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CELEBRATES  
GOOD TIMES**

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# Columbia College

September/October 2010

## TODAY

## Student Life



A new spirit of community is  
building on Morningside Heights



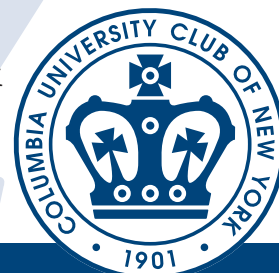
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#### SCHOLARSHIPS 101

Discover how donations to the Columbia College Fund improve the College and help its students.

# Columbia College TODAY

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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

### Sweetest '60 Suite

Hats off to the Class of '60 on its 50th anniversary reunion, and especially to Professor Nathan Gross '60 for his heartfelt cabaret performance, full of pith and vinegar, now immortalized online:

*Still I'd gladly  
Swap a stack of Stetsons  
And a rack of Borsalini  
To get back one purloined beanie  
And start at Columbia again!  
Oh, yes!*

Jamie Katz '72  
NEW YORK CITY

The author is a former editor of CCT. You can relive Nathan Gross '60's reunion performance at [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul\\_aug10/webexclusives](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul_aug10/webexclusives).

### Freefall

It is not often that I can pick up a publication and so instantly form a visceral reaction to what appears in the Letters column. Perhaps that may be due to the lead-off entitled *Freefall*, a letter from Dave Ritchie '73 in the July/August issue.

I wonder if Mr. Ritchie has ever bothered to read the budget?

He might well have seen it, because he has described the portion of the budget going to "defense-related-expenditures" as "making it the single greatest economic entity in the American economy."

That utterly conceals and confounds the much larger entity consisting of outlays for multitudes of social engineering projects of dubious effect or value. Collectively, the expenditures of these entities dwarf by comparison the military spending that he decries, and with no productivity!

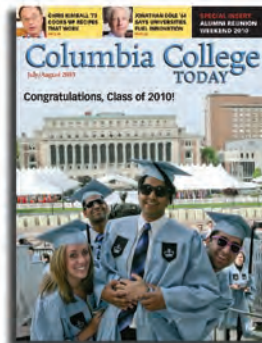
Perhaps I missed something in those years between my '54-'55 and Mr. Ritchie's '73. But is he really saying that it is because of military spending "United States lost the ability to compete in essential areas of civilian manufacturing to overseas competitors?" Which other sector of the economy developed so much technical expertise that any could be exported at all, and in doing so to bring a modicum of prosperity for the rest of the world to share?

Mr. Ritchie concludes that "we can take solace in making the best (and most expen-

sive) damn rockets, tanks and warplanes in the world — and it sure helps the GDP look good." At least Mr. Ritchie can enjoy the privilege of such self-contradiction. Perhaps he picked up that mindless skill during Columbia's declining years of the '60s and '70s, perhaps directly from Professor Seymour Melman himself.

Columbia's deficient sense of good citizenship in banning NROTC from campus may also find roots in the teaching of Professor Melman, with Mr. Ritchie's continuing support no doubt. It is deplorable that Mr. Ritchie finds no value in military strength to preserve his freedoms. Worse, he writes, "Military production and the maintenance of the war economy contribute significantly to GDP numbers but they provide nothing to either the general well-being of the population or to the real productivity of the economy."

Ken Williamson '54, '55E  
HAUPPAUGE, N.Y.



### Hooping It Up

Alex Sachare '71's "Within the Family" column (May/June) gave a balanced but generally appreciative description

of Coach Joe Jones' performance as men's basketball coach. This, I believe, presented an inaccurate picture.

Coach Jones had fundamental defects as a coach and it was predictable at an early stage that as long as he remained, the Columbia men's basketball program was doomed to mediocrity. Coach Jones was an effective recruiter, but his defects as a coach caused the team consistently to underperform in relationship to its potential. His demeanor and lack of ability as a strategist and teacher were defects which were obvious from the inception, and [Athletics Director] M. Dianne Murphy's file has letters that evidence that many perceived this problem at an early stage. Measured in comparison with the performance of Armond Hill, his immediate predecessor, coach Jones could be considered as a success. However, measured in terms of the excellent level that Columbia should demand of its coaches, coach Jones was a failure.

Mediocrity is often more pernicious than outright incompetence. The truly fundamentally incompetent are identified

(Continued on page 70)

## WITHIN THE FAMILY

## One Last Toast E're We Part

*Editor's note: Derek Wittner '65, '68L returned to Columbia in 1993, working for two years in Student Affairs and then moving to the Alumni Office, where he was director of the Columbia College Fund and then v.p. and finally dean of alumni affairs and development. Wittner resigned effective July 31 and now is v.p. for development at the Cooper Union in NYC.*

Wittner is part of a Columbia family — his father, brother and two sons are all alumni — and a strong believer in the integral role alumni play in the life of a school. He reshaped and expanded the Alumni Office, which thrived under his leadership. The College Fund has grown to a record \$15.1 million in unrestricted gifts, and numerous professorships, especially in the Core Curriculum, have been added. Alumni Affairs also has prospered, with existing events such as Alumni Reunion Weekend and Homecoming drawing increasing crowds, and recent traditions such as the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day and the alumni presence at the Senior Dinner reinforcing the notion that a student's undergraduate years are only the beginning of his or her lifelong relationship with Columbia. Wittner believed in the importance of communicating with alumni — not just asking them for money — and was a strong supporter of this magazine as a cornerstone of a concerted effort to reconnect alumni with each other and the College.

