



**CLARK HOYT '64
WATCHES OVER
THE WATCHDOGS**

PAGE 26



**COLLEGE HONORS FIVE
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
WITH JOHN JAY AWARDS**

PAGE 18

Columbia College

TODAY

May/June 2010

Gareth Williams' Core Principles

For more than 16 years,
the Violin Family
Professor of Classics
has been breathing
life into ancient
languages and texts
for thousands
of students



ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Columbia College

Come Celebrate Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010 — the reunion that everyone is looking forward to!



1945

1950

1955

1960

1965

1970

1975

1980

1985

1990

1995

2000

2005

In addition to class-specific events throughout the weekend, you can join all Columbians celebrating their reunions on Friday at the “Back on Campus” sessions, including Core Curriculum mini-courses, engineering lectures, tours of the Morningside campus and its libraries and more. There even will be unique opportunities to engage deeply with the city’s arts community with theater, ballet, music and gallery options.

Columbians will be dispersed throughout the Heights and greater Gotham all weekend long, but Saturday is everyone’s day on campus. This year’s Saturday programming will invite all alumni back to celebrate and learn together from some of Columbia’s best-known faculty in a series of public lectures, at the Decades BBQs and affinity receptions. The night wraps up with the reunion classes’ tri-college wine tasting on Low Plaza, followed by our biggest line-up of class dinners ever and a final tri-college gathering for champagne, dancing and good times on Low Plaza.

Dates and Registration Information

♣ **Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6, 2010**

♣ **REGISTER TODAY!**

For more information or to register online,
please visit <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

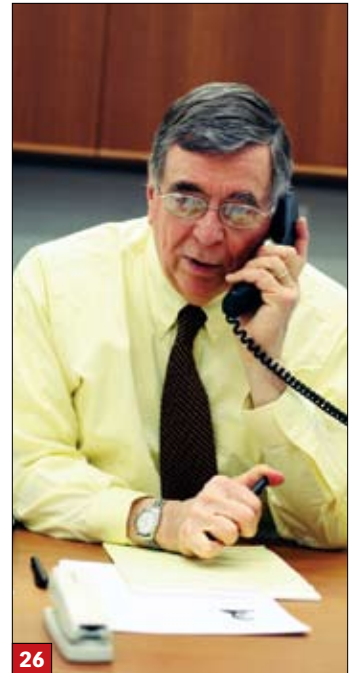
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Watch excerpts from an interview with Professor Gareth Williams.

KOREN'S BIG SHOW

Edward Koren '57 and curators David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS and Diane Fane '93 GSAS discuss aspects of the exhibit of Koren's work, on display now at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery.

FOUR MINUTES, ONE MILE

Watch Kyle Merber '12 become the first person wearing Columbia blue to run a mile in under four minutes.

FIVE MORE MINUTES

See part of CCT's discussion with Germanic Languages Professor Stefan Andriopoulos.

Columbia College TODAY

Volume 37 Number 5
May/June 2010

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Published six times a year by the
Columbia College Office of
Alumni Affairs and Development.

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For alumni, students, faculty, parents and
friends of Columbia College, founded in 1754,
the undergraduate liberal arts college of
Columbia University in the City of New York.

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ISSN 0572-7820

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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 and clarity. Please direct letters for publication "TO THE EDITOR."

Letters to the Editor

Professor Karl Kroeber

I and no doubt countless other Columbia College alumni read with sadness the news of Professor Karl Kroeber's death in the March/April issue ["Around the Quads"]. Over the years, when people have asked me, "Who was your favorite professor at Columbia?" I have immediately replied, "Karl Kroeber, Romantic poetry." CCT's description of him as a "demanding but compassionate professor who relentlessly challenged his students" is apt, but I would add that he was a gentle, kindly man, erudite, regal but not overbearing, and oh-so-well-versed in and passionate about his field. He wanted the Romantic poets and his students to be the stars of the class rather than himself, but it was sheer magic when he read aloud the poetry of Browning and Tennyson, holding our small class enthralled. I would think that the greatest reward of teaching is knowing that one had a relatively brief interaction with one's students, but gave them a gift for a lifetime; some 38 years later, this is how I remember this great professor.

Joshua J. Wiener '75
JACKSON, MISS.

Going Green

In the March/April "Letters to the Editor," Fred DeVries '49, '50E, '51E complains about the focus on carbon emissions and global climate change. I'm curious about his sources. Certainly his claim about the Arctic sea ice seems dubious, given the maps and graphs available from Cryosphere Today (arctic.atmos.uiuc.edu/cryosphere). I'm baffled by his claim that there's a limit on the greenhouse effect. While carbon dioxide may become inefficient at retaining heat if the temperature rises too much (and I haven't done the calculations to show what temperature that might be), other molecules with higher vaporization temperatures will absorb heat we'd rather the Earth could shed.

Mr. DeVries also claims that the greenhouse gas concentration was higher than current levels when the Pennsylvania coal fields formed, but provides no source for this information. The Stanford Solar Center provides a graph showing the run-up in three significant greenhouse gases (<http://solar-center.stanford.edu/sun-on-earth/glob-warm.html>), all of which show sharp changes in slope around the industrial revolution. A related source (www.nasa.gov/topics/earth/features/temp-analysis-2009.html) points out that we are currently in a deep solar minimum, with a corresponding decrease in the amount of energy Earth gets from the sun, but global warming continues.

While the Earth has experienced warm periods, those were before the invention of the modern city. During both the Roman and medieval warm periods, the vast majority of the human population could walk to where their food was grown. Today, we consider 500 miles "local" for food production purposes. I wonder just how healthy the American economy will be if the grain belt (and the Texas desert south of it) moves north. Depending on imports for both energy and food has not historically been a recipe for economic and political stability.

Jennifer Broekman '93
FAIR LAWN, N.J.

Despite my great affection for my classmate Fred DeVries '49, '50E, '51E, I am distressed by his attempt in a recent letter to CCT to debunk the notion of global warming. I hate to say this, but reading it reminded me of one of my favorite cartoons, published in *Punch* many years ago, that shows a living room with a man kneeling in front of its bookshelves and holding an open book, while a woman (apparently his wife) sitting nearby and knitting under a floor lamp is quoted as saying, "Surely you don't expect mere facts to sway my opinion!"

With the greatest respect, may I suggest that Mr. DeVries consider the facts and arguments set forth by James Hansen, head of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies and an adjunct professor of physics at Columbia, in his recent book, *Storms of My Grandchildren: The Truth About the Coming Climate Catastrophe and Our Last Chance to Save Humanity*, reviewed in the American Chemical Society's newsmagazine *Chemical and Engineering News*, March 22. Very few educated people, and still fewer scientifically trained folks, believe global warming to be anything other than a truly serious threat that must be dealt with in a serious fashion.

Joseph B. Russell '49, '52L
NEW YORK CITY

I just read the latest CCT (March/April). It is very distressing that you published,

(Continued on page 78)

WITHIN THE FAMILY

Hoops Hopes: Coaching at Columbia

Joe Jones' decision to resign as men's head basketball coach at Columbia to become an assistant under Steve Donahue at Boston College provides a chance to reflect on the nature of coaching and the Columbia program.

Jones has been there, done that when it comes to being an assistant to an on-the-rise young head coach in a major conference. Prior to coming to Columbia, he was Jay Wright's top assistant at Villanova of the Big East Conference. So why, after running his own show for seven years, would Jones choose to go back to being an assistant, this time to Donahue, the former Cornell coach, in the Atlantic Coast Conference? And what, if anything, does it say about the Columbia program?

Keep two things in mind. First, coaches tend to be vagabonds, moving from job to job. Of the remaining Ivy head coaches following Donahue's departure, only one had been in the position longer than Jones — his brother James, who just completed his 11th season at Yale. Second, sports programs are never static. A program that is not moving forward, however that is measured by the powers that be, is considered to be sliding backward.

Columbia was 0–14 in the Ivy League and 2–25 overall the year before Jones arrived. It showed immediate improvement with Jones' first recruiting class, and by the time those players were seniors in 2006–07, the Lions were 7–7 in Ivy play (fourth in the league) and 16–12 overall. Clearly, the program was moving forward. But after two more 7–7 Ivy seasons, Columbia dipped to 5–9 this year, and has been on the south side of .500 overall in each of the last three years. At a time when Penn had faded from Ivy dominance and Princeton had slumped as well (before rebounding last winter), Columbia had watched Cornell leapfrog it to the top and Harvard surge past it last season as well. It's understandable if Jones felt he had taken Columbia back to a certain level and that it was time to move on to a higher-profile program where he could focus on what

he does best, which is recruiting and coaching defense, even though it meant no longer being a head coach.

Should Jones' tenure on Morningside Heights be judged a success or a failure? His teams never did better than .500 in the Ivy League and posted only one winning season overall, so by that standard his success was limited. But he did bring a sagging program back to respectability, so I agree with Athletics Director M. Dianne Murphy, who pointed out when Jones' resignation was announced, "Our men's basketball program is in much better shape now than when he first arrived, and for that we are very thankful."

Personable and energetic, Jones was a campus presence who was well-liked by his players and worked for their well-being on and off the court. He made his team a part of campus life and elevated its place in alumni consciousness. These factors all go into how a coach, especially an Ivy League coach, should be measured.

Winning in the Ivy League, and winning consistently, is not easy. That's why Donahue left Ithaca after a 13–1 Ivy season and a 29–5 mark overall, including a pair of NCAA tournament wins that garnered national attention. His Cornell team was loaded with seniors, including stars Ryan Wittman, Jeff Foote and Louis Dale, so Donahue realized this was his time to cash in and not risk being in the position of overseeing a program that had passed its peak.

The key to success in the Ivies, like any other league, is recruiting. But recruiting for Columbia, or any Ivy school, is challenging because of the shallow pool of prospects who are capable of, and willing to, combine a rigorous academic program with the



Joe Jones led Columbia to the top half of the Ivy League in three of the last four years.

PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

demands of Division I basketball. Not only is Columbia competing with the seven other Ivies for these select prospects, but also with top academic schools like Duke, Stanford and others that can offer athletic scholarships and have much higher athletic profiles.

That does not mean the job is hopeless. Between a Columbia degree and all that New York City has to offer, Jones' successor has much to offer to recruits. And the beauty

of basketball is you don't need a bevy of players to turn a program around; Donahue endured six losing seasons at Cornell before catching lightning in a bottle with the convergence of an all-around star (Wittman), a floor general (Dale) and a 7-foot center (Foote).

I'm reminded of the Lions of my college years, when Brooklyn's Jim McMillian '70 turned down UCLA to stay in the city and blossomed into an All-American, 7-footer Dave Newmark '69 was a pivot presence and Heyward Dotson '70, '76L provided backcourt leadership and scoring. That team won the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden when the tourney really meant something, was ranked in the nation's top 10, won the 1968 Ivy championship in a one-game playoff against Princeton and provided a positive rallying point at a time when campus unrest was about to bubble over.

Such success can happen again. Cornell had won exactly one Ivy championship in half a century before dominating the league the last three years. With the right coach and commitment, Columbia can do the same.

Alex Sarhara

AROUND THE QUADS

Reunion June 3–6 Features New Events; Dean's Day To Be Held on June 5

BY LISA PALLADINO

Alumni Reunion Weekend for class years ending in 0 and 5 will take place Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. Dean's Day, which is open to all alumni and parents, will be held during the same weekend, on Saturday, June 5.

Reunion events include class-specific lunches, dinners, cocktail parties/receptions, discussion panels and tours. All-class events include the always-popular wine tasting and Starlight Reception on Saturday evening as well as learning opportunities, campus tours, and dance and Broadway performances.

Dean's Day, one of the College's most popular events, features lectures by some of Columbia's most prominent faculty on a variety of topics.

The Class of 1960 starts Alumni Reunion Weekend early with a special reception on Wednesday, June 2. The weekend officially kicks off on Thursday, June 3, with class-specific events such as cocktail parties/receptions and tours, as well as a choice of the American Ballet Theater, New York Philharmonic or Broadway shows. These performances are open to all reunion attendees, but tickets must be purchased in advance, as seating is limited.

Friday morning and afternoon feature campus tours, "Back on Campus" learning opportunities and an "Essentials of Estate Planning" breakfast that is open to all. That evening, join classmates at class-specific cocktail parties/receptions and dinners. Those who observe the Sab-



Reunion is the time to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

bath may participate in a Tri-College (College, SEAS, Barnard) Shabbat Service and Dinner.

New this year for young alumni (Classes 2000–2010) is a party on Friday night aboard the recently restored *Intrepid*. Join SEAS, Barnard and GS friends and classmates, and revive those *Intrepid* parties of old! There will be dancing,

flight simulation, food and limited open bar. Tickets will be available for \$25 at the door.

Starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, attendees with children ages 3–12 may sign them up for Saturday's all-day supervised Camp Columbia for Kids. Also on Saturday morning, all alumni, including Dean's Day participants, may sign up for the Dean's Continental Breakfast in Alfred Lerner Hall. Dean Michele Moody-Adams will give an update on the College.

After breakfast, events continue for all alumni with Public Intellectual Lectures, and class-specific lunches or group class barbecues. After lunch, choose from more learning opportunities, attend the annual Admissions Presentation/Alumni Representative Committee reception for members and those who wish to join ARC or attend a Center for Career Education presentation.

Also new this year is a Glee Club alumni gathering, which will include two rehearsals (Friday and Saturday) and a performance on Saturday. Building on the success of last year's affinity group gatherings, alumni from WKCR, *Spectator*, Marching Band and the Glee Club and other singing groups also will gather. All alumni, not just those celebrating reunion, are welcome at these Saturday afternoon receptions. Also on Saturday afternoon, all alumni are invited to a tour of cartoonist Edward Koren '57's exhibit "The Capricious Line" in the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery (see page 16).



There are plenty of family-friendly activities throughout the weekend.



Alumni enjoy the Saturday wine tasting on Low Steps.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

Reunion classes will continue the celebration on Saturday evening with the all-class wine tasting, elegant class-specific dinners and the all-class Starlight Reception. The weekend wraps up on Sunday morning with a bagel, cream cheese and lox brunch.

To register for reunion and learn more, go to <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>. To register for Dean's Day and select lectures, go to www.college.columbia.edu/deansday.

For more information or assistance with either event, please contact the Alumni Office: 212-851-7488 or 866-CCALUMNI.

Jealous To Address Class of 2010 at Class Day

Benjamin Jealous '94, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, will address the Class of 2010 at Class Day, Monday, May 17, on South Lawn.

Jealous, a lifelong civil and human rights activist, has been a tireless and vocal advocate for his constituents since taking over the NAACP in 2008. In his brief tenure, he has seen what many consider historic victories for minorities in the United States, including the election of a black president, Barack Obama '83, and the recent passages of a sweeping healthcare reform bill and a bill to overhaul student loans.

In 2009, Jealous received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement and was the featured speaker at his class' 15th reunion dinner. He was profiled in the March/April 2009 issue of *Columbia College Today*: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr09.

Alumni from all classes have a chance to participate in Class Day festivities by marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes,



Alumni carry the Class of 1964 banner in last year's Alumni Parade of Classes.

PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN '04J

carrying their class year banners in the processional that also includes graduating students, faculty and administrators. This parade underscores the transition the graduates will be making from students to alumni, and emphasizes that their Columbia connection is lifelong.

Alumni marching in the parade are invited to a champagne breakfast in John Jay Dining Hall that begins at 8:30 a.m. The parade is scheduled to begin at 9:45 a.m. Alumni interested in participating should contact Stella Miele-Zanedis, assistant director of alumni affairs: 212-851-7846 or mf2413@columbia.edu.



Benjamin Jealous '94
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

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2. Call for Help



3. Address the Issue



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THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

IN LUMINE TUO

■ **LENFEST AWARDS:** Seven faculty members were honored on February 16 as recipients of this year's Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards, which were established in 2005 by University Trustee Gerry Lenfest '58L to make sure faculty members are recognized and rewarded for attributes beyond their scholarship and research. "Columbia has a tradition of great teachers, and although it's important how many books they publish, what's more important is the connections they establish with their students," Lenfest said.

This year's winners were Stefan Andriopoulos, associate professor of Germanic languages and literature (see "5 Minutes with ...", page 10); Harmen Bussemaker, associate professor of biological sciences; Julie Crawford, associate professor of English and comparative literature; Lydia Goehr, professor of philosophy; Steven Goldstein '76, '81 GSAS, '86 GSAS, professor of earth and environmental sciences; Ruben Gonzalez, assistant professor of chemistry; and David Scott, professor of anthropology. The seven, who were feted at a dinner in Faculty House, will receive an award of \$25,000 apiece for three consecutive years.

■ **SLOAN FELLOWS:** Five Columbia faculty members were named research fellows by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, which awards two-year, \$50,000 grants to support the work of exceptional young researchers early in their academic careers. The five were among 118 scientists, mathematicians and economists honored.

Columbia's new Sloan Fellows are Navin Kartik, associate professor of economics; Eitan Grinspun, associate professor of computer science; Tristan Lambert, assistant professor of chemistry; Scott Snyder, assistant professor of chemistry; and Tanya Zelevinsky, assistant professor of physics.



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Columbians Win Prestigious Scholarships

BY ETHAN ROUEN '04J

Four students and one alumnus — Shlomo Bolts '10, Max Horlbeck '11, Hannah Perls '11, Todd Nelson '12 and Colin Felsman '09 — have received prestigious scholarships that will allow them to pursue graduate coursework in a variety of fields.

Bolts, a political science and sociology major from Miami Beach, Fla., has been awarded a Gates Cambridge Scholarship, beating out more than 800 applicants for one of just 29 slots. The award will fund Bolts' work at England's Cambridge University for two years.

Bolts plans to pursue an M.Phil. in modern society and global transformations. His areas of interest include globalization, peace studies and denationalization, and he hopes to pursue a career in diplomacy and conflict resolution, according to Michael Pippenger, associate dean of fellowship programs and study abroad.

Bolts has been a leader in several campus organizations including the Progressive Jewish Alliance and Amnesty International. He also co-founded Common Ground, a Jewish-Muslim dialogue program.

Bolts is the third Columbia student to win the award, founded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000, in the last two years. To read about last year's winners, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr09.

Horlbeck, a Rabi Scholar from New York City who is majoring in biochemistry and computer science, won a Goldwater Scholarship, which provides about \$7,500 to students who plan to pursue a Ph.D. in science, math or engineering. Horlbeck plans to apply to a dual M.D./Ph.D. program so that he can conduct biomedical research to develop gene-targeted therapies, treat patients and teach at the university level.

Ilya Belopolski '12, a double major in physics and mathematics and also a Rabi Scholar, received honorable mention in the Goldwater Scholarship competition.

Perls and Nelson won Udall Scholarships, the most prestigious award given to undergraduates in the field of environmental science. It was the first time that two Columbia students won the \$5,000 grant in the same year.

Perls, an environmental science major

from Weston, Mass., plans to become a climate scientist, creating improved mechanisms to forecast how climate change affects water, agriculture and human health.

Nelson is double majoring in environmental science and history. The Winston-Salem, N.C., native hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in environmental public health, which will allow him to pursue policy work at the national level on health risks associated with climate change.

Felsman received a Luce Foundation grant, which provides money and training to about 16 young Americans every year so they can work in Asia. A Dulles, Va., native, Felsman majored in anthropology and political science. Since graduation, he has been working at a non-profit development agency in Harare, Zimbabwe. He will focus on entrepreneurial aid and development in Shanghai next year at the Non-Profit Incubator.

Shira Milikowsky '07 Arts also received a Luce grant.

The Fellowship Office, which assists students in applying for awards, assisted the students through mock interviews, essay assistance and other help. The office also worked with Raphael Graybill '10, who won a Rhodes Scholarship earlier this academic year (go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb10).

Financial Aid Fills in the Picture



SCHOLARSHIPS 101

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- College Annual Fund



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Academics Gather To Honor Belknap

Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages and Director of University Seminars Robert L. Belknap has instilled a love of Russian literature in several generations of students, and many of those he influenced to become scholars and teachers returned to campus on February 12–13 for a conference in his honor. Participants in “A Conference in Honor of Robert L. Belknap, Formulations: Teaching Nineteenth-Century Russian Literature” were

(back row, left to right) Robin Feuer Miller, Brandeis; Robert Louis Jackson, emeritus Yale; Richard F. Gustafson, emeritus Barnard and Columbia; Marcia A. Morris, Georgetown; Liza Knapp, Columbia; Ellen Chances, Princeton; and Belknap, and (front row, left to right) Jefferson Gatrall, Montclair State; Rebecca Stanton '94, Barnard and Columbia; Hilde Hoogenboom, SUNY Albany; Cathy Popkin, Columbia; Cathy Nepomnyashchy, Barnard and

Columbia; Deborah A. Martinsen, Columbia; Irina Reyfman, Columbia; Andrew Durkin, emeritus Indiana; and William Mills Todd III, Harvard. All but Jackson, Chances, Popkin and Reyfman earned their Ph.D. from Columbia.

Ethan Rouen '04J



PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN '04J



Dozens of alumni braved a blizzard on February 25 to listen to five heavyweights from the business world discuss the future of private equity. The event was hosted by Everett Weinberger '86 at Merrill Lynch's Manhattan office. Lisa Landau Carnoy '89 (far left) moderated the discussion while (left to right) Michael Behringer '89, Alex Margolies '89, Manu Rana '92 and Alexander Nevab '87 shared their insights and expertise with the audience.

PHOTO: ETHAN ROUEN '04J

DEAN'S DAY • SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2010 • NEW YORK CITY



Columbia College and the Columbia College Alumni Association are proud to sponsor Dean's Day 2010. Scheduled for Saturday, June 5, the program provides the opportunity for alumni and parents to participate in thought-provoking lectures and discussions with some of Columbia's finest faculty.

Dean's Day 2010 is particularly noteworthy, as it is Dean Michele Moody-Adams' first Dean's Day as Dean of the College. Additionally, Dean's Day 2010 coincides with Alumni Reunion Weekend. With even more alumni on campus, this year's event should be the most exciting and well-attended yet.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

8:00 a.m.	Registration Opens — <i>Alfred Lerner Hall</i>
8:30–10:15 a.m.	Dean's Continental Breakfast with Opening Address by Michele Moody-Adams, Dean of Columbia College
9:30 a.m.	Camp Columbia for Kids
10:30–11:45 a.m.	Public Intellectual Lectures
Noon–1:30 p.m.	Lunch
2:00–3:30 p.m.	Core Curriculum Lectures
3:30–5:00 p.m.	WKCR, <i>Columbia Daily Spectator</i> and Columbia University Marching Band Affinity Receptions and a special performance by the Glee Club and other singing groups



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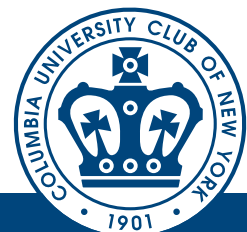


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Stefan Andriopoulos is an associate professor in the Department of Germanic Languages and one of the recipients of this year's Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards, aka the Lenfest Awards (so named in honor of their creator, trustee Gerry Lenfest '58L). Andriopoulos' research focuses on media history and interrelations of literature and science. The author of three books, he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Hamburg and studied at UC Irvine and UC Berkeley before coming to Columbia.

Where did you grow up?
I grew up in Germany, in a small town a half-hour from Frankfurt.

What did you want to be when you were growing up?
I have to admit, I always wanted to be a professor. I don't remember what I wanted to be when I was very young, but I do remember in high school, I wanted to become a professor of German literature.

How did that happen at such a young age?
I read a lot as a child. My mother was a teacher of German literature, so there was always a lot of literary fiction around me. Whenever I

wanted a book, I just needed to say, "I want that book," and I would get it.

What were the books that got you into literature?
I started with children's literature. When I was 14 or 15, I started reading serious fiction.

How did you end up at Columbia?
I was visiting New York, and I met the woman who is now

around 1800. It looks at Kant, Hegel and Schopenhauer. Kant wrote a book about spirit visions; one wouldn't expect that. I look at these philosophical texts and I focus on how they intersect with contemporaneous optical technologies, specifically the magic lantern that was used to stage ghost shows in dark rooms, an early version of cinema, as it were. I also examine Gothic novels from the

Jonathan Lethem's *Chronic City*.

What is your favorite food?
My wife is Taiwanese-American, so we go to visit her family and I love those 10–12 course family dinners, minus the sea cucumber. I am extremely fond of these banquets with many courses where you have to pace yourself.

Do you often travel to Taiwan?

We usually go once a year, most often around spring break. The flight is very long.

If you could be anywhere in the world, where would you be?

A Greek Island in September when the tourists are gone and it's still beautiful. My father is Greek. As a child, I'd spend every summer in Greece.

How do you recharge?
I have to get out of the city sometime, which isn't the easiest. I also recharge by reading crime novels. It's a way of distracting myself.

What is your favorite place out of the city?
The Berkshires are really beautiful. They remind me of a German landscape.

What's your favorite spot in the city?
Close by, I like Riverside Park a lot. I'm also a fan of Brooklyn, especially the area around Prospect Park. I have friends there. It's a long subway ride, so I don't go every week. But whenever I'm there, I really like it. Wave Hill in the Bronx also is very beautiful.

What on your resume are you most proud of?
I'm too young to answer that question.

To watch excerpts from this interview, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen '04J

Five Minutes with ... Stefan Andriopoulos

my wife. I stayed with a friend, and she was a friend of that friend. Soon after that, there was an opening for a beginning assistant professorship in the German department at Columbia, and I applied and I got the job.

What were your initial impressions of New York?
It's very fast and very global. I do think that makes it easier to be an immigrant here. Nearly 40 percent of New Yorkers are born abroad, so arriving in New York City is very different from arriving in the rest of the United States. It's very normal to have an accent. People come from all over the world.

What will you be teaching in the fall?
I will be teaching a class on Weimar Cinema, German silent film from the 1920s. I also will be teaching a class on German intellectual history called "Spirit and Ghosts from Kant to Marx." That is a class about how philosophical notions of spirit overlap with ghostly metaphors, and how canonical philosophical texts intersect with the Gothic novel and contemporaneous optical media.

What are you working on?
My current book project is about ghosts and apparitions

same period. There you also have ghostly apparitions that are terrifying and shocking.

Ghost shows?
Etienne Robertson staged his phantasmagorias in a completely dark vault where he would project magic lantern slides on hidden screens, or even on smoke. There is no clear boundary between screen and audience. In the middle of the room, there's a cloud of smoke, and there's a projection on that. The highlights were sudden magnifications that were terrifying to the audience because it seemed as if the figures were looming out at the viewer.

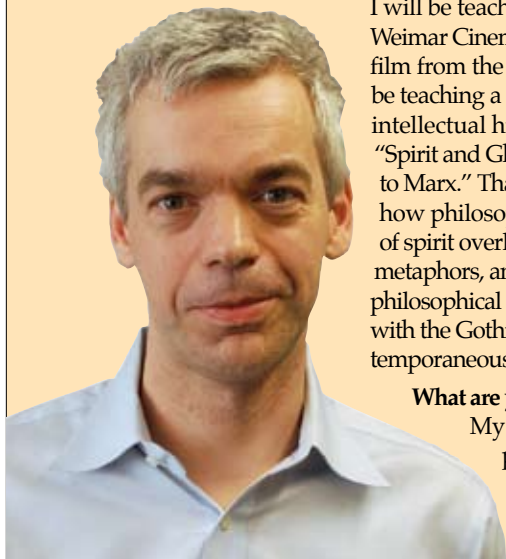
Do you travel to Germany often?
I go back two or three times a year for conferences and to visit family, but I never stay long.

Do you have any children?
My wife, Lisa Chang, and I are expecting our first child in August.

Where do you live?
I live on Claremont Avenue in Morningside Heights.

What's something your students would never guess about you?
I listen to electronic music and drum and bass.

What's the last great book you read for pleasure?



ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ The financial crisis seemed to strike every corner of the economy, but at Florida-based Heico Corp., the last two years have been business as usual. The company, run by **Laurans Mendelson '60, '61 Business**, and his sons, **Eric '87, '89 Business**, and **Victor '89**, does not make or sell the hottest new product. Instead, it supplies components used in defense, space, medicine and homeland security. "This is a very boring company," Laurans, who served on Columbia's Board of Trustees, told *The Miami Herald* in a lengthy profile of the publicly traded company, published in January. It also is a company making high-margin products in several recession-proof industries. Victor first noticed Heico while he was a College student, and the family thought that taking control would be an ideal way to achieve their dream of running a company together. Since the Mendelsons took control in the early '90s, Heico's stock has outperformed that of Berkshire Hathaway, run by investment guru Warren Buffett '51 Business.

■ **Tom Kitt '96** and **Brian Yorkey '93's** Tony Award-winning musical, *Next to Normal*, has earned another prestigious trophy — the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for drama. Given by the Journalism School, the \$10,000 award is one of the most highly regarded an American playwright can receive. The Pulitzer Board said the musical, with book and lyrics by Yorkey and music by Kitt, is "a powerful rock musical that grapples with mental illness in a suburban family and expands the scope of subject matter for musicals."

■ **Tze Chun '02's** *Children of Invention* was a favorite at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, and the movie about two children left to fend for themselves after their mother's



Running a business was a family goal for Laurans Mendelson '60, '61 Business (seated) and his sons, Eric '87, '89 Business (left) and Victor '89.

arrest was making headlines at this year's festival, too. *Children of Invention* was one of only five movies used to launch YouTube Rentals, the online video company's experiment in online video-on-demand rentals. Unlike so many other options for at-home movie watching, the new site allows viewers to interact with artists. Chun posted video blogs during the festival, answering questions posed by viewers in the site's comments section.

■ **Sam Bisbee '90** needs to make room on his shelf. He was the producer and sang the closing song for *The New Tenants*, which won the Oscar for Best Live Action Short Film at the Academy Awards in March. The Dutch film focuses on two men who move into an apartment and find themselves entangled in its horrific history.

■ Be careful not to step on **Doug Morris '60** when walking down Hollywood Boulevard. Morris, the worldwide chairman and CEO of Universal Music Group, was honored in January with his own star

on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Morris is one of the most influential people in the music world, and his labels have produced hits by superstars such as Rihanna, Kanye West, U2, Lady Gaga and the Black Eyed Peas. Joining Morris at the unveiling of the star were two of his musicians, R&B legend Mary J. Blige and William of the Black Eyed Peas. Both spoke about Morris' role in their success.

■ **Katori Hall '03's** *The Mountaintop* was the surprise winner of the Best New Play award at the 2010 Olivier Awards, the top prizes in British theater and the equivalent of the Tony Awards on Broadway. The play, about Martin Luther King's last night before he was assassinated, debuted in London in 2009 and ran at two theaters, including Trafalgar Studios in the West End, receiving much critical acclaim. Producers there said they plan to bring *The Mountaintop* back to the theater and are discussing a Broadway run. CCT profiled Hall in its March/April 2008 issue (www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/mar_apr08).



Katori Hall '03
PHOTO: CHRISTINE CAIN-WEIDNER

■ **John Chachas '86** has thrown his hat in the ring to take on one of the United States' most powerful senators. Chachas quit his job as an investment banker in New York and returned to his native Nevada to run in the Republican primary for that state's Senate seat. If he wins, he will face off against Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid in November. A managing director at Lazard Freres and Co., Chachas grew up in Ely, Nev., and found success helping media and entertainment companies such as Disney, Heart and Clear Channel.

Ethan Rouen '04]

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Rebecca Chan '12 and Jordan Hollarsmith '12 Raise Awareness About Climate Change

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

A shared concern about environmental issues and the effects of climate change has led **Rebecca Chan '12** and **Jordan Hollarsmith '12** down converging paths.

In March 2008, Chan and Hollarsmith were among 15 high school students named California Climate Champions in a competition sponsored by the California Air Resources Board in conjunction with the British Council's broader International Climate Champions Program. Both initiatives seek to create a network of young adults equipped to educate their communities about the impacts of climate change and ways in which individuals can reduce their carbon emissions. Winners, selected based on communication skills and knowledge of and enthusiasm for the topic, engaged in online networking with peers and attended a "climate camp" where they met and learned from experts.

"There was a big emphasis on media training and getting to know how environmental policy works at different levels of government," explains Hollarsmith, who hails from San Francisco.

As California Climate Champions, Chan and Hollarsmith also were expected to undertake individual projects to raise awareness about climate change. They chose to get involved with CU Earth Tutors, an afterschool program for middle school students at the Urban Science Academy in the Bronx and the Future Leaders Institute in Harlem. The program, designed to educate youth about environmental issues, meets on Fridays throughout the school year and is run entirely by Columbia students.

"We would direct science

experiments and have the students develop a hypothesis, perform tests and discuss the results. Then we would bring that discussion to the larger scale of what they can do in their everyday lives," explains Hollarsmith, who was involved with the program as a first-year student.

Chan, still an active member of Earth Tutors, adds, "It's not just a tutoring program but also a mentoring program. It's about exposure to college and college students as well as learning about the environment."

Chan, from Encinitas, was one of three California Climate Champions selected to represent the United States at the G8 Summit Environment Ministers Meeting in Kobe, Japan, in May 2008. Chan and other climate champions from around the world first met in London in March to develop a series of goals, three of which were to be presented in Kobe. In an effort to achieve a broader representation, the three most popular goals — education about climate change through school curricula and a government-funded mass media campaign, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and humanitarian aid for developing nations most affected by changes in global climate — were selected through an online ballot that had more than 20,000 votes.

"The idea was really to draw attention not only to the issue of climate change but also to point out that the younger generation needs to be involved," says Chan.

Chan also was one of two American students selected to attend a climate camp in Okinawa, Japan, in August 2009, during which she studied the effects of climate change on



Rebecca Chan '12 (left) and Jordan Hollarsmith '12 have traveled abroad to study the effects of climate change.

PHOTO: JANE ZELLAR '12E

the local coral reef.

After these enriching experiences, Chan has a clearer idea regarding the career path she'd like to pursue.

"My goal is to bridge the gap between science and policy," says Chan, who majors in chemistry and political science and plans to attend law school. "I'm hoping that with a scientific background, I will be able to understand what's going on well enough to help implement policy."

Like Chan, Hollarsmith's passion has taken her far — literally. As a junior in high school, she spent three weeks in Bangladesh, which experts predict would be among the countries most affected by rising sea levels as a result of changes in global temperatures. During her time in Bangladesh, Hollarsmith met with numerous humanitarian and environmental NGOs and became familiar with local grassroots environmental movements. She lodged in a hotel in Dhaka for part of the time and

also stayed on a boathouse on the Bay of Bengal.

The trip was an exchange program organized by the nonprofit Relief International as part of the U.S. Department of State's Linking Individuals, Knowledge and Culture initiative, which provided all the funding. The second leg of the trip was a stop in New Orleans, where participants stayed at Tulane to learn about disaster relief in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

"We learned a lot about disaster relief in Bangladesh, and then we got to hear Tulane professors speak about the science behind the hurricane and how changes in the local environment made the consequences of the storm even worse. The

depletion of the low wetlands led to a greater storm surge," explains Hollarsmith, who is an editor of *Catalyst: the Undergraduate Journal of Energy and Environmental Policy*, which is affiliated with the Roosevelt Institute, a national, student-run policy research group.

After exploring both the policy and scientific aspects of climate change, Hollarsmith discovered that she prefers the latter and has decided to major in environmental biology.

"I would rather be in the dirt collecting the data for the policy makers," says Hollarsmith, whose childhood hero was Captain Planet. "It's extremely important to have the strong science to back up the issues. Without that science, nothing would get passed."

Nathalie Alonso '08, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer of *LasMayores.com*, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language Web site.



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ROAR LION ROAR

■ **MILESTONE:** Kyle Merber '12 became the first Columbia runner to run a sub-4-minute mile when he won the Columbia Last Chance Meet at the Armory on March 5 with a time of 3 minutes, 58.52 seconds. His time, which was four seconds better than his previous lifetime best, set an Ivy League record for the indoor mile, breaking the mark of 3:58.70 set by Bill Burke of Princeton in 1991.

"Crossing the finish line and looking up at the clock was an un-



Kyle Merber '12 leads the pack at the Heptagonals at Dartmouth on February 28 en route to winning the 3,000m. One week later, he ran the first sub-four-minute mile in Columbia history.

PHOTO: DAN GROSSMAN, MAPLE LEAF PHOTOS

believable feeling," Merber said in an e-mail interview with Heps-Track.com. "That moment was everything that I could have dreamed of and more ... beyond my wildest dreams. Running at our home meet in front of all my teammates and my parents made this experience that much more valuable."

For another perspective on Merber's race, see "Alumni Corner" in this issue. To watch a video of the historic run, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/oct, "Web Exclusives."](http://www.college.columbia.edu/oct/WebExclusives)

Meanwhile, at the same meet, the women's 4x400m relay team of Kyra Caldwell '12, Yamira Bell '13, Kristen Houpp '12 and Sharay Hale '12 set an Ivy record with a time 3:38.04. Two other Columbia women set school records, Serita Lachesis '10 running 800m in 2:09.01 and Jacqueline Drouin '11 running the mile in 4:45.35.

■ **NCAA CHAMPION:** Nicole Ross '11 won the women's foil individual championship by capturing 21 of her 23 bouts at the NCAA Fencing Championships in Cambridge, Mass., on March 26. It was Columbia's first women's foil title since Tzu Moy '91, '02 P&S, in 1990.

Ross earned first-team All-America honors for the second time in her career. Sammy Roberts '12E

and Jackie Jacobson '11 received honorable mention All-America honors in sabre.

On the men's side, Dwight Smith '10 finished third in epee to earn first-team All-America honors and Jeff Spear '10 was seventh in sabre to earn second-team honors.

■ **LOMAX:** Judie Lomax '11 Barnard became the first Columbia women's basketball player to achieve All-America status when she was named an honorable mention All-American by the Associated Press on March 30. The 5-foot-11 forward, the first woman to lead the nation in rebounding in consecutive seasons, also became the first Lion to receive Ivy League Women's Basketball Player of the Year honors.

Lomax led the Ivy League in scoring (18.6 ppg), rebounding (14.2 rpg), steals (2.6 spg) and minutes played (37.6 mpg) and ranked second in field goal percentage (.542) and eighth in assists (2.7 apg). She was the league's Player of the Week six times and saved her best for last, getting 21 points and 21 rebounds against Yale and 20 points and a school-record 27 rebounds in the final weekend of the season.

The women finished the season with an 18-10 record overall and a

9-5 mark in Ivy competition, both school records for victories. Sara Yee '10E was named the Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive season.

■ **FOLEY:** Patrick Foley '10 was named to *ESPN The Magazine's* Academic All-America first team, the first Columbia men's basketball player to be so honored. Foley, a two-time co-captain who missed 12 games due to injury as a senior, was Columbia's third-leading scorer this season at 8.5 ppg and led the Lions with 2.4 apg. A third team Academic All-America last season, Foley carried a 3.87 GPA as a history major at the time the award was announced in February.

■ **WINTER ALL-IVY:** Judie Lomax '11 Barnard was the only unanimous selection to the women's basketball All-Ivy first team, while Kathleen Berry '11 and Sara Yee '10E received honorable mention. In men's basketball, Noruwa Agho '12, who led the Lions in scoring at 16.3 ppg, was chosen for the All-Ivy second team.

Several other Columbia student-athletes received All-Ivy recognition in winter sports:

First team: Kyra Caldwell '12 (women's track and field, 60m hur-

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dles), Sharay Hale '12 (women's track and field, 200m and 400m), Lydia Kopecky '13 (women's fencing, epee), Kyle Merber '12 (men's track and field, 3,000m), Adam Powell '11 (men's swimming, 50 free and 100 free), Sammy Roberts '12E (women's fencing, sabre), Daria Schneider '10 (women's fencing, sabre) and Jeff Spear '10 (men's fencing, sabre).

Second team: Erin Cyvan '11 (wrestling, 165 lbs.), Mariele Dunn '11 (women's swimming, 200y breaststroke), D'Meca Homer '13 Barnard (women's fencing, foil), Jackie Jacobson '12 (women's fencing, sabre), Melesa Johnson '11 (women's track and field, 60m hurdles), Kevin Lester '12 (wrestling, 285 lbs.), Katie Meili '13 (women's swimming, 100y breaststroke), Nnenna Okwara '13 (women's track and field, weight throw) and Monique Roberts '12 Barnard (women's track and field, pentathlon). The men's swimming 200y freestyle relay team of Powell, Darren Pagan '10E, Jordan Kobb '10 and Patrick Dougherty '13E and the 200y and 400y medley relay teams of Powell, Johnny Bailey '12, Eric Tang '10E and Bruno Esquen '12 also won second team honors.

Honorable mention: Lou Miller '10 (wrestling, 197 lbs.).

CAMPUS NEWS

■ **APPLICATIONS:** Columbia College once again received a record number of applications, with 21,747 students applying for places in the Class of 2014, up from 21,274 a year ago. Applications have risen each year since 1995, when 8,713 applications were received.

A total of 1,805 students were admitted to the Class of 2014 for an admit rate of 8.30 percent, making this the most selective class in school history. The admit rate was 8.92 percent last year, when the targeted class size was increased from 1,020 to 1,070 students, and 8.71 percent the year before.

SEAS accepted 592 of 4,431 applicants, an admit rate of 13.36 percent. Overall, the two schools received 26,178 applicants and admitted 2,397 students for an admit rate of 9.02 percent.

"The Undergraduate Admissions staff and I take great pride in admitting the Class of 2014," Jessica Marinaccio, dean of

undergraduate admissions, said in a statement. "Chosen from among 26,178 applicants in the most selective admissions cycle in our history, admitted students hail from 75 countries, all 50 states, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

The Class of 2014 is the second whose size is targeted at 1,070 as the College grows by 200 students across four years. The College is committed to maintaining small class sizes in the Core Curriculum, and sections were added in both Lit Hum and Art Hum to accommodate the 50 students added to the Class of 2013.

Columbia announced that next year it will begin accepting the Common Application, although like many selective schools, it also will require a supplemental form with school-specific questions. The "common app," as it is known, is a standardized application that was accepted by 392 colleges and universities in 2009–10 and allows students to fill out one

form and have it sent to several schools at one time.

■ **JOHN JAY:** The Rare Book & Manuscript Library announced in early March the publication of *The Selected Papers of John Jay* [Class of 1764], *Volume 1, 1760–1779*. This will be the first volume of seven in a new, annotated edition of Jay's correspondence and comprises a wide-ranging selection of the most significant and interesting public and private documents and letters that Jay wrote or received. *Volume 1* covers Jay's education at King's College, his early legal career, his growing political awareness, marriage to Sarah (Sally) Van Brugh Livingston and his increasing involvement in the Revolutionary cause. The volume ends with his presidency of Congress and his appointment as minister to Spain.

The volumes also will serve as a gateway to the Papers of John Jay Web site, which has more than 20,000 pages of Jay and Jay-related documents (www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/digital/jay).

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Cartoonist Koren Completes Columbia Circle



Edward Koren. *Pantheon Books, Cover of 1981 Spring Catalogue, 1981.*

IMAGES: COURTESY THE ARTIST AND THE MIRIAM AND IRA D. WALLACH ART GALLERY

The works of famed cartoonist Edward Koren '57 are returning to the place where he began drawing the creatures that led to his immense success in the art world.

An exhibit of Koren's cartoons is being shown through Saturday, June 12, at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery (www.columbia.edu/cu/wallach).

"Having my work shown at Columbia is a special kind of homecoming," Koren writes in the exhibit's catalogue. "Columbia has been the rootstock of all I've done since graduating and moving on, and this exhibition is like bringing all my family-

and friends on paper back to show them where they came from — a trip to the old country for the next generation."

Koren began drawing cartoons for *Jester* while a student and was editor-in-chief of the humor magazine his senior year.

"He was always the star," says David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS, the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History, Koren's successor as editor of *Jester* and curator of the exhibit. "We all hung around waiting for his first *New Yorker* submission to be accepted."

That acceptance came in 1962, and for almost five decades, Koren has been dazzling his erudite audience with playful



Edward Koren. *Spring Books, 1977.*

make-believe, serving as a Dr. Seuss for grown-ups. His work has been published in newspapers and magazines around the world, with nearly 1,000 of his drawings enlivening the pages of *The New Yorker*.

While the exhibit is the first full show of Koren's work at Columbia, it also serves as a conclusion for his friend Rosand, who is retiring from Columbia a few weeks after the show is completed.

"It's very personal," Rosand says. "It's a reaching back to my most glorious days at Columbia when I was a freshman and drawing for *Jester*."

Ethan Rouen '04]

To see video of Edward Koren '57 and curators David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS and Diana Fane '93 GSAS discuss aspects of the exhibition, go to www.college.columbia.edu/jct.



Edward Koren. "And on my right is Joe Nast, representing an opposing viewpoint." 1982.



Edward Koren. *Self-Portrait, 1991.*



2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2010

Columbia College Young Alumni invites the Classes of 2000–2010 to attend the Young Alumni Party on the *USS Intrepid*.

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ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Columbia College

2010 John Jay Awards Presented to Five Alumni

BY LISA PALLADINO

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

Five accomplished College alumni were honored on March 3 at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York City with 2010 John Jay Awards for distinguished professional achievement.

Brian C. Krisberg '81, '84L, an attorney; Frank Lopez-Balboa '82 and Tracy V. Maitland '82, both from the finance sector; David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS, the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History; and Julia Stiles '05, a stage and film actress, were joined by alumni, faculty, students, family and friends at the black-tie event, which drew more than 600 attendees and raised more than \$1 million for the John Jay Scholars Program.

The Scholars Program provides outstanding first-year College students the opportunity to participate in special programs such as panels, discussions and outings, all designed to promote intellectual growth, leadership development and global awareness.

Board of Trustees Chair William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC welcomed the guests and introduced Columbia College Alumni Association President Geoffrey J. Colvin '74, '77L, '78 Business, who introduced and thanked the dinner's co-chairs. One of the co-chairs, Louis De Chiara '82, introduced the keynote speaker, Marit Perlman Shapiro '10, a John Jay Scholar, who spoke on behalf of all John Jay Scholars.

Shapiro, a Los Angeles native, said how thankful she was that Columbia "took a chance" on her and spoke of how the Scholars Program has impacted her career choice. After working in a hospital in Madagascar "finding [herself] in a delivery room," she decided she wanted to be an obstetrician and plans to focus her work either in developing countries or inner cities in the United States. Columbia and the Scholars Program, Shapiro said, "taught me flexibility, taught me the value of continued learning, taught me the importance of service to my community and taught me to have enthusiasm."

Each of the honorees was introduced by a John Jay Scholar: Elizabeth Lamoste '10, Krisberg; Salman Somjee '10, Lopez-Balboa; Atanas Atanasov '10, Maitland; Shalom Sokolow '10, Rosand; and Aaron Krieger '10, Stiles.

Dean Michele Moody-Adams, attending her first John Jay Awards Dinner, addressed the attendees and thanked the honorees for "setting such stellar examples of all a Columbia College education will allow one to achieve." She quoted from a letter written in 1785 by John Jay [Class of 1764] about the importance of making a "proper degree of education" available to all and described the honorees as "people who have done extraordinary things with that 'proper degree of education' provided by this great institution."

The evening concluded with the Clefhangers singing *Sans Souci* and *Roar, Lion, Roar*.







Clockwise, from top: Dean Michele Moody-Adams joins the honorees before the start of the 32nd John Jay Awards Dinner; President Lee C. Bollinger got a laugh when he remarked, "You know it's a quiet year on campus when the biggest story is a coyote sighting"; Tracy V. Maitland '82 told how his Columbia education "helped my ability to think and to solve problems"; David Rosand '59, '65 GSAS (with his wife, Ellen), the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History, said he "crossed the East River in 1955 and never looked back"; and Julia Stiles '05 (with her parents) quoted Sophocles, "All I know is that I know nothing," and said, "Columbia taught me that my career and studies were complementary. Your life is an education. You never stop learning."





Clockwise from top: John Jay Scholars (left to right) Atanas Atanasov '10, Marit Perlman Shapiro '10, Salman Somjee '10, Shalom Sokolow '10, Elizabeth Lamoste '10 and Aaron Kriger '10 played a prominent role in the program, introducing the honorees and explaining the impact of the John Jay Scholars Program; Brian Krisberg '81, '84L (with his family) said he received "a rigorous and extraordinary education" at Columbia that taught him how to think, write and explore, and also learned "the importance of giving back"; the Clefhangers closed the evening with renditions of Sans Souci and Roar, Lion, Roar; and Frank Lopez-Balboa '82 (left, with his brother, Victor '82) said he has "never taken for granted the amazing education I received at Columbia."



Gareth Williams' Core Principles

BY ETHAN ROUEN '04J

On an icy February morning, 15 first-years stumbled into a mezzanine room in Fayerweather Hall for Literature Humanities. It was shortly before 11 a.m., and most of them looked like they had just rolled out of bed. Some pulled out their laptops and swapped YouTube videos, gradually increasing the volume on the speakers to drown out one another.

As Gareth Williams, the Violin Family Professor of Classics and chair of Literature Humanities, walked into the room, the noise ceased. Williams went over some administrative issues — the students requested no midterm but were overruled — before jumping into his lecture. The morning's topic was Saint Augustine's *Confessions*, originally published more than 1,600 years ago, but within 10 minutes the class discussion had covered Tony Blair's comments about the war in Iraq, Tiger Woods' infidelity and John Edwards' political career.

