Dodgson ("Lewis Carroll" was his pen name) to tell her a story and write it down. The tale he created about Alice's fantastical experiences became *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Although Dodgson died in 1898, the celebration of the anniversary of his birth brought more than 2,000 fans of his work to Columbia to watch Hargreaves receive her degree. The original manuscript was loaned to the school and was on exhibit during her visit.

During the ceremony, President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) presented Hargreaves (then 80) with the degree of doctor of letters. Butler thanked her for "awakening with her girlhood's charm the ingenious fancy of a mathematician familiar with imaginary quantities, stirring him to reveal his complete understanding of the



heart of a child as well as of the mind of a man" and said she was key to "building a lasting bridge from the childhood of yesterday to the children of countless tomorrows."

"I feel very greatly," Hargreaves said in response to being presented the degree,

"the signal honor which you have conferred upon me. I shall remember it and prize it all my life. I love to think that, however unworthy I am, perhaps Mr. Dodgson — Lewis Carroll — knows, and rejoices with me in this honor."

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## Alumni Awarded Fulbright Grants

**Eight alumni** have been awarded 2016–17 Fulbright U.S. Student grants. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the largest U.S. exchange program, offering grants for students and young professionals to undertake individually-designed international research and study projects or primary and secondary school teaching in English-language classrooms. During their grant periods, Fulbrighters meet, work, live with and learn from the people of their host country.


The program currently awards approximately 1,900 grants annually in all fields of study and operates in more than 140 countries.

The following alumni were accepted into the 2016–17 program: Alina Dunlap '16, political science, Russia, English Teaching Assistantship; Laura Fisher '14, political science, France, Joint Master in International Public Management (Sciences Po) and M.Sc. in International Political Economy (London School of Economics); Daniel Garton '16, linguistics, and neuroscience and behavior, Finland, Novel Mouse Models Allow Unique Analysis of Endogenous GDNF Function in Adult Striatum; David Hamburger '16, political science, India, English Teaching Assistantship; Jared Namba '16, East Asian studies, South Korea, English Teaching Assistantship; Karleta Peterson '16, sociology, South Korea, English Teaching Assistantship; Dakota Ross-Cabrera '16, American studies, Spain, English Teaching Assistantship; and Lindsey Walter '16, sustainable development, Germany, Heidelberg: A Case Study on Clean Energy and Related Policies.

## Plaa Named Dean of Advising

**Andrew Plaa GSAS'94**, who has worked in the James H. and Christine Turk Berick Center for Student Advising since 2005 and has been its interim dean for the past year, has been named dean of advising for Columbia College and The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Plaa came to Columbia in 1984 to pursue a Ph.D. in early modern European history and taught Contemporary Civilization as a graduate student. After completing a Ph.D., he taught for 10 years at several schools including Barnard, CCNY and NYU. He will report to Lisa Hollibaugh, dean of academic planning and administration at the College, and to Barclay Morrison, vice dean of undergraduate programs at Engineering.



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ColumbiaUniversityJewelry@gmail.com

# COLUMBIA COLLEGE THANKS YOU

During Fiscal Year 2016, more than **10,650 donors** gave **\$19.19 million** to the Columbia College Fund.



With 1,596 donors giving more than \$3.7 million to the College in 24 hours, the College once again won first place on Columbia Giving Day, October 22, 2015. Gifts from College alumni accounted for 41 percent of the \$12.7 million raised by the University that day.

More than 1,700 Columbia parents contributed more than \$4 million to the College in FY16.

*"You have done so much for Columbia College this year, and I am grateful for your dedication and commitment to our students. Thank you for enhancing our students' experiences on campus and helping to propel their success from the Core to Commencement."*

— Dean James J. Valentini

### Columbia College Today

is grateful to and thanks the many alumni, parents, friends and organizations/foundations who generously gave \$63,809 during our Fiscal Year 2016 voluntary donor drive.

To view the list of donors, go to Web Extras at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



**THANK YOU FOR  
SUPPORTING  
YOUR ALUMNI  
MAGAZINE!**



### REUNION WEEKEND 2016

In early June, classes ending in 1 and 6 celebrated their reunions — 1,294 alumni and 660 guests returned to campus and 227 additional attendees participated in All-Class Reunion.



### ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE

More than 1,630 alumni helped shape Columbia classes by interviewing more than 10,000 applicants.



# the Essentials

## Joe Patterson

Professor of Astronomy Joe Patterson earned a B.A. in the history of science from Harvard in 1969 and was a 22-year-old high school teacher when he discovered a passion for astronomy and launched a summer astronomy camp. He returned to school for formal training, earning a Ph.D. from Texas in 1979. He did postdoctoral work at Michigan and Harvard and was a research scientist at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory before coming to Columbia in 1983; he also was Princeton's 250th Anniversary Distinguished Teaching Professor in 2002–03. Patterson, who was honored with Columbia's Presidential Teaching Award in 1997, took time out one evening this past summer to talk about his background and career.



JORG MEYER

### HE GREW UP MOSTLY OVERSEAS.

“My father was a diplomat and my family lived in Japan for seven years, and then Australia for a year. I came back to the United States when I was 14 and had to learn how to be an American teenager.”

**HIS EARLY INTERESTS** were philosophy, history and politics, though he always excelled in math. Then in his first year out of college, he saw a total eclipse of the sun. “It was like Paul on the road to Damascus; I never thought there could be anything as beautiful in the world as that day — March 7, 1970 — and when I got home I wrote a story about my experiences. The next day I bought my first telescope.”

**HE EDUCATED HIMSELF IN THE BASICS** while a high school math and physics teacher in New York City. “I’d take the telescope to Riverside Park on clear nights with the students and kind of learned with them how to use it, although I did try to keep one step ahead of them, so I could teach them something.”

**WHILE A TEACHER, HE FOUNDED AND RAN** an astronomy camp for two summers in Rhode Island before relocating it to the Mojave Desert, where he turned it into a full-time enterprise. “It was the only camp like it at the time. We got a large fraction of the astronomy fanatic teens of the early ’70s, and a lot of them have become well-known astrono-

mers — the most well-known being Neil deGrasse Tyson GSAS’92 — and professors. We even have reunions.”

**HIS AREA OF SPECIALTY IS STELLAR EXPLOSIONS.** “You have these very close binary stars that go around one another every few hours. The smaller star has intense gravity; it’s either a white dwarf, a neutron star or a black hole. Gravity rips matter off the companion star, which then falls down onto the more massive star, and as a result — either on a short time scale or on a long time scale — there are explosions on the more massive star. Some are so big that it blows the stars apart; that’s a so-called supernova. There are other smaller explosions called novae and dwarf novae.”

**WHAT EXCITES HIM** about his field: “You are trying to answer questions that can be answered. In philosophy, you never do that; you’re asking the same questions Plato asked, and are you getting better answers than Plato? I don’t think so. So it’s hard to figure out whether you’ve made much progress. In science, you do find something substantial and lasting. I was thrilled by that realization, which first hit me while writing my undergraduate thesis on Kepler’s theology.”

**HE GETS OBSERVATION TIME** on one of NASA’s space telescopes once a year and also uses telescopes in Chile and Arizona. But he also relies on data from the

Center for Backyard Astrophysics, an organization of amateur astronomers he started in 1992. “They’re able to do things that professional astronomers are not able to do by virtue of their greater numbers. It’s like having my own network of telescopes scattered around the Earth.”

**HE THINKS THE MOST VALUABLE THING** a professor can do is to “identify or ignite a student’s passion. Whatever is second is far behind.”

**HIS FAVORITE CLASS TO TEACH UNDERGRADUATES** is an observational astronomy course, which for many years included a Spring Break trip to Arizona. “We’d either camp out and tour observatories, or in some cases secure observing time with professional observatories.”

**HE IS WRITING A BOOK** about the history of astronomy that grew out of a course he teaches, “Theories of the Universe: From Babylon to the Big Bang.”

**IN HIS SPARE TIME**, he enjoys doing mathematical analysis of sports, especially baseball. “I’m a member of the Society for American Baseball Research. I go to the conventions occasionally and sometimes give papers. I played baseball in high school and college. Age has eroded the skills, but at least the mathematics has stayed the same!”

— Alexis Boncy SOA’11





# Welcome, Class of 2020

Incoming students arrived on campus on the morning of August 29, greeted by a well-choreographed display of move-in magic as New Student Orientation Program leaders whisked boxes and bins all across campus. That afternoon, the Class of 2020 began its Columbia journey under white tents on South Lawn at Convocation. Following a procession of students carrying flags (representing the home states and countries of all College and Engineering students), alumni marched with banners

representing their class decades in the Alumni Procession to demonstrate to new arrivals their lifelong connection to the College and Engineering. In his welcome speech, Dean James J. Valentini said: “I am congratulating you on your good fortune in being presented with an opportunity — an opportunity to profit from and contribute to the special experience that a Columbia education offers. That special experience is fundamentally an endeavor to find knowledge, to develop understanding and to gain insight.”







Photos by Eileen Barroso



# ROAR, LION, ROAR

## Football Looks To Take the Next Step

By Alex Sachare '71

Columbia football ended its losing streak last season, was competitive in nearly every game and improved dramatically in virtually all statistical categories. Now the Lions, in their second season under head coach Al Bagnoli, seek to continue their progress and take the next step up the Ivy League ladder.

Bagnoli, who won nine Ivy titles in 23 seasons at Penn and is the winningest coach in the NCAA Football Championship Sub-division, is not about to predict any championships but is cautiously optimistic. "We certainly feel comfortable we're doing the right things," he says. "It's just taking those incremental steps and continuing to believe in what we're doing, work hard, be smart in our approach and now try to figure a way to win some of these close games."

Anyone who has been around football as long as Bagnoli knows learning how to make the leap from being competitive to being a winner is a tough lesson. "We were within one possession [of winning] in five Ivy League games [last season], so we've just got to figure out how to close people out," Bagnoli says.

Media members who cover the Ivy League are taking a wait-and-see attitude; the Lions were picked to finish seventh in the eight-team league in the annual preseason media poll, ahead of Cornell. Harvard edged Penn for the top spot.

Columbia begins Ivy competition by hosting Princeton on October 1, following non-league games against St. Francis (Pa.) and Georgetown. Other big games on the schedule include Bagnoli's first return as a visiting

coach to Penn on October 15 and the Homecoming game against Dartmouth on October 22. (For the latest information on the Homecoming festivities, go to [college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming2016](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming2016).)

Columbia has two other Ivy League home games: a night game against Yale on October 28 and the annual Empire State Bowl against Cornell on November 12.

Key returning Columbia players who were cited by Bagnoli in the annual Ivy League coaches' preseason media conference call include quarterbacks Skyler Mornhinweg '17 and Anders Hill '18; offensive linemen Charlie Flores '19, Kendall Pace '17 and Bewley Wales '18; defensive linemen Dominic Perkovic '18, Lord Hyeamang '18 and Connor Heeb '18; linebackers Gianmarco Rea '17, Keith Brady '17 and Christian Conway '17; and defensive backs Jared Katz '17, Cameron Roane '18 and Brock Kenyon '17.

Bagnoli is counting on better team depth, as 75 returning letter-winners will be bolstered by a recruiting class that was ranked No. 3 in the FCS by 247Sports.com. "It's going to be a collection of 110 guys trying to get this thing turned around, as opposed to just the senior or junior class. We're going to need some help from the younger kids," he says.

Bagnoli also says the team made a concerted effort during the offseason to get stronger along the offensive and defensive lines. "We were way under strength and we didn't have enough stoutness to hold up against the elite players in this league," Bagnoli notes. "We were just not as explosive as we needed to be up front, so that was our No. 1 priority."



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Skyler Mornhinweg '17

The Lions are looking to build on a season in which they improved significantly, more so than the jump from 0–10 to 2–8 in win-loss record might indicate. They went from 556 yards rushing and 103 points scored in 2014 to 1,402 yards rushing and 143 points scored in 2015. Defensively, they went from allowing 2,534 yards rushing and 389 points in 2014 to 1,302 yards rushing and 198 points last year.

"I think there's been a change in the culture here," Bagnoli says. "I think we have a little more confidence, a little more exuberance, a little more swagger than when we took over the program."



To purchase tickets to any game, including Homecoming, go to [gocolumbialions.com/tickets](http://gocolumbialions.com/tickets) or call 888-LIONS-11.

### SCOREBOARD

# 35

Seasons that Al Bagnoli has been a head football coach

# 1:06

Katie Meili '13's bronze medal-winning time in the 100m breaststroke at the Rio Olympics

# 7

Consecutive seasons that men's soccer has won the coaches association's Team Academic Award

# 14

First-year football players who earned All-State honors in high school

# 11

Ivy titles won by Columbia in 2015–16: 4 team and 7 individual



## Hall of Fame Inducts Class of 2016

Columbia will add 20 individuals and three teams representing nine sports programs to its Athletics Hall of Fame at an induction ceremony honoring the hall's Class of 2016 in Low Rotunda on October 20. The inductees were chosen by a selection committee of Columbia Athletics affiliates, including alumni and athletics administrators. Among the honorees are pioneering sports and news television executive **Roone Arledge '52**; football's all-time leading single-game and single-season rusher, **Johnathan Reese '02**; wrestling's first All-American, **Bob Hartman '52**; Olympic fencer and 1957 NCAA epee champion **James Margolis '58**; and soccer star and longtime program supporter **Rocco Commisso SEAS'71**.

Three teams will be honored: 1954 men's fencing, 1979 men's soccer and 2006 women's soccer. Three people were chosen in their first time on the Hall of Fame ballot: women's basketball standouts **Megan Griffith '07**, now Columbia's women's head basketball coach, and **Judie Lomax BC'10**, and Olympian and NCAA sabre fencing champion **Jeff Spear '10**. And three longtime former staff members will be inducted: sports information director **Kevin DeMarras '64**, base-



Megan Griffith '07

ball coach and associate AD **Paul Fernandes** and wrestling coach **Ron Russo**.

Also to be inducted are **Allison Buehler '03**, softball; **Steve Charles '79**, men's soccer; **Liz Cheung-Gaffney '98**, women's soccer; **Ylonka Dubout-Wills BC'84**, women's track and field; **Howard Hansen '52**, football; **Paul Kaliades '73**, football; **Sara Ovidia '09**, women's golf; **Matt Palmer '07**, wrestling; and **Sophie Reiser '10**, women's soccer.

## Columbians Compete in Rio Olympics

**Congratulations to Katie Meili '13** upon winning a bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke swimming event at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Meili also helped the United States win its qualification heat by swimming the breaststroke leg in the 4x100m medley relay but was not selected by team coaches to compete in the medal round as the Americans won the gold. [Editor's note: Read about Meili's road to Rio: [college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/spring16](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/spring16).]

Three other Columbians were members of Olympic teams in Rio. Fencer **Nzingha Prescod '15**, participating in her second Olympics, won her first bout in the women's individual foil over **Nataly Michel Silva of Mexico 15-9** before losing to **Astrid Guyart of France 14-11** in the round of 16. **Akua Obeng-Akrofi '18** was an alternate but did not run for Ghana's women's 4x100m relay team that finished eighth in its heat and did not advance to the finals. And **Isadora Cerullo '13** competed on the Brazilian women's rugby team and although the team finished ninth, Cerullo came away a winner when her partner, **Marjorie Enya**, proposed to her after the gold-medal match.



DON SIMONE '78 / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

### SPORTS SHORTS

**CHAMPIONS:** Lightweight crew won its first national title on June 5 when it upset previously undefeated Yale at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships on Mercer Lake in West Windsor, N.J. It was the first title for any Columbia varsity eight crew since 1929. Columbia's varsity eight then traveled to England for the prestigious Henley Royal Regatta, where the Lions defeated the University of London "B" and Bath University before bowing to Oxford Brookes University "A" in the quarterfinals of the Temple Challenge Cup. The crew was honored by USRowing as the IRA Lightweight Crew of the Year and head coach **Nich Lee Parker** was named IRA Lightweight Coach of the Year.

**HOOPLA:** The Ivy League has added four-team postseason men's and women's basketball tournaments for the 2016-17 season, with the winners earning the league's automatic bids to the NCAA Championships. The tournaments will be played March 11-12 at the Palestra in Philadelphia. The teams that finish with the best records from the 14-game, regular-season conference schedule will continue to be recognized as Ivy League champions.

**MOVING ON:** Former Lions stars **Maodo Lo '16** and **Alex Rosenberg '16** have signed professional contracts to continue their basketball careers overseas. Lo, who was born in Berlin, signed to play for Brose Bamberg Baskets of the German Basketball Bundesliga, and Rosenberg signed to play for Maccabi Kiryat Gat of the Israeli Basketball Premier League. Meanwhile, **Grant Mullins '16**, who missed most of two seasons due to injury but could not continue to compete at Columbia due to Ivy League rules, has transferred to UC Berkeley to complete his college career. The trio helped the Lions to 25 victories in 2015-16 and the CollegeInsider.com postseason tournament championship.



For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit [gocolumbialions.com](http://gocolumbialions.com).





STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREER  
PATHS THROUGH REAL-WORLD  
WORK EXPERIENCES

# HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION

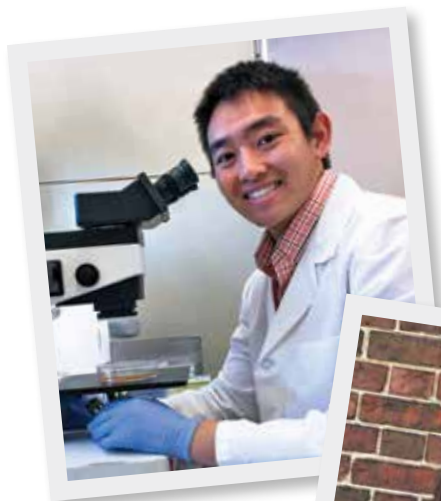
BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

Summer was a productive and enlightening season for many Columbia College students, including David Dai '17, who investigated potentially life-changing treatments for Parkinson's disease at the Columbia University Medical Center, and Camille Sanches '18, a human rights major who delved into an issue of national prominence at the Police Reform Organizing Project (PROP), a nonprofit that exposes abusive and discriminatory practices in the NYPD.

For much of his time at the College, Dai, a neuroscience major, has contributed to studies at the CUMC Department of Pathology and Cell Biology aimed at finding drugs capable of slowing the progression of Parkinson's. The summer break from classes gave him time to run experiments that involved a technique known as a Western blot, which requires constant monitoring. Dai says his recent research experience "sharpened my resolve to go into these specific fields." He plans to go to medical school and specialize in neurology and neurosurgery.

Several times a week, while Dai observed changes in neurons through a microscope in a pristine laboratory, Sanches traveled to criminal arraignment courts around New York City. She sat in on proceedings and spoke with attorneys and defendants as part of PROP's Court Monitoring Project, which tracks NYPD practices on the ground and assesses the repercussions of being charged with low-level, non-violent offenses. At PROP, Sanches also conducted research for a history of the NYPD. "I learned a lot more about how to address an issue and study it," says Sanches. "Talking with high schoolers in the Bronx who have been arrested or mistreated was definitely eye-opening and got me more connected."

Like Dai and Sanches, more and more College students are using their summer break to explore academic interests, work with faculty, gain exposure to international communities and develop skills that will help them prepare for life after Class Day. Such opportunities go beyond traditional pre-professional training and extend the College



David Dai '17



Camille Sanches '18

ILLUSTRATIONS BY TRACI DABERKO



Nathaniel Jameson '18

experience in ways that are attractive to employers and graduate schools in an increasingly competitive, globalized society.

Many of these adventures begin at the Office of Global Programs and Fellowships (OGP) or the Center for Career Education (CCE), which maintains an online database of jobs and internships called LionSHARE that is available exclusively to Columbia students and alumni. Each year, more than 400 College students find summer internships, global opportunities and fellowships through Columbia-sponsored programs. Examples include the Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program (CCASSIP) and Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO), which offers summer internships in Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Mumbai, Seoul, Shanghai and Singapore, as well as more than a dozen Columbia study abroad programs around the world.

This summer, CCASSIP enabled Nathaniel Jameson '18, who is majoring in film studies with a concentration in anthropology, to intern at The Tank, a Manhattan-based nonprofit that offers free performance and rehearsal space for emerging artists and where sponsor Rosalind Grush '08 is co-artistic director. He helped manage the organization's email, reviewed artist submissions, researched grants, collected tickets and even sold snacks during shows. "I most valued seeing art at work," says Jameson, an aspiring actor and playwright, adding that the experience helped him consider the best ways to market and monetize his creative work.

Kavita Sharma, dean of CCE, notes such pursuits "give our students the opportunity to use and further develop skills they're gaining in the classroom, including written and verbal communication; planning, organizing and prioritizing work; flexibility and adaptability; working on a team; decision making and problem solving; obtaining and processing information; and, in our international programs, cross-cultural skills."

Dean James J. Valentini sees the summer break as "an important time for Columbia College students, giving them the opportunity to apply skills gained through their Core courses and in their majors and to acquire real-world experiences that foster career exploration and prepare them for the future." [Editor's note: Please see "Message from the Dean," page 6, for more on Valentini's thoughts on summer experiences.] One of Valentini's goals for the College's \$400 million Core to Commencement campaign — the first fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to the College — is to provide a funded summer experience for every student in order to extend a student's education beyond the classroom.

The College already offers the Columbia College Alumni and Parent Internship Fund (APIF) and the Work Exemption Program (WEP), managed by CCE, which help students on financial aid cover the costs associated with unpaid or low-paying internships. Dai and Sanches received support from APIF and WEP in 2016, as did Jessica Swanson '17 and Desmond Hanan '19, who both spent the summer in Washington D.C., as interns at the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), respectively.

Swanson, also a human rights major, was eager to be in the capital, "near all the political excitement" and to see how policy relates to the work that nonprofits do. She was placed in CDF's communications department, where she designed promotional graphics for the Insure All Children campaign, which helps school districts identify uninsured students and enroll them in health insurance. Swanson acquired design software skills and developed a better understanding of how nonprofits reach their audiences. "From the communications end, it's all about reframing, reediting and repackaging things so that they make sense to the greater public," she says.

At the NEA, an independent agency of the federal government that supports and funds artistic projects, Hanan, who is pursuing a double major in drama and theater arts and biology, took on projects such as briefing chairman Jane Chu prior to the Tony Awards and reviewing grant applications. "Seeing what people look for in applications from the reviewer's side of it is going to be very beneficial to me in any arts-related field," he says.

Other students receive summer funding through the Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program, which includes the John W. Kluge, John Jay and Global scholars. This sum-



Jessica Swanson '17



Desmond Hanan '19





mer, Diana Munyana '19, a Kluge Scholar considering majors in environmental science, sustainable development and economics, was awarded a Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program Practicum & Research Assistantship, which provides partial financial support for scholars participating in summer internships or research assistantships.

Munyana used the funding to cover expenses while she traveled to rural areas of her native Rwanda as an intern with the European Cooperative for Rural Development. The nonprofit works with farmers to develop sustainable strategies for growing crops, in order to improve the economy of their rural communities. Munyana helped train maize farmers on how to better run their cooperatives — business arrangements in which farmers pool certain resources. She collected data about production costs and spoke with farmers to learn more about the impact of cooperatives on their lives and livelihoods. “It was a great opportunity to see that type of work on the ground and get an overview of how projects are run by NGOs,” says Munyana, who also learned “how important it is to connect with the people you’re helping.”



Diana Munyana '19



Dafne Murillo '19

College students also are eligible for Presidential Global Fellowships, a program for rising sophomores launched in 2014 with a grant from President Lee C. Bollinger that covers the cost of a program, as well as airfare and living expenses, for study at or near one of the eight Columbia Global Centers. Of the 18 Presidential Global Fellows in 2016, 10 were College students, including Dafne Murillo '19, who plans to major in economics and concentrate in Latin American studies.

Murillo, who hails from Peru, chose the Columbia Summer Program in Venice because she wanted to dive into a subject outside her major. During her six weeks in Venice, she took art history courses and visited historic churches and other sites to see some of the works she was studying in person. For Murillo, who hopes to eventually promote economic development in Peru, living in Venice was a catalyst for considering how to build a profitable, sustainable tourism industry that helps local communities — ideas that will help her approach issues in her homeland.

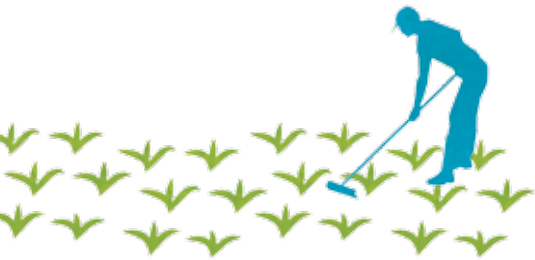
“The Presidential Global Fellowship put me in a position in which I had to continually think about cultural connections,” she says. “I could see links between tourism in Venice and tourism in Peru. That was interesting because I could see how tourism in Venice affects everything [in the city], like how restaurants are run and how transportation works.”

Murillo also spent two weeks of August in Tokyo as a seminar leader with HLAB, a summer program in Japan that exposes local high schoolers to the liberal arts college model of discussion-based learning. HLAB covered Murillo’s housing and living costs while she taught a curriculum of her own design, using *The Iliad* as a lens and springboard for conversations about contemporary issues in Japan and around the world.

Students are eligible for Presidential Global Fellowships, a program for rising sophomores that covers the cost of a program, airfare and living expenses at or near one of the eight Columbia Global Centers.

“Having professional work experiences while in school is more and more critical in a competitive global economy.”

— CCE Dean Kavita Sharma



Such experiences, whether in the United States or abroad, not only give students new perspectives but also have become vital to their career prospects. “Having professional work experiences while in school is more and more critical in a competitive global economy and is viewed positively by employers when selecting candidates to interview,” says Sharma. “We are seeing that this is true across industries and that all experiences are valued, from a corporate internship to working as a camp counselor or in fundraising in a not-for-profit organization.”

Jennie Preis, associate dean of experiential education at CCE, notes that, in addition to developing skills, gaining experience and exploring industries, students also use summer pursuits to determine “what type of organization they want to work for, what type of work environment they prefer, whether they like working on a team or working independently.”

For some students, that means pursuing what CCE calls “self-created internships,” which require greater initiative but typically allow students to design a more tailored experience. That’s how Marc Berghouse ’18 and Abigail White ’19 — both WEP grant recipients — found summer work at the U.S. Geological Survey and the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, respectively.

Berghouse, who is majoring in earth and environmental sciences with a concentration in economics, wanted to learn about the work culture at USGS, but it does not



## SUMMER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

When it comes to securing funding for summer experiences, College students have access to an ever-growing lineup of programs and fellowships. The Center for Career Education administers five funding programs for undergraduates pursuing unpaid or low-paying internships and research positions, four of which are open to College students. In addition to the Alumni and Parent Internship Fund and the Work Exemption Program, they are the Startup Internship Fund, a collaboration with Columbia Entrepreneurship for students interning at innovative startups, and the Scheidt Internship Fund for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities, a gift from the Charles E. Scheidt Family Foundation to the College that supports summer internships at nonprofit and NGOs.

Other summer funding comes from undergraduate scholars programs, such as the I.I. Rabi Scholars and the Science Research Fellows. Each year, the College also awards myriad summer fellowships.

**Nobuhisa and Marcia Ishizuka Global Fellowship in East Asian Studies**, a summer study abroad grant launched in 2016 for students studying Japanese language and culture, or other East Asian languages and cultures, whose research and interests include Japan.

**Harvey Krueger Global Experience Fellowship**, a summer grant for College students to study abroad or conduct independent research in Israel or Poland.

**Richmond B. Williams Traveling Fellowship**, for rising juniors who are majoring in English and are undertaking a summer research project that requires foreign travel.

**Edwin Robbins Academic Research and Public Service Fellowship**, a stipend for political science majors conducting research or pursuing unpaid internships at government offices or agencies.

**Sanford S. Parker Prize**, awarded to economics majors pursuing unpaid internships that focus on research.

**Solomon and Seymour Fisher American Civil Liberties Fellowship**, which allows students to work in the legal department of the American Civil Liberties Union in NYC.

**Richard and Brooke Kamin Rapaport Summer Music Performance Fellowship**, which gives music students the chance to study at a summer festival of their choosing.

**Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship**, which provides research training, faculty mentorship and financial support for undergraduates who plan to pursue careers in academia.

**Class of 1939 Summer Research Fellowships**, awarded to students who are pursuing independent research or participating in an ongoing laboratory project during the summer at a location of their choosing.

**Herbert Deresiewicz Summer Research Fellowship**, which supports College and Engineering students whose interest in science has been kindled by his/her experience at Columbia.

**Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship**, which allows biology students to conduct hands-on laboratory research.





Marc Berghouse '18



Abigail White '19

offer undergraduate internships. At his request, Berghouse was allowed to work at the Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center in Santa Cruz, Calif. There he used geographic information systems (GIS) — data analysis tools that can take years to master — and other specialized software in order to show how the western coast of Alaska has eroded since the middle of the 20th century. “Communication, planning and technical skills — those are the things I got the most out of,” says Berghouse, who is fascinated by environmental data analysis and calls GIS “an amazing tool that I’m probably going to use for the rest of my life.”

At Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, White, who has been interested in elephants since she was a child, was able to observe the park’s five elephants — both in person during the day and through footage taken of them during the night — and document their behavior. “Elephants are such sentient creatures; they really do have individual personalities,” says White. “It was really neat getting to know them.”

White, who describes herself as “humanities focused” and is considering a double major in American studies and creative writing, also took on editorial projects in the conservation department. These ranged from writing content for the department’s website to creating a proposal for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums that member institutions can use to educate the public about illegal wildlife trade. She says of that work, “It feels directly helpful to this important cause.”

It is precisely that combination of discovery and real-world impact that Valentini believes makes summer experiences so valuable. “Summer internships, global opportunities and research experiences are an extension of our liberal arts education,” he says, “challenging our students to adapt to new environments, to gain exposure to different ways of thinking and helping them develop skills and learning abilities that will benefit them throughout their lives.”

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**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.



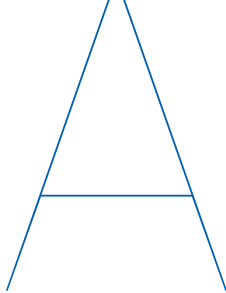
“Summer internships, global opportunities and research experiences are an extension of our liberal arts education.”

— Dean James J. Valentini



COURTESY ROBERT A.M. STERN ARCHITECTS

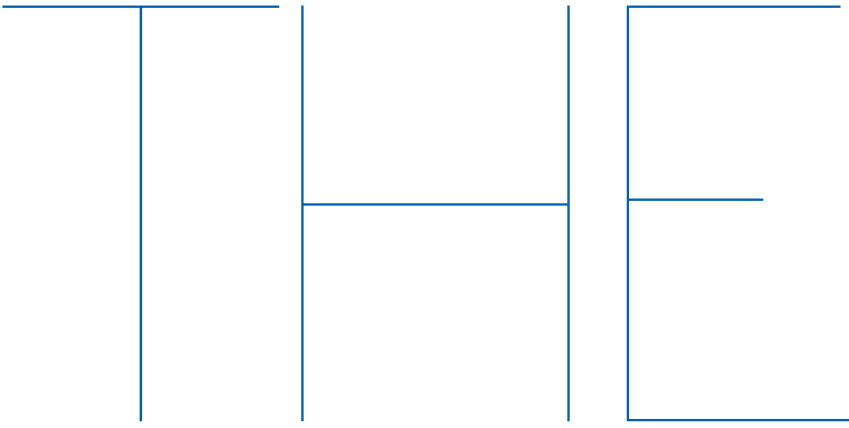




t both Columbia and Yale, where Robert A.M. Stern '60 has spent his long and distinguished academic career, the Roman goddess Minerva is a reigning presence — if not as a deity, then certainly as statuary. On the Morningside campus, where Stern taught for 28 years, Daniel Chester French's iconic *Alma Mater* surveys her neoclassical domain from the heights of Low Plaza; though her identity is open to interpretation, the little owl discreetly tucked into her bronze cloak is a surefire emblem of the goddess of wisdom and knowledge. At the Yale School of Architecture, where Stern earned an M.Arch. in 1965 and was dean from 1998 until this past July, a statue of Minerva towers over the main studio of the school's Paul Rudolph-designed building, a landmark of Brutalist architecture. The sensitively executed renovation, restoration and expansion of Rudolph Hall, which had been degraded by a 1969 fire and later modifications, was a signature accomplishment of Stern's deanship. "Minerva presides over us all and keeps us honest and true," a twinkly-eyed Stern proclaims in a 2009 documentary film about the \$126 million project.

Stern recalls spending long hours in that studio with fellow architecture students in the early 1960s, drafting projects and assignments.

By Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80



# JANUS-FACED

Robert A.M. Stern '60 designs everything from skyscrapers to country homes with both the past and future in mind



“In those days, the phone would ring, and we would let it ring and ring and ring — nobody ever wanted to answer it,” he says. “But eventually somebody would get so sick of the sound of it that they would pick up. And whoever it was might call out, ‘Bob Stern — your mother’s on the phone.’ That was the worst humiliation known to man.”

One time, however, it wasn’t his mother. “Someone announced, ‘Bob Stern — Philip Johnson is on the phone.’ Everybody put their pencils down. ‘What does Philip Johnson want with Bob Stern?’”

At the time, Johnson was a preeminent figure in American architecture. An early champion of the modernist International Style, he was also an influential curator, critic and historian. Then lecturing at Yale (and designing the university’s

new biology tower), Johnson recognized Stern’s potential and took him under his wing. Johnson became one of Stern’s two prime mentors in New Haven, along with renowned architectural historian Vincent Scully.

When Johnson called the studio that day in 1965, it was to persuade his protégé to accept a position as program director at The Architectural League of New York.

“Don’t you think I ought to get a job with an architect?” Stern asked him.

“Oh, what do you want to do that for?” Johnson said. “I never did that.”

Stern took the post, which came with a fellowship, and spent the next year organizing biweekly exhibits of cutting-edge architects like Robert Venturi and Romaldo Giurgola, culminating in a groundbreaking exhibition of young talent, including Stern himself. “Of course you should put your own work in the show,” Johnson had insisted. “What’s the point of doing it if not that?”

“So that’s how I got up my courage for my first act of immodesty,” Stern later told George Dodds of the *Journal of Architectural Education* — that is, he added, “my first recorded act of immodesty.”

Looking back over the fullness of his career, there is little for Stern to be modest about. He has made an indelible mark as a practitioner, teacher, scholar and writer — a rare breadth of accomplishment, marked by personal flair. “A house by Stern is never that stern,” a fellow architect once said. “It is something like his personality — impish, mercurial and above all, witty.”

Led by the debonair Stern — known for his chalk-striped bespoke suits, buttery-yellow pocket squares and suede Gucci loafers — Robert A.M. Stern Architects (widely known as RAMSA) has assembled a distinctive and varied portfolio on four continents: soaring urban structures and exquisite country homes; major museums and libraries; courthouses; hotels; chapels; performing arts centers; planned communities; and dozens of academic buildings — at Wake Forest, Stanford, UVA, Johns Hopkins, Notre Dame, Colorado, Georgetown and many other campuses, including every Ivy school save Cornell. One of his earliest commissions was the 1977 renovation of Columbia’s Women’s Faculty Club (now Jerome Greene Annex); in 2000, Columbia opened the RAMSA-designed Broadway Hall on West 113th Street, adding welcome dormitory space.

In recent years, RAMSA has completed a host of notable works, including the Comcast Center, Philadelphia’s tallest building, and Stern’s landmark residential tower at 15 Central Park West in Manhattan. Inspired by the grand pre-war apartment buildings flanking the park, it was a spectacular

**BELOW:**

Broadway Residence Hall  
West 113th Street and Broadway  
New York City

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**

15 Central Park West  
New York City



PETER AARON / OTTO

PETER AARON / OTTO







success for its developers, especially after celebs such as Sting and Denzel Washington bought in. A typical three-bedroom, 2,846-sq. ft. apartment recently sold for \$28 million. The price of a penthouse could put a dent in the GDP of Macedonia.

A lucid and meticulous writer on architecture, Stern has authored or co-authored nearly two dozen books, including his monumental five-volume study of New York City architecture since 1880; the middle volume, *New York 1930: Architecture and Urbanism Between the Two World Wars* (written with Thomas Mellins '79 and Gregory Gilmartin '81) was nominated in 1987 for the National Book Award in nonfiction. Another tome, *Pride of Place: Building the American Dream*, was the companion volume to the eight-part PBS television series he hosted in 1986.

By all accounts a demanding teacher and hands-on participant in all of RAMSA's projects, Stern has guided a legion of architects into the profession; a number came out of the undergraduate architecture program he established at the College in the early 1970s, including RAMSA partners Paul Whalen '78, Randy Correll '80, GSAPP'83 and Preston Gumberich '84, GSAPP'87. Along with so many others who studied with Stern when he taught at the graduate level, they encountered his deep appreciation of architectural traditions.

Respect for the old is not enough, however. "Traditional architecture is convincing when it comes out of a passionate feeling for the craft and art of architecture — for what it means and where it is appropriate," Stern has observed. "We cannot deny the sincerity of Santa Barbara's Spanish colonial architecture; but when it appears on the highway strip as a Taco Bell, that is a very different story. In short, quality is every bit as important as context."

"Stern's whole view of architecture is one of continuity," says Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture critic Paul Goldberger. "He doesn't believe that architecture needs to keep reinventing itself. For him the priority is preserving the knowledge acquired over centuries and passing the baton to succeeding generations through his teaching and writing. He is a great mentor to younger practitioners."

**R**obert Arthur Morton Stern grew up modestly in Brooklyn's Kensington/Windsor Terrace neighborhood, the older son of Sidney Stern, who worked various jobs — selling insurance, running a hardware store, driving a cab — and his wife, Sonya, who sold china at B. Altman & Co.'s department store; both are now deceased. Stern's brother, Elliot '70, became a scholar in Sanskrit and Indian philosophy, and has worked for the IRS.

Stern tinkered with an Erector Set as a boy, and his father took him to marvel at the American Flyer model railroad displays at the Gilbert Hall of

Science on Fifth Avenue. Stern enjoyed playing the piano and biked around Prospect Park to the Brooklyn Public Library to borrow sheet music for popular songs from the '30s, a passion that has endured.

At Manual Training H.S. in Park Slope, the teachers were very good, he says ("not a bad apple in the bunch"). Stern especially took to Latin, drama, geometry and trigonometry, and showed a precocious interest in *The New York Times* Real Estate section, especially views and plans of the homes and developments then mushrooming in the suburbs. "I would redraw the plans," he says, "because I always knew I could do better." Stern's skills were soon refined enough to earn third prize in a Pratt Institute competition in which students were given five hours to design a house within certain guidelines. "I had had no training or anything," he says. "I was thrilled beyond all measure."

**A**ccording to the cliché, a Columbia College freshman in 1956 was probably a Harvard reject. In Stern's case, the cliché was true. "And I was pissed," he says. What's more, he had to commute from Brooklyn until a room opened up in Livingston (now Wallach) Hall, and there was no undergraduate architecture program. Nonetheless, he warmed to the College, especially the Core courses ("which I still admire and defend," he says) and freshman English. "I loved my instructor, Jeffrey Hart '52, GSAS'61, who became one of the great



COURTESY ROBERT A.M. STERN ARCHITECTS





PETER AARON / OTTO

LEFT:  
Comcast Center  
Philadelphia

records to listen to “Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polka Dot Bikini.”

Three other Columbia figures helped Stern advance toward his life’s work, he says: architectural historian Richard Branner (“who brought a fresh, interpretive approach to the field”); Everard Upjohn, great-grandson of the architect of Trinity Church, who taught “Elements of Architecture,” teaching students “to take apart buildings and think about how they go together, like a great grammarian might do with sentence structure in the old days”; and Adolf Placzek LS’42, longtime librarian at Columbia’s Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library.

Stern applied to five grad schools — Columbia, Michigan, Penn, Harvard and Yale — and was accepted by all. He chose Yale, he says, because it felt like something important was brewing there with its young architecture dean, Rudolph, and his plans for a striking new building.

After his graduate studies and the year at The Architectural League of New York, Stern worked for the firm of Richard Meier, then worked in the NYC Housing Preservation & Development administration under Mayor John V. Lindsay. In 1966 he married Lynn Solinger, a Smith graduate whose father

**“Traditional architecture is convincing when it comes out of a passionate feeling for the craft and art of architecture — for what it means and where it is appropriate.”**

was president of the Whitney Museum and whose mother belonged to the Gimbel family, of department store fame — valuable connections for a young unknown. (Divorced in 1977, they have one son, Nicholas S.G. Stern ’90, who runs a boutique construction firm in New York, and three grandchildren.) In 1969, Stern opened his own practice with fellow Yale John S. Hagmann, which lasted until 1977, when RAMSA was formed.

Stern joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP) in 1970. Named full professor in 1982, he played an important role in the school’s revitalization as a top-tier institution during the widely admired deanship of James Stewart Polshek. Stern directed Columbia’s Historic Preservation Program and was the founding director of The Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture.

Keenly aware that the College’s lack of studio architecture courses placed career-minded undergraduates at a disadvantage, Stern worked with then-Associate Dean of the College Michael Rosenthal GSAS’67 to develop a major. “It became an incredibly intense, effective program,” Rosenthal says. “Once you registered for his studio, that was the bulk of your life. Students loved it, though.”

conservative curmudgeons,” Stern says. “He taught me how to write in a reasonably good way.”

Stern majored in history — Professor James Shenton ’49, GSAS’54, was a favorite — and took English courses with Mark Van Doren GSAS’21, Lionel Trilling ’25, GSAS’38 and other leading lights. “I got to like Columbia a lot better because of the quality of the education,” he says, “and I made some good friends.” Among them were Korean War vet Stephen Baldwin ’59; attorney Sam Wiseman ’60, LAW’63, whose Montauk home was one of the architect’s earliest commissions; and Doug Morris ’60, the legendary music mogul, who tore Stern away from his Sinatra

“He was amazingly engaged and proactive,” says architect, author and filmmaker James Sanders ’76, GSAPP’82, who studied under Stern at both the College and GSAPP. “He was also famously tough, and could be quite harsh on work that he didn’t feel was meeting the standard of the school or his class.” Stern insisted that students master traditional skills like drawing and lettering. “You learned how to twirl your pencil as you ran it along your T-square,” Sanders says. “The line couldn’t get thinner or thicker; it had to remain uniform. He wanted his students to come out of Columbia, and his design studio in particular, with incredible presentation skills.”

Though computer renderings have become ubiquitous, Stern continues to champion the importance of hand drawing, something he says he came down on very hard as dean at Yale. “I believe that

what you draw, and what you see, and what your brain tells you back and forth, are really where the creative act comes,” he says. “A little potent sketch is much more powerful than any other means of communicating an architectural idea.”

In the 1990s, Stern formed an association with the Walt Disney Co., designing projects and holding a seat on the corporate board of directors. He co-developed the master plan for Celebration, Fla., the New Urbanist community near Orlando, and also designed the Yacht Club Resort in Orlando, Fla., and the Feature Animation Studios in Burbank, Calif., whose cone-shaped tower conjures Mickey Mouse’s Sorcerer’s Apprentice cap in *Fantasia*.

Playful allusions were intrinsic to the Postmodern style Stern embraced in the 1970s and ’80s

**BELOW:**  
Offices for GlaxoSmithKline  
5 Crescent Drive  
Philadelphia





along with Johnson and others — the “Chippendale” roof line of Johnson’s AT&T Building (now the Sony Tower) on Madison Avenue is a famous example — in reaction to the impersonal, uniformly flat-roofed office buildings Stern describes as “a completely unending string of banalities.” But Stern and his RAMSA colleagues now speak of Postmodernism in the past tense. He calls himself a modern traditionalist. “I don’t believe in architecture as an ideological undertaking,” he says. “I believe it’s an artistic undertaking.”

The expectation that one must adhere to a certain style or ideology of architecture especially bothers Stern as an educator.

“I’ve banged away, chipped away at the monolithic approach that plagues academia for sure and the profession considerably, believing that a certain strain of modernism, a response to modernity, was



PETER AARON / OTTO

**ABOVE:**  
Yacht Club Resort  
Orlando, Fla.

as universal and correct for all situations as the presumed universality and correctness of the Gothic was for the medieval world,” he says. “I think that has been a very important contribution of mine, to open people’s eyes to the complexities and richness of architectural expression, to the fact that architecture has many languages, from high languages of classicism, specific regional languages at a high level, French Renaissance or whatever, to other more vernacular languages. And architects should not only recognize those languages, which they

**“A little potent sketch is much more powerful than any other means of communicating an architectural idea.”**

grudgingly do as a group, but learn to speak them and become conversant in them. Architecture is not an autobiographical art. Many architects seem to think that every building they do has to look like *their* building, which can be a trap.”

Stern has been making this argument for a long time, and he has his detractors. His commercial success, Disney connection and unashamed embrace of traditional styles have made him culturally suspect in certain quarters. Some of the criticism arises from sincere aesthetic and philosophic differences, some from snobbery and some simply ignores the reality that Stern is not so easily pigeonholed — his work is too eclectic, as demonstrated by such ultra-modern designs as The Hobby Center for the Performing Arts in Houston, the Tour Carpe Diem skyscraper near Paris or GlaxoSmithKline’s stunning, double



HALKIN MASON PHOTOGRAPHY





COURTESY ROBERT A.M. STERN ARCHITECTS

LEED Platinum headquarters in Philadelphia. Nor does he appear to care much about pleasing the purists, in architecture, or for that matter, in politics.

When RAMSA was under consideration to design the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Stern received a note from a Columbia colleague who despised Bush's politics, saying, "Don't do it." Stern replied: "He's the President of the United States and this is a public institution. And it gives everyone an opportunity to examine — especially when his papers are revealed according to the law — what he did and didn't do, and whether he did it right or not. So I don't see this as a political act."

At the same time, a member of the library project's selection committee raised the matter of politics from the other side, Stern later learned.

"Well, is he a Republican?" the committeeman demanded to know of Stern.

"Republican enough," said a well-known businessman who was present.

RAMSA got the nod.

"I am a conservative person," Stern allows, "but the truth of the matter is, I'm a registered Democrat. But when I vote, I vote as I think. I would describe myself, historically speaking, as a Rockefeller Republican." He adds ruefully, "I'm the last one living."

**S**tern's appointment at Yale in 1998 was greeted with some skepticism, and he acknowledges he was not the school's first choice. Reed Kroloff, editor of *Architecture* magazine at the time, derided him as the "suede-loafed sultan of suburban retroecture, Disney party boy and notorious academic curmudgeon." Nine years later, Kroloff took it back, saying, "Bob Stern may be the best school of architecture dean in the United States."

"The fear was that as dean, he would turn the school into a bastion of traditionalism like Notre Dame," says architecture critic Goldberger. "In fact, he did the opposite. He welcomed outstanding architects with radically different approaches from his own, like Zaha Hadid and Frank Gehry. He not only maintained Yale's tradition of pluralism, he brought it to a higher level." In addition, Goldberger says, "He made certain the school was imparting the highest standards, not only in design, but also in urban planning, historic preservation and building technology."

"His accomplishment at Yale has been absolutely stellar," agrees Swiss architect Bernard Tschumi, GSAPP dean from 1988 to 2003. "I think he has put Yale back where it deserves to be, as one of the three best schools in the country. This he did with an enormous amount of flair and intelligence, and it has been good for everybody who is interested in education."





PETER AARON / OTTO

Tschumi especially appreciates Stern's zest for the collision of ideas — and his sense of humor, a view echoed by Stern's successor in the Yale dean's office, Deborah Berke. "Bob's a funny guy, and he can make fun of himself," says Berke. "He loves discussion, he loves the exchange of ideas. He believes — and I think he's absolutely right in this — that a university is an environment where people can have different points of view and still be friends and colleagues."

**S**tern has won numerous honors, including The Richard H. Driehaus Prize in 2011 and the National Building Museum's Vincent Scully Prize in 2008, and was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement by the College in 1991. He has chaired the international jury at the Venice Biennale in 2012 and his works are in the permanent collections of MoMA, the Centre Pompidou and the Art Institute of Chicago, among others. Yet he shows no sign of coasting.

After a sabbatical Stern will resume teaching at Yale. He's publishing a book later this year on RAMSA's recent campus architecture and working on a sixth volume of the New York book series with co-authors David Fishman and Jacob Tilove.

Three of Stern's skyscrapers are under construction in Manhattan, piercing the skyline that inspired him as a boy in Brooklyn: an 82-story hotel and apartment complex at 30 Park Place; an apartment tower at 520 Park Ave.; and another

residential spire, 220 Central Park South, which will be among the city's tallest structures. All three are clad in limestone, like the Empire State and Chrysler buildings, and feature the kinds of setbacks and rooftops associated with classic Manhattan tall buildings.

Stern says he's especially excited about the design of 30 Park Place, which shares a block with the landmark Woolworth Building — once the world's tallest, now dwarfed by Stern's — and stares down at the site of the original King's College and Columbia campus.

**"Architecture is not an autobiographical art. Many architects seem to think that every building they do has to look like their building, which can be a trap."**

Always the teacher, always cognizant of history, Stern explains, "It's my homage to One Wall Street, the Irving Trust Building, which is one of the great buildings of the late '20s, and one of the great buildings of New York skyscraper history." He nods and smiles. "It's a beautiful silhouette."