In a restructuring of the Alumni Office, plans are to hire a senior executive director of development and a senior executive director of alumni affairs and communications. National searches are being conducted to fill these important positions.

Alex Sachare '71

By Derek Wittner '65, '68L

Not everyone gets to do something for his/her work that fulfills several impulses. In my prior professional life, if success and happiness are measured by economic reward and intellectual challenge, then I would tell you that those two indicies



**Derek Wittner '65, '68L was a strong advocate for the contributions alumni can make to the life and vibrancy of the College.**

were satisfied. But as I got older, there was nagging at me another unfulfilled impulse. Would it be possible to identify and secure an opportunity to serve a broader purpose?

I could never have predicted at the onset of my musings that I would have the good fortune to become an advocate for education. Were that not sufficient, I would be given that opportunity at Columbia College, the alma mater I share with four family members and all of you. I took up the cause with unbridled enthusiasm and passion, perhaps also with a dose of uncertainty thrown in.

Some 18-odd years later, I can say unhesitatingly that I have felt as fulfilled as I never could have imagined. In the course of witnessing the re-emergence of the College as, in my opinion, the best undergraduate experience in the country, these attributes of my journey — in addition to meeting my wife, Kathryn — stand out:

I have met and befriended an unbelievable number of alumni of all ages, backgrounds and opinions (much like

our shared experience as Columbia College undergraduates) as well as students and parents of our students. I never fully appreciated the extent of commitment alumni have to the College and the uniformly held belief that we were offered an unparalleled education rooted in an enduring Core. It did not take much for me to tap into that sentiment, and it accounts for the remarkable resurgence of alumni support you have offered. It is to all of you that the College owes a debt for taking up the cause.

It is not inevitable that one can serve an institution at the right time. The Columbia College of the '70s was a challenge for students, alumni, faculty and administrators. In my tenure, the College was blessed with strong volunteer and professional leadership with ambitious goals. Being held to high standards prevents complacency, and we have certainly not been complacent. I am grateful to have been held to such standards.

Finally, the coincidence of effective volunteer leadership with a more professional approach to serving the College has made progress possible. I was given the mandate and support to identify and hire experienced staff. Susan Birnbaum, Ken Catandella, Alex Sachare '71 and the many members of their staffs through the years have contributed so much to the College's progress; their continuing service speaks to the recognition of their individual capabilities.

I leave to take on the development responsibility at another venerable, albeit smaller, New York educational institution: the Cooper Union. Sharing as it does Columbia's commitment to access as it provides a full scholarship to every student, the transition presents a continuum of values.

So I leave the College as a professional staff member with enormous gratitude. I have learned from you what it takes to make good alumni, and I shall try to follow capably in your footsteps. Thanks.

# AROUND THE QUADS

## Lions To Host Dartmouth at Homecoming 2010

BY LISA PALLADINO

**H**omecoming 2010, to be held on Saturday, October 23, will feature the Lions taking on Ivy League rival Dartmouth in the afternoon football game at Baker Athletics Complex. Prior to the game, there will be a gourmet barbecue buffet lunch under the Big Tent and family fun at the Columbia Homecoming Carnival, featuring face painting, balloon making, magic, games, prizes and interactive activities for fans of all ages.

The tent opens for lunch and mingling with alumni, parents, students and friends at 11 a.m. Kickoff at Robert K. Kraft Field is at 1:30 p.m.

Lunch tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 12 if purchased online by Thursday, October 21: [www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming). Lunch tickets also are available on site: \$22 for adults and \$12 for children. Each lunch ticket includes an all-you-can-eat

barbecue buffet lunch, soft drinks and admittance to the Columbia Homecoming Carnival. Beer, wine and cocktails will be available at an additional cost. There also will be limited cash-and-carry items.

To purchase football tickets, which are separate from lunch tickets, call 888-LIONS-11 or purchase online: [www.gocolumbialions.com/tickets](http://www.gocolumbialions.com/tickets). Premium chairback seats are \$25; reserved bench seats are \$15.

There are several options for getting to Baker Athletics Complex. Shuttle buses from the Morningside campus will be available beginning at 11 a.m. and will return immediately following the game, running between the Broadway gates and the northwest corner of West 218th Street and Broadway. Log on to [www.gocolumbialions.com](http://www.gocolumbialions.com) prior to the game for updated information.