Williams' Ph.D. from Cambridge isn't the only thing that makes him a doctor. For more than 16 years, Williams has been resuscitating the dead, breathing life into ancient languages and texts for hundreds of students. Whether it is Greek, Latin or the books of Lit Hum, Williams provides a relevance and sense of immediacy that infuse in his young students powerful messages they can take with them to academia, law, finance or on any career path.

"As a classicist, I'm committed to relating ancient experience and knowledge to modern affairs," he says. "You can't just insist on the worthwhileness of learning. You have to grip students with an enthusiasm for ancient culture or with a sense of learning a language in a particular way. What I try to do is give students a sense of ownership."

At a young age, Williams was gripped by the same subjects he still teaches. The son of a Welsh pharmacist, he attended school during a time when Latin still was a compulsory subject.

"I was taught by a very energetic teacher. Corporal punishment was all the rage, and he had many techniques that worked," Williams jokes. "I just found the language fascinating as a form of verbal mathematics. I found the grammar system very enticing. I learned Latin, and I came to understand the English language a whole lot better."

Williams threw himself into reading Latin and Greek, starting with *The Iliad* and going from there to whatever he could get his hands on. Although bookish, he also was an avid hiker and squash player, activities he still keeps up.

By the time he got to college, Williams was confident in both languages, although he refuses to call himself fluent.

"Latin and Greek are languages that need work constantly," he says. "They are extremely humbling subjects. I really want to resist the idea that I'm fluent. When you think that, you get

Gareth Williams breathes life into ancient texts, whether teaching Literature Humanities to first-years or classics to upperclass students.

PHOTO: DAVID WENTWORTH



tripped up and complacent. I read some Latin and Greek every day. It's like a car that needs constant maintenance."

Williams received his bachelor's and doctorate from Cambridge, completing all of his coursework in less than seven years. Entering into a dismal job market in the early 1990s, he was offered a job in Columbia's Classics Department.

At the time, New York was a vastly different place. The city's crime rate had just started its dramatic downward spiral. And the Yankees — Williams' adopted team — were heading toward the end of their longest World Series drought, having not won the championship in 14 years.

The Core Curriculum, though, had remained largely unchanged for more than half a century, influencing the lives of world leaders, business moguls and leading academics.

Williams fit well into New York — he lives on Riverside Drive with his wife and 9-year-old daughter — and the pedagogy of the Core. As a classicist, he saw the Core as a way to recruit students to his field. More importantly, it serves as a tool to shape his teaching and the learning of young adults just becoming aware of what their minds are capable of.

"To see how the ancients use therapeutic techniques to think about the trauma of earthquakes and to try to recover gives a very moving take on modern reaction to the horrific images of the Haiti earthquake," he says.

It's not just the great events of our times that play a role in Williams' teaching. During class, he makes a point of calling on every student, offering softball questions to encourage participation, then drawing out the students with engaging follow-ups.

During a class this semester, one student said of *Confessions*, "It was boring. I know why he did it. I just don't really care."

Williams saw this statement not as a rebuke but as a challenge, using the moment as a chance to proselytize without sounding preachy. With only a few words of encouragement from the professor, the students used Augustine's intimate memoir to discuss this current time of so many public and humiliating confessions, and before they realized it, they were extracting valuable material from the text while avoiding the main character with whom some said they could not connect.

Although Williams refuses to claim any credit for influencing



"To teach in the Core, at least as I see it, is not to come in determined to insist that there are these great books that must be worshiped as great by the students," he says. "I come to the Core interested in the problems raised by these texts and by world outlooks conveyed by the texts and by introspection probed by these texts.

"The texts, for me, interrogate aspects of human experience and aspects of human psychology. I find that students become very interested in thinking about the way lives are written about and about how the written experience within those texts relates to their own lives. In that respect, it is an experiment in immersion in the writing of experience across the ages."

The universality of the syllabus shows up in almost every lecture Williams gives. Current events blur with ancient writings to instill in his students the shared experiences that reach across time and culture.

The earthquake in Haiti in January served as a chance to examine how ancient cultures wrote about and experienced the same traumas we suffer today, to prove that the value of the books that are taught over and over is not in the recording of history but in the emotions and realities those writings evoke.

the Core, his colleagues tell a different story. He has been a tireless servant to Lit Hum and the Core, giving his teaching style reach beyond the students who sit in his class.

"Gareth has had a major role in the Core," says Kathryn Yatrakis, dean of academic affairs. "We ask him to deliver the first Lit Hum lecture to the first-year class during orientation. It enthalls all the students. I couldn't think of a better person for them to hear from."

Williams organizes trips to museums, staged readings and lectures that provide students with a deeper understanding and another way to commune with what they are learning. He introduced the annual course-wide Core lecture, which has proven wildly successful.

"He's a wonderful chair to work for," says Deborah Martinsen, associate dean of alumni education. "He is a model of grace and gratitude. He makes sure that people receive recognition for their services, which is wonderful. And the students think he's a rock star."

His dedication also shows in his work behind the scenes. Williams teaches the preceptor seminar for all graduate students teaching Lit Hum and organizes a weekly lecture for faculty. Dur-

ing the semester, he sits in on at least one class of each of his preceptors, about 30 classes a year.

"He's extraordinarily supportive outside of class," says Karen Emmerich, a second-year preceptor and a graduate student in English and comparative literature. "He's willing to meet with you any time. He shapes the way preceptors design their classroom experience. People tend to model how they interact in the classroom and how they interact with students on how he interacts with you."

Williams is rooted in a past that he is fighting to preserve while embracing new ways of learning that can add value. He is open to bringing new books into the Core Curriculum, but wants the debate to be positive and productive.

"Be it a contemporary writer, be it writers from different cultural backgrounds, we can always argue about exclusion and inclusion in the syllabus," he says. "We will never produce a satisfactory syllabus upon which everyone can agree. I feel that the challenge there is to turn debate about the syllabus into a productive conver-

communal atmosphere of the Core Curriculum, the fact that we talk to each other, we debate, we hone skills and articulation and we actually take time to reflect upon the book and upon life in this high-paced age, that's really important."

Two hours of Augustine were winding down. Even the students who had been dodging Williams' glance had been forced to participate. While some did not connect with the text, they had at least realized its relevance in modern times.

Laptops remained opened, and some students had wandered away from lecture notes to Facebook pages. Suddenly, attention was again focused on the front of the classroom as Williams made his final point.

"Augustine envelops the Bible," he said. "He is in love, lost in something."

Williams offered his own example of watching passion uninhibited — a Picasso at the Metropolitan Museum of Art: "Do you see a picture, or do you get a sense that this is a man lost in his art, that this is him?"



sation and not a form of conversation that is attritional."

Williams still uses a paper organizer to write assignments and plans. He admits that new technologies that provide vast amounts of research material at the click of a mouse have been a boon for academia, but he laments the pace at which these advancements force people to move.

The Core, he believes, is a chance to capture what is lost in these new ways of communicating. Reading these texts forces students to slow down for a moment, to stop bouncing from one Web page to another and focus on the thousands of words that have been preserved through the ages for reasons that can only be realized with time and dedication.

The syllabus also offers a communal experience, a chance to meet face to face during a time when so much is accomplished face to screen. Analyzing these texts is a subjective process, and the tone of a response, the sigh of exasperation when trudging through *The Iliad*, cannot be preserved in an e-mail.

"We're so automated, we're so fast-paced, it's a very good thing to slow our students down a bit so that they have to pick up the book, read page by page and reflect page by page," Williams says. "We're moving in ways that are so privatized in life, that the

It was as if the coffee had just kicked in. Hands shot up, everyone vying for a chance to share the witnessing of true love. Peppered with the "likes" and "ums" of nascent minds developing the confidence to explain their own thoughts was the eloquence of inspiration.

"It blew my mind," one shy student said of watching the Philadelphia Orchestra. "I saw emotion in every move they made. The true emotion of music came out."

Class came to an end, and it seemed a shame to let these students go at such a crescendo, but they'd be back in a couple days. Meanwhile, Williams sent them away with some parting advice: "Do something you get lost in," he said. "If you could find something to get lost in in your life, you will be incredibly lucky people."

Relating ancient experience and knowledge to modern events, such as the earthquake in Haiti, is one way Williams engages his Lit Hum students.

PHOTOS: DAVID WENTWORTH

Ethan Rouen '04J is Columbia College Today's associate editor.





Watching the Watchdogs

Journalists may be society's watchdogs, but public editor Clark Hoyt '64 is the man who watches over the watchdogs at *The New York Times*

BY DAVID MCKAY WILSON

Clark Hoyt '64, who won a Pulitzer Prize in the 1970s and was for many years Washington bureau chief for the Knight Ridder chain, now finds himself on the front lines of journalism ethics, assessing the work of writers, editors and photographers at *The New York Times*.

As the *Times*' public editor, Hoyt fields complaints from *Times* readers, investigates those inquiries and then writes a Sunday column in *The Week in Review* section that illuminates issues that touch many corners of journalism ethics. One recent subject was the use of anonymous sources in stories, another the conflict of interest that arises when freelance writers accept gifts from sources, another the paper's response to rumors about a forthcoming *Times* investigation that had surfaced in other media and angered public officials.

For the past three years, Clark Hoyt '64 has worked to maintain the highest level of journalistic standards at The New York Times.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

"It's a strange job," says Hoyt, 67, one day in January during an interview in his office at the *Times* headquarters in midtown Manhattan. "You are called upon to pass judgment in a very public way. It's not an easy job. But I find it fascinating. I'm allowed to think about issues I've dealt with for my entire career. And I hope it has been

useful to the *Times* and the *Times*' readers."

Hoyt was hired in 2007 as the paper's third public editor, a position known as ombudsman at many other dailies around the world. The position was established in 2003 after *Times* reporter Jayson Blair was caught fabricating quotes in several stories. An independent contractor, Hoyt works outside the normal reporting and editing structure at the *Times*.

Hoyt shares his stories before they are printed with those he has interviewed, to make sure his columns accurately reflect his

subjects' positions. But top editors who aren't in the column see it first when it appears on Sunday.

Hoyt has served in the position longer than his predecessors; he completed his two-year contract in 2009, and agreed to a third year that ends in June. *Times* executives have yet to announce a successor, or even whether they will keep the job in existence. Since 2008, 13 U.S. dailies have dropped that position, notes Jeffrey Dworkin, executive director of the Organization of News Ombudsmen.

"I think Clark has set the standard," says Dworkin, who was ombudsman at National Public Radio from 2000–06. "He is fearless. He has taken on big issues, such as bias and fairness in coverage of the presidential campaign and the use of visuals from Haiti. He has cast a very clear eye on how they have done it — at times doing a great job, and at times, less than perfect. Through Clark, the *Times* has taken a hard look at itself to make sure its journalism is always at the highest level."

On that visit in January, Hoyt was addressing reader concerns over provocative front-page pictures published from Haiti. Photographers had captured the deadly January 12 earthquake with powerful images, including a picture by Damon Winter '97 of a dead man, covered in gray dust, who lay stiffly on a makeshift stretcher.

Some readers complained that the images were exploitative and disrespected the dead, and questioned whether the *Times* would publish photos of Americans who had died in a natural disaster. Others lauded the *Times* photographers for their courageous portrayal of one of the Western Hemisphere's most destructive natural disasters.

Hoyt's research was arrayed on his desk — full-color reproductions of front pages from the *Times*' coverage of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the tsunami that struck Indonesia with such devastation in 2004. Both included pictures of dead victims. Hoyt had his own news judgment as well, developed from more than four decades in the daily newspaper business. It boiled down to six words: "You get it, you show it."

To reach his conclusion, however, Hoyt had to report on the story. He interviewed photo editors about why they chose those images. He e-mailed Winter, who was still in Haiti. Winter told Hoyt how people had begged him to take pictures of their departed family members, so the world would truly understand their country's plight. He interviewed *Times* Editor Bill Keller, who said that Winter's picture of the solitary man, dead on the stretcher, helped humanize the tragedy. The next day, Hoyt wrote a dispassionate column, saying that the photos of disaster victims were in keeping with *Times* practice in the previous natural disasters of epic proportions.

"Where do you draw the line?" says Hoyt, who commutes to New York weekly from northern Virginia, where he lives with his wife, Linda Kauss, deputy managing editor at *USA Today*. "You need to respect the dead, but you also need to tell the world what has happened."

Veteran *Times* reporter Joe Berger '67J says Hoyt's solid research and reporting has provided a strong foundation for his findings in various investigations.

"I haven't agreed with him every time, but for the most part, the columns are good," says Berger. "He has taken on some tough issues, articulated his reasoning clearly and backed it up with evidence."

Taking on the public editor's post has brought Hoyt back into the world of reporting, more than 30 years after he left writing about the Washington political scene for Knight Ridder to become one of the chain's editors.

Some columns address issues of questionable reporting and editing, such as a story that appraised the career of CBS newsman Walter Cronkite following his death. That piece had seven errors that were subsequently corrected in a note to readers.

"It was horrifying," recalls Hoyt. "Five editors had eyes on it. The appraisal was written before Cronkite's death, and everyone thought someone else had edited it."

Hoyt hopes that his columns provide a wake-up call for *Times* journalists who may have taken a short cut or failed to live up to the newspaper's standards for fairness and accuracy.

"I want to talk about how something happened so we could learn from it, instead of wagging a finger and taking a holier-than-thou approach," he says. "You also have to make sure you talk about the work, not the person. *The New York Times* is a great newspaper and it produces great journalism every day, under very trying circumstances. In certain cases, it doesn't live up to those standards."

On particularly thorny issues, Hoyt will consult with Kelly McBride, ethics group leader at the Poynter Institute for Media Studies in St. Petersburg, Fla., who says those conversations can go on for an hour or two. For example, McBride recalls speaking to Hoyt at length about the question of whether it was proper for reporters to contact underage sources through the social-media site Facebook.

During the 2008 election, a reporter working on a profile of presidential candidate John McCain's wife, Cindy, had reached out to high school students at private schools that McCain's

"Everything needs

daughter, Bridget, had attended, asking for leads to adults who knew Mrs. McCain.

Hoyt suggested that reporters find other ways to find such information, urging them to be wary of contacting minors without knowledge of their parents. In that same column, however, he approved of the use of information from a 12-year-old concerning an assault by police. Hoyt argued that while the boy's father had not given permission for the interview, he did not object after learning that a reporter had spoken to his son. The reporter had also confirmed what the boy had told law enforcement investigators.

"What I admire most about Clark is that he takes issues that aren't black-and-white, and he explores them with a fair amount of nuance," says McBride. "He treats the individuals involved with an incredible amount of dignity and respect, without being patronizing."

Daniel Okrent, the *Times*' first public editor, says Hoyt has benefited from the fact that the *Times* staff has grown to expect the public criticism, after he and Byron "Barney" Calame, a former *Wall Street Journal* editor, had the job. Hoyt also came to the job with less to prove, Okrent adds.

"I think I had too much fun, Barney didn't have enough fun, and Clark has it just about right," says Okrent. "I showed off more, and I came in with a chip on my shoulder, so the reporters were gunning for me. Clark has a well-nuanced approach. He seems temperamentally suited for it."

Calame agrees. "Clark knows how to deal with issues in a less obstreperous fashion than I did," he says. "That doesn't mean

Clark doesn't deliver strong medicine, because he does. He just has a better bedside manner than I did."

Even with his journalistic even-handedness, Hoyt acknowledges that his columns can sting. While his interactions have in large part been collegial, with *Times* editors and reporters responding to his questions with professionalism and candor, he says there have been occasional brush-ups with those he has called to task.

"No one likes to be called on these things," says Hoyt. "Many journalists have very thin skins. They are able to be tough when it comes to reporting and holding an unblinking eye to others, but can be unenthusiastic to be held accountable themselves."

Hoyt's love affair with journalism dates back to his childhood in Hawaii, where his family lived in 1949 during one of his father's postings as a Navy dentist. When Hoyt was 8, he and his brother, Charles, published a neighborhood newspaper, *The Maloelap Snoop*. It kept the Navy families updated on the latest coming and goings in the neighborhood not far from Pearl Harbor, where dogs roamed free and Hoyt occasionally brought home an unexploded hand grenade.

It was then that Hoyt discovered he had what it took to be a journalist — an instinct for finding things out, and a desire to tell people about what he had found.

"We'd report on whose dog left their calling card on a lawn," recalls Hoyt. "People loved it, they really did."

from federal district court, sitting through the famous 18-minute gap in the recording President Nixon made in his White House office. He also was in Washington, D.C., Superior Court when Watergate burglar James McCord was arraigned and told the judge that he worked for the Central Intelligence Agency. Hoyt was in the back of courtroom and didn't hear the revelation. *Washington Post* reporter Bob Woodward had a better seat.

"The acoustics were terrible; Woodward heard it and I didn't," says Hoyt. "We walked back from the hearing, chatting about the hearing, and Bob never mentioned to me what he had heard."

In 1972, Hoyt and his Knight Newspapers colleague Robert Boyd received a tip about Democratic vice presidential candidate Thomas Eagleton, regarding his history of treatment for mental illness, including electroshock therapy. They investigated, and it turned out to be true. But before publishing what they'd discovered, they had to confront Eagleton and his running mate, George McGovern, with what they had found.

Shortly thereafter, Eagleton held a press conference, disclosed his medical history and dropped out of the race. Hoyt and Boyd then wrote the story, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1973.

"We went to them with what we had, asking for comment," says Hoyt. "They chose to announce it before we had published it."

Hoyt went on to numerous posts within the chain, which became Knight Ridder in a 1974 merger. He was news editor for the Washington bureau, business editor in Detroit and managing editor of the *Eagle-Beacon* in Wichita, Kan. He returned to Washington in 1985, and was the chain's bureau chief from 1987–93, when

to be supported and infused with facts."

At Columbia, Hoyt was an English major, studying with professors such as Lionel Trilling '25 and Jeffrey Hart. He considered entering the foreign service, having developed an interest in Latin American affairs, in part from his father's stay at the Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Hoyt worked exactly one day on *Spectator* — he was assigned to read page proofs at the shop that printed the paper, which was a considerable subway ride downtown. It wasn't for him.

"I just wasn't motivated," Hoyt says.

After graduating from Columbia, he landed a job in the office of Sen. George Smathers of Florida, writing speeches and researching policy issues. By 1966, however, Hoyt plunged into reporting, taking an entry-level job at *The Ledger* in Lakeland, Fla. His first assignment was covering a turkey shoot sponsored by the local Ku Klux Klan.

By 1968, Hoyt was in Detroit, reporting for the *Detroit Free Press*, one of the Knight chain's top papers. Two years later, he'd moved to the *Miami Herald* as Washington correspondent, covering national politics at a time when journalists had extraordinary access to political candidates. When Henry "Scoop" Jackson was running for president in 1972, Hoyt was one of only two reporters traveling with Jackson in an old DC 3 prop plane, which Hoyt recalls had an engine with a tendency to leak oil.

"It's different today," says Hoyt. "Now it's so heavily managed and scripted. There's so little spontaneity, so little chance to lift the curtain and see the candidates."

The early 1970s was the heyday of Washington journalism. Hoyt was in the trenches during the Watergate era and reported

he moved to Knight Ridder's corporate offices as v.p. for news.

Six years later, Hoyt was back in the nation's capital as Washington editor with responsibility for the Knight Ridder Washington bureau and editorial operations of Knight Ridder Tribune News Services. He held that post until 2006, when Knight Ridder was purchased by The McClatchey Co. He was on a one-year consulting assignment with McClatchey when he received a call, asking if he was interested in the *Times* assignment.

Hoyt was about to spend a semester as the James K. Batten visiting professor of public policy at Davidson College but instead decided to take on the challenge at the *Times*. So for the past three years, he has spent three days a week in New York and worked two days from his home office in Virginia. That will end in June, but Hoyt looks forward to staying involved in the field, either through writing or teaching.

No matter which direction he takes, Hoyt will remain dedicated to a profession that he believes will continue to play a crucial role in how people view the world — either through print or digital media. He'll do so by relying on what he considers the bedrock principles of good journalism.

"Everything needs to be supported and infused with facts," he says. "You need fairness. A newspaper needs to tell the public whatever it needs to know, in stories that are told with honesty and truthfulness."



David McKay Wilson has profiled New York Gov. David Paterson '77 and U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L for Columbia College Today.

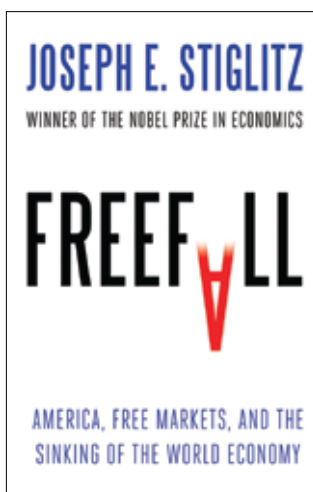
[COLUMBIA FORUM]

Freefall

In this excerpt from his latest book, University Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz argues that the GDP might be a poor way to assess our standard of living



PHOTO: DAN DEITCH



Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor and the chair of Columbia's Committee on Global Thought, received the 2001 Nobel Prize in economics. He has been chair of the Council on Economic Advisers and chief economist at the World Bank. Known to his peers as "an insanely great economist" (Paul Krugman), Stiglitz has made his influence known throughout his broad discipline. His work is cited by more economists than anyone else's in the world, according to data compiled by the University of Connecticut.

In this excerpt from his latest book, Freefall: America, Free Markets, and the Sinking of the World Economy, Stiglitz argues for a concept that is currently gaining ground: the idea that GDP (gross domestic product), for so long the ne plus ultra of economic measurement, may in fact be a poor way to assess our standard of living. GDP, according to the Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought, is "a measure of the total flow of goods and services produced by the economy ... over a specified period." Too often, Stiglitz contends, GDP doesn't measure the elements — tangible or intangible — that actually determine our quality of life. A more rounded sampling of data can better portray what Nic Marks, fellow at the New Economics Foundation, calls "the delivery of good lives rather than the delivery of more goods" (Time, January 30, 2010). Here, Stiglitz looks at the way that we measure American well-being.

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

What You Measure Is What You Value, and Vice Versa

In a performance-oriented society such as ours, we strive to do well — but what we do is affected by what we measure. If students are tested on reading, teachers will teach reading — but will spend less time developing broader cognitive skills. So too, politicians, policymakers, and economists all strive to understand what causes better performance *as measured by GDP*. But if GDP is a bad measure of societal well-being, then we are striving to achieve the wrong objective. Indeed, what we do may be counterproductive in terms of our true objectives.

Measuring GDP in the United States didn't really give a good picture of what was going on before the bubble burst. America thought it was doing better than it was, and so did others. Bubble prices inflated the value of investments in real estate and inflated profits. Many strived to imitate America. Economists did sophisticated studies relating success to different policies — but because their measure of success was flawed, the inferences they drew from the studies were often flawed.

The crisis shows how badly distorted market prices can be — with the result that our measure of performance is itself badly distorted. Even without the crisis, the prices of *all* goods are distorted because we have treated our atmosphere (and, too often, clean water) as if it were free, when in fact it is scarce. The extent of price distortion for any particular good depends on the amount of “carbon” that is contained in its production (including in the production of all the components that go into its production).

Some of the debates that we have concerning trade-offs between the environment and economic growth are off the mark: if we correctly measured output, there would be no trade-off. Correctly measured output will be higher with good environmental policies — and the environment will be better as well. We would realize that the seeming profits from the gas-guzzlers, like the Hummer (which, in any case, turned out to be ephemeral), are false: they are at the expense of the well-being of the future.

Our economic growth has been based too on borrowing from the future: we have been living beyond our means. So too, some of the growth has been based on the depletion of natural resources and the degradation of the environment — a kind of borrowing from the future, more invidious because the debts we owe are not so obvious. We are leaving future generations poorer as a result, but our GDP indicator doesn't reflect this.

There are other problems with our measure of well-being. GDP per capita (per person) measures what we spend on health care, not the output — the status of our health reflected, for instance, in life expectancy. The result is that as our health care system gets more inefficient, GDP may appear to increase, even though health outcomes become worse. America's GDP per capita appears higher than that of France and the United Kingdom partly because our health care system is less efficient. We spend far more to get far worse health outcomes.

As a final example (there are many more) of the misleading nature of our standard measures, *average* GDP per capita can be going up even when most individuals in our society not only feel that they are worse off, but actually are worse off. This happens when societies become more unequal (which has been

happening in most countries around the world). A larger pie doesn't mean that everyone — or even most people — gets a larger slice. As I noted in chapter 1, in the United States, by 2008, the median household income was some 4 percent lower than it was in 2000, adjusted for inflation, even though GDP per capita (a measure of what was happening on average) had increased by 10 percent.

The objective of societal production is an increase in the well-being of the members of society, however that is defined. Our standard measure is not a good one. There are alternatives. No single measure can capture the complexity of what is going on in a modern society, but the GDP measure fails in critical ways. We need measures that focus on how the typical individual is doing (measures of median income do a lot better than measures of average income), on sustainability (measures that take account, for instance, of resource depletion and the worsening of the environment, as well as the increase of indebtedness), and on health and education. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has devised a more comprehensive measure that includes education and health, as well as income. In these metrics, the Scandinavian countries do far better than the United States, which ranks thirteenth.

But even when *economic* measures are broadened to include health and education, they leave out much that affects our sense of well-being. Robert Putnam has emphasized the importance of our connectedness with others. In America, that sense of connectedness is weakening, and the way we have organized our economy may contribute.

The Himalayan Buddhist kingdom of Bhutan has attempted to carve out a different approach. It is trying to create a measure of GNH — gross national happiness. Happiness is only partly related to material goods. Some aspects, like spiritual values, can't and probably shouldn't be quantified. But there are others that can be (like social connectedness). Even without quantification, though, focusing on these values highlights some ways that we should be thinking about redirecting our economy and our society.

Security and Rights

One important dimension of societal well-being is security. Most Americans' standards of living, their sense of well-being, have declined more than the national income statistics (“median household income”) might suggest, partly because of the increase in insecurity. They feel less secure about their job, knowing that if they lose their job they will also lose their health insurance. With soaring tuition costs, they feel less secure that they will be able to provide their children with an education that will enable them to fulfill their aspirations. With retirement accounts diminished, they feel less secure that they will spend their old age in comfort. Today, a large fraction of Americans are also worried about whether they will be able to keep their home. The cushion of home equity, the difference between the value of the home and the mortgage, has disappeared. Some 15 million homes, representing about one-third of all mortgages nationwide, carry mortgages that exceed the value of the property. In this recession, 2.4 million people have lost their health insurance because they lost their job. For these Americans, life is on a precipice.

Greater security can even have an indirect effect of promoting

growth: it allows individuals to undertake greater risk, knowing that if things don't work out as hoped, there is some level of social protection. Programs that assist people in moving from one job to another help ensure that one of our most important resources — our human talent — is better used. These kinds of social protection also have a political dimension: if workers feel more secure, there will be fewer demands for protectionism. Social protection without protectionism can thus contribute to a more dynamic society. And a more dynamic economy and society — with the appropriate degree of social protection — can provide greater satisfaction for both workers and consumers.

Of course, there can be excessive job protection — with no discipline for bad performance, there can be too little incentive for good performance. But again, ironically, we have worried more about these moral hazard/incentive effects among individuals than among corporations, and this has vastly distorted responses to the current crisis. It hampered the willingness of the Bush administration to respond to the millions of Americans losing their homes or jobs. The administration didn't want to seem to be "rewarding" those who had engaged in irresponsible borrowing. It didn't want to increase unemployment insurance because that would diminish incentives to look for a job. It should have worried less about these problems and more about the perverse incentives of the newly established corporate safety net.

Well-off American corporations also talk about the importance of security. They emphasize the importance of security of property rights, and how without such security, they won't undertake investment. They — like ordinary Americans — are "risk averse." Public policy, especially among the Right, has paid a great deal of attention to these concerns about security of property. But ironically, many have argued that individual security should be reduced, cutting back Social Security and job security for ordinary citizens. It is a curious contradiction, and it is paralleled by recent discussions of human rights.

For decades after the beginning of the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union were engaged in a battle over human rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights listed both basic economic and political rights. The United States only wanted to talk about political rights, the Soviet Union about economic rights. Many of those in the Third World, while noting the importance of political rights, gave greater weight to economic rights: What good does the right to vote mean to a person starving to death? They questioned whether someone without any education could meaningfully exercise the right to vote when there are complex issues in dispute.

Finally, under the Bush administration, the United States began to recognize the importance of *economic rights* — but the recognition was lopsided: it recognized the right of capital to move freely in and out of countries, capital market liberalization. Intellectual property rights and property rights more generally are other economic rights that have been emphasized. But why should these economic rights — rights of corporations — have precedence over the more basic economic rights of individuals, such as the rights of access to health care or to housing or to education? Or the right to a certain minimal level of security?

These are basic issues that all societies have to face. A full discussion of the issues would take us beyond the scope of this short book. What should be clear, however, is that these matters of rights are not God-given. They are social constructs. We can think of them as part of the social contract that governs how we live together as a community.

Leisure and Sustainability

There are other values that are not captured well in our standard measure of GDP: we value leisure, whether we use it for relaxation, for time with family, for culture, or for sports. Leisure can be particularly important for the millions whose jobs provide limited immediate satisfaction, those who work to live rather than who live to work.

Seventy-five years ago, [British economist John Maynard] Keynes celebrated the fact that mankind was, for the first time in its history, about to be freed from the "economic problem." For all human history, man had devoted most of his energies to finding food, shelter, and clothing. But advances in science and technology meant that these basic needs could be provided with only a few hours of work a week. For instance, less than 2 percent of the American labor force produces all the food that even an overconsuming and rapidly becoming obese country can eat — with enough left over for our nation to be a major exporter of wheat, corn, and soybeans. Keynes wondered what we would do with the fruits of these advances. Looking at how England's upper classes spent their time, he quite rightly had grounds for worry.

He did not anticipate fully what has happened, especially in the last third of a century. America and Europe have seemingly responded differently. Contrary to Keynes's prediction, America, as a whole, has not enjoyed more leisure. The number of hours worked per household has actually gone up (by some 26 percent over the past thirty years). We have become a consumer/materialistic society: two cars in every garage, iPods in every ear, and clothes without limit. We buy and dispose. Europe took a very different tack. A five-week vacation is the norm — Europeans shudder at our two-week standard.

France's output per hour is higher than that in the United States, but the typical Frenchman works fewer hours a year and so has a lower income.

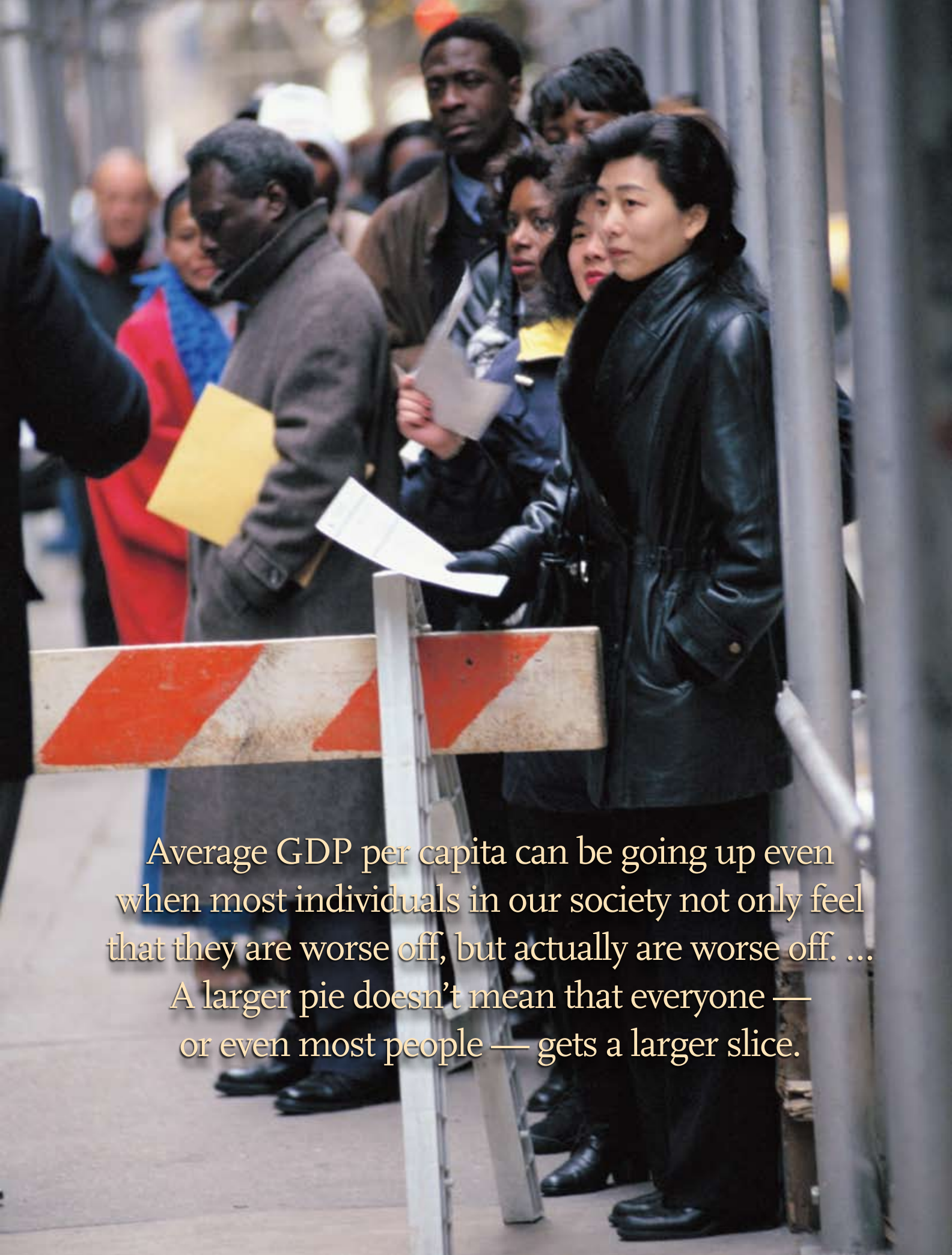
The differences are not genetic. They represent different evolutions of our societies. Most Frenchmen would not trade places with most Americans; and most Americans would not trade places with most Frenchmen. The evolution both in America and in Europe has come without any premeditation. We should ask ourselves if it is a course that we would have chosen. And as social scientists, we can try to explain why each chose the course it did.

We may not be able to say which lifestyle is better. But the U.S. lifestyle is not sustainable. Others may be more so. If those in the developing countries try to imitate America's lifestyle, the planet is doomed. There are not enough natural resources, and the impact on global warming would be intolerable. America will have to change — and it will have to change quickly.

(Opposite) Nearly 4,000 people lined up for jobs outside the renovated Roosevelt Hotel in New York, providing a visual example of how a rising GDP may not accurately reflect economic conditions in American society.

PHOTO: © JAMES LEYNSE/CORBIS

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Average GDP per capita can be going up even when most individuals in our society not only feel that they are worse off, but actually are worse off. ...
A larger pie doesn't mean that everyone — or even most people — gets a larger slice.

Alumni News

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PHOTO: COLIN
SULLIVAN '11



Bookshelf

Viva Journalism!: The Triumph of Print in the Media Revolution by John C. Merrill and Ralph L. Lowenstein '51. The authors offer insight into the future of journalistic writing and journalism education (AuthorHouse, \$14.99).

Blessings for You from Head to Toe by Jack H. Bloom '54. Bloom, a rabbi and clinical psychologist, presents a collection of original, freeform poems (Two Harbors Press, \$13.95).

Conquering Fear: Living Boldly in an Uncertain World by Harold S. Kushner '55. Kushner counsels readers to show confidence in the face of the unknown as a way of ensuring a happy and tranquil life (Knopf, \$23.95).

The New York Times on Critical Elections, 1854–2008 by Gerald Pomper '55. Pomper has compiled *The New York Times'* commentary about important congressional and presidential elections from the antebellum period to present day (CQ Press, \$125).

Jefferson's Louisiana: Politics and the Clash of Legal Traditions, Revised Edition by George Dargo '57. Dargo describes the conflict between local and national legal policies that occurred in the Louisiana territory during Thomas Jefferson's presidency (The Lawbook Exchange, Ltd., \$39.95).

Sell Your Nonfiction Book by Crawford Kilian '62. An advice manual for would-be nonfiction authors, covering everything from developing an idea to submitting manuscript pro-

posals (Self Counsel Press, \$17.95).

Tapestry of the Sun: An Anthology of Ecuadorian Poetry edited and translated by Alexis Levitin '63 and Fernando Iturburu. This bilingual poetry collection is devoted entirely to contemporary Ecuadorian authors (Coimbra Editions, \$29.95).

Snark: It's Mean, It's Personal, and It's Ruining Our Conversation by David Denby '65. Denby defines and decries "snark," or unproductive ad hominem attacks disguised as satirical wit (Simon & Schuster, \$15.95).

Clio & the Crown: The Politics of History in Medieval and Early Modern Spain by Richard L. Kagan '65. The author examines the political aims of official Spanish court histories from the sixth to the 17th century (The Johns Hopkins University Press, \$55).

Contested Will: Who Wrote Shakespeare? by James Shapiro '77, the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature. Shapiro chronicles the historical controversy over the authorship of Shakespeare's plays and discusses its cultural implications (Simon & Schuster, \$26).

Out of Our Heads: Why You Are Not Your Brain, and Other Lessons from the Biology of Consciousness by Alva Noë '86. Noë describes consciousness as an active, interactive process rather than a passive experience confined to the brain (Hill and Wang, \$15).

Once a Spy: A Novel by Keith Thomson '87. Thomson's satirical thriller

follows a retired appliance salesman and his ne'er-do-well son as they attempt to evade CIA assassins (Doubleday, \$25.95).

Econoclasts: The Rebels Who Sparked the Supply-Side Revolution and Restored American Prosperity by Brian Domitrovic '89. The author outlines the history and philosophy of supply-side economics, a macroeconomic theory that favors low taxes and limited regulation as a means of encouraging production and competition (Intercollegiate Studies Institute, \$27.95).

Emergency: This Book Will Save Your Life by Neil Strauss '91. Strauss reports on his experiences during a year spent trying to acquire the basic skills that would be necessary to survive after a natural catastrophe or economic collapse (It Books, \$16.99).

Picking Bones from Ash by Marie Mockett '92. Mockett's novel alternates between the perspectives of Satomi, a talented Japanese concert pianist, and Rumi, her American daughter (Graywolf Press, \$24).

Looking at Art in the Classroom: Art Investigations from the Guggenheim Museum by Rebecca Shulman Herz '93. The author explains how elementary and middle school teachers can improve their curricula by using art as both a subject of study and a teaching tool (Teachers College Press, \$23.95).

A Novel Marketplace: Mass Culture, the Book Trade, and Postwar American Fiction by Evan Brier '95.

Brier analyzes the role of the novel in post-WWII American mass culture (University of Pennsylvania Press, \$49.95).

Repeat Until Rich: A Professional Card Counter's Chronicle of the Blackjack Wars by Josh Axelrad '96. Axelrad gives readers a nonfiction account of his four-year stint as a professional card counter (The Penguin Press, \$25.95).

Coffee with Hezbollah by Belén Fernández '03. Fernández recounts a 2006 trip to Lebanon (New World Digital Entertainment, \$13.99).

Cute Yummy Time: 70 Recipes for the Cutest Food You'll Ever Eat by La Carmina. Written under a pseudonym by Carmen Yuen '05, this illustrated cookbook provides step-by-step instructions for creating dishes that are aesthetically appealing as well as delicious (Perigee, \$16.95).

Franklin Delano Roosevelt by Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevins Professor of American History and Provost Emeritus. Brinkley's biography calls attention to Roosevelt's limitations as well as his successes (Oxford University Press, \$12.95).

Words in Motion: Toward a Global Lexicon edited by Carol Gluck, the George Sansom Professor of History and professor of East Asian languages and cultures, and Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing. Gluck and Tsing explore the relationship between globalization and language by tracing the



When Technology and Design Merge on the Roof

Aerial views of cities across the nation are revealing something rather unconventional — small patches of green on an otherwise lackluster urban canvas.

It's not altogether uncommon to look up at towering buildings, from the vantage of a bustling sidewalk, and observe stalks of bamboo swaying in a rooftop breeze or crabapple trees showering down pink blossoms. In order to navigate these rooftop gardens, landscape architect **Steven L. Cantor '73** is aiming to assist students, professionals and the general public with his book, *Green Roofs in Sustainable Landscape Design* (W.W. Norton & Co., 2008).

Cantor works at Stantec Consulting in New York, but his green thumb propensity took root in Atlanta, where he grew up and where gardening was considered a family affair, with the most handsome gardens becoming a source of neighborhood pride. He came to Columbia to study music and recounts being influenced by composers such as Charles Dodge '66 GSAS, '70 Arch. and Charles Wuorinen '61, '63 GSAS. Cantor enrolled in an urban biology class at Barnard taught by James Schmidt, who led his students on field trips to Morningside Park and to New Jersey's Pine Barrens and Llewellyn Park. Inspired by a hands-on approach to learning, Cantor studied under landscape architect Arthur E. Bye Jr., who taught at the Architecture School. Cantor earned an M.L.A. in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst in 1976, but his passion for music remained, and he earned an M.A. in piano accompaniment from the University of Colorado in 1986.

The idea for *Green Roofs* came about somewhat serendipitously. In 2003, Cantor was teaching a community education course, "Roof Gardens and Brownstone Gardens," jointly sponsored by Cooper Union and The New York Botanical Garden, when after class, a student approached him and inquired about his knowledge of green roofs, which at the time he confessed was limited. She handed him a brochure for an annual conference in Chicago, a city that boasts the most green roofs in the country, and the range of topics covered fascinated him. In particular, Cantor was interested in the rapidly evolving vocabulary pertaining to green roofs.

After securing the interest of his publisher, Cantor's first step was to obtain a translated version of the German *Forschungsgesellschaft Landschaftsentwicklung Landschaftsbau* guidelines, which highlight terminology for green roof installation and upkeep. Green roofs have a long history in Europe, dating back to thatched roofs, but they are relatively new in North America. In the overview, Cantor felt it necessary to expose the lay reader to green roof vocabulary without too much technological jargon.

Cantor states that "a green roof is simply a 'vegetated roof' designated for improving the environment," whereas green roof technology is "a practical application of a systematic approach." But he also believes there is plenty of room to include aesthetics, claiming that "the endeavor of creating a green roof puts you on the cusp of technical knowledge and art."

With recent and perhaps a revived interest in the environmental and financial benefits of green roofs, Cantor has seen the initial question of whether to install a green roof shift to one of what kind of green roof to install. He does not spend time belaboring the benefits of green roofs. "The book wasn't designed to preach to the converted," he says, "but to instead provide a range of examples."

The green roofs he features in the "Case Studies" chapter are meant to show instances of innovation. Much of the time, Cantor notes, "innovation requires a certain level of risk," whether it's arranging a variety of different colored sedum plants in a quilt-like pattern or adopting a unique method of irrigation using recycled water for raised plant beds.

From the onset, Cantor dispels any misconceptions that green roof installation is as simple as rolling out a mat of grass. There are many choices to consider, such as methods of installation, growing medium, irrigation and, as he points out, "nothing in a manmade landscape is maintenance-free." Nonetheless, there is a sense that the challenges of creating and maintaining a green roof are in part the reward. There are no guarantees, with ever-changing variables such as plants, birds and weather. And it's observing these changes — watching the grass grow, as they say — that makes it all worthwhile.

As a green roof philosophy emerges, the very notion of "green" is being called into question. Cantor points out the mutability of the term "green roof," stating, "They aren't green year-round. In fact, in Portland, Ore., they've adopted the term 'eco-roof' instead, and in London, Dusty Gedge [a green roof consultant and urban ecologist] is championing the term 'living roof' to highlight the importance of preserving habitats for endangered birds such as the black redstart."

Green Roofs combines the navigability of a textbook with the artfulness of a coffee table book. The oversize format is resplendent with nearly 300 color photos, some taken by Cantor, an experienced photographer. The elegant look of *Green Roofs* was crucial to the publisher because so much of green roof design is about creating a visual experience. The book provides a launching point for dialogues about the future of green roof sustainability and design to occur, where in essence, the sky's the limit.

Julie Poole '11 GS

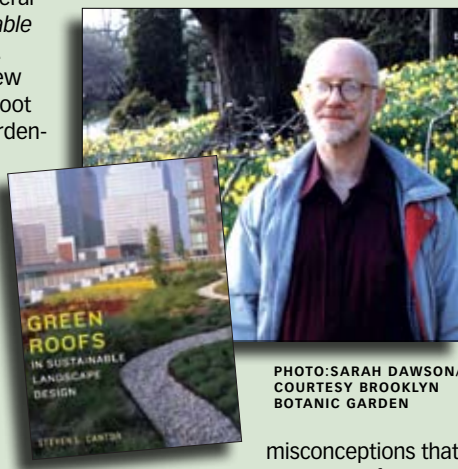


PHOTO: SARAH DAWSON/
COURTESY BROOKLYN
BOTANIC GARDEN

evolution of specific words across time and cultures (Duke University Press, \$24.95).

The Tyranny of Opinion: Honor in the Construction of the Mexican Public Sphere by Pablo Piccato, associate professor of history and director of the Institute of Latin American Studies. Piccato analyzes Mexican

attitudes toward honor during the second half of the 19th century (Duke University Press, \$24.95).

Common Wealth: Economics for a Crowded Planet by Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, professor of health policy and management and director of the Earth Institute.

Sachs insists that population stabilization, environmental consciousness and global economic cooperation will be essential in creating a more sustainable and more prosperous world (Penguin, \$17).

Whistling Vivaldi: And Other Clues to How Stereotypes Affect Us by Claude M. Steele, provost of the

University and professor of psychology. Steele examines the dangers of stereotype threat, a psychological term used to describe the anxiety felt by members of stereotyped groups when they fear that they will be judged according to a stereotype (W. W. Norton & Co., \$29.95).

Grace Laidlaw '11



Obituaries

1 9 2 9



Richard "Dick" Silberstein '29

Richard "Dick" Silberstein, retired radio engineer, Boulder, Colo., on November 30, 2009. Silberstein was born in New York City on September 18, 1906. He first became fascinated with radio when at 9 he saw equipment on a coastal steamship. Silberstein earned two degrees in 1930 from the Engineering School, including a Ph.D. in electrical engineering. When the Great Depression began, he returned to New York and took various jobs in the radio industry, eventually going into business manufacturing radio coils and then marine radio telephones. With the United States about to enter WWII, he joined the Radio Section of the National Bureau of Standards (NBS) in Washington, D.C., and provided HF radio propagation forecasts and predictions. At night, Silberstein taught courses in electromagnetic theory and communications laboratory at The George Washington University. After WWII,

he performed and administered HF propagation experiments for NBS in Washington, D.C., and later Boulder, Colo. During the last six years of his career, Silberstein did similar work for the U.S. Army Radio Propagation Agency at Ft. Monmouth, N.J. At the end of 1966, he retired and returned to Boulder.

1 9 3 2

Gene F. Kuster, attorney and CPA, Slingerlands, N.Y., on September 20, 2008. Born on February 26, 1910, in New York City, Kuster grew up in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. He earned a degree in 1933 from the Business School and a law degree from Fordham. Kuster was admitted to the New York bar and also was a CPA in New York. For 35 years, he worked for Muir & Co., retiring as v.p. in 1975. Kuster was active in volunteer work throughout his life. He sang in the choirs of each church he attended, as well as with the Columbia Glee Club. He also played French horn in the Columbia band. During retirement, Kuster and his wife of 68 years, Edna (née Iverson), went to more than 50 Elderhostel programs in the United States, Canada and England and took many trips on their own to Europe, including the Mediterranean and Scandinavia. Kuster also loved playing golf. He is survived by his wife; son, Gordon, and daughter-in-law, Sandi; daughter Carole and son-in-law, James Wortley; daughter Joan and son-in-law, Mark Weintraub; two grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia University Athletics, PO Box 1523, New York, NY 10277-1937.

1 9 3 7

George E. Saffa, teacher and school administrator, Green Valley, Ariz., on September 8, 2009. Raised in rural western Pennsylvania, Saffa played football at Columbia and eventually earned a Ph.D. at Teachers College. Saffa and his wife, Ruth (née Lulken), resided in New Jersey, where he had a long career in high school education and administration. Retiring in the early 1970s, the couple traveled a bit and moved to Arizona, settling in Green Valley for the last 35 years. They were active in the Southern Arizona AARP "55 Alive" driving program, and Saffa enjoyed developing the college scholarship program for the local Elks chapter. In recent years, he was still striving to perfect his golf game. Saffa was predeceased by his wife in 2005 and

is survived by a son, Robert, and his wife, Joan; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to any humanitarian purpose.