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*Former CCT Editor **Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80** is a freelance author and editor who lives in Upper Manhattan. His last piece for CCT was a profile of Los Angeles mayor Eric Garcetti '92, SIPA'93.*

**ABOVE:**  
George W. Bush Presidential  
Library and Museum  
Southern Methodist University  
Dallas

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**  
30 Park Place  
New York City



# MOVING THE ST

**PETER PILLING  
LEADS NEW  
ERA IN  
COLUMBIA  
ATHLETICS**



JONATHAN LATTIF



BY ALEX SACHARE '71

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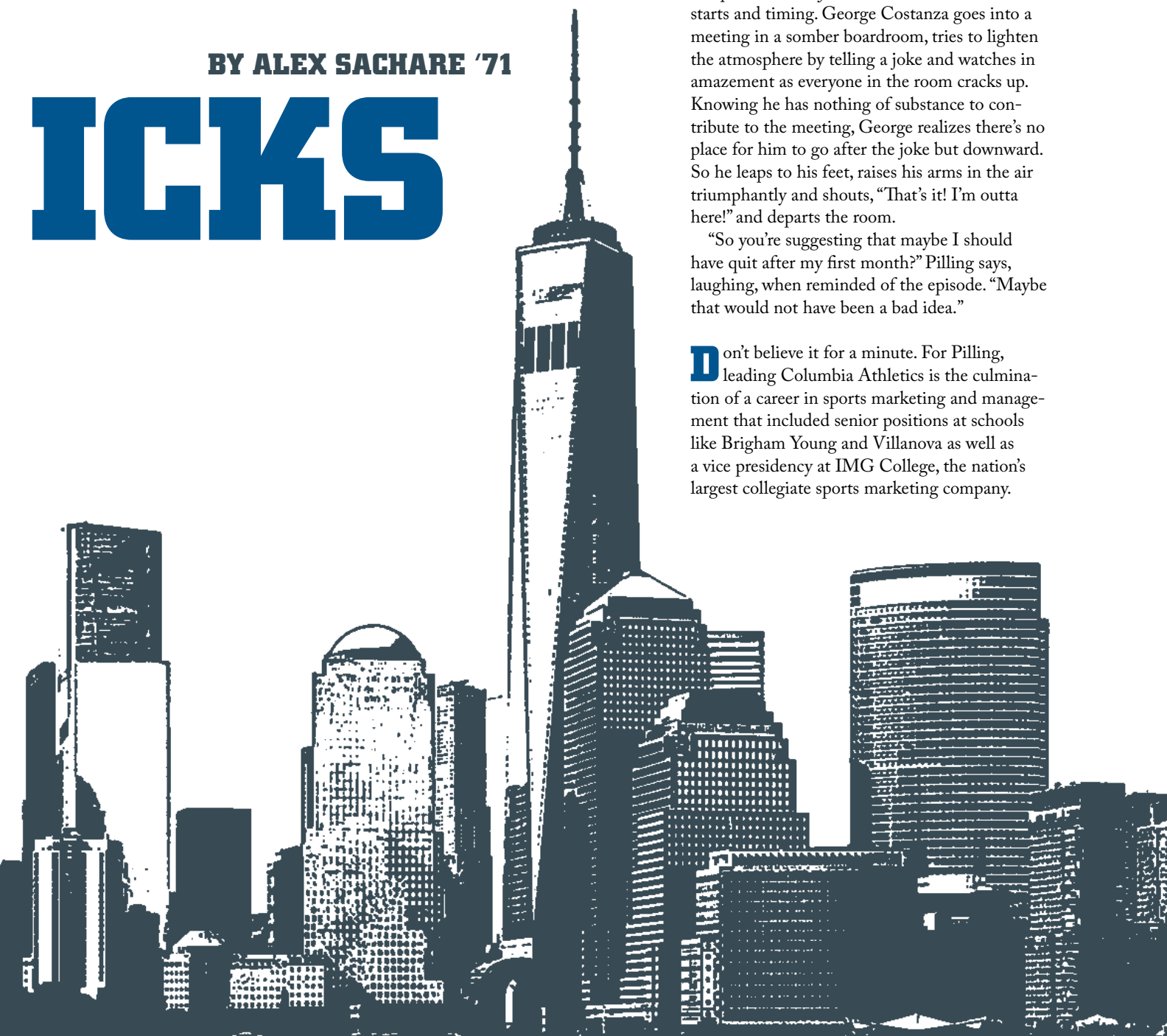
ew people have had as auspicious a start to their jobs as Peter Pilling did after becoming Columbia's Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and

Physical Education in February 2015. Almost before the ink was dry on the headlines announcing his hiring, he had persuaded none less than the winningest coach in Ivy League football history, Al Bagnoli, to take on the challenge of waking up Columbia's slumbering program.

Pilling was reminded, during an interview last spring in the Dodge Fitness Center, about an episode of *Seinfeld* that has to do with fast starts and timing. George Costanza goes into a meeting in a somber boardroom, tries to lighten the atmosphere by telling a joke and watches in amazement as everyone in the room cracks up. Knowing he has nothing of substance to contribute to the meeting, George realizes there's no place for him to go after the joke but downward. So he leaps to his feet, raises his arms in the air triumphantly and shouts, "That's it! I'm outta here!" and departs the room.

"So you're suggesting that maybe I should have quit after my first month?" Pilling says, laughing, when reminded of the episode. "Maybe that would not have been a bad idea."

**D**on't believe it for a minute. For Pilling, leading Columbia Athletics is the culmination of a career in sports marketing and management that included senior positions at schools like Brigham Young and Villanova as well as a vice presidency at IMG College, the nation's largest collegiate sports marketing company.





“It has always been my goal to serve as an athletic director at a great university,” he says.

He could not wait to roll up his sleeves and get going — and in fact, he didn’t.

Even when he was still just a candidate for the AD job, Pilling did his due diligence regarding his potential employer and realized that the No. 1 priority at Columbia was reviving a football program that was languishing with a 21-game losing streak. To do that, he knew he needed to identify the right man to replace Pete Mangurian, the coach who had recently resigned, and convince that man to take on the challenge of turning around the Light Blue. It figured to be his first hire, and one that would go a long way toward shaping his tenure — assuming he got the job, that is.

In kicking around names with a former colleague from Villanova, Pilling’s ears perked up when he learned that the winningest coach in Football Championship Subdivision history just might be available. Bagnoli had recently resigned after 33 years and 234 victories as a head coach, including 22 years at Penn that produced nine Ivy League championships. The talk around Philadelphia was that Bagnoli was restless working a desk job in Penn’s athletics department and might be itching to get back to the sidelines if the right opportunity arose.

“I thought that was very interesting,” says Pilling. “He and I started a dialogue, and when I was appointed athletics director, I got on a train to Philadelphia and we met to continue the conversation.” Pilling was appointed on February 3, 2015; Bagnoli came aboard three weeks later.

The impact was instantaneous, more so than Columbia’s 2–8 win-loss record in 2015 might indicate. A Columbia football team that looked hopelessly overmatched the year before was competitive in 9 of 10 games in 2015, breaking a 24-game losing streak with a 26–3 win over Wagner and an 18-game Ivy losing streak with a 17–7 victory at Yale. Most tellingly, the Lions improved dramatically in just about every measurable category, as noted by Jake Novak GS’92 in Roar Lions 2016, his blog about Columbia football ([culions.blogspot.com](http://culions.blogspot.com)). For example, the Lions rushed for 1,402 yards after gaining just 556 on the ground the previous season, and they allowed only 198 points after giving up 389 the year before.

Rich Forzani ’66, an active alumnus who advocated for reform in the athletics department and the football program in particular, was impressed by Pilling’s bold move. “Even before he was awarded the position, he began a dialogue with one of the most successful Ivy coaches in history, who was not then coaching,” Forzani says. “This resulted in what many of us believe to be the most brilliant coaching hire in CU football history, Al Bagnoli. That is his great tactical accomplishment, and by itself dwarfs all that has happened in the past 50 years in football. Moreover, it highlights an imaginative and aggressive way of dealing with the long-range challenge — that of delivering winning teams.”

As Bagnoli heads into his second season, Pilling couldn’t be happier with his signature hire. “Coach Bagnoli provides amaz-

ing leadership for our football program,” he says. “Everyone is so appreciative of his understanding of what it takes to be successful as a football coach in the Ivy League. He is incredibly motivated; he’s very competitive and very organized. He really understands the whole process. And he makes the game fun for the players.”

Bagnoli wasn’t Pilling’s only high-profile hire in his first year on the job. When Kyle Smith left to return to the West Coast after leading men’s basketball to a 25-win season and the CollegeInsider.com tournament title, the first postseason crown in school history, Pilling quickly tabbed Jim Engles, a former Columbia assistant coach who had compiled an impressive record as head coach at NJIT, as his successor. And he reached into the ranks of young alumni to select Megan Griffith ’07, a three-year captain who played pro ball in Europe and was part of five Ivy title-winning teams as an assistant coach at Princeton, to become head women’s basketball coach.

**P**illing recognizes that while football and basketball may be the marquee sports that garner headlines, the performance of those teams — and indeed all of Columbia’s varsity teams — will be only one measure of his success. Although Columbia has hundreds of student-athletes who compete in 29 intercollegiate sports before tens of thousands of spectators, a large part of the University’s students, faculty and administrators, perhaps even a majority, pay scant attention to intercollegiate athletics competition.

Pilling would like to change that, and one of his goals is to better integrate Athletics into the Columbia culture. “I believe that as an athletic director you need to be part of the campus community. That’s important to me,” Pilling says. He adds that in interviewing for the AD job, “One of the things that really struck me is that there is excellence around the campus, and the Athletics Department should contribute to that continued excellence.”

Toward that end, Pilling says that despite the importance of the improved facilities at the Baker Athletics Complex in Inwood, it is vital for Athletics to have a significant presence on Morningside Heights, where undergraduates reside and take virtually all their classes. Referring to the Dodge Physical Fitness Center that includes Levien Gym, Pilling says, “It’s great [that it’s] within walking distance for the entire student body. That makes it extremely convenient to go to a game.”

Athletics facilities in general improved significantly under Pilling’s predecessor, M. Dianne Murphy, particularly at the Baker Athletics Complex. Murphy oversaw the renovation of many of the playing fields as well as the baseball and soccer stadiums and led the fundraising and construction of The Campbell Sports Center, which provides those who compete and practice at Baker with conference rooms, a strength-and-conditioning center, a student-athlete lounge and study center, and coaches’ offices. “We have some amazing facilities,” Pilling enthuses. “Coach Bagnoli says the Campbell Center is as good as any facility in the Ivy League.”

In July, Columbia began construction of an indoor structure at the Rocco B. Commisso Soccer Stadium to provide winter practice space for varsity field teams. When completed, the “Bubble at Baker” will be a 650,000-cubic-ft. air-supported dome enclosing a new FieldTurf playing surface and will be inflated from December to mid-March to provide practice space for the football, men’s and women’s soccer, baseball, softball, field hockey and lacrosse teams.

Now, Pilling is turning his attention to Morningside Heights and the Dodge Physical Fitness Center, which underwent its last major

**“AS AN  
ATHLETIC  
DIRECTOR,  
YOU NEED TO  
BE PART OF  
THE CAMPUS  
COMMUNITY.  
THAT’S  
IMPORTANT  
TO ME.”**





**Pilling with head football coach Al Bagnoli, his first hire and one of several new coaches he has brought on board in his first year.**

JONATHAN LATTIF

renovation in 1996 and serves not only as an intercollegiate athletics and club/intramural sports facility but also as the recreational gym for members of the Columbia community who want a place to work out. He conducted a survey of students, faculty, administrators and other gym members last spring to gauge usage of Dodge and get a broad cross-section of opinion regarding the facility and what needed to be improved. “We’ve replaced a lot of fitness equipment,” he says, “but I really wanted to see what needs to take place. This is an important facility for the entire community.”

**P**illing’s progress in his brief tenure has not gone unnoticed. “Peter has brought a new level of enthusiasm and optimism to the program,” says Mike Brown ’80, who played football and baseball at Columbia. “His interaction with alumni has been stellar and I can see his staff is rejuvenated. The hiring of Al Bagnoli was a real coup and I am impressed with Jim Engles. Facilities, especially the new bubble, are a major achievement.”

Forzani adds, “Peter gets it. He recognized the need to convert the Athletics Department into a proactive and alumni-friendly organization. Peter is extremely responsive and open to commentary and questions. By doing this, he has positioned himself and his people as allies and ombudsmen for alumni. The positive things he has done for football in particular and the department in general will help all sports.”

Ken Howitt ’76, a longtime season ticket-holder for basketball who added football season tickets this season, says that while he has not had direct contact with Pilling, he has noticed changes. “There seems to be a conscious effort to involve the Columbia community as one entity, where students, student-athletes, alumni and staff are not separate, but

rather one unit with a common goal. I have always enjoyed attending events and games, and in many ways, that experience is improving both on the field and also before and after events.”

Some of that may be attributable to Pilling’s experience in marketing, which is paying dividends in many ways, according to one of his peers.

Bob Scalise, the longtime AD at Harvard, says, “I have found Peter to be a terrific colleague and an excellent addition to our Ivy League Athletic Directors group. He is helping us in many areas, but particularly with Ivy messaging, digital network strategy, sponsorships and broadcast rights. Ivy schools pursue a unique model in college athletics; our success is measured in many ways, not just by wins and losses. Peter embraces the higher level goal of pursuing competitive excellence while also remaining true to the educational mission of Columbia College, the Ivy League and college athletics in general.”

But wins and losses remains the most common yardstick by which success in sports is measured at every level, including the Ivy League, and Pilling knows that. “We can be successful academically and athletically at the highest levels,” he says. “We relish the opportunity to compete for Ivy League championships. I want to continue to grow and enhance support for all our programs.

“It’s important that our student-athletes and coaches have the resources to be successful,” adds Pilling, who when asked how he defines success, replies, “Obviously, winning Ivy League championships, but also developing the skills in our student-athletes so they can be winners in life.”

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*Alex Sachare ’71 has been editor in chief of CCT since 1998. He has written, edited or contributed to more than 30 books about sports.*



## Toward a More Perfect University

Jonathan R. Cole '64, GSAS'69 contends the objectives of the sciences, humanities and the behavioral and social sciences are not as different as they are often made out to be

*Jonathan R. Cole '64, GSAS'69 is the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, provost emeritus of the University and dean emeritus of faculties. In his last appearance in "Columbia Forum" (July/August 2010), he described the social benefits of the inventions generated by America's great research universities — from the products themselves to the boost provided to the U.S. economy. In his latest book, Toward a More Perfect University, he casts a critical yet still hopeful eye on this vital educational institution.*

*The landscape of higher education has dramatically changed since Cole entered Columbia in 1960. As he points out in an interview on the Arts and Sciences website, the University's annual operating budget — which was around \$100 million in 1960 — has soared to more than \$4 billion annually; the percentage allocated to the health sciences complex has risen from 12 percent to 50 percent. Facing the future, in Cole's view, should mean making changes in admissions, in administration and in the degree of collaboration among universities so as to better address society's changing needs.*

*The excerpt that follows looks at the challenges faced by humanities courses at universities in a science-dominated age, and defends the wisdom they offer.*

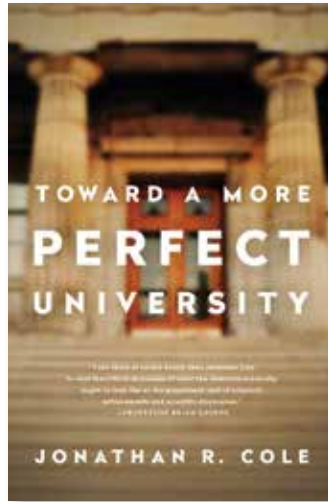
— Rose Kernochan BC'82

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Above: More Americans can identify Michael Jackson as the writer of "Beat It" than can recognize Chief Justice John Jay (Class of 1764).

GILBERT STUART,  
PORTRAIT OF JOHN JAY, 1794





**A** historian of medieval France and one of America's premier students of the theory and practice of historiography, Gabrielle Spiegel is also an accomplished teacher of many years at a number of universities, but principally at Johns Hopkins. A recipient of many honors for her work, Spiegel is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious scholarly organizations and, perhaps even more striking, was elected by her peers as President of the American Historical Association in 2007.

Gabrielle Spiegel is, quite simply, one of the nation's distinguished humanists. When she moved to UCLA as Dean of the Humanities, though, she was confronted by a student reporter who asked her to respond to the following statement: "In the modern world, studying the humanities is a waste of time." As Spiegel has noted, the reporter might have asked for her reaction to the following: "No one ever died of English," or "Why study all those dead languages and civilizations?" A group of Chinese leaders of higher learning that I visited several years ago in Nanjing asked me about the essential components of a truly great university: "Why do we need to include the humanities and most of the social sciences? Can't we create great universities without the humanities?"

Within the American Academy of Arts and Sciences there has been continual discussion of the causes for the decline in the percentage of undergraduates who major in the humanities; beyond those walls, a congressionally requested report released in 2013 by the academy has triggered a good deal of public debate over the state of the humanities. *The Heart of the Matter: The Humanities*

*and Social Sciences for a Vibrant, Competitive, and Secure Nation*, a report produced by a distinguished group of humanists, artists, and business executives who were members of the academy, argued for the advancement of three large goals: (1) To "educate Americans in the knowledge, skills, and understanding they will need to thrive in a twenty-first-century democracy [and that can be found only in the study of the humanities]"; (2) to "foster a society that is innovative, competitive, and strong"; and (3) to "equip the nation for leadership in an interconnected world."

The academy report does not try to offer yet another defense for the intrinsic worth of the humanities (although it certainly acknowledges that value) but argues instead for the utilitarian benefit of having students well trained in humanistic disciplines. That alone would be sufficient to elicit a heated response from some humanists who despair when they hear arguments for the humanities on pragmatic grounds.

In my view, the objectives of the sciences, humanities, and the behavioral and social sciences are not as different as they are often made out to be. The most serious deficiency in the academy report is that it treated the humanities as set apart from the other components of a liberal arts education rather than as an integral part of them. All of these liberal arts disciplines are committed to a search for facts and truth. They try to improve students' critical reasoning skills; they seek to discover, to innovate, and to enhance the quality of knowledge that citizens have to make informed decisions about their own lives and about their nation. The liberal arts are also committed to change: The sciences to changing our fundamental

knowledge and to promoting downstream a set of discoveries that will improve the public's health and cure disease as well as answer the difficult questions about our origins and our evolution. So, too, with the humanistic and social sciences. Through their critical posture — to be sure, in a murky area between hard facts and values — they try to criticize existing patterns of behavior after understanding them and to promote changes in the institutions in which our citizens are embedded. In a fundamental way, the well-known antagonism between the sciences and the humanities, which has existed at least since C. P. Snow's *The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution*, is a false dichotomy that ought to be abandoned. The commonality of interests has over time become clearer than perhaps it was in Snow's day; but although the disciplines that make up these large liberal arts enterprises have distinctly different methodologies and orientations, they have very common goals. Despite those similitudes, there is, as Berkeley historian David A. Hol-

linger says in a 2013 essay in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, a “wedge driving Academe's two families apart” despite, he argues, “the deep kinship between humanistic studies and natural science.”

If the humanities and social and behavioral sciences, as well as the sciences and engineering, are the foundations for building reasonably independent-thinking individuals, then it's clear that the nation is failing in producing citizens with an acceptable level of knowledge for making informed decisions. Consider a few findings from a recent survey of basic knowledge that American citizens have about their own history. It is not as if Americans don't think it is important to know something about their own history: 90 percent of those who took the survey entitled *The American Revolution. Who Cares?* did consider it important. Yet on the twenty-seven-question test, 83 percent received a failing grade.

For example, only about 10 percent of those surveyed identified John Jay [(Class of 1764)] as the first Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court; “many more Americans knew that Michael Jackson authored *Beat It* and *Billie Jean* than knew that James Madison was the Father of the Constitution, or that Alexander Hamilton [(Class of 1778)] was the first treasury secretary; one-third did not know that the right to a jury trial is covered in the Bill of Rights, while 40 percent mistakenly thought that the right to vote is.” As discouraging as these finding may be, it may be equally disconcerting that when asked to grade themselves on their knowledge of the American Revolution [before taking the test], “89 percent gave themselves a passing grade, while only 3 percent gave themselves an F, and 8 percent gave themselves a D.”



CHESTER HIGGINS JR. / THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Annenberg Public Policy Center's Judicial Survey of 2007 also produced some startling results. For example, although about three-quarters of the population surveyed knew there were three branches of government, only 36 percent correctly named them. Fewer than 20 percent of Americans could correctly name John Roberts as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; two-thirds of Americans could not name a single member of the Court (whereas 66 percent knew at least one of the judges on the television show *American Idol*); fully one-third of the sampled population believed that Supreme Court decisions could be appealed; and less than half realized that a 5-to-4 Supreme Court decision carries as much weight as a 9-to-0 decision. Finally, to cite only one more finding, fully 60 percent of Americans believed that the president should follow a Supreme Court ruling he disagrees with, and a third thought that the president should instead do what he thinks is in the best interest of the country. Clearly, we have a severe problem of ignorance — and that ignorance is not being diminished by our educational system, although level of education is positively correlated with greater knowledge of American history, various aspects of our government's structure, and the occupants of key positions.

Perhaps a bit more exposure to classics, history, English and comparative literature, philosophy, the arts, languages, musicology, religion, and the social sciences, whether they result in majoring in the subject or not, would serve these students well in their jobs and in later life.

Of course, the angst about the condition of the humanities can be found both inside and outside the nation's major universities. The so-called “crisis of the humanities” has been with us for generations. And for every perceived crisis, remedies are tried. In 2012, Harvard announced that it would mount a program to bolster the undergraduate humanities with changes in its curriculum and improved advising of its students — yet another attempt by Harvard to grapple with the problem that it perceives is faced by students interested in the liberal arts but who are fearful that they will not find jobs if they follow their interests. At the more advanced level of study, Stanford is experimenting with a five-year-maximum Ph.D. program, and some universities are considering doing away with the required doctoral dissertation in favor of completion of several publishable papers.

Some critics with a practical orientation argue that graduate Ph.D. education in the humanities is a sham: a way of obtaining surplus labor to staff large college courses through the hiring of adjunct professors without providing any hope for full-time employment. Others argue that the time it takes to obtain a Ph.D. is far too long, given that half of the doctorates in these fields will find employment outside institutions of higher learning. Any effort to create links between the humanities and the social and behavioral sciences or the natural sciences is viewed as a prostitution of the real purposes of the humanities by means of trying to find practical applications for the expertise developed by Ph.D.'s in the



humanities. Still others bemoan the movement of the fields away from a strict analysis of literature, poetry, art, music, and languages to identity-based politics — with the introduction of race and gender studies into these disciplines. They attribute the demise of the humanities to the culture wars of the 1990s. All this departs from the good old days — the golden past that never existed.

The actual causes of the fall from grace of the humanities — from those supposed golden years of the 1960s — are not well-understood and perhaps somewhat exaggerated. There are grains of truth in a good deal of what able humanists moan about. We have created an inordinate number of underpaid and poorly served “adjunct professors”; we have not monitored the job market well or convinced students that there are fabulous jobs outside of the academy for which they are uniquely qualified. We have been through a period of “group think” and the conflict between “insiders” and “outsiders,” about which the Yale intellectual David Bromwich has written insightfully. It does take too long for humanists to earn degrees, not because the job market that looms ahead of them is so bleak after ten years of study, but because it takes far too much time to complete their dissertations — most of which never see the light of day. For those privileged few whose thesis is published by a prestigious university press, no more than a few hundred people will read it. The central ideas in the thesis are generally contained in one or two chapters that could have been converted into scholarly papers and published in more broadly circulated journals. In fact, it is questionable whether young humanist scholars are publishing their manuscripts in order to make an impact on their fields or to impress the tenure promotion committees with the fact that Harvard, Stanford, Yale, or some other top university press has decided to publish their book.

Perhaps the most insidious and destructive damage done to the humanities and to the sciences as they try to make the case for universities to the outside world is the continual internal follies of those ideological and sometimes romantic humanists who represent the anti-science movement and of those scientists who try to assimilate the humanities into the scientific enterprise, as Steven Pinker did in a 2013 essay entitled “Science Is Not Your Enemy.” Finally, there is the endless whining and back and forth between the two cultures that the sciences have taken over the center of the university and are to blame for the current state of the humanities.

We know that there has been a significant erosion of students who major in the humanities, but the percentage of the total was never very high: only 7 percent today, compared with 14 percent a half-century ago. And although there have been a plethora of possible explanations for this decline — from the withdrawal of humanists from a more expansive view of teaching students critical reading of literature and poetry into the mode of encapsulated conversations among themselves, to the claim that focus on the humanities has no payoff after college — it remains unclear what the true causes of the

decline are. And there are some data being reported that there are actually more humanities majors today than a decade ago. The humanities indicators project of the Academy claims that there are 115,000 more students who earned a baccalaureate degree in the humanities in 2011, a 20 percent increase in absolute terms over the number a decade ago.

If there has been, in fact, a long-term decline in interest in the humanities, there may be reasons for this other than the absence of charm or good teaching within the disciplines. Consider only one: Nate Silver, the statistical analyst of voting behavior and predictor of elections, had enough spare time after the 2012 elections to reflect on the sources of decline. His explanation, based as usual on a wealth of data, was quite at variance with the ones typically reported in the newspapers. He argues that there has been essentially no decline in the proportion of male undergraduates who major in the humanities, but a drop by roughly 50 percent in the number of female undergraduates who major in subjects like English and classical and romance languages over the past 50 years, because women now have opportunities for jobs in businesses and industries as well as in the professions that were simply closed to them a half-century ago. According to Silver, it is the American opportunity structure,

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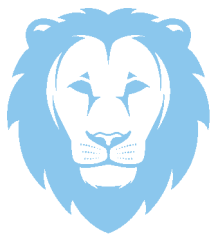
### *The actual causes of the fall from grace of the humanities are not well-understood and perhaps somewhat exaggerated.*

not the bad behavior of humanists, that accounts for these declining proportions.

Whatever the real causes of the decline over the longer term, the unit of study may be the wrong one. The proportion of those undergrads that major in the humanities does not adequately reflect the impact that taking humanities courses can have on college students. I daresay some of the students who loved Professor Spiegel's course on the Middle Ages at Hopkins are probably public health majors. Some who aim to go to medical or law school may take her course as an elective — and it may change their lives and perhaps even how they treat patients or clients. So, in part, the debate over the humanities has taken a wrong turn. We should not be as concerned about the number of undergraduates who major in these fields as we should be about whether or not during the course of their college experience they come to grips with the fundamental questions that inspired teachers in these fields raise in their classes.

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The preceding is adapted from *Toward a More Perfect University* by Jonathan R. Cole. Reprinted with permission from PublicAffairs.



# alumni news



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## GIVE ME A "C"!

F. Earl Christy (1882–1961) was a prolific American artist whose turn-of-the-century work often focused on Ivy League college life, mainly football games and the well-dressed women who attended them. His first "College Girl" postcard series was published in 1905; this image is from a 1907 collection created while Christy, a Philadelphia native, was a student at the Pennsylvania Academy of Arts. Christy also created art for calendars, collectible plates, mugs and even linens. This postcard, and many more, was sent to the Alumni Office as part of a generous donation of archival items by Will Csaplár '56, BUS'58.

## CCT Web Extras

To see more of F. Earl Christy's illustrations, go to [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



## Sending Off the Class of 2020

By Douglas R. Wolf '88

There are certain experiences I have had as a Columbia College alumnus that have left a mark on me. I have attended and also hosted many events through the years, from pre-reunion socials for classmates to faculty lectures, and when traveling for work, I've met alumni leaders in other countries. But my wife, Sherri Wolf '90, and I were particularly excited about an event we hosted in our home this past July — the Boston-area Summer Sendoff.

Through the years, I have interviewed many students applying to Columbia — a wonderful way to stay in touch with the school and my local community while supporting the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The sheer volume of applications to the College and Engineering is staggering, more than 36,000 in the last admissions cycle. We fall well behind all our Ivy peers when it comes to the percentage of applicants that receive an interview (less than 35 percent). I encourage more of you to help us this winter when the admissions cycle starts up again. Providing insight about an applicant's character and fit is incredibly useful to Admissions, though it can feel discouraging when so few are admitted. Nevertheless, when students *are* admitted, those who had an alumni interview choose Columbia over other schools at a much higher rate, another positive outcome of this program. Summer Sendoffs are an opportunity to connect alumni to students who eventually do choose Columbia and are preparing to head to Morningside Heights. More than 20 Sendoffs took place this past summer across the country, bringing together the members of the Class of 2020, their parents and local alumni. These events offer a chance for all of us to provide the gift of insight and experience that will inspire student excitement and perhaps allay parents' fears of sending their children to New York City.

Our Summer Sendoff was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. and our first student, Nicky, arrived by 7:05 p.m. Within 10 minutes we had a house full of guests, a line to fill out nametags and a large crowd mingling in the kitchen. We were in full swing by 7:30 p.m., with students mingling with alumni, parents meeting other parents and much excitement in the air. We welcomed students and their families from Massachusetts to Maine, some having driven hours to be part of the Summer Sendoff. In the end, we hosted 20 incoming students, 40 parents (including some who came even without their incoming students!), more than 10 alumni and Susan Jordan from Columbia Family Programs, who happened to be in Boston and spoke about Columbia College services for families available throughout the



COURTESY DOUGLAS R. WOLF '88

year. And, in a stroke of luck, Sherri wore a Columbia T-shirt to the dentist's office that morning, which led to the dentist's son, Daniel Nissenbaum SEAS'19, joining us at the last minute. Columbia connections were made quickly as conversations filled the air, and it took more than 10 minutes to gather the future Lions and others into the living room to start the brief program. Sherri kicked it off with welcoming remarks, including some of her experiences at Columbia, her involvement with Columbia College Women and upcoming Columbia events both in NYC and Boston. I spoke briefly and then we went around the room introducing various alumni, who spoke glowingly of their varied experiences on campus.

We had such a wide range of alumni from different years, majors and experiences that it captured so well the diversity of which Columbia is justifiably proud. My fellow club softball player Jeff Frieden '79, GSAS'84 led off with a home run: He spoke about how the Core Curriculum and the overall College experience have been building blocks for him. Now a Harvard professor of government, he comes from a long line of Columbians, including a nephew, Michael Chang-Frieden '16. We also heard from Leonard Robinson SEAS'13, who told anecdotes about campus life and about staying involved through the Columbia Club in Boston. Ashley Shaw '13 spoke highly of her Columbia days, including how several of her best Columbia friends were from her own Summer Sendoff. Erik Nook '12 and Sergio Villar '13 gave incoming students and parents a sense of the opportunities afforded to them by attending Columbia.

The students were as diverse as the alumni. Their interests ranged from the classics to science and art, and they participated in many extracurricular activities. One thing they shared was their excitement to begin their Columbia days. Guests mingled for 90 minutes after the formal program, long past the event's scheduled end time.

Those students have now arrived on College Walk and gone through Orientation and Convocation. I am hopeful that the connections made in Boston will carry through and support them in this period of transition and change. And in a month or two, it will be time to meet and interview another set of applicants to the College. I hope you'll join me by volunteering to meet one or two as well, even if it just provides a chance for you to tell *your* College story to a bright-eyed and attentive young person who may also one day call himself or herself a Columbian.

**ROAR!**

# lions

## Carr D'Angelo '84: Comic Book Hero

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09



COURTESY CARR D'ANGELO '84

It might seem like you can't go to the movies or turn on the TV without seeing a comic book character these days, but **Carr D'Angelo '84** has long been ahead of the pop culture curve. A lifelong comic book fan and owner of popular Los Angeles comic stores Earth-2 Comics, the lessons he learned at the College have stayed with him in his role as comic gatekeeper, he says.

"Comics are a modern mythology," says D'Angelo on why comics resonate with so many people. "You've got gods with different powers, you've got fallen angels, villains become heroes and heroes become villains."

In 2003, D'Angelo opened the first Earth-2 Comics, in Sherman Oaks, and since then it has set the bar for comic stores, winning the 2007 Will Eisner Spirit of Comics Retailer Award (the Eisners are the comic industry's version of the Academy Awards) and expanding in 2009 with another Earth-2 in L.A.'s Northridge neighborhood. In January 2016, *L.A. Weekly* named the Northridge Earth-2 in a roundup of the "10 Best L.A. Comic Book Shops to Support Your Habit." The stores regularly host author and artist autograph signings — for example, a May 7 Free Comic Book day event included *Suicide Squad: The New 52* writer Adam Glass and cover artist Ryan Benjamin — as well as theme parties, group discussions and even kids' art classes.

Says D'Angelo, "People are coming to us because they want something that's going to engage the imagination. ... You have to keep up your rep. If people just want to buy a book they can go to Amazon but if they want an experience they have to come to us."

D'Angelo's love of creating an experience started young. At Columbia, he was a member of the Barnard Film Society, which hosted regular movie screenings each semester. One year, as a club officer, he decided a fun way to start each movie for the year would be to show *Batman* shorts from the 1940s. To jazz up the 15-minute serials, he did the introductions dressed as Robin: Boy Wonder to fire up the crowd. He notes that even while an undergraduate, he recognized the nostalgic pull of comics. D'Angelo says that when other guys in the dorm saw his comic book collection, it often turned into a group reading as the classic characters drew people in — even those who weren't regular comic readers.

"What I loved about Columbia was that we were always sitting around talking about ideas," he says. "Those are the things that lead

to human connections — trying to understand the world, trying to understand how people think, trying to understand philosophy. And a good story always contains that."

After graduation, D'Angelo stayed in New York and wrote for fan magazines such as *Starlog*, *Fangoria* and *Comics Scene*. In 1988, he joined Universal's story department and by 1994 was a VP of production for films such as *Happy Gilmore* and *The Little Rascals*. He later began producing films (for example, 2001's *The Animal* and 2002's *The Hot Chick*, both starring *Saturday Night Live* alum Rob Schneider) before opening Earth-2 Comics in 2003 after his wife, Susan Avalone LS'85, suggested that he focus on his passion for comics with a store. Since then, D'Angelo has been immersed in the comic retail industry, serving on the Board of Directors of ComicsPRO, the trade association for comic book retailers, from 2006 to 2016 as well as being a judge for the 2015 Eisner Awards, which he says was a great honor.

Joe Field, owner of Flying Colors Comics in Concord, Calif., a former president and a current member of ComicsPRO, has worked with D'Angelo in the comic retail industry for years. Field says of D'Angelo's passion for comics and entertainment: "From the moment Carr got into the comic retail business, he's been highly involved," going above and beyond to promote the industry. Field adds, "Carr has been one of the strong voices for comic retail," noting that Earth-2 is a destination for many people in the L.A. community thanks to D'Angelo's work to make it an inclusive, innovative stop.

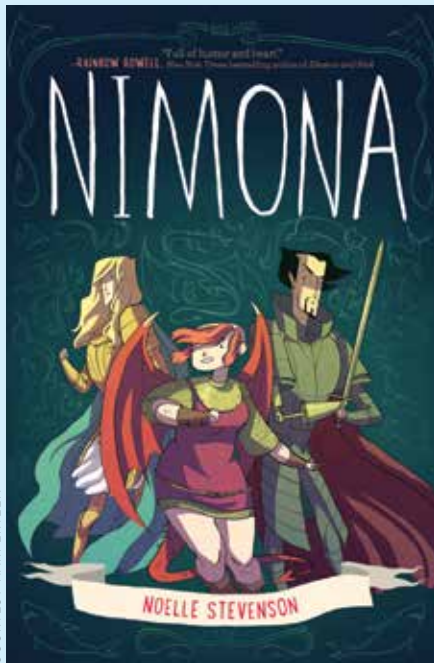
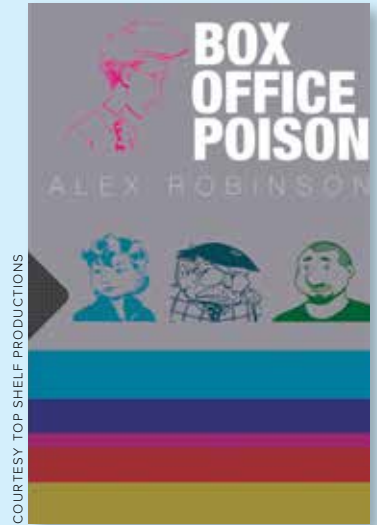
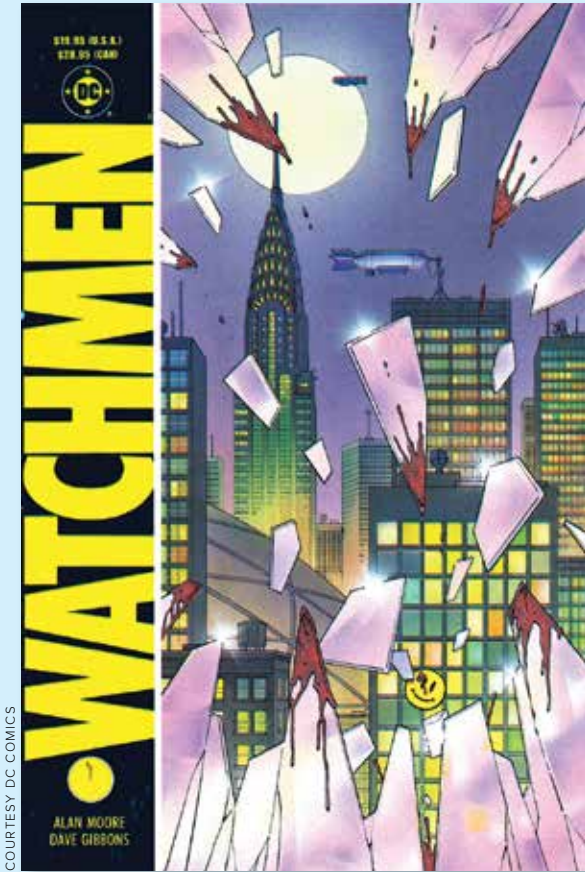
Earth-2 Comics is named after the DC Comics alternate version of Earth. D'Angelo says that one of the first superhero comics he read in the '70s was a Justice League of America (the original Earth-Prime good guys) crossover with the Justice Society of America (the alternate universe Earth-2 good guys); that early reading fostered his love of superheroes. "A lot of the things I've done have been about telling stories as a business, whether it's been writing and editing for magazines or working in the movie business as a development executive and producer and now selling comics," he says.

"One of the things I learned at Columbia was the ability to identify what the makings of a good story are," he says, adding that comics are a great medium for telling stories that capture the human experience — an experience he is happy to help readers find in the pages of comics.



# fantastic five

CCT asked Carr D'Angelo '84 for his top five comic recommendations. Here are his picks.



1. **WATCHMEN**, by writer Alan Moore and artist Dave Gibbons: "I can read this book a million times and find something new every time."
2. **PLANETARY**, by writer Warren Ellis and artist John Cassaday: It features "archaeologists of the impossible — the ultimate in meta-textual adventure comics."
3. **BOX OFFICE POISON**, written and illustrated by Alex Robinson: It "examines love, friendship and betrayal — the unsung graphic novel of the 21st century."
4. **NIMONA**, written and illustrated by Noelle Stevenson: "A Young Adult fantasy about a misfit monster girl — funny and emotional."
5. **STARMAN**, by writer James Robinson and artist Tony Harris: "A sprawling, generational superhero epic."

# The Dog Days of Winter Call Dr. Medora Pashmakova '04 North

By Kim Martineau JRN'97, SPS'14

The Iditarod famously tests the endurance of mushers and their canine teams but “The Last Great Race” also demands a certain doggedness from its volunteers.

In March, as the first sled glided into the Finger Lake camp in Southern Alaska, Dr. **Medora Pashmakova '04** fell to her knees. For the next 24 hours, she and five other vets examined more than 1,000 dogs to make sure each was fit to press on.

“When I finally peeled off my layers that night, my knees were the size of grapefruits,” says Pashmakova, a professor at Texas A&M’s College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. “It was awesome!”

From Anchorage to Nome, the 1,000-mile Iditarod Trail threads through steep mountain passes and over frozen lakes. It draws rugged competitors who have spent the last year training their dogs to haul a heavy sled at top speeds. It also attracts another sort of adventurer, one willing to throw schedules and comforts to the wind to toil through blizzards and bone-chilling temperatures.

This was the second consecutive year in which Pashmakova volunteered for the Iditarod, examining dogs before the race and at two checkpoints along the course. She got the idea from a colleague at Texas A&M who had done key research on sled dogs that develop ulcers. A former half-marathoner, Pashmakova liked that the Iditarod involved camping, culture, animals and long-distance competition.

Her first year exceeded expectations and marked the start of an annual tradition. She enjoys the downtime chatting with locals and the other vets, and then springing to action to care for the four-legged athletes. “You’re ready for anything, anytime, but have no idea when it will happen,” she says.

She is unfazed by the cold and bathing with disinfectant wipes and sleeping dormitory-like, six to a tent. Even the lack of cell-phone service is a bonus, she says, freeing her to live in the moment for the seven days she spent on the trail this year (the race was over when the last-place finisher made it to the end; it took 13 days).

It couldn’t be more different from Pashmakova’s usual routine, where appointments at the small-animal clinic she runs at Texas A&M start at 7:30 a.m. and continue through 7:30 p.m. There, she divides her time between seeing patients, supervising residents, doing research and dropping everything when a crisis calls — such as an animal hit by a car or bitten by a snake (one of the hazards of southern Texas).

Pashmakova learned to be adaptable growing up in Communist Bulgaria, canning vegetables she and her family grew on a plot of land they owned outside of Sofia. The family immigrated to the United States when Pashmakova was 10, eventually settling in Troy, Mich., where her physicist father found a job developing semiconductors at an energy plant and her pianist mother taught and performed.

Drawn from an early age to stray cats and fascinated by the power of the human-animal bond, Pashmakova early on switched majors at the College from biochemistry to ecology, evolution and environmental



COURTESY DR. MEDORA PASHMAKOVA '04

biology (E3B) to prepare for vet school. During a summer internship at the New York Aquarium, on Coney Island, she studied the repetitive behavior of the walruses there, a sign of boredom previously documented in captive whales, dolphins and primates.

After graduation, Pashmakova worked at animal clinics in New York City before returning home to study at Michigan State for a D.V.M. She graduated in 2009, and after completing a three-year residency in emergency care, decided to explore a new part of the country. She took a job at Texas A&M, inspired by the TV show *Friday Night Lights*, which followed the lives of fictional high school football players in rural Texas.

Her colleagues describe her as someone who is as good with people as she is with animals. “Caring for patients that need you, and can’t talk, is less challenging than dealing with their human owners,” said Dr. James Barr, a vet at Texas A&M. “Medora is able to win their trust, which is necessary to do some of the complicated things that we sometimes have to do.”

Those things run the gamut, and can include treating animals for abuse and neglect. Volunteer work is one way that Pashmakova relieves stress. Another is making soap she sells under the label Scruffy Dog Soaps, tinkering with color and fragrance using the biochemistry she learned at Columbia. Her constant companions — two dogs and two cats (three of which were rescued from the shelter and are collectively missing an eye and a leg) — are also a source of comfort.

At this year’s race, Pashmakova treated dogs for pneumonia, among other illnesses, and next year hopes to add on-trail monitoring to her duties, to learn more about the dogs that develop an irregular heartbeat, putting them at risk for heart failure. Now, as fall approaches, she says she finds her thoughts returning to Alaska more often, anticipating the thrill of another great race.

**Kim Martineau JRN'97, SPS'14** leads communications at Columbia’s Data Science Institute.



*Crain's New York Business* profiled **Julie Menin '89**, commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, in a June 13 article, "City's Media Czar Encourages More Filming in Outer Boroughs." The Q&A covers the growth of and diversity in the city's film and TV industry. Menin became commissioner on February 22 after two years as Manhattan's consumer affairs commissioner.

**George Whipple III '77, LAW'80** was featured on the July 8 episode of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum's podcast series "Our City. Our Story." From the show's press release: "Whipple takes listeners from the morning of 9/11, when he watched the attacks from his office in Midtown, to his first visit to the Memorial and Museum ... As a born and bred New Yorker, he speaks to the resilience and resolve of his city and the American people."

**Joya Powell '01**, founder of the Movement of the People Dance Company, received the 2016 New York Dance and Performance Award for Outstanding Emerging Choreographer. The press release states: "For her passionate choreographic engagement with issues of justice and race



CANDACE TABBS

in our communities and our country, for connecting with the audience in ways that make it clear that these concerns belong to all of us — and action is required, the 2016 NY Dance and Performance Award for Outstanding Emerging Choreographer goes to Joya Powell."



BOB HAGGART JR.

Keyboardist, composer and arranger **Dick Hyman '48** is one of five 2017 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Fellows. The fellowship recognizes lifetime achievements and exceptional contributions to the advancement of jazz; recipients receive a \$25,000 award and will be honored at a tribute concert at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., on Monday, April 3, 2017.

**Jon Cuneo '74** received the 2016 American Antitrust Institute's Alfred Kahn Award for Antitrust Achievement during the June 16 AAI Annual Conference. The award honors those who have made outstanding contributions to the field; Cuneo has a long history in antitrust legislation and helped found AAI in 1998.

**Gabriel Lefkowitz '08** was named concertmaster (lead violin) of the Louisville Orchestra for the 2016–17 season. Lefkowitz performed as a guest concertmaster in Louisville in January; previously he played with the Knoxville Orchestra.

Fashion designer **Jane Mayle '95** was featured in *The New York Times* July 14 article, "Three's a Trend: The Return of NoLIta's Cool Kids" to mark her return to fashion design after closing her label/store in 2008. The fall 2016 collection for her relaunched label, Maison Mayle, became available in July at Barney's.

The John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus, Provost Emeritus and Special

Service Professor **Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53** was the sole recipient of the 2016 Tang Prize in Sinology for his "pioneering contributions in Confucian studies." Founded in 2012 by Samuel Yin, the award includes a prize of \$1.24 million as well as a separate grant of \$311,000. The award ceremony took place in Taipei on September 25.

**Greg Burke '82, JRN'83** is the first American appointed to the role of director of the Holy See Press Office. Burke joined the Vatican's press team four years ago as senior communications adviser; he moved into his new role on August 1.

**Meera Menon '06's** film *Equity* was released on July 29 to solid reviews, receiving an 83 percent fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes. The film (which stars *Breaking Bad's* Anna Gunn), about a female-driven Wall Street firm who gets caught up in a scandal, is produced by Broad Street Pictures, which aims to produce movies about women.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

**Harrison Shih '16** competed in the U.S. Amateur at Oakland Hills Country Club in Bloomfield Hills, Mich., August 15–21. Shih was the 2015 Ivy League Golfer of the Year and earned his spot in the U.S. Amateur after performing well at the Worthington Manor Golf Club qualifiers in Urbana, Md., July 25–26. He made it to the round of 64 in the U.S. Amateur competition.

— Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

# bookshelf

## The Art of Knowing Ourselves: Humans and Their Strange Tools

By Jill C. Shomer

What is art? Why does it matter to us? And what does the fact that it matters to us tell us about what it means to be human? These are the provocative key questions asked by **Alva Noë '86** in *Strange Tools: Art and Human Nature* (Hill and Wang, \$20).

Noë, a professor of philosophy at UC Berkeley, where he is also a member of the Institute for Cognitive and Brain Sciences and the Center for New Media, examines the connections between works of art and the nature of philosophy. A work of art, Noë suggests, is a “strange tool” humans make in order to better understand ourselves. When we make art or engage with art we are also studying the way human beings are organized. And while the job of art is philosophical, the practice of philosophy is also artistic: “Art and philosophy are both transformative,” he says. “They are ways of finding ourselves when we are lost.”

Noë analyzes the roles art and philosophy play in our lives with insights about choreography, painting, film and music (both pop and classical) and variations in philosophical thought. Theories of Plato, Kant and Heidegger brush up against works by Cézanne, Roman Polanski and Bruce Springsteen.

Of course, both practices are highly subjective: “You can’t prove a philosophical position any more than you can prove that a painting is or is not a worthwhile work of art,” he writes.

Noë’s themes are academic but are also very personal. He grew up in Greenwich Village in the heady 1970s, in a house and community of artists, “surrounded by art and by people for whom the value of art was paramount.” The question of art and why it matters, Noë says, was his first problem when he began to study philosophy.

He didn’t want to leave New York City for college and so Columbia was a logical choice. The College had recently started admitting women and Noë remembers it as an exciting time. “Columbia then felt like it was really on the upswing. The arrival of women definitely raised the game,” he says.

He knew he wanted to study philosophy — “I always had a philosophical disposition” — and during his freshman year, he had his mind blown by an introduction to cultural anthropology course taught by Robert Murphy ’49, GSAS’54. The enduring idea that there are so many varieties of social organizations around the world but that in our humanity we are all the same was captivating for Noë, who pleaded with Murphy to be allowed to take his graduate-level seminar even though he was only a freshman. (Murphy turned him down four times before acquiescing.) That was in addition to his Core classes, which he confidently embraced. “My intellectual life wouldn’t be what it is if not for the Core,” he says. “There’s so much that I read that I might never have come to read. Back then, I thought I knew everything but I learned so, so much. It was a transformative experience.” Noë recalls he and his classmates felt free to try out ideas, and he felt that the faculty were respectful and supportive. “Columbia took care of me,” he says.

In his senior year, Noë was awarded a Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship, which allowed him to study for two years at Oxford. It was a positive experience, he says, and one that inspired him to earn a Ph.D. at Harvard in 1995 and become a professor. Teachers such as Murphy, Robert May at Barnard and Charles Parsons, who mentored Noë both at Columbia and Harvard, were his role models in academia. “I learned a lot about teaching from my Columbia professors — you carry on the way you were trained.”

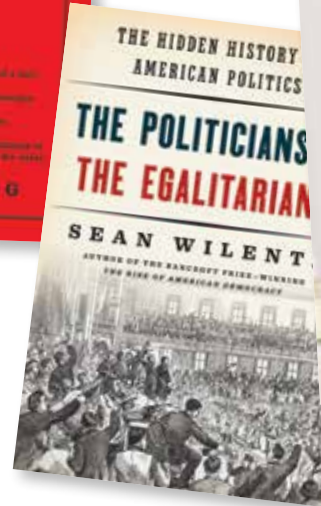
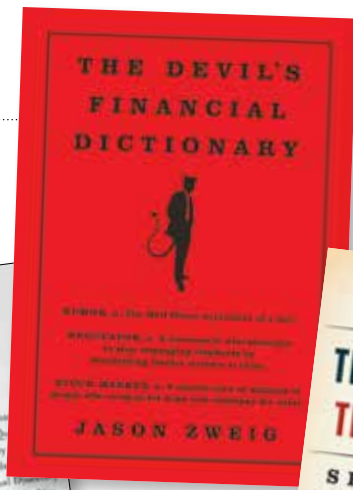
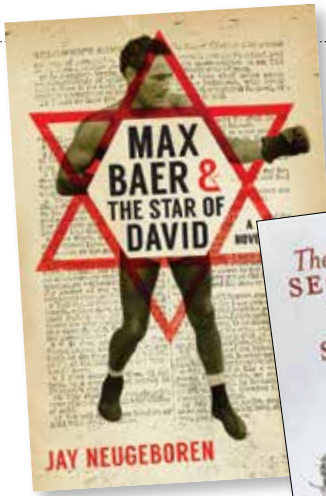
Noë wrote three books on cognitive science and the empirical study of human experience before he was ready to explore the themes in *Strange Tools*. “I’m grappling now with the relationship between what I’m doing now and where I came from,” he says, “making the case that there’s an important internal connection between what art and philosophy aspire to.” For him, the questions are huge, and critical to his life story.

And while the parallels between art and philosophy may be challenging to consider, Noë says he works hard to make his work accessible to everyone. “This book is not written in the style of conventional academic philosophy. It’s the arguments and the conversations it generates that sustain it as a thing of value.”



JILL SHOMER





**Sky Gazer** by Alan Holder '53. In this collection of more than 120 poems, Holder requests that the reader embrace his or her identity as “a creature of feeling.” Allusions to past works are combined with ruminations on present questions and blunt, often comical observations. (Anaphora Literary Press, \$20).

**Max Baer & the Star of David: A Novel** by Jay Neugeboren '59. Neugeboren combines real and fictional lives: Actual heavyweight champion Max Baer interacts with characters Horace and Joleen Littlejohn in a story of love, violence and identity — inside and outside of the ring (Mandel Vilar Press, \$19.95).

**Dissent and the Supreme Court: Its Role in the Court's History and the Nation's Constitutional Dialogue** by Melvin I. Urofsky '61. How does a dissenting opinion transform from a minority disagreement into a strongly supported precedent? Focusing on major conflicting opinions throughout history, Urofsky illuminates the influence of dissent as a practice and its broader implications in crafting a nation built upon the imperative of change (Pantheon, \$35).

**Zone: Selected Poems by Guillaume Apollinaire** translated by Ron Padgett '64. This bilingual text places Apollinaire's original French adjacent to Padgett's English realization of the words so that on the page, they seem to converse with one another. Padgett

explores a range of poems “from visionary extravaganzas to lighthearted little nothings,” paying a deep respect to the poet's extensive body of work (NYRB Poets, \$16).

**The Politicians and the Egalitarians** by Sean Wilentz '72. In the midst of a contentious election year, Wilentz, one of the country's most eminent historians, offers a sharp portrait of our nation's history and interprets how the alliance between egalitarian social movements and partisan politics has achieved the most notable liberal victories in the United States (W.W. Norton & Co., \$28.95).