Fans also may use mass transit. By subway, take the 1 train to 215th Street or

the A train to 207th Street and walk north to West 218th Street and Broadway. By bus, the M100, Bx20 and Bx7 stop nearby. By Metro-North Railroad, the Marble Hill station is located on the north shore of Spuyten Duyvil, just across the Broadway Bridge from Baker Athletics Complex. Log on to [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) prior to the game for service advisories.

On-site preferred parking at Baker Athletics Complex is available as a benefit only to those making qualifying gifts to Columbia football. Single-game parking passes are not available. Fans arriving by vehicle without on-site preferred parking passes will be directed to public parking facilities.

For more information about Baker Athletics Complex 2010 football game day policies and procedures, public parking options, fans code of conduct and more, log on to [www.gocolumbialions.com/footballgameday](http://www.gocolumbialions.com/footballgameday).



Alumni, students, parents and friends enjoy a gourmet lunch under the Big Tent at Homecoming 2009.

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

# Rothfeld To Receive Hamilton Medal

**M**ichael B. Rothfeld '69, '71J, '71 SIPA, '71 Business will receive the 2010 Alexander Hamilton Medal on Thursday, November 17, at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, an annual black-tie event held in Low Rotunda. The medal, the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community, is awarded annually by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

Rothfeld, a 1970–71 International Fellow at SIPA, is a University trustee and a CCAA board member. He is a former chair of the Columbia College Board of Visitors and also has served on the advisory board of the Journalism school's Knight-Bagehot Program in business and financial journalism.

A theatrical producer and private equity investor, Rothfeld has been an associate editor of *FORTUNE*, assistant to the chairman and CEO of Time Inc., an investment banking v.p. of Salomon Brothers, a managing director in the investment banking division of The First Boston Corp. and, through private corporations, a general partner of Bessemer Capital Partners and Bessemer Holdings. He was a director of The Overhead Door Corp., Graphic Controls Corp. (non-executive chair) and Kelly Oil & Gas.

Rothfeld was a member in 1979 of the first cultural delegation from the United States to the People's Republic of China. He received the Drama Desk and Outer



Critics Circle awards and was nominated for a TONY for the revival of Gore Vidal's *The Best Man*. Rothfeld's production company received the Lucille Lortel Award for the New York revival of *Our Town*. He also is a director of The Jed Foundation and a trustee of Second Stage theater.

Rothfeld is married to Ella M. Foshay '71 GSAS, '79 GSAS, who holds a Ph.D. in art history. They are the parents of Ella M. Foshay-Rothfeld '06 and

Augusta F. Foshay-Rothfeld '08.

For more information on the dinner, contact Meghan Eschmann, associate director for College events and programs: 212-851-7399 or me2363@columbia.edu.

## 中文第二语言习得会议

Second Language Acquisition of Chinese Conference

Teachers College, Columbia University Roundtable in Second Language Studies (TCCRISLS)

# SAVE THE DATE

# October 1–2, 2010

You are cordially invited to participate in the first TCCRISLS, which will provide a forum to address issues specifically related to the acquisition of Chinese as a second language.

Join distinguished speakers, colleagues, researchers, faculty and others during this informative conference, as we unpack of the nature and process of learning and identify the pedagogical conditions that may help improve the efficiency and effectiveness of learning.

Early and Group Registration now available through and including August 31, 2010

To learn more and register, visit [www.tc.edu/tccrisls](http://www.tc.edu/tccrisls)

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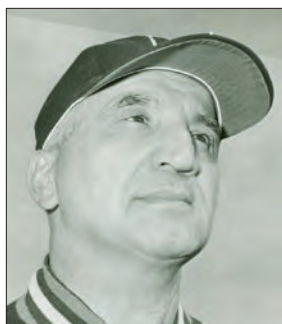
# Athletics Announces 2010 Hall of Fame Class

**C**olumbia will honor 20 former student-athletes, three former head coaches, the 1961 Ivy League champion football team, one former staff member and one individual in the 2010 class of the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will occur at a black-tie dinner in Low Library on Friday, October 22.

The Class of 2010 includes 19 men, six women and one team, representing 12 sports. The inductees were selected by a committee of Columbia Athletics affiliates, including alumni and athletics administrators, after more than 200 nominees were submitted for consideration by the general public from November 2008 through March 2010.

Among those to be inducted are National College Football Hall of Fame member Walter Koppisch '25, U.S. Open tennis champion Oliver Campbell (Class of 1891), former football coach Aldo T. "Buff" Donelli and 2008 Olympic fencing silver medalist Erinn Smart '02 Barnard.

The 1961 football team was coached by Donelli and captained by William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC, chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees, former head football coach and National Football Foundation Gold Medal winner. Bob Asack '62, Lee Black '62, Tony Day '63, Tom Haggerty '62 and Columbia University Athletics Hall of Famer Russ Warren '62 all earned All-Ivy League first-team honors that



Aldo T. "Buff" Donelli



Franklin Thomas '56

season, when the Lions outscored their opponents 240–117 and compiled records of 6–1 in the league and 6–3 overall.