1 9 3 8

Richard L. Hammel, accountant, Laurel, N.Y., on August 9, 2009. Hammel was born in Woodhaven, Queens, on April 27, 1917. His family moved to St. Louis when he was 5 and returned East in 1928. His parents purchased property in Laurel in November 1930 and built a summer cottage. They lived there year-round beginning in 1938. After graduating from Columbia, Hammel served in the Army during WWII. He later worked in accounting for a ladies' shoe factory in Norwalk, Conn., for Long Island Ice and Fuel Corp. in Riverhead and for the Otis Ford auto dealership in Quogue. Hammel was a trustee of Laurel Cemetery for three years, trustee and president of the Laurel school board for 10 years and a member of the Matituck Rod and Gun Club for many years. He is survived by his sister, Bernice Duke; and cousins, Roy W. Fuchs and Edward Hammil.

1 9 3 9

Clark I. Fellers, facilities director, Vero Beach, Fla., on October 27, 2009. Fellers was born on October 15, 1917, in Warren, Pa. He earned a B.S. and a Ph.D., both in mechanical engineering, in 1940 and 1941, respectively, from the Engineering School, and an M.B.A. from the University of Rochester. Fellers was an executive at Eastman Kodak of Rochester, N.Y., for his entire business career. He is survived by a son, Gary; daughter, Gail Fellers Milliman; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Fellers was predeceased by his wife, Sylvia.

1 9 4 0

Gordon T. Wallis, retired executive, Chicago, on October 23, 2008. Wallis was born in Salt Lake City on August 15, 1919. While at Columbia, he was captain of the fencing team and president of his fraternity. Wallis joined the Irving Trust Co. in 1940, where he rose to become chairman of the board and CEO in 1970. He held the latter position until his retirement in 1983. During that time, Wallis was a member of the boards of Sterling Drug, NYU, J. Walter Thompson, FW Woolworth and GTE. In 1975, he chaired the steering committee of major New York banks, which

played a significant role in the solution to New York City's financial problems during that period. Wallis married Jean Merrill in 1946; she predeceased him in 2006. He is survived by his daughters, Judith W. Fenton, and her husband, Clifton '70 Business, and Deborah Rei; and six grandchildren.

1 9 4 2

Theodore S. Furman, retired aerospace executive, Saratoga, Calif., on October 29, 2009. Furman was born on July 23, 1922, in New York City and lived in East Orange, N.J., throughout his school years. He earned a degree in 1947 from the Law School after serving in the Army for four years during WWII. Furman was a Master Gunner, responsible for broadcasting early warning signals to ground troops in France, Germany and Luxembourg. After law school, he relocated to San Diego, where he met and married his wife, Gerry. They moved to the Bay Area in 1955, where Furman spent 40 years in aerospace, working for Lockheed, Ford Aerospace and Loral. He retired at 82. Furman was an avid sports enthusiast, attending his first baseball game at Yankee Stadium on his 10th birthday and watching Babe Ruth play, and was a Yankees fan to the end. He coached several Little League and Senior League teams in Sunnysvale and Saratoga. Furman served on the Zoning Board and Planning Commission in Sunnysvale. He is survived by his wife of 57 years; and daughters, Teri Howes, and Sue.

Allan L. Goulding Jr., physician, Billings, Mont., on September 8, 2009. Goulding was born in Cambridge, Ohio, on November 29, 1920. A graduate of Weill Cornell Medical College, his residency training was done in New York City. Goulding married Natalie C. Sundberg in 1944, and the family moved to Billings, Mont., following his residency training so he could join The Billings Clinic. Goulding established the first isotope laboratory in Montana in the Deaconess Hospital prior to being recalled by the Navy for two years. His specialty was internal medicine and his main interest at the time of retirement was geriatrics. Goulding was on the board of The Billings Symphony, was an elder of The Presbyterian Church and served on the Presbyterian Church Foundation Board. Other interests were birding, fishing,

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Please include the deceased's full name, date of death with year, class year, profession, and city and state of residence at time of death. Biographical information, survivors' names, address(es) for charitable donations and high-quality photos (print, or 300 dpi jpg) also may be included. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at editors' discretion. Send materials to cct@columbia.edu or to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.

Arnold Beichman '34, Political Analyst and Journalist

Arnold Beichman '34, '67 GSAS, '73 GSAS, a conservative political analyst, journalist, author and professor, died on February 17, 2010, in Pasadena, Calif. He was 96.

Beichman was born on May 17, 1913, to Ukrainian Jewish immigrant parents. A child of the Lower East Side, he "read his way through the local public library" in high school, according to a May 2003 profile in *The Weekly Standard*. When he came to the College, he wrote for *Spectator* and became its editor in 1934.

Beichman spent the first half of his life in journalism, working for *The New York Times* and *Newsday*, eventually landing an editorship at *PM*. He was fired in 1946 "in a struggle over the paper's turn toward the radical left," according to an obituary in the *Times*.

An unwavering foe of communism, Beichman went on to freelance for the American Federation of Labor for 15 years, according to a January 2004 *CCT* profile. "I wanted to undertake this fight against communism, which I thought was the most serious problem we had," Beichman said. "So I went to work for trade unions, which I regarded — particularly the AFL — as the strongest fighters against it."

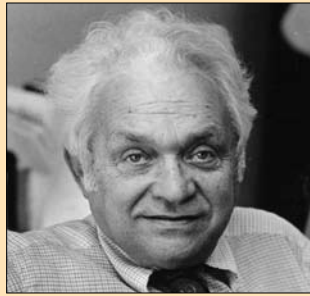


PHOTO: EDWARD W. SOUZA/STANFORD

Partially as a result of guilt over not being able to serve his country in WWII, Beichman spent much of the '50s and '60s covering war zones all over the world. Then, at 50, he did an about-face and left journalism to return to Columbia.

"My greatest lesson," he told *CCT* in 2004, "is that everybody should go back to school when they're about 50, because they'll discover a world they did not know existed." He earned a master's in 1967 and a doctorate in 1973, both in political science.

Beichman had a prominent career as an analyst and an academic. At the time of his death, he had been a research fellow at the Hoover Institution since 1982, and a columnist for *The Washington Times* since 1986. He had taught at the University of British Columbia,

the University of Calgary, the University of Massachusetts and Georgetown. He authored five books, most famously *Nine Lies About America*, tackling what he saw as liberal myths defaming American history.

Beichman was known for a buoyant, infectious energy. "He was younger," John Podhoretz wrote in a recent tribute in *Commentary*. "Younger than I at 23 when he was 72 ... younger than I at 47 when I last saw him in his 97th year." When being profiled for *CCT*, Beichman was "asked if he was tired an hour into a recent phone conversation," and at 90, "Beichman roared, 'Tired? I've just begun to fight!'"

"He mixed a lot of virtues that seldom go together in the same person," Christopher Caldwell wrote of him in a tribute in the *Standard*, "authority and curiosity, ambition and generosity, brilliance and humility. He was a battler who had the happiest of happy marriages, a drawer-of-lines-in-the-sand with a gift for friendship."

Beichman is survived by his wife, the former Carroll Aikins; sons, John and Charles; daughter, Janine '69 GSAS, '74 GSAS; six grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

Jesse Thiessen '11 Arts

her husband, David, Rosemary Kirk and her husband, Brian, and Joanne Murphy and her husband, John; son-in-law, James Enos; sister, Mary Dunnigan; and 18 grandchildren. Curd was predeceased by a daughter, Cecilia Enos, and a brother, Eugene.

1945

Jay J. Pack, financial v.p., New York City, on July 31, 2009. A native New Yorker, Pack attended Horace Mann School for Boys and majored in English and economics at the College. He trained as a stockbroker at Francis I. DuPont & Co. and retired in spring 2009 from Burnham Securities, where he was a v.p. He also held the position of president of the Chelsea Block Association. Pack wrote several books, including *How To Talk to a Broker*; authored numerous magazine articles on stocks, bonds and investing; and was a correspondent for *TravelSmart*, a monthly publication. He is survived by his children from his first marriage, to Sheila Pack: Jeffrey, and Barbara Ann Wissott; three grandchildren; his wife, Nancy Dunnan; and sister, Ethel Schneider. Memorial contributions may be made to NYU Medical Center, Office of Planned Giving, One Park Ave., 17th Fl., New York, NY 10016.

Harold Samelson, research scientist, Berkeley Heights, N.J., on September 15, 2009. Samelson was born in Manhattan on June 23, 1923, and raised in the Bronx. He was a Pulitzer Scholar at the College, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and received a B.A. in 1947. Samelson earned an M.A. and a Ph.D., both in chemistry, in 1948 and 1952, respectively, from GSAS. He spent most of his career as a research scientist in the field of optics, working on the science underlying lasers and television. Samelson was awarded several patents in these areas. He worked for several companies, including Bell Labs, Allied Signal, Arco Solar and GTE Sylvania, and served on several presidential commissions involving the export of technology. He was a professor of physics at the University of Lowell in Massachusetts. Samelson delayed his studies from 1942–46 to serve in the Army Signal Corps and was sent to the European Theater during WWII. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Bernice Slaff; daughter, Elizabeth Cuthill; son, Matthew '85; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., 3rd Fl. MC 4530, New York, NY 10025, or www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline.

reading, music, gardening and travel. Goulding is survived by his wife; daughter, Christine Dryden, and her husband, Gerald; sons Allan and his wife, Kathy, and Jeffrey and his wife, Georgann; stepson, Jeffrey Betters; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice or to the Nature Conservancy, Billings Clinic Foundation or First Congregational Church Foundation.

1943

Gordon K. "Bill" Billipp, retired salesman, sales manager and business owner, Peterborough, N.H., on June 28, 2009. Billipp was born in Port Chester, N.Y., April 28, 1922. A WWII veteran, he joined the Naval Reserve and after graduating with a B.A. in business administration was commissioned as a Navy ensign. In May 1944, Billipp married Elizabeth A. Whitesell and in June shipped out to the Pacific Theater aboard the destroyer

escort *USS Howard F. Clark*. After the war, Billipp joined Armstrong Cork's industrial division. For 25 years, he and his family moved all over the country. In 1969, Billipp resigned from Armstrong Cork to move his family to Peterborough, and he bought Wilton Pressed Metals. Billipp was a longtime member of the Monadnock Indoor Tennis Club, the Monadnock Country Club and the Peterborough Rotary Club. Survivors include his wife of 65 years; sons, J. Andrew, James and Peter; daughters-in-law, Susan, Diana and Karen; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Billipp was predeceased by his oldest son, Norman, who was killed in action in Vietnam in 1969. Memorial contributions may be made to the Mayhew Program, PO Box 120, Bristol NH 03222.

1944

Clement C. Curd Jr., retired general and thoracic surgeon, Lenox, Mass., on August 28, 2009.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 20, 1924, Curd earned a degree in 1946 from P&S. He served in the Navy and then worked for the former Pittsfield General Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital. Continuing with their merger as Berkshire Medical Center, he retired in 1992 after 36 years of practice. Following retirement, Curd worked in the surgical department at the Albany Veterans Administration Hospital. He had been chief of staff of Berkshire Medical Center, chief of staff of the former St. Luke's Hospital, a trustee of Berkshire Medical Center and president of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American College of Surgeons. Curd also was an associate professor of surgery at the University of Massachusetts Medical School. He is survived by his wife, the former Patricia McInerney; daughters, Kathleen Walsh and her husband, William, Patricia Sudek and her husband, Thomas, Marianne Oliva and her husband, Samuel, Madeline Phelps and

1947

**Peter F. Brescia '47**

Peter F. Brescia, retired diplomat, Alexandria, Va., on January 17, 2010. Brescia was born in Solofra, Italy, on April 14, 1923, and educated in New York City public schools. He served in the Navy from 1943–46, participating in the D-Day invasion at Omaha Beach as Radioman Second Class aboard the *USS PC-568* as part of the 12th Fleet. Brescia was awarded the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one star and the WWII Victory Medal. He earned a degree in 1950 from SIPA, began his career as a diplomat with the State Department and in 1953 joined the United States Information Agency (USIA). A graduate of the National War College, Brescia received the USIA Meritorious Honor Award. Following his 1980 retirement, he traveled extensively with his wife of 62 years, Mary, and enjoyed swimming, tennis, squash and reading about history. Brescia is survived by his wife; sons, Peter and his former wife, Lorraine, Christopher and his wife, Carol, and Andrew and his wife, Dawn; daughter, Regina M. Holleb and her husband, David; nine grandchildren; five nieces and nephews; and brother, Roland, and his wife, Mary. Memorial contributions may be made to Barakat, 552 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Paul J. Mishkin, attorney and professor, Berkeley, Calif., on June 26, 2009. Born in Trenton, N.J., to Polish immigrants, Mishkin earned a B.A. from the College and a J.D. in 1950 from the Law School. He was on President Gerald Ford's short list of Supreme Court candidate appointments and served as special counsel alongside Archibald Cox and Jack Owens arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court for the Regents of the University of California in the 1978 Bakke case. Mishkin joined the UC Berkeley, Boalt, faculty in 1973 after teaching at the Penn Law School for 22 years. He was a visiting professor at Colorado, Duke, Michigan and Texas Law Schools, as well as at Haverford College. Mishkin was on the faculty of the Salzburg Seminar

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information and space considerations.

- 1929** **Irwin W. Smith**, retired insurance agent and teacher, Wallingford, Conn., on February 18, 2010.
- 1933** **John R. Phelps**, music teacher, Sun City Center, Fla., on March 4, 2010.
- 1937** **Lloyd D. Flint**, physician, Myrtle Beach, S.C., on February 2, 2010.
- 1938** **Alan D. Kandel**, retired social work executive, West Bloomfield, Mich., on August 21, 2009. Kandel earned a degree in 1942 from the School of Social Work.
- Alvin K. Link**, retired executive, Los Angeles, on February 23, 2010. Link entered with the Class of 1938 but earned a B.S. and an M.S. from the Business School in 1938 and 1939, respectively.
- 1939** **Merrel P. Callaway**, clergyman, Charleston, S.C., on January 31, 2010.
- 1940** **Willard N. Failing**, ophthalmologist, Utica, N.Y., on May 25, 2009. Failing earned a degree in 1943 from P&S.
- 1941** **Edward J. Amontree**, retired dentist, Sarasota, Fla., on February 4, 2010. Amontree earned a degree in 1944 from the Dental School.
- James W. Cronenberg**, engineer, Midland, Texas, on January 1, 2010. Cronenberg entered with the Class of 1941 and then became a member of the Class of 1942 at the Engineering School.
- T. Hall Keyes III**, pet resort and training center owner, Ridge, N.C., on January 6, 2010.
- 1942** **David P. Harrison**, retired market analyst, Madison, Wis., on February 3, 2010. Harrison earned an M.A. in economics in 1949 from GSAS.
- George T. Laboda**, director of media, Lake Worth, Fla., on February 26, 2010. Laboda entered with the Class of 1942 but earned a degree in 1942 from the Business School.
- Sam Pisicchio**, retired Coast Guard member and employment consultant, Napa, Calif., on February 24, 2010.
- 1943** **Henry Corey**, attorney, Falmouth, Mass., on February 27, 2010.
- 1944** **John J. Donohue Jr.**, retired market research manager, Hamden, Conn., on February 4, 2010.
- Henry K. Griesman**, wholesale fabric supplier, New York City, on March 30, 2010.
- Frank C. Marshall**, Rye, N.Y., on February 8, 2010.
- 1945** **Bruce L. Schalk**, retired accountant, Whiting, N.J., on March 4, 2010.
- 1946** **Wayne J. Hallenbeck**, retired insurance executive, Mansfield, Ohio, on February 10, 2010.
- Jack L. Orkin**, retired attorney, Miami, Fla., on January 15, 2010. Orkin earned an M.S. in 1946 from the Business School and a J.D. from the Law School in 1949.
- 1949** **Donald J. Goodell**, international trademark attorney, Chappaqua, N.Y., on February 16, 2008.
- Clyde R. Hampton**, environmental attorney, Aurora, Colo., on February 14, 2010.
- William G. Ivie Sr.**, retired retail store manager, Cartersville, Ga., on February 10, 2010.
- Eric C. Munro Jr.**, El Paso, Texas, on March 6, 2010.
- 1950** **Alfred Arees**, Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., on March 25, 2009.
- William T. Dameron**, Mount Vernon, Ohio, on December 14, 2009.
- James L. Garofalo**, physician, Essex Fells, N.J., on February 26, 2010. Garofalo earned a degree from the School of Public Health in 1953.
- 1951** **John W. Garrett**, transportation safety research expert, Asheville, N.C., on January 14, 2010.
- 1953** **Jay A. Levine**, professor, Chicago, on February 22, 2010. Levine earned an M.A. in English and comparative literature in 1954 from GSAS.
- 1954** **Thomas J. O'Grady**, surgeon, Toledo, Ohio, on February 28, 2010.
- Larry Pine**, Boca Raton, Fla., on January 25, 2010.
- George M. Thomas**, geologist, Houston, on January 30, 2010.
- 1955** **James C. Gherardi**, Great Neck, N.Y., on March 4, 2010.
- Jerome Rosenthal**, physician, Great Neck, N.Y., on June 25, 2009.
- Bede C. Sullivan**, library cataloguer, Washington, D.C., on February 22, 2010.
- 1957** **Albert J. Anton Jr.**, oil analyst, Louisville, Ky., on April 10, 2010.
- George Dickstein**, Bronx, N.Y., on February 3, 2010.
- 1959** **M. Marvin Finkelstein**, Sharon, Mass., on March 6, 2010.
- 1960** **Michael D. Hein**, teacher and librarian, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on February 7, 2010. Hein earned an M.S. in 1974 from the School of Library Service.
- 1961** **Robert L. Trelstad**, physician, Princeton, N.J., on February 15, 2010.
- 1987** **Albert J. Weisel**, freelance writer, New York City, on February 27, 2010.

in American Studies and was a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences and at Wolfson College, Cambridge University. He also served on the U.S. permanent committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise. Mishkin was predeceased by his wife of 28 years, Milli, and is survived by a son, Jonathan Westover.

1948

Kenneth J. Sabella, retired business executive, Bloomfield, Conn., on September 24, 2009. Born on June 6, 1926, in Brooklyn, N.Y., Sabella served in the Navy, stationed in the South Pacific, during WWII. After the war, he earned a B.A. from the College and a B.S. from Cornell. Sabella became a successful businessman, working as partner and CEO of Eastern Food Services. He enjoyed sailing, tennis, boating and especially golf. During his retirement, he served as a Eucharistic Minister at The Church of St. Timothy, served the elderly with the Meals on Wheels program and tutored inner-city youths. Sabella is survived by his wife of 61 years, Marjorie; and children and their spouses, Kenneth and Valerie Sabella, Brien and Linda Sabella, Casey and Patricia Sabella, Kerry and Sheila Sabella, and Ben and Molly Kate (Sabella) Mosher; 25 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

1949

Alvin M. White, professor emeritus, Claremont, Calif., on June 2, 2009. Born in New York in 1925, White was a Navy radio technician aboard a ship during WWII. After the Battle of Okinawa, he was sent to Officers Training at Columbia. He then obtained a master's from UCLA and a Ph.D. in mathematics from Stanford in 1961. In 1962, White moved to Claremont and joined the faculty at Harvey Mudd College, where he taught for more than 35 years. He was an active participant in the life of the colleges and town, frequently mentoring students from Harvey Mudd and other colleges and serving several terms as president of the Claremont chapter of Sigma Xi and of the local chapter of the American Association of University Professors as well as one term as co-president of the Faculty Senate. White helped create the joint chaplaincy at the colleges. He spent the majority of his career exploring, discussing and writing about creative, innovative and humanistic approaches to teaching and learning. White is survived by his wife of 62 years, Myra; sons and daughters-in-law, Louis and his wife, Susan Miller, and Michael and his wife, Auneea; brother, Wal-

lace; sister-in-law, Shirley; and two grandchildren.

1950

Paul McCoy, businessman, Dunedin, Fla., on October 27, 2009. McCoy was born on January 28, 1928, in Ventnor City, N.J. He graduated from the College with honors and earned a degree in 1952 from the Business School. McCoy moved to Dunedin in 1971. He was a member and commodore of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, an FSU Golden Chief and an avid football fan. He also enjoyed boating and fishing. McCoy was a businessman in Dunedin for 30 years and a pioneer in the agricultural field, developing carboxylate technology. He was predeceased by his wife, Tue, and is survived by his sons, Paul and John; daughter, Nancy Hamilton; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

1952

Donald J. Engel, retired controller, Hopewell, N.J., on September 11, 2009. Born in Pelham, N.Y., Engel lived in New Brunswick, N.J., before moving to Hopewell 41 years ago. He was a controller for Suburban Transit in New Brunswick for 40 years, retiring in 1992. Engel was a member and past president of Branford Electric Railway Association, operating as the Shoreline Trolley Museum, in East Haven, Conn., and a member of the Electric Railroaders Association of NYC. He is survived by many friends and associates in the transportation industry. Engel was predeceased by a sister, Janet Walker. Memorial contributions may be made to Branford Electric Railway Association, 17 River St., East Haven, CT 06512.

1958

William G. Covey, physician, Easton, Conn., on May 28, 2009. Covey was born in New York City and earned a degree in 1962 from P&S. He was a member of the Glee Club at Columbia and sang with the Blue Notes. Covey served as a captain in the Army during the Vietnam War as a physician and was in private practice as a hematologist in Stratford, Conn., for 36 years. He was the medical director at the Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield for the past four years. Covey was dedicated to his field and loved travel, opera, learning to speak Italian and spending time with his large family. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Meller Covey; children, Anne, David and his wife, Robin, Aaron and his wife, Cynthia, Michael and his wife, Alec, and Laura; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The William Grayson Covey, MD Memorial Fund c/o The Jewish Home for the Elderly of Fairfield.

1962

Conrad M. Sherman, stockbroker, Howell, N.J., on September 24, 2009. Born in Brooklyn, Sherman lived in Marlboro, N.J., for 20 years, before moving to Howell nine years ago. At the College, he was an economics major and wrote for *Spectator*. Sherman earned a J.D. from Penn and served in the Coast Guard. He was a first responder at Seabrook Village in Tinton Falls. He also coached and was an umpire for the Marlboro Little League for more than 10 years. Sherman is survived by his wife, Ingrid (née Chait); sons, Blake, and Tyler and his wife, Catherine; brother, Julius; three nieces; and a nephew.

1965

Roger V. Wetherington Jr., journalism professor, Jamaica, N.Y., on July 25, 2009. After working as a reporter and editor at the *New York Daily News*, Wetherington began his teaching career in California at Long Beach State University, earning his mass communications/journalism Ph.D. at the University of Southern California. He was a journalism professor at St. John's University in Queens. Wetherington taught additional classes on Staten Island and spent a year in Kazakhstan teaching on a Fulbright Scholar fellowship. He also was a part-time editor on the weekends at *The New York Times*. Wetherington is survived by his wife, Andrea Miller; son, Brady; sister, Janice Evans; and cousin, Ora Katherine Smith.

1967

John A. Shayner, college v.p., Hackensack, N.J., on September 23, 2009. Shayner was born in Ipswich, England, on August 27, 1945, and spent his childhood in Hazlet, N.J. He earned a Ph.D. from Stanford and held numerous titles during his 30 years at Centenary College: v.p. for global initiatives, v.p. of administration, director of international programs, acting president, professor of English and executive assistant to the president. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the college was in the creation of International Programs in 1992. Shayner is survived by a brother, Nigel; and his companion, Jadwiga (Spodaryk) Lon. Memorial donations may be made to the Dr. John A. Shayner Scholarship Fund, c/o Centenary College, 400 Jefferson St., Hackensack, NJ 07840 or the National Cancer Research Center.

1968

Michael S. Lipari, business executive, Oneonta, N.Y., on August 9, 2009. Lipari was born on October 30, 1946, in Baltimore. He was the president of Empire Abstract of Oneonta and was a member of the Oneonta

Lions Club. Lipari is survived by his partner, Cheryl Carter; children, Robert, Joseph and Katherine; and their mother, Cynthia Lipari; sister, Louisa (Martin) Berger '66 Barnard; sister-in-law, Bobbie Harlem; and a number of nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a brother, Joseph. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lions Club of Oneonta, PO Box 575, Oneonta, NY 13820.

1977

Bruce W. Flannery, director of development and marketing, activist, Exton, Pa., on August 14, 2009. Flannery grew up on Long Island and earned a degree in political philosophy from the College. His early career was as a copywriter, copy reader, and marketing and public relations consultant in New York and Philadelphia. His latter career was with organizations devoted to helping people in need. Most recently, Flannery was director of fund development and marketing for the Maternity Care Coalition. He was a founding member and president of the Pennsylvania Coalition of AIDS Service Organizations. Gov. Tom Ridge named him to the Inter-Governmental Council on Long-Term Care, and Gov. Ed Rendell appointed him to the Department of Health Transition Team. He also was named to the state's HIV Planning Council, which he served as co-chairman of for six years. Flannery was a technical adviser on the 1993 film *Philadelphia*. He created a consulting practice assisting nonprofits in fundraising, grant writing and creating public-awareness campaigns and was director of development for Calcutta House. Flannery was interested in historic preservation and served as chairman of the West Whiteland Historical Commissions. He is survived by his partner, Otto Perrone.

1986

Marshall B. Wright, finance executive, Williamsburg, Va., on September 10, 2009. Wright was a native of Williamsburg. After graduating from the College, he worked with the private banking division of the Bank of New York, continuing his career as a v.p. with JP Morgan Chase in New York. He returned to Williamsburg 4½ years ago. Wright was an avid reader and an animal advocate. He is survived by his parents, Margaret and George; sister, Sherwood Wright Crawford; brothers, Wayne and Andrew; and several nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions be made to the Heritage Humane Society or the Williamsburg Public Library.

Lisa Palladino



Class Notes

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George Leonard '67, '68 GSAS, '72 GSAS wrote in with a remembrance of his father, **L. Charles "Charlie" Leonard '37, '39L:**

"People who were at Columbia with L. Charles 'Charlie' Leonard '37 may well remember him, particularly if they were athletes. He made *Spectator* by accomplishing the odd feat of earning four letters in one year, though there were only three seasons. Classmates would most likely remember him, however, as 'Charlie the Boxer,' the 145-lb. all-Columbia University boxing champion. As you remember, boxing was such a big sport in the '30s, Columbia even had its own boxing trunks, with Columbia logo. Charlie KO'ed the Business School's champ for the title, 'spilling him around the canvas,' *Spec* reported.

"Charlie's grandson and my son, Andrew Charles Leonard '13, wrote to Housing and to Dean Michele Moody-Adams to be sure he got to live in John Jay Hall, where his grandfather, father and uncle, Robert Andrew Leonard '71, had lived. My middle name is Jay because my mother waited on the steps of John Jay so often for my father that she became curious about who John Jay had been. You've heard of dorms named after people, but I am a person named after a dorm.

"Anyway, Dean Moody-Adams very kindly wrote Andrew back and said she was forwarding his letter to Housing. Andrew got into John Jay. He is third-generation Columbian and third-generation John Jay. There have now been Leonards in John Jay Hall for 76 years.

"After Columbia, Charlie graduated from Columbia Law in 1939, married Adele Shapiro — Mom remembered double dates with his classmates all her life — and went

into politics in hopes of becoming a boxing judge and getting to go to the fights for free. Instead, in the 1950s, his combination of Columbia and boxing impressed the Jack English Democratic 'machine' on Long Island. Jack had once knocked out a committeeman at a Young Democrats meeting. Pop proudly said. Charlie and Jack were early Kennedy men, and when my new 'Uncle' Jack English became Bobby Kennedy's presidential campaign manager, Charlie became one of Bobby's lawyers. For a few hours after the California primary, they were all on their way to the West Wing — until the tragedy.

"Charlie left the Party during the Jimmy Carter years, and with bipartisan support, became Regional Chief Administrative Law Judge for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and also at times, New England, supervising up to 140 judges. Among Charlie's crucial decisions, still cited, were one requiring a religious family to allow its dying child modern medical care (law students used to call him for details) and another reclassifying thousands of impoverished Hmong refugee soldiers who had fought on our side in Vietnam so that they received much-needed benefits accordingly. His decision probably ran 20 pages, but when he heard about the situation, Pop had only said, 'They were on our side, right? Got to take care of them.' Charlie Leonard's decisions on all things were like his straight right cross.

"If any of his old friends have memories of Pop, I would be grateful if you would e-mail me at GL@georgeleonard.com.

"Hoping this finds Charlie's old friends in good health."

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Robert Zucker
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Dr. **Stan Gotliffe** passed away in January. Stan and his wife, Ruth, had been cherished regulars at our annual Arden House reunions, and from 1994–2008, Stan was our class correspondent. He had practiced psychiatry in NYC, and he and Ruth moved to South Carolina after he retired. Our sincere condolences to Ruth.

Cynthia and **Arthur Friedman** were omitted from the list of those who attended the Society of Colum-

bia Graduates Dinner.

Those of you who read the story of Marine captain **Jim Shanley's** heroism in the 1940 Class Notes column in September/October will probably remember that Jim was an active member of our class, not of the Class of '42 as noted.

Art Weinstock and Suzanne and **Bob Dettmer** represented the class at the Westchester alumni dinner in Rye, N.Y.

I had the pleasure of taking my family of 26 to Club Med in Cancun during Presidents Week. We also celebrated there the early decision admission of the oldest of my 10 great-grandchildren to some insignificant school called NYU.

A group of us still have our irregular luncheons in NYC. To join, please call **Len Shayne** at 212-737-7245.

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Melvin Hershkowitz
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The great author Louis Auchincloss, a loyal Yale alumnus who died on January 26 at 92, called his last novel *The Last Of The Old Guard*. Our own great Class of 1942, "Old Guard," has many surviving active members, and I hear from them frequently. Recent communications have come from **Robert Kaufman** in Scarsdale, N.Y.; Dr. **Gerald Klingon** in New York City; **Don Mankiewicz** in Monrovia, Calif.; Dr. **William Robbins** in Grand Island, Fla.; Dr. **Bernard Small** in Montauk, N.Y., and Tenafly, N.J.; and Dr. **Arthur "Wizzer" Wellington** in Elmira, N.Y. I have also had notes from, and telephone conversations with, a few surviving spouses of our deceased Old Guard classmates, including Regina Albohn, widow of **Arthur Albohn**; Marlene Green, widow of **Gerald Green**; and Avra Mark, widow of my Livingston Hall roommate and lifelong best pal, Dr. **Herbert Mark**. I also have heard from the two sons of our late classmate **Don Dickinson**, who live in Las Vegas. Older son **Phill** is in the real estate business in Nevada and California, and younger son **Kit** is the golf pro at the Las Vegas Country Club. **Phill** and **Kit** are loyal to the memory of their late father's happy days at Columbia before he was seriously wounded (he recovered) as an infantry officer in Europe in WWII. Don was one of my good friends at

Columbia. I thank **Phill** and **Kit** for keeping in touch with me.

As I submit these notes on March 1, our men's basketball team has finished its home schedule with a last-second 56–55 win over Penn and a 67–52 loss to Princeton. Columbia once again finished in the bottom half of the Ivy League, below Cornell, Harvard, Princeton and Yale, tying with Brown and Penn for fifth place at 5–9. In recent years, several classmates have asked me why Columbia has not been able to do better in the two major sports that attract the most interest and attention from alumni: football and men's basketball. We have had success in many other sports, including Ivy League Championships in women's soccer, men's and women's fencing, men's and women's cross country, men's tennis and golf, and women's archery. Our wrestling and swimming teams also have had respectable, if not championship, performances. Consensus opinion is supportive and complimentary to our football coach, **Norries Wilson**, and our men's basketball coach, **Joe Jones**, who are popular with and respected by their players.

A perennial issue is the difficulty our coaches face in recruiting talented student-athletes to come to Columbia. Financial aid packages are roughly similar throughout the Ivy League, though Harvard, Princeton and Yale, our three wealthiest schools, may be able to provide more in grants and direct financial aid than Columbia. Our facilities are certainly adequate, if not superior to, other Ivy schools. **Wien Stadium/Kraft Field** is an attractive and comfortable site for watching football games. Our gymnasium is not great, but Ivy League gyms elsewhere also are not elaborate or much larger than ours. The separation of our main campus from **Wien Stadium** is often cited as a significant negative factor in recruiting, with the burden of added transportation time for team meetings and pre-game practices. Unfortunately, the realities of New York City geography, and a necessary large financial investment, make a solution to this dilemma a distant hope, with no resolution on the immediate horizon.

I welcome further comments from interested classmates and other alumni about this issue. Meanwhile, we continue to hope for more success in all of our Ivy

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.

League athletic contests, and especially for Ivy League championships in football and men's basketball.

Kind regards and good wishes to all.

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G.J. D'Angio

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Ensign Leininger's recollection in the March/April Class Notes that former University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) shook hands with all '43 graduates prompts this inquiry. Some background: The 2006 biography *Nicholas Miraculous: The Amazing Career of the Redoubtable Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler*, by Michael Rosenthal, the Roberta and William Campbell Professor in the Teaching of Literature Humanities, paints Butler as a complex, multi-faceted person. He was scholarly and authoritative, yet petty, bigoted and vain. He saw to it, for instance, that his was always the longest entry in *Who's Who*. He was a remote presence to me as an undergraduate, but in my young eyes, very much the image of what a university president should be. I never remember seeing the man in person; I wasn't there on graduation day to shake his hand as Ensign states he did. I was in medical school by then, having left Columbia after my junior year. The question that comes to mind is this: Do any of you remember seeing or talking to Butler during your college years? If so, send me a note (suitable for publication) describing the occasion and what interaction there might have been with him.

A portrait of my wife, Dr. Audrey Evans, was unveiled on November 30 and hangs in the main auditorium of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Hers is the only woman's portrait in that august hall.

Dan Liebowitz writes on his return from Central America. He is a deserving member of the Explorer's Club and a Fellow of the Royal Geographic Society. A New Yorker, Dan's travels started as a child in Europe before returning to the States for his pre-college school years and then Columbia. He enlisted in the Army after Pearl Harbor and as part of the Army Specialized Training Program was sent to NYU School of Medicine as an army private, first class. Dan eventually served in Germany as chief of psychiatry at a station

hospital there, and it would seem he has never stopped traveling since. He has been to sub-Saharan Africa six times, to the Congo twice and has lectured in three countries of the Near East. There was time between journeys abroad, however, to practice medicine on the staffs of the Redwood City and Stanford Hospitals in California, attaining professor emeritus status at the latter. The author of medical articles, he also has written several books including *Cook to Your Heart's Content ... on a Low-Fat, Low-Salt Diet* with two co-authors, *The Physician and the Slave Trade: John Kirk, the Livingston Expeditions, and the Crusade Against Slavery in East Africa*, and *The Last Expedition: Stanley's Mad Journey through the Congo*.

John Vicario writes from South Carolina. Originally Class of '44, he graduated in '43 because of the wartime speed-up. A stint in the Navy during the war years was followed by work at Western Electric (now Lucent) that he found rewarding and interesting. John and his wife now enjoy the great outdoors in their lakefront home on Lake Keowee. It is not far from Clemson, which affords cultural as well as collegiate sport and educational activities. John adds that he objects to some of Columbia's positions, such as the banning of a military presence on campus.

Some sad news:

Domenick A. Luppino, a retired businessman, Glen Rock, N.J., died on March 25, 2009.

Alvin S. Yudkoff, Water Mill, N.Y., died on May 27, 2009. He was a writer and filmmaker and the '43 CCT class correspondent from July 2003 to March 2006.

Connie Maniatty, Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame athlete in two sports, and a philanthropist and prominent member of the business world, died on January 8. Connie was our longtime Class Agent, and for several years, his name could be found at the head of our Class Notes. The notable career of this loyal Columbia alum is detailed in the March/April issue Obituaries (www.college.columbia.edu/cct/mar_apr10/obituaries0).

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Henry Rolf Hecht

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Dr. **Arnold B. Scheibel** still is on the job as Distinguished Professor of Neurobiology and Psychiatry at UCLA. He teaches grad students and med students as well as pre-meds, along with continuing his research at UCLA Medical Center.

Also still at work is Arne's wife,

Marian, as professor of integrative biology at UC Berkeley. This requires them to take turns each weekend flying between Burbank and Oakland ("Southwest Air loves us").

Arne and Marian consider themselves confirmed, if transplanted, Easterners. "I think New York is still the most exciting city in the world," he said. But with so much air time along the Pacific corridor, they find they no longer have the energy to wander East. "My last visit was for my 50th P&S reunion in 1996," Arnold said.

David V. Becker, professor of radiology and nuclear medicine at Cornell, died on January 31 in Manhattan. He was an expert on diseases of the thyroid and led the National Cancer Institute team to assess the potential hazards of radioactive iodine released by the 1986 Chernobyl explosion. David was awarded a White House Citation for this work.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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Columbia College Today

Columbia Alumni Center
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Our 65th reunion is right around the corner, Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. Alumni Reunion Weekend will be filled with events around Columbia and New York City, including opportunities to engage in cultural happenings as well as a Saturday class dinner with the Class of 1950 followed by a champagne toast and dancing under stars on Low Plaza. Please consider coming to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

Dr. **Walter Holland** of Lynchburg, Va., sent in this touching remembrance: "As I prepare to attend the reunion in early June, it seems absolutely unbelievable that 65 years have flown by. So much has transpired in my personal life, in our nation's life and in the state of the world during these years! Now as I search my memory banks to reflect on these fading years, I'd like to share with you a few of these memories. Many of my recollections may parallel experiences of your own. There's one thing we all share in common: We attended a great school, Columbia!"

"My time at Columbia began in early September 1941, after I hitchhiked from upstate New York to Morningside Heights. I'd been accepted as a Charles Hayden Scholar in, what I later learned, was the largest incoming freshman class to that point. As one of those 625 frosh, I muddled through the confusions of freshman orientation. I made visits to various offices, attended lectures regarding pre-med subjects and classes, and received a room assignment (729) in Livingston Hall. I also endured the wearing of the blue beanie and the occasional hazing by upper-classmen. I remember welcoming talks, in MacMillan, by President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) and Dean Herbert Hawkes. It did not take long before I entered into the swing of freshman life.

"As I look back, I am amazed at the wonderful scholarship offered by my teachers. Their ability to tweak my interest in history and literature and current events has stayed with me over the years. Attending classes taught by, to name a few, Hight, Casey, Carman, Hayes, Wingert, Barzun and many others was very special to that young student. Their teaching methods instilled a lifelong inquisitive thirst for knowledge.

"Aside from scholarly pursuits, there was a light side to Columbia. We played touch football on South Field, listened to jukebox music in the Lion's Den with a Coke and a date, and attended the Newman Club socials and those wonderful *Varsity Shows*. There were the wonderful bull sessions at all hours of the night and the snowball fights around Van Am Quad. A noon chapel service, led by Chaplain Knox, and the weekly subway ride to Baker Field for football were all part of the Columbia experience. And I must add the off-campus life that comprised the Greek fraternities. No wonder Columbia is so special to so many!

"Finally, a personal note. When I entered Columbia, I had very little money. My scholarship only covered tuition. However, the school provided me with opportunities to earn my board and keep. On campus, I worked in the kitchens beneath John Jay Dining Hall, in the Fine Arts Department preparing slides and in the student laundry. Jobs off-campus included a walk-on role in a Broadway show and as an usher at Baker Field. These work experiences helped prepare me for the real world. After being called to active duty in July '43, I was fortunate in that the Navy reassigned me back to Columbia in the V-12 program. Thereafter, my financial needs for tuition, room and board were resolved by Uncle Sam.

"These thoughts precede my journey back to Morningside Heights in June. Columbia molded me into a better person, and I owe the school a profound debt that will never be fully repaid."

Dr. **Joseph Stein** retired in October after 53 years as a neurologist. Joseph graduated from NYU Medical School and served in the Air Force during the Korean War. He worked at numerous hospitals in Topeka, Kan., before joining the staff in 1990 at the Cotton-O'Neil Clinic, from which he retired. Joseph also served on the medical advisory committee of the Topeka-Shawnee County Health Department for 27 years.

The Class of '45 is still looking for a class correspondent to write a bimonthly column for *Columbia College Today*. If you want an open platform and a chance to reconnect with classmates, please contact Associate Editor Ethan Rouen at the postal address at the top of the column, at ecr2102@columbia.edu or at 212-851-7485. Until then, please send notes about your life, thoughts, travel, family and experiences at Columbia to Ethan at the same postal or e-mail address.

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Kudos to '46 from Cambridge University. This is the story:

My class files revealed that in 1953, we funded a scholarship for an entering freshman, Richard D. Gooder '57 from Cincinnati. I was curious to learn more about him, and my search led me to Cambridge where I caught up with him.

Richard entered Columbia as a pre-med, changed his major to English and art history, graduated magna cum laude and won the Kellett Fellowship for study at Cambridge. There, at Clare College, he earned B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees and soon after joined his wife on the faculty.

He initiated a course in American literature, is a principal founder of the American M.Phil. degree at Cambridge and is a founding member of *The Cambridge Quarterly*, a distinguished academic journal.

Richard wrote: "I could not have gone to Columbia without a scholarship, and my years there provided the foundation of a good and happy life. I do very much hope that you and your classmates will not feel that their generosity was misplaced or wasted; and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to acknowledge it."

When I told Richard how pleased the men of '46 would be to

know they supported a successful and accomplished career, albeit in a small way, he responded: "I don't think the help your class gave was so small. I couldn't have built the house without the foundation you laid for me."

George Levinger e-mailed from his home in Amherst, Mass. George is professor emeritus of psychology at the University of Massachusetts. His specialty is social psychology with an emphasis on group behavior. Recalling his undergraduate days, George asks when freshman beanies were no longer worn, and when was the last Frosh-Soph Rush held. Does anyone know? Ahh, memories, memories.

George's interest is understandable. On the morning of the rush, he learned that during the previous night, members of the freshman class had kidnapped the president of the sophomore class. George, v.p. of the sophs, suddenly found himself in charge and had to prevent a freshman victory. Although outnumbered, General George's sophs won the day. Another battle of Morningside Heights won by the "good guys."

Lawrence Fuller, writing from his home in Santa Cruz, Calif.: "It was my desire to attend Columbia, as did my grandfather and mentor, Francisco Escobar, who had graduated in 1889 from the School of Mines. He was later consul general from Colombia in New York."

Larry was with Lockheed Marietta for 35 years and retired as manufacturing manager of the Astronautics Division. During his career, he was involved with missile defense and programs for the Mach 2 Fighter F1045, the Patrol Bomber F2V ASW and the T33A Jet Trainer.

Larry cites an important influence in his life — working with the Japanese for 12 years, learning about their culture, history and way of thinking. An interesting challenge for Larry was guiding Kawasaki and Mitsubishi factories to fabricate and assemble aircraft to rigorous Lockheed systems, designs and engineering.

Commenting on our government today, Larry decries the bickering and discord, and hopes our children and theirs can repair the fabric of our country.

Golf is one of Larry's loves, and for 15 years, he was a marshal at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Golf Tournament. That is indeed rubbing shoulders with the stars. For other fun, add gardening, sailing, tennis and travel.

John McConnell sends greetings from Post Falls, Idaho, with a new e-mail address: jsncc@live.com.

Please note my new postal and

e-mail addresses, at the top of the column.

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Robert Pease wrote: "Here are the first three pages of my short story collection. The title story is 'Invisible Bounds.' I have self-published 17 books, and more than 43,000 copies of these have now sold. As for my novel *O.U.I. (Operating Under the Influence)*, I [have received] comments from eminent people who have had high praise for it.

"If one of your readers could ever get an established publisher to take on this book, they could make a fortune and be doing something of real worth to society. Police officers assure me that where it is in use in high school English classes, it is saving lives. Is anything more important than that?"

I would add that no less than Calvin Plimpton, president of Amherst College in the 1960s, made a special trip to Robert's home to personally convey his praise of *O.U.I.*

Here is the title story of the short story collection:

"Invisible Bounds"

Half an hour before sunrise.

I was standing in the marsh, a mile from the road, on a Sunday morning, waiting. Mist hung in the air around me, moist tattered veils of night-time turning slowly, the quiet total, perfect, all nocturnal creatures gone to burrows, roosts and grassy tangles, daytime's

players still asleep.

Would the elusive yellow rail I'd found a week before appear again? I wanted to see this bird another time, wanted to get to know him, had come at first light and walked out here, jumping ditches, pushing through the reeds to reach the same place where my rail had leapt up, flown maybe fifteen feet, dropped into a runnel and disappeared.

But just before the first catbird was ready to speak, out of the vapors around me stepped a young doe. I'd been motionless a long time. Did she think I was some fixed part of the marsh, a tree trunk, a post? That was unlikely. I saw her nostrils quiver. She knew I was human. She knew humans were trouble. Our eyes met and in hers I read a question. A child would have looked at me the same way, wanting to ask but unable to find the words.

For a long moment we stared at each other. Then, still not moving, I made a sound. I don't know quite what it was — a low sort of almost whistle, not a question — whhoooo.

She stepped toward me. Not ten feet separated us. Her ears, ears that could hear a meadow vole's scratch in the earth thirty feet away, twitched and pointed this way and that, independent of each other. Her white tail flipped once.

As softly as I could, I said, "Come a little nearer."

Columbia School Designations

In Class Notes, these designations indicate Columbia degrees from schools other than the College.

Arch.	School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
Arts	School of the Arts
Barnard	Barnard College
Business	Graduate School of Business
CE	School of Continuing Education
Dental	College of Dental Medicine
E	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
GS	School of General Studies
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
J	Graduate School of Journalism
L	School of Law
Nursing	School of Nursing
P&S	College of Physicians and Surgeons
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College

She seemed to carry still the faint spotting of the fawn. Her coat was as if moth-eaten in places. She was very young, alone. She looked as if she hadn't eaten well, and yet ...

"... a little nearer."

Ready to spring into the air and be gone, poised, totally alert, nonetheless, she came within my reach.

Cautiously, only millimeters at a time, I raised my right arm, let my hand approach her wet black muzzle, left it cupped, extended, palm up where she could sniff it, sense the me in it.

Then she raised her head again to see my gaze and let me place my hand on the russet fur of the side of her neck.

I felt her flesh tremble under my touch, felt her warmth, sensed something passing between us from one to the other, both ways, and was frightened.

The rail flew up out of a ditch beside where the doe was standing. I saw the white patch in the wing before the bird dropped into a stand of phragmites and vanished.

When the rail shot up under our feet, the doe went into the air like a tennis ball bouncing. Airborne, she soared over the creek and would have been out of my sight in seconds, but at the edge of a cluster of black alders she stopped and turned, looked back at me. I could swear that in her glance there was something akin to longing, or was it just the faint stirring in me of a feeling I couldn't define that made me imagine this?

Seconds later, I stood alone in the marsh, but life in the grasses, the cattails, the creek bed was waking. Soon insects, a marsh wren, redwings, song sparrows, a trio of green-winged teal rocketing by and of course crows without number, were filling the morning with their voices. Sunlight came over the tops of the tupelos to the east, swallowed the mists, and a breeze came bearing all the mingled odors of marsh much and shrubs blossoming and spring's freshness.

I've been back there a dozen times. Twice that same doe came forth from the early dawn, as I waited, and stood close, but never again as close as that first time when I placed my hand on her.

How do I know it was she,

not another? I can't tell you. I only know that the way that she looked at me was the way that you look at someone who has touched you and made you vulnerable, lighted a place within you unknown until then, stirred an unanswerable need.

And the last time I went there I knew she was gone, knew I would never see her again. Swallows were there and blackbirds and jays but my doe was gone, gone forever. I cannot go back there now.

Ed McAvoy reported on his Tucson activities some time ago. Columbia had taken on the management of Biosphere 2 in Oracle, Southern Arizona, in 1996. The previous operators had generated a very negative reputation locally — and scientifically — and the reorganized facility under CU influence needed some good new and positive local public relations activity.

The closing down of the first Biosphere2 was for several reasons, one of which was a serious problem with the generation of oxygen within the enclosed domes 18 months into the two year "sealing" of the domes in this new world. There were serious arguments between those sealed into the unit and their outside scientists. Also, some personal strife for those, I believe eight, persons in the enclosed environment. The local press had not treated the effort gently.

Ed visited the Biosphere2 campus with friend and previous dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, Dr. Robert Weiss, and they reviewed the situation with the then-president of Biosphere2. It was decided that the project would be helped by the backing and support of a local Columbia alumni group. There was a small, active group in Phoenix, but that was too distant. Weiss generously offered Ed's services to establish such a concerned group. Ed investigated and found more than 800 alumni from various Columbia schools within a 50-mile radius of Tucson. Mailing labels were quickly sent from the New York Alumni Office and local recruitment work began.

Within a few weeks Ed, ably assisted by Pam Parry '71 GSAS, '73 LS, "signed up" more than 100 paying members from 20 CU schools.

College alumni included Adam Weissman '85, Dr. Benjamin Senitzky '43, John Piazza '99, Sarah Palestrant '03, Kimberly Hans '89, Kun Sun Kim P'02, Dick Kelly '63, Dr. Richard Kanter '56, Dr. James Hays '54, Sal Anzalone '54 and **Ed McAvoy**.

Monthly meetings at the famed Arizona Inn began and guest speakers started with the then-president of the University of Arizona, Peter Likins, who had previously been provost and professor at Columbia. We also had that dynamic educator Michael Crow, then-Columbia provost and now president of Arizona State. Arthur Levine, then-president of Teachers College, spoke and was followed by Barry Rosen, famous for surviving the U.S. Embassy takeover during the Carter presidency. Other speakers included Arizona University Professor Jonathan Overpeck, one of the world's leading experts on climate change.