**The Graduate School Mess: What Caused It and How We Can Fix It** by Leonard Cassuto '81. How has graduate education in America devolved into a system that leaves its students disillusioned and unemployed? In this critical work, Cassuto offers transformative solutions to return graduate institutions to their position as effective facilitators of worthwhile study (Harvard University Press, \$29.95).

**The Secret Life of Stories: From Don Quixote to Harry Potter, How Understanding Intellectual Disability Transforms the Way We Read** by Michael Bérubé '82. Through analysis of a range of successful works and personal stories, the author explores how ideas about intellectual disability can inform understanding and interpretation of narrative structures. Inspired by

his children — one son is “gifted,” the other has Down syndrome — Bérubé displays our human attraction to storytelling in a new light (New York University Press, \$24.95).

**The Devil's Financial Dictionary** by Jason Zweig '82. Spurred by the aftermath of the 2008 stock market crash, financial journalist Zweig was inspired to lay out the tools and lingo to navigate the frequently corrupt world of Wall Street. To simplify an industry in which “much of what glitters is fool's gold,” Zweig distills its complexities into concise definitions most anyone can understand (Public Affairs, \$19.99).

**Education and the Commercial Mindset** by Samuel E. Abrams '86. Veteran teacher and administrator Abrams analyzes the movement to privatize K–12 education in America and, based on deep reporting, makes recommendations on how public schools should adopt lessons from the business world (Harvard University Press, \$39.95).

**The Nutshell Technique: Crack the Secret of Successful Screenwriting** by Jill Chamberlain '89. Has Chamberlain discovered cinema's genetic code? The veteran script consultant analyzed a range of blockbusters from *Casablanca* to *Little Miss Sunshine* to make a surprising point: 99 percent of screenwriters present a situation rather than a story. Chamberlain then presents an eight-step strategy

for structuring a successful screenplay (University of Texas Press, \$21.95).

**Cooking Solo: The Fun of Cooking for Yourself** by Klancy Miller '96. Pastry chef Miller inspires readers to find their groove cooking for one, without the hassle of scaling down larger recipes or being stuck with leftovers. Miller's playful tone and sophisticated palate suggest that preparing meals for yourself should be an occasion, not a chore (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt \$19.99).

**Wellth: How I Learned to Build a Life, Not a Résumé** by Jason Wachob '98. Combining personal anecdotes with expert contributions, Wachob details how to reevaluate your life to achieve “wellth,” or true fulfillment and richness in existing. A creative take on the notion of self-help, this book emphasizes oft-overlooked simplicities (Harmony Books, \$26).

**The New Milks: 100-Plus Dairy-Free Recipes for Making and Cooking with Soy, Nut, Seed, Grain, and Coconut Milks** by Dina Cheney '99. Approximately 30–50 million Americans are lactose-intolerant, and alternative milks have become a mainstay in our culture (half-caf soy latte, anyone?). Cheney, the “dairy-free cooking expert” for About.com, explains how to make and cook with plant-based milks. Recipes can be customized to meet a range of dietary needs (Atria Books, \$22).

— Aiyana K. White '18

# classnotes



COURTESY WILL CSAPLAR '56, BUS'58

Written on the back of this undated postcard: “South Hall, built at a cost of \$4,000,000 and opened in 1934, is the gift of Edward S. Harkness. Dr. Butler, President of Columbia University, describes the building as a ‘laboratory library, designed not merely for the storage and distribution of books, but for constant working with books.’”

## 1941

**Robert Zucker**  
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From **Carl D'Angio**: “In the Summer 2016 issue, Class of '43 news (page 57), G.J. D'Angio '43 reports the death of his sister-in-law, adding that she had turned away from Vassar (her alma mater) over its co-ed change.

“The lady was my brilliant, elegant wife, graduate of Vassar College Class of '41. Contrary to the above, her devotion to her beloved school was absolute and she supported it without fail all her 75 post-grad years. A fine classical scholar, she left her texts to the exquisite library where she happily volunteered. The pin money bought her fare home and maybe a little present for me. Times were tough.

“A great lady — her last formal act was to sign, in a fine hand, a check to the Vassar fund.”

## 1942

**Melvin Hershkowitz**  
22 Northern Ave.  
Northampton, MA 01060-2310  
DrMelvin23@gmail.com

On May 17 I had a congratulatory telephone chat with Dr. **Arthur Wiswall “Wizzer” Wellington**, who was celebrating his 96th birthday with friends and family at his home in the Woodbrook Residence in Elmira, N.Y. Art has had numerous medical problems in recent years but has remained cognitively intact, with loving support from his family and friends. I met Art in 1938 and we became lifelong friends, sharing our devotion to Columbia and our interest in horse racing, which led to our establishing the Certified Degenerate

Horseplayers Club, along with **Don Mankiewicz**, **Charles F. Hoelzer Jr.** and **Donald Dickinson** (all now deceased). Art was a Marine artillery officer in the Pacific in WWII, returned to Columbia to earn a doctor of optometry degree, became a prominent optometrist in Elmira, N.Y., and was part owner of the Elmira minor league baseball club and a scout for the Boston Braves.

Best wishes to “Wizzer” Wellington for more birthday celebrations in the years ahead.

With great sadness and regret, I received a telephone call on June 4 from Dagny Robbins, wife of Dr. **William Robbins**, to report Bill's death at 94 in the early morning hours on that day at their residence in Mount Dora, Fla. Bill had many physical disabilities as he grew older, but his mind remained clear, and we had frequent exchanges of sports news, political news and Columbia affairs via old fashioned snail mail letters and occasional telephone calls.



Bill came to Columbia from Hickman H.S. in Missouri. He earned an M.D. from Cornell Medical School in 1945, where he was a classmate of Dr. **Gerald Klingon**. He interned at the Washington University-Barnes Hospital in St. Louis, Mo., and did his residency training at Cornell-affiliated New York Hospital.

After service as a medical officer at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Memphis and on the *U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt* in Norfolk, Va., Bill became a distinguished physician in New York City, doing basic research at Rockefeller University and on the Cornell Medical School faculty as an associate clinical professor of medicine. He had a thriving private practice in internal medicine, with a special expertise in rheumatology. Bill's older brother, Dr. Frederick Chapman Robbins, won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1954 for his work on the culture of the poliomyelitis virus, and his father, Professor William Jacob Robbins, taught in the botany department at Columbia and was director of the New York Botanical Garden.

Bill was laid to rest on June 14 at a graveside ceremony for family and friends at the Montoursville, Pa., cemetery. He is survived by Dagny, his wife of 64 years; sons, John and Wesley; daughters, Susan and Elizabeth; grandson, Cornelius; and granddaughter, Maja.

Farewell to a loyal classmate, a distinguished physician and a good friend. Our condolences to Bill's family.

I keep in touch with **Robert J. Kaufman** who, at 95, is doing well in Scarsdale, N.Y. Bob plays golf at his nearby club, though he cannot shoot his age for 18 holes. He reports his younger granddaughter, Ruby Lee (8), is a star goalie on her prep school lacrosse team, while Ruby Lee's older sister, Maddy Kate (a junior in high school in New York City), is a prospective candidate to be a Columbia cheerleader. At Columbia, Bob was

a member of Phi Beta Kappa and coxswain of our excellent crews in 1939–41, which produced physicians, lawyers and corporate executives, all loyal Columbians.

After Navy service in WWII, Bob went to Yale Law, then had a distinguished career as an attorney and VP at ABC, where he worked with Roone Arledge '52 to create programs for the Olympic Games and Monday Night Football. I also enjoy my phone chats with Bob's devoted wife, Sue, an intelligent and satirical observer of the political and social scene in our great and diverse nation.

I encourage classmates to send me news and comments ([drmelvin23@gmail.com](mailto:drmelvin23@gmail.com) or 413-586-1517). Best wishes to all.

## 1943

**G.J. D'Angio**  
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[dangio@earthlink.net](mailto:dangio@earthlink.net)

A decade or so ago, some of us became interested in establishing a war memorial that recognized the many Columbia students and alumni killed in America's wars. There was some opposition by those who believed such a memorial would glorify war. The drive, however, was successful; I learned recently there is a plaque in the vestibule of Butler. It reads, "We remember with enduring gratitude those who attended the colleges and schools of Columbia University and lost their lives in the military service of our nation. As we celebrate their lives, let us honor them by guarding the peace."

The legend thus serves both camps of the controversy. The names of all the fallen for all the wars are on a website ([warmemorial.columbia.edu](http://warmemorial.columbia.edu)). The WWII names reflect how very mixed in religions and ethnicity Columbia students were in those days. Thirteen of our classmates are listed among those whose classes are known. In truth, there have long been small bas reliefs, incised tablets and so forth scattered across campus.

In March, I found a basal cell carcinoma (bcca) on my forehead. It is the third or fourth, and is a reminder of my years as a radiology trainee at Boston City Hospital (BCH) in the '50s. We did not wear

## COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

<b>BC</b>	Barnard College
<b>BUS</b>	Columbia Business School
<b>CP</b>	Pharmaceutical Sciences
<b>DM</b>	College of Dental Medicine
<b>GS</b>	School of General Studies
<b>GSAPP</b>	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
<b>GSAS</b>	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
<b>JRN</b>	Graduate School of Journalism
<b>JTS</b>	Jewish Theological Seminary
<b>LAW</b>	Columbia Law School
<b>LS</b>	Library Service
<b>NRS</b>	School of Nursing
<b>PH</b>	Mailman School of Public Health
<b>PS</b>	College of Physicians and Surgeons
<b>SEAS</b>	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
<b>SIPA</b>	School of International and Public Affairs
<b>SOA</b>	School of the Arts
<b>SPS</b>	School of Professional Studies
<b>SW</b>	School of Social Work
<b>TC</b>	Teachers College
<b>UTS</b>	Union Theological Seminary

masks as we fluoroscoped patients with the screens inches away from our noses. The screens — albeit of leaded glass — were not impervious to x-radiation. The bccas and TBC I contracted from a patient during fluoroscopy are reminders of those early years of radiology. This last bcca comes 60-plus years after the BCH stint. It is really a delayed secondary complication of one of the cancer therapy modalities. And I am the one who started the systematic study of the iatrogenic "late effects" of chemo and/or radiation treatments! My hobby horse keeps coming back to bite me.

My wife Audrey's and my trip to Panama in May was fabulous thanks to a friend who arranged every detail. Panama City was a surprise; there are 20 times the number of skyscrapers — including a Trump Tower — than there are in Philly. There is no way to describe adequately the truly awe-inspiring choreography and engineering involved with the canal operation. The preparations start weeks before the vessel arrives, and from then it is coordination, expertise and nautical, mechanical and hydraulic engineering coordinated to a knife's edge.

We also visited a rainforest and an inhabited Indian village. Lots more, but that gives the idea. My wife and I agree it was the best trip

we have ever taken in our collective 185 years.

June 8 saw me in the hospital for IV antibiotics for a few days. I had developed a fulminating left orbital cellulitis that made my eye the size of half a tennis ball. It responded nicely to the medication, and binocular vision returned in about 72 hours. A not-needed episode.

A Columbia nugget: A little-remembered fact is that Enrico Fermi (of Manhattan Project fame and the 1938 Nobel Prize winner in Physics) taught at Columbia for several very productive years (1939–42). Many of the groundbreaking experiments and observations re: nuclear fission were conducted in Pupin Hall during those years. Fermi worked in collaboration with Professors John Dunning and Harold Urey, the latter himself a Nobelist for his discovery of deuterium. Another Columbia grad who became a scientist of note was Baruj Benacerref GS'42, who won his prize in the Physiology & Medicine category.

Some stories about any one of them, classmates?

Faithful **Bernie Weisberger** reports: "The extension of the [Class Notes] deadline to accommodate late reports (thanks to graduation) allows me to squeeze in an event from June 19, Father's Day, which will appear in its proper place at the

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.

end [of this note]. Meanwhile, I already anticipated some genuinely important personal springtime news, by mentioning in my last letter that I would be attending the graduation of my granddaughter Abigail from Yale Law, which I did with pride and pleasure. Both feelings are increased by the fact that Abigail is heading for practice in a seriously needed field. That is, providing representation to asylum seekers who lack the resources needed to struggle with our current harsh immigration system.

“Speaking of commencements, I was explaining to a young friend the other day that ours was notable for the absence of many members already in service, and for the fact that those of us soldiers and sailors who were able to get to New York wore our uniforms (required) rather than caps and gowns as we got our diplomas.

“Do any of you who were present remember much about what it looked like? I have a faint impression of it being brisk and businesslike, and lightly attended, but I may be totally off-base. I invite recollections from any members of the Classes of ’44 and ’45 as well.

“Otherwise it’s been a somewhat quiet 90 days since I last wrote. April was something of a traveling month. On the weekend of the 10th I was in Washington, D.C., with my wife, Rita, for the wedding of a young in-law. This gave me a chance to revisit some of the conventional tourist sites and likewise to visit the Library of Congress for a small piece of research. Lots of understandable security surrounds the process of admission but I finally

secured a card of admission to the library’s collections, good for two years. The accompanying photo is one that mothers could use to frighten unruly children.

“On the succeeding weekend I traveled to Denver to visit my daughter and family there, and since then have been a homebody. But I can’t resist mentioning a high point. Evanston’s YWCA sponsors an annual Father’s Day event known as the Ricky Byrdsong Race Against Hate. It’s a fundraiser for programs to promote non-discrimination and racial justice, named for a murdered African-American Evanstonian. There are several events — a 10K (6.2-mile) and a 5K (3.1-mile) road race, and a 5K walk. Ex-marathoner that I am, alas I’m now simply down to doing the walk, for which there are no prizes and no time records kept. Very low-key, very unpressured.

“Entrants include young children, dog owners with their pets, moms pushing strollers and ancients like me. I’ve been doing the walk for more than five years, accompanied by my older daughter, son-in-law and an adult grandchild, who obligingly slow their pace to mine. I get a little closer to being last in the pack each year, but yesterday I made the three miles in 76 minutes (ahead of a few other tail-enders). I’m shameless in my exultation that there are a few springs left in the old legs yet.

“Happy fall to you all, fellow ’43ers.”

## 1944

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

We were pleased to hear from four members of CC’44 for this installment.

**Bruce Mazlish**, professor of history emeritus at MIT, writes: “Literally, on my last legs. But contented ones, surrounded by children and grandchildren. Also, still writing. Last book was *Reflections on the Modern and the Global* (2013). Keep remembering my last year as an undergrad at Columbia, when there were 11 false Army call-ups. How many of us?”

“My wife and I have been married more than 33 years — wonderful ones, for she is an extraordinary

person; her son from a previous marriage [is David Kaiser ’91].

“My best wishes to all my classmates.”

**Joseph Cowley Sr.**, who lives in Westport, Conn., writes, “Sorry to hear about the demise of **Bill Friedman**. Guess that doesn’t leave too many of us. At 85 I lost the energy to author and publish any more books to add to the 16 books I already have but I keep busy adapting the classics for ESL students reading at level 4 of the ladder word series. I have been spending time on Henry James these past few years because he is so needlessly verbose and therefore a delight to cut.”

New York City-based Dr. **Daniel Choy** PS’49 writes, “I retired five years ago and donated \$2 million to Columbia College and P&S from inventions. My most recent one was a cure for tinnitus, which I passed on to P&S’ ENT department and was accepted in 2004. My most recent presentation was at Newton University. On my return I received an invitation to Warsaw 2017 and am arranging a TV-radio transworld, which will free me from an exhausting trip at 91.

“Thanks, Columbia College!”

Writing from Alexandria, Va., is **Albert Seligmann**: “Apart from its inconsistent climate, Washington, D.C., remains a great place for retirement, with a plethora of public affairs and cultural events, many of them sponsored by organizations that keep my wife, Bobbie, and I in touch with former Foreign Service colleagues and provide the chance to meet a new generation or two of successors with common interests. Bobbie, sister of Dr. **Marty Beller** PS’46, and I are still in the house in which we have lived since we built it 64 years ago, except for the 20-odd years we were overseas. Our community, Hollin Hills, is listed in the National Registry of Historic Places. We have cut back on travel but revel in the accomplishments of our four daughters and seven grandchildren, peppered by weddings (those of a grandson in Asheville, N.C., and a grandniece in Brooklyn scheduled for this past summer). Our last overseas jaunt, almost two years ago, was devoted to 10 days each in Paris and Rome, largely avoiding the tourist hordes while visiting museums and other attractions we never had time for on earlier trips. Predictably, we left with

a fresh list just as long as that with which we came. For anyone interested in career detail, try Frontline Diplomacy, the Library of Congress’ online collection of oral histories.”

*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.

## 1945

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

Devoted alumnus Dr. **Henry Shinefield** PS’48 writes, “I’m still here at 92. Retirement continues with 1) enjoyment of the accomplishments of nine grandchildren; 2) travel with exciting Jacqueline, my wife who continues an active family therapy practice, medical school teaching and my care; 3) trying to stay *au courant* with exciting developments in treating diseases with molecular tools now available; and 4) watching with delight and great satisfaction the progress in vaccinology, particularly related to the pneumococcal vaccine since it was licensed by the FDA almost 17 years ago based on the large phase 3 clinical study done by Dr. Steve Black and me as co-directors of The Kaiser Permanente Vaccine Study Center in Oakland.

“The vaccine is currently used routinely for children throughout the world and has recently been recommended for adults as well. I attended and was honored at the biannual 10th International Symposium on Pneumococci & Pneumococcal Diseases in Glasgow at the end of June with my wife and grandson Liam Lis (15). He was impressed with the topic and meeting some of my former associates to the point of telling me that he would make contacts, do literature research and write a paper on the subject.

“We left Glasgow and went on to Edinburgh for a few days; we drove to the north of Scotland to have lunch at St Andrews College. On the way we stopped at a skeet shooting-designated site. My skilled wife participated, my grandson took a lesson and I watched. While skeet shooting



## Contact CCT

Update your contact information; submit a Class Note, Class Note photo, obituary, Letter to the Editor or classified advertisement; or send us an email. Click “Contact Us” at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



and hunting is permitted in Scotland, our driver told us if one carries or has in the house a single handgun bullet the penalty is one year in jail; for a gun the penalty is five years in jail. We have a lot to learn!”

**Bill MacClarence** SEAS’48 checks in: “A number of the Class of ’45, although graduating in later years, decided to stay and I am one of those who graduated in ’48. We had a number of good reunions until the University’s policy on ROTC caused a definite lack of interest among many of us.

“In my case, I have had an additional move-on because of an inability to receive even a reply to a request to have **Hank O’Shaughnessy** SEAS’50 considered for the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. This included three letters sent to director of athletics; I would have to dig to identify the others, and frankly it doesn’t matter.

“Hank left school in the uniform of the infantry in 1943. He had wrestled, was wounded three times and received, among others, a Silver Star. He was the tackle and co-captain of the team that beat Army and continued wrestling, along with engineering, and more.

“I had no idea as to the qualifications for that honor but wanted to give it a try. Now, many years later, it doesn’t matter, but it sure shut me down even further as far as my continued interest in Columbia.”

*CCT*, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing 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.

## 1946

**Bernard Sunshine**  
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bsuns1@gmail.com

**Leonard Moss** and his wife, Muriel, enjoy retirement in Princeton, N.J., where, as president of the social club Community Without Walls, he is focused on what he calls “aging well — ours and everyone else’s.”

Len writes: “The issue of how to help the aging population was an unmet concern in 1992 when CWW

was initiated. Since then, community living and medical resources have been developed to the point where Princeton was designated in 2015 by the World Health Organization as an ‘Age-Friendly Community.’ Age has not taken a major toll on the cognition of the 83 members of CWW, but a significant number had been widowed either before or after joining. Our primary mission is to help members form new relationships so they are never alone. The membership’s greatest concern is how to distinguish when memory problems are the senior-moments of normal aging and when they are the earliest signs of a cognitive problem, usually Alzheimer’s disease.”

Len spoke on this subject in Princeton to a group of seniors where “everybody is at least a college professor.” When he retired in 2006 from his practice and teaching psychiatry, he and Muriel moved from NYC to live full-time in their weekend Princeton home.

**Arthur Marcus** wrote from Israel, where he has lived for four years. His home is in Efrat, approximately 10 miles south of Jerusalem, where his four children also live. Art adds: “I am very happy here. Should have made the move years ago.”

**Arnold Zentner** says he is “happier these days than when I was leading a more frenetic life before retirement.” His wife of 52 years died in 2012, but he writes how lucky he was to have found a lady friend “who has put a new bounce in my stride.” Arnold still enjoys playing tennis and golf.

I received a beautiful memorial program honoring the memory of **John S. McConnell** at the Community Methodist Church in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho.

Classmates, please share your news by writing to either of the addresses at the top of this column.

## 1947

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

It was a pleasure to hear from Dr. **Vincent Madonia** for this issue as well as from stalwarts **Ed McAvoy** and Dr. **Nicholas Giosa**.

Dr. **Vincent Madonia** writes, “I am in good health and maintain an active medical practice. I have office hours daily (solo cardiac practice) and make rounds at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, N.Y., every day. My practice includes a bloodwork lab; we also perform echocardiograms, echo stress tests, Holter monitoring, carotid Dopplers and vascular sonography.

“During the summer I enjoy weekends in Southampton where my wife and daughter manage an

120th streets, mainly to keep warm and dry! It was quite a convenience.

“Little did we know on reaching Pupin Hall’s lower level and facing a door marked ‘Manhattan Project’ what history we were sharing.

“Wonderful memories!”

From Dr. **Nicholas Giosa**: “To my classmates, with appreciation of the fact that though late in this journey of life, we can still practice the pleasure of meditation.”

*CCT*, and your classmates, would be pleased to hear from more of you.

*Dr. Vincent Madonia ’47 shares:*

*“I am in good health and maintain an active medical practice with office hours daily.”*

elegant antique shop, Ann Madonia Antiques, on Jobs Lane.

“I have always rejoiced that I received such a wonderful education at Columbia College!”

**Ed McAvoy** says: “I’ll be 90 this fall — can’t believe it.”

Ed shares a memory: “It is 1944. As the magnificent fall foliage is fading at Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx and Cemetery Hill, the last 2½ miles of the torturous college cross country route becomes a memory until next season.

“Major construction is about to take place at West 116th Street. The annual massive installation of the wooden board track on the green in front of Low Library, 11 laps to the mile, would again become a reality. We runners had our ‘locker room’ in the basement of the adjacent School of Journalism building.

“Coach Carl Merner and the trainer, Gus, were getting ready for the new season. Track shoes were being modified for the new surface. Long metal spikes were switched to the much shorter wooden-board length and warm clothes were worn to block the fierce winter winds from the Hudson River. Track practice was an ordeal! I still probably carry several wood splinters on my body from spills on that track. At least I earned my prized ‘Varsity C’ that year.

“After practice we ‘in the know’ had learned how to travel to classrooms via the vast underground utility tunnels from West 114th to

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.

## 1948

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**Thomas Weyr** comments on a Class Note from the Summer 2016 issue: “I was intrigued by **Jim Nugent**’s story about being caught in the dark in the old swimming pool when University Hall didn’t have a top. I was a member of the swimming team when Jim was our captain so I remember that pool well. It resembled a Roman bath and even when the lights dimmed it was easy to imagine senators in Roman togas sitting on the pool’s edge.

“Our team was not in the same league as Yale’s under Bob Kiphuth but we did OK until the war ended and the V-12 Navy program was shelved, meaning we lost some outstanding swimmers. But none of that bothered our coach, Ed Kennedy, one of the school’s true icons and a man of infinite generosity. We had one swimmer, whose name of course I have long forgotten, who had one leg and walked on an

artificial one, which he took off for practice. He could balance on one leg and dive in, but while he had good form his speed was limited. Nevertheless Kennedy kept him on the team and put him into races when we had either won or lost.

“When I graduated and was looking for a summer job he gave me a Red Cross instructor’s badge without my having to take any tests so I could get a job as a lifeguard. ‘You swam for me for four years, you can do it,’ he said gruffly as he signed the card. I also loved the ‘classical’ tour we took of New York State to places like Ithaca, Rome and Syracuse.

“As for my adult life it was spent mostly as a writer. My latest book, a memoir written in German — I was a Viennese refugee who made it out in time — was published last year, and I’m reworking an English draft. Memoirs, my agent told me, are a hard sell these days, but if you graduated from Columbia in 1948 you are, as my youngest daughter, who directs TV shows in Hollywood, told me, ‘three generations away from comprehending the digital age.’ She’s right. My grandson is into video games, which, he predicts, will soon replace social media.

“Maybe so, but I still hear the great voices of my Columbia years — Harrison Ross Steeves (Class of 1903, GSAS 1913), who in unairconditioned Hamilton Hall sometimes doffed his tweed jacket, but never, ever loosened his tie; Mark Van Doren GSAS’21, who chastised me for claiming in a paper that Hector was too a tragic hero, noting that another class member had tried to prove the same thing but we had used different tragic flaws to make our point; Andrew Chiappe ’33, GSAS’39, who guided us through Shakespeare’s liturgy; and Joseph Wood Krutch GSAS’24, who as drama critic for *The Nation* rubbed elbows with the critical elites from Brooks Atkinson of the *Times* on down.

“Such memories are indelible.” Dr. Alvin Eden writes, “Still fortunate to be able to practice pediatrics, teach, write and play tennis. My seventh child care book, *Obesity Prevention in Children: Before It’s Too Late: A Program for Toddlers & Preschoolers*, is scheduled for publication this fall. I would love to hear from classmates who remember me (also those who do not). My email is babydoceden@gmail.com.”

**Dick Hyman** received a 2017 Jazz Master Award from National Endowment for the Arts, one of five awardees. The ceremony will be held on Monday, April 3, at the Kennedy Center.

*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.

## 1949

**John Weaver**  
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Brooklyn, NY 11235  
wudchpr@gmail.com

Class of 1949, please do take the time to write to either of the addresses at the top of this column; your classmates would love to hear from you. Share memories of Columbia or of the Morningside Heights neighborhood in the ’40s — perhaps a favorite professor, a memorable class, or a cherished local restaurant or bar? Be well going into the fall and winter and stay connected through *Columbia College Today*.

## 1950

**Phil Bergovoy**  
c/o CCT  
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coachpmb@gmail.com

From **Ray Scalettar**: “After nine years in the Army (1954–62), where I was privileged to care for our soldiers, civilians and political leaders (such as the Vice President of the United States at the beginning of the Nixon-Kennedy campaign), I entered private practice in Washington, D.C. Since 1962, I have been fortunate to be at the forefront of many significant events: The creation of a physician-owned professional liability company, the development of the MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital in D.C., leadership in medical organizations (I was chair, Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association) and numerous awards from my medical school, including a doctor of science degree bestowed upon me in 1994.

“However, I am now retiring from the practice of medicine at the end of this year. All of these plaudits pale to the honor I have received from my patients, who have allowed me to care for them throughout the years. I will miss the practice of medicine but it is time to step back, reflect, write and enjoy.

“Best to you and my classmates.”

Please be well going into the fall season and take a moment to share your news or perhaps your favorite Columbia memories with classmates. You can send them to me at coachpmb@gmail.com or through *CCT*’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 1951

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[Editor’s note: *CCT* thanks **George Koplinka** for his long service as a class correspondent. For 25 years he has kept this section running with updates from classmates, strengthening and renewing College friendships through these pages. He has stepped down and *CCT* will solicit Class of 1951 notes going forward. We are grateful to George for his dedication to Columbia, his classmates and this magazine.]

**Willard Block** reports from Reunion Weekend 2016: “Sixteen stalwart Columbians from the Class of ’51 made it to our 65th reunion. And what a time we had!

“Apart from the learning experience — attending great lectures as part of All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) — we (and the ladies who were able to join us) enjoyed renewing friendships, sharing photos and hearing about the accomplishments of our children and grandchildren (to say nothing of the pleasures of our own life experiences).

“There were two first-rate dinners on Friday and Saturday and it was hard to believe that it had been almost 70 years since we all first set foot on the Columbia campus. Despite a few canes and some aches and pains, we were a hearty bunch. Our class president, **Elliot Wales**, arranged for a vibrant and interesting speaker for

the Saturday dinner, Curator of Art Properties Roberto Ferrari, who is responsible for the Columbia University art collection — a ‘Museum without Walls,’ it was a revelation to us all. As we concluded our weekend following Saturday’s dinner, our own Rev. **Dick Houghton** gave us a closing benediction and prayer of special meaning and significance to this gathering of 80-plus year-olds. All of you who could not make reunion were included in his remarks and were a part of us that Saturday night.

“On the business side of things I am happy to report that through the years our class has contributed more than \$10,000,000 to Columbia from almost 400 donors and, in our 65th reunion year, we gave more than \$600,000. Not too shabby.

“We have, I am sad to say, lost many members but we have friendships, much in the way of accomplishment, and good memories to carry us forward with smiles on our faces. Those in attendance were **David Berman, Willard Block, Tullio Borri SEAS’51, Al Gomez, Bill Grote, Dick Houghton, Fred Kant SEAS’51, Fred Kinsey, Jay Lefer, Ralph Lowenstein, Warren Nadel, Bob Osnos, Roy Simmons, Joe Sirola, Elliot Wales and Ralph White SEAS’51**. While the 65th reunion is the last one that the College helps us to organize, there was a great deal of sentiment to try to get together again in the not-too-distant future. It does not have to be in New York; several of you from out of town suggested Florida. We shall see . . .”

[Editor’s note: To view a photo of reunion attendees, you can go

## Stay in Touch



Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name:  
[college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect).



to [college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/fall16/article/class-notes](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/fall16/article/class-notes) and type "1951" (without the quote marks) in the search bar.]

Ralph Lowenstein writes that he "was honored in April ceremonies at the Jewish Chapel at West Point, N.Y., along with nine other surviving American volunteers from Israel's War of Independence. Ralph (then 18) had just completed his freshman year in spring 1948 and is believed to be the only student from the College to volunteer in that war. He was a half-track driver in the 79th Armored Battalion, seeing combat only 10 days after being smuggled into that new nation from a newly-arrived displaced persons ship in the port of Haifa. He returned to Columbia in January 1949, made up his missed hours during the summers of 1949 and 1950, and graduated with the Class of '51. He was an associate editor of *Spectator* in his senior year. He then served in the Army for two years during the Korean War.

"Ralph retired from the University of Florida's College of Journalism and Communications in 1995. He was one of the longest-serving deans (18 years) in the history of that university. He was featured in the documentary *A Wing and a Prayer*, shown by most PBS stations in the United States during 2015 and 2016. The documentary describes the American role in creating the Israeli air force in 1948. Ralph, a native of Danville, Va., has been the official archivist of American Veterans of Israel for 40 years and created the Museum of American and Canadian Volunteers in Israel's War of Independence at the UF Hillel, with an exact copy at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles. He was given the Emma Lazarus Statue of Liberty Award by the American Jewish Historical Society in New York City in 2011 for 'outstanding leadership and commitment to strengthening the American Jewish community.'"

From **George Zimbel**: "I have had a busy year. First, a solo exhibition at Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montreal, called *George Zimbel: Un Photographe Humaniste*. Second, a new book of my photographs was published, titled *MOMENTO*. Third, the release of *Zimbelism* (a documentary about my work) was shown at the Festival International du Film sur L'Art (Montreal 2016); the Hot Docs Film Festival (Toronto 2016),

where it was voted in the top 20 by audience reviews); and will be shown at the Shanghai Film International Festival 2016 and at the American Embassy in Beijing in 2016."

From **John Handley**: "Columbia College was a gift I selected from the Navy's 1947 scholarship offer. On a mid-September day, Columbia became the wonder I hoped for when I accepted the NROTC scholarship. Farewell to Webster Groves, Mo., how do you do to Manhattan and learning years. I graduated as an officer in the Navy.

"More departures! Goodbye home, welcome to the Korean War. Goodbye New York and the girlfriend back home. Now maturity begins. My first command was a small ferry in the Yokosuka harbor. Next came orders — orders I requested about a year earlier — to Pensacola, Fla., for flight school. I was awarded my 'wings' in 1956. I married the waiting lady some 30 years ago. Happy family!"

## 1952

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION 2017

**Columbia College Today**  
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Happy fall, Class of 1952. Thank you for your contributions — CCT hopes to hear from many more of you soon!

From **Howard Hansen**: "Not a bad photo of three gray-haired ex-jocks and our wives! **Bob Reiss** and his wife, Grace; me and my wife, Dianne; and **Eric Javits** and his wife, Margaretha, were guests for a most memorable lunch at the Javits' oceanfront club before they left for their summer residence in Sweden.

"Eric wrote a book, *Twists and Turns: Episodes in the Life of Ambassador Eric M. Javits*, that is a must-read — I repeat, a must-read! Eric spent eight years as a perma-



Bob Reiss '52, Grace Reiss, Howard Hansen '52, Margaretha Javits, Eric Javits '52 and Dianne Hansen enjoyed lunch in Florida.

nent ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague. Among his other traits, he is a fabulous negotiator.

"His third career is now investing in the fields of health and energy. To keep up with a former president, he decided to skydive at 12,000 ft. at 80.

"As it relates to Bob, he is as sharp as ever. I couldn't be more proud of his efforts, his friendship through the years and the impressive presentation he made to the 2016 Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame selection committee on my behalf. Bob took on this project under his own volition. The results are that I will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Thursday, October 20, in a ceremony in Low Library. Interestingly, only two Heritage Era athletes (ol' timers from Columbia's inception through the Class of 1954) inductees were selected — **Bob Hartman** and me. I feel honored to be included with Bob. As you might know, Bob was an All-American wrestler at Columbia and finished his career with 23 straight victories. On April 29, Bob was elected to the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Sadly, he passed away on March 3, 2015, so his three children will be present on his behalf. **Roone Arledge** is being inducted under the "Special Category" classification.

"I would also like to show my appreciation to Jim Mooney '56 for his ongoing efforts on my behalf as it relates to football and the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. As you might know, Jim has

a unique and personal connection with coach Lou Little: Jim's father was Georgetown's first All-American and Little was his college coach.

"In the Summer 2016 Class Notes, I commented on Col. **Mel Sautter** but due to CCT's photo policy I couldn't include a photo of him piloting his Red Devils F8 fighter jet over Vietnam. You can now see that photo on CCT's website, Summer 2016 issue: [college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/summer16/article/class-notes](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/summer16/article/class-notes). Type '1952' into the Class Notes search box (but don't use the quote marks)."

From **Chanchow (Richard) Ma BUS'53**: "Having turned 90 in June, I look back and consider myself very fortunate that I was able to attend Columbia College. Coming from Thailand and graduating from an English missionary high school in Hong Kong, neither I nor the school's administration knew much about colleges in the United States. Nearly all my high school classmates who continued on to college in the United States opted for small institutions in the south and west.

"My luck continued when I met and married Linan Ma BC'52, now my wife of more than 60 years. Together we have a family of five children and eight grandchildren. Among us are four Columbia University graduates.

"After graduating from the Business School, I joined Merck & Co. and worked there for more than 35 years, managing the Asia region. I retired some 30 years ago and live in Bangkok.

"Retirement has been sweet. Linan and I have had so many happy experiences traveling all over

the world together, with friends and with our extended family, and have built many cherished memories.

“So, what I have gained from Columbia — aside from a great family — are classmates and friends from around the world and cherished memories. I am very thankful for the education Columbia gave me and for my friends and family.”

Don't forget, our 65th reunion is just around the corner, Thursday, June 1–Sunday, June 4. Take the time to share your news in anticipation of this momentous occasion by emailing updates to [cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu).

## 1953

**Lew Robins**

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**Jim Steiner** telephoned with the sad news that one of our most popular classmates, **Henry F. Villahme** SEAS'54, passed away on July 17, 2016, in Intervale, N.H. For our 50th reunion, Henry wrote the following about himself: “I entered Columbia as a know-it-all high school senior and left realizing that I knew nothing very much at all. Columbia started me on the road to learning about the world around me and I am proud to say that I have been a student ever since.”

While reading his obituary, I learned that Henry had a twin, Elizabeth Ann, and while chief proctor of John Jay Hall had literally talked a resident off the ledge. Because he kept breaking oars, the Columbia crew team elected him team manager just to get him out of the shell. In his senior year, Henry was awarded the Columbia Lion for Outstanding Student. He was a member of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity and ultimately its president.

After graduating from Engineering, Henry married his lifelong love, Susette Bryant Adams, before entering the Navy as a lieutenant J.G. and serving in the North Atlantic on the *U.S.S. Adroit* and the *U.S.S. Hummingbird*.

He enjoyed a long career as a mechanical engineer with a special interest in thermal management. Henry's crowning professional achievement is said to be the heat sinks he designed for NASA, which were installed at the International

Space Station Ground Support facility in Houston.

Henry will be remembered for his delightful sense of humor and his incisive intelligence. He'll be sorely missed!

**George Lowry** sent the following email, with more sad news. “I just got the news that **Alan Skolnikoff** (known as **Alan Skol** when we were in school) died in San Francisco, where he had lived for the last 30 or more years. In a sense he was my closest friend. We were roommates at Columbia and it was through him that I met my wife. We stayed in touch through the years. After medical school (partially in Switzerland), he was an army doctor stationed in Paris for a couple of years and then became a psychiatrist in San Francisco. I was just starting to plan a trip to see him when I got the news. He had been sick (Parkinson's disease) but continued to see a few patients.

“I met Alan, a tall French horn player fresh out of the High School of Music & Art in New York City, in September 1949. We got along immediately, both being tall and awkward. We also looked alike and were occasionally mistaken for each other. I was a would-be athlete and tried out for the crew. Alan thought it was a good idea and did the same. He made the first boat, I didn't.

“It was a long time ago but we stayed in touch as friends, roommates and correspondents. Just after graduation, Alan was invited to a party and brought me and there I met my first (and only) wife, now of 50 years. [After medical school it was into the army,] where he was stationed as a medic in Turkey and then France. His army career was so exotic that I was sure he was CIA (but he wasn't).

“He returned, became a psychiatrist, changed his name back to Skolnikoff (the original family name) and settled in San Francisco. He had two children, Ivan and Ilya, both of whom remain in the Bay area. My work took me there often enough to follow his career as a psychiatrist with a busy private practice. He was also an avid traveler and hiker. As my trips became fewer, our visits decreased and we became dependent on the telephone. About five years ago he started to date a lady in New York so we again saw him frequently. Our last conversations were mostly about health situations, our respective children and sometimes gossip about classmates.”

## 1954

**Bernd Brecher**

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Another quarterly hello, men of the Class of Destiny, filled with information about us — some fascinating, some funny, some mundane, some sad but all very human. Warning: If you look at the end item first, the rest of these Class Notes may seem so secondary; your choice. Also, there is no natural selection here in anticipation of who of you get in touch with me — there are those I have seen or communicated with through the years, and even recently, and others unseen at College or class events or heard from in 62 years. But you are all important to me and to one another; never forget that. These Class Notes connect us.

**Jim Burger** writes that life is pretty good. He says, “My wife, Connie, and I spend four months on Marco Island, Fla., each winter. We bought a small condo there in 2001 and enjoy our time there, where I go fishing in the Ten Thousand Islands for any fish that will bite. I also am a director of the San Marco Condo Association. Reading mystery novels and playing poker with my retired Procter & Gamble friends is a favorite pastime.”

Jim says he would love to hear from 1950–54 members of the Nu Nu Chapter of Sigma Chi fraternity.

Jim also reports that **Bob Reynolds** died this past April. “Bob was an active member of Sigma Chi while at Columbia. He received a master's in accounting in 1955 and worked at Becton Dickenson and Co. for his entire career, retiring as VP of finance.” Jim continues, “He was a good friend of mine. I enjoyed visiting him and his wife, Phoebe, in Oxford, Md., during several years after he retired.”

**Fred Ripin** has moved from Darien, Conn., to Jensen Beach, Fla., with his partner, Myrna. He says, “We will likely never want to travel north but would appreciate hearing from any classmates within driving distance: West Palm, Sarasota, Boca. Concerning the election, as with a variety of aspects in perspective, I've lived too long!”

**Larry Gartner**, professor emeritus at Chicago, made an effort to respond to my “survey” questions in

the Summer 2016 issue. Larry reports “Granddaughter No. 1 is a costume designer for movies and TV in Hollywood. Granddaughter No. 2 is a second-year undergrad at Duke (tried but failed to convince her to go to Columbia), where she is a chemistry major planning to take on an M.D./Ph.D. and probably going into academic surgery (both parents are surgeons). Grandson No. 1 is a part-time bookseller at Barnes & Noble, a writer planning to go to graduate school in creative writing next year. Grandson No. 2 graduated this past spring from Rhode Island School of Design as an art print major and was immediately hired at Gemini (a print studio and gallery) as an art printer. He also does his own etching.”

Concerning the presidential campaign, Larry tells us, “Since Bernie Sanders graduated from my high school (James Madison H.S. in Brooklyn) about seven years after me, I had some feeling for him, but my choice was Hillary Clinton and it is my deepest wish that she be elected President.”

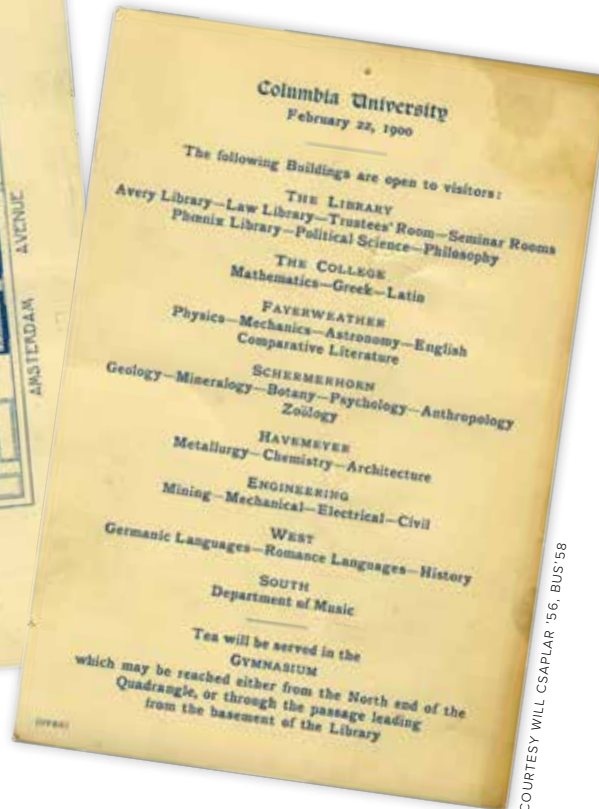
About Columbia, Larry says he is not up to date, “But it is my hope that CC's A and B and Humanities are still as great as they were in the last century when we were there. That was my great education — along with my four years on *Spectator*. We are well and enjoy life on the ranch in San Diego. Good vegetable season but poor fruit season.”

Thanks, Larry, for your shared thoughts and grandkid updates. I, too, felt as you did about *Spec* and the Core — as did our fellow editors. Concerning the ranch, do you dress as a cowboy? Send pix.

**John Timoney** responded to my survey and shares with us, “Ana (my wife) and I have four children and 10 grandchildren. All four children attended Columbia: daughter Maria Teresa BC'98, NURS'99; son Francis Timoney GS'84 (he helped form the Columbia Water Polo Club); son Mark Timoney '88, BUS'93; and son Michael Timoney '88, GS'99 (studied medicine at Mount Sinai). Our grandson is Johnny Timoney SEAS'15; we now have two alumni named John Timoney. Granddaughter Ines graduated from Sarah Lawrence and will study medicine at Einstein. Granddaughter Ana Gracia is a student at Bowdoin College in Maine.”

Whew! John, that's a lot of tuition! What was Columbia in 1950–54? Something like \$500 a semester?





About the election, John says “My choice was Hillary. Trump is a disgrace. I am sorry about what happened to the Republicans; we need two strong parties in our nation.” Concerning Columbia today, John — after also asking his grandsons — believes the humanities and our location in NYC “with its access to business, the professions, and the arts” continue to be highlights.

Finally, John has recently gone through a siege that I asked him to share with all of us, in the event we encounter a similar situation and not to fear the medical tough love that he underwent. In short, “The malady that hit me is called hydrocephalus, which consists of excess water on the brain. Maybe I spent too much time in the swimming pool at Columbia. We had the best collegiate team in New York but the worst in the Ivy League. For me the remedy for hydrocephalus was surgery to connect a drain from my brain to remove that excess fluid.”

P.S.: It worked.

“I haven’t been heard from before in this column, so here is my story

in a nutshell,” **Howard Esterces** BUS’56 says. “I received an M.B.A. from the Business School. I then was a financial analyst for six years, first at Curtiss-Wright Corp. and then at American Standard, while going to Fordham Law four nights a week for four years with the intent of using my law training to advance in business. However, I decided to practice law instead, and have been practicing trust and estate law for more than 50 years. I am still working, with a 70-lawyer firm in Mineola, N.Y. (Long Island), but have been taking Fridays off. I also earned an LL.M in taxation from NYU Law along the way, also at night.”

Fridays off?!

Howard adds, “I am blessed to have recently celebrated my 60th anniversary with my wife, Joan, and have two children and two grandchildren. My eldest grandchild is in medical school at UC San Diego. Unfortunately, none of my family went on to Columbia. I live in Great Neck, N.Y., and would enjoy hearing from anyone who wishes to say hello (hesterces@mlg.com).”

Congratulations, Howard, on a full and still very productive life!

**Leo Bookman** remembers, “When we were undergraduates, two of our classmates formed the comedy team of Turteltaub and Orenstein. They were very funny and I believe they wore capes. They went on to have great success in television as writers and producers. Saul, I look forward to seeing your new musical next season on Broadway.”

While I don’t remember the capes, I do recall some of the capers. Anyone else? Let’s share. Meanwhile, Leo, what’s new with you?

**Saul Turteltaub** LAW’57 brings us up to date: “Of our five grandchildren, the oldest, Max (18) — Adam and Rhea’s son — started at Indiana this fall. This despite the fact that Rhea is vice chancellor of UCLA. Arabella, the youngest (17 months) — Jon and Amy’s daughter — will be going to the Law School, having gotten a higher grade on her LSAT than her grandfather did 62 years ago.

“Regarding the survey question about what is so great and not so great at Columbia today, as with all colleges

it is too expensive for kids and their parents. For starters, four years of college are unnecessary. Three years is enough, as proven by the pro-op programs, and in that respect two years of law school is enough as well. As to my feeling about the presidential election, see the attached.”

The attachment is available from Saul (turteltaub@aol.com). Spoiler: Hill UP/Trump DOWN.

**David Bardack** tells us that one of five grandchildren is “off to college” and — concerning the election — that “by late spring of this year the nominees for President were quite obvious; and, unless there are some unexpected manipulations, Clinton should win.”

Gents, that’s it for our over-the-summer social network. I look forward to hearing from you starting now for our Winter column. I am always “open.”

In October, my wife, Helen, and I will attend another annual Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend on campus, at which time we expect to hear about, share and challenge insights, goals and activities affecting hundreds of thousands of Columbia alumni worldwide. That includes you, so let me know what’s on your minds concerning now and the future of the University and its offspring (all of us). Plus, minus, yes, no, good, bad, new, old, big, small — I want to hear it all from you so I can bring the Class of Destiny’s ideas to the table. Call, write, snail mail, email, text, whatever.

Now, as promised at the beginning of these Class Notes, here is something special to share. On July 12, *The New York Times* published a feature headlined “Too Old for Sex? Not at This Nursing Home.” But wait! The Class of ’54 is everywhere! The story concludes: A “Ms. Davison, who is divorced, said the last thing she ever expected was to find the love of her life at a nursing home. She met **Leonard Moche** in the elevator. He was smart and made her laugh. She moved to his floor to be closer to him. Ms. Davison said they had been planning to get married when he suddenly became ill; he died this year. She is still grieving. ‘I think of him as my second husband,’ she said. ‘It was great and unexpected, and wonderful while it lasted.’”

Lenny was a mainstay of our class on committees and with reunion attendance for more than half a century. We regularly socialized with

him for many years when we lived closer. He was always gregarious and a gentleman — obviously to the end.

Gents, for now be well, do good, keep in touch and live it up. Excelsior!

## 1955

**Gerald Sherwin**  
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There has been a lot of activity around Columbia recently. The University lost two of its well-known athletes/alumni in Bill Campbell '62, TC'64 and Jim McMillian '70. The community has mourned the loss of Campbell, a football player and coach, business executive and mentor to many Silicon Valley icons, and former chair of the University's Board of Trustees. From President Lee C. Bollinger and so many others who knew "Coach," an outpouring of remembrances have paid tribute to his extraordinary legacy at Columbia. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Summer 2016.]

McMillian was truly one of the greatest athletes in Columbia history. His achievements on the

STEM Day was Columbia's exciting science fair held in mid-June, with close to 400 people attending. A lot of young folks came to show that science is an interesting topic.

Other news to report: Actor, singer and producer Brandon Victor Dixon '07, who studied drama and theatre arts at the College, appeared in the highly anticipated revival of *Shuffle Along, or, the Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed*. Better and better. [Editor's note: Dixon left *Shuffle Along* when it closed in July and in mid-August joined the cast of *Hamilton* in the co-lead role of Aaron Burr.]

Athletics had incredible action earlier this year: Fencing won the NCAA Division I National Championship, while men's basketball won the program's first postseason tournament.

If you are wondering about classmates, come back to campus during Reunion Weekend and especially All-Class Reunion, formerly known as Dean's Day, where some of the guys took in the sun and lectures. We espied **Bob Brown, Elliot Gross, Ron Spitz, Don Laufer, Jesse Roth** and **Bill Epstein**. Sha Na Na performed admirably at Reunion Weekend 2016. They did not take over a building.

*Allen Hyman '55 called attention to Kiplinger's February issue, which listed America's 300 best college values — no Ivy League schools fell into this category.*

basketball court earned him induction into the inaugural class of the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, alongside Lou Gehrig '23 and Sid Luckman '39.

Columbia outdid itself with star attractions appearing at various Class Days: Eric Holder '73, LAW'76, Dean Baquet and Edie Falco all said a few words to their constituencies. Commencement was a success and the Empire State Building glowed blue and white in honor of the Class of 2016 — what a sendoff!

Before his landmark musical *Hamilton* received a Pulitzer Prize and 16 Tony nominations (with 11 wins), Lin-Manuel Miranda came to campus on April 7 to receive the Edward Kennedy Prize for Drama inspired by American History.

**Allen Hyman** told us about *Kiplinger's* February issue, which listed America's 300 best college values. No Ivy League schools fell into this category. Is there jealousy lurking?

We heard from **Dan Wakefield**, who has been in touch with various writers through the years. He talks about **Sam Astrachan** and Wayne State University. We're not sure whether Dan knew that Sam's son went to the College (Isaac-Daniel Astrachan '90). If anyone wants to get in touch with our prolific writer, check out danwakefield.com.

The monthly dinners go on, at outstanding restaurants such as Peter Luger Steak House and Gennaro. Regular guests have included **Larry Balfus, Roland Plottel, Mort Rennert, Dick Kuhn,**

**Herb Cohen, Ron Spitz, Richard Ascher, Al Martz, Alfred Gollomp, Elliot Gross, Anthony Viscusi, Berish Strauch, Aaron Hamburger, Bob Sparrow** and **Bob Schiff**. We'll get them eventually — **Peter Pressman, Ralph Wagner, Bernie Chasan, Mike Vaughn, Gareth Janney, Roger Stern** and **Norm Goldstein**.