Following is the Class of 2010 of the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame:

## Former Student-Athletes, Male

### Heritage Era (1852–1955)

Charles Batterman '44 (swimming and diving)  
 Lou Bender '32 (basketball, baseball)  
 Oliver Campbell (Class of 1891) (tennis)  
 Walter Koppisch '25 (football)  
 John J. O'Brien '38 (football, basketball, swimming and diving)  
 Stephen Sobel '54 (fencing)  
 Al Thompson '54 (track and field)

### Modern Era (1955–Present)

Thomas Auth '90 (rowing)  
 Robert Cottingham Jr. '88 (fencing)  
 Rikhardur "Rikki" Dadason '96 (soccer)  
 Garrett Neubart '95 (baseball)  
 Nicholas Szerlip '95 (wrestling)

Franklin Thomas '56 (basketball)  
 Rory Wilfork '97 (football)

## Former Student-Athletes, Female

Alison Ahern '00 (soccer)  
 Nicole Campbell '02 (field hockey, softball)  
 Delilah DiCrescenzo '05 (cross country, track and field)  
 Lucy Eccleston Norvall '03 Barnard (swimming and diving)  
 Erinn Smart '02 Barnard (fencing)  
 Kathy Gilbert White '91 (basketball)

## Coach

### Heritage Era (1852–1955)

Edward T. Kennedy (swimming and diving, 1910–55)

### Modern Era (1955–Present)

Aldo T. "Buff" Donelli (football, 1957–67)  
 Dieter Ficken (men's soccer, 1979–2005)

## Team

1961 football

## Athletics Staff

William Steinman (director, Sports Information, 1970–2002)

## Special Category for Individual Achievement

Gerald Sherwin '55

For more information about the induction ceremony and dinner, contact Felicia Ganthier, development assistant, athletics department at 212-851-5648 or fj2131@columbia.edu.

Alex Sachare '71

## ROAR, LION, ROAR

■ **FOOTBALL:** Columbia's football team will play the first of six home games when it opens the 2010 season against Fordham in the annual Liberty Cup game on Saturday, September 18, on Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium.

Columbia starts its 10-game season with four home games. After Fordham, the Lions will face Towson in another non-league game before opening their Ivy League schedule against Princeton on Saturday, October 2. After hosting Lafayette in their final non-league game and traveling to Philadelphia to play Penn, the Lions will play Dartmouth at Homecoming on Saturday, October 23.

Following is the complete 2010 varsity

football schedule, with home games capitalized. All games are on Saturdays.

September 18	FORDHAM	12:30 p.m.
September 25	TOWSON	12:30 p.m.
October 2	PRINCETON	12:30 p.m.
October 9	LAFAYETTE	12:30 p.m.
October 16	at Penn	12:00 p.m.
October 23	DARTMOUTH	12:30 p.m.
October 30	at Yale	12:00 p.m.
November 6	at Harvard	12:00 p.m.
November 13	CORNELL	12:30 p.m.
November 20	at Brown	12:30 p.m.

For tickets or further information, visit [www.gocolumbiaions.com/tickets](http://www.gocolumbiaions.com/tickets) or call

888-LIONS-11. Season tickets start at \$54 for the six-game home schedule.

■ **FENCING:** Columbia fencers past and present fared well at the U.S. Summer Nationals, held in Atlanta in July.

Emily Jacobson '08, Sammy Roberts '12E and Daria Schneider '10 finished first, second and fifth, respectively, in the senior women's sabre competition, while James Williams '07 and Jeff Spear '10 were fifth and sixth, respectively, in senior men's sabre. Nicole Ross '11 was second in senior women's foil, Nzingha Prescod '14 was first and Lydia Kopecky '13 was third in under-19 women's epee, and Magnus Ferguson '14 was sixth in under-19 men's epee.

## Belknap, McKeown To Receive Great Teachers Award

**R**obert Belknap, the Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages at the College and director of the University Seminars, and Kathleen McKeown, the Henry and Gertrude Rothschild Professor of Computer Science at SEAS, are the 2010 recipients of the Great Teachers Award. They will be honored at the Society of Columbia Graduates Awards Dinner, which will be held in Low Rotunda on Thursday, October 21.

Belknap was educated at Princeton, the University of Paris, Columbia (a certificate from SIPA in 1957 and a Ph.D. in Slavic languages from GSAS in 1959) and Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) State University. He is the author of *The Structure of the Brothers Karamazov; The Genesis of the Brothers Karamazov: The Aesthetics, Ideology, and Psychology of Making a Text*; and other studies of Russian literature and of university education.

In 1956, Belknap began teaching at Columbia following Army service. Upon completing his dissertation on "The Structure of the Brothers Karamazov," he began

teaching Literature Humanities in 1960 and continued for nearly every year thereafter. He chaired Literature Humanities in 1963, from 1967–70 and again for two years in the 1980s. In 2000–01, he was honored for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum.