These outstanding speakers drew 125–150 members each month and produced excellent local newspaper coverage for Biosphere2.

As a result, improved acceptance of the project occurred and that continues to this day, although Columbia has discontinued its connection and the University of Arizona is now in charge.

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[Editor's note: CCT thanks **Durham Caldwell** for his more than seven years of service as a class correspondent. Until a successor is in place, please send news to cct@columbia.edu, subject line "1948 Class Notes," or to Ethan Rouen, Associate Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.]

One of the joys of being a class correspondent is picking a name at random out of the class directory, placing a phone call and coming up with a classmate on the other end of the line with a very interesting story to tell. Take **Peter White** of Washington, D.C. When I talked with him in late February, the nation's capital still was suffering from the effects of the winter's unprecedented snowfalls. Peter, who lives on a side street, said a plow came through once and cleared enough of the road to allow one-lane traffic. If cars came at each other from opposite directions, it posed quite a dilemma. "It's been a real mess," Peter told me.

Peter is retired from *National Geographic* after being a writer there for 37 years, covering "all kinds of subjects." These subjects included tropical rainforests ("I visited all the major ones in the world") and the opium poppy. During the 1960s, he made four trips to Vietnam.

Peter was born in Vienna and came to the United States as a refu-

gee. He went to George Washington H.S. in Manhattan at night, working days as a copy boy at International News Service, and was drafted into the Army in 1943 right out of high school. Sent to England after training in the combat engineers, Peter was set to take part in the Normandy invasion but got orders the day before to report to a new assignment with Army intelligence in London. He hitchhiked to London, his orders in his pocket, and found that a mechanical perusal of IBM personnel punch cards had revealed he spoke German. He spent the rest of the war as an interrogator in France and Germany, interrogating German prisoners of war "of all ranks."

Among his assignments was interrogating members of the German V-1 and V-2 rocket programs. "There were some real bad Nazis," Peter remembers. Among interrogators' duties: political screenings to help determine which of the rocket science experts would be recruited to work in the United States. Peter recalls the boastfulness of the general, Walter Dornberger, who was Wernher von Braun's superior and who couldn't stop bragging about the superiority of the German rocket programs. He later worked in the U.S. for Bell Aircraft. Peter interviewed him years later while doing an article on helicopters for *National Geographic* and found that he had "become quite civilized."

Busy with interrogation duties, Peter never saw combat. But his outfit accumulated four combat stars, each worth five points toward discharge, helping Peter get back to the States and out of the Army in January 1946. The good marks he'd gotten on New York's Regents Exams while in high school helped him gain admission to Columbia.

Peter started at Columbia in February 1946 under the G.I. Bill. He signed up for 22 credits during each of his five regular semesters and 14 during each of two summer sessions to graduate in 2½ years with the Class of '48. And all the while, he was commuting 90 minutes a day each way from his mother's home in Queens Village on the Long Island Railroad and the IRT. In an understatement, he says, "It didn't have much time for extracurricular activities."

But Peter has some fond memories of Columbia's academics. "Contemporary Civilization and Humanities were very valuable," he says. "I had some good professors," he adds and mentions Jacques Barzun '27, Mark Van Doren, sociologist Paul Lazarsfeld ("a pioneer in polling") and Raymond Weaver, specialist in Melville novels. Peter

did so well that he was allowed to take graduate courses while still working toward his B.A.

And one more Columbia connection: Peter's only son, Norbert '87, is a member of the first class that included women.

Another classmate with fond memories of Barzun is **Joseph Schaaf** of Bennington, Vt. He got to know Barzun after being a violin student of Barzun's then-wife, Mariana Lowell, at Bennington College. It was she who got him interested in entering Columbia in 1944. Joe later spent several summers with the Barzun and Lowell families at Cotuit on Cape Cod, where he was a companion for the couple's children and performed other duties.

Joe's fondest recollections of Columbia stem from singing with the Columbia University Choir, a professional choir of 40 men and women who sang every day but Saturday at services in St. Paul's Chapel. Dr. Lowell Beveridge was choir director. The group specialized in Renaissance music and, according to Joe, was the best choir in New York City at the time. Among the performances he remembers is singing for Winston Churchill when the wartime British leader visited Columbia to receive an honorary degree. "I guess you might say we were the royal entertainers," Joe says.

Chapel speakers in those days included Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich ("his daughter was in the choir") from nearby Union Theological Seminary. "It was a great experience intellectually as well as musically and socially," says Joe. "An unforgettable experience."

He also remembers great Columbia classes with Barzun, Lionel Trilling '25, Raymond Weaver and George Nobbe, along with violin teacher Herbert Dittler and Paul Henry Lang, Otto Luening and Douglas Moore of the music department. (Are there any among us who don't remember Moore's "Guide to Musical Strategies: From Madrigal to Modern Music"?)

Joe is retired after a career as a classical music teacher, including stints as music director at the Putney School in Vermont and the Cambridge School in Weston, Mass. He also played the violin or viola in a number of groups including Sarah Caldwell's Opera Company of Boston, the Boston Philharmonic, the Boston Ballet Orchestra, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Berkshire Symphony Orchestra, and the Wantastiquet Chamber Orchestra assembled by Irene Serkin, wife of pianist Rudolf Serkin, who was one of many notable soloists who performed with his wife's group.

Joe has done guardian ad litem work for Vermont's Family and District Courts since 1988 and is a community member of the Institutional Review Board of the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.

As a member of the gay community, Joe has been active for the last 15 years in the Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force. Although he remains single, he is proud of Vermont's role as the first state in the union to approve civil unions for same-sex couples and the legislature's more recent action in overriding a gubernatorial veto to legalize same-sex marriage in the state.

Frank Marcus has been professor emeritus in cardiology at the University of Arizona's College of Medicine in Tucson since 1999. But that hardly means he's been sitting around taking it easy. From 2001–08, Dr. Frank was principal investigator of a study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, "The Multidisciplinary Study of Arrhythmogenic Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy/Dysplasia." A grant application to study the genetics and molecular causes of the disease is pending with NIH. Frank received the Boston University School of Medicine's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2003 and the Laennec Master Clinician Award of the American Heart Association's Council on Clinical Cardiology in 2005. His area of expertise spans clinical cardiology, cardiovascular pharmacology and clinical electrophysiology.

Frank earned a master's in physiology at Tufts, then graduated cum laude from B.U. Medical School in 1953. His internship, residency and early cardiology training were at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, followed by further cardiology training and promotion through the ranks to chief medical resident, chief of cardiology and assistant professor of medicine at the Georgetown University Hospital and Georgetown University Medical Service in Washington, D.C. In 1969, Frank became professor and chief of cardiology at Arizona and was promoted in 1982 to the endowed chair of Distinguished Professor of Medicine.

His initial research interests were directed toward the understanding of the pharmacology of such cardiac drugs as digoxin, amiodarone and propafenone. Later, Frank turned his attention to the investigation of cardiac arrhythmias. And he introduced radiofrequency energy for cardiac ablation procedures.

Frank's accomplishments in his chosen field have not been lost on his professional colleagues. He was founder and first president

of the Arizona chapter of the American College of Cardiology and president of the Association of University Cardiologists. He has been, or still is, a member of the editorial/scientific boards of 14 cardiovascular journals and has been a consultant and reviewer for 26 publications. Frank authored 158 abstracts, 287 articles in peer-reviewed journals and more than 50 book chapters. He is co-editor, with Dr. Gaetano Thiene, of a book on arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia/cardiomyopathy.

Maybe we could talk Frank into presenting a clinic for fellow Class of '48 M.D.s at our next reunion.

Charles Schultz of Los Angeles might have some things to teach us in the financial area. He's "enjoying an active and fairly conventional retirement" after a career in insurance with two years out for Army service in Virginia during the Korean War. Charles earned a degree from GSAS in '49 and worked in New York for Great American Insurance Co., eventually becoming corporate planning v.p. He moved to L.A. in 1970 after a corporate takeover of Great American, joined Farmers Insurance in 1974 and later became Farmers' CFO in charge of all investment and financial operations with "heavy involvement" in mergers and acquisitions.

Since retirement, Charles has been a director of a number of smaller insurance companies and charitable organizations. He lives in the Hancock Park section of Los Angeles in a New York-style 1929 apartment that he says is referred to as "the Dakota of the West."

Charles is a widower with three grown children, but his retirement hardly seems "conventional" the way he describes it: "Travel extensively, especially to Europe, most recently in Paris to maintain my French. Visit New York several times a year to see friends, Columbia games, do opera, theater and museums. Usually see [Athletics Director] Dianne Murphy and other friends in the athletics department."

A personal note: This is my swan song as CCT's Class of '48 correspondent. I've had the privilege of chronicling classmates' accomplishments, activities and memories for seven-plus years. I figure it's time to give someone else — maybe you? — the opportunity.

It's been a rewarding experience renewing acquaintances with old friends from Morningside days, some but not all of whom claimed to remember me, plus meeting scores of other '48ers and learning about their experiences.

I owe a debt of gratitude to my predecessor, **Ted Melnechuk**, for his wise counsel and continuing occasional contributions. And it's

been a pleasure to work with patient and understanding CCT editors Lisa Palladino, Ethan Rouen, Laura Butchy and Rose Kernochan.

If you'd like to be the next Class of '48 correspondent, contact Ethan Rouen, Associate Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025; ecr2102@columbia.edu; or 212-851-7485.

As for me, I'm not exactly going out to pasture. I'll be continuing my work as op-ed columnist for the weekly *Ludlow (Mass.) Register* as well as continuing to actively promote my novel, *Tumultuous Affairs: Uncertain Politics and Unlikely Romance During a Turbulent Time, 1964–1975*. Classmates are invited to check it out at www.amazon.com or at my own rinky-dink Web site, <http://tumultuousaffairs.home.comcast.net>.

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Following the March/April notes, your correspondent has been engaged with more of Paul Auster '69's work — *The New York Trilogy* first, and now *Leviathan*. It is a thoroughly absorbing pursuit, and the end of each book whets one's appetite for the next.

Please don't read the following as cynical, nevertheless, I must confess that I have much more time to read Paul's work in as much as I have no reading matter from any of you. I will maintain the positive attitude that informs me that you are all very busy in pursuits of consequence and pleasure and have no time to write or e-mail or call with a sharing for this column.

Try to find a minute or two between "now and then," and let us hear from you.

Wishing you all a summer of delight.

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6

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Classmates: Here is the program our reunion committee has arranged for our 60th reunion.

Friday evening, June 4: Our first Class of 1950 event will be a cocktail reception in the Trustees Room



George Koplinka '51, CC '51 secretary and class correspondent, presented a Columbia College shirt and cap to incoming freshman baseball pitcher Zachary Tax '14.

of Low Memorial Library. The remainder of the evening, we are free to do as we please; you can arrange a dinner party with whomever you wish and go wherever you wish.

Saturday, June 5: Pre-noon hours are left free of organized class activities so that you are at your leisure to socialize with friends, go sightseeing, attend Dean's Day lectures (registration required) or just relax.

Noon: Class of 1950 luncheon. Dine in the ambiance of a Florentine palazzo in the magnificently refurbished Casa Italiana.

After luncheon: **Glenn Lubash** and **Ray Scalettar**, who are nationally renowned in medicine and who are still practicing, will give us their perspectives on a subject of immediate interest to all of us: health care. Glenn and Ray will lead us in a discussion in which all can join. Topics will include the recently highly publicized question of medical care for veterans.

Evening: Class of 1950 dinner in Butler Hall in an upper-floor room overlooking South Field.

June 4 is not far off as you read this. If you have not yet registered for our Class of '50 events, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

We have two recently published books to call to your attention.

Roland Glenn has recounted his experiences as an officer with the Seventh Infantry Division in the Battle of Okinawa, the final campaign of WWII. In his book, *The Hawk and the Dove: World War II at Okinawa and Korea*, Roland tells about not only what it was like in the foxholes and rice paddies, but also his postwar struggles with what is known today as PTSD, or post-traumatic stress disorder.

Having read the book, I can tell you that it is an unstinting and

brutally graphic look into every detail of an infantryman's existence in that historic battle. "Cricket," as Roland was known on Okinawa in order to prevent the enemy from divining his identity as an officer, tells it like it was.

Ted Reid, whose medical specialty is psychiatry, has brought his views on therapy, and how he works as a therapist, to public attention with his book, *Pilgrims, Paths and Progress: Toward a Comprehensive Psychotherapy*. The book will be of interest not only to therapists but also to laypersons interested in psychotherapy and how people change. It stimulates the reader to think about what it is about the therapist that may contribute to effective therapy. The book can be purchased online at www.1stbookstore.com/treid.html. In February, Ted addressed the annual meeting of the Fellows of the American Group Psychotherapy Association.

Joan and **Al Schmitt** took a trip to Europe. One of their stops was Auschwitz, which Al described as "a very sobering" experience.

Sadly, we have two deaths to report: Dr. **James L. Garofalo**, of Essex Fells, N.J., on February 26, 2010, and **Frank P. McDermott** of Agawam, Mass., on December 11, 2009. Obituaries will be published in a future issue.

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Here's an inspiring story about a young man from my hometown of White Plains, N.Y. Zachary Tax, an 88-mph pitcher, received his acceptance letter from Columbia College and will enter with the Class of

2014. Although highly recruited by Division I schools and several in the Ivy League, Zack chose to play baseball for the Lions and Brett Boretti, whom he called "my kind of coach!"

So what is so special about this all-star pitcher from the Rye Country Day high school? Well, since he was 7, he has had blood sugar five times the normal number. Aside from the daily blood sugar tests and the pump on his hip, Zack shows almost no indication he lives with type 1 diabetes. Whether pitching or playing an infield position, he says, "I don't think about it most of the time. It gets on the back burner most of the time." True, he has broken a couple of insulin pumps (at \$5,000 apiece) while sliding into a base. So now Zack removes the pump when hitting and keeps it on when pitching. That's his strong suit. Josh Thomson, sports writer for *The Journal News*, discovered how Zack honed his side-arm delivery throwing tennis balls against the front stoop at home until he developed the ability to throw three different pitches from two different arm angles. No wonder he has posted program records for strikeouts during his high school career. Could there be an Ivy League baseball championship for the Light Blue next year? Yes! [See photo.]

"The last 20 years have been the best years of my life!" That's a direct quote from **Stanley M. Freid** when he recently spoke about finally having opportunities to do what he wanted to do. Born in Brooklyn in the shadow of Ebbets Field, Stan remembers the times when many of us Boy Scouts could bring 50 lbs. of old newspapers to the field in the mid-1940s during WWII and sit for free in the bleachers watching "retreads" play baseball. Years later, Stan attended Stuyvesant H.S. like so many CC students of the '40s. He pursued the professional option program in the College and received B.A. and a B.S. degrees. Continuing his education in night school for 13 years, Stan eventually was awarded a master's in statistics and a professional engineering degree, which he dubbed the "poor man's Ph.D." Although the Navy in Bayonne, N.J., and Rayco, a manufacturer of automotive upholstery, got him started, it was IBM that provided a long business career in 10 technical and marketing positions, mostly in its Trade Corporation.

Stan retired in 1988 and eventually fell in love with Connie, bringing together his three and her three children. They reside in Yonkers, N.Y., and travel a lot with at least one major splurge every year. They have been to Mexico, France, Italy, Indonesia, Thailand and so on. Stan is president of his condo associa-

tion, leads writers' workshops and is writing a novel, which when finished will be titled *Diana Unchaste*.

Who has five sons and 13 grandchildren, and lives in Poughquag, N.Y.? It's **Walter E. Kurkela**. Walt says his house is on land that was once owned by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., but the estate was eventually developed into Dalton's Farm, a community of private homes in Dutchess County. As for his Columbia career, Walt started at Notre Dame before coming to Morning-side Heights as a sophomore. He enjoyed intramural sports, including basketball. Walt earned an M.B.A. from Harvard and then spent three years in the U.S. Navy Supply Corps in a career that took him from Newport to Bayonne to Athens, Ga., before duty on a destroyer tender. Returning to civilian life, Walt joined Campbell Soup Co. and then went into the automobile business with stints at Lincoln-Mercury and nine years with Ford Motors in Dearborn, Mich. He did some work for TWA and Xerox before acquiring a travel agency in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Seventeen years later, Walt retired at 60 to enjoy the good life ... and play a lot of bridge!

A couple of reminders: Next year will be our 60th reunion, and we have to get serious about some special planning. Contact me via e-mail (desiah@verizon.net) with ideas and suggestions about how you would like to participate on the planning committee for Alumni Reunion Weekend 2011, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5.

Finally, don't forget to send in your contribution to *Columbia College Today*. It's the best alumni publication in the Ivies, so let's keep it that way with some financial support from CC '51. You may give online at www.college.columbia.edu/cct/giving or mail a check, made payable to *Columbia College Today*, to the address on the masthead.

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"Welcome sweet springtime. We greet thee with song." Do you remember singing that in second grade? I do. What about "In Spring, a man's fancy turns towards thoughts that a woman has had all year." That is pretty old also, however the change from winter to spring is dynamic, powerful, uplifting and most welcome. This past winter has been one of the worst on record around here and makes people question global warming. The scientists have come up with a

different term — “climate change” — and this will allow greater parameters for all kinds of variations to fit within the concept.

Spring still is the great gift of rebirth. The warmed breezes against one's face and the perfumed smell of budding flowers creates and releases a wonderful energy that lies dormant during cold, gray and snowy time.

Yes, indeed, welcome sweet springtime.

“I am **Bob Hartman**, who wrestled for four years and am an Alpha Delta Phi member and a Sa-chem. If there is anyone out there who is reading this who wrestled or is an ADP, please get in touch with **Sid Prager**, who will give you my e-mail address.

“This summer, while camping on a cross-country trip, I stopped in Springdale, Mont., to visit Steve Reich '53 and his wife. What a wonderful house and ranch they have, along with riding horses on which you could see the ranch. It was a very nice visit, as they are great hosts. Also, my wife, Nancy, and I had dinner on January 9 in Toledo with Rose and **Danny Seemann** before the Seemanns headed for their place in St. Petersburg, Fla. We, however, will go northward toward Sault St. Marie, Mich., to cross-country ski for a few days. We began cross-country skiing 25 years ago. I discovered it was almost as good as wrestling was and much more practical. By the way, Danny was a member of the 1951 basketball team that was recently inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. Well, Sid, if I get any more contacts I'll write you.”

Roy Lutter writes: “OK, 58 years in 100 words or less. First job after graduation was at Best & Co., which was at 51st Street and Fifth Avenue. Didn't really like the work, but I did meet the woman who became my wife and put up with me for more than 51 years. So, overall, it was a positive experience. In February 1953, I got a job as a binder clerk with an insurance brokerage firm at the foot of Wall Street. In what was definitely not a meteoric rise through the ranks, I became v.p. and director in January 1966. While working there, I tried to stay close to Columbia. I served as class fund chairman for some time, probably because no one else wanted the job, and was on the board of the College Alumni Association. In 1970, my firm merged with two other brokers and the atmosphere changed dramatically. I stayed on with the new firm as v.p. but no longer as a director.

“In 1975, my wife, Ann, and I decided to move to Vermont. The change was not so dramatic for

Ann because she had been born and raised in Saranac Lake, N.Y., just 10 miles from Lake Placid, but the question was, could someone who was born in Brooklyn, raised in Queens, went to college in upper Manhattan and worked in lower Manhattan adapt to rural Vermont? I got a job with an insurance agency in Hanover, N.H., right across the river, and have enjoyed every day. Not too involved with Columbia since the move, but I have served on the boards of the Independent Insurance Agents of New Hampshire, Woodstock ABC House, Hartland Public Library and the Insurance Agency in New Hampshire.

“I have two daughters and two teenage grandsons in the area, so I get all the help I might need in maintaining the property, and I can just relax and enjoy myself. It's really a nice atmosphere all four seasons. Well, the fifth season, mud season, can be troublesome. If they ever complete the improvement program and pave our roads, it will be much easier to get around. Other than that, we don't have to look for gators or poisonous snakes on our golf courses, we don't have tornados and by the time a hurricane makes it this far north, it's

Then I spent six more years as a temp specialist in transistor design, working at companies such as IBM, National Cash Register, GE, Hazeltine, AMF and Phillips Electronics (where I designed my first high-voltage power supply for the surveyor moon space program). Then, in 1962, I started a second life experience and founded my first electronics company, Venus Scientific, a Farmingdale, N.Y., manufacturer of miniature militarized high-voltage power supplies. Very shortly thereafter, I was joined by my Columbia compadre Remo Stella '52E as e.v.p., a job he held for many years. I'm saddened to say Remo recently passed away after a long illness. His many contributions helped me spend more time working on my designs, which consisted of high-voltage gating electronics that helped open the night vision market developed by Fort Belvoir's night vision labs. This success enabled us to develop and manufacture reliable and sometimes complex miniature high voltage power supplies for many U.S. major military aircraft such as the B-2, F4, F16, F18 and hundreds of others. In 1982, we had 300 people working for us and the company was sold to Ferranti

Filippo Galluppi '52 founded Efficient Energy Devices, a company that will focus on developing efficient methodologies or hardware.

usually just a rain storm. Of course, we do occasionally get a nor'easter, but that just turns the area into a winter wonderland.

“I feel sorry for those stuck in Florida, Southern California, Arizona, etc. What can those poor guys do? Play golf every day of the year, lie on the beach, have a Christmas pool party? It's sad. Best wishes.”

Filippo Galluppi writes: “The life of a Columbia graduate, Class of '52. I feel as if I've already lived three separate lives after emerging from Loyola H.S. in New York City and enrolling in Columbia College in 1947. In this first life experience after taking Columbia's five-year professional option course (I've never regretted taking that extra year, it really helped) I graduated as an electrical engineer with B.A. and B.S. degrees. During the next year, I was an engineer and then got a job in research and development at Columbia University's Hudson Laboratories in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., where I learned about a new device called a transistor and at the same time in 1956 completed my work toward my master's in electrical engineering.

Electronics, a major British defense manufacturer. That's when I got married to my wonderful wife, Mary. It was about time! In 1985, I retired from Venus Scientific. I felt I had gotten a virtual Ph.D. in the starting and running of a technically successful high-tech electronics operation. I loved it. What a feeling!

“Now starts the third life experience. In 1990, I became a founder of a second company after all but losing my shirt in the 1987 stock market crash. This time it was Ultravolt, designed to be highly profitable by delivering a truly standard miniature high voltage product to the industrial markets. The field was full of companies that were willing to build anything the customer wanted for a fee. That was what Venus Scientific did for the military market. This time we would lower costs by keeping engineering small but at the management level. We were quite profitable, and Ultravolt (Ronkonkoma, N.Y.) was sold in September 2007 to Riverside, a successful private equity firm. I retired a second time in December 2008. You'd think that

was enough, but I'm not finished yet. Having turned 80 with all this behind me, I'm heading into my fourth life experience with the founding of Efficient Energy Devices, a company that will focus on developing efficient methodologies or hardware in these trying times. God knows where this will lead. Thank you, Columbia and all my former employees. May God bless you all! Stay tuned.”

Sergius S. Kuharsky is enjoying retirement in Jackson, N.J., and enjoys traveling to visit seven grandchildren (including Simon, son of Paul Kuharsky '91, '93) and two great-grandchildren.

Howie Hansen sent this about **Wesley W. Bomm** of Medford, N.J.: “The passing of Wesley Bomm on September 28, 2009, at age 78 was reported in the January/February issue of *Columbia College Today*.

“Wesley and his wife, Gloria, met in high school, married and had five children. She died in a tragic car accident in which Wes survived. Wes attended Columbia, earning a National Scholarship. He was a key member of our freshman and varsity football teams and a member of Columbia freshman basketball team, but subsequently decided against playing two sports for fear of negative impact on grades. In October 2009, he was inducted into Westwood H.S.' inaugural Basketball Hall of Fame.

“After graduation, Wes was a Navel Officer in supply corps. His business career included Ford Motor Co., RCA, [and] Coopers and Lybrand Partner Management Consulting, before returning to RCA and retiring.

“Wes was a loyal teammate who attended most Columbia football and athletics-related functions, including numerous off-campus ‘rendezvous.’

“The last 10 years of Wes' life were shared with his significant other, Sally Rettew. They shared a residence in Medford. She is an impressive person and became a most welcomed addition to our gatherings.

“In the last 1½ years of Wes' life, he struggled through significant health problems, and in telephone conversations with friends/fellow teammates, he couldn't say enough about his relationship with Sally and how helpful she had been through his rehab and home care.”

“Tom Powers '51 said it all: ‘Wes was a gentle giant!’ To me and all those who knew him, he was a grand guy and teammate who will be remembered and greatly missed. Wes was interred in Westwood, N.J.”

H. Gilbert Lahm writes: “After graduation from Columbia and getting my master's from the Business School, I served in the Army,

stationed in Washington, D.C. In 1954, I married Ann Salmon. In 1956, we moved to New Jersey, and I worked for Western Electric in New York City. My entire business career was with the Bell System, working in New York and Baltimore.

"Both before and after retirement, I had numerous volunteer jobs with my church, including administrative board chairperson and finance chairman. I served in the latter position for 22 years.

"Ann and I have one daughter, Gail, who lives in nearby Allendale, N.J. She and her husband, Bob, have two children, Matt (13) and Cara (10)."

Thank you all for contributing to the column.

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During the course of a delightful telephone conversation, **Henry Donaghy** talked about his Psi Upsilon fraternity brother, **Robert Gleckler**. Hank and Bob had been teammates on Columbia's lightweight football team and both served as president of Psi Upsilon. After graduation, Bob was drafted and spent two years on active duty (one year in Korea). He became an account executive and v.p. of the well-known, successful advertising agency Young and Rubicam. According to Hank, Bob married Peggy, a beautiful nurse in training at the Columbia School of Nursing. They have a son, daughter and one grandchild. Bob retired in 1993 and lives in New London, N.H.

As a former enlisted man in the Navy, I was intrigued to learn that when he was only 17 and still in high school, Hank enlisted in the Naval Reserve and eventually became a Quarter Master Second Class. Although he volunteered a number of times, he was never accepted for active duty. However, in 1960, after he had completed his obligation as an enlisted man, the Navy gave Hank a commission as a lieutenant JG in the intelligence service. Later, he was recruited by New York Life and rose to become a general manager and ran various territories including Buffalo, South Jersey and Charlotte, N.C. After 30 years with New York Life, Hank retired and eventually opened his own practice, specializing in retirement planning and fee-based planning.

In 1964, Hank married Sandi, whom he calls the love of his life. They live in Charlotte and have six children and eight grandchild-

dren. Amazingly, during the years when he was 50-59, Hank ran five marathons. At 78, he still runs three miles every day with two fellows and swims half a mile every Saturday. By no means could Hank be considered to have retired. Along with his youngest son, he is an active member of the firm he created in North Carolina.

Way to go, Hank!

Despite battling muscular dystrophy, an illness that forces him to spend almost all of his time in a wheelchair, **Neal Hirshfeld** told me on the phone, "My life has been a good life. I have many good friends and am pleased with my existence." He and his wife, Goody, have been happily married for 57 years and have three children. Their youngest son has two jobs in the federal government. He spends part of his time as an assistant director in the patent office and the remaining time as chief of staff for the assistant secretary of commerce.

Neal created a law firm that grew large, in Rockland County, N.Y. Ninety percent of his practice involved solving matrimonial problems. "Helping people who are in crisis gave me a great deal of satisfaction," Neal told me. About 11 years ago, heart trouble forced Neal to retire and move to Sarasota, Fla. However, the firm he created continues with his son at the helm.

I recently received the following delightful handwritten letter from **Gus Fulk**:

"Dear Lew, I do enjoy your Class Notes in *Columbia College Today*. Hope we both can make the next reunion. Life here in Little Rock is not very exciting. Same house for a little more than 50 years. We used to have four children and one grandmother, now we have a whole lot of storage space. Same wife, Anne, since 1954. Four children, all college grads and doing well. My daughter, Marion, and I have been together in an investment business I started in 1957. I figured at the age of 45, I could probably retire if careful. No, I'll stay a while longer. Still at it every day! See a lot of changes. Fortunately, it's my hobby as well. (How many of our classmates are still working?) I've been running for 40-plus years and try to do 2¼ to 2½ miles every day after work. If you ever get down to Arkansas, let me know. We can go hunting and fishing."

After talking with Gus by phone, I can report that he still has the same wonderful sense of humor and southern way of communicating.

Keep running, Gus! You are an inspiration to the rest of us.

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I hope that by the time this issue goes to press the weather will be back to "normal." I suppose that means that the snow will melt in most parts of the country while out here it means that our water supply will get back to something close to normal. I thought it was best described by **Brian Tansey** when he e-mailed me. I told him that I was planning a trip to his fair city (where my brother, Class of '59, lives), and he responded that in Cincinnati they were waiting for "the great white tsunami." I understand that things are back to normal at this point.

One of our regular contributors to this column, **Arnie Tolkin**, writes from Palm Beach that his grandson, Class of '08, is engaged to marry a lovely young lady, Class of '09 Barnard, and that they will live in Miami ("a stone's throw from where we are"). I always felt that crossing Broadway between 116th Street and 120th Street was and is a lovely passage.

Bernd Brecher and his bride were off to Africa on a safari to include Mount Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti and took with them "enough shots and pills to take us to Mars." Who knows, one of these days an "elderly" member of our class may write about his trip to another planet. On a sadder note, Bernd writes that **Larry Pine** passed away in February in Delray, Fla.

I received a lovely letter from **Hank Buchwald**, which I would like to share with you. "I continue to work because I love to work as a professor of surgery [Hank is professor of surgery and biomedical engineering at the University of Minnesota]. I operate, do research, teach, write, attend meetings and am co-editor-in-chief of the international journal *Obesity Surgery*. I have had my share of awards and recognition, and find the process of working in one's field the greatest award and personal compensation. My wife, Emilie, retired as the founder, publisher and editor-in-chief of *Milkweed Editions*, at one time the largest nonprofit literary press in the country, but unretired two years later to found a for-profit press, the Gryphon Press, which publishes award-winning children's books. We live in joy and contentment in the company of our four daughters, their spouses and our six grandchildren, as well as Sam, our dog."

I wish the same joy and contentment for all of the members of our class. Please let me hear from you and allow me to share the joys

and satisfactions of all members of "The Class of Destiny."

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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Columbia alumni always are taking advantage of the special travel tours hosted by our "second to none" faculty. This year is no exception. Professor Kenneth Jackson, the Jacques Barzun Professor in History and the Social Sciences, is to be the guest lecturer in early August on a cruise covering the Black Sea. Jackson will talk about the military history of the region, from the Crimean War to the importance of Yalta and Sevastopol in the conduct of WWII. There will be another venture: "Into the Arctic — A voyage to Greenland and the Canadian Arctic," led by an expedition leader and naturalists — experts on the region.

The Café series is going strong: A couple of months ago, Café Humanities featured a lecture by Professor Andreas Huyssen, the Villard Professor of German and Comparative Literature and chair, Department of Germanic Languages, who talked about the connection and conflicts between the politics of the humanities and human rights; Café Social Science had a discussion on investigative journalism in the digital age with Sheila Coronel, the Toni Stabile Professor of Professional Practice in Investigative Journalism and director, Toni Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism.

If anyone is around the neighborhood on a Monday from 6-7 p.m., it would be well worth it to "soak up" some fascinating knowledge.

A little further downtown from campus, the John Jay Awards Dinner was held at Cipriani 42nd Street on March 3. It was probably the largest turnout for any Columbia dinner. Festive, rollicking and entertaining are words that would describe the event led by Dean of the College Michele Moody-Adams.

To keep everyone up to date as we move toward our reunion, Columbia Community Outreach was celebrated in late March, not only in New York City but also in key cities around the world. As always, it was a huge success with an amazing number of participants, including more than 1,000 students and others in New York City.

In case any of our classmates have turned off their computers, discontinued their regular mail and haven't been reading *Columbia College Today*, they should be aware that we do have a reunion in just a few weeks. The neat, four-color brochure that everyone should have received by now outlines everything you want to know about our '55th. It looks like our class will be breaking all records once again. To whet everyone's appetite, several weeks ago there was a pre-reunion event in which **Jack Stuppin's** landscape paintings were put on display in the ACA Gallery in the Chelsea section of Manhattan. Noted art critic and writer **Donald Kuspit** gave some incisive remarks to the multitudes who attended (from both the Class of 2005 — my, have they grown — and our guys). We saw **Roland Plottel**, **Anthony Viscusi** and many other hardy '55ers.

Key events at the reunion will be a special reception on Thursday at the Columbia Club; a tour on Friday of the American Museum of Natural History led by two Columbia astronomers, followed by lunch on the Upper West Side; lunch and dinner on campus Friday and Saturday at venues specially hand-picked for the Class of '55; Saturday afternoon lectures and meetings of affinity groups featuring visits to *Spectator* offices (**Milt Finegold**, your typewriter is still there), WKCR studios (**Harold Kushner**, the managers may let you do your old sports program — **Doug Lasher**, **Peter Oden**, **Henry Roth**, **Marty Salan** — welcome back), the CUMB (the Columbia University Marching Band playing old favorites — might we see **Herb Gardner** and **Elliot Gross** in the group?) and need we say more about the Glee Club and other vocal groups raising their voices high and entertaining the multitudes?

Add to the list of attendees **Sven Johnson** and **Ed Francell**. Ed ran into **Harold Kushner**, who said he will be there, in Atlanta. Will **Lew Sternfels** and his magic camera make it from Los Angeles? We heard from **Marty Molloy** — hopefully he will take a weekend off from his busy schedule on the west coast to venture east. We haven't heard from **Dave Sweet** yet. He'd love the WKCR tour.

The class is getting close to its reunion goals in terms of dollars raised and participation. Our glasses should be raised to Messrs. **Elliot Gross**, **Bob Pearlman**, **Lew Mendelson**, **Don Laufer**, **Alfred Gollomp**, **Bob Brown**, **Dick Kuhn**, **Don McDonough**, **Steve Rabin**, **Larry Balbus**, **Chuck Solomon** and of course, **Jim Berick**, for an outstanding job — well done! We'll keep everyone

posted as to final results.

As most everyone knows by now, **Al Ginepra** passed away on February 2, 2010, in Santa Monica. His teammate and classmate, team captain **Neil Opdyke**, has been trying to put together a mini-reunion of ex-players and managers to come to the 55th — **Dick Carr**, **Bob Dillingham**, **Ben Hoffman**, **Denis Haggerty**, **John Nelson**, **Bob Mercier**, **Dick Benedick** and **Jim Larson**. We hope to see you all or most of you in New York in early June.

Another classmate who recently left us is **John Rigatti** from Sturbridge, Mass. John was born in Manhattan and was a longtime practitioner of medicine. Condolences are extended to his family and friends.

My fellow classmates, it's only a couple of weeks until the kickoff of the exciting '55th. If you haven't done so yet, sign up now for fun and frolic in early June (<http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>). You won't regret being with some of the great personalities in Columbia history. The euphoria of their company will lift you well above the rotunda in Low Library.

See you 'round the Quad.
Love to all, everywhere!

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Guys, it's a pleasure to be done with winter — a tough one — and I hear from our Florida snowbirds and residents it was even cold there. Can you believe a foot of snow in North Carolina and other Southern locales? When I was at Fort Bragg in southern North Carolina, an inch of snow at a parachuting base of Airborne and Special Forces used to jumping in jungles almost caused paralysis. Things are changing!

After several conversations with **Bob Long**, who is a literary critic and also writes on theater and film and has published 50 books, it appears I had no idea of all the literary talent in our class. So Bob has put together a summary of this talent:

Lou Cornell: Taught at Cornell and Dartmouth. Wrote *Kipling in India*.

Michael Goldman: Taught at Princeton. Wrote books on Shakespeare.

Tracy Herrick: Now lives in Stanford, Calif., has published several influential books on economics and investing.

Jay Martin: Taught at Yale, a psychoanalyst. Wrote books on American culture.

Peter Mayer: Former CEO of Viking/Penguin publishing with his own publishing company, Overlook Press, and a writer.

Alvin Poussaint: Psychiatrist at Harvard. Wrote books on African-American child development, and co-wrote with his friend Bill Cosby.

Robert Silverberg: A prolific science fiction writer.

Kenneth Silverman: Taught at NYU and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for *The Life and Times of Cotton Mather*.

Milburn Smith: Wrote Off-Broadway plays.

Dan Wakefield: A novelist and social critic. Wrote *Going All the Way* and *New York in the Fifties*, partly about the Columbia scene and Mark Van Doren, a college idol for him and **Bob Long**.

Paul Zweig: Taught at Columbia. Awarded a Guggenheim grant as a poet. Brilliant promise but died young.

A great review, and thanks to Bob. If anyone was left out, let me know.

When you guys (and women), read this, we will have had our second 55th reunion meeting, the first at my apartment and the second a lunch at Faculty House, where we invited representatives from both the College and Engineering Alumni Offices. I have received e-mails from many classmates with suggestions and opinions: **Alan Broadwin**, **Bob Lauterborn**, **Lou Hemmerdinger**, **Dan Link**, **Ron Kapon**, **Phil Liebson**, **Alan Press**, **Maurice Klein**, **Grover Wald**, **Lee Seidler**, **Steve Easton**, **Mark Novick**, **Art Salzfas**, **Ken Keller**, **Bob Sirotky**, **Ed Botwinick**, **Al Franco** '56E, **Jerry Fine**, **Ralph Kaslick**, **Peter Klein** and **Lenny Wolfe**. I hope I did not leave anyone out, and if so, let me know.

Some guys, but only a tiny minority fortunately, claim I talk too much about myself in this column. This stems from the failure of classmates to give me info to write about. So given more info than usual, only one personal comment: Kudos to Columbia, where I am taking three courses this term, a great literature course; a super jazz course to include art, music and literature, with Professor Robert G. O'Meally, the Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature; and a Bible course with Professor Michael Stanislawski, the Nathan J. Miller Professor of Jewish History and chair, Contemporary Civilization. If anyone is interested in taking courses at Columbia, which I heartily recommend, do contact me.

Finally, a sad note about another classmate death, which is getting too frequent. **Stephen Schenkel** died on January 11, 2010. He was a TV writer and producer and an

executive at major networks. I contacted his wife and expressed our class' sympathy.

So guys and dolls, here is wishing us all health, happiness, a little wealth and some longevity. We always hope for concerned children and expect only extraordinary grandchildren. Keep contributions coming in to the Columbia College Fund (www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline) to continue funding our 10 annual scholarships, which we set up at our outstanding — an Army term — 50th reunion.

Love to all.

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John Taussig: "The West Coast version, southern California chapter, of our Class of '57 enjoyed our second lunch meeting on January 16 in Long Beach. We met to celebrate our 52½-year reunion, as a tune-up for No. 55 in New York. The day itself was typical for us, high of 70, low of 70, [with] nary an earthquake rumble nor a California budget cut to be felt. But our lunch gathering was anything but typical. After our second luncheon, we feel we are bonding quite well, considering the 50-plus years it took us to have these get-togethers 3,000 miles away from alma mater.

"**Mike Gold**, **Bernard Lynch**, **Lew Schainuck**, **Marvin Shapiro**, **Ken Silvers**, **Herb Sturman**, **John Taussig** and **Gene Wagner** met at Parker's Lighthouse in the Long Beach Marina in the shadow of the *Queen Mary* to continue our conversations and interactions. The consensus of the group is to meet as close as possible to a quarterly basis. Those at the lunch live in areas ranging from Pacific Palisades to Newport Beach, so part of our challenge, unlike that for most of our New York classmates, is to find locations to meet that are relatively convenient for all. Fortunately, we can all still drive. Kind of.

"If any of you reading this ever [plan a trip] to southern California for business or for pleasure, please let me know (jntaussig@roadrunner.com) and I can advise as to our schedule."

Years truly returned from a European trip (January 14–February 1) covering Florence, Fiesole, Bologna, Ravenna, Reading/London and Amsterdam. In addition to the well-known sights of Florence, a real gem is La Sinagoga (synagogue). Located somewhat off the beaten track in a nondescript neighborhood, it was designed in Moorish style after Hagia Sophia in Istanbul and completed in 1882. Severely

damaged by the Nazis during WWII (among other things, they used it as a garage), it now is fully restored. The exterior is in pink marble, set on a lawn with palms and other evergreens. The effect is most striking, closely resembling an oasis. A few steps away is Ruth's vegetarian kosher restaurant, which serves quite good Middle Eastern meals.

Another gem is the Basilica of San Vitale in Ravenna, a one-hour, 20-minute train ride from Bologna. This octagonal, sixth-century church, with its exquisite green and gold mosaics, is a standout in a city renowned for mosaics. Depicted are Christ with saints and angels, Emperor Justinian and his entourage, and Empress Theodora with her court.

In London, a real standout is the Cabinet War Rooms, the underground suite in Whitehall where Winston Churchill, other British officials and staff members lived and worked during the Blitz. Adding to the realism and quite stirring are recordings of some of Sir Winston's wartime speeches. Particularly touching is a series of exhibits attesting to Lady Churchill's heroic role in bolstering her husband's spirits even as she retained her independent streak.

In Amsterdam, an infrequently visited find is the Begijnhof (pronounced beCHAYNhof), an enclave of small typically Dutch gabled houses built around a lawn and two chapels. It forms an oasis of calm a few steps from a bustling and otherwise nondescript shopping street. Easily it suggests a movie set, especially with fresh snow on the lawn. Originally a home for pious lay women (*begijnen*) who did charitable and religious work at a neighboring convent, it now provides housing for the elderly poor. Next to the Begijnhof is the Amsterdam's Historisch (historical) Museum. This is a vast museum of the history of the city through the centuries, from its days as a small fishing village. Among the many exhibits are a number of "Dutch Masters" paintings.

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Adding to his impressive list of positions, **Henry Solomon** has been appointed chief medical officer of the American College of Cardiology and chair of the American College of Cardiology's Professional and Corporate Consortium. Henry will maintain his academic affiliation with Cornell Medical

College, where he is clinical associate professor of medicine. He had been medical director at Pfizer.

After 37 years in Port Washington, N.Y., **Miriam and Stan Goldsmith** have sold their house and moved to North Shore Towers and Country Club, a luxurious co-op in Floral Park, N.Y., where they met their new neighbors, retired musician **Marty Silverstein** and his wife, Judith. Incidentally, both couples celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries on the weekend of June 6–7, 2009.

Henry Kurtz, one of our prolific class authors, who has published six books and more than 500 magazine and newspaper articles during his career, recently received an award for distinguished magazine feature article writing from *Writer's Digest* magazine. The award singled out his historical article, "The Fight at Warbonnet Creek: History versus Legend," in which he contrasted the reality of a minor skirmish between U.S. troops and Cheyenne Indians in 1876 and the highly romanticized Hollywood epic battle portrayed in a film biography of Buffalo Bill Cody. *Writer's Digest* also praised Henry's most recent book, *Men of War*, citing its "engaging writing" and "immaculate and thorough research." In the spirit of diversity (and of solidarity

top of the *New York Times* bestseller list and was a fount of political gossip for weeks afterward. The buzz arose primarily from the chapter portraying John and Elizabeth Edwards as the couple from hell and describing the events that turned their lives and his campaign into a soap opera.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month, in the Grill Room of the Princeton/Columbia Club, 15 W. 43rd St. (\$31 per person). E-mail **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

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I am sorry that our Class Notes are so short this month. I can only print what you send me. If you are reading this, it means that you are interested in reading about your classmates. They have the same interest in reading about what you are doing. You can, and should, send me a contribution via the USPS to the CCT office of or even better, send an e-mail to me at nmgc59@gmail.com.

Stan Keller '59 is completing a three-year stint as independent monitor of the City of San Diego under the city's SEC enforcement order.

with another prolific '58 author with a special interest in "Dem Bums," **Joe Dorinson** Henry also wrote a short memoir, *When Brooklyn Meant the Dodgers*, about his childhood years as an ardent Brooklyn Dodgers fan, which recently was published in *Sports Collectors Digest*. The piece recounted his friendship in the 1950s with Dodger icon Hilda Chester, "the lady with the cowbell." Old Dodger fans can get a copy by e-mailing Henry at henrykurtz@optonline.net. Who'll be first to order, Joe or **Ernie Brod**?

Earlier this year, **Marshall Front** appeared on PBS' *Nightly Business Report* to provide a cautiously optimistic outlook on the economy and the stock market.

Game Change: Obama and the Clintons, McCain and Palin, and the Race of a Lifetime, a book on the 2008 campaign, was co-authored by **Mort Halperin's** son, Mark, who is the senior political analyst for *Time* magazine, and John Heilemann, a columnist for *New York Magazine*. The book opened at the

I try to communicate with members of the Class of '59 via e-mail. If you don't hear from me at least every two months, it means that I don't have a valid e-mail address for you, and neither does Columbia. If you send me your e-mail address I can be in touch with you and help you get in touch with classmates if you want. I will not forward your e-mail address to Columbia without your permission.

Gil Wright has managed to identify those of us who were in the class picture and prepared a caption for it. I am including it here. If you wish me to send you a copy of the picture, send me an e-mail.

Bottom row, left to right: **Joe Mittel, Ben Huberman, Frank Gatti, Robert Burd, Mort Klevan, Joseph Osburn, Robert Nelson, Gil Wright, Robert Ferguson, Herb Dean, Simeon David, David Clark, John Schimmenti, Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, Dan Ein and Robert Stone**. Second row, left to right: **Ken Scheffel, Frank Wilson, David Smith, Bob Pettit, Bob Ratner, Alan Kahn, Luigi Lucaccini, Robert**

Eswein, Roger Spivack, Harris Schwartz, Joel Nelson and Jay Brandstadter. Third row, left to right: **Willard Zangwill, Ray LaRaja, Norman Gelfand, Mike Zimmerman, Norman Bernstein, Allan Gardner, Jack Kahn, Michael Cohen, James Levy, Sam Tindall, Fredric Knauer and Matt Sobel**. Fourth row, left to right: **Paul Kantor, James Watters, Roald Hoffmann, Mike Tannenbaum, Bob Koor, Stephen Buchman, Thomas Bilbao, Carl Kaplan, George Spelios, Raphael Schenk, Gene Appel, William Bailey, Herb Stern, William Henry, Richard Latkin and Bob Laibowitz**. Top row, left to right: **William Frye, Paul Winnick, Ted Graske, Michael Messer, Larry Marks, Joel Karen, Allen Rosenshine and Alvin Goldman**.

Some of you who could not be at Low for the picture have asked to be added to it. If you send me a picture suitable for inclusion (a headshot is best) I will try to paste it onto the picture and will e-mail it to anyone who wants a copy.

Stan Keller is actively engaged in law practice with his same law firm in Boston, which after a merger is now called Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge. He is completing a three-year stint as independent monitor of the City of San Diego under the city's SEC enforcement order. Stan reports that it has been a fascinating assignment helping to create a Sarbanes-Oxley type of governance and disclosure regime in one of the 10 largest cities in the country. Stan also continues to be involved in legal professional activities, co-chairing the Practicing Law Institute and chairing various committees of the ABA Business Law Section. This, and spending time with his wife of almost 50 years, Sandy, and keeping up with the accomplishments of seven grandkids, keeps him too busy to think about retirement.

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg was in Madrid, Spain, in November for four days at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bankinter Foundation of Innovation, where he is a member. When he checked into the Hotel Ritz Madrid, "the desk clerk asked, 'How was your trip from Jerusalem, Professor Trachtenberg?'" I replied that my trip from Washington was fine. Turned out, there were two Professor Trachtenbergs at the hotel, "Steve and a man named Trajtenberg from Hebrew University. When they met, it turned out the other Professor Trajtenberg was an economics Ph.D. from Harvard. His family had moved to Israel from Argentina, but before Argentina, they came from Ukraine, as did Steve's family. When they got to talking, they discovered that they had roots in the very same small town.

Related? Who knows? Trajtenberg turned up in D.C. recently for a meeting at the World Bank and had lunch with Steve. He is now minister of education, and Steve is going to go over to do a bit of consulting for him.

Steve then traveled to London for four days to see some shows, eat, visit museums, shop and catch up with old friends.

Steve did not teach during this spring semester. He hoped to find time to finish a book, which is due in May, for AGB. He also owes several journal articles and works for Korn/Ferry International looking for the next generation of university leaders. Steve has been invited to give a commencement address at the USC School of Pharmacy. The dean heard him speak in D.C. at a meeting and thought he would be good.

"I have clearly flunked retirement. I am going to milk all the sweetness I can out of life before I sit down. And I do like working."

Frank Wilson writes, "As some of you are at least dimly aware, last fall I decided to take advantage of Portland State University's enlightened policy toward senior citizens under which any geezer so inclined could audit virtually any class offered, tuition-free. For various reasons — but mostly because of a long interest in America's incomprehensibly persistent misunderstanding of Iran (beginning with the Dulles brothers under Eisenhower, right about the time we all met one another) — I decided to see if I could take advantage of PSU's offer by enrolling in a Persian language class.

"With the second quarter mid-term exams just over as I write this, the class now stands at the halfway point of year one. It has been a humbling but profoundly refreshing experience. I'm still there, along with about 15 other students, all young enough to be my grandkids.