Gentlemen of the stalwart College Class of 1955.

Start being prepared for our 65th. Keep hydrating as best you know how.

Love to all! Everywhere!

## 1956

**Robert Siroty**  
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[Editor's note: CCT thanks **Stephen Easton** for his six years of dedicated service as a class correspondent. The following is his last column; going forward the correspondent will be **Bob Siroty**. Welcome, Bob!]

For those who did not attend our 60th reunion, here are some highlights.

Forty-four class members were scheduled to attend, with 39 guests, for a total of 83 attendees. We had two no-shows (who will remain nameless) but anyone who did not attend missed a great gathering. I hope those who missed out will attend our other class-related events.

The farthest-distance attendees were **Grover Wald** and his wife, **Stephanie**, from San Francisco, and **Donald Horowitz** from Seattle. **Mike Spett** made it in from Boca Raton to represent our Florida contingent. **Phil Liebson** and his wife, **Carol**, made it in from Chicago, as did my new best friends **Jerry Kaufman** and his wife, **Judith**. I found out that Jerry, whom I really did not know at school, was a member of our winning sabre fencing team. I was glad to see **Nick Coch**, who made it from Florida to attend reunion and take care of some NYC business. Among other things, Nick and I traded golf stories and how to improve our aging handicaps. **Bob Siroty** brought his bound volume of all the *Spectator* dailies from our

senior year. Anyone who wanted to check out what was going on at College only had to go to the date and read all about it. **John Garnjost** spent a number of hours checking his Columbia rowing news from senior year. **Ralph Longworth** brought pictures from senior year pole-vaulting, when he set Columbia records and won his track varsity C. Many great memories relived.

The high point of the weekend, for me, was the Friday lunch at Faculty House, where four classmates presented topics in their areas of experience or interest. Each speaker was given 20 minutes to present, with 10 minutes for discussion. All were fascinating. Our panel discussion was set up as a baseball lineup, with **Newton Frohlich** leading off with "Shakespeare's Mask," a discussion of the premise of his recently released book, which explores the possibility that a significant number of Shakespeare's plays were written by an English nobleman.

Second at bat was **Bob Lauterborn** with "China — Ever-Changing, Never Changing," discussing his experiences dealing with the Chinese business community on the subject of marketing, which he taught during his tenured professorship at UNC. He shared insights on the Chinese mentality — how Americanized they would like to be, but may not have "a clue" on how to start, hence Professor Lauterborn's contributions.

Third up was **Philip Liebson** with "Transformation, the NYC World's Fair of 1939–40." This was extremely interesting, as his impressions and description of the fair



## Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct), or email or mail to the address at the top of your column.



was that of a 5- or 6-year-old and how the event really made a lasting impression on not only the parents but also the children.

Our last, I call clean-up hitter, was **Buzz Paaswell** with “Transportation, Today and Tomorrow,” discussing the elements that should be of concern to all of us about the demands for adequate and reasonable transportation alternatives for our growing populations (particularly in large cities and, more specifically, New York City). One conclusion: The Second Avenue subway may not be finished in our lifetime, if ever.

Friday evening, we all enjoyed our class-specific wine tasting event, hosted by **Ron Kapon** in Low Library’s Faculty Room, a great venue. In addition to having a great selection of wines and a quiz that allowed us to take home a bottle of wine, we also had what we would call heavy hors d’oeuvres — a good mix, which replaced what would otherwise have been a sit-down dinner. Ron has hosted the wine tasting for our last three reunions and we really owe him a debt of gratitude for his continuing interest and sharing his knowledge and contacts in the wine industry to make this a special event.

The Saturday program, which includes All-Class Reunion, formerly known as Dean’s Day, is always illuminating and instructional. I attended [the keynote lecture with] Robert Siegel ’68’s observations of the various events, news items and personalities he has encountered as senior host of NPR. Whether you agree with Robert’s views or not, his experiences in news and media gave listeners an inside look at how media has become both the “good boy” and “bad boy” of our world and political scene. I also attended Professor David Helfand’s “Frontiers of Science” lecture, “What We know About the Universe (And What We Don’t),” which included a slideshow covering our position in the universe (small) and how immense the entire universe (as we may only partially understand it) is (large). The main point I gathered from his discussion is how much work we are doing to discover how far our universe really extends.

Saturday afternoon, we had our Class of ’56 lunch at our favorite place, the Casa Italiana Library, an intimate setting for us to enjoy

one another’s company with wives, significant others and friends; really, a place where old ties were renewed and new ones were made. It was nice to see how after 64 years (remember, we came in as freshmen), the energy that our class members have and the affection that they have for Columbia and getting together are being maintained.

My last reunion event was the Saturday dinner at Alfred Lerner Hall, with Professor Matthew Jones as our guest speaker. He is the James R. Barker Professor of Contemporary Civilization and a member of the Committee on the Core and Contemporary Civilization, which reviews and makes recommendations on changes in the Core Curriculum’s subjects and teaching methods. The heavy rain that fell between Saturday afternoon’s All-Class Reunion events and dinner did not dampen our spirits but did prevent two classmates from arriving in time to be in our class photo.

Whatever reunion hats were left were given out at dinner and were quickly taken. The good news, however, is we have found a stash, so anyone who would like a hat can contact Eric Shea, director, College alumni relations ([eric.shea@columbia.edu](mailto:eric.shea@columbia.edu)).

It made me sad that there were certain members of our class who could not attend due to health reasons. I hope that when they read these notes they have a sense of having participated.

We will continue our class lunches during the summer, as well as our March get-together in Florida. Look to your email for notices of the March event.

On a sad note for me, this will be my last Class Notes column, as I am stepping down as class president after 5½ years and will be replaced by **Bob Siroty**. I have found that these years have been enriching, have improved my writing skills and have made me not only closer to my classmates but also helped me realize what a great class we really have. Looking back, you may remember we were considered the underachievers (we lost both the soph and frosh rushes); I think we can now say we are all achievers, albeit somewhat late bloomers. So make sure you keep in touch and send all the news you want to share to Bob at the addresses at the top of the column.

Good luck, Bob.

As I conclude, I look forward to an exciting summer and an extended number of wonderful years of Columbia/class associations for all of us.

## 1957

### REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 1–4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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**John Breeskin** wrote his own obituary: “Dr. John ‘Sparky’ Breeskin died peacefully on May 4 at the age of 81. John was a notorious contrarian who never met a point of view with which he could not disagree. He died of congestive heart failure, which, in accordance with his Russian heritage, meant that his heart broke from all the suffering that he willingly carried.

“John was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., during the depths of the Depression. He joined the military while in college and spent 20 years and 17 days in a blue suit, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel and director of the psychology department of the Air Force’s largest teaching hospital. When he retired from the Air Force, he went into private practice and became a professor at the University of Maryland, where he taught for more than 40 years. John was a practicing psychologist for more than 60 years. He felt that he needed to keep on practicing in order to become perfect, a goal that he knew he would never reach but for which he would never stop trying.

“His wish has always been that when his friends talk about him, they will remember his tears, his happiness and above all his laughter. He is survived by three sets of children that he helped raise, becoming a great-grandfather in the process. He is also survived by a cohort of dear friends and a legion of students and clients. He especially wanted to be remembered by his surrogate sisters,

all of whom helped him become the person that he was. Friends [were] invited to a memorial gathering on June 12 at 1:00 p.m. in the Riggs Alumni Center at the University of Maryland, College Park. Please contact [celebratingsparky@gmail.com](mailto:celebratingsparky@gmail.com) with questions.”

**Bob Flescher’s** son Andrew wrote: “I am writing sadly to report the passing away of my father, Robert Flescher, in Newington, Conn., on May 3, 2016. Following Columbia my father graduated from Harvard Medical School in ’61, served in the U.S. Public Health Service as a lieutenant commander, and then practiced as a gastroenterologist, becoming founder of Connecticut Gastroenterology and Medical Associates at Hartford Hospital, where he subsequently served as chief of gastroenterology.”

**George Leibowitz:** “... I see that New York and California classmates have luncheons from time to time. As more classmates head to Florida, I would like to see if there is any interest in a monthly (or other period) luncheon to discuss the issues of the world and remember our Columbia days ... I would be happy to coordinate. Probably [this would be] limited to southeast Florida (Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties). Would any interested classmates contact me at [gleibowitz@comcast.com](mailto:gleibowitz@comcast.com)?”

**Bob Lipsyte** covered Muhammad Ali since he was Cassius Clay — 52 years — and he told me that The Greatest’s death was emotionally and professionally exhausting. “We spent a lot of time together. I loved his humanity and his principled stands, and I had problems with his hypocrisies and cruelties. Writing the advance obit for *The New York Times* was about being fair and going right down the middle. Writing the commemorative book and cover story for *Time Magazine* gave me a chance to be more personal. And doing the shows — *Charlie Rose*, *CBS Sunday Morning*, NPR, *The Sporting Life* with *Jeremy Schaap* — gave me the chance to let it hang out. As of right now, the first day of summer, I have six more radio shows stacked up like planes at LaGuardia. It’s a combination of Ali and the new O.J. Simpson miniseries (*The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story*), which is great — O.J. was marketed

in the late '60s as the anti-Ali, the non-scary black superstar. Right?"

More information about Bob and his career can be found on [robertlipsyte.com](http://robertlipsyte.com).

Ira Lubell died on June 12 in San Francisco. A complete obituary was in the *San Francisco Chronicle* on June 19. In lieu of flowers, Ira requested that donations be made in his name to The Diversity Center of Santa Cruz, PO Box 8280, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

## 1958

**Barry Dickman**

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We regret to report the death of Dr. **Robert Tauber** on March 17, 2016. Bob is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters, Sharon and Robin; and four grandchildren. A resident of Mount Kisco, N.Y., he had retired from his dental practice. He was an assistant clinical professor of dentistry at the College of Dental Medicine and had been president of the Ninth District of the New York State Dental Association and chair of the association's Council on Ethics.

**Bernie Nussbaum's** daughter, Emily, won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize for criticism. Emily has been the television critic for *The New Yorker* for the last five years; before that, she covered TV for *New York* magazine. In its citation, the Pulitzer committee said her reviews and essays were "written with an affection that never blunts the shrewdness of her analysis or the easy authority of her writing."

Congratulations to Emily on this tremendous achievement, to Bernie and to her entire family.

**Steve Konigsberg**, who had reported **Bernie Kosowsky's** death, has joined the ranks of CC'58's retirees. He had been a surgeon with Highland Park Surgical Associates in Highland Park, N.J. He and his wife, Rhoda, now split their time between New York and Florida. Their sons, David and Paul, live in New Jersey and Massachusetts, and each son has a set of twins (three boys and one girl, ages 10 and 13).

**Steve Jurovics** writes: "While I have written very few Class Notes over the years, this is one to which I

have been looking forward. My book about climate change and religion, *Hospitable Planet: Faith, Action, and Climate Change*, became available in March. I am following up by seeking speaking opportunities at bookstores and congregations to reinforce its message. The book seeks to motivate Christians and Jews to become active in mitigating climate change by demonstrating that it is a religious issue as well as an environmental one. The first part of the book reviews the quite explicit environmental teachings in Genesis–Deuteronomy, and connects them to contemporary issues including air pollution (e.g., greenhouse gases), preserving biological diversity and sustainability. The balance of the book discusses 10 transformative measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and how to push for their implementation with an environmental rights movement, akin to the Civil Rights movement.

"My wife, Raachel, and I live in Raleigh, N.C., where she is the rabbi of Yavneh: A Jewish Renewal Community. We have two children and two grandchildren. I can be reached at [saji8@besouth.net](mailto:saji8@besouth.net)."

Steve is an environmental engineer with the Cadmus Group in Chapel Hill, N.C.

The omnipresent **John Giorno** popped up in the Style section of *The New York Times*; he was an honoree at a benefit for the New Museum (down the block from John's home on the Bowery).

Speaking of popping up, Carol and **Barry Dickman**, along with Anita and **Howard Orlin**, and **Art Radin** and his wife, Miriam Katowitz BUS'74, attended a spring performance in the Village of *Princess Ida*, presented by the New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players. Art went for an intermission stroll and returned with the ubiquitous **Steve Jonas** (working on his next book — still flunking retirement) and his wife, Chezna Newman. To round out the College Savoyard contingent, the conductor was (as always) the company's longtime artistic director, Albert Bergeret '70.

Speaking of **Art Radin**, the monthly class lunches he hosts at the Columbia University Club of New York have been switched to the second Tuesday of each month, which enables a few additional classmates to attend. Recent participants were **Peter Gruenberger**, **Ted Story**,

**Tom Ettinger**, **Shelly Raab**, **Martin Hurwitz**, **Harvey Feuerstein**, **Ernie Brod**, **Eli Weinberg**, **George Jochnowitz**, **Paul Gomperz**, **Dave Marcus**, **David Rosen**, **Joe Dorinson**, **Paul Herman**, **Bernie Nussbaum**, **Peter Cohn**, **Bob Waldbaum** and, of course, **Art Radin**. If you wish to attend — and all 1958-ers are welcome — please email Art at least by the day before at [arthur.radin@janoverllc.com](mailto:arthur.radin@janoverllc.com). The lunch is held in The Grill at the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. (\$31 per person).

## 1959

**Norman Gelfand**

c/o CCT

Columbia Alumni Center

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**Jack Kahn** sent me information regarding the establishment of the David Rosand Professorship of Italian Renaissance Art History in memory of **David Rosand**. The ceremony will take place on Monday, October 17, at 6 p.m. at the Italian Academy, 1161 Amsterdam Ave. (at West 117th Street). For more information, contact Jennifer Tapia, executive assistant in the Office of Alumni and Development: 212-851-4026 or [jt2641@columbia.edu](mailto:jt2641@columbia.edu).

**Steve Trachtenberg** sent the following: "**David Rosand**, RIP. A life well lived. Properly honored by the named professorship. He would like that, I think. But boy, he sure died far too young. I close my eyes and see him, **Erwin Glikes** and **Henry Ebel** as they were in 1959, joking around in the *Jester* office. I miss them. And I regret not seeing more of you all, who know me for the boy I was and am. We must all redouble our efforts to attend the next reunion of CC'59 even as our ranks grow thinner (in my case at 220, not so thin). I hope you are all well, circumstances considered."

I am sure that representation by members of the Class of '59 would be appreciated.

**Gene Appel** and his wife, Linda BC'60, "have taken this stage in our lives, after living in one home for 35 years, to downsize and move to a condo that is about 55 percent as large. Our address is 5858 SW Riv-

eridge Lane #8 Portland, OR 97239 and our phone is 503-224-1397.

"The move has changed our lifestyle: more walking alongside the river front (same river, the Willamette, but about 10 miles downstream) and more time to play bridge. We've joined the Jewish Community Center to get in swimming three to four times a week and regular exercise classes. Linda is closer to her activities, which include writing, sewing, knitting, book club and so on. I'm a little farther from my football H.S. but I'm still helping Horizon Christian Schools with how to use the forearm, and I'm its only Jewish coach!

"All in all, the new lifestyle has worked out much better than I expected. Maybe my life just might be extended. I look forward to seeing Columbia's football and wrestling grow!"

**Arthur G. Lloyd** sends, "Greetings from Stowe, Vt.! Despite a warm winter, there was enough good snow to enable me to ski regularly with the 'dawn patrol,' a small group of ancient, early-morning skiers who don't accept aging as a problem. In fact, going downhill is what we do. Outside numerous visits to various types of 'ologists,' this has been a banner year for celebrating our grandchildren: two graduations, a score of hockey games and tennis matches and the occasional opportunity to ski with them. Long retired from corporate law practice, I remain active in my local community, try to see an opera or two when we visit NYC, play a hacker's golf game and am still working my way through Proust *en français*. Regards to all the '59-ers!"

**Eric Jakobsson** writes, "My family is doing well. My wife Naomi's and my granddaughters in college seem to be happy and doing OK in their respective fields — political science and music/film. My great-niece (brother's granddaughter) recently finished her first year at Illinois, and is a delightful coffee companion from time to time. As a measure of how times have changed since we went to college, she told us that the best hour of her week is a life drawing class, and she regaled Naomi and me with humorous anecdotes arising from she and her classmates being in the company of a naked stranger. I love Columbia but can't help feeling that in some ways I was born too early.





COURTESY WILL CSAPLAR '56, BUS'58

"I am having a bit of a resurgence in my scientific work. In a paper published in *PLOS Computational Biology* on June 30, my co-authors and I report on finding common genetic elements in processing conspecific communication between humans and honey bees. It appears that an ancestor from 670 million years ago developed these elements that have persisted in social animals but not in asocial ones. We have a manuscript under review in *Journal of Biomedical Semantics* on an efficient algorithm for finding mentions of particular amino residues in published papers. And we have papers in preparation on a number of other topics. Unfortunately, my grants are winding down, so I hope the work we are putting out now can replenish those resources. Otherwise the papers in the pipeline may be my last hurrah.

"I have become intensely interested in lithium and will try to publish (and also participate in some activism) related to this. My research notes on lithium begin as follows:

"I am writing this document as a scientist, a parent and an aging person (77 at this writing). This started out as the story of our daughter Sarah, who suffers from bipolar disorder, and my attempts to understand why she was given inappropriate, useless therapy for years before being helped by finally being prescribed lithium. The story has spread through my literature search to include both neurodegen-

erative disease and cancer and, (in our family), to our son Garret, who died in 2013 at 46 of the neurodegenerative disease frontotemporal dementia and to me, as I possess both an aging brain and a diagnosis of prostate cancer."

"If anybody wants the full notes, send me a note: [jake@illinois.edu](mailto:jake@illinois.edu). Best regards to all."

**Dave Clark** has been having a rough time of late. He writes, "I'll have to keep this brief, because it's hard to type on my iPad. April 1, heart attack. Early April 2, surgery, quadruple bypass and replaced mitral valve. The doctor also wanted to replace my aortic valve, but decided I wouldn't survive that too. Released from hospital April 15. One week later had to go back to get more than three liters of fluid drained from my chest so I could breathe. Released four days later. Since then, many doctors' visits, physical therapy, blood tests, etc. ... But I am making progress toward recovery, walking more each day, going up and down stairs, doing some household chores. I know that full recovery will be slow, but expect to eventually get back to all my normal activities."

Dave, you know we are all pulling for you and looking forward to seeing you at our next reunion.

For most of us, the attack on Pearl Harbor is an item in our history books or a dim memory. To **Steven Kallis Jr.**, it was much more

than that. He sends us this reminiscence. "As a preface, my father, Stephen A. Kallis '26, was a captain in the Army, in Coastal Artillery. We lived in a small house, with the address of 25 Officers Row, in Fort Kamehameha. Fort Kamehameha was an Army facility that abutted Hickam Field (later Hickam AFB). My sister had recently celebrated her 6th birthday; I was 4.

"At dawn, the attack commenced. The house shook with the vibrations of the detonating bombs. My father rolled out of bed. My sister, terrified of thunder (and thinking that was what she was hearing) ran into my parents' bedroom, just in time to hear my father say, 'Ethel, I think it's the Japanese.' (Much later, I learned that the whole region was tense, having what was called 'war jitters,' punctuated by some prewar 'alerts.')

"He immediately pulled on his uniform and my mother instructed my sister and me to go to some interior doorways and stand there until she told us otherwise. So while my mother saw my father dash off to his troops, I couldn't see my sister from where I was standing. I was facing a wall with a window. Since the shade was drawn, I couldn't see out, but I could see a sunbeam, not quite horizontal, shining past a gap near the top of the shade. In the sunbeam, there were dust motes shimmering. At the time, I just observed them. Now, I presume that the dust was jarred loose by the

house being shaken by the detonation of the bombs.

"As a 4-year-old, I hadn't the slightest idea what was going on, but just stood in the doorway, hearing explosions and feeling the house shake. Eventually, the attack ended. My sister and I stayed where we were told until our mother told us to come to her. There apparently was some sort of mass telephone call and my mother was instructed that a bus would come by, pick us up, and take us to a safe place.

"When we left the quarters, I looked around. Our immediate neighborhood hadn't been hit hard, though I did notice a strange groove in the concrete walkway to the front door. It looked like an extremely elongated S. The sky, mostly clear, had what looked like little thin blackish clouds, that on hindsight were the remainders of anti-aircraft-shell explosions shot against the attackers. The bus — rather like a school bus but gray, not yellow — came by and picked us up. Other women and children were in it.

"We were let out at what we later called 'the Bomb Shelter,' which we probably picked up from our parents. It was actually a mortar station, Battery Hasbrouk, which was my father's duty station. The station was highly reinforced and would have made a good shelter, were one needed. The women and children were just brought there; they sorted themselves out. A few ladies brought edibles with them to give to the children. One lady handed me a cold square of a waffle. I can only guess now that she'd been fixing breakfast at the time of the attack and decided not to waste the food. Anyway, I took the waffle and ate it, but was a little young to thank her properly. Reflecting on the matter, I wish I had.

"The little boys got together to play. We found a mortar azimuth table and used it as an improvised ride until a GI chased us off it. In time, we were able to go home. My father was nowhere to be seen — for several days — but we'd shifted to a war footing. The radio was left playing all day, in case of bulletins (a habit that's been carried on by both my sister and I to the present day).

"At nights, there were blackout conditions. After dark, my mother took my sister and me outside and started walking toward what I much later learned was the bomb

shelter. In order to walk us safely, my mother had a 'blackout flashlight.' This was an ordinary flashlight, with the front covered by several layers of blue cellophane that apparently was more difficult to spot from the air. This flashlight projected a bluish disk of relatively dim light on the sidewalk. As we walked along, a slowly moving bus drove in our direction and our mother boosted my sister and me onto it before hopping aboard herself. The bus took us back to the bomb shelter, where we would spend the night. This routine continued until we were evacuated back to the mainland."

**Barry Koh** writes, "I read something recently along the lines of 'old age is a privilege not available to everyone.' My wife, Susan BC'61, and I are in good health and taking advantage of the privilege of old age

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*Barry Koh '59 enjoys his Chesapeake Bay community, populated with "PIPs (Previously Important People)" who bring knowledge and experience to many of their activities.*

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to the fullest. We have a waterfront home on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Easton, Md. It's a wonderful community with loads of interesting people, most of whom are here to enjoy the relaxed pace of life with boating, sailing, fishing, art, music, history and pleasant weather. We are populated with many PIPs (Previously Important People) who bring knowledge and experience to so many of our activities that life is rarely dull. We are also blessed with children and grandchildren (all in good health and self-sufficient) living in Manhattan, which gives us many reasons to visit the Big Apple — but after a few days, we are usually eager to return to our beautiful corner of the world."

**Fred Lorber** writes, "I've been studying the Testaments and would be interested in conversing with others who have an interest. Some topics: the prophetic tradition that culminated in Jesus, the idea of the Jewish remnant, what happened to the heirs of Ishmael and Esau and their significance today in Israel/Palestine, why did God need a chosen people and the Pauline Letters' attempt to destroy this tradition."

## 1960

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**Lee Rosner**, extending his best wishes to all, writes that after more than 50 years as a molecular biologist at the National Institutes of Health, he retired at the end of April. "It has been my one and only job since graduate school and a most wonderful experience. I had the opportunity to do research on antibiotic-resistance in bacteria in a congenial, nurturing setting with world-class colleagues. A favorite colleague was **John Foulds**. I can immodestly boast that I have made some modest contributions to the

field. This summer, my wife, Kay Chernush, a premier photographer, and I planned to move from our idyllic home in Arlington, Va., to Washington, D.C. While she continues her important work fighting human trafficking, I plan to volunteer for community organizations, gain some fluency in Spanish, advocate for first-aid education in our public schools, dote on our two grandchildren and reread my CC books. Any Washingtonians want to join me? As ever, my Columbia experience will positively shape how I meet the new challenges."

Our spring Class Notes column inspired Doug Anderson '63 to submit this fond recollection. "I just read your words about **Richard Friedlander** and they brought me back to my second day in Coast Guard boot camp in Cape May, N.J. My fraternity brother Burt Ehrlich '61 had told me that the way to get through boot camp most gracefully was to join the marching band."

Doug relates that his musical talent did not include any facility with an instrument found in a marching band and, after purchasing and mastering a glockenspiel, he arrived

at boot camp. He volunteered to join the marching band but was informed that the band did not have a glockenspiel. He says, "Enter Richard Friedlander. We recognized each other — sort of. Eventually, we realized that he was Class of '60 and I was Class of '63 and we bonded."

Richard, a member of the marching band using skills honed playing tuba in the Columbia University Marching Band, arranged for Doug to be assigned the bass drum. And as for boot camp, "We spent most of our time practicing Aaron Copland and Persichetti music. Richard was a few weeks ahead of me and through the years our paths hardly ever crossed, but as I write this I'm standing in that room with him, with him being helpful and making it easier for me, an act of kindness from 53 years ago. Good guy."

From time to time we all were inclined to share some memories of our days in the service. There were a few stories Richard liked to tell about his experiences in the Coast Guard. There was one he most enjoyed retelling: Knowing how to type earned him a position as company-clerk. When time permitted, and apparently there was plenty of down time, he would write letters to friends and to members of his family. One day Richard was summoned to report to the Commanding Officer. The tone of the order, "Friedlander! Get your tail into the CO's office, and do it quick-time," left no doubt in his mind that he was not about to receive a commendation for being the recruit of the month.

He entered the office and observed the CO seated behind his desk, focused on what appeared to be a letter. Without looking up, the CO bellowed, "Friedlander! Did you send a letter to your aunt?" Richard, mind racing, tried to recall the details and any possibly critical remarks about officers he might have included in his letters to his aunt; struggled to discern how any one of those letters might have fallen into the hands of the CO; and pondered what consequence is about to befall him. "Yes, sir, I did," he replied.

"Well here," the CO said with a frosty glare, thrusting forward a sharply creased and neatly folded piece of stationery. "Read this!" Richard unfolded the letter. It was written in the fine, delicate hand of his aunt.

"Dear Sir, I write not to complain, but to express my concern that

my nephew, Richard Friedlander, has been sending personal letters to me and to members of my family typed on government stationery. I do hope that this is not a serious federal offense and I write to ask that Richard be afforded the greatest leniency." The letter proceeded, at some length, to assert that Richard, in all cases (save, of course, the instant circumstance), had shown himself to be a person of exemplary character. Richard left us hanging and did not disclose whether the CO burst into laughter, or unceremoniously tossed him out of the office. Those of us who were fortunate to know Richard know that he was indeed a person of exemplary character, that he could tell a good story, and that some members of his family were quite unusual.

Ours is not a sedentary class. We cover outer space and terra firma. As for outer space, **Tom Hamilton's** eighth book is now available. *Astronomical Numbers* is a compilation of the commonly referenced and used numbers in astronomy, including the diameters of the sun, all the planets and major moons; distances of orbits; magnitude scales; frequency of eclipses; the five kinds of lunar month and more. Tom's book is an important contribution to the field. "There is a real need," Tom notes, "for a convenient and quick reference for all this astronomical data, which is scattered and time-consuming to find."

And as for terra firma, it was not quite a "walkabout," as the term refers to an age-old nomadic cultural tradition in the lives of indigenous Australian youths in transition to coming-of-age, seeking enlightenment, spiritual awakening and an intense connection to the land, but **Bill Tanenbaum** and his wife, Ronna, may be said to have engaged in a westerner's version as they spent May traveling on their own through Australia and New Zealand. Bill relates as highlights: "watching several hundred Fairy penguins waddle out of the ocean on Phillip Island, some passing within a foot or two from where we watched; going to the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Cairns in the Coral Sea during a rainstorm with winds gusting as high as 40 mph; walking across the Sydney Harbour Bridge," and, in New Zealand, "the Waitomo Glowworm Caves; the Wai-O-Tapu



geysers fields south of Rotorua; Lake Taupo; and Waiheke Island off the coast of Auckland.”

And now, a very sad departure. Our class has lost another bright star: **Dan Shapiro** LAW’63 died on April 15, 2016. After law school, Dan studied on a Fulbright fellowship at the London School of Economics. In 1969, he was one of the founding members of the law firm Schulte Roth & Zabel, which specialized in representing investment management firms in the financial services industry, and particularly hedge and private equity funds. His firm grew from a handful of lawyers to its present size of almost 400. In 2002, Dan opened and headed the firm’s London office. In 2015 he was awarded The Hedge Fund Journal Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Hedge Fund Industry.

Dan was a lifelong leader in the Jewish community, serving as president of New York’s Federation of Jewish Philanthropies and a founder of the Jewish Community Relations Council. He also was secretary of the New York City Partnership and on the Board of Governors and Executive Committee of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. He spearheaded the 1986 merger of UJA and Federation of Jewish Philanthropies to become UJA Federation of New York.

But several classmates and fraternity brothers submitted their recollections and tell it best. “Dan,” writes **Peter Schweitzer**, “was a person you could get close to. I considered him a very warm and gracious individual.”

**Larry Mendelson**, chairman and CEO of HEICO Corp. and a former member of the University’s Board of Trustees, recalls Dan in his role as an outstanding counselor. “[W]hile I was a Columbia trustee, Dan attended a Trustees’ meeting wherein he gave excellent legal advice to the group. He was very well respected in his field.” Larry adds, “That in this small world, Dan’s nephew, Rob Spingarn ’89, BUS’94, was in the same class as my son, Victor Mendelson ’89. Rob is a successful senior aerospace analyst with Credit Suisse and both Victor and I interact with him often (HEICO is in the aerospace business). Rob is outstanding.”

**Bob Abrams** adds his sentiments: “Members of our class were shocked

and saddened to learn that **Dan Shapiro** passed away. Dan was ‘a class act’ throughout his life. While on campus, he was a great friend to many and was an active and respected leader. He was president of his fraternity (ZBT) and was a member of Senior Society of Schems, Van Am Society, Glee Club, Seixas Society and the freshman basketball team. Dan was an extremely able and respected lawyer, holding important positions in the New York State Bar Association. ... He wrote and lectured extensively about tax and business issues relating to investment funds. Dan gave generously of his time and resources to communal and philanthropic causes. He rose to the highest positions in those efforts: president of UJA Federation, member of the Board of Governors and Executive Committee of the Weitzman Institute of Science in Israel, secretary and executive committee member of the New York City Partnership. Dan did all this with grace and dignity. His decency was displayed wherever he went and whatever he did. We in the class remember him sharing time with us at our 50th reunion. We have lost one of the best in the Class of ’60. He will be remembered by all of us who had the privilege of knowing him.”

The class extends its deepest condolences to Dan’s wife, Ellen, and their family.

## 1961

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Our 55th reunion was held June 2–5. Approximately 85 classmates and guests attended at least one of the scheduled events. Once again, the Reunion Committee put together an excellent agenda of events and speakers. The committee was composed of **Tony Adler**, **Jim Ammeen**, **Bill Binderman**, **Phil Cottone**, **Philippe de la Chapelle**, **Tom Gochberg**, **Mickey Greenblatt**, **Marty Kaplan**, **Stuart Newman**, **Bob Salman** and **Phil Smith**.

Thursday evening, Letty and **Tom Gochberg** hosted cocktails and dinner at their home. **Bob Salman** spoke about the upcoming presidential election. Friday dinner at the Columbia University Club of New York was followed by a talk

by **Morris Dickstein**. Saturday’s lunch in Low Library’s Faculty Room included a talk by **Bob Pollack**; a business panel featuring **Jim Ammeen**, **Frank Lorenzo**, **Tom Gochberg** and **Jim Melcher**; and a medical update by Dr. **Oscar Garfein** PS’65 and his daughter, Dr. Jennifer Ashton (née Garfein) ’91, PS’00 (who appears regularly on ABC’s *Good Morning America*). The Saturday dinner was held at the Maison Française. The after-dinner speaker was **Jack Samet**.

**Stuart Newman** reported that in April his law firm won a 6–2 decision in the U.S. Supreme Court affirming an award of \$2 billion against Iran’s Central Bank. Stu’s firm represents the families of 1,300 U.S. Marines killed or wounded when Hezbollah terrorists, sponsored by Iran, bombed their Beirut Marine Corps barracks in 1983. Several years ago, Stu’s firm attached and froze the money in a bank account in New York owned by Bank Markazi, Iran’s central bank. Bank Markazi appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court after the Second Circuit, in 2013, affirmed the award of the money to the Marines, arguing that a 2012 federal law that assisted the plaintiffs was a violation of the Constitution’s separation of powers provision. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg LAW’59 (former Law School professor) wrote the opinion upholding the constitutionality of the statute. Judge **Jose Cabranes** was on the Second Circuit panel whose decision in the case was affirmed. In a separate action brought by Stu’s firm to collect on the Marines’ \$2.7 billion judgment against Iran, the U.S. District Court also awarded title to the plaintiffs of an Iranian-owned building, 650 Fifth Ave., the same building in which CC’61 holds its monthly luncheon in **Tom Gochberg**’s office. The decision in that case is now on appeal.

Stu apologizes to classmates for missing reunion. With reservations made for all events and pumped up to introduce **Morris Dickstein** for his talk at the Friday dinner, family business called him to Pasadena, Calif., for the birth of his newest granddaughter, Hana Rae Newman (’37).

**Gene Milone** presented several talks on his current eclipsing binary modeling at the triennial meeting of the International Astronomical Union in Honolulu last August. With a new computer code that includes the dis-

tance as a system parameter, he found that the base model solution produced a precision for the distance to the binary, which is in a star cluster in the Milky Way, of one parsec, an unheard of degree of precision.

More complicated models, with star spots and the light from a third object in the systems, degrades that precision somewhat, but the result is still more precise than any other method has yielded. He also found that it is far better to visit the islands in winter than in summer!

**Tom Lippman** and his wife, Sidney, were back in Vietnam for several days in the spring. They checked out their former apartment in Saigon (still standing) and his old office a few blocks away (long gone, replaced by HSBC). They have returned several times during the past 15 years and are amazed every time by the urban modernization, the friendly welcome to Americans and the booming consumer economy. The Japanese are building a subway right through downtown Saigon (nobody outside the government calls it Ho Chi Minh City). They went down to the Mekong Delta and up to Danang, which is unrecognizable. A fascinating, beautiful country, but he says Hoi An, a UNESCO site, is overrated.

**Arnie Abrams** lost his class ring while in Vietnam last fall. The Dean’s Office and Alumni Association were sympathetic, of course, but had no clue about what to do. **Tony Adler** sent an SOS email to class members for help. Several members responded, and **Jerry Grossman** contacted a friend, Bob Waldbaum ’58, who recently lost his own class ring and miraculously remembered the name of the company. **Mickey Greenblatt** also provided crucial help by sending by email photos of the ring.

It shows how the group helped a member in need. Arnie wrote, there are worse things than losing a class ring, but he had his for 55 years and it meant a lot to him.

**Stu Sloame** and his wife moved recently to West Hollywood, Calif., not to join the hipsters there, but to live near their daughter, Joanna Sloame ’09. After graduation, Joanna worked for *The New York Daily News* and became its online multimedia editor. Following her dream to be a TV comedy writer, Joanna left for Los Angeles, where she first worked for *Jimmy Kimmel Live* and then for

NBC. Currently she is a writer-producer for Popsugar.com, an e-magazine for millennial women.

Recently, one of the videos Joanna wrote and produced is the true story of a 9-year-old girl who makes tote bags, fills them with toiletries and gives them to homeless women in Long Beach, Calif. It has been viewed on Facebook more than 23 million times (bit.ly/1UjwsWK)! One of the comedy videos Joanna wrote and produced is called “5 Times You Realize You’ve Turned Into Your Jewish Mother.” It can be viewed at facebook.com/PopSugarCelebrity/videos/10154140502959824.

There are two class deaths to report. **Myron P. “Mike” Curzan LAW’65** passed away on March 18. He was predeceased by his wife of more than 50 years, Mary, and is survived by daughters Elisabeth, Anne and Katherine; and five grandchildren. A memorial service was held April 3 at the Kenwood Golf and Country Club in Bethesda, Md.

Born in New York City, after graduation Mike was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in the graduate program of Yale, where he earned an M.A. in history. Upon graduation from the Law School, he clerked for the chief judge of the California Supreme Court, then was a legislative aid for Sen. Robert Kennedy. He joined the law firm of Arnold & Porter in 1967 and became a partner in 1972. While here, Mike founded MPC & Assoc. in 1984 to pursue his passion for real estate development consulting and finance for exempt organizations and corporations, and he was the first president of APCO Assoc.

In 1991, he became vice chairman of the Board of Directors of Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co. Mike also was at various times president, vice-chair and CEO of the National Captioning Institute; a trustee of GW; and a board member of the Rocky Mountain Institute. Most recently, Mike founded and was CEO of Unidev.

A scholarship in Mike’s name was established at GW. Donations should be sent to GW with “Myron P. Curzan Scholarship Fund” on the memo line: Attn.: Mari Chin, George Washington University, 2033 K St. N.W., Ste 300, Washington, DC 20052.

**Harold Riley Colvin BUS’68**, passed away on May 11, 2016, in

Port Charlotte, Fla. After the Business School, he joined U. S. Special Forces in their language school and spent a year or so learning Mandarin. After completing his service, Riley joined W.O. Hickok Manufacturing Company (a family firm) as VP of finance. Eventually, Riley moved on to P.R. Hoffman Machine Products, where he worked for many years. His career came full circle when he rejoined and eventually retired from W.O. Hickok.

Riley and his wife, Helen, started to spend time on Martha’s Vineyard, Mass., until it became their primary home. Helen became ill with pancreatic cancer and died in September 2014. Riley’s health began to fail and he started to spend winters in Florida until his passing. Riley is survived by a daughter, Ann Colvin.

## 1962

**REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1-4, 2017**

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REUNION2017

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**Steve Kokkins SEAS’63** earned an A.B. with us in June 1962 and then earned a B.S. from the Engineering School a year later. He writes this about his eclectic life:

“It’s great to get back in touch after the 58 years since we first crossed the ‘Quad’ in September 1958! I was awed to enter the adult world and looked forward to learning from the faculty and absorbing some wisdom. Of course, there was the freedom of being on my own after 17 years of parental supervision — maybe that came first!

“I was very lucky to have had good parents. Even though we were in modest straits — born and early raised in West Harlem on 122nd Street near Morningside Park — I had a fine education at P.S. 165 in northern Manhattan and later at P.S. 41 in Bayside, Queens. I remember my teachers, who did great jobs of

straightforward teaching and motivation of our diverse gang of kids, long before all the angst and minefields that seem to beset education today. And on the streets and stoops of the 1940s and ’50s we also learned a lot about life. Dad [John M. Kokkins ’28, GSAPP’30] was a Greek immigrant (through Ellis Island) who worked nights as a waiter to put himself through Columbia. He pulled himself up and made a good life for us later, and my mom was educated at Teachers College.

“As a lad I was interested in the science of things, which made me a slightly geek-like kid when I got to Harrison H.S. in Westchester. I was admitted to Columbia, which in that day offered a unique five-year program, in which you satisfied the requirements of both the A.B. and B.S. (humanities and Russian, and engineering in my case). It was hard work but greatly beneficial later in life. I hear this program is long gone. [Editor’s note: This program is still offered and is called either the 3-2 or 4-1 Combined Plan Program.] The eight semesters of CC and Humanities provided the best start to adult life anyone could wish for. Living in a dormitory embedded me in the Columbia and NYC experience. I joined Delta Upsilon fraternity, which was a diverse and enjoyable group (now gone from Columbia). And, who can forget eating in the Campus Grill (which had a non-PC common name), hanging out at The West End and late-night forays to Ta-Kome by climbing over the locked iron gates near John Jay.

“When the chance to continue studying civil/structural engineering at MIT came along, I jumped to Boston and immediately liked the atmosphere. I’ve stayed in eastern Massachusetts, interrupted only by a brief stint in Southeast Asia during the late ’60s. For the past 15 years we’ve lived in the beautiful seaside town of Marion, Mass. (south of Boston), after 25 years on the North Shore.

“I pursued a career in the structures business and then in the aerospace industry at GE Aircraft Engines, where I was involved in developing military jet engines. But eventually I grew restless with the bureaucratic nature of big business. So in the ’80s, a partner and I began developing and building condominiums in Westchester County. Did

pretty well, but when everyone began to become a developer, I stopped — in the nick of time. In the ’90s I returned to engineering/government work, until retiring at 70 in 2011. Actually, a British firm bought our company and it retired me and most other senior management!

“Boston was a vibrant social and cultural place and, after some time, I met my wonderful wife, Suzie. We’ve been married 39 years. Our daughter, Caroline, lives in Barnstable Village on Cape Cod and visits us in Marion. I got Suzie interested in windsurfing and skiing, which we did together for decades. She surpassed me on the water a few years later, and I barely held my own on the snow. Suzie and I still crew in Marion sailboat racing, although my captain has begun eyeing me mostly as movable ballast! I seem to be gravitating toward golf and duplicate bridge when the ibuprofen runs low.

“In 1972 I became a pilot and still fly regularly — we’re now on our third airplane. I have traveled in the pointy end to many places, including two transatlantic crossings. I came to especially love Iceland and Greenland, and recently took the family to the former. In 2000 I started volunteering as a civilian pilot for the Coast Guard. After 9-11, the Guard got so busy that it asked us geezers to assume much of the less-demanding stuff. I still do that and am now the flight safety officer in the First CG District (N) for the civilian auxiliary pilots and crews. An unfortunate side effect has been that I often get restless when flying as a passenger in the back of an airliner and unrealistically think I should be up front!

“Well, that’s more than enough, and heartfelt thanks to CCT for letting so many of us share a bit of our lives on its pages. For years I’ve enjoyed reading your stories. Columbia College was a great time in my life and I look forward to many more reminiscences from you!”

**Armando Favazza** has lived in Columbia, Mo., for 35 years. “As usual,” he says, “[we had] another mild winter. In fact, I suspect that we have had only five problematic winters since I moved here. The bad weather seems to reach the Missouri River about 30 miles from here and then swerve up into Iowa or down into Arkansas. It’s heartbreaking to read about all the tornadoes, storms,



ice and snow in the Midwest while we remain safe.

“For the eight past years in February my wife and I have gone to a wonderful all-inclusive high-end resort in the Dominican Republic — Glenlivet is the house Scotch! It also has clay tennis courts (we hit with the pro on most days), a fine golf course and a lovely beach. Between tennis, golf, and workouts at the gym, both my wife and I manage to remain in good shape.

“At home I work just one day a week at a community mental health center and keep in touch with the University of Missouri, where I am a retired emeritus professor of psychiatry. We are avid readers and my project for the rest of the year is to reread all four volumes from our Contemporary Civilization courses. My book *Bodies Under Siege* is in its third edition and my lengthy chapter ‘Spirituality in Psychiatry’ is in press in the *Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry*. I recently heard that I received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture. I’m glad that they didn’t wait much longer, as I’m getting up in age!

“My daughter, a civil rights attorney in Kansas City, Mo., presented me with my first grandchild six months ago. With a lot of luck I hope to be alive when he graduates from college. We are also excited about getting a new dog, a male Wheaton terrier. My wife has ordered me to outlive him.

“Our next trip will be an art cruise from Paris to Normandy. We upgraded our airline tickets after a good friend told us that if we didn’t fly business class, our children will! We don’t get to New York very often but every other year we rent a condo on the beach in Ocean City, N.J. Life is good.”

By the time you read this, **Andy Jampoler** and Suzy, his wife of 50 years, will have been back in the United States for nearly seven months since five weeks at sea on a cruise ship lecture tour. Andy says, “The highlight was three days in Shanghai, an eye-opening experience that revealed modern China to be very different from our expectations.” They then headed home so Andy could work on his eighth book. The seventh, *Embassy to the Eastern Courts*, was published in November. It’s the story of America’s first pivot toward Asia, in the 1830s.

Thanks for reading this column. Please take just three minutes now to write three sentences to your classmates. They can be about anything: the luckiest thing that ever happened to you; something you did this summer; a book you recently read and greatly enjoyed; a place you traveled to and loved or hated; a tidbit about a son, daughter or grandchild; the election; education; art; exercise; etc. ... Let’s get 50 of these; they’ll make a great column.

## 1963

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I hope you had a great summer and are looking forward to a much improved Columbia football team this fall. The early word is that we have a great entering class. Put Saturday, October 22, on your calendar: It’s Homecoming (the game is against Dartmouth and this year we will win). Plan to come to the tent at Baker Athletics Complex for the pre-game festivities. It’s a great time to meet your classmates. Look for the Class of 1963 table.

The spring was busy. **Lee Lowenfish, Don Margolis** and **Doron Gopstein** joined me in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day in May. It is always fun to take part in this event, which starts with a fine breakfast in John Jay. After carrying the Class of 1963 banner past the cheering graduates and their families, we stayed to hear this year’s speech, from Dean Baquet, executive editor of *The New York Times*. Please plan to join us next year.

Dean’s Day has been renamed All-Class Reunion. As I mentioned last year, Columbia is trying to get more alumni back for reunion from every year, not just at five-year intervals. **Ed Collier** and his wife, Mimi; **Doron Gopstein**; **Gerry Dwyer**; **Larry Neuman**; **Victor Revenko**; and Ruth and **Paul Neshamkin** took part this year and met up for a barbecue lunch on South Lawn. If you are in New York City next year, we hope you will join us. It would be good training for our big 55th, which is only two years away. Please contact me if you would like to join the Reunion Committee.

Our second-Thursday class lunch tradition continues to bring many classmates together each month. **Doug Anderson, Steve Barcan, Henry Black, Peter Broido, Mike Erdos, Ed Collier, Bob Heller, Lee Lowenfish, Don Margolis, Paul Neshamkin** and **Harvey Schneider** attended the last two. It’s always great conversation. Through the years, more than 75 classmates have made it back to have lunch with us at the Columbia University Club of New York.

During the first week of August, **Lee Lowenfish** taught a class, “Baseball and American Culture,” at the fabled Chautauqua Institution in southwestern New York. In April, his expertise on Branch Rickey was used when he appeared as a talking head in Ken Burns’ documentary *Jackie Robinson*, which aired on PBS. Lee notes that although Columbia baseball came up short in its attempt for a four-peat as Ivy League champions, second baseman Will Savage ’17 was drafted by the Detroit Tigers and is forgoing his senior season to start his pro career. Right-hander George Thanopoulos ’16 was drafted by the Colorado Rockies. Former Lion stars Gus Craig SEAS’15, Dario Pizzano ’14 and Jordan Seneta ’15 are continuing their pro careers.

**Frank Sypher** writes, “In July, an exhibition opened in the Rare Book & Manuscript Library (on the sixth floor of Butler Library) of selected items from the collection that I donated to Columbia in 2015 of 233 manuscripts, books, prints and more relating to British poet and novelist Letitia Elizabeth Landon (1802–38). [Editor’s note: The exhibit ran from July 5–September 16.] In conjunction with the exhibition, I published *L. E. L. Letitia Elizabeth Landon, The English Improvisatrice: Catalogue of a Collection of Manuscripts and Books Held by the Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Columbia University*.

“I became interested in Landon in the 1980s while living in Lomé, Togo, West Africa, teaching English and American literature at the Université du Bénin (now the Université de Lomé). I learned that Landon had lived at Cape Coast, Ghana, and died there in 1838 at 36. I wondered what had led the celebrated British author to West Africa.

“On my return to the United States I began to study Landon and

her works in depth and to publish studies of her, including a biography, a comprehensive bibliography and scholarly editions of works by her.”

In May, **Henry Black** and his wife, Benita, toured Sicily. He writes: “Let’s just say we went for the history and stayed for the food. What wonderful examples of art from so many different civilizations, all of which conquered Sicily at one time or another, because of its spectacular and strategic location. We were blessed with absolutely marvelous weather and made many culinary discoveries. Pistachio semifreddo, anyone?”

**Michael Erdos** writes, “After 49 years of full-time medical practice, the last 36 in emergency medicine and EMS administration, I retired from my senior staff physician position at the Lahey Health System in Burlington, Mass., on April 1. While I continue to manage my American Heart Association Training Center in Woburn, Mass., having large blocks of time free has allowed me to read more and even attend the Class of ’63 lunch in NYC on July 14, where it was most enjoyable to catch up with the other attendees!

“My children both live in New York; my daughter (Elleree Erdos GSAS’16) graduated with an M.F.A. and is managing a private art collection after working at a private gallery for more than three years. My son is employed at Savills-Studley, a commercial real estate leasing company, and is married to a girl he met while attending law school in Massachusetts.

“My wife is still working and we are planning several excursions, including Paris for Thanksgiving and Italy next year.”

**Charles Bremer** writes, “In November 2010, my wife, Jennifer, and I retired from our jobs in Washington, D.C., sold our condo in Arlington, Va., and decided to move back north. But where to? Even though Jennifer is a Bronx girl, New York was out because I will not live in a state without a functioning legislature. And then there are the confiscatory taxes, so that pretty much left it up to north Jersey (I’m a Jersey boy, born and raised).

“But where in Jersey? We settled on Secaucus and are very glad we did. It is a great town — quiet, clean, non-polluting, law-abiding and, most importantly, with great govern-

ment. At election time, the mayor and council run unopposed, so that tells you something. And it's 14 minutes from Manhattan via train. Our front yard is about 200 ft. from the east bank of the mighty Hackensack River. We live in a fairly new three-story townhouse in a gated community. There's just the three of us: me, Jennifer and Mittens, aka The Meadowlands Monster, aka The Secaucus Slasher. Life is good."

**Peter Gollon** and his wife, Abby Joan Pariser BC'67, spent two weeks in Italy last October wandering through Venice and then Florence, with a quick side trip to Siena. Aside from the art museums and magnificent palaces and churches, Peter made a special point of climbing to the top of Il Duomo in Florence and every campanile in four cities that he came across.

They visited the surviving synagogues in Florence, Siena and in Venice's Ghetto, the island that previously contained a metal foundry (ghèto) and on which Jews were required to live for almost 400 years until the time of Napoleon. Jews were again concentrated there under Mussolini, with many deported for extermination in Germany.

Peter then went off for a day in Pisa, before spending a week hiking with a Road Scholar group in the Cinque Terre region next to the sea on the west coast of Italy. The group stayed in nearby Porto Venere and traveled to and from each day's hike by ferry, private bus or the railroad that runs down the coast.

What a joy it was, Peter said, after a couple of hours of walking among vineyards or olive orchards, to stop in a restaurant in a tiny colorful village for a typical Italian lunch, wine and espresso before walking another couple of scenic miles to end the day's hike. And then, of course, another Italian dinner to provide the energy needed for the following day's excursion.

This spring Peter stepped down, after 30 years of service, from the Board of Directors of the New York Civil Liberties Union, the state branch of the national ACLU. He was awarded status as director emeritus in recognition of his contributions there in furtherance of civil liberties. He will remain active in the organization.

Since retiring in 2007, Peter has put his science and business back-

grounds to use as the volunteer energy chair of the Long Island Sierra Club. His focus there has been promoting the rapid conversion of our economy — and especially Long Island's electrical system — from one based on burning fossil fuels to one based on renewably generated energy that does not emit the carbon dioxide that causes the global climate change that threatens our environment [and the] health, safety and the lives of millions of people throughout the world.

Most recently Peter was named a trustee of the Long Island Power Authority, the group whose transition to renewable energy he had been pressing for the last few years. He intends to continue to push for a more rapid transition to solar energy and especially to energy from offshore wind farms. However, Peter now has the added responsibility of making sure that the system remains reliable and that electricity prices remain reasonable for Long Island's customers during that transition.