Belknap also has taught courses in Russian and comparative literature and literary theory and major Asian classics. He was acting Dean of the College in 1975 and also has been associate dean for student affairs, chair of the Slavic languages department and director of the Russian (now Harriman) Institute.

McKeown was torn between mathematics and literature as an undergraduate at Brown. She majored in comparative literature, but ultimately it was the computer science courses she took that led to her research and expertise in natural language processing. McKeown earned her Ph.D. from Penn in 1982.

She is the first woman to receive tenure and the first to serve as a department chair at SEAS. McKeown has received many awards and honors, including the

National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award in 1985, an NSF Faculty Award for Women in 1991, the American Association of Artificial Intelligence Fellow in 1994 and the Association for Computing Machine Fellow in 2003.

The Society of Columbia Graduates, formed 101 years ago, established the Great Teachers Award in 1949 to honor outstanding teachers, one each from the College and Engineering School. Recipients have included such illustrious teachers as Jacques Barzun '27, Mark Van Doren, Moses Hadas, Lionel Trilling '25, Kathy Eden, Kenneth Jackson, Alan Brinkley, Andrew Delbanco, David Helfand and many others.

For further information on the dinner and awards presentation, contact Andrew Gaspar '69E at 212-705-0153 or [agaspar@gasparglobal.com](mailto:agaspar@gasparglobal.com), or Anna Longobardo '49E, '52E at 914-779-2448 or [longbard@optonline.net](mailto:longbard@optonline.net), or visit the society's website, [www.socg.com](http://www.socg.com).

Alex Sachare '71

## COLUMBIA ALUMNI CENTER



### *Second Annual Especially Open House* October 21 and 22

The Columbia Alumni Center is always open to all alumni of the University, Monday through Saturday. But for two days this October, we will be *especially open*.

There are even more reasons to visit the Center during Homecoming weekend: refreshments, giveaways, a special athletics display, benefits help, and a chance to win prizes. You can also add your Columbia story to our alumni video project, Columbia University Close-Ups.

It's all happening October 21 and 22 from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., leading into Homecoming and Family Weekend. We'd love to see you, so come on home!

COLUMBIA *alumni* ASSOCIATION | 

Columbia Alumni Center 622 West 113th Street between Broadway and Riverside Drive [alumni.columbia.edu/openhouse2010](http://alumni.columbia.edu/openhouse2010)

# College Fund Raises Record \$15.1 Million

In Michele Moody-Adams' first year as Dean of the College, alumni, parents, friends and Class of 2010 donors helped the Columbia College Fund exceed its Fiscal Year 2009–10 goal of \$14 million by more than \$1 million and set a record of \$15.1 million, including a one-time gift of \$1 million from the Estate of

Alfred J. Keppelmann Jr. '37. More than 11,000 donors contributed this year.

The Senior Fund also set a record with 92.7 percent participation, soaring past the Class of 2009 record of 90.5 percent. The Senior Fund, led by Director Amanda Kessler and Senior Fund Chair Adam Bulkley '10, raised more than \$18,000 for the College.

Parents stepped up, too. The Parents Fund, under the leadership of Director Susan Rautenberg and Co-chairs Francis and Jayanne Tedesco P'11, exceeded its goal, raising \$2 million, up from \$1.7 million last year.

The hard work of Fund Chair Mark L. Amsterdam '66, Fund Development Council Chair Craig Brod '77, Class Agent Program Chair Ira B. Malin '75 and all of the volunteer members of the College's committees played a vital role in exceeding the goal. College alumni trustees, the Columbia College Alumni Association and the Columbia College Board of Visitors, as well as the dedicated staff of the

Alumni Office under the leadership of Executive Director of the College Fund Susan L. Birnbaum, all were instrumental in the fund's success.

Unrestricted annual giving is a necessary ingredient in Columbia's success, providing current and immediately usable funds for the College's operations. The largest such application of unrestricted annual giving is financial aid, helping to preserve need-blind admissions and full-need financial aid. Annual giving also bolsters the student services and activities that enhance the quality of undergraduate life, and sustains the Core Curriculum.

Gifts to the Columbia College Fund count toward the \$4 billion goal of the Columbia Campaign, which launched in 2005. This fiscal year the Columbia Campaign raised \$390 million in new gifts and pledges.

To make a gift to the Columbia College Fund in FY11, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline](http://www.college.columbia.edu/giveonline) or call 212-851-7488.

*Ethan Rouen '04*

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## COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND



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- ❖ Camp Columbia for little Columbians, ages 3–12.

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**Questions?** Please contact Kimberly Peterson, director of College Events and Programs: [knnp2106@columbia.edu](mailto:knnp2106@columbia.edu) or 212-851-7872.



**SAVE THE DATE**  **THURSDAY, JUNE 2–SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2011**

## IN MEMORIAM

**Jack H. Beeson**, the MacDowell Professor of Music (Emeritus), died on June 6, 2010. He was 88.

Beeson, a noted composer, began his affiliation with Columbia in 1945 and chaired the Department of Music from 1968–72. He played crucial roles in the founding of the D.M.A. program in composition and the Ph.D. program in ethnomusicology. Beeson was named the MacDowell Professor of Music in 1967 and awarded an honorary degree from Columbia in 2002.