"One of the hopes I have used as a buttress against the impulse to bail was that I should eventually acquire enough facility in Persian (aka Farsi) to be able to travel to Iran. I guessed that with luck (if I could hold off the Alzheimer's just a little longer), my persistence would bring me to that point in a couple of years — right about the time the politics of Iran's current military theocracy might have become less toxic."

After learning that Frank was about to head for Portland's airport, and having read of an American student's recent detention by Philadelphia's airport security on account of having Farsi vocabulary flashcards in his backpack, a neighbor cautioned Frank in verse about taking his homework along

on the trip:

"Ah, forgive my needless nosy urgin'

"You to journey sans the book of Persian.

"TSA is fine with wine and bread,

"But quick to shout 'Renounce the 70th virgin!'"

Gibbs Williams writes, "A book I have been researching for 50 years is finally being published in the next couple of weeks. It has truly been a labor of love. At 19, during our sophomore year at Columbia, I (and I have come to realize, many of my compatriots) was thoroughly confused with respect to everything imaginable.

"I began a journal that I diligently contributed to for 37 years. (I stopped at that point, as I ran out of ink). During a period of some 12 years or so in my mid-20s—mid-30s, I had what I considered to be 19 major meaningful synchronicities (named synchronicities by Jung).

"This led me into an immersion into the esoteric occult, which further led me to attend The First Universal Spiritualist Church of New York, where I met some truly fascinating people. Among them was a psychiatrist who went into trance and purportedly channeled poetry and messages from Freud and Jung, which I dutifully recorded in my journal. This preceded the Seth movement — whoever or whatever he is.

"I found meaningful coincidences fascinating as events in and of themselves but much more interesting because they seemed to defy scientific investigation, thus challenging Freud's laws of psychic determinism. I was particularly challenged when Jung asserted in no uncertain terms that these seemingly uncaused but exceedingly meaningful occurrences were incapable of rational explanation.

"Although I don't think I was ever up to the professional philosophical capabilities of **Bob Nozick** (whom I sat next to in philosophy class, and marveled at to how he could think the way he did), nevertheless something was internalized enough for me to realize that Jung — who has had the undisputed mantle of authority in the synchronicity scene for the past 54 years (can you imagine?) — was raising more unanswered questions than providing absolute answers.

"So I started to systematically generate and then explore one question after another, such as, 'What is the meaning of meaning?', until I put together an original naturalistic theory of meaningful coincidences, which is the subject matter of my book.

"Through the years, I have observed that the awareness and

fascination with meaningful coincidences has started to explode. Five years ago, when I Googled 'synchronicities,' there were something like 700 references. Today there are something like 120,000.

"In this light, I think there are probably a few of my college buddies who would probably be interested in the above." (You can check out Gibbs' Web site at www.gibbsonline.com.)

Stan Feld set up a Class of '59 Web site (<http://columbiacollegecc59.ning.com>). He asks us all to visit and contribute to it.

I am saddened to report the death of **M. Marvin Finkelstein** on March 7, 2010.

Take care. Please send me pictures to incorporate into the reunion picture, e-mail addresses so that I can communicate with you and, most of all, contributions for our Class Notes.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6
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In our March / April Class Notes, we reported that **Doug Morris** had been honored on the evening preceding the annual Grammy Awards with the Recording Academy's Merit Award in recognition of his singular contributions to the industry. Word now arrives that on January 26, Doug received the 2,399th star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, honoring him for having created the world's largest and most successful music organization, Universal Music Company Worldwide. The Walk of Fame is administered by the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and is located on Hollywood Boulevard between Vine and Gower streets.

Doug joins a brilliant galaxy of the entertainment industry ranging from Bud Abbott (with three stars, one each for radio, motion pictures and television) to Adolph Zukor (motion pictures), to one U.S. President (Ronald Reagan), two California governors (Reagan and Arnold Schwarzenegger), several cartoon characters (Bugs Bunny being the first so honored), at least two dogs (Lassie and Rin Tin Tin) and Gene Autry (the only person

honored with a star for each of the five possible categories: television, motion pictures, live theater, recording and radio). Doug's star now shines in sparkling company.

Neil Markee advises that he is "mostly retired" and splits his time between Port Jefferson, N.Y., and Palm City, Fla. While in Florida, Neil and his wife, Susan, visit with their daughter, Jennifer, and grandson, Jack, in nearby Wellington.

Laurans Mendelson and his sons, Eric '87, '89 Business and Victor '89, were featured in an article that appeared in January in *The Miami Herald*. Twenty years ago, the Mendelsons took control of Heico Corp. in a proxy fight. Larry, as chairman and chief executive, and Eric and Victor as co-presidents, have built Heico into a dynamo in the manufacture of aviation replacement parts and electronics components used in defense, space, medicine and homeland security, while producing exceptional benefits for its investors. The article points out that since the Mendelsons took control of Heico, profits have risen at a compound annual rate of 18 percent; the market value of the company has grown from approximately \$25 million to about \$1 billion; and a \$100,000 investment in the company's stock in 1990 is worth about \$3 million today. Meticulous attention to detail is one of the keys to the company's success; as an example, the article cited Larry's comment on the development of one of the items manufactured by Heico, a compressor blade, a small sliver of metal: "It took three to four years to develop this compressor blade. If a blade activates at the wrong frequency, it would self-destruct." Maintaining a low debt level has also been a factor in the company's success during the recession.

The article highlights the Mendelsons' ties to Columbia, Larry having served on the Board of Trustees and the trio having contributed significantly to scholarships, professorships and programs.

A kind, decent, thoughtful man. Those were the first descriptives to enter my thoughts when informed that **Mike Hein** had died at his home in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on February 7. The cause was cancer, a disease Mike had encountered and survived.

My history with Mike goes back to grade school and junior H.S. in the Bronx, where we had been classmates. I immediately reflected on my last talks with Mike. He had been concerned for the comfort and well-being of a longtime friend now living in a small town in the Southwest, homebound by the progressive deterioration of his health.



Steve Simring '61, a supernumerary for the Metropolitan Opera, had a show and tell on opera during a class luncheon in New York City in September. Joining the party were (left to right) Phil Smith '61, Fred Teger '61, Tom Gochberg '61, Richard Neel '61, Oscar Garfein '61, Stan Futterman '61, Simring, Mich Araten '61, Philippe de la Chapelle '61, Ira Hayes '61, Hal Berliner '61 and Anthony Adler '61. Not pictured are Bill Biderman '61, Marty Kaplan '61 and Stan Weiss '61.

PHOTO: HAL BERLINER '61

We exchanged thoughts on how to locate services of which the friend might avail himself. Not long thereafter, in our next and last conversation, Mike said that he had just been diagnosed with a return of cancer. He spoke of it philosophically. He would take it as it came and make the best of each day. And then he quickly turned to a discussion of his efforts on behalf of his friend. Of course, as in every conversation, he spoke of Rebecca, the beloved daughter so central to his life, and what new ventures she was undertaking. It was typical of Mike to place himself last and his interest in others first.

I reread the moving tribute and reflection he wrote for the Class Notes on the life and profound loss of **Mike Lesch**, his closest friend who died suddenly, unexpectedly, on a fishing trip in South America. The two met as freshman basketball team. Each had been the best man at the other's wedding.

Ann, **Mike Hein**'s wife of 32 years, described how important Columbia had been in Mike's life: "He really valued the chance to study the great classics of Western Civilization and think about his relationship to the world. He still has many of his books. He always listened to all sides of the issues and analyzed them. He was a very critical thinker."

Mike did graduate work at Columbia to get a teaching degree and taught English for two years. He went into advertising and spent several years enjoying the creative side of his work, but chose to leave the field and follow another path. He returned to Columbia for a master's in library science and pursued a ca-

reer as librarian at the Lenox School and then at Horace Mann School. Mike retired in 2001 before computerization dominated his field. He managed during his lifetime to resist the need for a computer.

Mike loved all sports and was an avid swimmer. His special love was basketball, and he remained steadfast in his loyalty to the Knicks even through these, their worst years. Ann said that his goal had been to stay alive long enough to see the Knicks sign LeBron James. At least it was comforting to hear that in only the last three days of his life did Mike most feel the effects of his fatal illness, experiencing disorientation, and then he passed in relative peace. A kind, decent, thoughtful man.

The class extends its deepest condolences to Ann and Rebecca.

It is hard indeed to grasp the reality that we are on the threshold of the half-century anniversary of our graduation. The Reunion Committee has made every effort to ensure that the celebration will be memorable. We have been importuned to attend Alumni Reunion Weekend, which for us begins Wednesday, June 2, with the opening reception on campus at the President's House and concludes Sunday, June 6, with brunch and farewell in the Low Faculty Room. And we have been "mugged": this, a gesture to express the committee's earnest desire that each and every one of us participate in the events of the weekend, or in so many as we are able to attend. Some other absolutely delightful surprises await us, including a class picnic, a tour of the *Intrepid* Museum, a class discussion, several dinners and cocktail gatherings and the chance to take in some of the

best cultural happenings the city has to offer.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

Mention of the mug requires special recognition to **David Kirk**, who handled every aspect of its production and distribution with the diligence and attention that earned him the rank of Captain (ret.) in the Navy. So singular were his efforts that the committee's co-chair, **Richard Friedlander**, was inspired to cite David with the following e-report, Richard having developed his proficiency in preparing evaluation reports during his distinguished tour of duty as clerk-typist in the U.S. Coast Guard. (For those not familiar with military nomenclature, "Com Mbr" below signifies "committee member".)

"CITATION

"As Com Mbr Kirk; D. has successfully navigated turbulent merchandising waters and As Com Mbr Kirk; D. has brought his cargo safely to Port Mailing Fullfillment; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has cleverly folded the '60C letter without sustaining water damage; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has suffered no casualties during this assignment; and as Com Mbr Kirk; D. has damaged no '60C property, Now Therefore by the power vested in me by classmates, this Reunion 'E' is awarded to said Com Mbr Kirk; D. on this 24th day of February 2010 by:

"Co Chr Reu Comm Friedlander"

And this occasion shall not pass without a tip of the cap and three rousing hurrahs for the extraordinary time and effort devoted by Richard, who pulled the laboring oar, kept the committee together and involved, tended to every last detail and brought the program together whilst his co-chair professed to have spent the winter lost in the ceaseless snow falls of Forest Hills engaged in hand-to-hand combat with snow shovel and ice-chipper.

Here's hoping for a magnificent turnout. Look forward to seeing you in June.

61

Michael Hausig

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Reminder: Our 50th reunion will take place Wednesday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. A committee is planning the event with the help of the Alumni Office. Anyone interested in helping should contact **Tony Adler** (awadler@spartacommercial.com) or **Burt Ehrlich** (burt@bloomberg.com) with their ideas.

Stuart Newman is an avid New York Jets fan and season ticketholder for more than 30 years. He flew to San Diego in January with his son, Mike, and daughter-in-law, Shinko, for the Jets playoff game against the Chargers. The Jets pulled off a come-from-behind victory. The San Diego trip was a blast. San Diego fans were unbelievably gracious. Stuart's granddaughter, Jackie (8), attended the Jets games this past season, with face paint of course, together with Stuart and her dad, Steve '87E, making it three generations of Jets fans.

Last August, a nonprofit that **Dave Blicher** has been associated with since returning from the Peace Corps got itself in financial trouble. As the board chair, Dave was asked to investigate the issues and identify the problems that needed to be addressed, and by October he found himself accepting the executive director position.

Since then, Dave has been working full-time to stabilize the agency's finances and reinvestigate its programs. Opening Doors, the nonprofit, resettles refugees in the Sacramento region and provides them and low- and middle-income underserved residents with important and basic business development training. ODI focuses on entrepreneurship, an engagement that Dave also had while in the Peace Corps.

ODI has a loan fund, with about \$360,000 currently out on loan. It also has a great staff, with members from nine countries and who are multi-lingual, allowing them to do their micro-enterprise trainings in the recipients' language and in a culturally appropriate manner.

So, according to Dave, it's a good job and feels good, too.

My wife, JB, and I had a busy month of February, spending it at Copper Mountain (Colo.) skiing with a three-day break to Las Vegas for our son Jeff's wedding and an opportunity to catch up with Sue and **Jack Kirik** and **Gerry Brodeur**. Gerry lives there, and Jack spends the winter there playing golf. The last week in February, Denise and **Alex Liebowitz** came out to ski with us, and Lisa and **Bob Rennick** drove up from Colorado Springs to celebrate our collective 70th birthdays (21 Celsius) about two weeks apart (Bob and Mike).

John Harvey writes that he is having a great life. He and his wife, Joan, recently returned from Paris, and last October, they spent his 70th birthday in southern Italy. This sure beats working for a living, especially having retired from the newspaper business. Joan works for *The Oregonian*, but a 12 percent reduction in the newsroom staff is expected shortly so her situation is fluid.

John informed me that **Bob Trellstad** died on February 15 at his home in Princeton, N.J., after a three-year struggle with frontotemporal dementia, a disease that slowly robbed him of his ability to speak and then continued to progress. He had been hospitalized several weeks prior to this writing and then returned home under hospice care.

At South Salem (Ore.) H.S., Bob excelled at everything he attempted, chalking up a 4.0 GPA for his three years at South and having a wicked shot from the foul circle, which made him a valuable sixth man on the basketball team. He attended hometown Willamette University for his freshman year, where he again rang up a 4.0. His academic career then took a sudden turn, all due to an unlikely source: the movie *Vertigo*.

Bob and John drove 50 miles to Portland to see the film on a July evening after our freshman year, and on the way home, John suggested that Bob join him at Columbia. He liked the idea and the next day called the Columbia Admissions Office. The person on the other end of the phone politely told Bob that he had to be out of his mind to think that he could call two months before the school year began and be admitted. But Bob persevered and mailed his transcript to Columbia anyway; Columbia then quickly accepted him, and they headed back to Columbia in September, where Bob was always near the top of his class. Bob was in the top 12 for GPA at the end of his junior year and qualified for Phi Beta Kappa. He graduated the next year magna cum laude.

Meanwhile, his high school sweetheart, Barbara Henken, moved to New York to attend classes at Columbia. They returned to Salem and married in summer 1961 and then struck out for Cambridge, Mass., where Bob had been admitted to Harvard Medical School, following in his father's profession. Bob focused on the emerging field of cell biology and upon graduation entered a residency program in pathology at the famed Massachusetts General Hospital. That was followed by several years at the National Institutes of Health, and in 1972, Bob joined the faculty of the pathology department at Harvard Medical School, later moving across the street from Mass General to the Shriners Burns Institute.

In 1981, Bob moved to Robert Wood Johnson Medical School (Rutgers), where he stayed for a quarter of a century, including 18 years as head of the pathology department. He was a visionary in the use of computers in education

and medicine. Bob played a key role in developing the Child Health Institute of New Jersey, serving as acting director for the seven years prior to its opening in 2005. Bob also found time to be chair of the Health Professions Advising Committee at Princeton. When he received the prestigious Edward J. III Outstanding Medical Educator Award for 2007, the chairman of the award cited Bob "as a true example of an outstanding medical educator. His commitment to students and teaching and his love for medicine have made him an extraordinary teacher of physicians."

Barbara has kept equally busy, and currently is on the Princeton Borough Council. They have four sons, Derek, Graham, Brian and Jeremy, and numerous grandchildren. Bob also is survived by his brothers, John, and Donald '69, who has had a distinguished career as a cardiologist in Portland.

Robert Randall and David Bliker informed me that Leslie and **Max Cohen's** son, Adam, a Ph.D. in the field of English literature, died in January at 38. Adam was a Shakespeare scholar, an author and a favorite teacher of many of his students at the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, where he joined the faculty in 2005. On behalf of the class, I offer our deepest sympathies to Max, Leslie and Adam's wife and daughters on their heartbreaking loss.

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Tony Wolf practices child and adolescent psychology in Longmeadow, Mass. He is the author of six parenting books, including the widely acclaimed *Get Out of My Life, but First Could You Drive Me & Cheryl to the Mall? A Parent's Guide to the New Teenager*. Tony also is on the advisory boards of Parenting Teens Online and The Century Council, a nonprofit organization working to combat underage drinking. Tony speaks widely about teenagers and parents. His newest venture is a regular column for the *Toronto Globe and Mail*. He has authored columns in several other publications and has published articles about adolescents and parenting in *Child* magazine, *Parents* and *Family Circle* as well as others. Tony earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at CUNY shortly after graduating from Columbia. He lives with his wife in Suffield, Conn. They are the parents of two ex-teenagers.

Allen Young has been in touch with **David Tucker**, who is really

enjoying retirement and has two sons in college.

As you can see, we need news from you. Please write!

63 Paul Neshamkin
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You're probably enjoying a lovely spring day, but it's been one heckuva winter here on the East Coast — "*Où sont les neiges d'antan*" indeed. **Joe Applebaum** wrote in the middle of the second big storm of February from Washington, D.C., "Our power went out last weekend and so my wife, Phyllis, and I — along with our cats — have decamped to a nearby hotel. Our power seems to be restored, but the roads are impassable so we'll go home Friday. All else is well."

Steve Barcan took the weather in stride and headed to Vermont to ski with his kids and grandkids. **Paul Gorin** wrote from southern Delaware that he had two feet of snow and a blizzard. Paul also invited us to the 55th Georgetown Oyster Eat the last Friday in February. As you read this in May, I guess we all missed a great time.

"As a visiting friend of our oldest son, Daniel, said a couple of years ago, as he looked out for the first time at the cigar-smoking beginning-to-be-drunk men of all ages milling about the sawdust-covered floor of Georgetown grabbing beers, lining up for raw oysters, crowding around about 20 or so stands with holes cut out in their centers for shells to be tossed in, volunteer firemen turned waiters shouting, 'Hot stuff ... hot stuff,' carrying tubs of steamed oysters to be ingloriously poured onto the stands and generously divided amongst the one-gloved, oyster-knife-wielding dudes and shared with their friends behind them: 'This is the real America.' Come down, I'd love to see you. And if you can't make it, come the last Friday of February 2011."

Paul, sounds like a great time. Maybe a bunch of us can make it down next year.

Further south, even the snowbirds complained a bit. **Doug Anderson** wrote, "Sorry not to be able to join you but not unhappy to be in sunny (but chilly) Palm Beach. Would someone please send a decent pastrami sandwich?" And **Frank Partel** wrote, "I am teeing off today in 56-degree weather at 1 p.m. here in Vero Beach. Geez, it's cold down here. It's a good thing that we wear a glove on one hand when we play golf. Happy to let you know that I was informed by the USPTO that I am now the

co-holder of U.S. patent 7,624,068. And I have about half of my first draft written for novel two, *Black, with a Pinch of Salt*."

OK, Frank, I take that as a challenge for the class. I want to hear from the first of you who is working on your second patent while you are working on your third novel. Any takers?

Henry Black writes, "We (wife Benita and I) recently moved from the Village to West 81st Street — that much closer to alma mater. We have taken tremendous advantage of the pre-basketball game buffet dinners in the Lou Gehrig Lounge, courtesy of such local emporia as V&T, Fairway, Rack 'n' Soul and Carmine's. These dinners are a bonus to all season ticket holders in the True Blue program, and it's fun to mix and mingle with alums, young and not-so-young."

Harley Frankel's College Match program, which we have mentioned many times in these notes, brought 64 outstanding low-income public school students to visit Columbia in two groups in March. Harley has been consistently successful in placing these students into first-rate universities.

Thanks for the fine work, Harley.

Steve Honig writes, "My wife and I and our son, Matthew (6), are preparing for our trip this spring [as I write this]. We start out in Monte Carlo, where my son, Peter, has a one-man show of his photographs at the gallery at the Casino. From there, we go to a photo safari in Zululand, and then to Cape Town to sightsee and try the wine (in Matthew's case, the local orange juice). While I have lost touch, or rather almost never had contact, with Boston area classmates, I would be pleased to hear from them."

Sounds like a great trip. You can reach Steve at StephenHonig@comcast.net.

Art Eisenson has been a lead named plaintiff and a member of the Plaintiffs' Liaison Committee in a series of writers' class action employment discrimination suits. He writes, "I am limited by the terms of a settlement agreement in what I can say about it. However, if our classmates read major newspapers in the United States, they will have seen articles and published legal notices about the settlements. A FAQ about those suits and settlements can be found at www.tvwriterscounsel.com/questions.html. The fact that only the federal government has ever taken on or gotten a settlement from the entertainment industry may be of interest to attorneys, historians or people who like bar bets. What is more significant, finally, is that we hope to address what is effectively a truncation of American popular

narrative, in the form of TV fiction. The experiences of generations much over 40 are simply not there in proportion to our numbers. We hope now to help people make sense of our lives by giving older writers the opportunities to tell the stories used to tell our truths and ask our questions.

"It's been an education about law and the way the law business is done in the United States. To borrow a term from my profession as a screen and TV writer, we owe ourselves a rewrite."

Alexis Levitin sends "Greetings from Plattsburgh, N.Y. I still am teaching and still enjoying it, so I probably won't retire for another two or three years. Meanwhile, I had three books of translations come out in the last year. *Consecration of the Alphabet*, published by Scortecchi Editora, Sao Paulo, Brazil, is a collection of 22 rhymed sonnets by Brazilian poet Leonor Scliar-Cabral. Each poem is dedicated to one letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The original Portuguese poems are accompanied by my English translations, along with translations by others into French, Spanish and even Hebrew. *Tapestry of the Sun: an Anthology of Ecuadorean Poetry*, published this past summer by Coimbra Editions, San Francisco, Calif., is the first collection of Ecuadorean poetry ever to be published in the United States. I co-translated the book with Ecuadorean writer Fernando Iturburu. *Brazil: A Traveler's Literary Companion*, which I edited for Whereabouts Press, Berkeley, Calif., is a collection of Brazilian short stories organized by region and intended to be read as the traveler visits various parts of the country. It was published in January."

Alexis, you've been a busy man. You can find a recent picture taken in Spain on our Web site, www.cc63ers.com.

Farhad Ardalan has been denied a visa to travel to the U.S. from Iran. He sent me an article from the February 20 issue of *Science Magazine* (you'll find a link on our Web site) that relates the frustrating tale. Farhad was made a fellow of the American Physical Society last fall in part because of his work to connect Iran to the global scientific community. He had hoped to come to the society's meetings to be honored, but the U.S. Embassy claimed he had an arrest record and that he had been involved in deportation proceedings in New York in 1993. He denies knowledge of both charges, states that he is sure that he is being confused "with a person with the same name who was a leader of the Kurdish guerrilla movement; as a result, for years I was routinely stopped and inter-

rogated at the Tehran airport."

Farhad, I hope that this issue has been resolved.

Paul Lehrer writes, "All of my friends are talking about retirement plans, but I think I have just learned how to do my profession well, so I'm still going with full steam. I am a clinical psychologist and professor of psychiatry at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ). I am a past president of the Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback and have just received a sizable grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute to study biofeedback treatment of asthma. I have edited a book, *Principles and Practice of Stress Management* that is now in its third printing and have published more than 100 papers in various scientific journals. This stage of a teaching career is very rewarding, particularly seeing my students now develop productive academic careers of their own. I also enjoy my clinical practice through UMDNJ.

"My wife, Phyllis, is an accomplished piano teacher and pedagogue, and is a professor of piano at Westminster Choir College of Rider University. My daughter, Suzanne, lives in nearby Princeton, and has two lovely children (3 and 18 months). She also is a pianist and teacher. She is married to a lovely fellow, Jonathan LeBouef, who is an associate registrar at Princeton. My son, Jeffrey, is a diplomat with the U.S. Agency for International Development. He lives in Tajikistan with his lovely wife, Natasha, and two children (6 and 3)."

Michael Hassan sent the latest episode in his life adventure. "I'm presently traveling in the Philippines with a friend whom I met in Cebu last year. He's an ex-Navy SEAL, and we met on Mactan Island at Chief Lapu-Lapu's shrine.

"Mactan Island is a part of Cebu and is where the famous explorer Magellan bit the dust after living there only three hot and humid weeks. Seems Magellan sided with the wrong chieftain during an intertribal war and lost his life as well as those of most of the 600 men with him. The ex-SEAL and I are going diving off another island, Camiguin. The last time I dove, I returned to tell the tale, but I had a scary moment that made my coupling up with the ex-SEAL seem like a smart move. The last time (in Subic Bay, of WWII fame), I had to abort the morning dive because I ate too much oatmeal for breakfast and, coupled with my hiatal hernia, found myself 15 feet down and unable to catch a breath. Picture a diver roaring up towards

the surface with such speed that he rises out of the water up to his waist. I was mildly panicked. After much eruption, there was room for my lungs to expand and down I went on the afternoon dive, this time successfully. I hadn't gone diving for more than 20 years and didn't realize what time and a bad stomach had done to my underwater breathing apparatus."

Steve Stollman wrote a while ago to let us know that he was about to be evicted from his offices of more than 20 years at 3251 Broadway. "I have been offered, albeit at an unaffordable five times my current rate, replacement space in the Nash building, where the Manhattan Project got its start. Given the interdisciplinary nature of our quest, this is a most appropriate location to gather the best vehicle design and construction minds. They could help to heal the potentially fatal environmental and economic (and ethical) wounds that our unsustainable transportation system is still inflicting upon our chances of survival.

"My business consists of two elements. One, profit-making, involves antique restoration, including treasured elements of New York City's history, like the Automat and finely crafted 100-year-old carved Victorian bars. I also can be legitimately defined as a recycler, since a surprising portion of my inventory was headed for the dump before it was rescued.

"My other activity involves the creative development of new human-scale and human-powered transportation, bikes and trikes. I have put on conferences and events involving this work for 30 years. I operate a facility in Flushing Meadows Park devoted to the evolution of these vital devices (www.LightWheels.com). We have also been making proposals to the city regarding its plans to deploy a widespread shared-vehicle system (www.LocalExpression.com). If I am able to persist in my tenancy in Harlem, my intention is to develop a creative design program to engage students and others in prototyping, testing and putting into operation crucial elements of the next generation of urban transportation.

"When I provided the space and funding for the introduction of pedicabs into New York City 18 years ago, it was to spur awareness of the potential for clean, quiet, healthy modes of lightweight transit like human-powered transportation to find a place here. It is more important than ever to find the way to minimize our impact on this planet rather than maximize it. The density of this city and wide variety of activities taking place

here make this the perfect place to dramatically expand the role of human-scale transportation."

When I asked him if any progress had been made, Steve replied, "Thanks for responding and offering to give some visibility to the issue. I'm afraid there has been no improvement in the situation. I may be history soon after the magazine comes out, but I still think it is important for former students to know what is going on here. I'd love to hear from some of them."

You can find the full correspondence from Steve (and even more news from **Michael Hassan** and others) on our Web site, www.cc63ers.com.

Recent Class of '63 lunches have been well attended. I hope that you will try to make the next lunch, scheduled for Thursday, May 13 (and then on Thursday, June 10). Check our Web site for details and to review pictures of past gatherings to see if you can spot an old friend.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

64 **Norman Olch**
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The informal class lunches at the Columbia Club in Manhattan on the second Thursday of the month continue. We meet in the Grill Room on the third floor, which everyone seems to admire. Join us.

Allen Tobias has been named the Arts and Culture reviewer for the online publication examiner.com. Go to the Web site, type Allen Tobias in the "Search" box, and you will find eclectic reviews ranging from rock 'n' roll to the Frick Museum.

Stuart Siepser is a cardiologist in Wayne, N.J. After skiing in the morning at Hunter Mountain — a good cardiovascular exercise — he showed up for an evening event at the Columbia Club also attended by **Nick Rudd**.

The New York Times Book Review ran a full page review of *The Great American University: Its Rise to Preeminence, Its Indispensable National Role, Why It Must Be Protected* by **Jonathan Cole**. The review noted that the book "makes the case for the extraordinary role [American research universities] play in improving our daily lives. He also argues that these 'jewels in our nation's crown' face a host of serious threats."

Jack Leitner has retired as an internist after 23 years in Framingham, Mass. A local newspaper, *The Daily News*, published a long

piece about his career, from which I quote. "After graduating from the College, and then from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, he and his wife, Margaret, spent a year on a kibbutz in Israel while he was a resident in a hospital in Tiberias. 'I used to have my lunch with the shepherds.' After returning to America, he became chief resident at a Veterans Administration hospital in Boston where he first became involved in the treatment of lung cancer, a disease common among hospitalized veterans. He also learned the importance of house calls. 'I had a patient in Milford. When he was dying, I went out to see him a couple of times. I'd never been to Milford in my life, but when a patient is dying, his physician shouldn't abandon him.' After 10 years as an oncologist in Framingham, 'It got to be too much,' and he became an internist in 1985. In his examining room was a map of Israel, and when giving men a prostate exam he used to say, 'Turn around and face Israel.'"

Jack estimates he treated 5,000 patients in his career. It was a privilege: "For most of the time, I didn't consider it a job," he said. Jack bemoans the fact that most internists do not go with their patients to the hospital. "One of my pet peeves is internists are giving up their care to hospitalists ... I mourn the fact that we have hospitalists." He is disappointed in President Obama's efforts to reform health care and in his leadership, and told him so in a recent letter.

Jack has three children and two grandchildren. He wrote to me that in March he was going to Israel to visit Israeli victims of suicide bombs and the Lebanese war. Jack can be reached at 774-279-6159.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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It's spring, and the thoughts of not-so-young men turn to ... reunion! By the time this issue of CCT arrives in your mailbox, our 45th reunion will be only days away, as Alumni Reunion Weekend will run from Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. I hope as many of you as possible will be there, for our Reunion Committee has planned a weekend full of stimulating events, as if seeing your classmates 45

years later were not stimulating enough. As your correspondent, I deeply regret that an unbreakable family commitment will require me to be out of state for the entire weekend, so please have an even better time, partly in honor of my absent presence.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

One classmate who promises to be there is the Honorable **Howard Matz**. Judge Matz sent me a comprehensive update, which I print in its entirety:

Mike Cook '65 is being honored in May by the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group of the UJA — Federation of New York's Lawyers Division.

"The upcoming reunion in June (I will be there) undoubtedly will provide a good opportunity for our classmates to fill each other in on recent and not-so-recent developments, but I decided to send in a contribution to your growing file. Here it is.

"I continue to serve as a federal judge (now in my 11th year). As you know, federal jurisdiction is vast and complicated — civil and criminal litigation, admiralty litigation, patent and other intellectual property litigation, and the like. It remains both exciting and humbling to discharge such important responsibilities. One of the nice and unexpected 'perks' of the position is that it occasionally enables me to have contact with other Columbia graduates. Just last week, for example, I swore into citizenship in a ceremony conducted in my courtroom the Israeli-born wife of Michael Brous '98. That came about through my connection with other members of the Brous family, including Rabbi Sharon Brous '95; Sharon's husband, David Light '95; her father, Rick Brous '58, '60 Business; and her close friend Shawn Landres '94. Several years ago I swore Shawn's wife, Zuzanna, into citizenship. Naturalization proceedings are wonderful. Sometimes I have conducted them for nearly 5,000 new citizens at a time, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, the Los Angeles Sports Arena and other venues. The large ceremonies are very colorful. The new citizens happily wave small American flags they are given, and I invite them to identify the countries where they were born or raised before coming here. Usually, there are more than 80 countries! As the son of an immigrant, these ceremonies resonate deeply with me.

"Another example of a Columbia encounter: Last November, the California State Bar presented me with its first award for Intellectual Property Jurisprudence. At the ceremony, I noticed someone smiling at me whose face looked familiar. It was **Neil Smith**, who struck up a most enjoyable conversation and filled me in on his various exploits over the last 45 years. Neil is a lawyer in San Francisco with an active practice focused on intellectual property law.

"A few weeks ago, I had a long talk with my Columbia roommate,

Bob Caserio, whose note appeared in the November/December '09 issue. Were you surprised by the breadth and depth of Bob's publications and other projects? I wasn't; he was never good at saying 'no' to an important professional engagement. How impressive that Bob's dedication to the world of literature and writing remains so deep.

"So many Columbia students now come from Southern California that [Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development] **Derek Wittner** and his wife, Kathryn, come here annually to host a luncheon for newly admitted students and their families. My wife, Jane, and I often attend those events. This year, we had the pleasure of sitting with the new dean, Michele Moody-Adams. She is remarkably thoughtful, eloquent and gracious. The College made a wise choice in selecting her.

"I hope that the organizers of the upcoming reunion somehow will have the time and the ability to put together information that goes beyond the usual self-written brief profiles. Wouldn't it be refreshing to learn something about ourselves as a group — such as how many of us became teachers? Writers? How many ever served in the military? How many returned to where they grew up after leaving Columbia? How many sent children to Columbia? (Jane and I sent two of our three sons, Jeremy '93 and Jonathan '02.) There are undoubtedly many ways to begin to paint a composite picture about our class; these are just a few examples. I hope they lead to something.

"See you in June!"

Mike Cook will be the honoree of the Bankruptcy and Reorganization Group of the UJA — Federation of New York's Lawyers Division at its 2010 luncheon on May 3 at the Waldorf=Astoria in

New York City. Mike will receive the Professor Lawrence P. King Award for Excellence in the Field of Bankruptcy.

Sad news: **Donald E. Welsh** died suddenly on February 6 in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. He was 66 and lived in Boston Corner, N.Y. Don launched numerous magazines during the last 28 years. He attended the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and was admitted to the Ohio bar. He worked initially for the Cleveland Trust Co. but soon moved on to the magazine business, starting at *Fortune* in the advertising department. From there, he moved to *Rolling Stone*, rising to the position of associate publisher. He went on to be the founding publisher of *Outside*, founded by *Rolling Stone* publisher Jann Wenner. Don also was a publisher of *US* (now *US Weekly*). Don then started Welsh Publications with *Muppet Magazine*. Numerous "kid power" titles, including *Barbie*, *Power Rangers* and *Mickey Mouse*, followed during the next 12 years until their 1994 sale to Marvel Entertainment. According to an obituary published February 18 in *The New York Times*, Don's focus on children's publications began when his young daughter, Leah, asked him for a subscription to *People*. As Don recalled in a 1985 interview with *Forbes*, he thought there had to be a more appropriate children's magazine available. But he was disappointed at what he found. "Children's publications talk down to the kids and are always teaching," he said, "and they always seem to have lambs and bears in the margins of the pages."

After the sale to Marvel, Don began Arthur Frommer's *Budget Travel*, along with Mr. Frommer, in 1998, which he sold to *Newsweek* a year later. In 2002, he introduced *Budget Living*, a chic magazine for young professionals on a budget. It won awards for the best new magazine for industry publications as well as the American Society of Magazine Editors' highest honor, the general excellence award. His last project was a joint venture, *Forbes Life Mountain Time*. "He created a corporate culture that rewarded experimentation," Susan Grey Miller, the first editor of *Budget Living*, said. "Don Welsh was absolutely fearless, and encouraged everyone who worked for him to take risks."

Apparently, taking risks came naturally to Don, who had led and participated in several Outward Bound expeditions around the world with magazine colleagues. In fact, the Outward Bound board of directors stated in its sponsored obituary, "Don believed intensely in the life-changing experience of

an Outward Bound course and, with John Mack Carter, used his extensive network of publishing contacts to launch a successful public service ad program on our behalf. Since his first Outward Bound course in 1983, Don could often be found climbing Kilimanjaro, trekking in Tibet, river rafting in Colorado or hiking across England, bringing along with him his peers in the publishing industry so they too could understand the power of Outward Bound and help expose its mission and educational philosophy to countless young people. His creative mind, engaging personality and boundless energy will be deeply missed."

Don is survived by his wife, Bourne; brother, Edward, of Gates Mills, Ohio; children, Leah of Raleigh, N.C., and Philip of New York; and two grandchildren.

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From the Park Slope section of Brooklyn, **David Stern** writes, "I have retired after 38 years with the New York State government service. Although I am open to part-time retirement gig opportunities, I have not started seriously looking around. Since [my son] Jonathan is away at school, my wife, Robin, and I have a lot of time to ourselves, and that's fine after all these years. If you can stream the radio station of SUNY Purchase, you can tune into Jonathan's rock music radio show on Thursday nights from midnight-1 a.m. He presently has anywhere from two to 11 listeners on a given night, so any support you can lend will have an outsized impact on his ratings." You can correspond with David at davidstern@yahoo.com.

My friend and classmate from both Cleveland Heights H.S. and Columbia College, **Jonathan Sunshine**, wrote the following highly interesting reflections and comments:

"On the family front, professionally and personally, it's been an event-filled few years since our 40th reunion.

"I'd planned to attend the reunion, but my father was gravely ill and, in fact, died two weeks later. At first I wasn't too disturbed — he'd reached 90 in good mental and physical health and was ready to quit. But he was one of the few people I talked with in depth and looked to for advice, and before long, I found myself much more troubled than I'd expected to be. The Jewish prayer one says in mem-

ory of the dead usually is titled, in translation, 'Mourner's Kaddish [sanctification],' but the literal translation of the Hebrew is 'Orphan's Kaddish,' and that's what it felt like. It's surprising how much the loss of one's last parent leaves a hole in one's life, even though one is an adult (and has been an adult for decades) with a spouse and descendants of one's own.

"Apart from his personal importance to me, which I came to fully appreciate only in retrospect, I only retrospectively learned how distinguished my father had been professionally. I'd known he was one of the originators of forensic toxicology, but only after his death learned how much he'd done to organize and advance the profession around the world. There are at least three annual Irving Sunshine awards given by various organizations in the field.

"At the other end of the age spectrum, our second grandchild was born just before my father's death. We're now up to five grandchildren, ages 1-6, with the San Francisco crew recently having moved back to Brooklyn, which makes them much more accessible. It's interesting how, despite having the same parents and the same home, the children in each family differ from one another. Of course, it shouldn't be a surprise — we experienced it with our own children — but it remains a source of wonderment. The pattern of vacations for my wife and me has changed, from trips to (somewhat) distant (though not very exotic) lands to frequent long-weekend visits with the grandchildren. They're lots of fun, and it's nice to be able to enjoy spending time with them and watch them change, which happens rapidly. Most recently, in the space of a month, the youngest has gone from unable to crawl to crawling all over and even pulling herself upright on convenient verticals.

"Professionally, I continue as head of health economics/health services research at the American College of Radiology. Grad school (for me, Columbia, I'm proud to say) brainwashes the susceptible into thinking the object of professional life is to write scholarly articles. After a less research-y initial career, I've been doing that like mad and am now up to something more than 200 papers of which I'm author or co-author. (The obsession finally is easing; I've ceased exact counting.) For several years, I've had an academic appointment (adjunct) at Yale, and two or three years ago was promoted to full professor. So I've satisfied a lifetime ambition to be an Ivy League professor, albeit of a

somewhat ersatz type. Curiously, life doesn't feel very changed, but this is a general finding in the psychology of happiness literature. Major positive events, such as winning the lottery, or negative ones have mostly a transitory effect on people's level of happiness, with little long-term change. Perhaps because it's a repeated experience, more of a 'high' comes to me from being invited to conferences or getting proposed presentations onto conference programs and giving papers. I enjoy the travel, get to one or two meetings outside the United States annually and use listening at conferences as a substitute for the reading of professional journals that I 'ought' to do, but don't. (There are only enough hours in one lifetime for a major commitment to reading the professional literature or to creating it; I've settled into doing the latter.)

"In terms of avocations, my biggest news is that I've managed — at least temporarily — to give up being president of Yiddish of Greater Washington, the main Yiddish organization in our area. Being president for life may be attractive for the many heads of state who attempt it, but it's no fun at a small, perpetually volunteer-starved, shoestring-budget, nonprofit organization. I've remained an active leader. New difficulties for us have cropped up this year, mostly due to financial squeezes at other organizations we've worked with. Most prominently, after teaching Yiddish for 30-plus years, the University of Maryland was on course to eliminate it. We organized a letter-writing and publicity campaign that has won a reprieve, at least for a year. It's a pleasant surprise to my cynicism to find that large institutions can be influenced. However, to gain a longer-term reprieve, we may have to conduct a fundraising campaign far larger than we've ever contemplated.

"I remain a jogger and bicyclist, but have given up on marathons (the 65-year-old body won't take 26 miles of running anymore) and definitely have slowed down. One daughter-in-law (a Columbia College alum, to boot) has recently taken up jogging and now has lured me into entering races with her. I haven't raced in the last few years, but this should be fun as a new inter-generational family activity. We've entered in the West Point Triathlon this summer, and I'm looking forward to beating all those enormously athletic Army cadets — if they'll divide my time by three to reflect the reality that I'm three times as old as they are."

Jonathan's e-mail address is jsunshine@acr-arrrs.org.

We recently received the sad news

of the passing of **Harold Hotelling Jr.**, of Rochester Hills, Mich., at the end of December 2009.

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Leigh Dolin wrote from Portland, Ore.: "Forty-three years ago, I was the only pre-med/Russian major in our class. I really loved my Russian studies, and it was hard to break them off when I entered medical school and my medical career. Being a primary care doctor (internal medicine) became increasingly frustrating, and when I retired two years ago, I decided to live out my fantasy of returning to college. So here I am, again immersed in Russian studies at Portland State University and loving it. I'm usually (but not always!) the oldest guy in my class, but I have no problem keeping up with the youngsters, and I love being back in college. And I don't miss practicing medicine at all. I did it for 36 years, but now I'm a student again and plan to stay in college indefinitely this time around."

Many of you may be engaged in similar adventures. Your classmates would love to read about them. Do write.

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Greetings from sunny, almost-spring New York.

So just a moment on Columbia sports news: The basketball season was less than I expected, but the team did beat Penn twice this year, the first time since — you guessed it — our senior year. Must be a sign. And recently, Kyle Merber '12 broke the Ivy League record in the mile, 3 minutes, 58 seconds — just incredible. [Editor's note: See "Roar Lion Roar" in "Around the Quads."] And for the swimmers, at the recent Ivy League championship, Columbia finished third behind Princeton and Harvard with a fabulous third day of the event.

John Roy reported he ran into **Pete Benitez**, a State Superior Court judge for 15 years, but then didn't report anything else. I assume the collision was amiable.

Hollis Petersen and his wife, Ann, spend their winters in Islamorada, in the Florida Keys, to get out of the frigid north, and their summers in Weekapaug, R.I., where Hollis is involved in local land trust activities. He claims to be busier in "retirement" than when he was on

the clock and to be having much more fun!

Hollis, I like snow but the Keys sound perfect. See you at a football game this year, I hope.

I spoke to **Seth Weinstein**, who was biking down the West Side to the Battery and back — sounds like he took **Tom Sanford's** advice from our reunion luncheon.

I recently spent a few days in Washington, D.C., with a number of state treasurers who are clearly focused on the impact of their short-fall in revenues on their respective state budgets and programs. Fascinating to hear their views. I guess the cherry blossoms will be out by the time you read this.

I continue to be busy at work and was looking forward to the opera this weekend as I write this. Hope you are all well and enjoying the spring weather. A number of you have promised updates, so soon your promissory notes are coming due. Looking forward to hearing from you.

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Talk about running into news. I attended a reception for users of Bloomberg Law, a new legal research tool that I have been testing, and **Bill Rochelle** spotted me and came by to say hello. Bill now works for Bloomberg News, and naturally I asked him to provide some details. Bill switched careers after 35 years as a bankruptcy lawyer to become a columnist for Bloomberg News in New York. Raised in Texas, Bill came to New York for college and never left after graduating from the Law School. "I bought a big co-op in Manhattan dirt cheap and didn't want to pay capital gains taxes, so I stayed," Bill said.

Bill spent most of his 35 years as a bankruptcy lawyer as a partner in the New York office of Houston-based Fulbright & Jaworski. Although the firm was "wonderful," the work was routine after so long. "The only thing to change was the names of the clients. The problems were always the same, and no one is ever happy with the outcome of a bankruptcy case," he added. In the mid-1990s, Bill started writing a daily synopsis of major bankruptcy cases, which he sent to his firm's clients and friends. "I had a fantasy about turning my newsletter into a business," Bill said, and "the fantasy turned into reality, thanks to

Bloomberg writers I came to know over the years."

Bill added: "I had two houses, two kids, two cars, two dogs and two wives, so I didn't need anything else. All I needed was an interesting new challenge. And that's what I got. Today, I write a lengthy column every day for Bloomberg News describing the prior day's events in 20 or so bankruptcy reorganizations. If you want to know what's happening in the bankruptcy and turnaround community, my column is the place to go. It's a privilege to work for Bloomberg, the financial news and information service owned by New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, which is the leader in supplying information for Wall Street. It gives me a platform for telling the financial community what's going on with sick and dying companies." Bill never passes up an opportunity to put in a marketing plug for Bloomberg News (as this item shows), which he called the "Rolls Royce of financial reporting." The Bloomberg terminal, according to Bill, "has everything Wall Street needs or wants, except pornography." (For those of us testing Bloomberg Law, Bill's last comment comes as a disappointment.)

Learning about Bill's work for Bloomberg led me to check in with **Robert Friedman**, also now with Bloomberg, to ask about his current job and how it is different from his prior jobs. From Robert: "I am now an editor-at-large at Bloomberg News in New York. I joined the company in April 2008, right after the collapse of Bear Stearns, and have been involved in coverage of the financial crisis ever since. I edit longer pieces and projects that run on the Bloomberg terminal, in *Bloomberg Markets* magazine and now also in *Bloomberg Business Week*. What's different? Working for a media company that is actually expanding and truly global."

Another news lead came in the mail, by way of the March 2010 issue of *Vanity Fair*, featuring **Bill Stadie's** insider tale of his involvement with the Jon Peters book project — a tell-all memoir of a "half-Cherokee hairdresser" who became a film producer and then famously, but unsuccessfully, co-head of Columbia Pictures. The book was to be titled *Studio Head*, which Bill's article says was a "triple entendre." (The first two are obvious; as to the third, Bill told me that Peters is "first and foremost a hairdresser" who "re-coiffed the editors" they pitched.) Bill's article, in turn, is called "Studio Head: The Greatest Story Never Sold! The Tell-All Memoir that Hollywood Killed." A photo of Bill, with Peters, is included with the author's

credits on page 116.

I asked Bill for an insider's view of the insider's article. He responded: "Working with Jon Peters highlighted the great irony of prestige education: Here was a literally illiterate hairdresser who had gone to reform school with a glittering career and social life that most Columbians would have died for. Of course, he didn't appreciate a bit of it; that's where our education comes in, providing context and perspective. If we ran Columbia Pix, we would enjoy it totally. In our dreams ... I'm just starting a new book on 1980s Hollywood barbarian producers called *Moneywood*. It should explain once and for all why movies have gotten so terrible. I'm also working on a long-term project on Harry Winston, which has taken me around the world several times meeting princes, tycoons, oil sheikhs and arms dealers, who were Winston's clientele. If a Saudi King bought a \$1 million necklace for one of his wives, he had to buy equivalents for all of them. That's how Winston got rich as Croesus. Movie stars rarely bought jewels, except for Liz Taylor. They just borrowed them."

"The first star I met was Paul Newman, when he came to speak at Ferris Booth Hall. I was gratified at how short he was. None of the stars I've encountered were as charismatic as some of our best teachers, like Jim Shenton [49] and Nathan Gross. Talk about showmen. The interesting thing about being at Columbia when we were being torn between joining the Establishment and tearing it down."

"Speaking of Establishment, in my view, Columbia's great image weakness is its failure to promote its Ivy 'brand,' e.g., the first Lion in the White House is infinitely more identified as a Harvard Law man than as a Columbian. Out here in PR-land, I see lots of stars but rarely am invited to snort coke with Lindsay Lohan. My main cachet with the glitter set is not as a Columbia man or a best-selling author, but as a restaurant critic. Celebrities, for all their thinness, are obsessed with eating out. I'm getting nostalgic for Chock Full O'Nuts."

Bill's article is a great read; my favorite sentence is "Peter's warp-speed ride from hairdresser to producer to studio head made a business built on Schadenfreude apoplectic with jealousy." (Paging through *Vanity Fair* led me to discover a new line of clothing called "Gap 1969"; how nice to have items ready-made for our class.)

And, lastly, I also got news because of a factual error. **Rick Winston** wrote: "Last month, CCT printed a letter of mine responding

to an article on [Attorney General] Eric Holder [73, 76L]. For some bizarre reason, though, I was listed as living in Chevy Chase, Md. (where I've never been) instead of Adamant, Vt. (where I've been for almost 40 years). I'd like to assure my '69 friends that I haven't gone anywhere."

I agreed to run this correction, as long as it came with some news. Rick writes, "Happy to oblige: In other news, in December my wife, Andrea Serota, and I sold our one-screen art house, The Savoy Theater. Times have been increasingly tough in the art film world (and especially with only one screen). Just being a local institution does not pay the bills. We count ourselves fortunate that in these times, we were able to find an enthusiastic buyer who wants to carry on the tradition. We will be taking more time to enjoy the glorious Vermont outdoors and will be spending more time with our first grandchild, Miriam. I'll be keeping a foot in the film world; I've been asked to teach a course on Alfred Hitchcock at nearby Burlington College this fall (bringing back fond memories of the New Yorker and Thalia theaters). Last summer, I arranged two readings for **Mark Rudd** at local bookstores for his recent book, *Underground: My Life with SDS and the Weathermen*. We had a grand time catching up; it was the first time we've had more than two minutes together since before 'the events of '68.'"