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 — September 8, October 13 and November 10 — it's always the second Thursday. Check [cc63ers.com](http://cc63ers.com) for details (if you're lucky, and I get some time during my summer vacation, I will have updated it).

## 1964

**Norman Olch**  
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I am writing in early July, so by the time you receive this, summer will be over. With the arrival of fall I hope to hear from more of you and to see many more of you at the monthly class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York.

What are late spring and the summer without travel? **Marty Isserlis** spent three weeks in China with his wife, Judy, followed a short time later by 17 days in Greece. In 1900, Marty's grandfather and grandmother left Ionnina, Greece, for America, and Marty planned to visit his ancestral town. Marty spends the winter in Naples, Fla., and is a member of the Columbia University

Club of Southwest Florida, which has more than 100 members. **Steve Singer** spent 10 days on a culinary excursion through southern France.

On the academic side, **Richard Kayne** earned an honorary degree in linguistics from Cà Foscari/University of Venice and **Marty Weinstein** is co-editor of *Kalman Silvert: Engaging Latin America, Building Democracy*. Silvert was instrumental in the growth of Latin American studies in the United States. **Allen Tobias'** son David graduated from Northeastern University School of Law.

**Peter Thall** attended the 2016 Songwriters Hall of Fame 47th Annual Awards Dinner in Manhattan on June 9. Peter is the author of the third edition of the recently released *What They'll Never Tell You About the Music Business*.

On May 19, **Clay Maitland** received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Lloyd's List North American Awards for his decades of work in the maritime shipping industry. According to the biographical sketch that accompanied the award, Clay was "born in London of a British father and American mother, he spent his early years avoiding German bombs just outside of London. Having lost his father (an RAF pilot) during the war, he and his mother departed England as soon as the sea lanes were safe, traveling in the *Queen Elizabeth*, where he had his first taste of ice cream."

Clay earned a degree from New York Law, was maritime counsel for Union Carbide and later helped to manage the Liberian International Ship & Corporate Registry and to develop the Marshall Islands Registry, which is now the second largest in the world. Clay sits on the executive committee of the Coast Guard Foundation and is on the board of the SUNY Maritime College.

**Jonathan Stein** writes: "I am a lawyer at Community Legal Services of Philadelphia, where I have been working since 1968, although now on a part-time basis. This past year I gave the annual Lurie Lecture in disability policy at Brandeis, continuing the follow-up to my United States Supreme Court national class action win in 1990 for disabled children seeking Supplemental Security Income benefits, *Sullivan v. Zebley*. I also have been a founding writer and editor for the online dance journal,

thINKingDANCE.net, based in Philly (check it out and subscribe). I have continued dancing in post-modern dance performances, begun a bit late in life in 1989 at 45. My wife, Judith Stein BC'65, has published the highly praised *Eye of the Sixties: Richard Bellamy and The Transformation of Modern Art*. Enjoy a good read about a maverick NYC art dealer and a cultural history of the '60s."

After the death of Muhammad Ali, Jonathan dug up his bound volume of *Spectator 1963-64* to find his February 25, 1964, column in which he predicted: "Cassius Marcellus Clay will probably collect \$600,000 tonight for getting floored by Sonny Liston, the 220-lb. heavyweight champion who has said, 'I imagine he'll be talking as he's going down.'"

It is a measure of Jon's character to own up to his ill-fated prediction and, fortunately for his clients, he is a better lawyer than he is a judge of pugilistic talent.

Maxwell E. Schwartz '16 is the recipient of the Alan J. Willen ['64] Memorial Prize for his senior thesis, *The Progressive Democrats of the "New Era": Private Citizens in American-Russian Relations, 1917-1921*. In a thank you note, Maxwell explained that his thesis "argues that several American humanitarians acted as quasi-diplomats in an era often remembered for American isolationism and frosty relations between the United States and the Leninist regime. My research drew mainly on collections of personal papers housed at Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library."

Congratulations, Maxwell.

**Alan Willen**, who was *Spectator's* news editor, loved history and the class is proud to sponsor the prize. You can access the thesis by searching "Maxwell E. Schwartz" at [history.columbia.edu](http://history.columbia.edu).

## 1965

**Leonard B. Pack**  
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I am writing this in June. It is amazing that a year has gone by since our 50th reunion. I hope that all readers have received emailed copies of our Class Book, featuring reunion reminiscences and reflections. If you



didn't get a copy, please let me know. Also, if you didn't contribute to it and want to, let me know and I will send you the questionnaire. You do not need to have attended reunion in order to contribute to the book.

**Andy Fisher** (andrewfisheriv@gmail.com) drew a connection between our Core Curriculum education and the United Kingdom's referendum on leaving the European Union: "Now that I don't work at CNBC, most of my investments are gone and I can laugh at world upheavals ... Throughout the 'Brexit' *chazerei*, I kept thinking about the choral refrain from Aristophanes's *The Frogs*: "Brekekekex koax koax." I wonder if that would have resonated with anyone who had never been exposed to the impeccable classical education we received from dear alma mater."

**Jim Murdaugh** (jmurdaugh@smithmur.com) sent this note: "My partner of 20 years, Gary Smith, and I celebrated our second wedding anniversary in June in Nantucket, where we were married in 2014. We're both busy and happy. I practice law full-time (although some of my partners might disagree) in the fields of municipal bonds/real estate development. Gary is associate dean of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice, where he has been for 34 years. He's totally engaged in his regular job plus the planning, design and construction of an opera house for the school. Allan Greenberg is the architect. With luck, groundbreaking will be celebrated in 2017 — stay tuned. [Since we met] we've been lucky to [always] have two Golden Retrievers; the current boys are Leo (10; the boss of the pack), and Guy (4). Come see us in Houston!"

Your correspondent can't help himself: One of my two cats is named Leo. While he is a sweetheart, he is by no means the boss.

I'm sure most of us take occasional photographs when we go on vacation or take trips. **Joe Nalven** (joe.nalven3@gmail.com) outdoes us all. Joe reports: "We took a trip to Japan and, as I have been doing for the past several years, I've taken the best [photos] and made a fine art book to find the essence of that place. Better than hundreds of pictures in a shoebox or thousands on a hard drive."

Joe has done similar projects for other destinations, including Turkey ("Glad we got to go there about three years ago," he writes). To see

what Joe calls his "travelogues of mind and spirit — which is one way to set off these books from the ordinary 'I was here and there' photo books," go to blurb.com and search "Joe Nalven." Joe co-edited a text on digital art, *Going Digital: The Practice and Vision of Digital Artists*. He also commented on our Class Book saying, "The reunion book is one to dig into from time to time — remembrance of many things that are a part of us."

**Stuart Newman** (newman@nyc.edu) writes: "I enjoyed reading your entry in the Class Book, and am grateful to you and your colleagues for producing it. I've been pursuing my long-term research in evolutionary developmental biology, editing the philosophy of biology journal *Biological Theory* and enjoying the new places work brings me to (Santiago, Mexico City and Helsinki most recently). I also meet for fascinating (for me) discussions as often as I can manage with **Jim Siegel**."

I asked Stuart what he and Jim talk about during their fascinating discussions. Stuart answered, "Our families; Jung, Freud and evolution; politics; religion (pro and con); television."

Typical guy talk, of the Columbia variety!

**Bruce Peck** (slingbarb@aol.com) sent this update: "I have reported that I teach business subjects at a private career school in Albany, Mildred Elley college. I chair the business management department of the Albany campus. While headquartered in Albany, Elley also has campuses in NYC's Financial District and Pittsfield, Mass. Other than that, I seem to spend more time dealing with various concerns, which I attribute to the passage of time."

## 1966

**Rich Forzani**  
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Where can I start? Our 50th reunion this June was everything the Reunion Committee hoped for and much more. One-hundred classmates attended, plus spouses/friends/partners — numbers far higher than any of our past convocations.

More importantly, the connections and reconnections among

us were amazing. While many old friends enjoyed seeing one another, there were countless enjoyable conversations among disparate classmates who never really knew one another back then. I've come away with a genuine affection and respect for a number of CC'66ers I never before knew and I think that was a widespread experience. I found myself wishing I had known these guys back then.

I won't try to list everyone's name here; not enough room. But special thanks again to **Bob Gurland** for the use of his terrific TriBeCa residence/roof deck for our opening (and jammed) Thursday night cocktail event. **Tom Chorba** organized a post-party Chinatown dinner for former teammates and

Following lunch, distinguished researchers **Daniel Gardner** and **Barry Collier** presented a fascinating tour of aging and longevity, and the current and future prospects of same. As you might imagine, that session was SRO (standing room only).

Finally, we met in Low Rotunda for our class dinner on Saturday. The setting was magnificent, as you know; thankfully, so was the food. We were entertained post-meal by a number of classmates and other Columbians (**Michael Garrett** and **David Tilman** among them) reprising *Varsity Show* material from the '60s, ably organized by Mr. Garrett.

As a result of your initial generosity, and a second wave of significant giving inspired by **Richard Zucker's** outreach a week later to memorial-

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*Joseph Lovett '66 says, "Working in documentaries has given me the opportunity to continue my education interviewing some of the best and brightest from many fields."*

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wives/friends, which **Barry Nazarian** believes he may have attended. On Friday, **Randy Bourscheidt**, holder of many offices in NYC cultural administration through the years, presented us with an informative and enjoyable overview of the history and status of the cultural scene as we sailed the Hudson for four hours, sipping wine and having lunch. This was a wonderful opportunity to spend even more time chatting with one another, and to recover from the previous evening. Others attended the numerous lectures on campus.

That night, reconvening on South Field for the tented cocktail party and dinner, we again had classmate time. I can't overemphasize how enjoyable and important these opportunities were. I now know so many more members of CC'66, as do others. Some of us went on to the Sha Na Na concert, which was every bit of dated, throwback fun as we had hoped. **Rich Postupak** actually made it onstage. Saturday's class luncheon was highlighted with poetry readings by **Edward Kabak**, **Joseph Albeck** and **Jim Rosenberg**, and **Michael Garrett** was recognized for his outstanding efforts on behalf of the class.

ize classmates, I'm happy to tell everyone that we reached our goal of \$400,000 in unrestricted Columbia College Fund donations. Congratulations to all. Further, our overall reunion gifting to CU exceeded \$1.6 million. This is the greatest amount ever contributed by CC'66.

To all who planned, participated, attended and gave, a job truly well done.

**Joseph Lovett** writes: "I've been fortunate to have worked in documentary film since leaving Columbia's Graduate Film Department at the end of a billy club in 1968. Working in documentaries has given me the opportunity to continue my education interviewing some of the best and the brightest from many different fields. It's been a great privilege.

"I opened Lovett Stories & Strategies 27 years ago, after having worked at ABC's *20/20* as a producer/director for 10 years and for *CBS News* four years before that. We've produced more than 35 hours of primetime television specials and five independent feature films including *Going Blind* (now on public television), *Gay Sex in the 70s* (Sundance Channel), *State of Denial* (PBS) and *Three Sisters: Searching for a Cure* (HBO).

“Although I was a generalist at 20/20 whose work included social issue reporting and celebrity stories such as the Mike Tyson/Robin Givens interview, Michael Jackson on his first solo album and an hour with the Duvaliers after they fled Haiti, my concentration has been on public health — pretty ironic as anyone who saw me struggle with freshman chem can attest. I produced the first AIDS investigations on television for 20/20; *Cancer: Evolution to Revolution*, a 2½ hour special on cancer for HBO; and *Blood Detectives* for PBS and Discovery, which I worked on with **Barry Collier**.

“I’m producing *Children of the Inquisition*, a two-hour film, a website and an educational outreach project on what happened to the people who were pressured to convert or flee during the Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions. The stories are told through their descendants, many of whom are just discovering their Jewish roots. I’ve been researching this fascinating subject throughout the past 20 years. (Yikes! And we’ve been filming for five years!) It has caused me to reconsider many of our long-held assumptions about history and identity.

“I’ve spent 40 very happy years with Jim Cottrell, chair of the anesthesiology department at SUNY Downstate’s Medical School. We married the first day gay marriage was legalized in Massachusetts, May 19, 2004, in Hyannis, Mass.”

**David Tilman:** “Our second son, Rabbi Howard Tilman, was married to Naomi Karp on December 13 at the Jacksonville Jewish Center. Howard is the second rabbi of this congregation and this is his second year at this position. We had a fabulous wedding for our family, friends, new family members and Howard’s congregational family in Jacksonville, Fla.

“During the past year, I conducted several important concerts. On January 31, I led a choir of 75 singers and an instrumental ensemble in a Leonard Bernstein concert. We presented excerpts from *West Side Story* and *Candide*, and a complete performance of the Chichester Psalms.

“In March, I presented the Shabbat Evening Service of Salomone Rossi Hebreo (the earliest known composer of Jewish choral music, from Mantua, Italy, 1570–1630) at Reform Congregation Keneseth

Israel of Elkins Park, Pa., where I am the choir director.

“On May 15, I was presented the Doctor of Hebrew Letters degree, honoris causa, at the commencement exercises of Gratz College in Philadelphia.

“I enjoyed our fantastic 50th reunion, so ably co-chaired by fellow Glee Club alumnus **Michael Garrett**, and [thanks to] a wonderful Reunion Committee.”

**Edward Fink:** “As I mentioned in a previous submission, I moved from Maryland to Temple this past summer. I am happy to report that I have been named the Laura H. Carnell Professor in the School of Media and Communication at Temple. This named professorship ‘honors [my] contributions as a researcher, educator, and leader in the field of strategic communication.’ In family news, my daughters and grandkids, living in Maryland, have adapted to visiting us in our new location, Media, Pa., discovering that they’re only about two hours away from the new home. I’d be happy to meet alumni in the area.”

## 1967

**REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1–4, 2017**

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**REUNION2017**

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**Anthony Abeson** writes, “So sad to see ‘the cleverest class’ become ‘the most taciturn.’ Therefore, at the risk of being guilty of self-promotion, I will mention that my book, *Acting 2.0: Doing Work that Gets Work in a High-Tech World*, has recently been published. Better than nothing, right?”

Anthony has had a successful career as an actor, director and acting coach. He works in New York.

My wife, Diane, and I had the pleasure of having lunch with Fran and **Mark Schlesinger** in Brookline, Mass., where we were visiting three of our grandchildren. We also had a visit from **Cliff Kern** in Santa

Barbara, Calif. — Cliff was on one of his periodic wine-tasting/wine-buying expeditions in the Santa Ynez Valley. Great to see old friends.

Do write to az164@columbia.edu or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. “The most taciturn” doesn’t sit well . . .

## 1968

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Warm weather hit the City of New York, finally, as I write this in June. I recently returned from the country, where I enjoyed the fresh air, cool evenings and the peace of it all (watching the Brexit vote was fascinating, while the market decline was less fun). I enjoyed swimming. I was thinking of **Robert Brandt**’s family business at Lake George a long time ago when I was not too far from there. He told me he spent many summers there for years. I hear from Bob periodically. He sounds quick-witted, as usual, and periodically cites his philosophy classes as being valuable and a pleasure. He was off to China, I think, a few months ago.

**Reid Feldman** was back and forth in Paris and I hoped to see him this summer.

I am happy to report some very good news: **Paul de Bary** recently married the lovely Stefana. I went to the wedding, which was at a Romanian church not far from my old home on the West Side. It was charming and wonderful. Paul’s father, Wm. Theodore “Ted” de Bary ’41, GSAS’53 (96) attended and signed the marriage certificate as a witness. I, of course, told Ted that I was looking forward to seeing him at this fall’s football season, with some wins for the Lions. Paul, Stefana, my wife Halle and I had watched one of the debates earlier in the year; Stefana was the winner in hindsight with her prescient thoughts.

The evening event after the ceremony was grand — we had a good time dancing, and I danced with the bride. Paul and his lovely young bride were in a state of special joy. There was good wine and good music, and the couple was radiant. The music was lively and the

attendees were all in grand spirits, as of course you would expect. Stefana looked gorgeous in her classic white dress and Paul looked great, too — and so happy, both of them. I reached Paul a week or so later; they were in Rome having a grand time.

**Jon Kotch** wrote with two items: First, he retired on June 30.

Sounds great. Congratulations Jon, and on to the next chapter.

Second, he reported that **Ira Goldberg**’s daughter Shoshana Goldberg ’08, a student in his department of public health at UNC Chapel Hill, successfully defended her dissertation. Ira described Shoshana’s presentation as a “tour de force.”

Ira, it seems like yesterday when I met Shoshana — maybe she was 11? And then off to Columbia, too.

**John Roy** is retiring, again, but this time maybe it is the case. He has enjoyed teaching in Florida and I suspect will reappear on that front. He and his wife, Katherine, are planning (or may be on!) a road trip to Grand Canyon, Zion, Yosemite and Death Valley with a stop in Cajun Country at Lafayette for a few days. I hope to hear more from John about his trip.

I recently had dinner with Jenik Radon ’67 (a close friend of John’s from high school). Jenik teaches at SIPA and was planning to soon be off to Mexico and then to Albania. We ate at a great Indian restaurant and had a long discussion about foreign policy. I think Jenik will have visited nearly every country in the world at the rate he is going. I was particularly fascinated by his thoughts on Ukraine, Georgia, Russia, and the Iran deal.

The next week I visited Bob Costa ’67 and his wife, Joan, at their home in Rhinebeck, N.Y. Their home has had some enhancements and looks amazing. And we had good Thai food near their home. I got an update on their daughter Carolyn Costa ’12’s career at ESPN. Carolyn is a star in my mind. She broadcast for WKCR and was a student athlete and importantly, has had some great experiences recently at the College World Series [baseball] in Omaha, Neb.

**Buzz Zucker** continues to inspire me with his enthusiasm for and fascination with Broadway and Off-Broadway shows. He probably holds an attendance record. I asked him what was going on, and he replied:



“Lots of good shows (saw a great production of *West Side Story* at the 2016 Regional Theater Tony Award-winning Paper Mill Playhouse, and *She Loves Me* at Studio 54 is terrific). I am looking forward to a new show by MCC Theater at The Lucille Lortel Theatre in Greenwich Village called *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Gynecologic Oncology Unit At Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center of New York City* by actress/writer Halley Feiffer (cartoonist Jules Feiffer’s daughter), who is terrific at both. On July 1 I went to East 3rd Street (between Avenues A and B) to see the Clubbed Thumb’s production of the musical *Tumacho* starring a bunch of Broadway actors, including husband and wife John Ellison Conlee (*The Full Monty*) and Celia Keenan-Bolger (*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*).”

I think Buzz should write a book on his years on Broadway and Off-Broadway. Buzz did go to All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day), which he says was great. He attended **Bob Siegel**’s keynote speech and saw **Jon Bauman**, and he spent time with the new basketball coach, Jim Engles. Buzz gave him a history lesson. Buzz also reported that his older granddaughter is in Mongolia, near the end of a six-month trip. She has visited 80 countries and all seven continents. I think she sounds like her grandfather in terms of energy and vibrancy.

I do hope that everyone had a good summer and will make it to Homecoming on Saturday, October 22 — the football team will be much improved, for sure. And most importantly, I hope you all are in good health. I am looking forward to seeing you at our 50th reunion, which is coming up soon enough. We probably should begin planning in about a year. Send news to arthurbsector@gmail.com.

## 1969

**Michael Oberman**  
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This column comprises additional replies to my February 22 blast email. The good news is that I got enough responses to fill a few columns; the

bad news is that the inventory of news items is now at its usual low point. Please keep in mind that the submission date for class correspondents is typically several months ahead of publication, so there is a lag between submitted news and reading that news. If you have not shared news or views in a number of years, let me hear from you.

**David Bradley** retired from his position as professor of linguistics and head of the department of languages and linguistics at La Trobe University in Australia and will write books on various linguistic topics during the next few years. He has also been working on a UNICEF-funded project for transition to peace and national unity through dialogue in Myanmar (Burma), which will introduce the teaching of minority languages in government schools there.

**Gary Rosenberg** writes: “I work full time as a child psychiatrist in New Jersey. I will soon become the director of a pilot primary care child psychiatry collaborative program serving four counties. I have been working on this project for the last six years with a state senator and a diverse group of mental health providers and organizations in the state. We convinced the state to provide funding for the program last year. The goal is to have a statewide program sooner than later. I was chosen as the ‘Child Advocate of the Year’ this year by the New Jersey American Academy of Pediatrics for my work on the collaborative program.

“I am now in my 53rd year of running and competing. Of late I have evolved to allow biking into my training. I feel just as fast as when I was younger, but the watch does not lie. I now cover 10K on an easy 60-minute run rather than 10 miles! The joy of aging. My wife and I are in our 45th year of a wonderful marriage. We have two children. My daughter graduated from Columbia (Sari Beth Rosenberg ’97) and is a teacher in NYC. My son graduated from Johns Hopkins and is a programmer. He has two sons and lives in Princeton.

“My wife and I met at the College when I was canned from my first scholarship job during freshman year; I was caught bowling after I had cleaned the student activity center in the morning. Unbeknownst to me, I was breaking the balls as

the machine was not switched on. A fellow cross country and track team member led me to a job in the Career Counseling center, where my wife’s sister was the librarian. She visited her sister one day and the rest is history.

“In addition, I was able to add a morning run to my training regimen! I would love to hear from former teammates.”

From **Alan Mintz**: “Since returning to Morningside Heights in 2001, I have been teaching at the Jewish Theological Seminary as the Chana Kekst Professor of Hebrew Literature where, among other things, I teach students who are enrolled in joint programs with Columbia and Barnard. I had a wonderful experience recently teaching a course on Holo-

University in St. Louis; she has been working on the stem cell transplant service at Weill Cornell and is poised to go to medical school.”

**David Arnold** writes: “In thinking about your request for news, I ruminated over my transition from being the head of a private school for young men from inner-city environments for the last 10 years. In writing my announcement to the community of George Jackson Academy that I would be stepping down from my role, I referenced my having attended the Class Day exercises at Columbia to watch a member of GJA’s first graduating class receive a most distinguished class prize. There was and remains in the two transitions — that of my student’s and that of mine — a wonderful symmetry due in large

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*Child psychiatrist Gary Rosenberg ’69 was chosen as “Child Advocate of the Year” by the New Jersey American Academy of Pediatrics.*

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caust literature at Columbia. In recent years, my research has been devoted to the work of S.Y. Agnon, who received the Nobel Prize in literature in 1966, the only Hebrew writer with that distinction so far. Toward the end of his long life (1888–1970), Agnon wrote an epic sequence of stories about Buczacz, the Galician (now Ukrainian) town in which he lived until he emigrated to Palestine at 20. I’ve edited a translation of these stories, which will appear this summer under the title *A City in Its Fullness*, and my own critical study of the stories will follow next year. I was privileged to receive a Guggenheim Fellowship for this work in 2012, and last spring I directed a research group on Galicia at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

“My wife, Susanna Morgenthau, is a psychologist who works in a number of Jewish schools and supervises testing and evaluation for a clinic in Brooklyn. My older daughter, Amira, graduated from Brandeis and lives in Berlin, where she is completing an M.A. in holocaust studies at the University of Haifa on memorials to the Roma genocide. My other daughter, Avital, graduated from Washington

part to our having been Columbia College graduates.”

From **Hart Perry**: “I am working slowly on a documentary on the original soul man, Willie Mitchell, with the musician/producer Steve Jordan. My wife, Dana Heinz Perry, has gotten some press recently about her Academy Award acceptance speech in 2015. The academy received bad press for timing out her speech so it is changing the rules. My eldest son is a psychiatrist. My youngest is at Bard, planning a music career with his friends. I relate to this because I had a similar inspiration at Columbia with **Woody Lewis**, **Rob Stoner** ’70, **Billy Cross** ’68, **Bob Merlis** and **Gregg Geller**. They have all gone on to great careers. I worked with **Tom Hurwitz** on a film about a coal miners’ strike (*Harlan County U.S.A.*) after college. Tom has gone on to a great career as a cameraman. I had a hand in four documentaries that won Academy Awards. Time has shown that there was some mojo in our class and that we had some impact on our culture.”

**Neal Handel** reports: “Three years ago I moved out of hectic Los Angeles and now live in the placid (actually, boring) town of Montecito, Calif.; I am engaged in

full-time practice of plastic surgery in Santa Barbara. Last year, a medical textbook that I co-edited, titled *Problems in Breast Surgery: A Repair Manual*, was released. The book has met with great success and sold more than 1,000 copies in its first year in publication. It will soon be translated into several foreign languages, including Russian and Portuguese. I have three children, ages 9, 10 and 11, by my first marriage. Two of them already told me they ‘want to go to Columbia’ — but considering how young they are, I am not sure if they are referring to alma mater or the country of ‘Colombia.’ My big news is that my wife, Kristen, and I became parents of a boy, Liam, in March. I believe at this advanced age I can safely lay claim to being the oldest ‘new father’ in our class. In any event, I am throwing down the gauntlet and challenging classmates who may wish to best me at the game of septuagenarian fatherhood.”

Jeff Schwartz writes: “I came to Columbia with **Mark Rudd** and **Paul Auster** — the three us from Columbia H.S in New Jersey. My first year in Carman (with its two-room, two-to-a-room cinderblock-efficient suites) I had a small TV and, with **Larry Berger** from the other room, we’d regularly watch

the bluegrass show on WKCR. In addition to playing tracks from records, I got live performances from well-known groups that would pass through NYC on their tours. My personal experience in music while at Columbia — expanding from banjo to pedal steel — paid off when I was a graduate student at the Natural History Museum, London. Through serendipity, I ended up playing with a rock group formed by John Weider (of Eric Burdon & the Animals) and, through that, recording tracks at Apple Studios with Tim Hardin and Petula Clark’s composer (names that linger in our generation but that are now otherwise unknown). By my junior year, I had combined a pre-med major with anthropology and had my first experience doing research in the collections on the publicly inaccessible fifth floor of the American Museum of Natural History, where Margaret Mead GSAS’29 had her office. I was allowed to take two graduate courses with Margaret. I stayed on for graduate school in physical anthropology — bones, fossils — and have been doing that and various other academic pursuits since being at Pittsburgh, a job offer I took because my then-partner and now-wife, Lynn Emanuel, didn’t want to leave

*gins: Fossils, Genes, and the Emergence of Species*, and a co-authored series on the entire human fossil record, not surprising titled *The Human Fossil Record*, which was and will remain the first and only such compendium.

“Lynn, a professor of creative writing/English at Pitt, recently published her fifth book of poems, *The Nerve of It: Poems New and Selected*, which recognizes her prominence in the field. Although we now also have a small flat in NYC, I haven’t been back to Columbia. The last time I was there, the amount of building that had taken place was a shock to my memory of a more livable campus in an urban setting. Our 50th reunion, however, will not be about buildings, but about old friends.”

## 1970

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I guess this must be a slow news cycle because I received only two reports on classmates’ recent activities and other news. Maybe the lead-up to the surprising Brexit vote kept classmates pinned to the news channels.

**Jonathan M. Weisgall** reports, “I’ve been teaching a seminar on energy policy issues at Georgetown University Law Center since 1992. I recently received the Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award for 2015 as outstanding adjunct professor of the year.”

**Peter Joseph**, now happily “rewired” after 35 years in the emergency room, continues treating “the mother of all emergencies: climate change.” Peter sent me the complete report: “I work full-time with the Citizens’ Climate Lobby, pushing for a federal revenue neutral carbon fee and dividend with border carbon duties. This is the fire escape for Republicans who don’t like President Barack Obama ’83’s Clean Power Plan, and it’ll be more effective. The organization is doubling every year and now has chapters in every congressional district. I attended the entire U.N. Climate Summit in Paris, undeterred by the terrorist attack two weeks before, and was thrilled with the determination, ambition and consensus of 195 countries to attempt

to phase out fossil fuels as rapidly as possible. But there’s no clear enforcement or path toward this goal without a global carbon price, which the U.N. can’t impose. So we need the world economy to do the heavy lifting. That can start with a U.S. carbon price, coupled with border tariffs to incentivize other nations to do the same or pay American taxpayers at the border.

“I co-authored a second winning proposal in the MIT Climate CoLab contest for a U.S. Carbon Price, ‘The Little Engine That Could: Revenue Neutral Carbon Fee and Dividend.’ You can contact me at peter.joseph@citizensclimatelobby.org.

“My wife, Marcy, and I have delightful 4-year-old twin granddaughters nearby in San Francisco, and our youngest son, Gabe, works for the National Park Service doing computer modeling of the soundscape in national parks. He was again planning to work in Alaska as a wilderness guide for the summer. I try not to think about his ice climbing on glaciers, considering how warm it’s been up there. Ah, the insouciance of youth!”

Share your news with classmates by writing to the addresses at the top of this column or by submitting a note through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 1971

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Reunion Weekend 2016 was June 2–5. Plan to attend our 50th, in 2021! As always, it was great to see old friends and make new ones; we enjoyed dinners and other meals, hanging out, a Sha Na Na concert, other cultural events, the campus and Mini-Core Classes, and experiencing these things together.

From **Alex Sachare**: “A highlight of the weekend for me was the amazing Sha Na Na reunion concert. They sounded great and their energy was amazing. It was great to see so many of them together again. Kudos to everyone who reached out and got them all to come back to Morningside Heights!”

I wrote the following to **Alan Cooper**: “Was great you see you

### *Jonathan M. Weisgall ’70 recently received the Charles Fahy Distinguished Adjunct Professor Award for his work at Georgetown University Law Center.*

reruns (imagine reruns) of *The Twilight Zone*. Coming to Columbia was the turning point in my life. I became a New Yorker and, if one ever does, felt during those years that I ‘found’ myself.

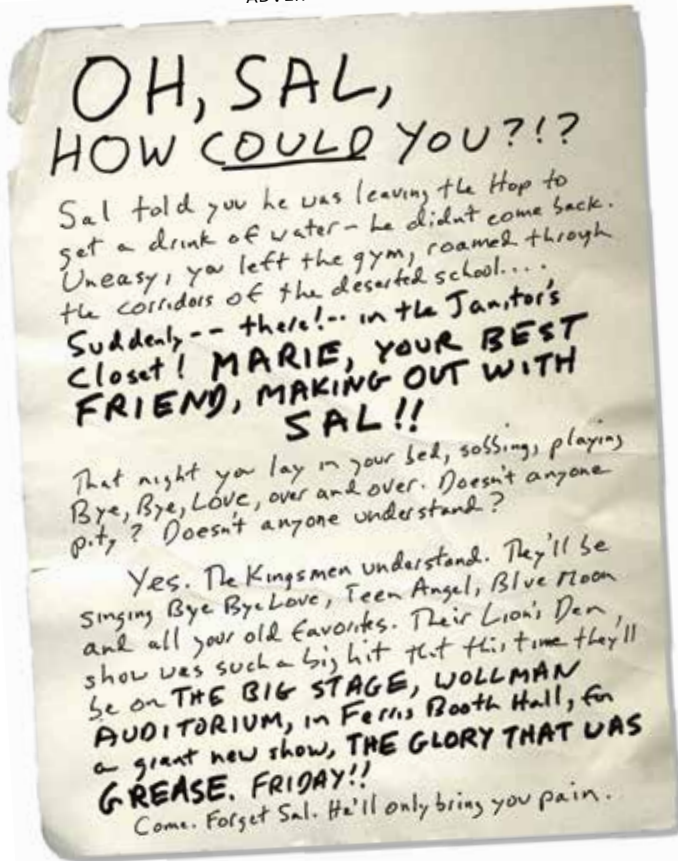
“I found food as well — different cuisines, tastes and spices (not the bland food from home). I remember going with **Rob Fleder** to an Indian restaurant near campus called Bombay India. I’ve been a spice fiend since. Sophomore year, Rob and I shared a suite and began playing old-timey and bluegrass together — Rob on guitar, me on banjo — and eventually we had a band with a fiddler and mandolinist, often playing at Columbia events. During our college years, I also hosted

NYC (neither did I) and this was closer than California and Texas.

“I’ve published 12 books and hundreds of articles on theoretical and developmental biology, evolutionary theory, paleontology and bioarchaeology and have done a number of documentaries on my work, including a History Channel special on my reconstructing life-size images of George Washington at the ages of 19 (surveyor), 45 (general) and 57 (first president) — now on permanent exhibit at Mount Vernon. I even did a slot with John Oliver for *The Daily Show* on my theories of human-ape relatedness, and survived. I guess the most challenging books were my history of evolutionary thought, *Sudden Ori-*



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onstage in the Sha Na Na reunion as part of the Columbia reunion! And a great show! I'd love to include [in CCT's Class Notes] an item about you, and/or the inside scoop on the Sha Na Na reunion."

Alan responded: "Thanks for your nice note. Glad you were there and enjoyed yourself. We all had a great time, too. For me, it started in April with a telephone message from John 'Jocko' Marcellino '72, one of the three CC alums (along with Don York and Scott Simon '70) who are still performing [in Sha Na Na]. (Amazing, isn't it?)

"In the message, Jocko said that the current version of Sha Na Na had been booked for reunion and asked would the original members like to join them on stage for a few numbers. I returned his call right away and said 'sure,' having missed the 2010 gathering of the originals (organized by Rob Leonard '70, GSAS'82 at Hofstra) because of a scheduling conflict (read more by searching 'Sha Na Na Reunion' on theledger.com). Since then, unfortunately one of our number, Denny Greene '72, had died (read the obit-

uary by searching 'Dennis Greene Sha Na Na' on nytimes.com), which only increased my desire to see the rest of the guys again.

"Almost immediately after that initial phone call, there was a deluge of emails back and forth, building excitement and anticipation, persuading the more recalcitrant guys to join the party (dialogue: 'But I can't sing anymore!' 'Could we ever?'). It got more real when Jocko and Joe Witkin '70 started preparing set lists and sending around mp3s to 'remind' us of our parts. Elliot Cahn '70 sent everyone a note suggesting that we get together a day early so 'We might get a chance to rehearse for a few minutes,' and I replied, 'Rehearse?'

"In fact, it was a great idea, because we met the Thursday before reunion for a delicious dinner in one of the Italian restaurants in the theater district, just a couple of blocks from the site of The Scene, the long-gone club run by Steve Paul where Sha Na Na got its professional start in summer 1969. It was an evening filled with nostalgia and laughter, an absolute joy. Happily, we were joined by our first manager, Ed Goodgold '65, and

also by George Leonard '67, Rob's brother, who conceived the group and engineered the transition from the Kingsmen to Sha Na Na almost single-handedly. Jocko, Donnie and Scott picked up the tab, which made it even nicer. :-)

"On Friday, we rehearsed early in the afternoon and went out for lunch. Since I still work a few blocks uptown from alma mater I was the de facto consultant on Morning-side eateries ('What happened to Duke's Restaurant?'). In the evening, we reconvened in Roone Arledge Auditorium's 'green room' to 'grease up' for the performance, swapping more hugs and stories, catching up on news of children and grandchildren and getting to know the current members of the band, who are all terrific. Jon 'Bowzer' Bauman '68 arrived just in the nick of time to perform his signature *Blue Moon*. Jon replaced me when I left the group and we shared a long and hearty laugh when I referred to him with a straight face as my 'disciple.'

"And then the performance! Can any band ever have had a more loving and appreciate audience? I doubt it. My wife, daughter, daughter-in-law (my son was away on a business trip) and my administrative assistant all had a great time. My solo number was *At the Hop*, same as at Woodstock (preserved in the film of the festival), and it seemed as if 40-plus years suddenly melted away. I messed up a little, but so what: I messed up plenty back in the day."

Despite Alan's modesty, the performances by all gave no hint of needing any rehearsal, amazing especially considering how many years have passed and how many miles separate the original bandmates. Aside from Denny, all the original Sha Na Na members performed. In addition to Donny, Jocko, Rob, Alan, Elliot and Joe, the originals were Scott Powell '70; Dave Garrett SEAS'70; Rich Joffe '72, LAW'93; Bruce Clarke '74; and Brooklyn College's Henry Gross.

Alan continued: "As I wrote to the guys afterward, despite what Thomas Wolfe says, I guess you can 'go back to a young man's dreams of glory and of fame,' even if for only one night in 47 years. And wasn't it glorious when we were joined on stage by other Kingsmen past and present for a rousing rendition of *Roar, Lion, Roar!*? Of course, we

needed the young'uns because they would remember all the words."

The first concert (1969) by what became Sha Na Na, when they were still known as the a cappella group the Kingsmen, was in Wollman Auditorium in Ferris Booth Hall. (That was even before the "Grease Under the Stars" concert on Low Plaza). Columbia tore down Ferris Booth Hall in 1996 and replaced it (both physically and as the student center) with Alfred Lerner Hall.

Another mind-bending experience at Reunion Weekend 2016, considering public personas, was when All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) keynote speaker Robert Siegel '68, senior host of NPR's *All Things Considered*, took an audience question from Bowzer and disclosed that Siegel and Bowzer were roommates at the College.

**John Borek:** "Please join me in thanking Reunion Committee Chairs **Peter Hiebert** and **Jeff Knowles** (and the rest of the '71 Reunion Committee) for the effort, energy and imagination they put into these events. And committee member **Phil Milstein** has been instrumental in pulling so many of our reunions together.

"The older I (we) get, the more such celebrations are appreciated. While at this reunion, the conceptual artist in me realized that we needed to acknowledge the significance of our 1968 spring semester. The 50th anniversary approaches of the student demonstrations, actions, riots — whatever we choose to call them — that changed many of our lives. We were propelled off our normal academic track; we were embroiled in bitter political, class and racial controversies, unresolved to this day. Each of us followed our own trajectory in the years immediately following but all of us were tossed off course.

"To honor this important time in Columbia's and our country's history, I would like to hear from as many of our classmates as possible over the next two years. On May 22, 2018, I will be releasing comments that I receive. Fifty years later, in times that seem as imbalanced as our youth, I look forward to our reflections on how our lives were changed. Please spread the word among classmates. I can be reached at johnwborek@yahoo.com."

The Summer 2016 CCT cover story is on sculptor **Greg Wyatt**.

Remember back 49 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

## 1972

### REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 1–4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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“Magical” is not a word that I think I’ve ever used in a Class Notes column but it’s the only word to describe the Sha Na Na concert during Reunion Weekend 2016. Hundreds of alumni in Roone Arledge Auditorium (think: Wollman, version 2.0) saw today’s Sha Na Na, led by **Jocko Marcellino**. Three of the current seven members have been with band since the early days, including Donny York ’71 and Scott Simon ’70. But what was really special was that Sha Na Na had a reunion of its own — on stage. Ten members of the band from its Woodstock days, including **Rick Joffe**, joined the band under the lights, each taking a turn as a vocal or instrumental lead. Voices and musical skills were remarkably intact after all these years, but even more special was the effect of seeing and hearing 17 current and former Sha Na Na members together, belting out hits from the glory days. It may never happen again and I am grateful to have been there. I am now a believer: Rock ’n’ roll is here to stay.

A few weeks later I saw **Jerry Groopman** on a very different stage. Jerry was part of a conversation on the human side of modern medicine with the Israeli Talmudic scholar Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz at the Aleph Society dinner in New York. Many of you see Jerry’s work regularly in *The New Yorker*. During the day, he holds the chair Dina and Raphael Recanati Chair of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and chief of experimental medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

**Wayne Cypen** was recently honored by Easter Seals South Florida, at the Miami-Dade County “Donor Next Door” luncheon. He became involved with the organization after the birth of a daughter with severe brain injury and has been a board chair and member for many years. In addition, Wayne has been co-chair and is a founder of Miami Jewish Health Systems, trustee of Ransom Everglades School, president of Miami Beach Kiwanis Club, director of Two Hundred Club of Greater Miami, and a founder of Miami Children’s Hospital and Mt. Sinai Medical Center.

He has given his time selflessly to Columbia as well: “I recently finished my 36th consecutive year as chair of the Miami-area Alumni Representative Committee (ARC). When I started in 1980, there were 12 applicants from Miami-Dade (then called ‘Dade’), Broward and Monroe counties, and I interviewed them all. Now we have about 450 applicants from Miami-Dade alone, and I lead a committee of about 45 alumni. (Some time ago, the Broward County applicants were combined with the Palm Beach County ARC and they also have about 450 applicants.) Suffice it to say that Columbia has become quite popular in South Florida.”

Writing from France, **Beresford Hayward** sent a long meditation on his Columbia years, his father’s recent passing and his current work and life in contemporary France. He says, “For the last 14 years, my wife and I have been running a multicultural project at the Maison des Métallos in the 11th arrondissement here in Paris. We’ve mounted programs devoted to Turkish, Arabic, Jewish, American, African, Medieval, Renaissance and Contemporary music.”

Berry’s son, Timothy, married Lisa Polito last summer in a New Jersey wedding, with **Jamie Katz** (who helped educate Berry in jazz during their college years) in attendance. Reflecting on what he took away from the College, Berry noted the challenge France faces today in bringing diverse communities together: “... the patience this requires and the faith you have to keep while struggling with it all; you learn from experience. I feel that that patience began to develop for me during my Columbia years in a period equally fraught with violence

and a sense that no one was quite sure where to go next. One thing was certain: You had to learn to be thoughtful. You had to worry about those who were suffering. You had to listen to them and try to understand where the pain was and its source. Everyone had to find the words and the music that went with it so that it could be faced without causing further injury. You had to look at the historical and cultural heritage of your own culture and other cultures that could offer tools for expressing ideas and emotions and help to design practical solutions through deepened mutual sharing and exchange. This was impressed upon me by my intellectual and artistic experiences during my formative college years. It has never left me.”

Keep in mind that Thursday, June 1–Sunday, June 4, is our 45th reunion. It’s not too early to begin planning to be on Morningside Heights for what I am sure will be a terrific weekend.

## 1973

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*“Will they still need us? Will they still feed us?”*

We (like The Beatles) all ask, now that we’re 64 (or 65) ... It depends on who “they” are. **Christopher Kimball** will. After a start publishing recipes in 1980 with *Cook’s Magazine*, he sold it, bought it back for a song and renamed it *Cook’s Illustrated*. He popularized the intellectual cookbook and created America’s Test Kitchen, which includes radio and TV programs. Although Chris split with ATK last year, he recently started Milk Street Kitchen in Boston’s financial district.

At press time, **Finbarr O’Neill** was working on the sale of J.D. Power to a private equity group, XIO. Fin is president and CEO of J.D. Power and will be staying on (as he is a mere 64).

**Bill Pollack** has a grandkid on his knee (Huxley Pollack), just before hitting the magic 6-5. He is the managing director of Staghorn Infrastructure, which builds and operates tens of thousands of cell-phone towers worldwide.

Ahh — a scapegoat for our bad reception!

**Bob Pruznick** and **Don Jensen** (with their wives) were recent dinner guests of **Steve Flanagan** in his Washington, D.C., home. Steve is now with the Rand Corp.; Bob, Don and Steve are all members of the 45th Reunion Committee, so they got an early head start! Hope they were home by a quarter-to-three.

Enough; I got carried away! Write your hair stay put as you age! Write to me at betra1@bellsouth.net!

## 1974

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As we were journeying to Morningside Heights in 1970, something new was creating a sensation at bookstores (explain to your grandchildren this is how people got books prior to Amazon and digital downloads). The book was *Future Shock* by futurist Alvin Toffler. Little did we realize how its subject would describe some major trends that would be influencing our lives for at least the next four decades as our society moved from “industrial” (i.e., manufacturing) to “post-industrial” (services).

The future shock Toffler wrote about came from a world of rapid change (“too much change in too short a period of time”) that left people suffering from “shattering stress and disorientation.” Remember the early days of your career when someone asked you to send them some material and you had a few days of breathing room because it was mailed. Then came more pressure because it could be faxed the same day. Now the clock starts running right away because it can be scanned and emailed. Toffler also popularized the phrase “information overload.” He is not given the credit he deserves for penning “change is the only constant.”

The impact of this accelerating rate of change was a central theme of Toffler. Doctors have seen the effect of electronic records on their practices. The financial industry has been altered by high-speed trading and the rapid proliferation of news. Cellphones and the Internet have forced many to be “on call” around





Left to right: Bob Pruznick '73 and Don Jensen '73 were recent dinner guests of Steve Flanagan '73 in his Washington, D.C., home.

the clock. And we are still at the early days of seeing how robotics, e-commerce and many other technological changes will alter the jobs of many of us and our kids.

As work opportunities change, Toffler said we would be forced to become increasingly nomadic. He said this would make personal relationships more transient and the bonds between people more fragile. Perhaps this points to one of the important benefits of being a member of the Class of '74. The bonds we formed nearly a half-century ago cannot be shattered by technological change. It might even make them stronger if we use them to stay connected!

There has been a lot of well-deserved media attention following the death of Bill Campbell '62, TC'64 this past April. [Editor's note: See Summer 2016 Obituaries.] For those out of the loop, Bill was both a titan of Silicon Valley (as CEO of Intuit and legendary "coach" to many of the most influential executives) and a loyal supporter of Columbia in many ways (including being chair of the Board of Trustees). Some 2,000 mourners gathered for his funeral at a high school football field where Bill had been a longtime coach to middle schoolers. The Class of '74 was well represented: **Ted Gregory** sang a gospel and former Columbia Alumni Association chair/University Trustee **George Van Amson** attended, among the classmates paying tribute to the Columbia legend.

**Chris Hansen** (in London) and **Bryan Berry** (in Joliet, Ill.) alerted us that Fr. **Michael Barrett** was named pastor of St. Agnes parish in Manhattan, which serves the area around Grand Central Terminal. Although the parish only has 350 parishioners on its register, it offers six Masses a day to serve the business and commuter populations that pass through the area. For many years it has also offered a traditional Latin Mass on Sunday morning.

Fr. Michael has had an interesting career path to his current position. After leaving the College, he joined (now) Msgr. **Fred Dolan** (vicar for Canada, Prelature of Opus Dei, who lives in Montreal) and (now) Fr. C. John McCloskey '75 as sales executives at U.S. Steel. The trio then became financial advisers at Merrill Lynch on Wall Street. They all ended up in Rome and were ordained as priests for Opus Dei in the mid-1980s. During most of the 1990s, Fr. Michael was the director of the Holy Cross Chapel and Catholic Resource Center in downtown Houston and later moved to Los Angeles to become the theological advisor to Archbishop José Gomez.

Continuing the religious theme, we hear from **Tom Ferguson** in San Francisco that he remains the CFO/COO at the Episcopal Diocese of California. He tells us that his two "30-something" children live in New York City and this leads to frequent trips to the Big Apple: "After mastering the L and G trains, we are now reacquainting ourselves with

the 7 train to visit our granddaughter in Jackson Heights." Ivy (2) is the daughter of son Greg Ferguson '03. Daughter Elizabeth Ferguson '07 works for Carnegie Hall in the Weill Music Institute.

Quite a Columbia College family! Forty years ago, **Jonathan Cuneo** began his career in antitrust and consumer protection at the FTC and later served as the anti-trust counsel to the House Judiciary Committee chair, Peter Rodino. For his lifetime achievements in the field, Jon was recently given the Alfred E. Kahn Award for Antitrust Achievement by the American Antitrust Institute in Washington, D.C. Jon is the founding member of the Cuneo Gilbert & LaDuca law firm in Washington, D.C.

An update from **Don Kobnitz** in Beijing: He is the general counsel of Volkswagen in China and his wife, Becky, is an antitrust lawyer. They live in a "courtyard house" only 500 yards north of the Forbidden City. His son, who is completing a doctorate in fluid dynamics at Cambridge, married a girl from Beijing last June in a ceremony in the Forbidden City. He adds, "Our two girls share an apartment in lower Manhattan, one working in user experience at MetLife and the other 'finishing up' in economics at NYU."

When Democratic classmates in New York voted in the primary election earlier this year, I bet many were surprised to see one of the choices for delegate to the Democratic National Convention was **Arthur Schwartz** — he won! As noted in an earlier column, Arthur is also a candidate for the New York State Assembly, representing Greenwich Village, SoHo, TriBeCa and Northern Battery Park City.

Portrait photographer and documentary filmmaker **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** continues his series of video portraits with *The Trans List* (the premiere was at the Castro Theatre in San Francisco in June). Like *The Black List*, *The Latino List*, *The Boomer List* and others, this production features intimate conversations with 11 prominent transgender figures (including Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox). It is scheduled to air on HBO later this year.

There you have it. Classmates adapting to the changes brought on by the "future shock" but still achieving in fields as diverse as religion,

law, politics and the arts. Whatever you are up to, please take a moment to pass along news of you and your family to me at [f.bremer@ml.com](mailto:f.bremer@ml.com) — your buddies of nearly a half-century want to know what you are up to!

## 1975

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The following is an abbreviated version of a communication recently received from **Geoffrey Cummings**:

"We all shared the rapture of being young and alive in the early 1970s on the island of Manhattan, at the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world. Challenge and change were the watchwords of the day. I had a rich, transformative Columbia experience and was tremendously proud of alma mater, but other than a circle of friends that rapidly dwindled, I had no continuing ties. I now fully realize what a missed opportunity this was.

"As a lapsed Columbia community member, I returned to the welcome embrace of my 40th reunion. It was a rapturous weekend. Afterward, the full appreciation of the deep value of belonging to an engaged, worldwide community of College and University classmates washed over me. Contemporaries, I invite you to get in touch with me. In addition to catching up on the joys of a life well lived, I am looking to explore creating traditions, which would galvanize our Columbia community. There are great deeds to be done, sweet songs to be sung. I am heartened to see entrepreneurship flourishing at Columbia, and that a vibrant culture of creation, social enterprise and startups has emerged as a path for classmates. I have had the good fortune to be working with my son, Gordon, on a venture that involves an eco-adventure resort and expat community in Costa Rica, set up as a B Corp., with an allied community development foundation ([puravidavillage.com](http://puravidavillage.com)). The lion is the king of creatures, known for its majesty, wisdom and leadership. That's what we do. Let's talk."

"Welcome to the Kremlin's phantasmagoric world, where a heady mixture of Orthodoxy, social-

ism, imperialism, racism, sexism, homophobia, and Mother Russia worship defines and distorts reality.” So opens one description of **Alexander Motyl**’s new book *Vovochka: The True Confessions of Vladimir Putin’s Best Friend and Confidant*. Described as a savagely satirical novel, *Vovochka* is a terrifyingly plausible account of a Russian president’s evolution from a minor KGB agent in East Germany to the self-styled savior and warmongering leader of a paranoid state. You can read more about *Vovochka* by searching “Vovochka” on [spectator.org](http://spectator.org) or on [e-ir.info](http://e-ir.info). Nominated for the Pushcart Prize in 2008 and 2013, Alexander has authored seven other novels: *Whiskey Priest*, *Who Killed Andrei Warhol*, *Flippancy*, *The Jew Who Was Ukrainian*, *My Orchidia*, *Sweet Snow* and *Fall River*, as well as a forthcoming collection of poetry, *Vanishing Points*.

A professor of political science at Rutgers University–Newark, Alexander is also the author of six academic books, numerous articles and a blog (Ukraine’s Orange Blues) at the online journal *World Affairs*. He studied painting with Leon Goldin at Columbia. His artwork has been shown in solo and group shows in New York, Philadelphia and Toronto and is part of the permanent collection of the Ukrainian Museum in New York and the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre in Winnipeg. His paintings and drawings are on display on the Internet gallery Artsicle. The cover of *Vovochka* is one of his paintings.