Born on July 15, 1921, in Muncie, Ind., Beeson studied piano as a child and was drawn to opera early through the Saturday afternoon radio broadcasts of the Metropolitan Opera. He earned two degrees at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, then moved to New York City, where he took private lessons with Béla Bartók and studied piano and conducting at Columbia. At Columbia, Beeson

often was the rehearsal pianist for the workshop that was supported by the Alice M. Ditson Fund and that gave the premieres of operas by Gian Carlo Menotti, Virgil Thomson, Ernst Bacon and other composers. Thanks to a Prix de Rome and a Fulbright fellowship, Beeson lived in Rome from 1948–50; there, he composed his first opera, *Jonah*, adapted from a Paul Goodman play.

Among Beeson's contributions to American music more broadly, he was co-president of Composers Recordings; chairman of the board of the Composers' Forum; member of the board of governors of the American Composers Alliance and the board of ASCAP; treasurer and v.p. for music at the American Academy of Arts and Letters, of which he was a distinguished member; and member of the Advisory Committee of the Alice M. Ditson Fund for 50 years, many of them as secretary.



Composer and author Nicolas Slonimsky described Beeson's approach to composition as "enlightened utilitarianism." That characterization delighted Beeson, who, *The New York Times* noted, "eschewed dogma, never fell in with any camp and drew from any style or technique that suited his musical and dramatic ends, especially in his 10 operatic works, which include *Hello Out There*, *The Sweet Bye and Bye* and *Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines*."

Among Beeson's best known works are the operas *Lizzie Borden* and *Dr. Heidegger*, but he also was noted for symphonic and song composition. He recently had completed two works; the last, *Kilroy Was Here*, is a song setting for baritone and piano of a Peter Viereck poem.

Beeson is survived by his wife, Nora; and daughter, Miranda. A son, Christopher, died in 1976. Condolences may be sent to the Department of Music, Columbia University, 621 Dodge Hall, MC 1813, New York, NY 10027.

Lisa Palladino

“Why?  
So tomorrow’s  
students can  
walk through  
the same doors  
that we did.”

STEVE CASE '64CC, '68LAW  
UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE  
COLUMBIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (CAA)  
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THE 1754 SOCIETY

“My life opened up when I came to Columbia,” Case says. “I want others to have the same experience and that’s why I put Columbia in my estate plan.”

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To learn more about Steve Case's Columbia experience—and about planned giving—visit [giving.columbia.edu/plannedgifts](http://giving.columbia.edu/plannedgifts) or call 800-338-3294.

**Emlyn Hughes '87 GSAS is a professor of physics and the deputy chair of the physics department. His research involves searching for new physics at the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland. Hughes earned a Ph.D. from Columbia and a B.S. from Stanford. He taught at Caltech for 11 years before returning to Columbia in 2006.**

**Where did you grow up?**

I grew up in New Haven, Conn. My father also was a professor of physics, at Yale.

**What did you want to be growing up?**

When I was a kid I loved math. I wanted to be a mathematician. My sophomore year of college, during the Iran hostage crisis, I had to register for the draft. My father had worked on the radar effort at MIT during WWII and, as a result, was not drafted. He made the argument that you could end up fighting in a war or you could be a physicist. I fell for it.

**What brought you to Columbia?**

First of all, New York is fantastic. But one of the real reasons I came was the commute. The future of my field has moved to Geneva, Switzerland. There is a nine-hour time change from California [where I was working] to Geneva. Flying back and forth from New York beats flying back and forth from Los Angeles.

**How often do you travel to Geneva?**

When I'm teaching, I go every other month, but when I'm not teaching, it's every month. My entire research group is based there.

**What are you working on?**

I work on the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). It is perhaps

the largest science project in the world. The main focus of my group for the moment is looking for something called supersymmetry, one of the ways of possibly detecting dark matter. I have a group of four students and a postdoc who are analyzing data from the high-energy collisions produced by the LHC to search for new physics and new interactions. We hope that we might learn about dark matter. We know from astronomy that 90 percent of matter in the universe is something that we cannot see, but we know it's there.

**How many people work on the Collider?**

There are several experiments/detectors stationed around the

in Geneva doing research, and I will teach in the spring. I will teach for the first time in "Frontiers of Science," and I also will teach an introductory course on electricity and magnetism. Since coming to Columbia, I have been teaching the introductory physics course, first to pre-med students and now to engineers.

**What are the challenges of teaching an introductory course?**

The biggest challenge in teaching a large introductory physics course at Columbia is reaching students with enormously varied backgrounds, especially in terms of their training in math. A typical exam score in my class is 65 percent, and the

sons from a previous marriage who all are college-age. My goal is to get all of them to NYC.

**What is something your students would never guess about you?**

I take violin lessons.