This issue appears as the current Columbia College Fund year draws to a close. Reading CCT leads most classmates to recall their days at the College and what is special about them — the readings, the teachers, the activities, the friendships, the time of growth, the campus and more. If reflecting makes you feel like part of the

What's Your Story?

Let your classmates know about your family, work, travels or other news. Send us your Class Notes!

E-MAIL to the address at the top of your column, or to cct@columbia.edu.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

FAX to Class Notes Editor at 212-851-1950.

Class Notes received by **May 10** will be eligible for publication in the **July/August CCT**.

Kenny Greenberg '72 Brightens the World with Neon

BY KATIE MELONE '01J

Inside his squat Long Island City studio, surrounded by machinery, remnants of art exhibits past and bright signs that read "Watneys on Tap" and "Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer," **Kenny Greenberg '72** passes a long, thin glass tube through a flame and bends it like a pretzel.

For decades, Greenberg has worked this highly specialized craft, creating neon signs that have graced Broadway stages, popular television show sets and high-end retail stores.

His work combines elements of science, art, electronics and design. Among his peers, Greenberg's two-man operation, Krypton Neon, has gained a reputation for high-quality work in a field that has waned as few forefathers of the business passed down their trade. Greenberg, 58, was drawn to the field in his late 20s as a creative outlet when he realized he was unfulfilled in the education field.

While he is a commercial success in design and restoration of neon signs — Greenberg designed neon for the 2009 Tony awards, and for movies such as *Men in Black* and stores such as Chanel — he still sees his work primarily through the prism of art.

"It's visual music, really," he says, standing at his workbench.

And he looks the part of vanguard artist or musician. On this day, he's wearing a black t-shirt and beat-up black Levis, his hair a mop of salt and pepper curls and his black eyebrows bushy and unkempt. A New Yorker for 30 years, Greenberg moved to Long Island City in 1988, well before it became fashionable.

Greenberg came to neon after a brief stint working in education for the Jewish Child Care Association of New York. Unhappy in his work, he start-

ed to read and study matter and energy "from both a physics and metaphysics point of view," he explained. "And the nature of light plays a strong role in both realms."

Around 1980, Greenberg's then-girlfriend noticed an ad for a neon course. It had never occurred to him that humans created neon; he assumed a machine manufactured the signs he admired. "For a bright guy, I wasn't very bright," he says, then chuckles. When "I

first employee, another neon sign-maker.

"We made glancing contact in the '80s. I found out he was doing stuff in neon and I seem to recall that, at the time, he was only beginning to go professional, and in my eyes, it was a sideline of his," recalls Peter Frank '72, an art critic and friend from Columbia who became a roommate after graduation. "I think he was doing something with kids or adolescents, and I thought that

his guitar, drew cartoons on the walls of his dorm (including a satiric take on the inhabitants, he says) and chased girls at Barnard.

"In terms of putting him into a category, he was a sensitive guitar strummer but with a poetic attitude liberally — unusually liberally — leavened with humor," Frank says.

A mediocre engineering student early on, Greenberg transferred to the College and threw himself into his liberal arts studies, fondly recalling

classes with Kenneth Koch, considered one of the great poets of the New York school of poetry, and Stanley Schachter, a noted social psychologist. Greenberg graduated with a B.A. in psychology, and two years later, an M.A. in education and psychology from Teachers College.

Of their time at the school, Frank says, "We knew that it was both a unique opportunity to explore the world and a unique moment in which to do so. And that is the general context for how Kenny found himself gravitating toward this neon art and neon craft."

Greenberg's first big show was *Miss Saigon*. He has since created neon for popular productions such as *Victor/Victoria*, *Saturday Night Fever* and *Spring*

Awakening, and the movie *Six Degrees of Separation*, among others.

The work can be all-consuming. "If I have a day when I'm agitated, there's a much higher chance that my work will have cracked," he says. "It's literally stored what I've put into it."

But he achieves a certain Zen while in his studio. "When I'm working with glass," he says, "I'm in a nice relaxed state, and I enjoy it."

Katie Melone '01J is a freelance journalist in Brooklyn, N.Y.



Kenny Greenberg '72 in his workshop in Long Island City, Queens.

PHOTO: KATIE MELONE '01J

learned it was something that was made by hand, a light bulb lit in my head."

Greenberg found a haven taking classes at the New York Experimental Glass Workshop, now known as Urban Glass. "I was very lucky," he says. "I had some very creative people around me."

Greenberg flourished and eventually set out on his own, founding Krypton Neon, creating the first neon Web site (www.neonshop.com) and settling in his studio in Long Island City. About 10 years ago, he hired his

was pretty cool, but I never followed up on it. Next thing you know ... he is the leading neon craft person for the design and performing arts in America."

The son of a chemist and the owner of an employment agency, Greenberg was born in 1950 in Brooklyn. His family lived in Flatbush until he was 11, when they moved to Englewood, N.J.

Greenberg entered Columbia in 1968. "There was all this radical stuff going on," he says. He vividly remembers a sea of students lining Broadway during a protest. Meanwhile, he played

Columbia community, show your active connection by supporting the College. We really would like to increase the participation rate for the fund: Any amount from a new donor would be greatly appreciated. Of course, the more our classmates give, the more that can be of immediate help to the current student body. Send your donation to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., 3rd FL, MC 4530, New York, NY 10025, and make a note that your contribution was prompted by reading CCT. You also can give via credit card at www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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This is my second column as class correspondent, and I encourage all classmates to send me updates. I also urge all Class of '70 members to come to our 40th reunion from Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. The events kick off on Thursday with a with a tour of the High Line and a cocktail party at the Gaslight's G2 Lounge. Our distinguished classmate **Dr. Mark Pruzansky** will host the Friday night class reception at his Park Avenue apartment. The Saturday activities will include lectures, courses, a wine tasting and a class dinner. At our 40th reunion dinner on Saturday, we will be honoring the Ivy Champion basketball team.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

My Bronx Science classmate and friend, **Paul Rosen**, who has led an interesting life, reports on his latest — and very successful — career: "Well into my fifth or sixth career now as a primary care doctor in the South Bronx, not far from where I grew up. Interesting, that I responded to a challenge from **Alan Solinger**, a fellow Furnald denizen and then and now physician of some fame in ID/HIV research, who suggested at the '70 class reunion dinner we both attended back in 1990 with a certain flippancy that I should go to medical school next (since I had had so many other careers: first grade teacher, translator, police officer, parole officer, bounty hunter,

researcher, lab tech, high school chemistry teacher). In a move that probably would have surprised Alan and certainly surprised my family and friends, I went to med school. The oldest student in my med school class, residency and fellowship, I am probably one of the only Class of '70 grads still paying off recent student loans. I hope that many more classmates will show up for this year's reunion than we have seen in years past. I would be happy to hear from classmates/friends. My e-mail address is drpaulie2000@hotmail.com."

David Lehman reports: "My book, *A Fine Romance: Jewish Songwriters, American Songs*, was published in October. I have given presentations based on it in New York, Washington, Atlanta and Chicago, and in the next weeks and months, I will be doing the same in London, Palm Beach and San Francisco."

Dr. Mike Passow is completing his 40th year as an earth science educator, and his term as president of the National Earth Science Teachers Association. He organizes monthly programs that bring research scientists at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory together with class teachers. Next August, Mike will present a workshop about climate change at a conference in Iguassu Falls, Brazil. During most months, you might see Mike in his blue kayak on the Hudson River.

Geoff Zucker reports: "I practice gastroenterology in a five-man group in Western Massachusetts (Amherst), home or near to five major schools, and married a nurse, now associate professor of nursing at UMass. Two children later, we're empty-nesters and happy to visit the boys in Brooklyn and Boston."

Lawrence Rosenwald reports: "Cambridge University Press published my *Multilingual America: Language and the Making of American Literature* in 2008, and my Library of American edition of Emerson's journals is due out soon. Our twin daughters recently turned 30 and celebrated over high tea in London. April marked the 23rd anniversary of our becoming war tax resisters on grounds of conscience."

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William P. Barr, attorney general under President George H.W. Bush, former general counsel of Verizon and currently a director of Time Warner, Selected Funds and Holcim US, has been elected a director of energy producer and transporter

Dominion.

According to *The New York Times*, March 4, 2010, "Now make room for 'prehab':

"Prehab made its debut on February 25, the handiwork of Glasgow Rose, a commenter on *Gawker*, after a publicist for Charlie Sheen announced that the star of *Two and a Half Men* was entering rehab as a 'preventative measure.' ... *Gawker* wrote a satirical post defining prehab as a vehicle for celebrity spin. 'Get the "rehab" career bump without actually being an addict,' *Gawker* wrote.

"After being picked up by a number of blogs, ... prehab quickly moved to mainstream news outlets ..."

Reading the article, I immediately remembered "prehab" from an excerpt **Ron Bass** sent me years ago, in communication about the class e-newsletter that I was then writing (and may revive). So I contacted Ron, who confirmed that he had coined the word, and here is his report:

"'Prehab' appears in one of the fictional stories in my book, *The Velvet Underground*, which was published during the weekend of the blizzard in February 2006. I seem to recall first using it in a piece I wrote, probably in 2000, and certainly not later than 2001."

My interpretation of Ron's tongue-in-cheek style is to present a mass of detail with items increasingly being out of place. Here is the prehab excerpt I remembered:

"Preceded by Zorro, her long-haired dachshund, Dr. Lisa Coverdale breezed into Lotus Club on Clinton Street precisely at noon for our 15 minute interview that had been scheduled six weeks in advance and confirmed by email yesterday afternoon. Dressed in a turquoise Western shirt with guitars on the front, tight white low slung jeans and black and white checked Vans sneakers, her look resonated with that of the early 80s Lisa Coverdale, co-founder with her sister Laurel of the The Astralettes, a self-described folkabilly band that soared into the stratosphere on the wings of their fluke hit 'Mandalas on My Pillow,' and then disintegrated abruptly due to what was described in the press as 'creative differences' between the sisters. Having graduated from UC Berkeley summa cum laude with a dual major in philosophy and psychology before embarking upon a musical career, after The Astralettes broke up in 1984 Lisa decided to continue her studies, and received a Ph.D. in psychology from Harvard in 1990. Her dissertation (*Intersecting Imperatives: How Sexual Preference and Breeding Propensity Drive the Life Choices of American Women*) was published by Oxford University

Press in 1991. Moving to the East Village after leaving Harvard, Lisa established the first of her network of clinics providing pre-rehabilitation services to the children of rock stars, investment bankers, real estate magnates and other wealthy individuals. In 2004, the annual revenue of Pre-Hab, Inc. ('So THEY won't f[*] up the way YOU did.'), of which Lisa is the CEO, was over \$200 million, and the company's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Her second book, *Twelve Steps for Tots*, published in 1998, was an international best seller, and has been translated into more than a dozen languages. ..."

Just one of the many ways our class was and is ahead of its time.

Ron adds that his band, Jersey Petroleum (see January/February 2009 Class Notes), will release its first CD, *Living on Embassy Row*, later this year.

Richard Hsia sends this report: "While the New Year of the Tiger (including the Siberian snow tiger) started on Valentine's Day this year, it is evident that the groundhog Punxsutawney Phil was so right when he saw his shadow and predicted a long winter to come.

"Despite an epic snowstorm that closed all classes at Columbia (except B-School), the Columbia Lions waged a see-saw basketball battle against the visiting Penn Quakers on February 26 down under at Levien Gymnasium in the Dodge Physical Fitness Center. Both teams played hard-nosed, tenacious man-to-man defenses that thwarted the other side again and again. Or both teams can't shoot. The game was close all the way, with leads changing myriad times, until, at the very last, Columbia won 56-55 with a turnaround, seemingly no-look 17-foot jumper by 6-foot-7 forward Brian Grimes '11, who, ironically, hails from Philadelphia. The home crowd went wild.

"Among those enjoying the game and rejoicing in Columbia's triumph were **Hillary** and **Dick Fuhrman**, **Bob Gailus** (who still could improve the BB team), **Chris Moriarty** and his son, James (who's smarter and better-looking than any Columbia professor) and yours truly. **Andy Arbenz** said he was coming, but he must have been sitting with the Baby Blues Band on the other side of the court.

"Before the game, we gathered for lively conversation and hamburgers, etc., up (but still underground) in the Lou Gehrig Lounge, whose picture windows overlook the court. There, we were regaled by Columbia's cheerful cheerleaders and dazzling dance team. And to get to the gym, everyone has to pass by and admire **Greg Wyatt's** *Scholar's Lion* sculpture, which

CC '71 helped make happen, and which was crowned and crested by freshly fallen snow.

"We are beginning to ramp up and rev up for our 40th (believe it or not!) reunion, taking place in June 2011, more than a year away, yet not all that far off.

"We will bring together '71 classmates sometime this spring, as our class' reunion planning and preparation get serious, and we build momentum. Please watch for notices about this next event. For now, any classmates with any interest in joining our reunion committee or coming to our 40th reunion, please contact **Jim Shaw** (jes200@columbia.edu), **Dick Fuhrman** (rafuhrman@gmail.com) or me (rhsia@wrighttrisk.com). We look forward to your ideas, help and participation."

Had a great time at the last reunion and it was wonderful to see so many classmates. Make your plans now to attend in 2011.

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For this issue, we have both professional and personal items of note.

Ron Weigel, a biology major at Columbia, is professor of biostatistics and epidemiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He recently was appointed associate editor of the international journal *Preventive Veterinary Medicine*. When he is not making decisions on publications or teaching statistics to graduate students, Ron and his wife, Susana, spend their evenings teaching and dancing Argentine tango.

H. "Hap" Aram Veesser's new book, *Edward Said: The Charisma of Criticism*, the first biography of Columbia's late University Professor Edward Said, was published in March. In the publisher's words, "Drawing on what he learned over 35 years as Said's student and skeptical admirer, Veesser uses never-before-published interviews, debate transcripts and photographs to discover a Said who had few inhibitions and loathed conventional routine. He stood for originality, loved unique ideas, wore marvelous clothes and fought with molten fury. For 20 years he embraced and rejected, at the same time, not only the West, but also literary theory and the PLO. At last, his disgust with business-as-usual politics and criticism marooned him on the sidelines of both."

Congratulations to **Steven J. Schacter**, whose daughter, Margot '10, married Joshua Kaplan-Marans '08 in September. The

couple met at Columbia at the beginning of Margot's first year. Josh is the son of Hillel Marans '76. "We had around 25 people on the dance floor singing *Roar*, *Lion*, *Roar* and *Who Owns New York?* (having made sure that the band knew both — they actually worked *Who Owns New York?* into Jewish dancing [music]). It's also worth noting that my daughter, Joanna '05, also is married to a College alum, David Parker '04. They, however, didn't begin dat-

Barry Kelner '73 was named team lead for Wells Fargo Elder Services in Minnesota.

ing until after college, and had graduated together from the Ramaz Upper School in Manhattan, so Columbia can't take more than minimal credit for the match."

Greg Vitcirk notes, "Our daughter, Ellen, somehow managed to get from pre-school to her last semester of high school in something like the blink of an eye. She visited a friend at Barnard earlier this fall and when she got home discovered that she had stayed in the dorm (Reid) — on the same floor — where her mother, Carol Murray '73 Barnard, had lived her first year (a newly established music interest hall in 1969). She loves the city, and Barnard is high on her list."

Greg was promoted last fall to full professor at Middlebury, where he has been teaching in the music department since 1986. "Carol has become an endorphin addict, spending hours every day at the gym and taking 10-mile walks every afternoon, no matter what the weather. Her 'music interests' have shifted from classical to death metal."

Finally, we received the sad news that **Glenn R. Switkes**, who was an environmentalist, died in São Paulo, Brazil, on December 21. [Editor's note: An obituary will be published in a future issue.]

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One of the hardest things for me is dealing with our classmates' passing. We've had several recently, yet I don't think of us as *old*, although I could be swayed to the verity of our being "middle-aged." Of course, that would mean we have still one half-life to go ...

Barry Kelner was named team lead for Wells Fargo Elder Services in Minnesota. Barry, a 25-year Wells man, heads up the group

that delivers premium wealth and life management services to individual clients. Elder Services manages investment portfolios for its clients as well as coordinating the support services that clients need as they advance through the aging process, helping them maintain their independence as long as possible. Any classmates facing these issues with family can contact Barry at barry.a.kelner@wellsfargo.com; he'll be happy to address questions or concerns.

Nick Lubar is in Ashiya, Japan, on temporary assignment. Ashiya, he says, is the "Beverly Hills of Japan ... where my Honda Accord stands out from the BMWs and Mercedeses. Life is quite different here, but easy (once you break through the language barrier) and very safe."

Nick's daughter is a sophomore at Occidental, giving her the opportunity to follow in our President's footsteps (and transfer to CCI). He hopes to be back sailing on Lake Erie by June.

That's all we wrote. Not enough written response to my desperate pleas for notes; need notes, please. May we live to 120.

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The American lexicon seems to morph at an increasing speed. A phrase that seems awkward when first introduced soon becomes commonplace. A few of you might remember the uproar when the then new gym was named the "Dodge Physical Fitness Center" around the time we graduated. This brought on jeers that Hamilton Hall should be dubbed the "Hamilton Mental Fitness Center." Around the same time the head of the typing pool at my part-time job left to become the head of another firm's "word processing department." Roars of laughter could be heard above the clattering of our electric typewriters. Obviously, both terms have grown to become mainstream.

These tales of yesteryear came to mind when reading a recent copy of *Spectator*, which carried a front page article on Columbia's plans to create "gender-neutral housing" in certain dorms that "allow for mixed-gender doubles." No matter how much lipstick you put on it,

this pig sounds an awful lot like the old phrase "shacking up." Or, as the *New York Post* put it, allowing couples to "live in sin on their parents' dime." Now *that* sounds familiar! [Editor's note: The plan was not adopted for 2011.]

Browsing a recent issue of *The Record* (another Columbia publication), a picture of **Sharif Abdus-Salaam** with Phil Schaap '73 jumped out. It seems that Phil was being honored at a gala dinner celebrating his 40th year hosting a jazz show on WKCR-FM, and Sharif was there as a fellow WKCR host. By day, Sharif is a superintendent at the NYC Transit Authority. His wife, Sheila Abdus-Salaam '74 Barnard, '77L, is a justice at the NYS Supreme Court in lower Manhattan. (Makes me wonder if she ever lunches with Shirley Kornreich, another NYS Supreme Court judge and wife of **Ed Kornreich**.)

My son, David, is about to graduate from a NYC private school that now has kids from kindergarten to eighth grade. A few months ago, I was at a cocktail party for eighth-grade parents where the school announced the plans for its new high school. Imagine my surprise when **Larry Marnier** appeared before me. Ends up that Larry's firm, Marnier Architecture, was selected unanimously to design the 60,000-square-foot school. I guess it shouldn't have been such a surprise. His firm has done expansions for Chapin, Brearly, NYU and other prestigious NYC private schools.

From the moors of England came this e-mail from **Les Bryan**, mapping the course of his careers during the past four decades: "After CC, I learned at Columbia's Journalism School that I didn't want to be a journalist, so I became a naval officer. After eight years of the sailor's life, during which Sue Horton and I married, I decided I didn't want to be a ship driver anymore, so I became a teacher, first in the United States and then with the Department of Defense Schools in England. After 16 years of teaching, I decided I wanted to be a curriculum specialist, so I did that for three years before moving into school administration. I now am the principal of a pre-kindergarten-grade 12 Department of Defense school in Yorkshire."

Les and his wife have two children: Colin (a submarine officer in the U.S.) and Rachel (a nurse and yoga instructor in Yorkshire). When I asked Les if he had finally found the "right" job, he replied, "It is for now, just as the others were then. I'm a one-woman man, but not a one-job man."

Stay tuned, sounds like there is still time for a few more chapters in this story!

A press release arrived telling of

a visit of two Columbia "double alums." **Vic Fortuno '77L** invited U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L, to the Legal Services Corp.'s celebration of Black History Month. Holder is quoted as saying that "the LSC has proven to be one of our nation's most effective agents for meaningful change." As mentioned in an earlier column, Vic is president of the Legal Services Corp.

That old television classic *My Three Sons* has nothing on **Christopher Puca**. Chris recently wrote in to give us an update on his four sons: Jesse (29), a photographer; Jordan (28), a marathon running "free spirit"; Zachary (27), who has left Citigroup to do premed; and Alex (19), who recently survived a traumatic brain injury and has had a miraculous recovery. Chris' day, though, is nothing like that of the dad on the TV show. He is an internist in Tucson with a practice that concentrates on chronic pain management, hospice and palliative care. Despite the emotional challenges of his work, Chris says that "medicine became the equivalent of a Zen practice to me ... that no matter how much you give, you receive even more back."

At the end of his lengthy e-mail, Chris added, "I hope that all of you have had the fun that I have had in watching the evolution of our own selves as the years go by. And for these very instances of evolution, I am thankful."

Seems an apt summary of the general theme of these columns over the past few years.

There you have it. College kids "shacking up," wives that lunch in their "robes" and a lot of classmates sharing their vignettes. All of this makes up the mosaic that we call the Class of '74 of Columbia College.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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Gary Brill co-founded the Humanist Chaplaincy at Rutgers at the beginning of the current academic year. Humanism is a non-theistic approach to life that affirms morality, personal fulfillment and the greater good of humanity. The other co-founder is the chaplain, Barry Klassel '68. The chaplaincy provides a welcoming community

for atheist, agnostic and questioning students at one of the nation's largest public universities. It also strives to promote understanding and tolerance of a large and growing segment of American society that is often the target of prejudice. More about the activities of the chaplaincy can be found at <http://rutgershumanist.org>.

The chaplaincy is very personal to Gary, touching his deeper values and allowing him to make connections with new people. Gary and his wife, Tamar, are still in the same jobs at Rutgers; son Zach '12 is at the College.

Ceyhan, Turkey's main oil transport port, appointed New York Attorney **Melih (Mel) Dogan** to expand and accelerate development of the city's growth as an international petroleum hub. Mel will assist the municipality in promoting the advantages of doing business in Ceyhan in the petroleum and ancillary industries. Mel has more than 25 years experience and success in identifying investors and funding for Turkish projects and companies. He predicts that there will be a "Ceyhan Oil Price" monitored by the industry in the same way that the Platt and Rotterdam benchmarks are applied.

While you may have known him as **Dov Fisch** in our college days, he now identifies as Rabbi **Dov Fischer**. Dov has pursued careers both in the Orthodox Jewish rabbinate and in secular law. After 10 years

forth business ethics guidelines and policies, as well as on a five-rabbi RCA committee that drafted the organization's proposed convention resolutions. He serves on the Board of Directors of the American Jewish Committee of Orange County, the Board of Directors of the Hillel College Foundation of Orange County and the Orange County Board of Rabbis. Dov has published two books (*Jews for Nothing: On Cults, Inter-marriage and Assimilation* and *General Sharon's War Against Time Magazine: His Trial and Vindication*, a study of the 1985 libel trial in Manhattan), several hundred opinion pieces through the years (in publications including *The Weekly Standard*, *National Review Online*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Jerusalem Post*), and two major scholarly articles that have won national awards in the fields of American Jewish history and American business law. Dov's three daughters all graduated from Barnard. Dov blogs at www.rabbi-dov.com.

Art Garfunkel '65 sang that he was "one step away from a shoeshine, two steps away from the county line ... just trying to keep the customer satisfied ..." and that perfectly sums up what **Charlie Lindsay** has been doing for the past three years. He formed a new company to work strategic joint ventures between the United States and China, and it has driven him to distraction! He says he has

Gary Brill '75 co-founded the Humanist Chaplaincy at Rutgers at the beginning of this academic year.

as a pulpit rabbi at synagogues in New Jersey and Los Angeles (along with a two-year stint during which he co-founded and lived with his family in Naveh Aliza, a new Jewish settlement in the West Bank, which he characteristically calls "liberated Samaria"), Dov attended the UCLA School of Law, where he was chief articles editor of *UCLA Law Review*. He clerked in the United States Court of Appeals and practiced complex civil litigation at Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue and then at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. Eight years ago, Dov synergized his two careers and now is congregational rabbi of Young Israel of Orange County, based in Irvine, Calif., and adjunct professor of California civil procedure and of complex torts at two Southern California law schools.

More recently, Dov was named to the National Executive Board of the Rabbinical Council of America and served on an eight-rabbi committee of the RCA tasked to set

clients and transactions that offer unbelievable upsides and clients who can drive one to drink with the inability to get anything done.

Charlie is in the fourth year of development on the Paramount Pictures big feature based on Robert Ripley of *Ripley's Believe It or Not* fame, starring Jim Carrey and directed by Chris Columbus. Charlie hopes it will be in theatres around Christmas 2012. Charlie continues to develop film projects with work focused on the race to save Nome, Alaska, from diphtheria (the amazingly heroic tale that is today commemorated by the Iditarod) and the story of Jonas Salk and the polio vaccine. Charlie says: "Any angels out there should feel free to call! The red carpet walk is pretty heady."

Children: Michael finished at Yale, got a master's at Oxford and is a first-year consultant at McKinsey. Maxwell is a senior in high school and looks to music colleges to fulfill his passion for



Lt. Col. Eliot Goldman '79 (left) and New York Governor David Paterson '77 got together during the commissioning of the USS New York on November 7. The ship is built with 7½ tons of steel from the World Trade Center.

composing, performing and more. Susan is a junior in high school and a straight-A student. Youngest, Sally, is a freshman at Choate, a leading novice oarsman and a great debater. Charlie's wife of 28 years, Fern, continues to put up with him; it continues to amaze and thrill him. As the T-shirts say, "Life is Good."

The Global Alliance for TB Drug Development (TB Alliance) has appointed Dr. **Carl Mendel** s.v.p. of research and development. He will guide all research and development activities as the organization advances the largest portfolio of potential new tuberculosis drugs in history, which include three clinical-stage compounds. Carl joins the TB Alliance from Synvista Therapeutics, where he most recently was chief medical officer. Carl has more than 15 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, with significant research and development expertise in a variety of therapeutic areas, especially in early- and late-stage clinical development. Previously, Carl held positions at Merck, Knoll Pharmaceuticals (a division of BASF Pharma), Aventis Pharmaceuticals and Sanofi-Aventis. He earned an M.D. from UC San Diego and is board-certified in internal medicine, endocrinology and metabolism. Before joining the pharmaceutical industry, Carl was assistant professor of medicine at UC San Francisco, and he has authored or co-authored more than 50 articles in leading scientific journals.

Yes, it is time for another reunion. Plan to meet your classmates, their families and Columbians from other years and schools

on campus from Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. We've planned an exciting program of tours, seminars, parties and dinners. You've heard some already (Dead Head or not — we're in for a treat!) and should already have received registration packets. Please do plan to join us. And, whether you can attend reunion or not, know that one of your classmates will be calling you to ask for a contribution to our anniversary gift to the Columbia College Fund. When you get that call, please be generous. Every dollar counts in supporting the young men and women who will build our futures as the leaders of tomorrow and the next generation.

If you have not registered for Alumni Reunion Weekend, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

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Robert Seigfried made full professor last fall in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Adelphi University in Garden City, Long Island, and paused for a moment or two to enjoy it before diving back into classes and research. His wife, Katherine, was one of about 2,500 people laid off in one day from IndyMac Bank, but after about a year working at Chase, she is now at Guardhill Financial in New York. Their son, Jason (13) had his bar mitzvah last April; he will start Oceanside (L.I.) H.S. in September — “whether or not OHS is ready for him.”

Congratulations to **Marc Goodman**, whose daughter, Morgan, soon to graduate from the Punahou School in Honolulu, has been accepted early admission to the Class of '14.

77 David Gorman
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I was dismayed to learn that, in the January/February column, I misnamed **Will Weaver**, who wrote me good-humoredly to ask, “Who is William Wheaton, and how did he manage to steal my life? Will he pay my bills too?”

Michael Aroney was almost equally bummed to see in the last CCT that a guy from the Class of '80 flew F-18s for the Marines, when “every airplane I flew during my

Navy career is now retired, as is every aircraft carrier on which I've landed.” Ouch. (Mike served for 18 years, incidentally, and has taken F-4s to mach 2.4.) Anyway, after spending most of 30 years in Virginia Beach, Va., Mike has moved to Daniel Island, next door to Charleston, S.C., where he is a principal in GP Allied, a new global maintenance and reliability engineering and consulting company. His youngest daughter is also in Charleston, where she “is a freshman at the Art Institute in the culinary arts program. Downtown Charleston is a great place to learn how to be a chef. My middle daughter is off on a successful career as a professional dog handler with a few top dogs nationally. You might have seen her at the dog show in Madison Square Garden in February. And finally, my son is almost two years out of Auburn and working for Lockheed Martin in logistics at its huge campus in Fort Worth.”

Mike goes on to say, “I thoroughly enjoy living on Daniel Island and might have considered moving here sooner if I'd known the ratio of women to men was 10:1. I still have my condo in Miami for a ‘getaway,’ whether I want it or not! Couldn't sell it in the current market if I wanted to, so just enjoying an occasional getaway ... Maybe in 10 years.”

A loyal alum, Mike “makes it back to Homecoming every year and runs across fraternity brothers and classmates each time.” He also does what I should do, and “participates in the Alumni Representative Committee interviewing local applicants to the College,” observing, “No way I could ever compete with the kids I'm meeting today.”

Having retired in 2006 after working as a prosecutor in “three different state attorneys' offices in Florida,” **Dean Tsourakis** hung out his own shingle in Clearwater, specializing in family law and criminal law. “I have handled many cases that received prominent national press on both sides of the criminal cases. I am sure that you have read about them or seen them on the news. I am happily married to the lovely Renee, and we reside in my hometown of Tarpon Springs. I am very fortunate in that my private practice is doing well in these economic times, knock on wood.”

Did you know that **Joel Trachtman** has published four books in the last two years? *The Economic Structure of International Law*; *Developing Countries in the WTO Legal System* (with Chantal P. Thomas); *Ruling the World? Constitutionalism, International Law, and Global Governance* (with Jeffrey

L. Dunoff) and *The International Law of Economic Migration: Toward the Fourth Freedom*. Joel has taught international law at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts for 20 years. “Two kids in college,” he adds, and “one on the way (to college, that is). I like going to Columbia for conferences and seeing how nice everything is.”

Mark Sutton-Smith continues as v.p. and CTO for the NBA, “focusing increasingly on the international market for the NBA, which grows steadily.” He reports that he and his wife will be returning to Manhattan next year, “preferably to the Upper West Side,” when the second of his two daughters enters college. Older daughter Olivia will be a senior at Barnard by then and, at present, “coincidentally lives in my beloved 504 W. 110th St., where I spent my undergraduate years.” Mark says that he “recently reconnected with **Robert Martinez** and would love to hear from others.”

From Atlanta, **Paul Winum** writes, first, that it is getting close to 20 years that he has worked for a management consultancy firm, RHR International, where he recently was promoted to senior partner and global practices leader; second, that he has been elected as a fellow of the American Psychological Association; and, third (but apparently not in order of importance), that while on vacation in Hawaii last Christmas Eve, he got engaged to Leila Pinto, managing director at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. On top of all this, April marked “the 10th anniversary of an annual golf outing I put together, The Dellhood Cup,” in which he notes that “several CC alums have participated over the years: **Dennis Gonzalez, Mike Weaver, Steve Brandl, John Haggerty '78, and John Pickering '79.**”

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We have all been busy the past few months, and another issue of CCT has come and gone with no updates from any of you “50-somethings.”

However, if your life is at all like mine, I think the fact that we are in the midst of the so-called “sandwich” years may have something to do with the silence out there. It's not that Class Notes are not important, it's just that we have a lot going on in our lives and we are clearly pulled between many priorities.

Assuming we are mainly in 50/50 relationships with our partners and spouses, you are probably a lot like me: juggling a lot of complex family issues.

While many of us are now at the apex of our “careers” (and that is what Class Notes would have been about for the class of '58 or '68 when they hit the mid-50s) there is for us a new dimension: kids, parents and supporting our partners. And also working those 50 hours a week.

Note to everyone: I am not complaining at all. In fact there is a freedom at this point in my life to prioritize and do what needs to be done without the guilt I always had when I was younger that I was missing something critical at work when I was off doing the other priority of the day.

But things do come at you furiously. My youngster (Joy, 16) has been having some allergy issues and she needs to go to the doctor frequently. My mom's husband of the last 10 years passed away peacefully at 92, and there were lots of issues there to make sure my mom was doing OK. My eldest (Elana, 20) needs rides back and forth to Clark in Worcester every other weekend. My father has been recovering from a car crash in Detroit, and there have been visits and calls to help his wife out there. And my wife Marian '77 Barnard's career has been taking off as a professor at Yale, and she is often traveling around the world fixing the environment and helping her students.

So worrying, driving, helping, “even” doing the laundry and running the house now and then. This is all very meaningful and rewarding stuff and I guess it gives real definition to being a person with responsibilities and roles beyond the career.

The other things we usually write about: work, hobbies, boards of directors, blogs ... you know, all the master of universe things we do, seem to fade into the background when juggling the real-world items.

Oh, and I just ruptured my Achilles tendon playing racquetball and will be in a cast for six weeks; how do I fit that in?

On the traditional job front, I am having a blast working with many of the candidates for governor in Connecticut and dealing with a lot of interesting policy issues that are finally being taken seriously — lost jobs, growth and technology.

Did the young me assume he would be a candidate by now for governor himself? Sure.

But the real me says this is OK, too. Bottom line, I am enjoying becoming an elder statesman of my community and just feel comfortable being the leader of my family. It no longer seems odd to be leading the Seder or giving advice up, down and sideways to the kinfolk.

Anyway, send me some stories

about how you are adjusting to real life in your 50s.

79 Robert Klapper
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Gil Lancaster: "Still living in Redding, Conn., with my wife, Mary, and two children and am a full-time cardiologist at Bridgeport Hospital (part of the Yale-New Haven Health System). There, I am the director of non-invasive cardiology, which means I run the echo lab and the cardiac nuclear testing laboratory (you see, all the physics and chemistry I suffered through at Columbia actually served a purpose after all!). I also am the associate director of our Cardiology Fellowship Program (training new cardiologists). I am an assistant clinical professor of medicine at the Yale University School of Medicine (but still root for the Lions when they play the Bulldogs).

"Recently, I was elected the Connecticut Governor of the American College of Cardiology and will serve on the ACC Board of Governors beginning in 2011.

"I make it into the city and Morningside Heights quite often, as my mother lives on Claremont Avenue. Although the neighborhood has changed (no more TaKome, The Gold Rail, Mama Joy's or West End), Tom's is still there!

"Hope all is well with you."

Gil, my stomachache is still there!

Robert S. Richman updates us. He has "moved back to NYC and has written a still-unpublished third volume of poetry and still work[s] at home as a freelance writer."

Robert, nothing in life is free.

Partner **Thomas Kligerman** and the architectural firm Ike Kligerman Barkley Architects have published *Houses*, a first monograph of the firm's work, which draws on 25 years of IKBA's practice and some 250 projects featuring 25 houses across the country.

And speaking of housing, for the last 3½ years, **Jonathan Rubin** has been a Guardian Ad Litem for NYC Civil Court Housing Part and NYC Housing Authority.

Jonathan represents disabled seniors and disabled individuals on a fixed income at the NYC Civil Court Housing Part and at NYCHA Administrative Hearings. He also is instrumental in obtaining grants enabling these families to remain in their apartments.

When not advocating for the poor, Jonathan is helping the environment. He was president of New York City Friends of Clearwater from 2007–09. The organization

helps to educate people in protecting the Hudson River. Jonathan writes for the *Enviroblurb* newspaper and has reported on New York City's water contamination issues.

Jonathan, I remember drinking that water, and my stomachache is still there!

Jonathan is married to Cathy Sylvis, a PBK, Thomas Hunter English Fellow and Blanche Colton Williams Fellow who earned her B.A. in English literature and in the honors program from Hunter College and an M.A. from Columbia. "We have a lovely 15-year-old daughter, Zoe, who attends Horace Mann as a scholarship student, who has outstanding grades, who made the varsity field hockey team this year and who recently attempted to make the varsity lacrosse team. Zoe has participated successfully in Model U.N. Competitions, winning best delegation at the Princeton Model U.N. competition with her partner and winning outstanding delegation with her partner most recently at the Harvard Model U.N. She also studies the piano."

Richard Perl is CAO for TerraCycle (www.terracycle.net), which collects non-recyclable packaging waste from more than 60,000 proprietary locations throughout the United States and turns that waste into new products and materials, keeping it from landfill. He lives near Lincoln Center with his wife, daughter and son.

Richard, what could you turn my college diploma into?

Robert C. Klapper: "I rowed on the Columbia freshman lightweight crew team ... God, that was a long time ago. At the top of the stairs in my house in Ventura (where I surf every Sunday), there is a 12½-foot-long wooden oar from those days. The first day at crew practice, the octogenarian manager of the boathouse told me a secret. The tradition at Columbia, and perhaps at the other Ivy League schools, was that if you cracked the wooden oar, you got to keep it. I weighed 172 pounds at the time, and the coach gave me two options: You can bulk up and gain 20 pounds and row heavyweight, but if you wanted to start in the first boat of the lightweight, he would let me weigh 154.9 pounds, the maximum for the lightweight crew. Each day, I went to practice and on some days, double practices (I'm tired just thinking of that). I would look for the 89-year-old manager and request the same oldest oar in the boathouse. I pulled on that oar for a whole year, rowing on the Harlem River watching floating condoms, washing machines and on one day, a corpse. And on the

last day of our freshman year I heard a crack! I hear that crack every Sunday when I see that oar.

Any relics from Columbia in your house? Let me know. (And I don't mean a Barnard girl!)

REUNION JUNE 3–JUNE 6
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Spring is in the air, and baseball and golf are in full swing. I have been to Robertson Field to see our team play, and we have been very competitive this season. In fact, **Eric Blattman, John McGuire**, Hal Robertson '81E and I traveled to Las Vegas to see the team play UNLV in March. We came home after taking one of four games from a high-scoring UNLV team ... and what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.

The Football Golf Outing was well attended by the Class of 1980, with **Scott Ahern, Eric Blattman, Joe Ciulla, Shawn FitzGerald** and me battling the Classes of '78 and '81. Joe distinguished himself with his sharp golf attire and almost hit a fairway this year!

We had a great night making calls at my office for our reunion and reunion gift. I want to thank **Jeff Field, Ariel Teitel, Jim Gerkis, Bruce Paulsen, John Schuttly** and **David Leahy** in D.C. for all of their help. We have a wonderful event planned from Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6 for our Alumni Reunion Weekend, and we hope to see you there!

We are all counting the days until the reunion. If you have not already done so, please register at <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>. There will be plenty of chances to raise a glass with classmates as well as take in the cultural offerings of New York City. The partying formally starts on Thursday night with a cocktail reception hosted by **David Leahy** at the New York Athletic Club. On Saturday night, the Faculty Room at Low Library will be ours for dinner, followed immediately afterward by dancing and a champagne toast under the stars on Low Plaza. I am definitely looking forward to seeing so many familiar faces and reliving our fond Columbia memories ... and maybe a few that we might want to forget!

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I'd like to pause from my usual snark to add my note of admiration and thanks to **Brian Krisberg** for all he's done over the years for the College. Brian was honored on March 3 with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement, in recognition of both his professional accomplishments and his significant contributions to the College. Since graduation, Brian has been involved with the College at almost every level: Alumni Association Board of Directors, Board of Visitors, Columbia Athletics and graduate chapters of both Sachems and Phi Gamma Delta. While attending the Law School, Brian was the dorm counselor at Carman Hall, including the period when Columbia went co-ed. In addition to volunteering his time, Brian established the Krisberg Family Scholarship in honor of his parents, Arline and Norman. His professional accomplishments are many, including leadership roles at three of the most prestigious law firms in the country. He currently is a partner at Sidley Austin.

Kevin Fay, who traveled from Virginia to New York for the ceremony, reports: "The event was held to a packed audience at Cipriani 42nd St., near Grand Central Station. In an interesting display of support, co-workers from all three [of Brian's] firms were in attendance, each vying to outdo one another in applauding Brian for reaching this milestone. Brian's speech covered three decades of life at Columbia, and it was well received by the large audience. Joining Brian in celebrating this honor were his lovely wife, Susan, and their three children; his mother, Arline; and a large, apparently intoxicated and boisterous group from Phi Gamma Delta. Members of the Fijis present were Adel Aslani-Far '90, Adam Barrison '91, Michael Behringer '89, Steve Coleman '83, Ed DeSear '68, Eric Hopp '98, Tony Santos, Anthony Leitner '65, Peter Luccarelli '78E, Marty Moroney '82, Bruce Sargent '66, '68 Business, Fred Wang '95E and Robert Yunich '65."

Brian is a reminder that we all can make a difference if we're willing to look beyond ourselves, whether it be to the College or some other worthy cause or organization.

Jeff Gracer has found a way to combine his professional life with community service: "My wife and I have become avid bikers and love [to] ride, [especially] the Transportation Alternatives century. I am a regular bike commuter and stop

only when it snows! I'm continuing my environmental law practice at Sive, Paget & Riesel, focusing increasingly on climate change issues, and am involved in a significant pro bono project for the Rainforest Alliance in Latin America. My oldest son is starting college in the fall. I tried unsuccessfully to convince him to consider Columbia, but he wanted a small, rural setting (Williams). The good news is that his best friend wisely chose to attend Columbia!"

Paul Marcovitch and his wife, Christine Young, adopted Mali Marcovitch (f/k/a Hsiangyi Wu) in Taipei, Taiwan, on October 16. She is currently being spoiled in Chicago.

For those who would like guidance on where to direct that dogood instinct, **Harvey Cotton** has a suggestion: "Recently, my wife, Cathy '83 Barnard, our daughter, Leah, and I had the pleasure of attending *Spectator's* annual Blue Pencil Dinner at Faculty House. Our son, Benjamin '11, is editor-in-chief, and I promised him that I would spread the word to any and all that *Spectator's* \$400,000 capital campaign is underway and gladly accepting donations at <http://alumni.columbiaspectator.com/campaign>. Sitting next to me at the dinner was **Dan Tamkin**, whose daughter, Emily '12, is editorial page editor of *Spec*. Dan and I go way back. In our eighth-grade social studies class, he supported Nixon and I supported McGovern. Thankfully, Emily reports that she has not followed in her father's political footsteps, at least those he left in Mrs. Lewis' class. It was great to be back on campus, which looks terrific. The evening was inspiring. *Spec* is going great guns and deserves support."

Daniel Gordis reports from Israel: "My most recent book, *Saving Israel: How the Jewish People Can Win a War that May Never End*, was recently awarded a 2009 National Jewish Book Award. www.jewishbookcouncil.org/external_links/2009_National_Jewish_Book_Awards_PR.pdf."

Don Weinreich writes: "I am starting my 24th year with Polshek Partnership Architects, and my fifth as a partner in the New York firm. My current projects include the Brooklyn Museum, the Utah Museum of Natural History and the Stanford Law School. The kids, Kate (18) and Max (15), have been thriving at Bard H.S. Early College and Bronx Science (here's to public education!). Barbara is as enchanting as the day I met her at Columbia's Architecture School, and we will celebrate 25 years of married bliss this October."

Steve Masiar is happy to report

that his oldest son, Michael, received his master's in biomedical engineering from SUNY-Stony Brook in December. His second son, Chris, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a B.A. in economics in February. His daughter, Lauren, a high school senior, will follow in her brother's footsteps at UMass, as she has been awarded a chancellor's scholarship to begin this fall.

Charles Murphy, previously of Fairfield Greenwich Advisors and now v.p. of Paulson & Co., a hedge fund, has been appointed to the board of Consecro, an insurance company.

Send stories of selflessness and otherwise to jpundyk@yahoo.com.

82

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Greetings, gentlemen. I trust all is well and that the warm spring weather provides you with renewed optimism, thereby driving a higher than expected Michigan Consumer Confidence number, triggering a 30-point rally in the S&P, a widening in the 2s versus 10s yield spread, signaling the prospect of further reductions in accommodative monetary policy. For those of you who left the New York financial community far behind, this means "Have a nice day."

Once again, I am filled with pride and admiration by the accomplishments of our classmates. On March 3 at Cipriani 42nd St. in New York City, five accomplished College alumni were honored with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. Two of these distinguished alumni were none other than **Frank Lopez-Balboa** and **Tracy V. Maitland**. One of the other honorees was actress Julia

was up to each of us to define the experience beyond the academics.

"Being in New York City made a huge and positive impact on my college experience. Columbia was, is and always will be respected for the great education it offers. But, what Columbia offered me extended beyond the classroom. During these years, I learned to become independent, experienced the responsibilities of running a business on campus, understood the importance of teamwork through the extracurricular activities I pursued and came to appreciate the enormous value in taking initiative. These were, without a doubt, important contributing factors to my education, and fortunately these opportunities and life learning skills are still very much part of the Columbia experience today. I can truly say I never take for granted the amazing education I received at Columbia. I learned to experiment; I pursued my intellectual curiosity, learned to take risks, and made lifelong friends. I continuously think about how lucky I am to have attended Columbia and am grateful for the way it prepared me for life and my career after school. And to be a recipient of the John Jay award, it's icing on the cake. Thank you all very, very much."

Fixed income guru Tracy also expressed his appreciation for the fine education and opportunities that CC afforded him. I can't help but share many of these sentiments.

Attending the dinner in support of Tracy and Frank were such luminaries of '82 as (in no particular order) **Andrew Danzig**, **Victor Lopez-Balboa**, **Dave Filosa**, **Louis De Chiara**, **Fred Katayama**, **Martin Moroney**, **Tom Nevitt**, **Joe Piscina** and **Joe Cabrera**.

Also checking in this period was architect, athlete and true Renaissance man **Charlie Shugart**. In his own words:

Ralph Rivera '83 has been appointed president, online, of Major League Gaming, a professional video game league.

Stiles '05, but what does she know about managing a long gamma convertible bond portfolio? Frank made the following comments during his acceptance speech:

"I am extremely honored and humbled to be given this special award. Columbia, as we all know, is an outstanding institution. For each and every one of us who attended the College, the Columbia experience was unique and personal. Columbia presented us with a great educational platform, but it

"I am still in Seattle surviving the challenging economy. Our doors are open and the lights are on. For an architecture practice, that is saying something these days. We are starting to see signs of life, but it may take a while. In the meantime, my wife, Shannon, and I are enjoying spending time with our boys as they grow, now 13, 13 (twins) and 11. They keep us busy with school and sports. I also coach a local high school track team. This will be my 22nd season. I even find

time to pole vault. I recently won the World Masters Pole Vault title at the World Masters Track & Field Championships held in Kamloops, Canada, in March."

Well, I have to say, that's really amazing! As a former track guy, the thought of dragging my 50-year-old, angry, desk jockey butt around a track at full gallop is nothing short of frightening. The idea of launching my carcass over what looks to be a 15-foot-high bar is inconceivable. Great job!

83

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My wife, Debbie, and I enjoyed a memorable evening at the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 3. More than 600 attendees helped to raise more than \$1 million for the John Jay National Scholarship Program. Three of the honorees, **Frank Lopez-Balboa '82**, **Tracy V. Maitland '82** and **Brian Krisberg '81**, attended CC with us in the early 1980s. I was particularly moved by Brian's remarks. He spoke about the joy he experienced witnessing the transition of an all-male Columbia College to a co-ed institution. In fact, Brian was head resident of a co-ed Carman Hall while attending the Law School. I have had the pleasure of working with Brian on the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors, where he currently is chairman. Brian is a tireless supporter of the College.

Frank invited the organizers of our 25th reunion class to his Park Avenue apartment. The Class of '82 had an enormously successful 25th reunion and his knowledge, words of encouragement and hospitality contributed to the success of our reunion.

Debbie and I were elated to be seated at the dinner with legendary basketball superstar **Richie Gordon**. Richie recently was honored by being inducted into the Boys and Girls H.S. Sports Hall of Fame. He is in touch with many of his CC basketball teammates including **Darren Burnett** (banking), **Eric Clarke** (professional basketball player/world traveler), **Brad Brown** (dentist) and **Koko Eaton** (orthopedic surgeon for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays). Richie lives with his family in New Jersey and is a broker/dealer. He has remained active in Columbia athletics and alumni activities.

I also spent time with Mike Brown '80, Alex Sachare '71, Mike Schmidtberger '82, Joe Cabrera '82, David Filosa '82, Mark Amster-

dam '66, Derek Wittner '65 and Columbia College Fund Executive Director Susan Birnbaum.

Robert Hughes was referenced extensively in the March 4 *New York Times* article, "Protecting These Old Horses." It states, "Robert C. Hughes is historian for the Town of Huntington, of which Northport is a part. The town has 500 homes designated as historical in six historic districts, in addition to 100 individually listed homes. Mr. Hughes said that the town had had a preservation review process in place since 1969. (Northport, as an incorporated village, is not subject to town regulation on this issue.) 'Historic preservation is not an impediment to liability', Mr. Hughes said. 'Houses grow and change over the years to meet changing needs' for practical kitchens and large open spaces. 'Historic properties are what give the town its feel, its character,' he said."

As a health care marketing consultant in Los Angeles, **Paul Lerner** has been closely monitoring the health reform efforts in Washington, D.C. While supportive of **Barack Obama's** reform drive, he does not believe that any final legislation will significantly slow the growth of the health care sector. "As people get older and more affluent, they demand more health care," Paul says. "And our nation is getting older and more affluent, in aggregate." Southern Californians may have recently seen Paul quoted in the media multiple times on local community issues, due to his service on the boards of several civic organizations.