Penn’s Club of Long Island recently presented **Robert C.**

**Schneider** with the Jack White Award for long-term, meritorious service to the club and the university. This year marks Bob’s 20th year on the club’s board, for which he has been treasurer and VP. He has been a club member since July 1, 1979 — soon after his 1979 graduation from Penn Law. Bob has focused on alumni-for-alumni activities, including alumni book tours and alumni speakers, in addition to interviewing college applicants and doing fundraising for Penn.

## 1976

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The fall is here and with it another Homecoming, this year on Saturday, October 22. I hope to see many of you at Baker Athletics Complex. We will get a sign so you can spot the Class of 1976 as we begin the five year run-up to our 45th reunion. With coach Al Bagnoli in his second year as the Lions’ head coach, the year looks very promising. So promising, in fact, that yours truly dug deep into his pocket to buy two season tickets for every home game. Shoot me an email if you will be in NYC on a non-Homecoming weekend and you can join me in the stands.

Our 40th reunion went terrifically. Starting on Thursday evening in Times Square, we had a great cocktail hour prior to heading to the theater. **Tim Tracey, Dave Merzel** and I (along with our guests) took in *The King and I* at Lincoln Center. As we had to leave the pre-theater cocktails a little early, we concluded the evening with a post-theater toast or two across the street from the theater.

On Friday, a group of us took the neighborhood tour that started at West 125th Street, went through the Manhattanville construction and ended at V&T for a terrific meal. Dean James J. Valentini stopped by to greet the class and thanked us for our turnout and contributions to the Columbia College Fund. Some classmates concluded the evening with the Sha Na Na concert in Rooney Arledge Auditorium (there is no longer a Wollman Auditorium — not even a Ferris Booth Hall!) in

Alfred Lerner Hall. Again, a successful night!

On Saturday, a number of us enjoyed the All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) keynote speech by Robert Siegel ’68, senior host of NPR’s *Morning Edition*, then participated in All-Class Reunion activities. The day concluded with a wine tasting and our class dinner on the second floor of Butler Library.

At the dinner, we didn’t have specific class speakers, just many speakers from our class in an exercise called “Two Minutes and Two Minutes Only.” **Dennis Goodrich** manned the cow bell to ring out any over-talkers, but in reality he couldn’t figure out how to use it and everyone just told terrific stories. Longtime Reunion Committee chair **Steve Davis** started us off by recounting some of the events that he researched through online *Spectator* articles. His humor brought back a lot of good memories. In addition to Steve, **Doug Halsey, Bryan Alix, Steve Mackey, Joe Graif, Jeffrey Malkan, Anthony Messina, Vince Briccetti, Nels Mitchell, Doug Neuman, Perry Kahn, Tom Motley** and **Dan Baker** spoke. Tom and Dan were forced into speaking duty by interesting circumstances. Judge Motley submitted a card with **Terry Corrigan**’s name on it as a joke and then took the microphone to speak about his lifelong friendship with Terry. When Terry moved from New York to North Carolina, the judge decided to revive his golf game with frequent visits — it was great to hear the jurist talk so warmly about a longtime friend.

Dan’s name was submitted with the words “Bug Story” on it but Dan did not submit it. Now, Dan claimed that Grace Briccetti was responsible, but even though there were two judges (Vince and Tom) present, there was no indictment of Grace. Instead we heard a terrific story about how Dan found a bug in the first week of freshmen (it was still freshmen back then, not first-years) orientation, which caused him to run out of his room and bang on the closest door, which happened to be the future Southern New York district court judge, the honorable Vinnie. Now, we certainly have ample proof of Vinnie’s terrific legal abilities since college; as a result of this story, we also know that Vinnie

is a ruthless John Jay exterminator!

The evening concluded with **John Connell** and me leading the class in *Sans Souci*. As a result of John’s excellent singing, our dates for the evening (John’s daughter Erin Connell ’13 and my daughter Katherine Howitt ’13) invited us to attend their fifth-year reunion in 2018!

So the weekend was a huge success. More than 70 classmates from all over the country returned for the weekend and we smashed through our fundraising goals. Thank you all for a great year!

The best way to summarize all of this is to give you **Rich Rohr**’s recap: “This is the first time that I have attended a full reunion. I have been going to Dean’s Day (or All-Class Reunion, as it is now called) for many years to attend Mini-Core Classes, but this is the first time that I have spent an overnight on campus since graduation. Carman Hall is exactly as you remember it, plus with 44 years of wear and tear (except that it now has Wi-Fi and cable TV). [Editor’s note: It also has air conditioning!] One nice change is that Columbia now offers fitness facilities to students and staff, with a full set of exercise machines similar to health clubs. I did some laps each night in the same pool where I learned to swim.

“Our class had three fine events, first in Midtown, then at V&T and, finally, in Butler Library. I chatted with Dean James J. Valentini about professors I had known in the chemistry department and also with Robert Siegel ’68, who got his start in radio news at WKCR. The irony of the weekend was that family business made it necessary for me to skip the Mini-Core Classes this year but that just changed the focus for me to connecting with people.

“If you have not been to reunion because you are not sure if you will see anyone you know, don’t worry about it. Go ahead and connect with classmates for the first time; they’re much more interesting people now than they were 40 years ago.”

So there’s the complete report. Now, as always, I need reports from each and every classmate so this column remains current and brings us altogether. Too many life events start happening to distract us from the foundation that we all experienced so many years ago at Spaghetti City, Ta-Kome, Mama Joy’s, Campus



Submit  
Your  
Photo



CCT welcomes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click “Contact Us” at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



Dining Room, the Lions Den, Moon Palace and so many other places. The neighborhood is so different but the memories are vivid and everyone feels at home within five minutes. Most importantly, the stories that you tell to your family and guests are told with smiles and laughter.

Please send some memories, and tell me about your current events: [kenhowitz76@gmail.com](mailto:kenhowitz76@gmail.com). The column is so much more fun when I get your contributions. Most of all, thanks for a great reunion and a great life together! Hope to see you all at Homecoming!

## 1977

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION 2017

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“Life is good,” reports Kevin Pehr, and why shouldn’t it be? He has retired from the Army Reserve as a full colonel and brigade commander, after a career that included four deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. Kevin lives in Montreal “with my lovely wife Nom (aka Christine) and two children, who are lucky enough to look like her.” Kevin practices dermatology but is pretty sure he’ll get it right one of these days and not have to keep practicing — though on the other hand, when he thinks about retiring, he thinks that he’s not likely to do so anytime soon. He has to put the kids through medical school after all, and the oldest is only 2. (“Having kids was on the ‘to do’ list, but it was a really long list.”) In addition to his private practice, Kevin is an associate professor at McGill (“where we tend to refer to Columbia as ‘the McGill of the south’”).

For the last five years, Peter Basch has been a technical writer and editor at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at CalTech: “So that fancy physics degree has finally

been put to some small use!” he says. He celebrated his 16th anniversary with his wife, Ellen Sandler, author of *The TV Writer’s Workbook* and formerly on staff at *Everybody Loves Raymond, Coach* and many more TV shows. Peter says, “I have two wonderful stepchildren, Max and Molly, who are just beginning their exciting 30s. My acting career may seem dead, but it is actually in a vegetative state. Thanks to improv classes at UC Berkeley, recent background work on a Stouffer’s commercial and storytelling at The Moth, we think its eyelids may be fluttering (but we can’t be sure).”

I was interested to learn that Mark Reid has been a member of the English department at the University of Florida in Gainesville since 1988. He teaches courses in African-American and Afro-European literature and has taught film courses that cover the African diaspora as well as African cinema. He is a prolific author, having published *Redefining Black Film* (1993), *PostNegritude Visual and Literary Culture* (1997) and *Black Lenses, Black Voices: African American Film Now* (2005), in addition to editing Spike Lee’s *Do the Right Thing* (1997) and coediting *Le Cinéma Noir Américain* (1988). “During my undergraduate years at Columbia,” Mark says, “I immensely benefitted from the Core and such remarkable faculty members as Nathan I. Huggins; Catharine R. Stimpson GSAS’67; Andrew Sarris ’51, GSAS’98; and Barry Ulanov ’39, GSAS’55.”

I recognize all those names and I’m sure classmates could add a lot more. If you have memorable classes or professors, or want to share news about hobbies, travel, family, work (or retirement!) or anything else, drop a line to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college. [columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1978

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The survey question for this column was “Hillary or Donald?” — asked a week or two before either convention, so no bounce. You might not be surprised to hear the results were 43

percent Hillary, 13 percent Trump, one holdout for Bernie and one wit who stated, “I’d give up a vital organ before I’d vote for Trump. But as an American I decline to say who will be getting my vote!”

I also asked who your favorite professor was; while many said they could not remember that far back, here are some of the candidates mentioned: “My senior seminar in music with Jack Beeson continues to inform my music directing and theatre writing work to this day,” reported a classmate. Other professors mentioned were Jim Shenton ’49 (Civil War course); Karl-Ludwig Selig; Arthur Danto GSAS’53 (intro to philosophy); Edward Tayler (Shakespeare and Milton); Seymour Melman; Inge Halpert GSAS’57 (German); Mary Payer; Michael Rosenthal GSAS’67/Edward Said colloquium; Ann Douglas (American culture in the 1930s); Charlie Dawson (orgo); Fred Friendly; Jack Malcolm Miller (chemistry); Loren Graham SIPA’60, GSAS’64; Sidney Morgenbesser (logical foundations of probability); and Donald Johnson.

Ambassador Chris Dell has not weighed in on possible Russian spying on my Class of 1978 email server yet, but did send this update: “Still in Mozambique, where business is slow. Combination of global commodity struggles and terrible local choices. So, in our 60th year, I’m practicing for retirement, trying to find new things to focus on, in the (vain) hope I can avoid the inevitable. Working out with a trainer, learning to play an instrument, doing basic research for a book project.

“Spending some time and effort setting up eventual retirement homes in Sofia and Lisbon. Trying to help the kids get launched in the world (and off the family payroll, of course). In other words, exactly what you’d expect someone to be doing at this stage of life. Prosaic but satisfying in its own way. And nice to feel that one is still master of one’s destiny, for just a bit longer . . .”

One of our many world-renowned journalists and writers is Don Guttenplan, who has one of those great opportunities as a wordsmith: “I have spent the past year covering the presidential election for *The Nation*. As I normally live in London, this has involved considerable travel, of which the best part has been frequent trips in and out of NYC, which allow

me to see my daughter, Zoe Guttenplan ’18. She even took me to one of Eric Foner ’63, GSAS’69’s lectures, which provided quite a contrast to the rhetoric on the campaign trail. By the time you get this I will have been to Cleveland and Philadelphia, and I hope will have acquired a better sense of what has happened to our country and what is likely to happen next.”

From Edward Ferguson: “Knock, knock, knockin’ on 60’s door . . . otherwise all good.”

Tom Mariani, another of our leading journalists who moonlights as a PR person, notes, “I was recently honored by the Legal Marketing Association’s New York chapter as its ‘Member of the Year.’” Wow!

Henry Aronson is a big part of our musical contingent: “In June I went to Budapest with Rocktopia (the classical/classic rock mashup ensemble), performing a concert with the Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra in the beautiful Hungarian State Opera House. The concert was taped for PBS and will air during the November/December pledge drives, in advance of our tour in spring 2017. I also had a workshop of my musical, *Loveless Texas* (written with my wife, Cailin Heffernan), produced by Boomerang Theatre Company, which will be mounting a full production in New York in March 2017.”

Another musical classmate is Steven Bargonetti, energetic as always: “Hi, good people! I’ve recently been signed on to be music director/arranger for August Wilson’s *Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom* at Los Angeles’ Mark Taper Forum. It will be directed by Phylicia Rashad and features an all-star cast. After finishing this summer with this wonderful production, I’m headed to London to revisit my role as music director/arranger/onstage performer for Pulitzer Prize-winner Suzan-Lori Parks’ *Father Comes Home From the Wars* at the Royal Court Theatre. I’m looking forward to all the musical fun!”

Chuck Callan is advocating for more support for his favorite team sport: “Matt Reuter ’07 (son of Tom Reuter) has created a website for Columbia men’s lacrosse, which sadly is still the only Ivy without a varsity team. The Columbia lacrosse club has a long and storied history. There were quite a few CC’78 members on the team including Jay Beyda, Vinny Palumbo and me.”

From **Bruce Fraser**: “I recently completed 10 years at Sidley Austin in Los Angeles as a real estate partner. It has been a rewarding practice. It is always fun to see the buildings and projects in which I participated in their development. The players in real estate are always interesting to say the least.

“My daughter, Grace, finished her freshman year at Georgetown and has been happy there. My son, Holden, is a junior at Loyola H.S. Maybe we can get him to Morningside Heights in a few years.”

**Jeffrey Moerdler** of Mintz Levin in New York writes: “We had our first two grandchildren in the last few months. Our son Jonathan Moerdler and his wife, Kayla Moerdler OT’16, had a boy, Zachary Avery, in February and our son Scott and his wife, Shira Konski, had a girl, Celia Rose, in June.

**Aaron Saul Greenberg** also has kid news: “I’m so proud of my daughter, Jill Greenberg Karten, a third-year medical student at SUNY Downstate. She was a successful bone marrow donor and helped save a 5-year-old boy. She met the recipient at a recent Gift of Life Dinner.

**Brian D’Agostino** admits, “I am pleased to be semi-retired, doing statistical consulting and research part time, writing a book and enjoying NYC.”

**Kevin Vitting** writes, “I was saddened by the news of the passing of attorney and horn player **John Ohman**, whom I recall was a serious musician. When he was in my orchestration class, he chose to tackle the *Bruckner Symphony No. 4*. I send my condolences to his wife and daughters.”

Keeping an eye on the Midwest from Wisconsin is **Rob Blank**, who always has news: “Daughter Deborah is a senior in high school and is looking at colleges, Columbia included. My wife, Sue Coppersmith, is on the road in Japan, Aspen, and Washington, D.C. I am holding down the fort at home and at work, getting new faculty members on board.”

Sounds like my wife, Marian Chertow BC’77, recently back from Japan, Greece and D.C. herself.

Another generational update from **Danilo Feliciano**: “My youngest daughter entered Columbia College this fall. She follows her brother, who graduated from the College in 2011!”

My daughters graduated in the spring: Elana with a master’s from Simmons in Boston in archiving and library science, and Joy with a bachelor’s in international service from American, with a concentration in Chinese (she’s fluent in Mandarin). Joy will start at TerraCycle in the fall, working on signing up companies to create specialized recycling programs and perhaps hoping to open a Chinese office in a year. Elana is looking at museum opportunities in Boston and New Haven.

My wife teaches at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and travels the world as a leading expert in the growing science of industrial ecology and industrial symbiosis (the study of the placement of industrial systems to minimize waste and pollution by creating connections for the use of outputs of one factory to become the input of another).

I continue to really love my work for the City of New Haven, dealing with all of the issues that hit the front pages of your local papers — or the B section of the *WSJ* for New Yorkers. It’s fun, challenging, gut-wrenching — and often the balance between triumph or disappointment depends on tiny and inexplicable things such as politics, personalities or bad luck. Let me know if you are passing by or have a specialty in reducing pension burdens or refinancing public debt.

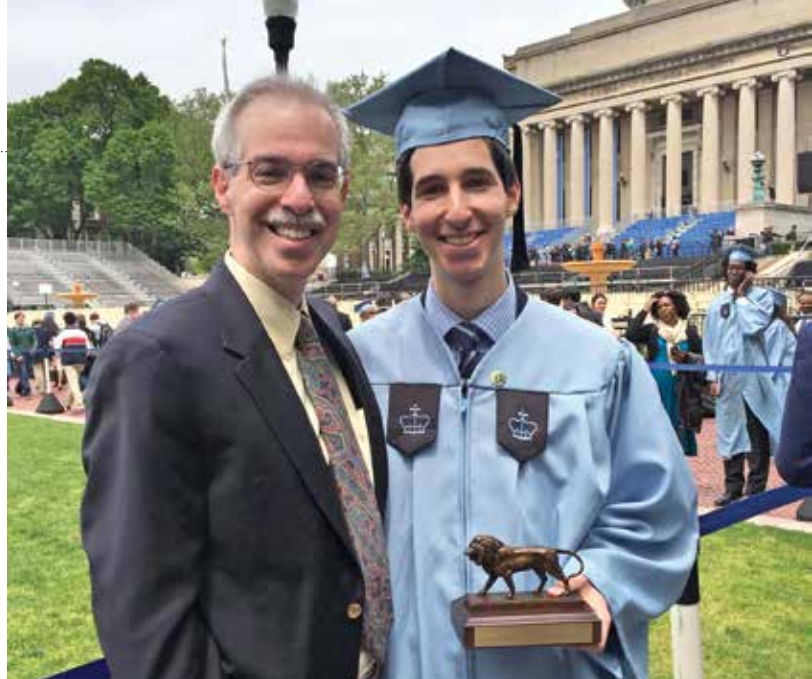
Cheers!

## 1979

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**David Friedman** PS’83 has exciting news: “My son (and newly minted alumnus) Daniel Friedman ’16 received the Robert Lincoln Carey Memorial Prize from the Columbia College Alumni Association at graduation, in part due to his contributions to the University as the 139th publisher of *Spectator*. Shortly after graduation, he was admitted to P&S and was scheduled to begin his medical education in August. Dad and Mom are very proud!”

News from **Kevin Daly** for the first time! After 30 years as a theater director and producer (for the Children’s Theater Association), Kevin



David Friedman ’79, PS’83 and his son Daniel Friedman ’16 on May 17 at Daniel’s Class Day, where he was presented the Robert Lincoln Carey Memorial Prize from the Columbia College Alumni Association. The prize is awarded to a senior who “has created lasting and positive change by demonstrating leadership qualities in the co-curricular programs of Columbia College.”

says, “I am retiring and becoming a school teacher in Baltimore city. I will teach elementary school in a high-need area, where 99 percent of the students qualify for free meals at school. I am looking forward to working with children in third, fourth and fifth grades. I am also looking forward to having summers free!”

**Robert L. Dougherty** has raised more than \$160,000 during the last eight years for a pro-life scholarship. He says, “We pay Catholic high school tuition for members of Saint Thomas the Apostle parish in West Hempstead, N.Y. Last year, more than \$20,000 was awarded to 16 scholarship winners. The more the student does to protect the life of the unborn child, the greater the scholarship.”

**Howard Goldschmidt** PS’83 is in his 28th year practicing cardiology at Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, N.J., including two years as chief of cardiology. He reports: “The partnership I co-founded with a friend from residency now has eight doctors and is owned by the hospital. I have turned over my cardiac catheterization and pacemaker practice to junior associates, allowing me to focus on the new sub-specialty of interventional echocardiography for minimally invasive valve surgery.

“My daughter, Alyssa, and her husband, Eli (both Cornell grads), live in Modi’in-Maccabim Re’ut, Israel, with our three grandsons. My wife, Debbie, and I were fortunate

to spend February with them. At the height of the Al-Aqsa Intifada, I did a mini-sabbatical as a cardiologist at Jerusalem’s Shaare Zedek Medical Center. Combining my passions for Zionism and medicine fulfilled a dream. I chronicled my medical and cultural experiences in a well-received weekly blog (search ‘Howie Goldschmidt Times of Israel’). My best friend from P&S, who was an undergrad at CUNY, commented that my writing skills are a testament to the value of a Columbia education.”

**Robert C. Klapper**: This issue’s Columbia memory comes from our yearbook. On page 14, you will see two photos that remind us we spent four years on Morningside Heights in the late ’70s (the only other item we have is our diploma, but that’s in Latin and I still can’t read the damn thing).

You remember the ’70s — that’s when Studio 54 and disco-mania filled the airwaves. One photo shows two guys walking in front of Butler on their way to a toga party. The other is of a magazine cover with the man who made the toga party a college institution — everyone’s favorite *meshugganab*, John Belushi. The year was 1978, smack in the middle of our junior year.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting and interviewing versatile actor Tim Matheson for my show on ESPN, *The Weekend Warrior*. Matheson co-starred with Belushi in the epic comedy *Animal House*. Mathe-



son's work in Hollywood reminded me of Mickey Mantle, who could hit, run, throw and catch better than any other baseball player, making him the most versatile of them all. He was the voice of the cartoon character Jonny Quest, whom we grew up watching. He starred in the drama *The West Wing* as the VP and performed on Broadway. But his versatility in Hollywood is most recognized for his work as a comedic actor, playing Otter in *Animal House*.

When I replayed for Matheson the magical moment in the movie when he suggests the solution to the frat's problem is a toga party, my mind immediately went to page 14 of our yearbook and my memory of pulling the sheets off my bed, heading across the street to Barnard, hoping the sheets might have two purposes in my future.

Aaahhh ... to be 20 again! What was your most memorable party? Let me know at robertklappermd@aol.com. Roar, Lion, Roar!

## 1980

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It's hard to believe that it's been 40 years since our high school graduation and we first set foot on campus. I remember moving into Carman Hall on a hot summer day and getting ready for freshman football camp. Never did I think that an amazing journey of great experiences and lifelong friends would await me.

I shared an afternoon of golf with Columbia football coach Al Bagnoli and his staff, hosted by **Shawn FitzGerald** at Friar's Head. We were impressed at the professionalism of the coaches and their dedication to excellence. It was great to catch up with John Audino, who was on the staff back in the day, and reminisce about coach Bill Campbell '62, TC'64. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Summer 2016.] We are making great strides in our goal of an Ivy Championship so let's make sure we give our players our support.

Hope to see you at Homecoming on Saturday, October 22, when we take on Dartmouth. Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

## 1981

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Hope you enjoyed a fun summer. Cheers to all who made it to Reunion Weekend 2016, and please update me on the latest news.

**Ed Klees** was recently published in the *ABA Business Law Today* with "The 'Fandation' of Risk: Does a Banking Client Get Its Money Back after Cyber Theft?" Only Ed could make banking law sound so interesting, opening the article with the following anecdote: "On March 12, 2016, *The Washington Post* reported that a nearly \$1 billion cyber theft was blocked at the last minute by a bank employee who noticed a typo in the wire instructions at a foreign bank. According to the *Post*, but for the crook's misspelling the name of the purported recipient, a charitable foundation, as a 'fandation,' the Federal Reserve Bank of New York would have sent approximately \$870 million of assets to a phony account after already transmitting \$80 million."

**George Ochoa** shared memories of his departed daughter, Martha Corey-Ochoa '16, and her works of poetry, fiction and essays, which can be found at marthacorey-ochoa.com.

Please keep me updated on your events, achievements and travels. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience at reunion: mgk1203@gmail.com.

## 1982

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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Greetings gentlemen! As I put digits to keyboard it is mid-July. Our quadrennial, national anti-civics

lesson/dumpster fire is in full bloom for all the world to gawk at; if anyone has any suggestions on how to proceed with the upcoming election I would be most appreciative! I have a bad case of "electile-dysfunction," as none of the candidates arouse me enough to vote for them.

Writing in this quarter is accomplished business news personality **Fred Katayama JRN'83**. For those in the financial industry, Fred needs no introduction. For those in more savory professions, Fred is a news anchor for Reuters Television and is on the Board of Directors for both the Japan Society and the US-Japan Council. He has won numerous journalism awards (too many to mention) but one of my favorites was the National Journalism Award he won from the Asian American Journalists Association for a report he did in 2013 on the science of the knuckleball.

Fred writes: "My mug and bio were up on the wall of the JICA Museum in Japan. The nonprofit Japan International Cooperation Agency held a special exhibition at its museum in Yokohama called 'Roots in Fukuoka.' The three-month-long exhibit that ended in early June showcased successful famous people whose ancestral roots hail from Fukuoka prefecture in southern Japan. My profile was next to that of the late Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii). The exhibition included former Hawaii Gov. George Ariyoshi and my late uncle, organ transplant pioneer and UCLA professor emeritus of surgery, Dr. Paul Terasaki. Fukuoka, by the way, is famous among other things for its tonkotsu ramen, which is the current rage among foodies in New York and other big United States cities ...

"I'm flattered, but I don't deserve to be in their company. As my 9-year-old once put it, 'Daddy, so many famous people went to Columbia like President Barack Obama '83 and Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). How come you're not famous?'"

"That aside, I frequently see my former Columbia professors Carol Gluck GSAS'77 and Gerry Curtis SIPA'67, GSAS'69 at Japan Society board meetings, and my wife and I get together with my former professor Donald Keene '42, GSAS'50 and his son once a year."

Also checking in this quarter is critically acclaimed author and

publisher of the literary magazine SHINY (founded in 1986) **Michael Friedman**. Michael and I recently discovered that we reside eight minutes away from each other in Denver. Subsequently we will be spending some time doing further research on human-alcohol interactions and tolerances at my place.

This gig is turning out to be a lot of fun; last month I had breakfast with **Alex Moon** as he was passing through Denver.

Michael wrote: "The editor of *The Paris Review*, Lorin Stein, named my last book of fiction, *Martian Dawn and Other Novels*, a staff pick on *The Paris Review* blog and gave it a glowing review. The book is an omnibus collection of three short novels that was brought out by Little A, the literary fiction imprint of Amazon Publishing, last year. There's an introduction by Molly Young."

I grabbed the text of Stein's comments from *The Paris Review*: "I've never read any fan fiction, and I never made it all the way through *Pretty Woman*, so devotees of either may take this recommendation with a grain of salt, but I loved Michael Friedman's novel *Martian Dawn*, all about a couple of movie stars (viz Richard and Julia) whose off-screen romance is strained by a visit to the Red Planet. No doubt half the jokes went over my head. It didn't matter. Friedman's urbane silliness and élan hark back to the glittering twilight of high camp — without seeming to hark back. Hats off to Little A for reissuing *Martian Dawn and Other Novels*. I didn't know anyone could still make it look so easy to have so much fun on the page."

What can I say? Nice!

Finally, checking in this period is gifted entrepreneur **Stan Kaplan**: "Sold my financial advisory business in 2005, switched industries and have been working in the technology services and consulting field since. I left a company after eight years to start my own (rextechpartners.com) and am looking forward to another strong 10-year run. Upon exit of this business down the road, my hopes and plans are to start a global nonprofit to combat world hunger and travel the globe for both the nonprofit and pleasure. But first, lots of technology projects, contracts and managed services to be scoped and sold. Very excited about going out on my own again."

If history is any guide, this should be another wonderful success for Stan. Keep those notes coming!

## 1983

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Greetings, classmates. **Kevin Chapman, George Wilson** and **Ed Joyce** proudly held the 1983 banner for this year's Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day in May.

Kevin was scheduled to publish his second novel this summer. *A Legacy of One* is the story of [fictional alum] Sen. Jonathan Prescott III '93, whose destiny and political future reaches a critical crossroads after Jonathan attends his Columbia College 20th reunion. A substantial portion of the story takes place at Columbia during Jonathan's college years, where his experiences and friends influence the politician he will become. Columbia alumni will recognize the setting and many of the experiences and I hope will relate to the personal journey that is Jonathan's life. The book will be available in trade paperback and Kindle ebook formats from Amazon. Search for "Kevin G. Chapman" or visit Kevin's author page at [amazon.com/-/e/B00J1GJZNM](http://amazon.com/-/e/B00J1GJZNM).

Kevin says he would love it if classmates would write reviews on Amazon. Don't worry, no real secrets are revealed and all the names have been changed to protect the innocent among us. Here is an excerpt that may evoke some memories:

"January, 1991

"It was a Friday in late January, and as usual it was bitterly cold in New York. Frank pushed open the door to the suite of dorm rooms and dropped his heavy winter coat onto the floor, along with his backpack. He flopped over the back of a threadbare lounge chair, landing on his back on the cushion with his legs draped over the arm. He let out a loud sigh and stretched his arms over his head.

"Well, well, well, if it isn't Cinderella.' Jonathan stepped away from the game of chess he had been playing with Arnold Epstein and walked toward Frank's chair. 'I'm sorry to say

that the maid has failed to arrive for work today, and so we were hoping that you would take care of the cleaning and the dishes so that we can all make it to the ball tonight.' Jonathan made a sweeping motion with his hand around the common room as he finished with a wide grin.

"Frank surveyed the scene. The suite in Hartley Hall was one of the nicer living accommodations at Columbia. It had a circular common 'living' room, with a sofa, several chairs, a coffee table, and a television on a metal stand. There was an empty pizza box on the stained wooden coffee table. A half-eaten crust was on the floor underneath. Next to the television, a paper bag overflowed with garbage. There were several empty beer bottles lying on the bottom shelf under the set, one of which was still oozing its last suds. Adjoining the living room was a kitchen with a marble-topped counter, a stove, sink, refrigerator, and microwave oven. The counter was littered with remnants of the day's meals and the sink was full of dirty glasses and dishes. There were eight sophomores and juniors sharing the suite. Each had a private room that opened off of the main living room, except for Jay and Ellis, who shared the lone double room in the suite, but that was their choice. The common bathroom was near the main suite door. Although Frank had cajoled the other seven residents to establish a schedule for cleaning duties at the start of the semester, it seemed to Frank that everyone made a reasonable effort to keep the place tidy and clean up after themselves — except when it was Frank's week. This was Frank's week.

"This is bullshit.' Frank was annoyed, but he could tell from the smile on Jonathan's face that he'd get no help with the cleanup. 'We're only back from break for two weeks. How can you slobs get the place so dirty in two freaking weeks?'

"You set up the rules, bro,' Jonathan shot back. 'All the rest of us can do is follow your direction. You can lead us to the promised land.'

"I thought I was Cinderella, not Moses.'

"We're flexible with our metaphors.' Jonathan walked back to the chess game, where Arnold had been waiting."

**Chris Angeline:** "I thought you might be interested in some athletics

accomplishments of children of three '83 grads. Here is a brief summary: **Kieth Cockrell** was the most talented skill position football player in our class and probably the best athlete. He was an excellent wide receiver. Kieth and his wife, Serena, live in the Charlotte, N.C., area. Their youngest, Anna, is a freshman at the University of Southern California. Anna was a record-setting hurdler in high school and competed in the Olympic Trials in Oregon in July. Ciera is an outside hitter (women's volleyball) at Davidson College in North Carolina. She is a sophomore. The oldest, Ross (6-0, 191 lbs.), was a two-time football captain at Duke. He was drafted in the fourth round of the NFL draft by the Buffalo Bills in 2014 and was a starting cornerback for the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2015. Having one kid play a Division 1 sport is pretty good; what the Cockrell kids have done is amazing.

"Dr. **Mike Pagnani** was captain of our freshman football team and a very tough linebacker. We had some good players but not enough. We also lost some of our best players (transfers) when Bill Campbell '62, TC'64 resigned as head coach. Mike and his wife, Kelly, live in the Nashville area. Their son, Connor, graduated from Denver in 2015. Connor played lacrosse for one of the best men's lacrosse programs in the country; he played midfield. The 6-4, 190-lb. former All-League high school linebacker (in football) helped the Denver Pioneers win the men's National Lacrosse Championship in 2015. Connor's sister, Sarah, won All-Region honors in lacrosse at her high school, Harpeth Hall (Nashville). Sarah is a junior at Santa Clara University.

"**Chris Angeline** and his wife, Kathleen, live in the Philadelphia area. Son Ryley graduated from Downingtown East H.S. in 2014. He was selected All-Southeastern Pennsylvania in football and All-League in basketball. He rushed for 3,000 yards and scored 31 TDs in high school. Ryley is a sophomore football player at Delaware. Ryley (6-3, 230 lbs., H-Back) started four games as a redshirt freshman in 2015, averaged 18 yards per reception and was named to the CAA All-Academic team. Son Cary is a recent graduate of Downingtown East H.S. He was selected Prep

All-American (in football) in 2015 and All-State in 2014 and 2015. He finished his high school career with more than 2,300 receiving yards and 30 TDs. Cary also was selected league MVP in basketball and three-time All-Area, and scored more than 1,300 points in three years (he did not play his senior year). Cary is a 6-7, 230-lb. freshman tight end at the University of Southern California. Daughter Jessica is a freshman at Downingtown East H.S. She plays volleyball and lacrosse, and some think she has a chance to be a better all-around athlete than her brothers."

From **Gardner Semet** BUS'91: "I live in Pompton Lakes, N.J., in the house where I grew up. I make loans to real estate investors, as I have done for 30 years. My office is above Saks Fifth Avenue. My wife, Daphne, and son, Victor, work at Mount Sinai Hospital. My daughter, Gabriella, works in retail leasing in Manhattan. While Gabriella was at Colorado, I often visited Dr. **Douglas Novins** and his family. This year, I also visited **Jon Ross** in Los Angeles. In July I returned to Columbia for Youth About Business' Summer Business Camp, which teaches high school kids about finance. I am on the organization's New York advisory board."

**Michael Broder:** "In 2015 I launched an independent poetry press, Indolent Books, initially as a home for poets over 50 who did not have a first book but I broke my own rules from the outset. In spring 2016 we published our first five books and have received a great response. My own first book of poems, *This Life Now* (2014), was a finalist for the 2015 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Poetry. Also in 2015 I started the HIV Here & Now project, posting a poem a day by a different poet in a countdown to 35 years of AIDS on June 5, 2016. That project received attention from *PBS NewsHour*, *thebody.com* and *POZ* magazine, among others. Now that the countdown has concluded, the project continues with a print poetry anthology in the works and online blog posts from contributing editors. My dream is to grow HIV Here & Now into an organization that uses literature and the arts to reach out to youth in NYC with HIV or at high risk for HIV infection to empower them and connect them to testing, treatment and prevention services.





Several members of the Class of '84 met up at the annual Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day, May 17, to carry the 1984 banner. Left to right: Alicia Bergstein SEAS'84, Alfred Torres, Gerard Babendreier, David Lewinter, David Kung, Kevin Lis and Dennis Klainberg.

"In more ancient history, I completed my doctorate in classics at The Graduate Center (CUNY) in 2010. I was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of South Carolina 2011–12. I left the academic job market in 2013 to pursue full-time freelance medical writing as well as my creative projects. While much of my medical writing is work for hire, I have published dozens of articles under my own byline on MedPage Today, a growing online destination for healthcare professionals. I own a townhouse in Bedford-Stuyvesant (arguably the hottest neighborhood in gentrifying Brooklyn), where I live with my husband of 12 years, award-winning poet Jason Schneiderman, and a backyard colony of stray and feral cats. Jason has a doctorate in English from The Graduate Center (CUNY) and is an associate professor of English at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. He has recently published his third book of poems (*Primary Source*) and edited *Queer: A Reader for Writers*, the first volume of its kind."

Jim Weinstein '84 writes: "Not only did the Columbia varsity lightweight crew 8 win the national championship but also the varsity 4 (their ninth-12th best oarsmen) won silver in the *Karl-Ludwig Selig*. This is the third *KLS* they have rowed — the first two christened by the professor, the third posthumously donated. But for Georgetown row-

ing their top four men in the varsity 4 race, we would have had a gold medal in the *KLS*."

In July my family traveled to London and Paris. While in Paris, we had dinner with my son's classmate and his father, Jean Manas. Jean shared the story of how **Barack Obama** beat Jean out "fair and square" to become president of the *Harvard Law Review*. Jean is in touch with Barack and fellow *Harvard Law Review* member Julius Genachowski '85.

I attended the 2016 Seixas Award Dinner at the Robert K. Kraft Family Center for Jewish Student Life honoring Ron Perelman. Ron spoke movingly about his love for Robert K. Kraft '63, Ron's mentor, confidant, business adviser and dear friend. **Neal Smolar** and his wife, Betsy Smolar BC'85, also attended. Neal has been an attorney with UBS for 17 years. Son Aidan attends Cooper Union; daughter Abigail graduated from Maryland and is pursuing an Au.D. in audiology; and daughter Yael will graduate from Binghamton this spring. Neal is in touch with **Eddy Friedfeld, Lenny Rosen, Adam Bayroff, Danny Schultz, Paul Ehrlich, Larry Herman, David Kriegel, Eli Gordis, Steven Aronson, Michael Katz, Ed Joyce and Roy Pomerantz.**

Michelle Obama posted a photo of herself beaming while wearing a Princeton shirt next to a smiling

**Barack Obama** wearing Columbia gear. Michelle noted on the White House website, "I am proudly wearing my alma mater's apparel to mark College Signing Day."

My pet company, Petking, recently signed licensing deals with Animal Planet and The Humane Society of the United States. My baby company, Baby King, signed a deal with Nickelodeon for the Paw Patrol license.

I attended the 2016 Nacom Initiation Dinner. Michael C. Brown '80, Jack Hersch SEAS'80, David Maloof '80, Mike Schmidtberger '82, former Director of Admissions Larry Momo '73 and fellow class correspondent Ken Howitt '76 also attended.

Our college is becoming more international. At a recent Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting we learned international students make up 15 percent of the incoming class.

Please write or call. The column is only as good as the updates you send me!

## 1984

**Dennis Klainberg**  
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**dennis@berkley.com**

The Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day is a great opportunity for College alumni to network, pay tribute to reunion classes, memorialize Columbians who have recently passed and hold their class banner high as we share the joy of graduation with the senior class. If you have not done it, please consider joining us next year and in years to come! This year the Class of 1984 had an excellent showing, for a non-reunion class.

Following a sumptuous breakfast at John Jay Dining Hall, Ken Howitt '76 recognized this year's reunion classes and led us in a toast to the recently deceased Columbia University Trustee Emeritus, Columbia football great and Silicon Valley leader "Coach" Bill Campbell '62, TC'64 and Columbia basketball standout and Los Angeles Lakers champion Jim McMillian '70. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Summer 2016.]

Then, from the far corners of this packed room, **Al Torres, David**

**Lewinter, Kevin Liss, David Kung** and **Gerard Babendreier** joined this writer up front to grab the banner. David Kung's son, Nathan Kung '16; David Lewinter's son, Benjamin Lewinter '16; Kevin's son, Daniel Liss '16; and Gerard's children, Stephen Babendrier '16 and Theresa Babendrier '16, are all now alumni.

Also at graduation, but not marching: **Yitzchak Francus**, father of Penina Francus '16; **Peregrine Beckman**, father of Eleanor Beckman '16; **Brett Bernstein**, father of Nicole Bernstein '16; and **Peter Lunenfeld**, father of Kyra Lunenfeld '16.

Our class was also honored to have invited guest Alicia Perez Bergstein SEAS'84, mother of graduate Devin Bergstein '16, join us in the procession. Alicia's husband and Devin's father, Daniel Bergstein SEAS'84, died at the World Trade Center on 9-11. He was the secretary of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, where he had worked for 17 years and was the chief liaison between the agency's staff and its board of commissioners. Devin's graduation from the alma mater of both his parents is more than a double legacy: It is a family triumph, albeit bittersweet, and presents a great inspiration for all Columbians to share in this 15th year of remembrance. Roar, Lion, Roar.

## 1985

**Jon White**  
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**Eric Chenoweth's** organization, the Institute for Democracy in Eastern Europe, recently released a major study: "25 Years After 1989-91: Reflections on Unfinished Revolutions." It features contributions from many of the major participants in the democratic revolutions of that era, who analyze the events and the disturbing state of the region of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union 25 years after the collapse of communism (idee-us.org).

**Curtis Mo** does corporate and securities work with DLA Piper in Silicon Valley, "though I seem to spend an equal amount of time in San Francisco. In my spare time, I've been coaching Babe Ruth League baseball with JV-level players."

**Michael Hadley:** “The big news on my end is the production of the new comedy web series ‘Knights of New Jersey,’ a behind-the-scenes look at the daily grind, humiliations and petty politics endured by a group of Renaissance Fair/*Game of Thrones* fans and cosplay performers pursuing a world of make-believe, where virtues like courage, honor and leadership are real.

“The first four episodes are on YouTube at [youtube.com/c/knights\\_ofnewjersey](http://youtube.com/c/knights_ofnewjersey), with more on the way. We’ve been accepted into a dozen festivals across the country so far and are looking to secure a production deal. It’s been a huge amount of work but a huge amount of fun, and a great change of pace from the sponsored films and marketing videos we create for our corporate and nonprofit clients.

“I have also enjoyed recent events hosted by the Columbia University Club of New Jersey, a great local group.”

**Pat Gaughan** has been promoted to assistant dean of global programs at the University of Akron School of Law. Pat graduated from UVA School of Law (J.D.’89), Trinity College Dublin (M.B.A.’97) and Cleveland State (D.B.A.’15). He has a primary appointment in the University of Akron School of Law with a secondary appointment in its College of Business Administration. His promotion to assistant dean focuses on partnerships with universities throughout Asia. In fact, he is in the process of finalizing agreements with schools in Hanoi and Danang. Those with contacts to other schools are welcome to contact him at [pgaughan@uakron.edu](mailto:pgaughan@uakron.edu).

**Dennis Hirsch** reports that the Ohio State Moritz College of Law recently appointed him professor of law and faculty director of its newly-launched program on data and governance. The program studies the most effective ways to govern big data analytics in order to achieve its social and economic benefits and reduce the risks it poses to privacy, cybersecurity and equality. Dennis further reports that The University of Amsterdam’s Institute for Information Law has appointed him co-organizer of its summer course on privacy law and policy ([ivir.nl/courses/plp](http://ivir.nl/courses/plp)). Finally (and most importantly), Dennis’ daughter, Clara Hirsch ’20, lives in Wallach.

Go Lions!

**Denis Searby** is at Stockholm University, where he is professor of Greek and head of classics, struggling to “defend the (from the point of view of Eurocrats) useless subject of classics. This summer I worked feverishly on my book on the anecdotes of ancient Greek celebrities before the fall term teaching load hit me. Last year I finally finished my four-volume translation of the works of Saint Birgitta (Bridget) of Sweden from Latin into English for Oxford University Press. I keep active Columbia-wise by interviewing prospective Swedish students with the Alumni Representative Committee. Several have been admitted! I am also house daddy at a college residence called Lärkstaden where the 18- and 19-year-old students keep me young and busy.”

**Tom King** spent three years with the Class of ’85, then needed to take two years off for health reasons and graduated with the Class of ’87. He writes: “Recently the alumni association was kind enough to map me to the Class of 1985, where I have the most friends.

“In 2013 I moved to Raleigh, N.C., after a number of years in quantitative finance and financial modeling in New York and Philadelphia. The move was aimed to slow my life down, although I continue to work. My wife, Shannyn, and I have two children, Jacob (25) and Zoe (13). Although it’s a little hot down here in the summer, the winters are short and the countryside is pretty.

“I keep in touch with a number of my old friends through LinkedIn: **Arthur Morin, Sean Tierney, Matt Samelson, Denis Searby, David Peng ’83, John Pearce, Ben Chance** and John Brune SEAS’86. “I wish everybody the best!”

Last issue I gave an incorrect email address in an update for **Jon Reich** — sorry about that, Jon. You can reach him at [jdreich@hotmail.com](mailto:jdreich@hotmail.com).

**Rose Hoban** has been the editor of *North Carolina Health News* for 4½ years ([northcarolinahealthnews.org](http://northcarolinahealthnews.org)), joining the ranks of the online-only. Rose says, “It’s been an adventure, especially as I’m also the legislative reporter. I’ve had a front row seat to the goings-on at the North Carolina General Assembly for the past five sessions, which has been ... um ... interesting. Bathroom bills! Gerrymandering! Infighting! Misdemeanors and felonies! What they say about



COURTESY WILL CSAPLAR '56, BUS'58

lawmaking and sausages is really true but it’s also hard to look away. I no longer wonder why political reporters are so cynical. I had a flask of bourbon in my bag on the last day of session this year, treated myself to a nip once that last gavel fell, then got back to work. Cheers!”

**Philip Ivory** is a freelance writer in Tucson ([writeyourselvesane.com](http://writeyourselvesane.com)). His fiction has been published in *Literally Stories*, *Devolution Z*, *Bewildering Stories* and *Dali’s Lovechild* and soon will appear in *Mystic Illuminations*. He is a winner of the 2015 Writers’ Studio Tucson “Write-to-Read” contest for his story *Most of Us Are From Someplace Else*.

“The softcover version of my 2015 W.W. Norton & Co. volume *Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E.B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker* should be available shortly,” writes **Thomas Vinciguerra**. “I’m happy about its reception and, having done some gigs to promote the original, I expect to make a paperback push this fall — including, perhaps, a dog-and-pony show at the Columbia University Club of New York.

“Far more important, I remain gratified beyond measure by the ongoing flourishing of the Philolexian Society. I still can’t believe

that this oldest and most distinguished of undergraduate extracurricular activities had been dead for more than two decades when I and five compatriots were lucky enough to revive it on October 16, 1985.

“A literal generation on, my pride is inestimable. With arcane ritual, humor and underlying Columbia love, Philo hews to its original constitutional pledge, made upon our founding in 1802: ‘To improve its members in oratory, composition, and forensic discussion.’

“Time and again, I’ve seen young Philos gain self-confidence and literary skill by declaiming in public and holding forth on the printed page. Their imagination, energy, diversity, myriad activities and solidarity are inspiring. We have plenty of challenges to overcome — mainly our lack of physical space, despite the Trustees having promised to build us (and our vanquished rival, Peithologian) our own building in 1821. The much-vaunted Lerner Hall is appallingly inadequate. But we thrive and remain confident that the University’s ever-growing acknowledgment of our primacy will continue.

“In the early ’90s, the students dubbed me their ‘Avatar.’ They still call me that, and no honor will ever mean more to me.”



**Andrew Hayes** recently visited Greece for the first time since traveling there during his junior year as a Columbia Visiting Scholar at Oxford. He was introduced to Greek coffee as an undergrad by his roommate, Basil Michaels '83, and sought it out as soon as he landed at the Athens Airport. "A barista was happy to ignore the frappuccinos on the posted menu and serve me the real thing," he said.

Andrew's and his wife Monica Hayes SIPA'91's son, Sean, is training for the USRowing Junior National team. One of Sean's coaches is Jesse Foglia, assistant coach of the Columbia men's lightweight rowing team that recently won the national lightweight rowing championship — Columbia's first lightweight rowing championship and first rowing title of any kind since 1929.

Finally, I was pleased to attend this summer's All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) where, as part of the reunion festivities, **David Zapolsky** and I joined several Kingsmen, including Phil Birnbaum '86, Tony Burnett '90 and Hank Jaffe '86, for an alumni reception and short concert featuring some Kingsmen favorites. Some of us also joined Sha Na Na the night before for a rousing rendition of *Roar, Lion, Roar*. If anyone else attended reunion, please let us know about your adventures!

## 1986

**Everett Weinberger**  
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It was great seeing everyone who came to our 30th reunion in June! Reunion Weekend 2016 kicked off with a reception at Sardi's on Thursday night, followed by the Broadway musical *On Your Feet!*, which was generously sponsored by **Scott Yagoda**. On Friday night there was an on-campus beer tasting with appetizers at Joe Coffee at the unimaginatively named Northwest Corner Building. On Saturday we had our class dinner at Casa Italiana with speaker Jim McMenamin, who was head of admissions when we were accepted to Columbia and is now senior associate dean for Columbia College development and

senior director of principal gifts. In keeping with our iconoclast spirit, many (including the entire California contingent) passed on all official events in favor of the Saturday barbecue on Low Plaza.

Thanks to the Reunion Committee, including **Rick Wolf**, who was chair and Grand Poobah; **Scott Yagoda**, who led fundraising efforts; **Brian Driscoll**, who came up with the idea of having McMenamin as our dinner speaker; **Phil Birnbaum**, who worked tirelessly to put together the beer tasting; and **David Lebowitz**. All, along with **Bill Teichner**, helped come up with the amusing trivia questions at the dinner.

Bill waited for the 30th to attend his first reunion and here are his impressions: "The reunion food was much better than the food we were served as students at the John Jay Dining Hall! During his presentation at our class dinner, Jim McMenamin asked us if we thought we'd be rejected if we were applying to Columbia College now. I believe everyone raised their hands. I decided to stay at Carman Hall during the reunion — the last time I moved in was freshman year. Carman now has air conditioning! This was welcome with 80–90 degree temperatures. Carman also now has Wi-Fi, recycling bins and a computer room. I stayed on the eighth floor, the same floor where students once brought in the infamous rug body. Sha Na Na, the group that formed at Columbia from the Kingsmen and played at Woodstock, put on a great performance for a large crowd in Alfred Lerner Hall (Ferris Booth Hall's replacement). They invited Kingsmen from our class and other reunion years on stage to sing *Roar, Lion, Roar* with them."

Bill is a portfolio manager in Boston for Frontier Capital Management, where he's been since 1992, shortly after earning an M.B.A. from Harvard. Prior to that he was an analyst at Lehman and then spent two years as associate junior staff economist at the Council of Economic Advisers at The White House. His wife, Amy, is a medical doctor.

Congrats to **Victor Bolden**, who recently became a federal judge! Here's his update: "After years of working as a lawyer in the nonprofit world in New York (the ACLU and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund), and in the

private and public sector in Connecticut (as an attorney at the law firm of Wiggin and Dana and as the Corporation Counsel of the City of New Haven, respectively), I now am a district judge for the United States District Court of Connecticut.

"Our 30th reunion was a wonderful event and I appreciate the hard work of **Scott Yagoda**, **Eric Wolf** and the countless others who made it a success. I enjoyed spending time with my roommate of two years, **Ray Mitchell**, and the host of classmates whom I had not seen in decades."

Erstwhile rower and Reaganite **Jack Crane** recently observed his third year in teaming Manila with Aboitiz Power Corp., a \$7 billion blue chip Philippine conglomerate, where he leads international business development, developing power projects throughout Southeast Asia. Jack previously worked in corporate development and consulting for major power and utilities firms, living in Hartford, Conn.; San Francisco; Washington; and Toronto, and traveling all over the world. Jack says he feels truly blessed to have lived so rich and varied a life. His wife, Meg, is also an avid traveler, and they drag their daughter Mirielle (9) around the globe with them. Jack keeps in touch with **Frans Kramer** and **David Skoog** as well as family members Hugh Crane '88 and Susan Loring Crane '89.

From **Ed Maguire**: "I live in Millburn, N.J., with my wife, Lily, and children, Teddy (16) and Livia (14). I'm in my seventh year at CLSA as a technology analyst, which provides endless opportunities to pursue my intellectual curiosity. Thanks to the urging of my neighbor Ron Papka '87, I've reengaged in writing, playing and producing music actively, which helps with a sense of balance in life. It was terrific to catch up with classmates at reunion; it just reinforces the enormous gratitude for my experience at Columbia."

From **Mark Berman**: "As of June 1, I am chair of the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association. I author a column in the *New York Law Journal* on eDiscovery and lecture on social media. I practice as a commercial litigator at Ganfer & Shore in Manhattan. My boys, Jesse and Aidan, are in first and second grade and go to Lower Lab public

school in Manhattan. They again attended Hollingsworth Science Camp at Teachers College this summer, which I brought them to every day; sometimes we walked on College Walk and played on the Sundial when they got to camp early."

## 1987

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 1–4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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Keep your eyes glued to these pages in the next few months — Reunion Weekend 2017 (our 30th!) is on its way. Start making your travel plans and your party plans. More details will be posted as they become available. If you would like to participate in the planning, please be in touch and I will direct your requests to the appropriate people. But do make sure you participate in the reunion itself! It's not every day that the first fully coeducational class at Columbia College gets to celebrate the 30th anniversary of its graduation! Remember, we have to honor the fact that we were the trailblazers, even if current Columbia College women do not remember there was a time when they would not have been eligible for admission.

On to the news: **Judy Kim** lives in London and has founded a private tourism company, Chelsea Tours (ctours.co.uk or hello@ctours.co.uk) that "will take you on a 'magical tour of the English countryside of yore . . .'"