**How do you recharge?**

Running. I ran the New York Marathon the last two years, and I will run it again this year. I'm 36 seconds away from qualifying for Boston, and I will really be gunning for it this year at the NYC Marathon.

**What is your favorite spot in NYC?**

The runner's answer is Central Park.

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

St. Moritz, Switzerland. It is a place that my mother went to as a child, before she had to leave Germany. It is one of the most beautiful spots imaginable, a small town built on a lake buried high in the Swiss Alps.

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

*Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin.

**What on your resume are you most proud of?**

In research, my greatest accomplishment was co-leading an experiment that made the most precise measurement of the "electroweak mixing angle." This is a free constant that must be measured to understand the Standard Model, our best theory on how matter behaves in particle physics.

*Interview and photo: Ethan Rouen '04J*

*To watch a video of Hughes talking about the unfounded fear that the Large Hadron Collider would lead to the end of the world, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct).*

## Five Minutes with ... Emlyn Hughes

17-mile ring. The one I work on is called ATLAS. There are more than 2,000 physicists working on ATLAS, and at Columbia, there are five professors working on it. In fact, Columbia co-leads the U.S. ATLAS effort.

**What will you be doing this semester?**

I will spend a lot of my time

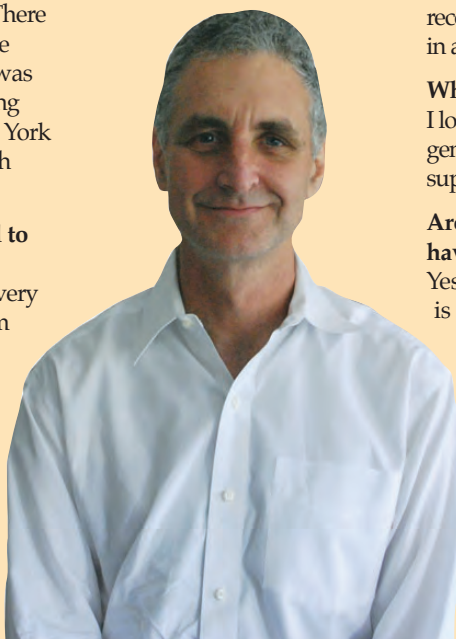
range of grades extends from 15 percent to 95 percent. As a teacher, I aim for the middle. Given the spread of talents and backgrounds, this makes a large fraction of the class unhappy. On the positive side, the diversity of the class and the broad range of interests make the course much more interesting to a teacher. I truly enjoy the variety of questions that I receive from my students, both in and outside of class.

**What is your favorite food?**

I love fondue and cheese in general. Greek food with feta is super-high on my list as well.

**Are you married? Do you have kids?**

Yes and yes. My wife, Ivana, is a lecturer in the chemistry department, and she currently teaches in "Frontiers of Science." We have two children, ages 8 and 5, who go to The School at Columbia. Our daughter studies ballet seriously and our son is learning to play violin. I also have three



## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ **Michael Dwork '00, '07 Business** won the first annual *Crain's New York Business* Perfect Pitch Competition, impressing the judges with the successful story of the eco-friendly dinnerware company he founded, VerTerra ([www.verterra.com](http://www.verterra.com)). He came up with the idea for a company that makes biodegradable dinnerware while interning in India during business school and seeing the resourcefulness of local people. VerTerra products now are sold in more than 1,000 stores and used in the Dallas Cowboys' stadium. Dwork "wowed the judges with his ability to tell the story of his business in clear, colorful anecdotes," according to an article in *Crain's* published on June 2. CCT profiled Dwork in March/April 2008: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct\\_archive/mar\\_apr08/updates3.php](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/mar_apr08/updates3.php).

■ **Hungry? George Shea '86** has a cure for that. Along with his brother, Richard, Shea is responsible for creating a sport out of stuffing one's face. The brothers, who head Shea Communications, created Major League Eating, the governing body of dozens of professional eating contests, including the Nathan's Famous Fourth of July International Hot Dog Eating Contest that is nationally televised by ESPN. But it's not just hot dogs that these athletes devour in massive



**George Shea '86 revs up the crowd at the 2010 Nathan's hot dog eating contest.**

PHOTO: MATT ROBERTS

quantities. In an article about the Shea brothers published in *The New York Times* on July 2, they get credit for more than 80 annual eating contests where 150 records, including "those for cow brains, cheese steaks, candy bars, cabbage, cannoli, crab cakes, corn dogs, cranberry sauce, crawfish and calamari — to name some starting with 'C,' " have been created.

■ **Julia Stiles '05** will appear in 10 episodes of the upcoming season of the Emmy-nominated Showtime series *Dexter*. Stiles will play a mysterious woman who forms a relationship with the main character, Dexter, after his wife dies. In March, Stiles was honored with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/may\\_jun10/features0](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/may_jun10/features0).