Paul and his partner, Stephen Reis, recently celebrated their 10th anniversary with their first trip to Barcelona. Paul's primary e-mail address now is PaulLerner@mac.com.

Wayne Allyn Root's daughter, Dakota, stayed with us during a recent trip to New York. In addition to being a world-class fencer and an outstanding student, Dakota left an indelible impression on my wife and three kids. WAR — to use Las Vegas slang, your daughter is a huge winner!

Ken Chin is a partner at Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel and is busy there. Fortunately, the firm does a lot of bankruptcy work so the overall work flow did not drop off as much as at other large law firms. Kenny was named in *American Lawyer* as having worked on the large GM and Chrysler bankruptcies. He also was named one of the Best Lawyers for Banking Law in 2010. Kenny taught a continuing legal education course at the Practising Law Institute and will chair a course on foreclosures at the Association of the City Bar

of New York. Kenny continues his volunteer work as vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center (formerly the Chinatown Health Clinic).

Electronic Business Journal notes, "Major League Gaming, the professional video game league, announced that **Ralph Rivera** has been appointed president, online. A digital media veteran with an impressive background growing multi-faceted international businesses, Ralph will lead digital strategy and online product development for the fast-growing sport. 'MLG is at an exciting inflection point,' said Ralph Rivera, president of MLG Online. 'I'm honored that the company has brought me on

Tom Watson '84 launched CauseWired Communications to work with nonprofits and foundations on using social media and storytelling.

to help manage its rapid global growth, as well as to continue to innovate around how MLG Nation experiences the world's only digital sport." Having worked closely with Ralph over the years, I know he understands the unique demands of a business that sits at the intersection of sports and video games," said Matthew Bromberg, president and CEO of Major League Gaming. "We are changing the face of sports media and Ralph is a great addition to the senior team." For the last six years, Ralph oversaw the AOL Games and AOL Latino businesses, as well as the expansion of AOL's content sites internationally. Under his direction, AOL Games launched Games.com to provide a best in class casual gaming experience that consisted of a comprehensive portfolio of card, board, puzzle, arcade and casino games, along with a social gaming platform offering avatars, profiles, chat, tournaments, leaderboards, tokens and badges. He also led AOL's leading bilingual portal — AOL Latino and was responsible for growing non-US audience from 0–50% of traffic. Additionally, he was responsible for AOL's programming expansion across the Americas, Europe, and APAC. Throughout his career, Mr. Rivera has focused on the intersection of technology and media. Previously, he held executive and staff positions at AOL's Movie-fone, Pearson Education, Simon & Schuster, Deloitte & Touche, and IBM. He earned his undergraduate degree from Columbia College and an M.B.A. from New York University."

Steven Greenfield writes,

"Check this out on the Web site Culture Catch: it's **Steve Holtje's** roundup of the best albums of the decade. Really a phenomenal survey: www.culturecatch.com/music (scroll down a bit to find all 101 records; they're divided into three parts on the site)."

Eddy Freidfeld wrote a syndicated article about Larry David and *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and a mini-history of American Jewish comedy. He writes, "'You're not a get together guy. You hate to get together!' Jerry Seinfeld tells former partner Larry David in the third episode of this season's *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. 'I'm being sold something. I don't know what yet.' Seinfeld fans will have even more reason to rejoice over the

new season of *Curb* — a reunion of the cast of *Seinfeld*. As *Curb* enters its seventh and potentially final season, David returns to the place that first made him a household name, and he's bringing Seinfeld, Jason Alexander, Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Michael Richards with him in a faux 'Seinfeld' reunion. The socially inappropriate and still wildly funny David ('Without your health you're nothing. Some people are nothing even with their health. Like me.') is still calling other drivers 'Schmohocks!' and still scheming in the best tradition of Sgt. Bilko and Jack Benny. Taking on life's everyday problems in largely improvised and symmetrically plotted episodes, with two disparate ideas converging in each episode to hysterical conclusion, David, who carefully outlines every episode, continues to push the creative envelope, turning every convention on its ear, including Jewish identity. *Curb* has become the current clubhouse where Jewish comedians meet.

"The former 'master of his domain,' David is the unbridled id of *Seinfeld* and the master of Jewish comedy. From feigning Orthodoxy in order to get his friend Richard Lewis a kidney donation, which harkens back to Seinfeld making out with his rabbi's-daughter girlfriend during *Schindler's List*, or a vengeful George mixing lobster into her omelet after a fight, "the formula is the same as *Seinfeld*, David said, 'to do awful things that people think about and sympathize with.' Over the years, the overtly Jewish Larry has contemplated a spouse-authorized

10-year anniversary dalliance with his Orthodox Jewish dry cleaner; feigned Orthodoxy in order to curry favor with someone to get him access to a donor kidney so he does not have to donate his own to pal Richard Lewis; and refused to jump off a stuck ski lift along with his Orthodox seat mate at sundown because she does not want to violate the Sabbath. He also tells Susie Essman's Susie Green character, 'I'm much more Gentle than you' when he gets thrown out of his country club and tries to join a restricted club. A near-death drowning experience causes a spiritual rebirth and results in Larry getting thrown out of synagogue on Yom Kippur for trying to scalp tickets, and when Larry's best friend/manager Jeff (Jeff Garlin) has a masturbation incident that is respectfully tied to his not wanting to miss the Four Questions at the Passover seder, it is a moment worthy of Philip Roth. 'I'm like every other Jew — there are things I like and things I don't like and understand about Judaism — I just have the ability to talk about it,' David said. 'I don't think of things to do about Judaism, but if I hear or read a story, I say 'I have to do something with that.' The chairlift episode was based on a story I read. And Larry's almost drowning and spiritual awakening was based on a story I read about something similar happening to Cat Stevens."

"Garlin and Essman play Jeff and Susie Green, Larry's best friends — and the Jerry and Millie Helper to his twisted Rob Petrie, an alternate universe *Dick Van Dyke Show* that tests all the conventions of sitcoms and comedy. 'I'm very proud of my Jewish heritage,' said Garlin, also the executive producer of the show. 'The Four Questions joke comes out of that. We're not self-loathing in any way. We're Jewish, and that becomes part of our humor.' 'To say that I use humor to show pride about my religion would be hypocritical, because I'm a nonbeliever and not religious in any way, but I do, however, feel proud to be a part of a long legacy of comedians, many of whom come from Jewish backgrounds,' said Essman ... 'New York Jews frequently say things to me about *Curb*, like 'I'm sure no one else in the country gets the show but us.' That couldn't be further from the truth. The humor in the show is universal, as is most Jewish humor — or all those great Jewish comics wouldn't have been so popular. Anecdotally, I've been told by almost every ethnicity from Africans, Indians, Midwestern WASPs, etc., that they love the show.'"

I thoroughly enjoyed the Alumni Profile of twin jugglers Jake and

Marty LaSalle '07 in the March/April *CCT*. In fact, my wife and I witnessed their first-place performance at the 2001 International Juggling Association championship in Madison, Wis. I also took my children, David and Rebecca, to see them perform at the Big Apple Circus. As the founder of Columbia's first juggling club, instructor in Columbia's alternative education program and featured juggler with the CU marching band, I take huge pride in knowing that Columbia continues to attract the best juggling talent in the Ivy League.

Congratulations to fellow *CCT* class correspondent Jon White '85. Jon's son, Isaac, will be entering Columbia this fall. It seems like yesterday that I met Jon as he arrived at Columbia while I was on the Orientation Committee.

Isaac, the Class of '83 welcomes you to the Columbia family!

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It's been a busy year for **Tom Watson**. His first book, *CauseWired: Plugging In, Getting Involved, Changing the World*, chronicled the rise of online social activism and went to a third printing. Tom launched a consulting company, CauseWired Communications, to work with nonprofits and foundations on using social media and storytelling to attract supporters and raise money for causes. You can check in with Tom at causewired.com.

Batter up! **Doug Softy** is in the house! "I have been living in Pleas-

ant Hill, Calif., for eight years with my wife, Sue, to whom I've been married since 2002. We entered into our marriage with one son each, both of whom have left the nest. Our oldest, Adam, is in his second year at West Point, having survived his plebe year relatively unscathed. Our youngest, Chase, graduated from high school last June and enlisted in the Marine Corps. Having completed basic training and combat training, he is 'enjoying' his time at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., awaiting the next stage of his training before getting his first duty assignment. We are extremely proud of the decisions that they have made to serve their country.

"Sue and I own a manufacturer's representative agency in California, providing products for the electric utility industry, in which we've both spent the past 25 years. I've been able to leverage my four years on the CU varsity baseball team into the highly sought after (unpaid) position as the head JV coach at our local high school. I'm finding that 14- and 15-year-olds are much better baseball players, since there's no way that my skills have deteriorated. One highlight, though, was that I struck out Joe DiMaggio's great-nephew (also Joe DiMaggio) during tryouts two years ago. He made the team anyway."

Ted Rodriguez-Bell regrets that he couldn't make the reunion last year because he was substitute coaching for his daughter's softball team. His charges hit two flies over the infield and recorded a defensive putout, which for first-graders was impressive. Ted and his wife, Nancy '86, work for competing banks and share the same home office. They and their daughter, Sophie, live in Berkeley, Calif., where the politics are entertaining, the chicken coop across the street is unremarkable and the Priuses are beyond counting.

In the words of proud papa **Andrei Holodny**, "I am most proud to announce that my daughter, Elena, has been accepted to Columbia College early decision and will be attending the greatest school in the world as a member of the Class of 2014. Elena will be a third-generation Columbian, as my mother is a graduate of the Barnard Class of '56. We have another Columbia connection, as I met my wife, Maria, at Bard Hall at the P&S campus when she was in her senior year in medical school and I was a radiology resident (at that purple school downtown) but still living in the Columbia neighborhood."

"I am the chief of neuroradiology and director of the Functional MRI Laboratory at Memorial Sloan-

Kettering Cancer Center. I also am professor of radiology at Weill Cornell Medical College, although I have never actually been to Cornell's Ithaca campus. I think that this has set some kind of dubious record!

"Since Columbia is located between my work and home, I visit the campus somewhat regularly to reminisce about my old stomping ground and actually listen to some lectures. It seems that the Core Curriculum had a long-lasting effect on me!

"It was wonderful to see old friends at our 25th reunion. Thank you especially **Doug Mintz**, for opening your home to fellow classmates."

And speaking of Doug ... "After 12 years as a musculoskeletal radiologist in my hometown of New York, I am plying my craft south. I moved to Miami in March and welcome any help getting adjusted or learning Spanish. The French I tried to learn at Reid Hall while at Columbia will serve me only marginally better than the Latin I failed in high school."

Thanks to **Matt Greenough** for pointing out that journalist **Matthew Cooper** has joined the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission as a senior adviser. FCIC is a 10-member commission appointed by Congress with the goal of investigating the causes of the financial crisis of 2007-09.

Carlton Wessel, a lawyer previously with King and Spalding, has joined the litigation practice in the law office of DLA Piper. Carlton has extensive white-collar experience, particularly in the representation of pharmaceutical clients in government and internal investigations, as well as compliance work. Most notably, he has held in-house roles at two major pharmaceutical companies, serving as assistant general counsel and head of the Government Investigations Group at Pfizer and senior legal director for litigation at Schering-Plough.

Earlier in his career, Carlton served as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of New Jersey, where he prosecuted healthcare fraud, political corruption and other white-collar cases. In recognition of his superior performance, the Attorney General honored Carlton with the Director's Award, the highest award given by the Department of Justice. Carlton also was a law clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and the U.S. District Court in New Jersey.

Last January, yours truly, **Dennis Klainberg**, and wife, Dana, had the distinct pleasure of celebrating my 47th birthday at a Columbia event on Broadway: Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*, as arranged by the Columbia Alumni

Arts League. Not only does Malwina E. Łyś-Dobradin '05 and her crew arrange for the best in NYC cultural events at discounted prices, she managed to inveigle director Gregory Mosher (also in charge of the Columbia Arts Initiative) to bring his cast (including Liev Schreiber and Scarlett Johansson) to an after-party to meet all 100 Columbia attendees! If you are not aware of this great project, join via www.alumniarts.columbia.edu or call 212-851-1879.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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This will be my last column before Alumni Reunion Weekend (Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6), so if you have not signed up, please do so now. Our list of attendees is growing. See who's going to be there and register at <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

Our goal is to have 125 classmates attend, which would be the largest 25th reunion turnout in more than five years. To get this big turnout, we have worked with the Alumni Office to ensure that the schedule is family-friendly as well as accessible for our Barnard and SEAS classmates and for you to have ample time to enjoy the campus and New York.

In addition, our class is approaching, and most likely will meet, our fundraising goal of \$250,000 (more than double the amount raised last year). Thank you to all who already have stepped up. If we meet our \$250,000 reunion gift goal, the University commits to creating a scholarship endowment in the class' name upon the realization of the Kluge bequest. This means that the Class of 1985 has the potential to have an endowed scholarship in its name. Every single gift, of any amount, brings us closer to this goal, as well as to achieving our participation goal of 25 percent. We hope you can join us in thanking Columbia for its contribution to each of our lives.

Denis Searby won't be able to make it to NYC for reunion, as he is spending this academic year as a visiting professor of Greek at Uppsala University, Sweden. He keeps active on the Alumni Representative Committee, however.

Scott McGehee recently released his latest film, *Uncertainty*, starring

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Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lynn Collins.

Jon Sural (who must hold the record from our class with three other Columbia degrees: M.A., '86 GSAS; M.Phil., '91 GSAS; Ph.D. '08 GSAS) recently released his latest book, *Have You Seen My Dinosaur?*, in which a little boy's dinosaur sends him on a surprisingly difficult hunt when he decides to play hide-and-seek. The text contains lots of catchy rhyme and repetition to reinforce word recognition. The book makes for a pleasurable learning experience for young readers. Jon's book is the latest in the Beginner Books series, which began in 1957, when Theodore Geisel — known to the world as Dr. Seuss — wrote a book called *The Cat in the Hat*. Jon also is an Emmy Award-winning writer of *Lamb Chop's Play-Along* (PBS), *Howdy Doody and Friends* (NBC) and *Emily of New Moon* (CBC), and creator of *Muggsy* and *GO-USA* (NBC) and *The Big Game Hunt* (New York State Department of Education).

Brian Margolis has joined the New York office of Orrick, Herington & Sutcliffe as a partner.

DLA Piper announced that **Curtis Mo** has joined the firm's corporate and securities practice as a partner in the Silicon Valley office. "Curtis is one of the most respected lawyers in Silicon Valley and in venture capital circles. His arrival reinforces our commitment to Silicon Valley as a focal point of our practice, given the history of the technology community here and the global role that it plays," said Greg Gallo, a senior partner in DLA Piper's Silicon Valley office, in a release. Curtis has represented emerging growth companies, major public companies, investment banks, venture capital funds and private equity funds in hundreds of public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, buyouts, venture capital financings and other complex transactions. He has extensive experience in corporate governance matters and regularly acts as general outside counsel to public and private companies at all stages of development, particularly in the technology, life sciences, clean energy technology and consumer sectors.

Before joining DLA Piper, Curtis worked at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr, where he was the founding partner of its Palo Alto office. He has lectured extensively at seminars sponsored by the Practising Law Institute and other professional groups and has given expert legal commentary on emerging growth companies and the technology sector for *CNN Moneyline*, *CNBC Business Center* and various publications.

Curtis is the founder and co-chair of PLI's Venture Capital Conference. He was co-chair of the Annual Institute on Securities Regulation from 2001–06 and has been a member of the advisory board for the Annual Securities Regulation Institute in San Diego. He also is a member of the Board of Directors of the influential Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network.

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It is so on! **John Chachas** is officially back in the Nevada Senate race. John took the plunge, quitting as managing director in media banking at Lazard to devote himself full-time to the Republican primary race. I'm quoting from an interview he did with the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. "I hit my 45th birthday and concluded it was time to do something good for the country. I guess I looked at the financial crisis of October–November '08, and the response of the people in Washington, I have to confess, left me cold — the depth of misunderstanding. So I felt something calling me to stop being angry about it and actually put myself in the game."

Laurence Holtzman '88 and Felicia Needleman '88 recently won the Theater for the American Musical Prize in the New York Musical Theatre Festival.

What are his qualifications for senator? "The first qualification is not being from Washington. The problem today is the town is essentially populated by people who are perpetually interested in their own re-election."

John is a third-generation Nevadan — he and his two brothers were raised on a cattle ranch in Ely, Nev. And while at Columbia, John was an intern for former Nevada Senator Paul Laxalt. John's top opponents in the Republican primary are casino businesswoman and former state Senator Sue Lowden and former UNLV basketball star Danny Tarkanian. John has been tirelessly hitting the campaign trail across the state, and his TV ads have begun airing. The Republican primary will be held on Tuesday, June 8, and the winner will face Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid in the Senate election on Tuesday, November 2.

Best of luck John — we are pulling for you! Check out www.chachasfornevada.com.

Daniel Ninivaggi was appoint-

ed president of Icahn Enterprises. Famed corporate raider and activist Carl Icahn said: "I have known Dan for a number of years and have always been impressed by his intelligence, ability and work ethic. I believe he will be a great addition to the IEP team and look forward to working with him." Dan was previously e.v.p. at Lear Corp. and before that a partner at Winston & Strawn. He earned an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago and a law degree from Stanford.

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I was hoping to have for you in this issue a report from **Annie Fils-Aime Joseph** about her recent visit to Haiti, but we will have to look forward to the next column for that. In the meantime, I will share with you the little bit of news that I have.

Thomas J. Doherty wrote: "I continue to focus on psychology and environmental issues. I run my own consulting practice in Portland, Ore., Sustainable Self (www.selfsustain.com). I am a part-time faculty member at Lewis & Clark College, where I teach environmentally related psychology and

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As I write this in March, it is that time of year when we are all longing for spring — or at least spring vacation. After four days without power or heat here in D.C. during the February snowstorms, I know I am ready for warmth. After a busy winter, I am off on an adventure trip with REI to Belize; I hope I survive the sea kayaking! I thank those classmates who have sent me messages. It is always interesting to get back in touch with lost friends and see the different directions our lives have taken.

I recently heard from **Brett Miller**, who writes, "I live on the Upper West Side with my wife and two boys (12 and 8). We get up to Morningside Heights now and then. The neighborhood certainly has changed for the better. I am an attorney at Morrison & Foerster, where I am co-chair of the Distressed Real Estate Group and a partner in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group. I keep in touch with a few of my Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity brothers and lightweight crew teammates. As I write this, I happen to be on a call with **Ilna Volkov**, as we are co-counsel in a case."

It is certainly true that Morningside Heights looks different. A classmate from the Engineering School commented that she barely recognized the neighborhood when she visited for the first time after many years.

I also received news that **Miriam Klevan** was dragged from New York to Chicago by her husband, Steve Meier '98L, where she now is happily studying for a Ph.D. in human development and social policy at Northwestern and running after Nathan (5) and Layla (2).

I also was delighted to hear from **Laurence Holtzman**, who sent the following correspondence: As a partner in Bard Theatricals, Laurence is one of the producers of the new Broadway play *Looped*, starring Valerie Harper. He and **Felicia Needleman** have collaborated on writing libretto and lyrics for several musicals. Their holiday musical revue, *That Time of the Year*, which premiered Off-Broadway at the York Theatre, now is being licensed by Theatrical Rights Worldwide, and the original cast album recently was released on JAY Records. Laurence and Felicia's original musical comedy, *The Jerusalem Syndrome*, recently won the Theater for the American Musical Prize in the New York Musical Theatre Festival, and they are developing their musical drama, *Wallenberg*, about the WWII

Steve Heroux '91 Builds a Product Empire

While other consumer product companies duke it out with Droids and iPhones, Hampton Direct, the company responsible for the "As Seen on TV" products, is sticking with the basics.

"We sell a lot of problem-solvers, time-savers and money-savers," says **Steve Heroux '91**, Hampton Direct CEO and founder.

Under Heroux's guidance, Hampton Direct (www.hampdirect.com) concentrates on designing and selling simple household products, such as the Wonder Hanger, which reduces closet clutter by vertically staggering garments, and the Twin Draft Guard, a fitted under-door tube that reduces draft and cuts energy costs. These are two of more than 500 items that Hampton Direct markets, and they're selling extremely well: Hampton Direct tripled its 2009 sales from 2008.

Products deemed to have the greatest selling potential will appear on TV advertisements and end up with an "As Seen on TV" label in stores, while some products appear solely in catalogs or retail outlets without TV ads. The Wonder Hanger and the Twin Draft Guard are both "As Seen on TV" products.

"I spend a good chunk of my time looking at new products and ideas," Heroux says of his day-to-day schedule. "I spend a lot of time with the design team and I spend a lot of time with sales, making decisions on what we want to bring to market." Heroux's main focus is making the call on the next product to appear on TV.

Hampton Direct invents



Steve Heroux '91 at the Hampton Direct warehouse, home of the "As Seen on TV" line of products.

PHOTO: TOD GUNTER

many products in-house but also buys products from enterprising inventors. "There are a lot of people out there with good ideas," he says. "We're trying to close that gap, so someone has an idea, they bring it to us and we have the capabilities to develop the item."

A native of Montréal, Heroux majored in political science at the College. "I think the school in many ways got me involved with international business," he says. "I've met a lot of people who are from Columbia who are living all over the world."

This focus has served Heroux well. Hampton Direct does more business internationally than it does domestically, a significant shift from when he founded the company in 1995. "Because we can sell more

products outside of the United States, you're looking at a product like a Wonder Hanger. Almost everywhere has closets, so that product applies to a lot of different places. We're thinking more globally than we were 14 years ago."

Heroux is accomplishing all of this from cozy Williston, Vt., where Hampton Direct is headquartered. He and his family live a few miles up the road in South Burlington. Living in Vermont is not a hindrance to getting business done, Heroux notes. "Burlington is not exactly New York City, but with the Internet, FedEx and cell phones, we can pretty much accomplish anything we want."

Heroux met his wife, Jennifer, while he was at the College and she was attending the Manhattan School of Music. They have two children, Helena, 7, and Steve Jr., 5. Despite his demanding business life, Heroux makes time for family. "I try to get home to see the kids at night, and I catch up on weekends," he says. "Burlington has a lot to offer for family. There's a ton of sports, and in the winter there's skiing and sledding."

Perhaps Heroux learned the art of such balance early. Not only did he graduate from the College a semester ahead of schedule but he also was an active member of Sigma Nu and played on the tennis team. "He ranked fifth in Canada juniors," Prem Parameswaran '90 GS, '95 Business, a fellow Sigma Nu

brother, says of Heroux's high school tennis days. "He decided at some point to focus more on business, although I'd probably say he had more raw talent than many players who went on [to play professionally]."

"He was always a go-getter," Parameswaran adds. "He always wanted the best."

After graduation, Heroux spent formative time working in sales at Sheffield Labs (now Sheffield Pharmaceuticals) a company that invented, among other things, modern toothpaste. "Obviously something's wrong with their marketing because no one's heard of them," he notes dryly. "They did a lot of private label and contract packaging. I worked there and from there I started Hampton Direct."

While Heroux talks with an easy calm, he's intensely passionate about his work. "It's very satisfying when you come up with an idea ... [and] consumers start buying it in the millions and telling you that you've had a really good idea," he says. "Knowing that whatever I'm working on could be the next big thing really gets me pumping."

So what's a product on the horizon that he's excited about? "We have a new pillow," he says without missing a beat. "It's very versatile — it turns into many shapes. You can put it around your neck, your back, your legs."

"There are always things in the works. To make a big item, the odds of success are one out of 10, one out of 15 ... we have to kind of weed through," Heroux muses. "But you never know what's going to hit."

Jesse Thiessen '11 Arts

hero, for Broadway.

Laurence and his wife, Lara, have two sons, Andrew (10) and Zachary (8). Felicia and her husband, Rich Levinson, are the proud parents of Simon (15), James (12) and Annabel (8).

Congratulations to Laurence and Felicia!

I hope more of you will contact me and let your classmates know what you are up to nowadays.

Look me up on Facebook or send me an e-mail. Happy spring!

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Some of you might have recognized another '89er on television — **Julie Jacobs Menin**, who has been a fre-

quent political commentator on national networks such as MSNBC, CNN and Fox during the last year or so. Based in New York, Julie also chairs Community Board 1 (representing Lower Manhattan) and has done so for the past five years. She also launched her own show, *Julie Menin's Give and Take* (www.juliemenin.com), earlier this year. The show is a 30-minute interview format featuring newsmakers in

politics, business, media, science and the arts. I enjoyed watching Julie politely challenge author Ann Coulter on healthcare. You can also find her writing on The Huffington Post. Julie has three young boys (6 and 5 (twins)) who are "my pride and joy," and she somehow manages to get it all done by doing a lot of work after she puts the children to bed. Julie intends to continue to be involved civically and in public

service in New York in the years to come. Last March, Julie was among several of our classmates who gathered in Midtown for a mini-reunion at Bobby Van's.

Though I missed our mini-reunion, I was able to attend Columbia alumni festivities in and around the Sundance Film Festival, which was held in Park City, Utah, in January. For those who are looking for an excuse to see independent films and enjoy some skiing, the Columbia Alumni Association hosts a reception and cocktail party open to all alumni during the Sundance festival. Our university was well represented at the festival this year, with many films by Columbians featured. Carol Becker, dean of faculty, School of the Arts, and **Donna H. MacPhee**, v.p. for alumni relations and president of the Columbia Alumni Association, hosted the fifth annual CAA at Sundance complimentary reception in Park City, where Columbia University School of the Arts Film Program Associate Professor Eric Mendelsohn was honored. Mendelsohn won the Sundance Film Festival 2010 Directing Award in the dramatic category for his film *3 Backyards*.

Utah residents **Anne-Marie Wright** and her husband, Fred Lampropoulos, hosted a reception for alumni at a local art gallery. Anne-Marie, who also has a master's in journalism from Columbia, was deputy director of communications for the New York City Council and has written for several publications. She has three children and has written a book for women, *A Bundle of Choices*, aimed at helping women of the Mormon faith balance and achieve their life goals. It was great catching up with Anne-Marie, who continues to take on writing projects and hopes to have another book finished this year.

For those who will be in New York City this summer, the Columbia Alumni Association picnic is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on South Lawn. The annual event for families includes children's book readings, field games, face painting and more. Hope to see some of you there.

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6
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I'm excited to see many of you in a few weeks at Alumni Reunion

Weekend, Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. If you're on the fence about going, just go. It will be fun. It will be packed with events that take full advantage of what NYC and Columbia have to offer. There will be cultural happenings as well as class-specific cocktail hours and dinners. The festivities will culminate with a champagne toast and dancing on Low Plaza on Saturday.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

Speaking of fun, I heard from **Eric Haxthausen**. He lives in Washington, D.C., and is in his third year as the director of U.S. Climate Policy for The Nature Conservancy. When he got to D.C. 11 years ago, Eric worked at the Office of Management and Budget

Evan Schultz and **Josh Saltman**, and also sees **Chapin Clark** and **Matt Segal** every so often. All are healthy and happy.

Thanks to everyone who has shared their news with us.

Until next time ... cheers!

92 **Jeremy Feinberg**
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Finally, finally, finally.

Lots of news, and a long column. Thank you to those who responded to my solicitations for news, and I hope we start a nice long run of lengthy columns right here and right now.

Leila Charles Leigh '92 is producing a new romantic comedy, *Conception*.

on environmental regulation and for the nonprofit Environmental Defense Fund. He says it's been interesting observing and participating in the ups and downs of the effort to pass climate legislation in the United States.

Would love to know what the rest of you are up to!

91 **Margie Kim**
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Hello, all! Just a few, but happy, updates this time:

Elisabeth Porter, who lives in Florida and is a civil litigation attorney for a firm specializing in representing banks in foreclosure cases, gave birth to Ari Jacob Goldstein on December 7. Congrats, Elisabeth!

This in from **Francesca Coppa**: "Belatedly surfacing from the 'fourth trimester' to say that my husband, Joe, and I had a baby: Joseph Coppa Rizzo, born October 23. We are delighted with him and figure he'll apply early decision for the Class of '30."

Dave Kaufman is a physician in Connecticut, specializing in pulmonary and critical care medicine. He is an assistant professor at Yale, and section chief of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine at Bridgeport Hospital, where he also directs respiratory therapy, rapid evaluation and the Ethics Board. Dave also does clinical research on conditions such as sepsis and acute lung injury. He keeps in touch with

David Kunian lives in New Orleans and received the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities "Individual Achievement In The Humanities Award" for 2009. Congratulations!

We have a cover model in our class! Well, not that kind of cover model. But our own **Aaron Lebovitz** was one of several practitioners featured in a cover story on high frequency trading in *Futures Industry* magazine (www.futuresindustry.org/futuresindustry.asp).

Leila Charles Leigh (formerly Gotoff) wrote to tell about an exciting new movie project that is truly a team effort (her husband wrote it and will direct). Leila said the movie, in pre-production now, is a romantic comedy called *Conception* and is about nine couples on the night they conceive a child, all in different stages of their relationships (e.g., a blind date, a couple on the verge of breaking up, a couple for whom sex has become a chore, a lesbian couple artificially inseminating, a high school couple in over their heads). As Leila described, "These scenes are juxtaposed with a class of first-graders who sort of ambush their teacher, asking him how babies are made, the idea being that the fairytale version of our origins is often very different from the reality. Connie Britton, Julie Bowen, Gregory Smith, Jonathan Silverman and Pamela Adlon are in it, as am I. I'm also producing. Lots of fun. Lots of work!"

Leila added some news on one of our classmates: **Valerie Chase** visited Leila in December. According to Leila, Valerie lives in Basel, Switzerland, with her husband, Ralph.

I should thank **Jake Novak** for my next piece of news. Jake is the co-creator and senior producer of Fox Business' new show, *Varney & Company*, which airs every weekday at 9:20 a.m. Jake came to Fox to help launch its business network in 2007 after previously spending seven years at CNN. Recently, in an instance of CC '92 cross-promotion, Jake interviewed **Eric Garcetti** about the financial challenges facing Los Angeles.

As if that weren't enough to keep him busy, Jake recently wrapped up his third season of doing color commentary for Lions football along with play-by-play man Jerry Recco, on www.gocolumbialions.com. Jake continues to do the financial past, present and future of Lion football on his blog, www.roarlions.blogspot.com. Jake lives on Long Island with his wife, Adar, and daughters, Jordan and Yael. Jordan has been the "honorary ball kid" at several Lion football and basketball games over the past few years.

Finally, **Andrew Contiguglia**, a Denver-based attorney, has found himself mentioned in quite a few newspapers lately. He is representing Holly Sampson, one of Tiger Woods' alleged mistresses, and was quoted giving a "no comment" on her behalf in such newspapers as the *New York Post* and the *New York Daily News*.

That's it for now. Let's keep the streak going here. Longer is better! I look forward to hearing from you.

93 **Betsy Gomperz**
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Short column this month.

I attended a pre-game alumni event hosted by the Columbia University Club of New England in Cambridge, Mass., before the Lions played Harvard in February (and unfortunately, lost). It was great to hear about the team from the coach and to catch up with local alumni. Some "unnamed sources" (i.e., Bill Walsh '89, Larry Walsh '86 and Fiona Walsh '00) filled me in that their brother, **Jonathan Walsh**, practices law at Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle, where he is a partner in the Litigation Group focusing on accounting malpractice, securities litigation and arbitration.

Jon and his wife, Dawn, live in Maplewood, N.J., with their small children: daughter Avery, son Will and most recent addition, son Finn, born on February 19.

Congratulations Jon!

Please send updates about your families, accomplishments, classmates, travels, hobbies and so forth for future columns.

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Well, not a ton to report this time out. But I am pleased to share the happy news that **Paul Beddoe-Stephens** married Jill Allison Nussbaum on September 6. The wedding took place in Charlottesville, Va. The couple lives in New York, where Paul is v.p. for digital media at Comedy Central and Jill is executive creative director at R/GA, a digital design agency.

In other news, I recently saw **Alex Rosenstein** at a Columbia University Club of Minnesota board meeting and was thrilled that he agreed to be our secretary as we continue to formalize our club for Minnesota alums.

Please drop me a line with the latest in your world. As you can see, we need more updates!

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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95

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My son, Ike, and I recently caught up with **David Webber** and his son, Boaz. David, his wife, Irit, and Boaz are getting ready to move to Boston. David is leaving New York after living here almost continuously since we started college in 1991.

David has spent the past two years as an academic fellow at NYU's Center for Law and Business, where he has been conducting research in the fields of securities fraud and securities class actions. He is joining the faculty of Boston University Law School as an associate professor, teaching civil procedure and securities regulation while continuing his research.

David writes that he looks forward to seeing more of his 811A Carman roommate, **Alex Cortez**, who lives in Cambridge, and hopes to reconnect with other Columbians living in Boston.

"Any tips on how to raise children to be good New York sports fans in the Bay State would be much appreciated," he wrote.

Alex recently started a new adventure as the regional director of growth and sustainability for the Knowledge Is Power Program (www.kipp.org), the nation's largest charter school network seeking

to address the civil rights issue of our time: inequity in education for children from low-income communities, Alex writes. One of the regions he is working with includes his hometown of New Orleans.

Thanks to the power of Facebook, Alex caught up with **Jimmy Hung**, who lives a block away in Cambridge.

This gave me a great reason to check in with Jimmy, a physician who has been in Cambridge for five years. He is an ophthalmologist in private practice, specializing in glaucoma, an eye disease that affects mostly older people.

He reports at least five ophthalmologists from our class: **Susan Liang**, **Peter Maris**, **Anil Shivaram**, **Newman Sund** and himself, and three are glaucoma specialists.

Jimmy attended **Allyson Baker's** wedding last year and caught up with **Jessica Zimmerman**, **Emily Hu** and **Elise Feldman**.

I look forward to catching up with you all at Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The weekend will be packed with activities for the whole family. There will be dinners, cocktail parties, lectures, dancing on Low Plaza and Camp Columbia for kids. It's a great chance to catch up with old friends and relive good times in Morningside Heights.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

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Greetings, classmates. **Josh Axelrad** sent in an entertaining piece of news: "I stayed under the radar for a long time due to combined shame and paranoia. I worked in finance for a while and hated myself, then, for five years, I played cards for a living, but turned out to still hate myself. I was a card counter at blackjack, doing the sort of stunt associated in the public consciousness with MIT. Columbia kids are all right at it, too."

Josh writes that he made money, then lost it, then wrote a memoir, *Repeat Until Rich: A Professional Card Counter's Chronicle of the Blackjack Wars*, published in March. Josh can be reached via <http://axelrad.net/blog>.

Congratulations on your book, Josh!

Alexandra Speck Crowley and her husband, Jamie, live on Cape Cod, where Alex is a weekly on-air arts and culture reporter for a National Public Radio (NPR) affiliate on the Cape and Islands. Alex has randomly run into some of

the Fiji men recently — first **Dave Mullinix** and **Brendan Mullinix** in Nantucket, and then **Carter Burwell** in Turks and Caicos. She keeps in touch with **Marissa Heller Triestman** and **Maria Rodriguez**, who are both doing well.

Doron Barnes was named managing director at Goldman Sachs in January. **Anastasia Thanopolous** (née Yatrakis), whom I recently ran into in Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, is a real estate broker after having worked at Nike for several years.

For a little levity in your lives, I leave you with this:

"My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. She's 97 now, and we don't know where the hell she is."

—Ellen DeGeneres

Send in more notes! Until next time ...

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CC '97 has a number of arrivals to report! **Rokeia Smith Gravley** gave birth to a girl, Tyla Elaine, in November. She weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz., and was just in time for Thanksgiving. **Carrie Sturts Dossick** and Stephen Dossick welcomed Charles Ellis and Sara Verdie into the world on January 23 (yes, they are fraternal twins). Also, Carrie recently received a promotion to associate professor with tenure, effective September 16, at the University of Washington, College of Built Environments, Department of Construction Management. **Rushika Conroy** gave birth to her second child, Amalia Grace, on May 14, 2009. Amalia joins her brother, Nevin (2). Rushika is halfway through her fellowship in pediatric endocrinology at Columbia University Medical Center.

Eric Wolf is married with two children, Jacob (4) and Lily (1), lives in Great Neck, N.Y., and was promoted to assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at Columbia. Eric is an ophthalmologist in the Bronx and was accepted to the American College of Surgeons.

George Shuster helped start a nonprofit foundation to preserve as a state park the site of the former Rocky Point amusement park in his hometown of Warwick, R.I., which operated for 150 years until entering receivership in 1995. He encourages anyone with an interest in old amusement parks, open space or eemomynary frolics of aging lawyers to visit GetThePoint.org.

Matthew Wang recently went skiing at Mammoth Lakes, Calif., with **Justin Alevizos**, **Jim Anthony**, **Kip Hamilton**, Pete Janda '97E and **Brian Sauvigne**. Everyone is

doing great. Justin works at Citi-group in Hong Kong. Jim works at Kendle International in Cincinnati. Kim works at Shamrock in Los Angeles. Pete works at Ingram Micro in California. Brian works at Morgan Stanley in NYC. And Matt runs his game design consulting business in NYC.

Hannah (Trooboff) McCollum and Brian McCollum '97E report that their daughter, Lena (19 months) is a joy. "She has become quite a master of sign language through a weekly baby sign class we take in our neighborhood, and now she enjoys saying the words while signing them simultaneously," Hannah said. The family lives in Park Slope. Hannah works part-time at The TEAK Fellowship, and Brian now is at Ranbaxy, a generic pharmaceutical company in New Brunswick. In addition, Hannah now is director of media relations for Madécasse (www.madecasse.com), a chocolate company started by Brian's brother. Madécasse sources, manufactures and packages chocolate in Madagascar, where its founders were in the Peace Corps. The company won a Best in Show award at the 2009 New York City Chocolate Show. The chocolate is carried throughout the country, including at many Whole Foods stores.

Miguel Melendez is busy working on his www.MiggyMutt.com cartoons and products.

Jeremy Trelstad was married in Montréal in April 2009 to Lindsay Wise. Adnan Qadir '96 was in attendance. Jeremy has been working for Athenahealth (ATHN: NSDQ) since graduating from Columbia and is director of recruiting.

Shivali Shah is based in Washington, D.C., where she is an immigration attorney, immigrant rights activist and writes a column on immigration. Shivali writes: "I've been happy playing with Moha Desai '96's little bundle of joy and regularly hang out with **Maggie Osdoby Katz**. I'm in touch with **Swati Khurana** as well and was happy to host her on the D.C. leg of her East Coast road trip. I recently got back in touch with **Kavita Kumar Puri**, who also is in D.C. My husband and I stayed with **Michael Pignatello** when he was in Beijing. Mike's Mandarin is awesome. It was really helpful when I was negotiating for better prices in the Beijing furniture market."

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Happy spring, Class of '98! Congratulations are in order for **Joanna**

Chung, who has been named bureau chief of the Law Group for *The Wall Street Journal*. Formerly the U.S. correspondent covering financial regulation and enforcement for the *Financial Times*, Joanna now will cover law and direct *WSJ's* legal coverage, as well as the law blog on *WSJ.com*.

Unfortunately, I don't have any more news, but let me once again invite those of you who have never sent in an update to let us all know what you're up to. You don't have to be newly married or new parents!

Every now and then, someone will e-mail me asking for the whereabouts of certain classmates, so I'm putting out an APB for **Ken Thomson** and **Bob Welsh**. If you're reading this, there are alums interested in what you've been doing since graduation.

99

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Hello there! I hope the past couple months have treated you well. Class Notes news items are trickling in at an alarming rate, so brace yourself for some compelling updates.

First, though, I'm pleased to offer you some trivia. On a brisk day in February, I saw one of our classmates dodging across a vacant lot toward Clinton Street (Brooklyn). He was bundled against the cold in a green hooded coat, though once he appeared to be in a Woodbridge Hall art show. Shortly after this sighting, I encountered another '99er on the train, a novelist who was wearing a tweed overcoat with long lapels. The afternoon passed without incident, but after dinner I ran into yet another man from our class. His coat was dark and his wife and her twin sister were in the Class of 2000. Write me with your guesses or if you just want to find out who I saw. Actually, if you are reading this at all, please write me. Consider this testimonial from **Esther Chak**: "I can't say I don't owe something to Class Notes. After spotting their wedding photo in *Columbia College Today*, I reconnected with **Kelley Kreitz** and **Westin Smith** in Providence, R.I. in 2005, rekindling a Hartley Hall friendship from junior year." Convincing stuff!

Esther continues, "I spent a few years in Rhode Island working on my M.F.A. in graphic design from RISD and graduated in 2007. I've since started a collaborative graphic design studio, Imaginary Office, with a friend in New York, Mary-Jo Valentino. Right now, we are focused on working with mission-driven clients, which con-

sists of nonprofits, think tanks and start-ups. Let the '99ers out there know about our Web site: www.imaginaryoffice.com.

"Since grad school, I've lived in Chicago, where I am adjunct faculty in visual communication design at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. From time to time, I see other '99 friends. The usuals are **Jenn Kaufman** and **Ethan Fischer**, who live here, but we also get a string of conference attendees passing in and out of town, such as **Chris Hardin**, who recently was here for an academic publishing event."

Chris, I want to hear your side of the story. Please write me.

Rachel Jackson is currently one of my favorite people. I recently received this e-mail from her: "After reading the updates from our fellow classmates in the last CCT, I felt compelled to send an update of my own. I am currently traveling around the country doing the film festival circuit with my short film, *3 Things*. This movie has been a passion project for several years, and I co-wrote, produced and starred in the film. There are several known, amazingly talented people who worked on the project. We are premiering here in Los Angeles at the Method Film Festival and soon after that, we will have our East Coast premiere at the Charleston International Film Festival. For more information, go to www.3thingsfilm.com."

George Demos wrote in with this news: After serving for seven years as an enforcement attorney at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, where he worked on some of the most prominent corporate fraud cases, George Demos now is running for the U.S. Congress in the first district of New York. The district covers eastern Long Island, holds a Republican registration advantage and is currently held by incumbent Democrat Tim Bishop. Additional information on George's campaign can be found at www.georgedemos.com.

I also received a helpful e-mail from Ethan Rouen, my long-suffering editor at CCT. "Subject: FW: News Alert: **Tinsley Mortimer** CC99 - article." Key takeaways:

"Tinsley Mortimer is the center of a new reality television show called *High Society*." The article appeared in the *Richmond Times Dispatch*, and there was another about her recently in the *New York Times*; she reportedly giggled a lot and ordered food by color.

Though I haven't been back home much these past couple of years, hearing **Gina Kaufmann** on the radio is one of the best things about visiting Kansas City. (The other best things are primarily



Omosede Idehen '00, '06 Business, married Gregor Licul in September in Lovran, Croatia. Joining them were (left to right) Ivar Draganja '03L; Rana Yates Draganja '00, '05L; Louis-Simon Ferland '06 Business; Tami Chuang '06 Business; the groom; the bride; Erica Easley '00; Yuliya Smyk; Ben Giesmann '00; CCT class correspondent Prisca Bae '00; Alicia Dooley '00; and Danny Rappaport.

PHOTO: GEA GOLOVIC

BBQ-related.) Wait, what's Gina been up to since 1999? Gina obligingly replies: "I've been back in my hometown of Kansas City, the one I swore I'd never go back to. I came home 'for the summer' and discovered a vibrant arts community that I became a part of without even thinking about it. By the end of that summer, I was so deeply involved in so many things that I didn't want to leave. Since then, I've developed a career and style of writing that walks a fine line between art and journalism. I didn't invent creative nonfiction writing, not by a long shot ... What I mean is that I have been writing things that are a little too literary and personal to be entirely journalistic, and newspapers and magazines have, much to my amazement, been publishing them anyway. I've worked for alternative weeklies, the local daily, for national magazines, for coffee shops, museums and, most recently, for Kansas City's station for NPR news. I'm working toward my M.F.A. in creative writing."

As co-host of *The Walt Bodine Show*, Gina's been live on the air every weekday morning for the past couple years and is a genuine KC institution.

Next question: How did Gina get involved in radio? "When I worked for *The Pitch* [KC's alternative weekly], I also got pretty involved in *Heeb Magazine* from afar. I started out as a contributing writer, then became a contributing editor, then associate editor. I went to NYC to help with a *Heeb* Storytelling event and was asked to put on the first *Heeb* Storytelling outside of NYC here in KC. I said

yes, even though I'd never done anything like that. Being onstage and telling stories was amazing for a lot of reasons, including that I discovered that I liked using my literal voice, and not just the kind of 'voice' authors use. As a writer, I have always put a lot of energy into making sure the reader can really hear the words. I treat punctuation as a means of letting people know where and how to pause, etc. It was such a relief to just talk. Inspired by the experience, I applied for an internship with KCUR so I could learn what a person needs to know to do radio. I was further surprised to learn that I enjoyed running around with a microphone and editing audio in a sound booth. It wasn't until a few years later that I got a job with the station. The job didn't involve any running around with microphones or audio editing. It was/has been a live in-studio gig, which I love that much more. Again, totally surprising for me. I was always the shy kid, so yeah. Who would have guessed that I like talking for a live radio audience for an hour every day? But I do."

Unfortunately, however, Gina's leaving her radio gig. What's next? "Well, in some ways the answer is 'I don't know.' But in the short term, I've been hired to write a book of profiles of Kansas women born during the 19th century. Every chapter will be a mini-biography of an impressive woman who bucked convention. I'm so excited to throw myself into researching and telling their stories. Given the geographic location, with Missouri being a slave state and Kansas a free state, a good handful of them



Nancy Perla '01 and Matt Michaelis hosted a "star-studded" wedding in Phoenix in November. The stars in attendance included John Balzano '01, Andrea Cherkerzian '01, Joyce Chou '01, Dina Epstein '01, Billy King-sland '01, Annie Lainer '01, Patricia Marinoff '02, Dr. Sarah Palestrant '02, Joe Rezek '01, Jamie Rubin '01 Barnard, Chelsea Scott '01 Barnard, Victoria Spodek (née Vinarsky) '01 Barnard, Melissa Tominac '02, Brandon Von Tobel '01, Susan Wilsey '01 (née Pereira) and CCT class correspondent Jonathan Gordin '01.

PHOTO: ROHANNA MERTENS

will be stories about people risking their necks for freedom. I'm also still finishing up my M.F.A., and have another year to go with that, so I don't know whether I'll take on another job until I've accomplished that. But I'm all about the odd job. Last summer, I worked on a non-confinement sheep farm that makes artisanal sheep's milk cheese, and I am going to do a little more work for them (mostly at the city market) again this summer. So that's odd job No 1. Currently, I'm writing about last summer on the sheep farm. As I was wrapping up my first year in the M.F.A. program and also doing a daily talk show, I was seriously dying of being cooped up behind computer monitors and sought out a summer job that would allow me to move more than my fingertips and get outside. It turned out to be an experience both more challenging and more beautiful than I would have imagined. I also met some of the most amazing people. I am writing about what led all of them (and me) from other careers to a sheep farm. All of our stories intermingle in this sort of magical (to me) setting. What I'm writing is book length, but I don't want to jinx it by saying I'm writing a book. However, I will say that if any Columbia alumni are publishers or literary agents and want to give me a hand with that, bring it! I also translated a novella by Gabriel García Márquez, one of my favorites, and the desperate plea for a publisher applies to that as well."

Does Gina keep in touch with anyone from our class, and if so, what are they up to? "I keep in touch with an embarrassingly small

number of people. Coming back to my hometown has made my time at Columbia feel a little like a dream, honestly. But I keep in touch with Jen Yang, Chris Mullis, Sharmaine Heng and Ethan Fischer. Jen lives in New York and works for a bank in compliance. I don't totally know what that means, but I have long since made peace with the fact that she's one of my best friends, and I don't understand what she does. Chris lives in Australia with his wife and son and recently got a Ph.D. in modern Japanese history or something like that, and is teaching ESL. Sharmaine is a tax lawyer and is getting married in the fall. And Ethan is taking the restaurant world by storm, as near as I can tell, and living the good life in Chicago. Whew! Harder than it looks, being on the other end of the interview..."

But I think she handled it really well. Thanks, Gina!

Here are some final tidbits, chums, to get you through the next two months. Susan Harlan accepted a tenure-track job teaching English at Wake Forest. Jay Cosel passed the California bar exam and is wrapping up his studies to be a master of laws. (How many laws do you have to master, Jay?) Mike Erman, now residing with a charming foreigner, made some excellent chili last winter — it was spicy on the back end. Nina Tannenbaum, also affiliated with a charming foreigner, wrote in to say that "Stacy Rotner, Scott Napolitano and Dave Matteini '01 were seen at a Columbia Private Equity networking night.

Thanks and congratulations to all of you, whether you deserve it or not, and please note this correc-

tion from the March/April issue: Kevin Aptowicz '99E is married to Katie Eyer, who is a lawyer, not a nurse.

Please write me if you thought this column was either helpful or irrelevant, and please be sure to check out the next issue's column because it's gonna knock your socks off, big-time!

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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Reshan Richards was married in June 2009 to Jennifer Butler in Wilton, Conn. Several Columbia alums were in attendance. Reshan is a technology administrator at a school in Manhattan, and he is back at Columbia working on his doctorate at Teachers College.