Judy says, "A pleasant way to spend the day . . . a charming and knowledgeable driver will pick you up at your London hotel and take you on a bespoke tour of the Cotswolds and bring you back to your doorstep at the end of the day, hassle-free." She adds that the tour guides have graduate degrees and she is recruiting only from U.K. schools such as Oxford. Judy has a special deal for Columbia grads only — use

# Alumni Sons and Daughters

Sixty-two members of the College Class of 2020 and three members of the Engineering Class of 2020 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.

STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT
Alyssa Adamo <i>Bohemia, N.Y.</i>	Anthony Adamo '82	Hallie Gruder <i>Bronx, N.Y.</i>	Bruce Gruder '82	Camille Ramos <i>Eden Prairie, Minn.</i>	Frederick Ramos '86
William Alleyne <i>La Jolla, Calif.</i>	Neville Alleyne '79	Christopher Gustafsson <i>Randolph, N.J.</i>	John Gustafsson '83	Nathaniel Saffran <i>Winter Park, Fla.</i>	Alan Saffran '81
Ruthy Amkraut <i>Beachwood, Ohio</i>	Brian Amkraut '90	Lauren Hagani <i>Woodbridge, Conn.</i>	James Hagani '85	Naay Idriss <i>Beirut, Lebanon</i>	Kirsten Scheid '92
Anthony Argenziano <i>Closter, N.J.</i>	Michael Argenziano '88 and Maria Rodino '88	Clara Hirsch <i>Columbus, Ohio</i>	Dennis Hirsch '85	Ezra Schwarzbaum <i>West Bloomfield, Mich.</i>	Paul Schwarzbaum '84
Alexander Ashton <i>Fort Lee, N.J.</i>	Jennifer Ashton '91	Benjamin Jones <i>Wayland, Mass.</i>	Clayton Jones '81	Rumi Sherriff <i>Fresno, Calif.</i>	Kirk Sherriff '90
Jillian Barry <i>Yorktown Heights, N.Y.</i>	John Barry '75	Nicole Kaiser <i>Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J.</i>	Michelle E. Kaiser '87	Zain Sherriff <i>Fresno, Calif.</i>	Kirk Sherriff '90
Juliana Bartels <i>Palisades, N.Y.</i>	Matthew Bartels '85	Jacob Kaplan <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	Robert Kaplan '89	Alexander Sissoko <i>Culver City, Calif.</i>	Carolyn Sissoko '92
Sarah Barth <i>Teaneck, N.J.</i>	Jay Barth '85	Lucas Katz <i>Anchorage</i>	Howard Katz '81	Pamela Soulis <i>Cheyenne, Wyo.</i>	John Soulis '83
Ruth Gottesman <i>Port Washington, N.Y.</i>	Karen Bernstein '87	Michael Kirschner * <i>Scarsdale, N.Y.</i>	Kenneth Kirschner '91 and Elyse Kirschner '90	Hana Sun <i>Moraga, Calif.</i>	John Sun '87
Alfredo Brillembourg <i>New York City</i>	Alfredo Brillembourg Sr. '84	Saraswathi Kowdley <i>Seattle</i>	Kris Kowdley '81	Libby Sun <i>Irvine, Calif.</i>	Lazarus Sun '81
Krishna Canning <i>Wellesley, Mass.</i>	Robert Canning '81	Michael Chu <i>Singapore</i>	Mary Kuo '92	Julia Tell <i>Pelham, N.Y.</i>	Martin Tell '85 and Michele Anzilotti '87
Samuel Cheng <i>Piedmont, Calif.</i>	Andrew Cheng '89	Sabrina Lautin <i>East Hampton, N.Y.</i>	Jeffrey Lautin '85	Ariana Tsanas <i>Summit, N.J.</i>	John Tsanas '81
Madeleine Coleman <i>Lexington, Mass.</i>	Steven Coleman '83	Talia Coyne <i>New York City</i>	Roger Lehecka '67	Morgana Van Peebles <i>Playa del Rey, Calif.</i>	Mario Van Peebles '78
Daniel Desouza <i>Darien, Conn.</i>	Patrick DeSouza '80	Wesley Lewis <i>Washington, D.C.</i>	Mark Lewis '86	Alexander Watkins-Goodman <i>West Cornwall, Conn.</i>	Beverly Watkins '93
Ruth Diamond <i>Narberth, Pa.</i>	Robert Diamond '82	Elizabeth Marino <i>Harrison, N.Y.</i>	Richard Marino '82	Ivan Wolansky <i>Independence, Ohio</i>	Leo Wolansky '80
Tara Dugel <i>Paradise Valley, Ariz.</i>	Pravin Dugel '84	Nathaniel Marrinson <i>Chicago</i>	Thomas Marrinson '86	Lauren Yagoda <i>North Caldwell, N.J.</i>	Scott Yagoda '86
Christian Eggers <i>Yonkers, N.Y.</i>	Arnold Eggers '67	Brennan McManus <i>New York City</i>	Jerry McManus '89	Karina Yeh * <i>Livingston, N.J.</i>	Hung-Wei Yeh '86
Ellis Feldman <i>New York City</i>	David Feldman '85	Nicole Mendelson <i>Miami</i>	Victor Mendelson '89	Arnold Zahn <i>San Marino, Calif.</i>	Chester Zahn '78
Karina Ma. Tere Feliciano <i>Metro Manila, Philippines</i>	Danilo Feliciano '78	Samuel Merkin <i>Englewood, N.J.</i>	Solomon Merkin '78	John Zaris <i>Park Ridge, Ill.</i>	Steven Zaris '78
Nicole Fischbein <i>New Rochelle, N.Y.</i>	Lewis Fischbein '72	Maya Nayyar <i>New York City</i>	Ashok Nayyar '85	Five incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.	
Isabella Nilsson <i>Cleveland</i>	Ingrid Geerken '90	Charles Orlinsky <i>Baltimore</i>	Diane Orlinsky '88	<b>STUDENT</b>	<b>PARENT</b>
Leo Goldman <i>Highland Park, N.J.</i>	Alan Goldman '80	Amanda Perez <i>Coral Gables, Fla.</i>	Raymond Perez '86	John Cervone '18 **	Joseph Cervone '75
Jules Greenfield * <i>New Rochelle, N.Y.</i>	Gerald Greenfield '81	Olivia Pollack <i>Larchmont, N.Y.</i>	Mark Pollack '80	Graham Glusman '19	John Glusman '78
				Emily Kerman '19	Mark Kerman '83
				Alexander Rabinowitz '19	Laurence Rabinowitz '71
				Ottomar Shih '19	Scott Shih '84

\* member of the Engineering Class of 2020

\*\* Combined Plan Program (College and Engineering)



the code “CCLions” for 10 percent off a tour booked via the website.

**Cathy Webster** says, “While raising and wrangling my kids, Meredith (16) and Thayer (11), remains the hardest job ever, on July 1 I became dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Central Oklahoma. I have been working there for 10 years as a French professor and, more recently, as department chair. Hoping to serve faculty and students right in the tradition of Dean Robert Pollack ’61; Dean Roger Lehecka ’67, GSAS’74; Dean Sandra Johnson;

family and [at this writing] in a few weeks’ time, I will be going back to research full-time in Marseille. I am changing orientations at work, too, switching from immunology to developmental biology and swapping mice for fruit flies. Again, a bit of change here will do some good — the academic science world is a pretty tough place these days.

“Of course, Marseille is light years away from 116th and Broadway and apart from various Columbia Facebook contacts — and the thrill of regularly finding pieces in *The New York Times* about my Fairholm roomie

extreme labor unrest in France — has been difficult. Not that looking back home to the recent tragic events in Orlando and the utterly incomprehensible United States election cycle looks much better. At the moment we, like others, are escaping to the world of football as France hosted the Euro Cup 2016 and six matches were held here in Marseille. As I am in between jobs now, I admit to having watched most of the elimination round matches as well as attending the infamous England vs. Russia match (where the game’s hooligan violence put Marseille on the front page of most newspapers). With each match the city is filled with supporters and tourists from all over (Hungary, Albania, Iceland and Poland, to name a few) and fortunately, the atmosphere is mostly joyous and ‘bon enfant’ as the event is intended to be. As we were scheduled to vacation in Iceland later this summer, Iceland has become our new favorite underdog team, after France and England.”

And last but in no way least, I heard from **Karin Wolman**, who was selected to the 2016 New York Metro Super Lawyers list “for excellence in her business immigration law practice. Only 5% of attorneys in the New York metro area earn this distinction,” according to the list. Karin has been practicing immigration law for 20 years, solo for the last 10 (kwvisalaw.com).

Don’t forget: The countdown to reunion is on!

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*Annemarie Coffman Lellouch ’87 notes, “The opportunity to dip one’s toes into another profession at the advanced age of 50 was a really refreshing experience.”*

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Dean Leora Neter SW’79; Dean Blake Thurman; and the late Dean Karen Blank TC’81, for whom I also worked at Barnard and whose steady presence shaped me dramatically.”

**Annemarie Coffman Lellouch** writes: “I am still in Marseille with my husband, Laurent (silver wedding anniversary on the horizon this fall!), and our sons, ages 16 and 13.

“I recently ended a yearlong sabbatical in which I left my research position in immunology with the French national research agency (CNRS) in Marseille and went to London to work for a leading medical communications firm. On a professional level, it was a fascinating experience, from which I learned a lot about the global pharmaceutical industry, clinical trial regulation and, well, communication. I also learned more than I ever wanted to know about overactive bladder syndrome (the therapeutic target of my principal client) and urinary incontinence with aging (it ain’t going to be fun, folks ...).

“Just the opportunity to dip one’s toes into another profession at the advanced age of 50 was in itself a really refreshing experience. On a personal level, it was difficult as I spent the better part of the last year commuting weekly between Marseille and London, before finally tele-commuting from Marseille this spring. I had lovely housemates and friends in the United Kingdom but it was all too much for the

and science rock star **Leslie Vosshall** (tenured professor at Rockefeller University and world specialist in mosquito olfaction, among other things) — I have had few CC contacts. However, **Esther Chung** and her husband, Dennis Lee GSAS’90, came through the south of France with their two daughters in summer 2014 and we had a short but fantastic visit. We visited the new museums and recently renovated dock areas in Marseille, played tennis on our local club’s clay courts (we discovered tennis is a passion our families share) and, of course, had a dinner out for the famous Marseille specialty bouillabaisse (and, for the brave, a lesser-known delicacy called aliboufi, a local variant of the prairie oyster). This spring, I helped Dennis get tickets to the French Open. I am hoping to make it to the U.S. Open in the years to come as he returns the favor.

“This winter while in London, the travel stars were aligned to allow a lovely evening with **Carla Cerami**, who was coming through London on her way home to Chapel Hill, N.C., after a work trip to The Gambia as part of her medical research into malaria. I hadn’t seen her since she came to Marseille to visit in 2002. I hope we see each other more frequently from here on out.

“This year in Europe — the successive terrorist attacks on *Cbarlie Hebdo*, Paris and Brussels; the immigration crisis; the Brexit referendum;

accounts; oversaw asset/liability management and other risk management functions; and established and ran the internal investment advisor for the fund platform.”

He also worked in London for Goldman Sachs as executive director in European equity capital markets.

**Daniel A. Goldberger** LAW’93 works at the Cooley law firm. He is special counsel in the real estate practice group and a member of Cooley’s business department. His firm’s website says: “Mr. Goldberger joined Cooley in 2006. Resident in the New York office, Mr. Goldberger handles a wide range of complex commercial real estate matters both domestically and in the Caribbean and Central America, including acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, financings, leasing and construction, and development projects.”

We have another Columbia legacy family among our ranks. Congratulations to **Nairi Checkosky Balian**, mother of Aram Balian ’16. The pride of watching a child graduate is something that, like many of our classmates, I can now relate to: My son Emanuel graduated from preschool this summer. It was touch and go for a while but fortunately the all-nighter he pulled helped him ace his calculus final.

Keep the updates coming to ericfusfield@bigfoot.com! I look forward to hearing from you.

## 1989

**Emily Miles Terry**  
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I connected recently with **Kelly O’Connor**, who says she misses “New York and will be forever grateful” for her time at Columbia. Kelly returned to the Boston area after graduation and works for Harvard Medical School and Partners in Health, a global health organization that cares for patients in their homes and communities. PIH is widely known from Tracy Kidder’s book *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World*. Kelly works closely with Farmer, one of PIH’s founders. Of her work Kelly says, “I love the field of health equity and the global impact of PIH.”

## 1988

**Eric Fusfield**  
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**Diane Ridley** spent the summer “working a temporary anesthesia position in Arizona for the Indian Health Service.” Based in Newark, N.J., Diane has been practicing medicine for more than 20 years.

**Michael Girouard** is a senior portfolio strategist for First Principles Capital Management in Manhattan. According to his company’s website: “Before joining FPCM, Mr. Girouard was the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Investment Officer for Jefferson National Financial, a privately-held life insurance company. He managed the investment portfolio of the general

In addition to her professional career at PIH, Kelly is a contributing photographer to SoxProspects. Her beautiful photographs of teams such as the Pawtucket Red Sox and Lowell Spinners can be found on [sittingstill.smugmug.com](http://sittingstill.smugmug.com).

"I always imagine Russian history," says **Jennifer Eremeeva**, "on a huge, 3-D IMAX screen, surround sound booming with a jumbo bucket of popcorn in your lap and a huge blue drink at your side." An expatriate, writer and Imperial Russia enthusiast, Jennifer has published two books inspired by her more than 20 years in Russia. Jennifer's first book, a work of fiction, was 2014's *Lenin Lives Next Door: Marriage, Martinis, and Mayhem in Moscow*, which weaves together humorous vignettes of expatriate life. Her second book, *Have Personality Disorder, Will Rule Russia: An Iconoclastic History by a Recovering Russophile*, is a rollicking guide to 13 centuries of Russian history, tracing Russia's effective rulers back to the Tatar-Mongols and revealing why "Ivan may not have been so Terrible; why Catherine was so totally awesome; and asserting that neither Peter the Great nor Stalin would ever tweet anything." Jennifer is at work on a cookbook and "a massive historical fiction trilogy" set in Russia 1881–1924.

Jennifer writes: "I've enjoyed diving back into my notes and textbooks from the wonderful courses I took at Columbia with Professor Marc Raeff and Professor Jonathan Sanders SIPA'76, GSAS'85." Jennifer's life changed a great deal following the annexation of Crimea. "Many of my friends have moved away and it certainly has become more challenging to be a foreigner in Russia. But social and political change is always fascinating and I feel fortunate to have a ringside seat. My husband, Dmitry, and I travel extensively both for work and play and we enjoyed trips last year to Israel, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Georgia (Republic of), Germany, Italy and the Caribbean. I celebrated my 50th birthday in fine style in London in April."

Dr. **Jonathan Fischer** recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary with a trip to Croatia. He has a new position helping Duke University Health System develop population health approaches to palliative care.

Jonathan attended medical school at UNC, where he also did his residency. He has three children.

**Carol Remy** has been named counsel at Hughes Hubbard & Reed in the firm's real estate and environmental departments. She focuses on all areas of commercial real estate and environmental transactions and counseling.

Sadly, **Cynthia "Cindi" Elaine Barber-Mingo** (née Barber) died earlier this year. She lived in Westford, Mass., with her husband, Eric R. Barber-Mingo '90, and children, Ernest, Mya and Aaron. Cindi majored in computer science. According to Eric, "In the Class of 1989, 300 students started out as computer science majors, only 27 of those 300 graduated as computer science majors, only three of those 27 were women and Cindi was the only black woman."

Cindi immersed herself in her chosen career as a software engineer and spent 30 years as a software engineer, working for such technology industry giants as NYNEX, Digital Equipment Corp. and IBM. Her accomplishments during that career are too great to number in this context, but notably she achieved the title of master inventor while at IBM and her name appears on 13 U.S. patents in the IBM patent portfolio.

Cindi was also an avid crocheter and knitter. According to Eric, their home abounds with the material that supported her crafts and many of her friends and relations are warmed daily by the multitude of hats, scarves and afghans that emitted magically from her fingers. She will be greatly missed.

## 1990

**Rachel Cowan Jacobs**  
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There have been several professional changes for classmates in the past year. In early 2016, **Paul Greenberg** started at A+E Networks as EVP and general manager of the FYI cable network (previously called the Biography Channel), and he is also overseeing all short-form video and social media for the company (A&E, History, Lifetime and FYI).

After retiring from the Oregon House of Representatives in 2013, **Dave Hunt** is in his fourth year as president/CEO of the Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition. He is also on the board of Clackamas Community College. And, if that isn't enough going on, he is president of the Rotary Club of Oregon City. His son is a Princeton senior and his daughter is a high school senior thick in the college application process. I look forward to reporting next May if she will be Columbia-bound.

Lastly, from **Michael Kinstlick**: "With Coppersea on its trajectory now, I recently took on a new role as the head of standards setting at the Sustainability Accounting Standard Board. SASB develops standards and metrics for companies to report on sustainability issues directly in their SEC-filed financial statements."

Hope to hear from the rest of you soon. You can write to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note)!

## 1991

**Margie Kim**  
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Thank you to everyone who attended our 25th reunion, June 2–5! I hope you had as much fun as I did reconnecting with friends and marveling at how much has changed yet stayed the same. Several alums stayed in Carman for the weekend to relive those fun times. I love that we all turn back into our 19-year-old selves when we're with one another!

**Anmarie Giarratano Della Pietra** and **Bob Cooper** did a phenomenal job heading up the Reunion Committee. There were 138 CC'91 alums in attendance (222 total, with guests) and more than \$700,000 was raised for our Class Gift. The festivities began on Thursday night, with a reception held at Lucinda and **Javier Loya's** beautiful home in Gramercy Park. After the Friday night rooftop event at Haven, **Ted Ashenafi** and **Jim Burtson** hosted an after party at Alex Guarnaschelli BC'91's

restaurant, Butter. Our Saturday evening reception was held on the South Lawn, where we enjoyed **Lee Benaka's** band Hollertown and an enlightening talk from **Mike Leiter**.

Thank you to the Reunion Committee — **Beth Shubin Stein, Bob Cooper, Chris Beach, George Takoudes, Christopher Mehta, Dana Fenlon, Daryl Colden, Elise Scheck, Margie Kim, Elana Drell Szyfer, Elizabeth Kubany, Floyd Ewing, Jeff Michaelson, Jodi Williams Bienenfeld, Jon Swergold, Melanie Seidner, Scott Meserve, Juny Francois, Lara Stolman, Laurel Abbruzzese, Lee Benaka, Stephen Fealy, Ted Schweitzer** and **Virginia Cornish** — for helping to plan the reunion, as well as for providing the souvenir glasses. And a special thank you to **Ken Shubin Stein** and **Beth Shubin Stein** for the reunion fleece vests.

Hope you had a great summer! If you have fun reunion memories or other news to share, send it to me at [margiekimkim@hotmail.com](mailto:margiekimkim@hotmail.com) or through CCT's Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Until next time ... cheers!

## 1992

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1–4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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Hello, fellow CC'92ers! It was great to hear from **Robert Guay** for this installment. I had heard of him before I got to Columbia because I'd met one of his high school friends in spring 1988. And now I have an update from him! Bob married **Anna Gebbie** and they have three boys — Otto (13), Gus (10) and Takumi (8). Bob is a philosophy professor at Binghamton, where he has been for almost a decade after a stint at Barnard. "I mostly write on 19th-century German philosophy



but I have a book on Dostoyevsky coming out next year," he says.

Robert, please have your publisher send a copy to CCT so it can be added to Bookshelf!

As always, please reach out to [olivier.knox@gmail.com](mailto:olivier.knox@gmail.com) with your life updates, or use the CCT Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). I guarantee people want to hear from you, and about you! And this column doesn't work if you don't write in!

Otherwise, I shall be forced to just make things up. And no one wants "Jason Schwartz dropped out of the Pepperdine graduate program in puppetry but now uses storefront mannequins to turn the complete works of Bertolt Brecht into fun for the whole family!"

Or ... do you?

## 1993

**Betsy Gomperz**  
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I hope everyone had a great summer.

**Paul Sangillo** was recently promoted to deputy general counsel at Benjamin Moore & Co. **David A. Shimkin**, a partner at Cozen O'Connor in Los Angeles, which focuses on commercial litigation, was named a fellow with The Leadership Council on Legal Diversity on behalf of his firm. LCLD comprises corporate chief legal officers and law firm managing partners who are dedicated to creating a diverse profession.

As a 2016–17 fellow, David will participate in targeted leadership training events with the other fellows throughout the program year. David has been committed to diversity in the legal profession and serves on his firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, co-leads the Hispanic/Latino Attorney Resource (Affinity) Group and is involved with the California Minority Counsel Program, Minority Corporate Counsel Association and the Hispanic National Bar Association, for which he is a deputy president of the Southern California Region.

I had a busy summer catching up with generations of Columbians! In June, I headed to California for a weekend of catching up with old family friends who span many

class years at the College. I spent an evening with members of the Class of '58, including my father, Paul Gomperz '58, as well as Irv Michlin '58, Ira Carlin '58 and Rick Brous '58 (the event was a surprise party for Irv). The following day I visited with the Brous family, where I caught up with Sharon Brous '95 and her husband, David Light '95, and Michael Brous '97, all of whom live in Los Angeles.

More recently, I spent time back east with **Ali Towle** and **Jenny Hoffman**. I also recently caught up with **Neil Turitz** when my husband and I were in New York to see *Hamilton: An American Musical* (and were lucky enough to see original cast members on their last day).

Please continue to send in updates to either [betsy.gomperz@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.gomperz@gmail.com) or via CCT's Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note)!

## 1994

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Reports from far and wide this time — points for the farthest outreach go to **Karl Cluck**, who sent a note from around the globe to say he works in advertising and has lived in Asia for a decade.

From California, several updates: **Debbie Chong** sent in her first, noting she has been happily settled in Oakland, Calif., for eight years with her partner, Todd, and 4-year-old twins. "I am the ob/gyn chief at Highland Hospital, which is our county hospital," Debbie writes. "Life is good."

**Ali Gang** moved from San Diego to San Francisco a little more than three years ago for a job at Google as a senior content strategist. "I primarily work on educational initiatives to help small businesses learn the basics of online marketing and reach new customers," Ali writes. "Recently I wrote, produced and hosted a video tutorial series ([support.google.com/adwords/answer/4362159?hl=en](http://support.google.com/adwords/answer/4362159?hl=en)), which was an exciting project that we're now replicating in other markets around the world. Other

than that, I'm working on my writing projects, going on excursions with my dog, Luna (and my human companion), and looking forward to a trip to Italy in the fall. I'd love to hear from any Googler and/or Bay Area classmates!"

Another Bay Area transplant is **Anne Kornblut**, who is at Facebook as director of strategic communications, living in Palo Alto, Calif., with her husband and two kids — a son (5) and daughter (3½). "We are really enjoying the Bay Area and seeing lots of Columbia alums," Anne writes. "I recently ran into both **Brad Stone** and **Janet Balis** at the Recode conference — a real WKCR reunion."

Anne also alerted me to the fact that **Eliza McGraw** (née Lowen) recently published a book, *Here Comes Exterminator!*, about the 1918 Kentucky Derby winner, described as a story of how a long-shot winner became one of the all-time most beloved racehorses. Eliza says, "Much of what I learned about trying to make history lively and finding the relevant details I learned in Professor Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69's and Professor Alan Brinkley's classes."

A Bay Area migration is in the plans for **Rob Gaudet**, who has lived in Berkeley for the past year while his wife, Karin, completes an LL.M. at the Berkeley Law School. Rob attended a couple of Columbia alumni events in the Bay Area but soon will move back to El Paso, "where Beto O'Rourke '95 represents the community in the United States House of Representatives."

From Louisiana, **Mary Killackey** shares lovely stories of New Orleans life with son Will (6½), daughter Charlotte (4½) and husband John. Mary's big news is that she recently became the chair of surgery at Tulane University School of Medicine, making her one of only 16 other active female chairs of surgery — about 10 percent of all surgical chairs in the country. She writes, "So while there is the weight of responsibility to be an outstanding model, I'm thrilled to have this opportunity to shape the future of academic leadership — in particular to bring a more collaborative leadership style to surgery — and encourage more women to take on leadership roles."

Heading northward, **Dee Dee Wu** writes that she lives in New Jersey

with her two sons, Jacob and Justin, and her husband, Brian. "I am happy to announce that I have recently left a private practice in suburban New Jersey to join the faculty at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City, where I received my rheumatology training," Dee Dee writes. "I am thrilled to return to an academic setting, where I am surrounded by excellence and I enjoy participating in the education of medical students, residents and fellows."

Brooklynite **Danny Franklin** was recently named managing partner of Benenson Strategy Group. "We're doing Hillary's polling," he writes, "but I'm not involved, choosing instead to be around for (baby) Anna's second year of life."

**Ty Buckelew**, who recently moved back near Columbia, has been working at Edward Jones as its only financial adviser in Manhattan for the last two years. During the Fourth of July holiday he saw **J.J. Waterer**, who lives in Red Bank, N.J., is married with two boys and comes back to campus a few times a year for basketball games. Ty also writes that **Jamal Adams** lives in California and coaches high school basketball at his alma mater with a team that is consistently ranked as one of the best in the country. Jamal is married and has two kids in college.

And finally, a lovely update from Long Island, where **Marina Groothuis** (née Gurin) lives with her husband, **Erik Groothuis**, and their daughters, Maddie and Maya, who are in ninth and seventh grades. Marina writes that in October 2015 she took a position in marketing at

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a software company, Return Path, in its “Return to Work” program. “It was a five-month stint designed to help people who had taken time off to be caregivers for their families re-enter the workforce,” Marina writes. “In February 2016, I was hired full-time as a marketing analyst. So with a 12-year resume gap, I somehow defied the odds and got back into the corporate world. I teach in-home yoga sessions as many as four mornings a week before I head into New York City to my job.”

Erik joined the board at the family’s synagogue a couple of years ago and as of July 1 is its president. “This has proven to be a full-time job in addition to his full-time job,” Marina reports, “but the best thing that has come out of it is that (dog) Lily gets more walks, since he likes to make his temple business calls then.”

Such great news, everyone! Thanks for sharing your updates. Makes my job much more fun and this column much more interesting. And, most of all, makes me proud to have such an accomplished crew of classmates. Until next time.

## 1995

**Janet Lorin**  
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Let’s raise a glass to **Dan Petroski**, who has successfully transitioned from a career in sales and marketing for Time, Inc. to a career as a winemaker in Napa Valley.

Dan’s day job for almost a decade has been working at Larkmead, where he is the winemaker, creating Bordeaux-style blends. The family-owned vineyard, more than a century old, sits on about 150 acres between St. Helena and Calistoga, Calif. I caught up with Dan in late May. My husband and I were on our first trip without children and we were able to see the bottling process at Larkmead.

Dan is also working on his own wines under the label Massican, named after the coastal mountain range on the Italian Peninsula in the Campania region. His wine blends include tocai friulano, ribolla gialla and chardonnay. If you are dining in the Napa Valley town of Yountville, you can check out the fruits of Dan’s labor at Thomas Keller’s restaurants:



COURTESY WILL CSAPLAR '56, BUS'58

Both Larkmead and Massican are on the wine lists at French Laundry and Ad Hoc.

Nicely done, Dan.

Class of '95, I hope you had a relaxing summer and are looking forward to an exciting fall. Share your news by sending updates to me at jrf10@columbia.edu — your classmates want to hear from you!

## 1996

**Ana S. Salper**  
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Happy fall, classmates! It was great seeing so many of you at Reunion Weekend 2016 in June. For me, taking my kids, Isabelle (10) and Maximilian (7), to campus was really special. I showed them Butler Library (they loved playing hide and seek in the stacks), Hamilton Hall (where they pretended to teach a class), Low Library (we sat on the Steps for a bit and looked for the owl in *Alma Mater*) and we walked all over campus. By the end, I had two Columbia converts (my secret plan all along ...). Apart from that, it was so wonderful to see old friends, classmates, Carman Hall-mates and others of you whom I knew but have not been in touch with. I drank the Columbia Kool-Aid all over again and for a few days felt that

idealism and inspiration I had 20 years ago when we all graduated, when we were a lot less cynical and filled with the prospects of what life would bring and the feeling that the world was our oyster. It was a great feeling.

A big thank you to our Reunion Committee: **Whitney Chiare** (née Berkholtz), **Uchenna Acholonu**, **Elizabeth Yuan**, **Pete Freeman**, **Dan Morenoff**, **Avi Green**, **Daria Ibn-Tamas**, **Dave Lin** and **Stan Leung**. You did a fantastic job at outreach and event planning and it was great to see so many of you there.

**Pete Freeman** practices commercial real estate law in Washington, D.C., and has recently (not counting reunion) visited with *Spectator* friends **Henry Tam Jr.** and **Mo Toueg** as well as **Dan Morenoff** and a variety of New Yorkers he sees on his regular trips north; Pete is frequently accompanied by his wife, Jill Fine BC'96, daughter Lily (12) and son Max (9). Pete writes: “Thanks to everyone who helped plan our 20th reunion, including all of the members of the Reunion Committee, our Class Agents and the Alumni Office staff. It was great working with several old friends and getting to know classmates I wish I had met when we were in school. If you would like to be more involved [with the College], please reach out to **Bernice Tsai**, associate dean, Columbia College alumni relations and communications. Please also join

our Facebook group ([facebook.com/groups/137843146232040](https://facebook.com/groups/137843146232040)) for news (our 25th is just around the corner), and let me know if you’re in D.C.!”

Bernice and I chatted at the Columbia College Women cocktail event during reunion. She is doing wonderful things on behalf of Columbia; it is great having a representative from our class in the Alumni Office.

In the “I wish I had known you in college” category, I met **Mila Tuttle** (née Atmosudirdjo) SIPA'05 at reunion. What a joy to meet interesting people from your class 20 years later. Mila got a master’s in international security policy from SIPA. She

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actively supports organizations making positive change and is on several nonprofit boards. She is working on a book about conscious choices and elegant living, with hopes of helping others reach their potential. Check out Mila's cool blog: [milaatmos.com/blog](http://milaatmos.com/blog).

My former Carman Hall 5 floormate **Moha Desai** attended reunion with her sons, Vikram (3) and Devraj (8), and husband, Vinit Patel. She has held steadfast to her dedication to improving the health-care system for more than 20 years and is working independently with a range of clients from hospitals to innovative firms. Moha advises on health care issues across the board from strategy through implementation. She asks that you please look her up if you are ever in the Boston area: [msd7@columbia.edu](mailto:msd7@columbia.edu).

Moha writes of reunion: "Carman 5 was in the house! It was so fun seeing everyone. Suitemate **Amanda Cox** is an allergist-immunologist in Manhattan. **Noha El-Ghobashy SEAS'96**, SEAS'00 was at the dinner. She is the associate executive director of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and has lived in the NYC area since graduation. After having lost touch with **Alison Hills** from my Washington, D.C., days, it was great to reconnect with her at reunion. Alison works at Exxon Mobil Corp. in government relations but also has moved on from D.C. and now lives in Los Angeles. It was awesome bumping into **Michael Choi, David Lee, Patricia Merino, Hilda Ramirez, Evan Malter, Uchenna Acholuno, Noah Cornman, Marcel Agueros** and **Whitney Chiate!**"

Moha is in touch with floormate **Kristen Amon Hayes SEAS'96**, who pursued her dream of becoming a high school math and physics teacher and lives with her husband in Connecticut, a few towns over from where she teaches. **Sam Daniel SEAS'96** lives in Stockton, Calif., with his wife, Jyotika Prasad, and their two children. Sam has established himself as a leader in technology at Acceleration for several years now. **Alexander Leuca SEAS'96** works at Barclays, lives in London and has a daughter.

**Helen Gurfel SEAS'96** works at Greenprint, an alliance of leading real estate owners, investors and strategic partners committed to improving the environmental

performance of the global real estate industry. Helen is responsible for the overall management and growth of the center. It was great seeing her and her family at the reunion all-class barbecue.

**Liz Alina** lives in Mystic, Conn., and owns a juice company, Mystic. For those who love juice cleanses, check out Liz's line at [facebook.com/mykarmacleanse](http://facebook.com/mykarmacleanse).

I caught up with **Jeremiah Crowell** as well. He is a director, producer and writer, and has directed art films, commercials and music videos. He also has spent more than a decade making TV documentaries. Jeremiah lives in Brooklyn with his wife and two sons.

Also in attendance at reunion were **Evan Malter, Jeremy Kawaller, Brandon Kessler, Jennifer Fishbein, Lucy Joseph SEAS'96, Jun Lee, Patricia Merino, Marcel Agueros, Giovanna Ban, Melissa Gajarsa, Mike Robbins, Scott Walker, Omar Sayed** and **Rhonda Moore**.

**Ian Lendler** is publishing his fourth children's book, *Saturday*, which celebrates the joys of everyone's favorite day of the week. He collaborated on the book with international best-selling illustrator Serge Bloch. Ian lives near San Francisco.

All in all, it was a very successful reunion. I hope to see even more of you at our — eek! — 25th reunion. This time, I will leave you simply with "Roar, Lion, Roar!"

## 1997

### REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION2017

**Sarah Katz**  
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CC'97, where's the love? I know you are all up to great things and we all want to hear about them! Please email me at [srk12@columbia.edu](mailto:srk12@columbia.edu) with your news and news of classmates! Just a couple updates this time.

**Kerri Baucher Stone** and her husband, Josh, live in Miami (Cocunut Grove); in January, Kerri gave birth to their daughter, Marlee Dina. They also have a son, Dylan Jacob. Josh is a corporate law firm partner at Bilzin Sumberg and Kerri was recently promoted to full professor of law at the FIU College of Law.

**John Dean Alfone** recently wrote a preview of Free Press Summer Fest, which he attended in Houston at the beginning of June. His company, Corsair Media Productions, also recently produced a short video during South By Southwest as part of the Bud Light Factory: [ow.ly/LZE4300B7qM](http://ow.ly/LZE4300B7qM).

**Jon Dakks** recently left NBC-Universal after having worked there for 11 years and is now chief digital officer for EPIX, based in Times Square. He lives in Livingston, N.J., with his wife, Marcy, and kids, Sydney, Miles and Ryan. He has been playing bass with a local rock band PUNCH the Monkey and recently sat in on drums with local band The Stiff Joints to perform at Livingston's 4th of July celebration. Jon has been in touch with **David Tuffy** and **John Fletcher** and recently got back in touch with **Josh Sherman**.

## 1998

**Sandie Angulo Chen**  
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Happy autumn, everyone — and happy 40th birthday to most of us. Let's start off the notes with an update from entrepreneur **Amol Sarva**, who writes: "In the last few years I stopped working in mobile phones (Virgin Mobile, Peek smartphones) and stopped building buildings (East of East is finished and we live there now) and moved onto some diverse new projects: Knotel, a network of company-sized workspaces with shared services and flexible terms; Knotable, an app for teamwork; and Halo Neuroscience, a brain-boosting wearable device used initially for sport; and helping startups get going.

"I also started teaching at the College about how to build ventures in the social and commercial realms ([tiny.cc/venturing](http://tiny.cc/venturing))."

Congratulations on your new endeavors, Amol!

**Natalie Axton** launched a digital publication (Critical Read) that publishes feature-length stories about important works of art. Critical Read's first three stories are at [criticalread.org](http://criticalread.org). The stories cover works of ballet, visual art and literature.

Whether you had a big birthday bash, cool summer events or anything else newsworthy, let your classmates know by sending an update to [sandie.chen@gmail.com](mailto:sandie.chen@gmail.com) or use CCT's Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1999

**Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson**  
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Dear classmates:

This quarter your intrepid note-takers are leading the news.

**Adrienne Carter**, international business editor at *The New York Times*, has moved from New York to the London office. Londoners, you lucky few! Take good care of our Ms. Carter, please.

**Jenna Johnson** hasn't left New York, but she has shifted professional locations; she is now happily publishing books at Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

Meanwhile, in updates from our excellent classmates ...

**Peter Lech** sends word from Providence, R.I., where he lives with his wife, Claudia, and daughter, Olivia (3). Peter is following an old CC muse — Lit Hum sparked an interest in the classics and he is now assistant professor of classics at UMass Boston. He focuses on early Latin literature and co-directs the Conventiculum Bostoniense, a program in spoken Latin that attracts graduate students, professors, high school students and Latin enthusiasts from around the country. We're happy to report that his book *Linguistic Interaction in Roman Comedy* came out in June and he's already at work on a book about Greek New Comedy.

**Jen Maxfield Ostfeld** is back on campus, as she recently joined the Columbia College Board of Visitors. She's been keeping busy; while being a reporter for NBC4, Jen completed

her second year as an adjunct professor at the Journalism School. In what has become a family tradition, Jen found her future spouse within the 116th Street grounds in 1996; two of her three brothers, all Lions (Mark Maxfield SEAS'05, Scott Maxfield '11 and William Maxfield '14), followed suit. Jen lives with her husband, Scott Ostfeld '98, in New Jersey with their three young children.

We're finishing this up just after the Fourth of July and are wishing you barbecues, cool lemonade and sunshine for a happy summer. When you find yourself reminiscing, take a moment to send news to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note!

## 2000

**Prisca Bae**  
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No news, CC'00? Let me know what sort of exciting adventures you had during the summer and are looking forward to this fall and winter — CCT is the place to share with your fellow Lions! Email me at pb134@columbia.edu or submit a note through CCT's Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. Can't wait to hear from you!

## 2001

**Jonathan Gordin**  
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Even though I had the best of intentions to get to reunion this year, my wife, Jamie, and I couldn't make it. Thankfully, I got some great "boots on the ground" reporting from amazing guest correspondents.

**Becca Bradley** (née Siegel) and her husband, John, welcomed daughter Aniela Evelyn on July 10, 2015. Aniela joins brother Paul (4). Becca and John live in Nashville, where Becca works in healthcare IT.

**Jessica O'Sullivan** (née Tubridy) and her husband, Chris, welcomed a son, Christopher James, on December 29. **Jenny Tubridy**

is an ADA in Queens, where she is assigned to the Career Criminal Major Crimes Bureau.

Becca, Jessie and Jenny were thrilled to hang with **Ali Kidd, Jen Hoekstra, Michelle Grzan Bass, Jaime Pannone** and **Anne-Marie Ebner** at Reunion Weekend 2016 and, of course, at The Heights following reunion.

**Rabia Saeed** spent quality time with **Reema Kapadia, Wadad Cortas, Eri Kaneko, Billy King-Island, Scott Hefler** and **Usman Tahir**. Reema raved about the after party on South Lawn. And, like Becca, she alluded to the informal after party at The Heights.

Side note: This correspondent misses The Heights so much — that surely would have been a highlight for me!

From **Joya Powell**: "I am thrilled to announce that I have won this year's 2016 Outstanding Emerging Choreographer Bessie Award. I am so excited to share this news with you and the Columbia community. I worked on a few theater productions this summer and my company, Movement of the People Dance Company, will be performing in a few venues in the city this fall. I will be sure to keep you posted on my upcoming endeavors."

**Courtney Reum** shared exciting news that he and brother Carter Reum '03 are starting a company called M13 and will be sharing more about that soon.

On March 21 Luxco entered an agreement to purchase Los Angeles-based VEEV Spirits from founders Courtney and Carter. From the press release: "Appealing to today's discerning millennial consumer, VEEV's portfolio includes award-winning brands VEEV Spirit, a 70-proof vodka alternative, and VitaFrute Cocktails by VEEV, the first line of certified organic ready-to-drink cocktails."

Congratulations to Courtney and Carter!

**Seth Morris** recently left the Alameda County Public Defenders Office and joined the Cooper Law Offices in Berkeley, Calif., as a partner starting July 18.

Best of luck to Seth!

Best wishes for a wonderful fall and please stay in touch by sending notes to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note!

## 2002

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION 2017

**Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani**  
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Hope you all had wonderful summers. So many interesting updates this time; please send me more at soniah57@gmail.com.

**Emily Voigt's** first book, *The Dragon Behind the Glass: A True Story of Power, Obsession, and the World's Most Coveted Fish*, was published in May. *A Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Summer, it explores "the strange vortex where science, conservation, and commercialism meet." Emily lives in Greenwich Village with her husband and newborn son.

**Preston Picus** and his wife, Abbey Levine, welcomed their first daughter into the world in October, Penelope Patricia Picus.

Preston is running for Congress in California, to represent its 12th District. He writes, "I'm running as an independent progressive, anti-corruption candidate, and people are starting to really respond to my message. Check us out at picus2016.com."

**Ginger Gentile** lived for the past 12 years in Buenos Aires, where she founded a television and film production company, San Telmo Productions, and directed two feature documentaries. *Goals for Girls: A Story of Women with Balls* is about the fight of slum girls to play soccer in Argentina, where it is considered a male sport; *Erasing Dad* is about the discrimination fathers face in child custody cases. Ginger is back in the United States and is looking to connect with Lions who work in entertainment and who are interested in supporting her follow-up film, *Erasing Family*, which will be filmed in the U.S. and will focus on the harm done to children when they are prevented from seeing their mother or father after divorce (ginger@santelmoproductions.com).

## 2003

**Michael Novielli**  
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The presidential elections have likely been consuming much of your time and attention. While much is at stake for the nation — and the world — with this presidential race, there are also a number of important elected positions up for grabs in the United States. One Columbian running for elected office is **Cyrus Habib**, who is running for lieutenant governor of the state of Washington.

In non-political news, here are some of the things that classmates have been up to:

**Adam Libove** writes, "On June 9 at 10:02 p.m., my wife, Barbara, gave birth to our son, Aaron Ravi Libove, who was 7 lbs., 3 oz. and 21¼ inches. Both baby and mom are doing great!"

**Eric Siskind**, who lives in Baltimore, recently finished his fellowship in transplant surgery at Maryland. Eric and his family will be moving south to Silver Spring, Md., as Eric will be an attending transplant surgeon at Inova Fairfax hospital in Falls Church, Va.

**Blair W. Morris** writes, "I completed my Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Fordham in 2015 and am a pediatric psychologist at Montefiore Medical Center. I am married to Michael and have two children, Whitney (3) and Graham (1)."

**Andrea Paul** writes, "I am senior corporate counsel at Momenta Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, Mass. My husband, Jacques Paul SEAS'03, and I love being parents to our almost 2-year-old."

**Peter Neofotis** told a new story on the RISK! Podcast Show. People interested in hearing the tale can go to risk-show.com/podcast/hurt-joy. He starts at the 18:40 minute mark and runs for about 40 minutes.

**Francis Lora** updates, "Professionally: I am a certified financial social worker, licensed clinical social worker and National Health Services Corps member providing psychotherapy at Inwood Community Services at the Alicia M. Ferrer Mental Health Clinic in Inwood, Manhattan, as well as also writing



and offering private coaching and consulting services.

“Personally: My second son was born on May 26 at 7:13 a.m. So just a few months ago Gabriel Tomas Lora Guerrero joined brother Alejandro Miguel Lora Guerrero, making my wife, Jennifer A. Guerrero-Lora BC’03, and I happy parents. Alejandro starts kindergarten in September.”

**Mindy Levine** writes, “I am at Rhode Island and am happy to report that as of June I am now an associate professor of chemistry with tenure.”

**Christina Pfenning Craig** writes, “On February 20, my husband, Marshall, and I welcomed our first child, a boy, Marshall Deon Craig Jr. I am thrilled that he begins his life as a legacy applicant to Columbia. We are already working on his application essay (just kidding). I am the director of public relations/social media at the Museum of Wisconsin Art. It’s wonderful to use my art history concentration on a daily basis. I’m also helping several high school students with the college search and application process and am a freelance writer for a few Milwaukee-area publications. I guess I will sleep someday! Hope to make it back to campus with the whole family soon.”

**Albert Shin** and his wife, Ji, had their second son, Alexander Yoonsup Shin, on July 13.

## 2004

**Jaydip Mahida**  
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jmahida@gmail.com

**Julia de Roulet** (née Hertz) and **Daniel de Roulet** had a daughter last year, Helen Julia Whitney de Roulet. They live in Old Westbury, N.Y. (Long Island). Helen was also welcomed by her older brothers, Henry and John.

**David J. Johns** TC’06 received the Early Career Award from Teachers College. He is executive director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans. David is a former senior education policy adviser to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

Accepting his award on April 2 at Academic Festival, Teach-

ers College’s Homecoming event, David said that as an education policymaker in Washington, D.C., he is an “unapologetic advocate for students who came from a place like I did, which was Inglewood, Calif. I came [to Teachers College] with an unflinching belief that we have to ... argue for kids who don’t yet feel they can argue for themselves.”

David said his ability to advocate for children based on evidence and data — a skill he honed at TC — has strengthened his effectiveness in driving White House education policy. “If you take a chance on our babies like you’ve taken a chance on me,” he said, “we can solve all our problems.”

Please continue to send updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. (Who is watching the reboot of *Voltron*? It can’t be just me.) You can send updates via either the email at the top of the column or the CCT Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2005

**Columbia College Today**  
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Interested in staying in touch with classmates and sharing all the cool things they do around the world? Become CC’05’s class correspondent! If you’d like to take on the role of providing Class Notes columns on a quarterly basis, send an email to [cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu) with “2005 Correspondent” in the subject line.

**Caryn Gehrke** (née Waterson) PT’09 and Martin Gehrke SEAS’06 welcomed their fourth child, Quentin Case Gehrke, on April 6. He joins brothers Martin and Levi and sister Charlotte.

Congrats, Caryn!  
CC’05ers, send your news to [cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu) to keep classmates up-to-date with what’s happening in your lives. Jobs, travel, hobbies, relationships, family — everything is sharable with CCT!

## 2006

**Michelle Oh Sing**  
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mo2057@columbia.edu

I hope you had a wonderful summer! Here are some exciting updates from classmates:

**Kathleen Carr Adams** writes: “My family and I will be living in Yangon, Myanmar, as of September 1 for an assignment with my husband’s employer, the Department of State.”

**Julia DiBenigno** earned a doctorate from MIT Sloan School of Management in June and is an assistant professor at Yale School of Management in Organizational Behavior.

In September, **Paul Fileri** graduated with a Ph.D. in cinema studies from NYU. His doctoral dissertation, which he successfully defended in May, examines the history of documentary cinema and the politics of decolonization in the French colonial empire after WWII. He and his partner, **Kinara Flagg**, live in Washington, D.C., where Kinara is a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice.

**Radhya Ram** enjoyed celebrating multiple life milestones at Reunion Weekend 2016 and looks forward to moving to Austin this fall to practice ophthalmology with a fellow Columbia alumnus.

**Kristen Loveland** writes: “I celebrated my wedding to Stephen Wertheim GSAS’15 this June with many CC alumni in attendance, including **Natalie Kimmelman**, **Cara Spitalewitz**, **Kate Roh**, **Eunice Chao**, **Seth Anziska**, **Dave Plotz**, **Annie Berke** ’07, **Alex Jung** ’07, **Tim Shenk** ’07, **Renu Regunathan-Shenk** ’07 and **Brendan Pierson** ’07, along with some of my favorite Barnard alumni, **Jenna Beatrice** BC’07 and **Ana Keilson** BC’05. It’s been an eventful year. I graduated from the NYU School of Law in May and recently moved to Cambridge, England (where my husband is a junior research fellow at King’s College), and I will complete my doctorate in history from Harvard.”

**Jonathan Ward** is completing a D.Phil. at Oxford in China-India relations, and will be between the United States and United Kingdom

afterward. He writes, “I have also become a fellow in Oxford’s defense studies program, where I am able to make use of my background with Russia, China and India, as well as my foreign languages (Russian and Chinese) that I began at Columbia many years ago! I also had my first public speaking engagement in London in July at the Army and Navy Club, where I spoke on “The Emerging Geopolitics of the Indian Ocean Region”: [armyandnavyclub.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/79134AF1D240B5142540EF23F30FEDED](mailto:armyandnavyclub.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/79134AF1D240B5142540EF23F30FEDED).”

Don’t forget to send your updates to [mo2057@columbia.edu](mailto:mo2057@columbia.edu) or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2007

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REUNION 2017

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Thanks as always for the notes, and check out all of the exciting things members of our class are up to:

**Josh Smith** writes, “After graduation, I was an assistant musical director for two summer stock theaters (thanks for the experience, CMTS!) before settling down into the academic lifestyle. In 2014, I earned a Ph.D. in English from Penn State, specializing in early modern drama and examining stage properties in the light of object-oriented theory. Since then, I’ve continued to teach courses at Penn State, worked with the American Shakespeare Center, chartered a chapter of Sigma Tau Delta for the undergraduate and accepted a position on the Lenfest College Scholars Program Board of Directors. This fall, however, I will move to Pittsburgh to teach English at The Elliss School, an independent girls’ high school, so drop me a line if you’re in the City of Bridges.”

**Marissa Weldon** (née Doyle) shares exciting news: “Thomas Weldon ’08 and I welcomed our son, Stephen Doyle Weldon, on April 9. Happy to have a baby Lion in our lives.”

**Carolyn Braff** writes, “My husband, Andrew, and I are thrilled to announce the birth of our son, Graham Robert Herman. He was born April 14 and has brought us so much joy. We are working with him to learn the fight song already. I work at Gatorade and love it. When I come back from maternity leave, I will work in our innovation group.”

**Michelle Rappaport** and her husband had their first child in July. The same month, she was scheduled to complete her internal medicine residency at Washington and start practicing primary care at a UW clinic.

*Jeopardy!* fans: **Buzzy Cohen** won nine times in May and earned \$164,000. During his time on the show, he was all over the Internet for “trolling” Alex Trebek. If interested you will definitely find some clips online.

And lastly, **Eric Bondarsky** humorously shares, “As the forecast for Memorial Day called for thunderstorms in New York, no plans were made that fine morning. Alas, the meteorological soothsayers were mistaken as the clouds diverted and a wonderful day was upon Rego Park, N.Y. Eric Bondarsky called friends **Matthew Kondub** and Jeffrey Feder SEAS’07, SEAS’08 and grilled spiced sausages in his humble backyard along with the poultry delicacies of Nina Cohen BC’09. It felt like East Campus Suite 806 all over again. Or, in haiku form:

“Memorial Day  
“Three nerds grilling in the yard  
“Good times. Nay! Great times!”

## 2008

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**Rachel Belt** is moving from Haiti to Geneva with her family to start a job at GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance. She will work in its country support team with a focus on Pakistan. In other news, her daughter turned 2 in June!

**Eli Marrone** moved back to Boston two years ago and would like to connect with other CCers living there or passing through! She also

invites classmates to reach out: “Call on me for dog walking, boarding and training. And check out my wearable art projects facebook.com/artifactseveryday.”

**Betsy Purves** (née Remes) lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband and their black Lab. She has been working in fundraising at The Phillips Collection since January and would love to connect with alums who are active in the arts or in fundraising!

**Katie Cronin** got married on July 9 to David Fox. In attendance were **George Makris** and Parisa Roshan BC’08. Katie also started a new job in June. She writes, “I’m the business manager at ACDI/VOCA, an international development nonprofit based in D.C. that specializes in agribusiness, food security, enterprise development and financial services.”

Congrats, Katie!

**Carmen Jo Rejda-Ponce** is an attorney in Houston. She recently joined Germer and represents businesses and public entities in employment and civil rights litigation.

I hope everyone had a great summer; send your news to me at nn2126@columbia.edu to stay in touch with classmates! Have a wonderful fall!