Kim Worly moved to Israel nearly four years ago. She lives in Tel Aviv and is an attorney. Kim is getting married in Israel on June 11 to Oren Salzman, a computer engineer. Kim and Oren's dogs, Bamba and Sifaka, will walk them down the aisle.

Tanya Wright (née Bank); husband, Will, and their 2-year-old daughter, Lily, are excited to announce the newest addition to their family: Ella Ruby was born on November 13. The family lives in Ann Arbor, Mich., where Tanya is hoping to finish her Ph.D. in education at the University of Michigan in spring 2011.

Tanya reports, "Traci (née Leiderman) Goldstein '99 and her husband, Brendan, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Maxwell Logan, on January 5. (Traci graduated early, but she started with the Class of 2000 as my Carman 12 hallmate.) Traci is an optometrist, and she lives in NYC with her growing family."

It's unbelievable that our 10-year reunion is fast approaching, Thursday, June 3–Sunday, June 6. The Reunion Committee has been hard at work, and you won't be disappointed! Some highlights include a Thursday night reception at the Heights, Friday night party on the *Intrepid*(!), Saturday night cocktails and dinner ... and champagne and dancing on the Steps! For classmates with kids, there will be some wonderful kid-friendly activities on campus on Saturday.

While I look forward to catching

up with everyone in June, here are Reunion Committee updates:

Michael Shen is a dad! Michael, his wife, Erika, and adorable son, Spencer live in Los Angeles. Spencer was born last August.

Claude Roxborough recently married his high school love, Christine, and lives in the D.C. area. He is a corporate attorney with Miles & Stockbridge and also serves as the president (U.S.) of the South African Chamber of Commerce in America. He encourages folks interested in attending South Africa/Africa-related business events, most of which are in New York, to join the chamber's network (www.sacca.biz). He's also thankful for Facebook, even though someone from another Ivy League school created it, because it's one of the only ways he gets to see some of his old CU buddies.

Charles Saliba is in China and writes "No wife or children or anything like that, yet ... I work more than full-time at D-22 (www.d-22.cn) and Maybe Mars (www.maybemars.org) and was recently back in the States to bring six bands to SXSW and then go on tour with three of them to California (for more info: <http://maybemars.org/index.php/shows/chineseinvasion-tour-2010>)."

Charles is a founding partner of D-22, a Beijing music club, and Maybe Mars Records, an independent music label. In his spare time, Charles is working toward a master's in international development at Tsinghua University in Beijing. [Editor's note: CCT profiled Saliba in January/February: www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb10.]

Juliet Ross writes, "I am a psychologist in private practice in New York and am also production editor of the journal *Psychoanalytic Perspectives*. My husband, **Dan Burstein**, is a senior associate at Willie Farr & Gallagher and does a lot of pro-bono work in election law. We recently saw **Annie Ulevitch** and **Susie Freeman**, who both live near us on the UWS. We spent a lovely weekend in the Berkshires with **Sander Cohan** and his wife, **Katie**. **Don Saelinger** and **Katherine Dube** '00 Barnard moved to San Francisco and had a baby, **Andrew Nathan (Nate)**, in December." Sander and his wife, **Katie**, live in Boston, and Sander works in the energy sector.

Alex Conway, also on the Reunion Committee, was wonderful enough to provide an incredible update: "Most recently, I had a mini-Theta reunion just days before **Whitney Weems Mogavero** gave birth to her daughter, **Hadley Brooks Mogavero**, on February 8. Joining me were **Laura Hearn**, **Marian Lee** '00 Barnard,

Maura Munnely Determann and **Mariel Munnely '02**. Laura lives in Brooklyn and works for Bloomberg. She recently ran the New York Marathon and is doing great! Maura lives in New Jersey with her husband and works in New York for the Boy Scouts of America, while Mariel is set to get married in just a few months in Jamaica! Marian is married and lives in New York a stone's throw from campus and works for Condé Nast. The night was filled with fun memories about our four years at school and in Theta, and everyone is excited for the reunion."

Also via Alex: Her brother, **Chris Conway '95**, lives with his wife, Cindy, and their dog, Kim, in Manhattan around the corner from Alex. He started Green T Digital. "Our goal is to help individuals and small businesses take advantage of the latest technologies, while helping them reduce their impact on the planet," Chris says. His sister is very happy to have a tech consultant a block away at all times!

Alex continues: "Via the connective powers of Facebook, I still have the pleasure of talking to some of my favorite characters from college, including **Ryan Rosenfeld**, who is living it up in the Pacific Northwest. **Q Beck** lives in Austin, Texas, where he recently started Famigo, a company dedicated to building games to help families play together. Also in the mix, **Mark Lewicky** is living it up in his hometown of Chicago. I hope to see all of these guys at reunion."

"I also occasionally get to see **Natalia Mehlman-Petrezela**. Natalia, who is a full-fledged professor at the New School, spends her free time with her husband and young son and as an *IntenSati* instructor at Equinox. Talk about keeping busy! Natalia, Heidi Wolf '00 Barnard and I are all excited for the September wedding of Annabel Schnitzer '00 Barnard."

"I also hear from **Manelle Nunez Martino**, who is living the life in Annapolis as the mother of three children with her husband, Peter Martino, and as the founder/owner of Capital Teas in Washington, D.C."

"Me, I'm living in New York working for Hunter Public Relations. I'm training for the New Jersey Marathon and a triathlon in Montauk. I'm using my training as an opportunity to support my friend's new initiative — the Mandala House — which teaches yoga, meditation and breathing to victims of sexual assault in current/post conflict countries. I'm also gearing up for the third annual celebration of NYC Wildflower Week, an initiative my brother's wife started. And I'm actively involved with planning our reunion."

I am still in New York City but have left the law. I recently joined the Office of Corporate Engagement at Goldman Sachs where I was lucky enough to run into Jenn Lew Goldstone '95 and even luckier to finagle an update from a fellow reunion classmate: "Jenn Lew Goldstone '95 for the last year has been a v.p. at SeaChange Capital Partners, a nonprofit that arranges funding of nonprofits involved in education reform founded by retired Goldman Sachs partners. She has two boys, Max (4) and Charlie (1), and is married to CNN Senior Producer Tom Goldstone '94 Cornell. She is especially looking forward to the kids' programming at her 15th reunion and the adult evening events, and is booking the sitter now!"

Finally, **Omosede Idehen** and **Grigor Licul** were married in a gorgeous mountaintop ceremony in Lovran, Croatia, in September. Several friends flew in from all over the world for the wedding, including myself. Other guests included **Erica Easley**; **Alicia Dooley** and her husband, Danny Rappaport; **Rana Yates** and her husband, Ivar Draganja '03L; **Ben Giesmann** and his wife, Yuliya Smyk; Louis-Simon Ferland '06 Business; and Tami Chuang '06 Business. The festivities lasted all weekend and involved pasta, truffles and exploring Grigor's hometown, Opatija. The photogenic wedding lasted for 12 hours and was the first wedding I'd attended where guests danced between courses. The last course — a traditional Croatian soup — was served well after 2 a.m. The happy couple resides on the Upper West Side. [See photo.]

See you all in June at reunion! Please register at <http://alumni.college.columbia.edu>. Don't forget to also make a donation to the Columbia College Fund at www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline. Our class goal is 200 donors and we are currently at 102 donors.

01

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Hi there. I rarely have updates on my family, but I have to say it's been a busy few months for us. I became gainfully employed again in March, working for Mercer Outsourcing as a business strategist. I'm excited to be working again, though I can't deny how amazing it has been to spend so much quality time with Jamie and our daughter Julian, (20 months). I've also loved every minute of watching my wife's clothing business grow. Milkstars (www.milkstars.com)



Daniel Dykema '03 and Nikki Thompson '03 Barnard were married in Brooklyn, N.Y., in October. Joining the fun were (back row, left to right) **Gaurav Shah '03, Anand Venkatesan '03, the groom, Matthew Scherer '03 and William Hu '03**; and (front row, left to right) **Michelle Hodara '03, Priya Purushothaman '03, the bride, Rebecca Capua '03 Barnard, Shelly Mittal '03 and Alison McDonald '03**.

PHOTO: ANDY ROGERS

com) has been featured on *People* magazine's Celebrity Baby Blog as well as on Daily Candy. I'm confident Jamie will continue to take the business to even higher levels!

Now for some exciting baby news. **Simon Sandoval-Moshenberg** and his wife, Paola, welcomed Camilo on February 18. He weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. **David Beatus** and his wife, Ellie, welcomed Asher Josef on February 26. He weighed 8 lbs. Congratulations to the moms, dads and future Columbians (maybe?).

Camille Delaite reports: "2009 was a big year for us! **Akhill Chopra** and I were married on May 24 in Columbia, Mo. Many of our dear friends from Columbia made the trip to Missouri for our dual Hindu/Christian wedding ceremonies and celebration. Columbians in attendance included **Usman Tahir, Sejal Shah, Amy Kimpel, Namrata Tripathi, Elspeth Wilson, Rodman Williams, Cassia Mosdell, Sofia Berger, Sheila Lavu, Krish Devidoss, Gareth White '02 Barnard, Lina Chopra Haldar '03E and Kavita Kumar Puri '97**. Following our wedding celebrations, we headed to Boston for my graduation from Harvard Business School. Then, to complete the month of life change, I moved back to New York after two years away, and we settled into a new apartment in Chelsea. We are enjoying finally living in the same city again! We managed to sneak away in August and spent our honeymoon exploring Japan, returning to New York just in time for me to start a new job at the Boston Consulting Group. Akhill is keeping busy at his job at rightmedia. 2009 was a whirlwind. Here's hoping 2010 is half as fun!"

Almost nine years after their first date while Columbia seniors, **Abena Boakye** and **Omar Slowe** finally tied the knot on November

28 at an oceanfront private estate on Maui. They were joined by 84 guests for several days in paradise, and they were thrilled that so many of their Columbia friends were able to make it. After the wedding, the couple spent their honeymoon traveling throughout Thailand. Abena and Omar live in Brooklyn, and they both work in Manhattan. Abena is an attorney and Omar works in leveraged finance.

Those in attendance at the wedding included **Kwabina Appiah '78 Business, Kofi Boakye '10, David Simpson '01E, Franklin Amoo '02, Selom Gasinu '04E, Alexander Gumbs '07 Business, Raefer Gabriel '07 Business, Cynthia Boakye '94 PH, Chris Motley '03, Reginald Cash '04, Adrienne Bowman, Vanessa HS-Doyle (née Hutchinson-Szekely), Jon-Mychal Bowman '99, Avrielle Gallagher, Guambi Makoso '01E, Akua Boakye '11 Business, Damali Slowe '10, Dionne Wilson Gumbs '07 Business, Jacqueline Corona '02 and Danae Mullings-Makoso '01E, '08 CE**.

The family of **Tyler Ugolyn** told me about the important work the foundation they established in his memory is doing.

"The Tyler Ugolyn Foundation was established in 2001 in memory of our beloved 23-year-old son, Tyler Ugolyn, a Columbia College graduate and NCAA student-athlete varsity basketball player, who tragically lost his life on September 11, 2001, while employed at the World Trade Center as an investment analyst for Fred Alger Management on the 93rd floor of the first tower. In September 2001, *Sports Illustrated* published a beautiful tribute, 'Picture This Perfect,' written by Jeff Pearlman in Tyler's memory and honor.

"The foundation is committed to providing support to youth basketball, with an emphasis on



Eliana Meirowitz Nelson '05 and Lev Meirowitz Nelson were married in Massachusetts in November with many Columbia alumni in attendance. Celebrating with them were (left to right, standing/kneeling) Ben Greene; Seth Wax '03; Jason Fruithandler '05 GS; Etan Greenbaum '06 GS; Rachel Pomerantz '06E; Erin Kade '03 GS; Jonathan (Yono) Reich '04, '07L; Zachary Jacobs '07L; Julie Altman '06 GSAS; Steve Melzer '05; Leslie Berliner Shanken '68 GS, '84 GSAS; Edith Cohen '64 Barnard; Leora Fishman '74 Barnard; the bride; Carol Glass '75 Barnard; James Bondarchuk '05; Dina Herbert '05 GS; Adam Levine '10 GSAS; Michal Shinnar '06 Barnard, and Rebecca Blatt '06 TC; (front row, left to right) Elizabeth Stone Jacobs '05 Barnard; Susan Rosenblum '71 GS; Tracy Massel '06 Barnard; Judith Samuels Meirowitz '73 SW; Carol Singer '74 TC; Jessica Horwitz Fruithandler '06 Barnard; Danielle Holtz '05 Barnard; Rachel Grant Meyer '05; Suzanne Schneider '05, '13 GSAS; and Joanna Kabat '06 Barnard.

PHOTO: MAX FLATOW

court refurbishment and providing financial support to character-building educational programs and skills clinics to children in urban settings. The foundation is a tax-exempt, nonprofit, charitable organization approved by the IRS under section 501(C)(3). EIN:06-1632382. Information on the foundation and our beloved Tyler is found on www.tylerugolyn.com."

We thank the Ugolyns for staying in touch and letting Tyler's friends know about the important work they are doing to honor his memory.

Please stay in touch. I'd love to hear what the class will be up to this summer.

02

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Hi all. Hope everyone is doing well! Please keep sending your updates to me at soniah57@gmail.com.

Joshua Krafchin is marrying Miriam Stone '03 in July. In addition to being an online marketing consultant, he founded Newyap city.com.

Jennifer L. Lopez lives in Madrid and teaches dance. She also teaches dance workshops all over Europe: in Edinburgh, Dublin, Paris, Stockholm and Warsaw. She is teaching in Amsterdam and Oslo in the spring.

Jennifer will be having a post-wedding celebration on July 31. It

will be held in her hometown of Richfield Springs. Her actual wedding, a very intimate ceremony, took place in June in Stockholm, her husband's hometown.

03

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With the close of another academic year, it is time to congratulate the Class of 2010 on their accomplishments and welcome them to the young alumni family. It's also always nice to celebrate the accomplishments of our classmates, so let's turn to the updates.

Katori Hall's latest play, *The Beyonce Effect*, was performed at the Horse Trade Theater in February as part of The Fire This Time Festival. Katori describes the play: "In opposite corners of the world, three brown women — one Indian, one Ugandan and one American — struggle with their quest for lighter skin and European features in a world where 'if you white you right and if you black, get back.'"

Darrell Silver launched a technology company, Perpetually (www.perpetually.com), at the tech startup community's largest conference, TechCrunch50, in September.

"**Katherine Haenschen** lives in Austin, Texas, where she manages

Democratic political campaigns. [Last spring], she managed a successful city-wide City Council election and now is managing a 24-county judicial race. She remains one dissertation away from completing her Ph.D. at the University of Texas in media studies. In December, **Lien De Brouckere** paid a visit to Austin, where they enjoyed Austin's excellent food and nightlife. Katherine also visited with **Rachel Gershman** in New York while she was home in New Jersey for the holidays."

Brian Tang is working on his "HBO for gamers" site, www.goodgametv.com, creating, producing, distributing and selling online video geared toward video gamers.

Katie Rose Thornton is finishing her part-time M.B.A. at the Fox School of Business at Temple. She is working in marketing/advertising in Philadelphia and heard President Lee C. Bollinger speak at the National Constitution Center in March. **Sabine Bejori** completed her M.B.A. in strategy and marketing at NYU Stern and joined Avon as an associate brand manager for Global Skincare, Clearskin brand, in January.

Carter Reum writes, "Still working hard on my start-up alcohol brand, VeeV (my brother, Courtney '01, is my partner), which has quickly gone from being only available out of the back of our car to becoming one of the best-selling in the country and now available on Virgin America and in about 40 states. Still loving the fun and the sun of L.A., too, and can't wait to go to **Nick Solaro's** wedding in the fall!"

In September, **Priya Purushothaman** released her first album, *Samarpān*, a traditional Hindustani classical vocal album featuring Priya on voice and accompanied by tabla and harmonium. It is available for purchase on iTunes.

Sheila Dvorak's dedication to independent filmmaking has paid off in a big way in 2010. For the second consecutive year, she had a feature film premiere at the Sundance Film Festival. Sheila was the line producer of *Armless*, a dark comedy about a man with a compulsion to cut off his arms, which was part of the NEXT category, spotlighting guerrilla filmmaking. *Children of Invention*, which was written and directed by Tze Chun '02 and was associate-produced by Sheila, who also was acting coach for the cast, started its theatrical run in Boston, New York and Los Angeles in February and March. Sheila's most recent project is *See What I'm Saying: The Deaf Entertainers Documentary*. Sheila associate produced the world premiere at the Egyptian Theater in Hollywood in March, and a

nationwide rollout in April and May, the widest reach of any of her projects to date.

04

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I hope you're all doing well! Please don't forget to send me any and all updates you have. On to the news:

Tia Sherringham moved back to New York in August 2009 and is clerking for the Hon. Barbara S. Jones (Southern District of New York). She is thrilled to be back and reconnecting with old friends.

David Neistadt lives in Tribeca and is at Goldman Sachs, where he has been working for 5½ years. In Washington, D.C., **Nyia Noel** has been practicing yoga and enjoying some time off before starting her residency program. She received an M.D. and an M.P.H. from the University of Michigan Medical School and School of Public Health. Nyia has been reconnecting with old friends and classmates in the D.C. area such as **Natassia Rozario**, **Alodia Gabre-Kidan** and her freshman-year roommate, **Karen Love**.

Congratulations to **Ben Falik** and his wife, A.J., who are proud to belatedly announce the birth of Judah Matthew (CC '31?). **Jamie Hodari** was on hand for the bris, and **Jordan Heimer** stopped in Detroit while driving cross-country in order to meet the lad. Plans for his first trip to New York are in the works.

Finally, a fantastic update from past Class President **Khalid Ali**: "Once upon a time a long, long time ago (July 2007), I quit my job at Pepsi in New York, sold most of my worldly belongings (including my beloved limited edition (not really) 1998 Nissan Maxima), packed a backpack, bought a one-way ticket to London along with a Eurorail Pass and took off on a journey to fulfill one of my lifelong dreams of seeing Europe and South Asia. I didn't know how long the trip would last or what I would do if and when I returned to the United States. It seemed a bit mad, and older relatives minced no words in letting me know that it certainly was mad. It didn't matter, though. It was time for something new.

"It was a mad time in world affairs as well (although no one seemed to have a clue about the greater madness — the global economic meltdown — to come the following year). Just recently, some Muslim guys of Pakistani origin (like yours truly) had tried to ram a truck into Glasgow Airport

Nick Cain '06 Helps Students in the Developing World

BY JOSHUA ROBINSON '08

Nick Cain '06 was doing everything he was supposed to do on his way to law school. An American Studies major, he had taken the constitutional law classes and gotten the grades, he had earned himself a job as a Manhattan paralegal and he had slogged through the repetitive grind.

All he had left to do was send out the applications.

The only problem was that, by then, he didn't feel like going to law school so soon.

"I wanted to do something drastically different," Cain remembers.

So the San Diego native set out on a path he never imagined himself taking — one that would wind through Rwanda and Paraguay only to drop him in Seattle, where he is devoting himself to helping students access higher education across the developing world with the microloan company Vittana.

Cain's journey began when a law firm colleague mentioned his work with Orphans of Rwanda, a nonprofit dedicated to helping young people who were affected by the 1994 Rwandan genocide attend college. Remembering a particularly inspirational class on the treatment of minorities taught by Liz Ouyang his senior year, Cain was intrigued. Within a few months, he had accepted a six-month job with the organization.

In March 2008, Cain packed his bags for Kigali, Rwanda's capital city. It was a long way from his desk in Manhattan, and not just in air miles.

"You can't prepare somebody for that," Orphans of Rwanda executive director Michael



Nick Cain '06, shown here in Nueva Guinea, Nicaragua, in October 2009 with one of Vittana's first borrowers, works with Vittana to provide student loans.

PHOTO: MARCELA SOLIS/AFODENIC

Brothner says. "What I was looking for was somebody who would not get flustered. Somebody who could see a situation that was completely unusual to them, and not panic."

In Cain, Brothner said he found someone who fit that description.

Asked to describe his duties in Kigali, Cain hardly knows where to begin. He says he worked on everything from sifting through applications for the scholarships to teaching English to tracking down carpenters to build desks for his classroom.

"All the things that you'd hop on the Internet for or look in the phone book to get done in the United States take ages in a place like Rwanda," he says.

And still, the six months Cain spent there seemed to fly by. He came back stateside in September 2008 just in time to work on the home stretch of the Obama campaign in North Carolina.

But Cain felt the need to go back to the developing world.

In early 2009, he began looking for another opportunity to help ambitious people track down the funds they needed. This time he set off for Paraguay with a small company named Kiva, whose goal is to help small entrepreneurs secure "microloans" — tiny loans from local banks, which go a long way in places like Paraguay. With his notebook and video camera, Cain's job was to interview loan applicants.

It was there that Cain learned the nuts and bolts of microfinance, which served him well when he returned to the United States last summer. Almost immediately, he got in on the ground floor of Vittana (www.vittana.org), which perfectly combined his experiences of the previous two years. Based on the increasingly popular system of microfinance, Vittana helps young people in the developing

world access funding for higher education.

"These are students who certainly didn't have anywhere to go for a student loan," Cain says.

Vittana, which is active in Peru, Paraguay, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Cambodia and Mongolia, helps local financial institutions package student loans and provides the capital, which comes from online contributions. Students can take out loans of up to \$1,500. But, Cain notes, the online contributions aren't donations — every cent is repaid by the student through Vittana within three years.

More than 1,300 people have made donations online, for a total of \$155,000, and more than 230 students have received loans.

Cain's job is to work closely with the microfinance institutions and teach them how to structure the loans. These days, Vittana is primarily involved with students in Nicaragua, and Cain is in charge of laying the groundwork there. To him, it's a job that goes far beyond numbers, countless hours on the phone and a lot of frequent flyer miles.

"I knew that financial aid and loans were the only way I would have ever gotten my education," he explains. "And having the Columbia name on my degree has been opening doors for me the whole way through. So, as someone who's had that, it just made sense to work on it for others."

Joshua Robinson '08 is a freelance writer based in Manhattan.

in England. As such, suspicion of anyone resembling me was pretty high everywhere, and so I was expecting a pretty tough time crossing borders.

"Surprisingly, this was not the case; Europeans, I soon found, were much more relaxed about the whole terrorism thing than people in the United States. I began my journey in London without immigration issues and criss-crossed

the continent during the next few months. During the course of my travels, I partied with gangstas from Paris suburbs, befriended a Ferrari engineer, fought with tomatoes at La Tomatina festival in Spain, scaled the Atlas Mountains in Morocco, swam in (freezing!) Lake Geneva, was proposed to by a beautiful Eastern European blonde (followed by a price tag of 35 euros), toured the ruins of Rome

and finally, in September, made my way to India. I spent the next 1½ months touring India and visiting for the first time my parents' childhood homes.

"By November, I decided to start wrapping up my trip and thinking seriously about next steps. Throughout my travels I had stayed in telephone contact with some Pepsi folks in Dubai. I had asked them if they had any roles

available for me in Dubai. (Why Dubai? Honestly, just for the sake of trying something new.) I spent a week in Dubai, met with the team there for a meeting/interview and then left for Karachi, Pakistan.

"In Pakistan, I met Leena, who was visiting with her family from Saudi Arabia. Shortly thereafter, as Karachi reeled in the aftermath of Benazir Bhutto's assassination, Leena and I got engaged. In Febru-



Joe Winters '06 married Angela Suber in Jacksonville, Fla., on December 19. Fellow alumni Mike McAndrew '06 (top row, third from right), Wade Fletcher '05 (top row, first from right), Alex Ehrhart '06 (middle row, third from right) and Shay Murphy '06 (middle row, second from right) were groomsmen. Not pictured are Matt Kaplan '06, Brooks Hansen '05, Brandon Bowser '06, Colby Blitz '06E, Arun Ramachandran '06E and Jeff Coles '06.

PHOTO: KARA PENNINGTON

ary 2008, Leena went back to Saudi Arabia, and I finally returned to the U.S. However, later that month, I got confirmation from the Dubai Pepsi team that they had a role for me, and by mid-March, I packed up once more and left for Dubai.

"Dubai has turned out to be an incredible place. One of the initial perks also was the fact that Leena was only an hour's flight away in Saudi Arabia. She and I got legally married in June 2008, but we had the public ceremony in December 2008. Leena then joined me in Dubai.

"On December 9, 2009, Leena and I welcomed our son, Zayan Rafiq, into our family. He's truly been a 'bundle of joy' and has changed both our lives for the better. In January of this year, I achieved a personal breakthrough when I finished the 10k in the Dubai Marathon in less than one hour. Never before did I think I could walk more than five kilometers at one stretch, let alone run 10! I think part of the motivation came from becoming a father and wanting to prove to myself that I was still young!"

REUNION JUNE 3-JUNE 6

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05

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Excited for the upcoming five-year Alumni Reunion Weekend? Hope

many of you can make it! It will be held Thursday, June 3-Sunday, June 6. There will be tons of events all weekend, including dinners; lunches; cultural events; and the Saturday wine tasting, class dinner and dancing on Low Plaza.

If you haven't registered, do so now: <http://reunion.college.columbia.edu>.

Here are some updates from your classmates.

W. Garner Robinson celebrated the Saints' Super Bowl victory on Bourbon Street in his native New Orleans. "WHO DAT!" he writes.

Jeremiah Boswell's writing on international basketball has been published in *Hoops Addict*. He has written about Derrick Alston, a former NBA pro who has flourished in Europe the past 12 years. He also has written about Stephon Marbury's arrival in the Chinese Basketball Association.

Benjamin Blaise was born January 27 to Martin and Bridget (Geibel) Stefanski. The Stefanskis were visited by KwiiNa Kim '05 Barnard, Lindsey May '05E and Alexandra Seggerman. Congrats!

Caitlin Verrilli writes: "I live in Bonn, Germany, at the headquarters of a consulting company where I've worked for a few years. I'm thoroughly enjoying 'Study Abroad II,' this time with a little more money in my pocket!"

Nicole Callahan will be returning to Columbia in the fall to begin a doctoral program in English education at Teachers College.

In February, Peter Lerman, who wrote music and lyrics for the *Varsity Show*, won one of the 2010 Jonathan Larson Grants for musical theater composing and lyric writing. Congrats!

06

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Classmates, thanks as always for the interesting updates. It's so exciting to hear about your accomplishments, travels and ongoing endeavors. We're lucky to have a class whose gifts span the full spectrum.

I thought I'd start this issue's column off with a happy update of my own: Michelle Oh got engaged in March to Alan C. Sing '05 Dartmouth and is planning a winter wedding.

Colleen Taylor was married in September to Brett Slatkin '05E. Their wedding was in Santa Barbara, Calif., and though the guest list was small (fewer than 40 people), it included a lot of Columbia grads: Katie Fernandez, Shayne Adler, Dana Gold, Naomi Kort, Jeff Farrell, Max DiLallo, Jason Fernandes '05 and Michael Krulwich '05. The newlyweds live in San Francisco, where Colleen has been since graduation.

I had the opportunity to attend the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 3 and was pleased to see numerous classmates in attendance, including but not limited to Zachery Bendiner, Michael Brown, Schuyler Brown, Theodore Orsher and Jonathan Lung '06E.

Hannah Herchenbach writes, "After graduating from Columbia, I left for New Zealand with aspirations of being a freelance writer. Within three months, I took over *Pulp*, the biggest pop culture magazine in the country. Within a year, I decided that I didn't want to do that, as I didn't have time to write my own stuff. So I set up a contract editing company instead and have spent the last three years perfecting my first novel, about a girl who runs away from America to live with a tribe of kids she met on a beach. I now live in Wellington and any Columbia kid who ever makes it down here is forever welcome in my little villa on a hill overlooking the twinkling night city."

Evan Sanchez recently returned from a five-month journey through South America with his girlfriend, which included stops in Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Uruguay. He's looking forward to the next big thing when he moves back to Brooklyn this summer. Sarah Maslin Nir '08 is a freelance writer for *The New York Times*. She recently returned from the wild Alaskan bush on assignment. Marc Pimentel traveled to Beijing to study acupuncture and traditional Chinese medicine for a month.

Dennis Schmelzer joined

White & Case in November as an associate. For the month of March, Joe Lemonik's artwork hung in Gimme!Coffee on Mott Street on the Lower East Side. The work was all made with office supplies during his employment at NERA, where he worked with Stephanie Willis. More of Joe's art work is at www.JoeLemonik.com. Tanya Khan will graduate from Duke Medical School this May and will complete her ophthalmology residency at LSU-Ochsner.

Schuyler Brown writes, "I'll be heading back uptown for business school at Columbia with Dodson Worthington and Nathaniel Greenberg. Hope to see some familiar faces around campus!"

Victoria Baranetsky is tirelessly trying to amuse her CC friends with her Class Notes entries. Haiku style: We is 12 percent. Defining it all the time. We cause waves. Oh my!

07

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I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable spring with some nice summer plans on the horizon. It's hard to believe it's been three years since our graduation, but members of our class are up to some amazing things.

Colleen Darnall has spent her time since graduation as a music assistant and copyist on such Broadway productions as *In the Heights*, *9 to 5*, *The Little Mermaid* and *Everyday Rapture*. Her current project is the Green Day musical, *American Idiot*, with Tony Award-winning orchestrator Tom Kitt '96. Colleen also is a composer and member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop.

Alan Weeth writes, "[I recently] quit my job and moved to Yogyakarta, a town in Indonesia about nine hours from Jakarta. I'm just traveling around Indo and discovering what life is really all about."

Eric Lopata '08, Jeffrey Feder '07E, '08E, Aryeh Falk and Eric Bondarsky recently had a long, interesting conversation about the Class Notes section in CCT. It felt like old times when you can have an intellectually stimulating conversation about almost anything! It also is so great to see what everyone is doing with their lives. We were all very proud.

Hagar ElBishlawi received her master's in environmental engineering from Princeton in May 2009.

Nishant Dixit shares some exciting news. "I am moving to Mumbai to work in international development for an NGO, TechnoServe. I

will be managing a rural entrepreneurship program that assists people with developing businesses throughout India. I also will be working with the Tibetan Government in Exile to promote economic development in Dharamsala and other refugee areas."

Congratulations Nishant!

Sean Colenso-Semple recently moved to Melbourne, Australia, where he is working for McKinsey. **Avi Zvi Zenilman** is happily self-employed and can be seen on a semi-regular basis wandering the halls of Lerner.

In addition to their *real* jobs, **Pierce Rowe**, **Caryn Epstein**, **Alex Baumel**, **Leah Sandals** and **Christian Capasso** are partners in a start-up beef jerky company, led by president and CEO **Josh Kace**. SlantShack Jerky, which specializes in bespoke jerky, was recently featured in *New York Magazine* and the *New York Post*. Check it out (and place an order!) at www.slantshackjerky.com.

Brooklyn Smith has been living in Holland for the past year, working on her family's farm and selling organic produce at a local food market. Life is beautiful! This fall, she will move to Ethiopia to study art at Addis Ababa University. She urges classmates to "shirk conventionalism and chase dreams!"

Thank you again for all of your submissions!

08

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Hi Class of '08,

Happy spring! Below are updates from members of our class. Enjoy!

Aaron Tolkin and **Dena Nachman** '09 Barnard got engaged on a cruise over New Year's! Aaron lives in Miami and is a revenue management analyst for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. "I miss the Northeast and Columbia, but I am living my dream by working for a cruise line," Aaron says. "Miami is not bad, but it is no Northeast. Of course, I encourage people to get in touch with me while they are vacationing in sunny Florida."

Eric Heinbockel, Nick LaCava '09 and a one-semester Columbia exchange student, Fabian Kaempfer of European Business School '09, started their own mass customization chocolate company, Chocomize. Users can create their own chocolate bars on www.chocomize.com. The company was founded in August just outside of Philadelphia and has already really taken off. "We are expanding rapidly and even currently interviewing

Columbia students for internships," says Eric.

Calvin Sun has been doing public speaking around the country including at Penn, Columbia, the 5 College Network (Smith, Amherst, UMass, Hampshire and Mt. Holyoke), Rutgers, Florida and Virginia. "I also have been giving keynote addresses, including one on student leadership at the University of Florida (www.ecaasu.org/site/?p=676) and one on global justice and social issues at the University of Virginia in April (www.student.virginia.edu/pursuit). I'll be starting medical school in the fall, haven't picked a place yet though, but it'll be in the NYC area or at Yale."

09

Alidad Damooei
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May is finally here, and this means that we are officially at the one-year mark of life after Columbia College. Most of us have finally adjusted to the pressures and rhythm of the real world. During the last year, members of our class have continued to amaze with their exciting adventures and significant accomplishments. One can only imagine what the coming years will bring, given what we have already done in our first year out of college.

On February 27, Justin Fiske '08 proposed to **Mallory Carr**. Mallory was then surprised when she found out that several of her friends had flown out from around the country to congratulate her in Los Angeles. I join all of CC '09 in congratulating them on the good news!

Congratulations also are in order for **Maxime Glass**. Maxime is graduating this May from the Harvard Graduate School of Education with a master's in education. She will return to New York City, where she will teach second grade at the Dalton School.

Gabrielle Apollon was in Haiti during the earthquake on January 12 with a research group from SIPA, where she is studying, and has written an account of her experience at www.ayitimwen.blogspot.com. She and her family were not injured, but to assist those who were, she led a team and ran in World Vision's 5k Run for Haiti on April 3. Gabrielle is raising money for World Vision because not only does World Vision have a tremendous presence in current humanitarian relief efforts in Haiti but it also has worked in Haiti for more than 30 years and is committed to Haiti's long-term development. Funds raised by the



A large crowd of Philolexians joined Michelle Pentecost '07 to celebrate her wedding to high school sweetheart Robert Smith in Louisiana on July 18. In attendance were (left to right) Leo Gertsenshteyn '06E, Elliot Kaplan '06E, Jonathan Treitel '05, Stephanie Feldman '05 Barnard, Edward Rueda '05, the bride, Everett Patterson '06, Tamar Zeffren '06 Barnard, Neil Flanagan '08, Caitlin Campbell '07, Anna Sproul '07, Eric LeSueur '06 and Andrew Liebowitz '06.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF ANNA SPROUL '07

organization go toward providing child-friendly spaces, distributing food, medicine and family survival kits as well as contributing to long-term development programs. Gabrielle would greatly appreciate it if you would contribute and spread the word about this cause. To do any of those, please visit http://twv.convio.net/site/TR/TeamWorldVision/General?px=1048841&pg=personal&fr_id=1160. Also, feel free to e-mail her at gabrielle.a@gmail.com if you have questions or would like more information about other initiatives.

Philippe Fossaert has moved back to Bogota, Colombia. He is a business analyst for a Dutch chain of supermarkets with a presence in 10 Colombian cities. Philippe finds the work to be interesting and varied. As a former member of the Columbia golf team, Philippe likes to play a round of golf as often as possible to maintain his level.

Rebecca Feinberg and **Jordan Keenan** embarked upon "The Best Internship Ever" with Professor Paige West in Papua New Guinea. They put their anthropology skills to work with Ailan Awareness, a grassroots marine conservation NGO that had them grant-writing, visiting tiny island villages to set up community-based conservation plans and riding through the jungle in the back of a pickup truck. They learned to speak Papua New Guinea Pidgin, tried chewing betel nut and then proceeded to Australia to muck around for a couple months, surfing, hiking and (for a bit) living out of a much-beloved van.

As a consultant with Monitor Group's Middle East office, **Josh Mathew** anxiously awaits the rumored launch of a Shake Shack in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he's been staffed for the past six months

on a project related to developing the Kingdom's national competitiveness. Josh recently attended the inaugural Saudi Columbia Alumni Dinner on the Red Sea in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He and more than 20 alums, including an '85 Business alumnus, reminisced about College Walk, New York and snowstorms.

Oriana Isaacson lives in Seattle, right under the Space Needle, with her cat, Lucy. She works in admissions at The Bush School, a private K-12 school in the city. Last month, **Dean Li** and **Sara Ovardia** visited her from California. That weekend was Tristan Naumann '09E's birthday. Tristan, Sara, Boris Mindzak '09E and Oriana had a mini-John Jay 9 reunion. **Max Czapanskiy**, **Kim Manis** '09E and **Valerie Smith** also attended.

Oriana is happy to report that she recently planned a massive interview day for applicants to the Class of 2014. Talking to them about NYC made her miss the city, but she still thinks Seattle is pretty awesome, too!

10

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Hello, and congratulations to all of my graduating classmates! I look forward to serving as the Class Notes scribe for the Class of 2010. I hope all of you find time to keep in touch and share your exciting news with me, whether you move to a different city, switch jobs or get a pet snail!

It feels like just yesterday that we moved into our freshman dormitories, eager and anxious to

begin the Core, make new friends and explore New York City. Now, it's time to clear our minds of phrases like "the homestretch" and the "final countdown" and turn our attention to the exciting plans for this summer and next year.

Some of our classmates will be staying in New York City. **Joe Saia** writes, "Next year, I'll be an associate consultant at Rosetta Marketing Group, a consulting firm in TriBeCa that specializes in interactive and online marketing solutions. I'll be living in downtown Manhattan and putting my hard-earned Core knowledge to good use in business meetings, cocktail parties and trendy electro-trance clubs. In a few years, I'll be looking to attend business school."

Michael Molina plans to look for a job at a production company in NYC while working on his robot screenplay, *A Simple Machine*. It is a parody movie in which artificial intelligence turns to violent intelligence as robots take over a small town in Arizona, and a lieutenant and single father will have to solve

the mystery of the attack before the robots kill everyone. Eventually, Michael plans to move to Los Angeles to work for a studio.

Congratulations to **Zeena Audi**, who will be attending P&S in August after a summer of relaxation and traveling with friends and family. At the moment, she thinks she might like to pursue a career in pediatrics.

Sophie Reiser made the tough decision to leave Columbia early to pursue a career as a professional soccer player after getting drafted by the Chicago Red Stars in January. Although she has had a difficult time battling injuries, she hopes to make her mark in women's professional soccer during the next few years. Look for her in the news (and in future Class Notes)!

Traveling through Europe before starting work full time is a popular choice for many. After graduation, **Daniel Kanak** will backpack through Eastern Europe for three weeks, starting in Poland and also going to the Full Moon party in

Thailand with Columbia friends for a week before flying back to New York. He starts training in mid-July at Goldman Sachs and hopes to live in either TriBeCa or the Financial District.

Matthew Harold writes, "Next year I'll be working at Morgan Stanley in the Investment Banking Division, where I'll be in the Financial Institutions Group. Before I officially sell my soul, my summer is going to consist of moving into a new apartment somewhere in Manhattan with **Veronica Colon** and **Arianna Bastianini** and traveling around Europe for a month."

Emily Lampert will be just a train ride away in New Haven, Conn., where she will join Teach For America and help close the largest achievement gap in the country. Emily will be teaching fifth- and sixth-grade reading at an Achievement First charter school.

Some of our classmates will be moving abroad. **Sue Yang** will relocate from the Midwest to the Middle East, from Detroit to Dubai. She will be working for McKinsey

& Co. Middle East, but will first spend the summer studying Arabic at the Columbia University Middle East Research Center in Amman, Jordan, and then traveling to Shanghai to reconnect with her roots and roam the World Expo.

Adam Valen Levinson also will be studying Arabic, but he will attend Middlebury's Intensive Summer Arabic Program in Oakland, Calif. In August, Adam will move to Abu Dhabi to be a program coordinator for NYU Abu Dhabi during its inaugural year. He hopes to rent a camel.

Charlotte Freinberg also will be overseas, moving back to London in May to work at a television production company in the comedy/entertainment department. She would like to make shows that are both comedic and entertaining.

I will stay in New York City next year to work at Time in its Corporate Strategy Group.

Please do not hesitate to e-mail me at any time with updates, and have a wonderful summer!



Letters

(Continued from page 2)

without any editorial comment, the climate change denier's letter. The writer made numerous statements of "fact" that are demonstrably false.

For a statement of the urgency of action to slow climate change, read this letter from The National Academies of Sciences, United States of America, and other major countries: www.nationalacademies.org/includes/G8+Energy-climate09.pdf.

Sam Silvers '82, '85L
New York City

1959

Fred Kaplan makes a compelling case for his main thesis ("1959: The Year Everything Changed," March/April), but I'd like to comment on his assertion that Allen Ginsberg '48's mother, "who had gone insane when he was in high school, lived in an asylum up in the Bronx."

First of all, Naomi Ginsberg began having psychotic episodes before Allen was born. When she got worse, she was sent to the Bloomingdale Asylum in White Plains, N.Y. (This is the same asylum that had occupied land on Morningside Heights until Columbia bought it in 1892.) When the family could no longer afford that private care, she was moved to the Greystone Psychiatric Hospital in New Jersey. She was in and out of state care for the rest of her life, dying in 1956 in the Pilgrim Psychiatric Center on

Long Island. I do not believe that she was ever a patient in an asylum in the Bronx.

Secondly, "going insane" is not a good way to describe what she and her family went through. Although Allen thought of her condition in spiritual rather than medical terms, I think it would be fair to call it a severe and complex mental illness that worsened over time.

My interest in the Ginsbergs goes back to my connection with Allen's father, Louis, who was my English teacher in 1951-52 at Central H.S. in Paterson, N.J. In early spring 1954, he stopped me in the hall and asked if I had plans for college. He told me a son had gone to Columbia "and enjoyed it very much." Since this was a life-changing conversation for me, I remember his exact words. He thought I would "enjoy" Columbia, too. Obviously, if I had not listened to his advice, you would not be hearing from me now. Only later, when I became aware of "Howl," did I connect a kind teacher with his celebrated son.

David Brown '58
SHELburne, VT.

In the March/April issue of *CCT*, there was a wonderful digest of Fred Kaplan's book about the Beat Generation writers. It featured a photo from a poetry reading (of his "Howl") by Allen Ginsberg '48 in 1959. In this photo, an unidentified man was seated behind Ginsberg. Both Marty Janis '59 and I believe this gentleman to be our erstwhile, wonderful professor of modern

poetry, Frederick W. Dupee. Is this correct?

J. Peter Rosenfeld '59
EVANSTON, ILL.

[Editor's note: Indeed, it is former professor Dupee in the photo.]

Thank you for choosing to publish that excerpt of Fred Kaplan's book on 1959. It enlightened for me the source for the writing of Allen Ginsberg '48 and Jack Kerouac '44. But it also reminded me of one of the great characteristics of Columbia: allowing talented young men who were expelled or suspended for rowdy misbehavior, like Ginsberg and Benjamin Jealous '94, to return to the College and mature into useful citizens and leaders in their fields.

Sol Fisher '36, '38L
PLEASANT HILL, CALIF.

The Rule of Law

The article on Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L (November/December) shows what a hypocrite he is. Mr. Holder states that the "whole idea of social segregation is disturbing." Yet the article states that he was "active in a campaign to establish a lounge in Hartley Hall where black students could gather" while he was an undergraduate. If he is against social segregation, then why was he promoting it as an undergraduate? Furthermore, he states he wants to reestablish the "rule of law," yet he was instrumental in obtaining the pardon of Marc Rich, the fugitive billionaire. It appears that the rule of law does not apply to lawbreakers

who make a big contribution to the Democratic Party.

Roman Kernitsky '62
COLTS NECK, N.J.

The decision to try 9-11 terrorists in New York City is stupid — there is no other word. As anyone with a decent education knows, the decision is so obviously stupid on so many levels; there can be no justification for it. Oh yes, one can manufacture sentences that resemble reasons, but they are mere sophistifications; they neither explain the decision nor make it right.

Because they are graduates, Columbia publications have, as did *CCT* in November/December, ostentatiously displayed Attorney General Holder, who claims responsibility for the decision, and President Obama, who from a constitutional standpoint could and should only have made it. However, such boldly public correlations between Columbia and indefensibly stupid decision makers lead me, with more than one degree from Columbia, to duck for cover. Friends who are decently educated otherwise wonder out loud whether Columbia's reputation has outlived its quality.

While I imagine Columbia will continue to trade on its connection to political power, I wish the College and University would be more discriminating and circumspect with its support.

Daniel E. Johnson '61, '62 GSAS,
'66 GSAS
CHARLOTTE, N.C.





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Deadline for July/August issue:

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

ALUMNI CORNER

Columbia Blue and the Four-Minute Mile

BY LIAM BOYLAN-PETT '08

Kyle Merber '12 and I never ran together at Columbia. He arrived at 116th and Broadway just as I was leaving for grad school at Georgetown.

We had met when he was in high school, and he seemed like a good enough guy. He knew about me as a runner and wanted to know everything there was to know about why I was pretty good. I tried to give him tips about succeeding as a runner at Columbia, and via Facebook we became friends.

My first year out of Columbia went extremely well in terms of running. While I couldn't complain about my four years in Manhattan, I really started to mature as an athlete in the District of Columbia. On January 31, 2009, I ran a mile in 3 minutes 59.40 seconds, becoming the 315th American to break the four-minute barrier.

Joy, shock, relief and pride were among the emotions I felt as I crossed the finish line and realized I had done what I had dreamed about as a seventh-grader, when I first learned what running under four minutes meant. It took me 10 years to drop 80 seconds off my time, but the mission was accomplished.

Even though I was no longer in the light blue and instead wore a plain black singlet, I was the first Columbia runner to break the four-minute barrier.

Kyle wanted to be the next. I had no problem helping as much as I could.

I keep in touch with the Columbia coaching staff, especially since my brother, Will '05, is an assistant, and they asked me to pace the mile at Columbia's Last Chance Track Meet (an open race, although most runners were collegians) on March 5. So I hopped on the Amtrak to New York, grabbed a 1 train to 116th, walked along College Walk to Amsterdam Avenue and boarded a bus that took me to the Armory on West 168th Street.

I was there to pace the first 1,200 meters of the 1,609-meter race. The point of a pacer, commonly known in the running world as a rabbit, is to do the work at the beginning of a race to make sure the tempo is fast enough. It is easier to run behind someone than in the lead, so my goal was to be in front of Kyle and the other racers to make sure that they saw 2 minutes and 58 seconds when they had 400 meters to go. At that point, I would step off the track and hope that Kyle could maintain the pace in the final quarter-mile. It felt odd for me to enter a race knowing that I wasn't going to finish it, but I had already broken four and I thought it was time for a guy in Columbia blue to do it.

On an outdoor track, there are four laps to a mile. At the indoor Armory, you have to make your way around the banked, 200-meter oval a hair over eight laps. I was in charge of leading six of those laps, and I made sure to do exactly that.

The excitement grew every time I ran around the first turn, and the noise got louder with each lap. Those in the Columbia cheer-

ing section were screaming wildly and pounding their fists on the track, their intensity picking up to match the intensity of the race.

"Two fifty-six, fifty-seven" — I stepped off the track as a race official screamed the time — "fifty-eight, fifty nine" His voice trailed off as I set up to watch the end of the race unfold. By now the Columbia cheering section was in a frenzy as Kyle went by in a blur, his long hair barely contained by his white headband. I stood up on the banked curve and found myself wringing my hands and getting wrapped up in the screaming and stomping.

A group of five runners came up the homestretch, and I frantically watched as Kyle took the lead from a Syracuse runner as the bell that signals the last lap rang out loudly.

"Go! Go! GO!" I yelled at him and spun my pendulum-like arm in a circle emphasizing how fast I wanted him to run.

He floated down the backstretch and began pulling away from the other runners. Around the turn they started catching up to him, but with only a straightaway to go, he mustered his strength and powered through the last 50 meters.

There often is an eerie silence right after a mile race that is run around four minutes. Everyone watches a runner cross the finish line, then quickly turns to the clock in hopes that a "3" will be the first digit in the final time posted.

That didn't happen this time. Kyle crossed the line with his arms spread wide, certain that he had broken four minutes. He did: 3 minutes, 58.52 seconds of running led to him being the 343rd American under four.

He kept on running, too — right into his eagerly waiting cheering section. There he hugged and high-fived anyone who would have him.

I stood by the finish line and took it all in. Everyone I looked at, Columbia students and alumni alike, was smiling.

For me, it was different now, but still much the same. There was still a love for anyone who donned the light blue and ran wildly around the oval. I once was the one with the "C" on my chest celebrating on the

track; it was just as much fun to witness Kyle dancing like a child on the track, his joy contagious.

He eventually found his way over to me and gripped me in a bear hug. "Thank you, man," he said. "I love this." We pushed away from our hug and he went back to his interviews over the loudspeaker and celebrations with his teammates and family.

Only twice has a Columbia Lion laced up his track spikes, toed the starting line and proceeded to run a mile in under four minutes.

I did it once. I was extremely proud to witness, and contribute to, the other.



To see a video of Merber's race, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Liam Boylan-Pett '08, a journalism graduate student in Washington, D.C., still is chasing his running dreams.



(Above) Liam Boylan-Pett '08 crosses the finish line at the Penn Relays. (Right) Boylan-Pett and Kyle Merber '12 after Merber's sub-four-minute mile.



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Edward Koren. 24-Hour Banking, 1990. Courtesy the artist and the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery. An extensive exhibition of cartoons by Edward Koren '57 is being shown through Saturday, June 12, at the Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery on campus. For more, see page 16.