## 2009

**Alidad Damooei**  
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On October 3, 2015, **Maria Abascal** married Daniel Lacker at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden near Richmond, Va. Maria and Dan live in Providence, R.I., where they are completing postdocs in Brown’s sociology department and math department, respectively. Their academic careers will bring them to New York City in fall 2017, and they both plan to start tenure-track positions at Columbia. Maria will be in the sociology department and Dan will be in the industrial engineering and operations research department.

**Ula Kudelski** and Jim McCrindle were recently married in New York’s Hudson Valley at Southwood Estate. The couple met at work at Deutsche Bank. The wedding was attended



**Maria Abascal** ’09 married Daniel Lacker on October 3, 2015, at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden near Richmond, Va. Left to right: Delia Baldassarri GSAS’07, Sam Ashworth GS’10, Shannon Ding ’08, Nathan Morgante ’09, Mary Catherine Bullock ’09, Amari Hammonds ’09, the bride, the groom, Dana Fisher, Amir Meiri, Marissa Brodney ’09 (crouching in black and white dress), Alistar Erickson-Ludwig, Andrew Betz, Rosalind Parry ’10, Daniel Chinoy ’09 and Norma Fuentes-Mayorga GSAS’05.

by many Columbia grads, including bridesmaids **Katrina Cragg**, **Crystal Vidal** and **Andrea Derricks Steele** ’07 and groomsmen **Cody Steele**. The wedding was a traditional Polish vodka wedding, so a Columbia group photo was difficult to organize! **Matt Bashaw** ’10, **Erin Conway** ’11, **Gene Kaskiw**, **Matt Moretto** ’11 and **Ralph DeBernardo** also attended the night of dancing, fireworks and a bonfire.

**Anna Vlasits**, husband Justin Vlasits ’11 and their son, Arthur, are taking a break from their Ph.D.s at Berkeley and spent this summer in Boston at the home of **Caroline Welling**. Anna tried out science journalism through the AAAS Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellows Program. She was stationed at STAT (statnews.com) and was geeking out about being down the hall from the “Spotlight” team. In addition, she was excited to spend more time with Boston mainstays **Ariel Zucker** and **Akash Gupta** and was looking forward to visits with **Lauren Biggs** and **Kristen Schrapp**. She says it’s good to be back on the East Coast.

In May, Dr. **Katie Logan** graduated from Texas with a Ph.D. in comparative literature. She returned to the East Coast and her home state this summer to begin work as an assistant professor of focused inquiry at Virginia Commonwealth and was looking forward to the considerably shorter train ride between Richmond and New York!

**Jeremy Reich** graduated from Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business in June. He moved to Boston

this summer, where he joined Bain & Co. as a consultant. Jeremy looks forward to getting to know Boston and hopes to connect with alumni in the area.

**Jennifer Kincaid** recently transitioned into her role as director of strategic development and communications at Casa Esperanza, where she says she has the fortune of tapping into the intersection of pathology, society and justice serving the Latino community in Massachusetts. Casa Esperanza seeks to empower individuals to recover from addiction and mental illness, overcome homelessness and achieve health and wellness through comprehensive, integrated care. This summer she was looking forward to reuniting with **Sarah Lieff**, **Candace Mitchell** and **Julia Gonzales** ’10 on the beaches of Martha’s Vineyard.

**Daniella Zalzman** spent the start of summer in Istanbul, where her first book went to press. *Signs of Your Identity*, available this fall, is a photographic exploration of the legacy of Canada’s Indian Residential Schools — a system of forced assimilation boarding schools for First Nations children that ran until 1996.

**Alex Horn** and **Ian Glaser** were planning to launch a specialty credit fund this summer. After forming BridgeInvest, a short-term private lender focused on real estate mortgages in the Southeast United States, the former EC suitemates have grown the company during the past five years. They are now launching their first private equity fund to capitalize on the stringent regulatory environment of traditional lenders



and the “wall of maturities” in the commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) market. Alex and Ian say they look forward to continuing to disrupt the mortgage market and are ever-grateful for the ongoing support of classmates.

**Joanna Sloame** left NBC and is writing and producing entertainment videos for PopSugar, a women’s lifestyle platform. She recently shot a viral video about a little girl hand-sewing purses filled with necessities and handing them out to homeless women, which currently has more than 23 million views. She’s also creating scripted comedy videos through her production company, Foot in Mouth Productions, including her latest, *Netflix Is a Better Boyfriend*. She’d love to hear from alumni in the Los Angeles area.

## 2010

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Hi 2010. We have two exciting birth announcements to kick off our Class Notes this issue. I think that is a clear sign we are getting older!

**Nina Gilkerson** (née Beary) and her husband, Graham Gilkerson, joyfully welcomed son George Edwin on June 4. Nina says he is as sweet as can be and is already looking forward to his days as a Lion. Nina, Graham and George send their best to the Class of 2010 from their home in Austin.

**Jonathan Mann** and his wife, Rachel, are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Jack Baker Mann, in April.

After graduating from Duke Law last May, **Raul Mendoza** started at the Pittsburgh office of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, where he was recently placed into the firm’s energy, environmental and natural resources practice group after completing an eight-month rotation program.

On a recent trip to Los Angeles, Raul caught up with James Chen SEAS’12 and Yong Park GS’10, and they enjoyed tasty burgers by the beach.

**Bradley Skaf** graduated from the Stanford Graduate School of Business and is moving back to NYC to join Gridiron Capital.

**Kevin McKenna** was scheduled to start a one-year instructorship in August at Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Ore., while finishing his Ph.D. in history at Washington.

**Jake Grumbach** shares, “I’m just sad because the Warriors lost Game 7 after being up 3–1 in the finals. Cleveland deserves a win — especially since that city is forced to be the location of the nomination of Donald J. Trump as Republican presidential nominee — but damn, this was a tough loss. I don’t care what anybody says about their ‘career’ or ‘relationships.’ The NBA Finals are more important.”

And finally, **Chris Yim** writes, “The ancient Greeks did not write obituaries, instead they asked only one question of a man: ‘Did he have passion?’ After I am cryogenically frozen — I just signed up for this service — I hope people ask this question of my life and that the answer is pretty obvious. I wanted an estate in the rural parts of Scotland, but had to settle for a part of Great Britain near Liverpool. I purchased this recently with the funds from UClass. I’m calling it Winterfell after my favorite family in *Game of Thrones*. I plan to raise my



Alice Sturm ’10 married Ahmed Khan ’09 on December 19 in Washington, D.C. Left to right: Akua Nketia ’11, Adil Ahmed ’09, Saffiyah Madraswala BC’09, Ali Shafei ’10, Athar Abdul-Quader ’08, Tahir Qadir SPS’09, Sherif Farrag ’09, Severin Mahirwe ’11, Rebecca Kelly ’09, Misty Fuller ’09 (née Pollard), Jeremy Constancio ’10, Diana Wong ’10, Grace Zhou ’10, Casey Hayes-Deats ’10, Christine Kwon ’10 and Emma Steinberg BC’09.

children there. I look forward to the day that my family can all huddle up by the fire in a wolfskin blanket and tell stories as we watch the embers burn. I’ll tell my son/daughter stories of my time at Columbia and how in summer 2008, I became a man. There is much to this story that I hope to share with you one day. I bid you farewell until the next episode.”

CC’10, share your news with your classmates! You can write to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT’s Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 2011

**Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell**  
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Hey, Class of 2011! We loved seeing so many of you at our five-year reunion in June. We hope that you had a great time connecting with friends. Our notes for this quarter are light, presumably because we all got to share in person about what we’ve been up to since graduation!

First, we have some moves to report. **Miriam Schachter** graduated from Michigan Law in May and is moving back to New York this fall to start a job as a public defender in the family defense practice at The Bronx Defenders. Miriam is thrilled

to be heading back to her home turf after five years in the Midwest. While she’ll certainly miss the friends she has made there, she says she doesn’t expect to miss the never-ending Michigan winters.

**Megan McCusker** spent August 2014–August 2015 as a teaching fellowship at Winchester College in Winchester, England. She got engaged last fall and opened a coffee shop in Philly with her fiancé. It’s called Function Coffee Labs, a third-wave specialty coffee shop that relies on science to make the best cup of coffee. #sciencemadecoffee

**Ace Patterson** graduated from UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business with an M.B.A. and was scheduled to work at Deloitte Consulting’s San Francisco office starting in August. He also got married (one week after graduation!) to Roza Essaw.

CC’11 has three more class members who are tying the knot. **Betsy Morais** and **Thomas Rhiel** met in the *Spectator* offices while **Ben Cotton** sat nearby drinking a Blue Moon. Their relationship began in the most romantic context imaginable: pushing copy about campus happenings and the University’s expansion into West Harlem. They have stayed a pair since!

Betsy moved to Washington, D.C., and back, working at *The Atlantic*, *The New Yorker* and now *Harper’s*. Thomas worked at Google and Atavist, and started recently at *The New York Times*, where he is in the newsroom — a few floors away from Ben. Betsy co-teaches a magazine writing class at the Journalism School and passes the



Ula Kudelski ’09 and Jim McCrindle were married on September 26, 2015, at Southwood Estate in the Hudson Valley. Included in this photo are bridesmaids Katrina Cragg ’09, Crystal Vidal ’09 and Andrea Derricks Steele ’07 as well as groomsmen Cody Steele ’09.

*Spectator* office once a week on her way to Tom's.

**Melissa Ann Im** returned from an extraordinary trip from Italy (her first time in Europe, but not her last, she says) and is excited to share the news of her engagement to David Giuffrida ('08 Bentley). (The photographer should have given it away during their picnic in the vineyards of Montalcino, Toscana.) Melissa and David met in New York City and now reside in Singapore, so if any Columbian is stopping by that side of the world, Melissa says to please reach out on Facebook. She hosted the Columbia Experience Overseas students this summer and has taken an active role as the co-chair of outreach for the board of the Columbia University Club of Singapore.

Classmates, keep those notes coming to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 2012

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION2017

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Hi friends. Despite all the exciting things I know you are up to, I'm sad to report that this column contains the fewest number of updates since we graduated. Please let us know what you're up to! Moving on to the exciting things:

Congratulations to **Ian Scheffler**, whose first book is due on October 18! *Cracking the Cube: Going Slow to Go Fast and Other Unexpected Turns in the World of Competitive Rubik's Cube Solving* follows Ian as he tries to go sub-20, or break 20 seconds — which is to Rubik's Cube-solving what four minutes is to the mile.

So far, the response to advanced copies sent to the media and select

readers has been overwhelmingly positive. Quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick enjoyed the book so much he said he plans to put it in his locker next season so reporters have to look at it when they interview him!

If classmates are in New York, Los Angeles or San Francisco this fall, they're more than welcome to attend one of the events that will be held to publicize the book's release, Ian says. For updates, follow Ian on twitter, Instagram and/or Facebook, or visit [ianscheffler.com](http://ianscheffler.com).

Ian gives a shoutout to his fellow graduates from Writers House — he fondly remembers those Thursday night workshops!

Nora Cabrera (née Koutruba) BC'12 invites classmates to contact her if they have real estate needs: She says, "Finding a home in NYC can be tricky. Finding a solid salesperson can be trickier. If you are planning to rent or purchase an apartment, contact Nora for your real estate needs at [ncabrera@halstead.com](mailto:ncabrera@halstead.com) or 212-381-2492."

Nora helped me find my NYC apartment a few months ago and I love it!

**Celine Pascheles** graduated from medical school in May and is an M.D. doing her residency training in emergency medicine at Harvard's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Celine says that the transition from medical student to physician has been amazing, and that this is definitely an exciting time in her career.

Congratulations, Dr. Pascheles! Hope to hear from the rest of you soon: [sarahbchai@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbchai@gmail.com) or [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note/](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note/)

## 2013

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Happy fall, Class of 2013! As the weather cools down, please take the time to send in a note to update classmates on your life. From travels to jobs to new hobbies, all news is welcome in CCT. Shoot me an email at [talaakhavan@gmail.com](mailto:talaakhavan@gmail.com) to share what's happening!

**Patrick Woolsey** is excited to be in his second year at Yale Law, where he is pursuing a joint J.D./master of environmental management degree with Yale's School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. He plans a career in public-interest environmental advocacy. Prior to law school, Patrick worked for two years in Washington, D.C., for the Environmental Law Institute as a research associate. He recently returned from an exchange program in Santiago, where he got a crash course in the basics of the Chilean legal system.

**Jacqueline Karsh** got married last fall and moved to Los Angeles, where she is a local news reporter for public access channel LA36.

**Denise Machin** is director of the Claremont Colleges Ballroom Dance Company. Along with being director, Denise will step into the roles of assistant director of the Pomona College Smith Campus Center and ballroom dance instructor for the Pomona College physical education department. In June, Denise advanced to candidacy at UC Riverside in the critical dance studies Ph.D. program. Her research explores gender performance in the amateur American ballroom dance and dancesport communities.

## 2014

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Thank you to all the CC'14ers who submitted notes for this issue! It's great to hear about all the exciting things classmates are doing.

**Duncan Dickerson** and **Alexandra Delaney** got engaged this summer! Duncan graduated from Rice's Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business with an M.B.A. this past spring and was identified as a 2016 M.B.A. To Watch by *Poets and Quants*. He then started a job at Lazard Freres as an investment banking associate.

Right after graduation, **Byron M. Jones** moved to Fort Collins, Colo., to complete a master's in management at Colorado State and to compete on its cross country and outdoor track and field teams. He helped lead the team to an NCAA DI Cross Country Nationals qualifi-

cation and to a 19th-place finish (out of 30). This was its best finish in a decade! Additionally he scored in the Mountain West Outdoor Track & Field Championship 5000m to help the men's team win its first Mountain West title in school history. For nearly a year Byron has been living and working in NYC, where he is an analyst in a project management role. He has a large amount of responsibility related to planning, execution and change management for a data center relocation project for a Fortune 50 company. He says he hopes the rest of the class is also doing well.

**George T. Phillips** is a third-year at Georgetown Law and had a summer associateship with Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft.

This spring **Liz Malone** began as a publicist for *Martha Stewart Living* and *Martha Stewart Weddings* at Meredith Corp. She writes, "I've had the pleasure of working with talented editors and publishers on the daily. Listening to their creative, innovative and passionate insights has been really inspiring — I've learned so much. We worked with *The Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, *The Wall Street Journal* and many other outlets. Martha is the most impressive person I've met and working with her team makes coming to work every day so enjoyable."

Charlee Dyroff '15 is the director of growth at Triller, which enables anyone to create professional quality music videos with just a couple of taps on their phone. She's always down to have coffee with other alums in the music, tech and start-up communities!

**Alexandra Svokos** spent half of July sweating her face off covering the political conventions in Cleveland and Philadelphia for *Elite Daily*. It still was not as hot as her non-air conditioned dorm room on move-in day.

**Jennifer Lee** moved to Southern California in fall 2015 to join the CFO team at SpaceX. She says she's been having a blast learning about rockets and being a part of Elon Musk's vision to colonize Mars. She says please reach out if you are in the area ([el2580@columbia.edu](mailto:el2580@columbia.edu))!

**Julian Richardson** moved to London this year and in late June played tennis with members of the local Columbia Alumni Association.

**Andrew Lopez-Balboa** is picking up everything and moving to



Hong Kong for work. He says he'll probably live there for a few years doing investment banking for Goldman Sachs.

This spring, **Tareq Abuissa** led a digital music course at The Dalton School with a curriculum based on what he learned in recorded sound at Columbia's Computer Music Center. He recently finished recording a 10-track studio album at Mama Coco's Funky Kitchen in Brooklyn. Tareq is composing music and lyrics for *South of Market: The Musical*, a satire of Silicon Valley in the spirit of *The Varsity Show*, set to premiere in San Francisco's Z Space in October.

**Yuyun Yang** is heading to Stanford to pursue a graduate degree in computational finance and says she is really excited about it!

Also this spring, **Kate Eberstadt** was selected as a 2016 artist-in-residence for The Watermill Center, followed by a visiting guest artist residency at The American Academy in Berlin. While in residence Kate founded The Hutto Project, a music and performance education program for children of displaced populations living in an emergency refugee camp. Together, they created original choral work, which debuted in a public concert at ZK/U Berlin in June.

This work was carried out by Donju Min '13 and Izzi Eberstadt BC'16, with volunteers from all over the world, including Saring Agata SEAS'16, Cole Hickman '16 and Jess Lempit BC'15.

Additionally, this summer Kate co-curated and administered the Scaler Lecture Series at The Watermill Summer Center. This year's speakers included Cornel West, Carl Schoonover and Kinan Azmeh. This fall, Kate plans to establish a partnership between her students and the Berlin Philharmonic and then go into residence with her sister, Izzi, to record music.

**Zach Vargas-Sullivan** works for Big Beach, a company that will release Jeff Nichols' latest film, *Loving* (out November 4 in New York City and Los Angeles and November 11 nationwide). The film follows an interracial couple who broke down marriage equality barriers in 1967. Check out the trailer on YouTube by searching "Loving Movie." Zach hopes you can see it!

**Solomon Hoffman** has continued to grow his music ensemble, now called The Song-

writer's Orchestra, which started at Columbia as LyricLion. **Olivia Harris**, Taylor Simone and **Caroline Sonett** are also involved.

**Austin Lowe** began graduate school in the Asian studies program at Georgetown's School of Foreign Service this fall. He received the Harriet & C.C. Tung Family Endowed Scholarship, awarded each year to a competitive student who has demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to study United States-China relations.

This spring, **Damaris Giha** interned with the Tribeca Film Festival, which she says was a blast, and she moved back to New York to pursue her acting dreams. She recently visited **Hannah Ellison** in Milwaukee, where Hannah is doing Teach For America.

**Monica Molina** spent the summer traveling in Spain, Cuba and Mexico before starting a J.D. and M.S. in environment and resources at Stanford this fall. She stopped in New York to see CC friends and to welcome **Dana Benami** back to New York after her year in Singapore!

Classmates, keep in touch! You can send updates to me at [rsf2121@columbia.edu](mailto:rsf2121@columbia.edu) or through CCT's Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2015

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Is it me or does it feel like 2016 is flying by? I can't believe we are already in the fall. As fast as this year is going, it is truly exciting to see the great things going on in your lives! For this edition of Class Notes, we have a few announcements:

**Marc-Aurele Ferracci** says, "I'm a consultant for PwC in Luxembourg, specializing in public sector and missions for the European Commission. I'm going to Oxford in September to pursue an M.S. in social science of the Internet."

**Cleo Constantine Abram** writes, "While working as a political consultant at Precision Strategies, I began writing a newsletter, The

Short Version, which presents a real debate on important issues. For every week's biggest controversy, The Short Version breaks down what's happening, how it affects you and the best arguments on each side. I'd love feedback and topic suggestions! Find it at [shortversionbycleo.com](http://shortversionbycleo.com)."

*Noleen Advani '15 has been working in the monitoring, evaluation and research team of Grassroot Soccer, an international sport for development organization.*

**David Kang** has a new job as a management consultant for Kaiser Associates. He says: "Thanks to Columbia University for continually opening doors for me down the road!"

**Luke Foster** writes, "After a year in New Haven, Conn., helping to launch the Elm Institute, I will be heading to Chicago's Committee on Social Thought to begin a Ph.D."

**Nicolle Lee**, who works at Banc of California, writes, "I grew up in California. It is a unique experience working alongside bank executives and California's entrepreneurs to help grow this bank and thereby help finance the dreams of California's businesses, entrepreneurs and communities. The value and commitment to being California's bank and continuing to grow is what makes working at Banc of California so rewarding!"

Last, but not least, **Noleen Advani** shared, "Since graduation I've been working in the monitoring, evaluation and research team of Grassroot Soccer, an international sport for development organization based in Cape Town, South Africa. We use the power of soccer to educate, inspire and mobilize youth in high-risk areas to live healthier lives and be agents of change in their communities. Since 2002, 1.3 million children have graduated from our programs in nearly 50 countries. I'm excited to be using the knowledge gained from my sustainable development degree to eradicate HIV/AIDS, improve access to reproductive and sexual health services, and address harmful gender norms for adolescents."

I would be remiss if I did not thank you for coming back to

Columbia for Reunion Weekend 2016. I hope you had a wonderful time catching up with classmates and reconnecting to Columbia College and to one another.

As always, please submit updates or photos to me at the address at the top of the column, by emailing me

at [kdc2122@columbia.edu](mailto:kdc2122@columbia.edu) or via the CCT Class Notes webform, [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2016

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 1-4, 2017

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REUNION 2017

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CCT wishes the Class of 2016 a happy fall. **Lily Liu-Krason** will be taking over as class correspondent from here on out so email her at [liliukrason@gmail.com](mailto:liliukrason@gmail.com) with all of your exciting news!

CCT received a note from **Caitlin de Lisser-Ellen**: "I recently won a grant to produce an Off-Broadway show through The Araca Project; it begins in October and is a drag presentation of the Salem Witch Trials ([thesalembitchtrials.com](http://thesalembitchtrials.com)). I'd love to get other alumni involved and [hope] they can come to the show!"

Also, the Class of 2016 one-year Reunion Weekend will be here before you know it, so mark your calendars now for Thursday, June 1-Sunday, June 4, when you can reconnect with classmates on campus and throughout NYC!

# obituaries

## 1939

**Seymour B. Jacobson**, retired physician, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y., on February 19, 2016. A geriatric psychiatrist who practiced in New York City, Jacobson was a member of The New York Academy of Medicine and served at many institutions, including The Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged, New York Medical College and the New York County Medical Society. He earned a degree from P&S in 1962. He was predeceased by his wife, Louise Van Baalen Jacobson BC'40, and is survived by a daughter, grandson and great-grandson.

## 1942

**Henry C. Beck**, retired oceanographer, Walpole, N.H., on March 8, 2016. Beck entered the College with the Class of 1942 and graduated from Engineering with a B.S. in 1943 and an M.S. in 1948. Commissioned in the Navy, he served in the Atlantic and Pacific fleets on destroyer escorts, earning four battle stars, and retired from the USNR as a commander. After the war he was an engineer on Columbia's Nevis Labs' cyclotron. Beck rejoined Columbia when Hudson Laboratories was founded, receiving a faculty appointment as director of engineering. With

many publications and patents on oceanographic and acoustic systems and instruments, and the design of handling gear and research ships, he pioneered the field of deep ocean anchoring and dynamic positioning of ships. He received a Navy commendation for efforts in locating the sunken submarine *U.S.S. Thresher*. Upon the dissolution of Hudson Labs, Beck joined the Naval Oceanographic Office as director of engineering and became director of the office with its 12-ship fleet and aircraft wing supporting the operational Navy. Retiring to New Hampshire, he enjoyed fishing, gardening, Manhattans and world travel with his wife of 64 years, Gloria, who survives him. He is also survived by one daughter, one son and three granddaughters.

**Henry W. Decker**, professor emeritus of French, Riverside, Calif., on March 6, 2015. Decker was born on September 3, 1923, in Orange, N.J. He grew up in New Rochelle, N.Y., and served in the 104th Infantry Division from 1942 to 1945 in Europe. After the war he married Jane Munro Hancock and earned a Ph.D. in Romance languages at Michigan. Decker joined the faculty of the French Department at UC Riverside in 1955, serving as chair for many years. His love of learning and passionate devotion to teaching continued after his retirement in 1991 as he mentored undergraduates and wrote a memoir of his war experience. He was predeceased by his wife and his brother, Richard C. Jr. He is survived by his sister, Ruth Decker Steen; a niece; three nephews; and eight grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

## 1943

**Thomas A. Norton**, retired architect, Pawtucket, R.I., on April 13, 2016. Born on August 4, 1922, Norton earned a B.Arch. in 1949 from GSAPP. He was a member of Delta Psi fraternity. Norton joined the Army Air Corps in 1941, where he served as a B-17 bomber pilot, flying 35 combat missions, achieving the rank of 1st. Lt. and receiving the Air

Medal. Norton was an award-winning architect and built his career at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, and Sherwood, Mills & Smith before co-founding Norton & Hume Architects. He later was director of architecture for Rockefeller Center and ran a private practice from 1978 to 2004. Norton was an avid sailor and member of the New York Yacht Club. He designed and built a number of sailboats including the "Tartan 26" and the popular "X-21." Norton was a poet and writer and was active in community theater. He is survived by his wife, Ann Wood Norton; six children; 11 grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

## 1944

**S. William "Bill" Friedman**, retired attorney, Somers, N.Y., on September 12, 2015. Friedman was born on December 15, 1922, in Yonkers, N.Y. He served in WWII, holding the rank of sergeant. He was a practicing attorney for more than 60 years. At Columbia, he ran track. Friedman earned a law degree at Fordham and a master's in tax law at NYU. He was law secretary to the Hon. Frank McCullough, later becoming a partner in the firm Baer Marks & Upham and then Griffin, Kane, Letson, Friedman & Coogan. In later years he was a sole practitioner. He was president and a member of the Board of Directors of BOMA Westchester and was involved in the national BOMA organization. Friedman enjoyed travel, writing, the law, gardening, tennis and spending time with his family, and was an avid sports fan. He was a *CCT* class correspondent from 2013 to 2015. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Linda Aries Friedman; brother, Norman; children, Steven and his wife, Helen, David and his wife, Liz, and Jill Bizenov and her husband, Michael; and seven grandchildren.

## 1947

**Ernest H. Morgenstern**, retired executive, Boynton Beach, Fla., on February 18, 2016. Born in Newark, N.J., Morgenstern graduated from

Weequahic H.S. at 16 before beginning his bachelor's at the College. Enlisting in the Army at 18, he served in both the European and Pacific theatres. Once WWII ended he completed his degree, earned an M.S. in 1948 from the Business School and accepted a position with New York Telephone Co. in accounting. Morgenstern enjoyed a long career with New York Telephone and AT&T, retiring in 1986. An active member of his Livingston temple, he was a past treasurer and honorary president of its B'nai B'rith Men's Club and was a perennial member of its bowling team. He enjoyed family time on the Jersey shore at his Long Beach Island home and was an avid Red Sox fan stemming to his youth on the beaches of Boston's North Shore. Morgenstern is survived by his wife, Sylvia; daughter, Michelle, and her husband, Jim Swaim; son, Gary, and his wife, Dale; four grandchildren; and sister, Marjorie Glassman. Memorial contributions may be made to the Deborah Hospital Foundation ([deborahfoundation.org](http://deborahfoundation.org)).

## 1948

**Stanley N. Rader**, retired fastener company executive, Boca Raton, Fla., on October 19, 2015. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he graduated from Madison H.S. WWII interrupted his College studies. Upon his return from the Navy, he graduated from Columbia. Rader spent 43 years in the fastener industry, 30 of those in New York with Industrial Fasteners. In 1978, he was a founder of United Screw of America in Miami, where he was president until his 1991 retirement. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Blanche (née Miller); children, Ellen and Stuart; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Parkinson Foundation.

**George H. Vachris**, retired VP of sales, Southbury, Conn., on November 19, 2015. Vachris was born on July 25, 1923, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He graduated from Brooklyn Preparatory School in 1941, matriculated at the College and then joined the Navy, serving during WWII.

### Obituary Submission Guidelines

*Columbia College Today* welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are 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](http://college.columbia.edu/cct), or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.



He then returned to Columbia to complete his studies. Vachris was a VP of sales for Franklin Fibre-Lamitex Corp. for 40 years. He was predeceased in 2010 by his wife, Barbara (Hope) Vachris, whom he married in 1950. They raised their family in East Williston, N.Y., and then moved to Southbury upon his retirement. They enjoyed traveling the world, spending time with their family and summers at their cabin in upstate New York. Vachris is survived by his children, George, Carol Hartly and her husband, Edward, Mary, and Gregory and his wife, Karen; eight grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and brothers John and James. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the American Diabetes Association.

## 1953

**David S. Dana**, retired corporate VP, Dalton, N.H., on December 22, 2015. Dana was born on June 5, 1931, in Dallas. He attended Staunton Military Academy, then studied engineering at MIT and business at the College. He served in the Army during the Korean War. He spent 18 years at the Dana Corp., a manufacturer of automotive parts headquartered in Toledo, Ohio. In 1970, he retired to the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Dana created The Ridge, a small community of homes in Dalton, N.H.; his core conviction was to live in and enjoy nature while preserving it. He maintained a second home in NYC, where he supported the arts. He also established the Dana Child Development and

Learning Disorders Program at the Mayo Clinic and contributed to the Johns Hopkins Hospital and the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Dana is survived by his wife, Elaine; sister, Ann Dana Kusch; children, Charles and his wife, Virginia, Deborah and her husband, Patrick Horvath, Stephanie and her husband, Duane Stranahan, and Amy and her husband, Joe Profaci; daughter-in-law, Nancy; 11 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. His eldest son, Randall, predeceased him. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., or The Morrison in Whitefield, N.H.

**Barry Schweid**, retired AP diplomatic correspondent, Washington, D.C., on December 10, 2015. Schweid was born in New York City on July 30, 1932. He earned a degree

in 1954 from the Journalism School. After service in the Army as a public relations specialist, he joined the AP's New York City bureau and transferred to Washington, D.C., in 1959. 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. Among his career highlights, he covered the negotiations at Camp David that President Carter brokered to reach a historic peace treaty in 1977 between Egypt's Anwar Sadat and Israel's Menachem Begin. Schweid chronicled the Cold War and then its end with the implosion of the Soviet Union, filing news alerts from officials traveling with Secretary of State James Baker. He received many honors from educational institutions and was inducted into the Washing-

## Cable TV Pioneer Robert M. Rosencrans '49, BUS'52

**Robert M. Rosencrans '49, BUS'52**, a cable TV pioneer and dedicated alumnus, died on August 3, 2016, in Greenwich, Conn. He was 89.

Born in New York City on March 26, 1927, Rosencrans grew up in Woodmere, N.Y., with his parents, Eva and Alvin, and older brother, Herbert. In February 1945, Herbert died in WWII. Rosencrans chose to stay

Air Force. He worked briefly in retail, but then a friend referred him to Box Office Television, which was hoping to help movie theaters compete with television by offering closed-circuit programming. The referral began Rosencrans' professional career, and he helped create what is now the modern cable television industry. He started with a collection of small cable systems in the Pacific Northwest in 1961 and went on to form UA-Columbia Cable, which evolved into UA-Columbia Cablevision. He was dismissed when the company was divided in 1984, but then started Columbia International, another operator, which he sold in 1995 for an estimated \$600 million.

In the late 1970s, after Brian Lamb, C-SPAN's founder and executive chair, pitched the channel's concept to cable operators, Rosencrans wrote a \$25,000 check on the spot and persuaded other industry executives to pony up \$450,000 in seed money. A private, nonprofit, industry-financed service, C-SPAN began as the Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network in 1979, at a time when fewer than one in five homes was wired for cable. Rosencrans, a political liberal, invested in C-SPAN with his Columbia Cable partner, Kenneth S. Gunter, a conservative, and was its first chair.

In conjunction with Madison Square Garden, Rosencrans drove the creation of a sports channel featuring Knicks and Rangers games. When general programming was added, it evolved into the USA Network, although the MSG Network still exists separately as part of Madison Square Garden. Investing nearly \$100,000, Rosencrans' Columbia Cable Systems was credited with being the first cable operator to install a satellite receiving station in 1975, to deliver the Muhammad Ali-Joe Frazier championship fight from Manila to its Florida subscribers.

Rosencrans enjoyed sharing his entrepreneurial spirit with others, investing in and advising other early ventures such as Blogging Heads TV as well as PublicAffairs, a publisher of literary fiction and topical nonfiction founded in 1997 by Peter Osnos. Rosencrans was a board member of the Dr. I Foundation and in 1999 was inducted into the Cable Television Hall of Fame by the Cable Television Museum.

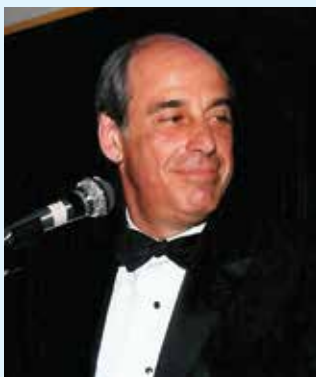
In Greenwich, Rosencrans became involved in local civic organizations and was chair of the United Way's annual fundraising efforts. He also was dedicated to Columbia, serving on the Columbia College Alumni Association's Board

of Directors from 1991 to 1992 and the Board of Visitors from 1993 to 1999, serving as chair from 1996 to 1999. He was a Class Agent for the Columbia College Fund from 2005 to 2009. Rosencrans was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2000.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Marjorie "Margie" Meyers; sons, Richard, Ron and Robert; daughter, Robbie; daughters-in-law Marjorie, Beth and Barrie; son-in-law Kurt Heiding; and 11 grandchildren; as well as sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law Rene and Ed Bermas and Joan and Al Sherman, and their families.

A memorial was held on campus on September 18. Memorial contributions may be made to the Rosencrans Core Curriculum Fund, an endowment that supports the Center for the Core Curriculum. Contact Heather Siemienas, coordinator, fund development: 212-851-7855 or hs2843@columbia.edu.

—Lisa Palladino



COURTESY ROSENCRANS FAMILY

close to home and enrolled at the College, where he pitched for the baseball team. He also became a top amateur golfer in the New York metropolitan area and was an eight-time club champion at Birchwood Country Club.

Upon graduating with a degree in economics, Rosencrans served in the

## CCT Web Extras

To read CCT's feature story about Rosencrans, "An Original Cable Guy," go to [college.columbia.edu/cct\\_archive/jan05](http://college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/jan05).

ton Society of Professional Journalists' Hall of Fame in 2002. Schweid is survived by Nina Graybill, his partner of more than 40 years; sister, Marlene; nephew, Walter Charnizon; and niece, Jennifer Charnizon.

## 1954

**Leonard H. Moche**, attorney, Bronx, N.Y., on March 4, 2016. Moche graduated from Bronx Science and at the College was captain of the debating team. He earned a degree from Harvard Law and became a litigator, working for firms until 1982, when he opened a private practice. His first marriage was to Hanneli Hall, mother of James '81 and Mark. After her death, he married Dinah Levine. They divorced, and he married Mary Anne Gavagan, from whom he was later divorced. Moche loved the Brooklyn Dodgers, opera, dogs, European travel and book discussions. His final years were spent in the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, where he organized the daily minyan.

## 1955

**Albert Momjian**, attorney, Huntingdon Valley, Pa., on July 11, 2016. A native of Atlantic City, Momjian attended the College and Law School on full scholarships; he graduated from the Law School in 1957. Momjian founded the Columbia University Club of Philadelphia in 1978, the first Columbia alumni club established outside of New York City. For decades, he hosted events for Law School alumni, and he interviewed hundreds of students applying to the College. In 1983 Momjian received the University's Alumni Medal for distinguished service. *The Legal Intelligencer*, the oldest law journal in the United States, hailed him as a "family law giant" and an "attorney to the stars," and the *Philadelphia Inquirer* described him as a "dedicated civic volunteer and a leader of the Armenian community in America." He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Esther; children, twins Carol Momjian Hanamirian



Albert Momjian '55

and Mark '83, LAW'86, and Thomas '89, LAW'92; and five grandsons, including David '15 and Gregory '17.

**Michael H. Pressman**, retired professor, Coconut Creek, Fla., on March 12, 2016. Pressman earned a B.S. in 1958 from the Engineering School and an M.C.E. in transportation engineering in 1960 from Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn. A professor at C.W. Post College of Long Island University from 1957 to 2000, he developed the computer science department; the Michael H. Pressman Award is given annually to a computer science student who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement. A pioneer in the field, he authored three books. Pressman's passions included classical music as well as trains and transportation. At one time, he played eight musical instruments, playing oboe in the Columbia orchestra. In his retirement community, Pressman developed and taught a weekly class "The Enjoyment of Music." Because of his lifelong fascination with trains and transportation, he traveled around the United States three times by train and numerous times up and down the East coast from Miami to Montreal. He is survived by his daughters and their husbands, Laurie and Ray, and Dana and Jeff; two granddaughters; and brother, Ed '62.

## 1957

**Ward J. Armstrong**, retired sporting goods retailer, Ogden, Utah, on February 22, 2016. Armstrong was born on September 24, 1935, in Ogden. He married Geniel Snarr on September 20, 1955. He started his career at the family-owned business, Armstrong Sporting Goods Store, where he honed his skills in sales. He was

awarded a scholarship from Columbia. Armstrong's passion for sports translated to his career in sporting goods retail, to which he devoted 35 years before retiring in 1997. He was an avid hunter and upon retirement was a docent at the John M. Browning Firearms Museum. Armstrong was recognized with many honors, including the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the Utah Sports Hall of Fame, where he had been president. He was predeceased by his sister, Claire Johnson; brother, Jeremy; daughter, Amy; and great-grandson, Carter Bartlett; and is survived by his wife; children, Colleen and her husband, Scott Roberts, Andrew and his wife, Imelda, Molly and her husband, John Chugg, and Niel; 10 granddaughters; 25 great-grandchildren; brother, Claude; and brother-in-law, Ken Johnson. Memorial contributions may be made to the IAFF Local 1654 (Amy Armstrong Fund) c/o Edward Jones, 2685 North 1000 West, Ste 102, Pleasant View, UT 84414, or the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation.

**Kenneth A. Bodenstein**, retired financial analyst, Marina del Rey, Calif., on March 20, 2016. Born in 1937, Bodenstein graduated from Bronx Science. He earned a B.S. in 1958 from the Engineering School and an M.B.A. in 1960 from the Business School. At the College, he was a coxswain and coached the crew team during graduate school. Bodenstein worked at Air Products, Armour, Goodbody, CNA, and Duff and Phelps, where he spent 35 years as a financial analyst. He played tennis for fun and in tournaments nationally, as well as the Maccabiah games in Israel. He provided inspiration and practical tips to the women's tennis teams at UCLA and Columbia, where he also supported the



Kenneth A. Bodenstein '57

### 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 **Joseph J. Fusco**, retired physician, Hillsdale, N.Y., on June 16, 2016.
- Monteagle Stearns**, retired ambassador, professor, Cambridge, Mass., on May 14, 2016.
- 1949 **Neil Warner**, music arranger and conductor, New York City, on August 30, 2016.
- 1952 **C. Donald Mohr**, retired attorney, Washington, D.C., on July 14, 2016.
- Stanley I. Rubinfeld**, tax attorney, Aventura, Fla., on September 3, 2016.
- 1957 **Ira Lubell**, physician, medical administrator, San Francisco, on June 12, 2016.
- 1959 **Michael D. Bromberg**, healthcare lobbyist, New York City, on August 12, 2016.
- 1961 **Harold Riley Colvin**, financial executive, Port Charlotte, Fla., on May 11, 2016.
- Bernard Miller**, electrical engineer and real estate entrepreneur, Brooklyn, N.Y., on July 20, 2016.
- 1963 **John M. McConnell**, Gainesville, Va., on July 10, 2016.
- 1989 **Cynthia E. Barber-Mingo**, software engineer, Westford, Mass., on February 13, 2016.



crew team. His trademark outcry of “the big one’s in the bank!” inspired an article in the UCLA magazine. Bodenstein is survived by his wife of 23 years, Diane Lerner; children, Todd and Leslie, with his wife of 30 years, Susan Sims Bodenstein, who predeceased him; stepson, Guy DeFeo; stepdaughter, Jan DeFeo; three grandchildren; sister, Elaine Polack, and her husband, Rudy; and five nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to Idyllwild Arts Foundation, PO Box 38, 52500 Temecula Rd., Idyllwild, CA 92549 ([idyllwildarts.org/giving](http://idyllwildarts.org/giving) or 951-659-2171, ext. 2330); include the memo “Kenneth Bodenstein Memorial.”

**Robert Flescher**, retired gastroenterologist, Newington, Conn., on May 3, 2016. Flescher was born on April 3, 1937, in Brooklyn, N.Y. A graduate of Stuyvesant H.S., he went on to earn a degree in 1961 from Harvard Medical School. He served in the U.S. Public Health Service as a lieutenant commander and then practiced as a gastroenterologist, becoming a founding partner of Connecticut Gastroenterology Associates at Hartford Hospital, where he subsequently was chief of gastroenterology. He also was president of the GI section of the Hartford County Medical Association and became a mentor for GI fellows at Hartford Hospital. Upon retirement, Flescher became a volunteer physician at the Malta House of Care. He also was a consummate gardener. Flescher is survived by his wife, Joyce, with whom he had recently celebrated his 48th anniversary; son, Andrew; daughter and son in law, Ellen and Ethan Foxman; three grandchildren; and sister, Sharon.

## 1958

**Robert Tauber**, retired dentist, Mount Kisco, N.Y., on March 17, 2016. Tauber earned a degree in 1962 from the Dental School and was an assistant clinical professor of dentistry there. He served several terms as president of the Ninth District and chairman of the New York State Dental Association Ethics Council. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters, Sharon and her husband, Jeff, and Robin and her husband, Ted; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Dental School.

## 1960

**Daniel S. Shapiro**, tax and investment attorney, London, U.K., on April 15, 2016. Shapiro grew up in Cleveland. He earned a degree in 1963 from the Law School and received a Fulbright fellowship at the London School of Economics. In 1969, Shapiro co-founded the law firm Schulte Roth & Zabel. During the last decade, he was also a partner in the investment firm Park Vale Capital. In 2002, he and his wife, Ellen, moved to London to open an office of Schulte Roth & Zabel and lived there while maintaining their residence in New York. Shapiro was president of the UJA-



Daniel S. Shapiro '60

Federation of New York, a founder of the Jewish Community Relations Council, secretary of the Partnership for New York City and on the Executive Board and Honors Committee of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. He loved music, singing, playing tennis and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his wife; sister, Rena Olshansky; in-laws, Jane and Jim Spingarn; sons, Jonathan, Andrew and his wife, Nina, and Peter and his wife, Rebecca; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Daniel S. Shapiro Cardiovascular Research Fund at the Weizmann Institute ([weizmann-usa.org/daniel-shapiro-research-fund](http://weizmann-usa.org/daniel-shapiro-research-fund)) or the UJA Federation of New York.

## 1965

**Stephen L. Goldstein**, author, Fort Lauderdale, Fla., on July 3, 2016. Goldstein earned a master’s in 1966 and a Ph.D. in 1970, both

from GSAS. He authored several books, two of particular importance: *The Dictionary of American Political Bullshit* (2014), in the tradition of Voltaire, Ambrose Bierce, and H.L. Mencken, at once partisan and idealist, whose definitions speak liberal, indeed progressive social and human sentiments, and *Atlas Drugged: Ayn Rand Be Damned!* (2012), a novel indicting Randian greed through redemptive satire and the power of moral vision meant to restore to American society its lost moral compass. From 1999 to 2014, Goldstein was an op-ed columnist for South Florida’s *Sun Sentinel*. He was the host and producer of numerous radio and TV programs, including *Business Exchange* on WLRN TV (a PBS affiliate) and *We the People* on Comcast, and spoke nationwide as a recognized trends analyst and forecaster on issues shaping America’s future.

## 1969

**Charles L. Skoro**, retired professor and minister, Boise, on March 31, 2016. Skoro was born on July 28, 1947, in Stibnite, Idaho. He met his wife, Rosita “Rosie” Anchustegui, when they were 11. He earned a master’s and a Ph.D. in economics and during this time married Rosie and lived in New York City. They moved back to Boise in 1982. Skoro was a professor of economics at Boise State from 1982 to 2000. He chaired the economics department until stepping down to become the full-time campus minister for St. Paul’s Catholic Student Center on the BSU campus. He served until his retirement in July 2014. Skoro was ordained a deacon in the Catholic Church in October 2001. He served at Our Lady of the Rosary for the rest of his life. Skoro is survived by his wife; daughters, Elisabeth, and Emily and her husband, Brandon; three granddaughters; mother, Delpha; brothers, Barney and his wife, Linda, and Tom and his wife, Joan; and sister, Becky and her husband, Dennis. Memorial contributions may be made to Capstone Missions ([capstonemissions.org](http://capstonemissions.org)); the Basque Museum and Cultural Center, 611 W. Grove St., Boise, ID 83702; or Rachel’s Vineyard, 6211 Branstetter St., Boise, ID 83714.

## 1999

**Matthew E. Goldstein**, business development executive, Andover, Mass., on April 7, 2016. Goldstein’s love of travel took him all over the world as he focused on his work in many countries, most recently in London. A graduate of Phillips Academy, Andover, Goldstein was a Fulbright Scholar. He is survived by his parents, Janice and Gary; sisters, Laura and her fiancé, Scott Dorfman, and Abbey and her husband Jared Moss; nephew, Jacob Moss; aunt, Emily Goldsmith; uncle, David Goldsmith; aunt, Judy; and cousins, Daniel Rote and Jennifer Rote. Memorial contributions may be made to The Pediatric Pain Clinic c/o Department of Pediatrics, Boston Medical Center, One Boston Medical Center Pl., Boston, MA 02118.

## 2008

**Elena K. Parker**, writer, producer and creative technologist, Pomona, N.J., on December 26, 2015. Parker was born on October 24, 1985. She was raised in Hammonton, N.J., and while at the College received Dean’s List status five semesters and earned a degree in film studies. From 2008 to 2009 she was a producer and co-writer of the award-winning HBO film *Make Me Young: Youth Knows No Pain* and worked on other film projects. She then became managing editor for *Biblion: The Boundless Library*, the New York Public Library’s first mobile application. In 2011 Parker enrolled in NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts – Interactive Telecommunications Program and earned a master’s in 2013. She became a writer, producer and creative technologist. From May 2013 until her death she worked at Campfire, a New York based marketing agency. She had recently been appointed an adjunct professor at Tisch. Parker is survived by her mother, Susan H. Curcio; father Donald; siblings, Jessica Parker Martin, Bob Martin, Matthew, Gregory, and Mary Gaeckle Parker; and grandmother Lucy Curcio. Contributions may be sent to the Elena K. Parker memorial gift to the Tisch School of the Arts c/o Susan H. Curcio, 2820 Smugglers Ln., Hammonton, NJ 08037 or via PayPal to [parcur@comcast.net](mailto:parcur@comcast.net).

— Lisa Palladino

## Giving to Donkeys, Gaining Peace

By Shira Boss '93, JRN'97, SIPA'98

I've been reading *CCT*'s Class Notes end-to-end for two decades. Proofreading them is part of my job as the magazine's contributing writer but, to my surprise, messages written in the Class Notes for the Class of '43 — 50 years before mine — have changed my life.

During the last few years, class correspondent Dr. G.J. D'Angio '43 has lauded a U.K.-based nonprofit called The Donkey Sanctuary. Each time I read about it, I was intrigued. I envisioned a giant pasture where retired donkeys grazed in tranquility. Finally, one day I looked it up. While my visions of donkeys grazing in pastures turned out to be true (with seven farms and more than 6,600 donkeys sheltered), there's much more to it than that.

D'Angio was right when, in one of his columns, he called the organization incredible. It was founded in 1969 by Elisabeth Svendsen (now deceased) after she saw seven distressed donkeys crammed into a stall at a market; she later wrote that she was "rooted to the ground in horror." She dedicated the rest of her life to donkey welfare.

The Donkey Sanctuary not only takes in abandoned, abused or neglected donkeys in the United Kingdom and eight other European countries but also runs training, rescue and veterinary operations in impoverished communities farther abroad where donkeys work the hardest. The organization helps one million donkeys a year in 35 countries. It also runs "donkey-assisted therapy" programs for children with special needs and arranges visits to hospices and nursing homes.

Now that I know about the donkeys' travails, I fret about them. Following in D'Angio's footsteps, I now support The Donkey Sanctuary to the extent I'm able.

With the 25th anniversary of my class's graduation approaching, my new connection to The Donkey Sanctuary seems fortuitous. To me, the 25th reunion marks the last big milestone in becoming an adult. I'd always hoped to have my life "together" by the 25th, even though I wasn't sure what the measure of that would be (although I knew it would extend beyond professional achievement or financial success).

Despite personal finance being my professional expertise, I had ignored financial gurus' advice to systematically give away a portion of my income. It doesn't seem logical: If we seek financial security and want to amass wealth, why would we give money away?

I'd always made small donations to various causes — that's what most of us do, according to my research on philanthropy and giving behavior. But I had never dedicated myself to supporting any one organization. That changed after I learned about The Donkey Sanctuary.



COURTESY TRIONA O'MAHONY / THE DONKEY SANCTUARY

Almost immediately after making my first donation, I received a payment for a book advance — one never knows when those will arrive — and promptly donated 10 percent of it to The Donkey Sanctuary. I found it strangely thrilling — not a loss at all but a huge gain in personal peace. Since then, I've continued the practice of giving away a percentage of all income, even though my family's budget is tight and it often feels like we can't afford it. It's challenging, but I finally feel like I'm doing my bit to help others versus focusing only on my family's needs.

Because I wasn't raised in a tradition of tithing, it's taken this long for me to see the light: Ironically, by giving money away rather than accumulating it, I feel true financial peace and security. By letting some money go — a good amount of money, that makes a difference to us — we realize there is more than enough. When I start to question if I can really afford to donate — such as when we worry about going over our grocery budget or wonder if we can afford activities for the kids — that's when I check in with the donkeys through The Donkey Sanctuary's website and send a donation. I always feel better!

Not only that but I'm finding wanting to give more money to help the donkeys is inspiring me to get creative in order to raise more money — through belt-tightening, selling things and earning more — a motivation that had largely escaped me until now.

Some fellow alumni have helped others by founding nonprofits, dedicating their lives to teaching or inventing creative solutions to the world's problems. By supporting a cause through donations, I've realized I too can participate in solving a problem in the wider world.

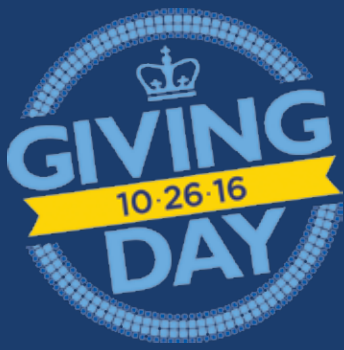
The donkeys being helped are far away (I'm not sure I'd ever even seen a donkey until my family went to a petting zoo in Riverside Park this past summer). But their plight keeps me up at night, and doing my part soothes my soul.

By connecting to this cause through Class Notes, I can now go to my 25th reunion feeling I've matured in a way that feels significant for me. And that — developing your whole person, inside and out and without end — is definitely in the Columbia tradition.

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**Shira Boss '93, JRN'97, SIPA'98** was a freelance journalist for *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Forbes.com* and *The New York Times*, among other publications, and "Marketplace" on public radio. She is the author of *Green with Envy: Why Keeping Up with the Joneses Is Keeping Us in Debt* and runs the website *Zero Cost Kids*. She lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, two sons and two whippets.





# TOGETHER, LET'S CHANGE LIVES THAT CHANGE THE WORLD



Five years ago, Columbia College made history, leading the way on the very first Columbia Giving Day. Since then, thousands of alumni, parents and friends have taken part in this challenge, using 24 hours to break records and show their support for the Core, scholarships, student life and more.

On October 26, join us in celebrating the 5th anniversary of Giving Day and discover new ways that you can give *through* Columbia.

**[GIVINGDAY.COLUMBIA.EDU](http://GIVINGDAY.COLUMBIA.EDU)**





# SAVE THE DATE

## REUNION WEEKEND 2017

THURSDAY, JUNE 1 – SUNDAY, JUNE 4

If your class year ends in 2 or 7 or you're in the Class of 2016,  
save the date for Reunion Weekend 2017, a chance to see  
classmates and friends on campus and throughout New York City.

[college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2017](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2017)



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