■ **Li Lu '96, '96L, '96 Business** was featured in a *Wall Street Journal* article on July 30 headlined, "From Tiananmen Square to Possible Buffet Successor." The article describes how Li went from being a student leader of the Tiananmen Square protests to earning three degrees at Columbia, building a successful career as a hedge fund manager and earning a place "in line to become a successor to Warren Buffett at Berkshire Hathaway, Inc." The *Journal* quotes Berkshire vice chair Charlie Munger as saying "It's a foregone conclusion" that Li would become one of the top Berkshire investment officials. Buffett turned 80 on August 30 and says he has no current plans to step down, but is open to "bringing on other investment managers while I'm still here."

Ethan Rouen '04J

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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## Dustin Martin '11 Showcases Indigenous Culture Through Fashion

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

**U**pon returning home to Albuquerque, N.M., after his first year at the College, **Dustin Martin '11** began printing Native American imagery on used clothing. Though it hardly seems like an ambitious undertaking at first, his creations take on a deeper meaning when Martin explains the message he intends to convey to those who purchase the clothes.

Martin, who is half Navajo, hopes his designs will kindle an interest in Native American cultures that will, in turn, combat stereotypes he has encountered, including in New York City, where he has been asked if he lived in a teepee while growing up in the reservation town of Gallup, N.M.

"At first it angered me, but then I realized many people don't get exposed to the contemporary Native," explains Martin. "We're modern citizens."

Martin sees fashion, an unconventional medium for Native art, as a means to overturning preconceived notions about indigenous culture.

"It's not just painted on a pot or woven in Navajo rug. It's something someone would be proud to wear," he says. "I hope [my customers] take interest in what they are wearing and take the initiative to learn more about Native art and indigenous people in general."

During the school year, Martin scours thrift shops across the city for clothing — mostly T-shirts — and accessories that he adorns and resells, with T-shirts going for \$15 apiece. He has sold approximately 65 shirts to date through word-of-mouth advertising. Most of his customers are acquaintances in New Mexico and fellow Columbia students such as Bayode Adafin '11.

"I liked the designs, but it's really about how excited Dustin was about his brand," says Adafin, who has purchased a couple of T-shirts from Martin.

"People have asked, 'What kind of shirt is that?'"

Martin's clothes feature Southwestern geometric patterns and Native motifs such as arrowheads. His method has evolved since he made his first prints using cardboard stencils and spray paint. After a friend introduced him to silkscreen printing during his sophomore year, Martin began printing shirts in his dorm room. He subsequently took two courses offered by the Department of Visual Arts — "Introduction to Printmaking" with Martin Basher '03 GS, '08 Arts and "Printmaking I: Silkscreen" with Seth Scantlen '08 Arts — in order to have access to a studio.

Martin has lofty goals for his line of clothing, which he calls S.O.L.O. (Sovereign Original Land Owners). He plans to reinvest the money he has made so far to grow the business and is working with a lawyer to create a formal business entity that would eventually allocate a portion of its profits toward improving quality of life for Native American communities.

A member of Columbia's cross country team, Martin was first inspired to launch a clothing line while running, which the Navajo tradition views as a means to achieving *hozho* (pronounced hoh-yoh), a term that, in the absence of direct translation, is often interpreted as a state of beauty and harmony toward which Navajos should strive.

"[Running] is a time to reflect on everything that's going on around me, which is huge in a place as hectic as New York City," says Martin, who runs daily. "It keeps me motivated and humble, because there's only so far I can push it before my body breaks down."

Martin began running competitively as a sophomore in high school when he became involved with Wings of America, a New Mexico-based nonprofit



**Dustin Martin '11, shown here wearing a T-shirt he designed, sells clothing that he adorns with silkscreen prints of Native American imagery. He plans to donate a portion of his profits to indigenous communities.**

PHOTO: BRANDON BRITTON

that promotes the sport as a way to empower young Native Americans. Among other initiatives, the organization sponsors Native runners ages 14–19 for the USA Winter National Junior Cross Country Championships, which are held annually in a different city.

Martin remains involved with the organization and spent the summer between his sophomore and junior years in the College as a facilitator for the Wings Running and Fitness Camps. In that role, he and his colleagues traveled throughout reservation towns in the Southwest conducting two-day camps for Native children. During those two days, Martin helped organize runs and outdoor games for the participants while discussing and encouraging healthy lifestyle choices such as staying drug- and alcohol-free.

"I stay close to my community and my Navajo roots with the help of running," says Martin, who spent last summer creating an inter-organizational report that chronicled the evolution of Wings of America and its current trajectory.

It was his involvement with Wings of America that led Mar-

tin to the College. Sponsored by the organization, Martin visited New York City in 2006 to participate in the National Junior Cross Country Championships, which were held in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. It was after that competition that former Columbia associate head coach Chris Miltenberg first recruited him.

Martin enrolled in the College planning to major in political science but chose anthropology after taking a course with Professor Severin Fowles at Barnard that covered the pre-Columbian history of Native North American cultures. For his senior thesis, Martin is researching the relationship between running and *hozho* in Navajo culture.

"This term has always been explored in the anthropological community as something discreetly associated with Navajo religion. But it's not something that should be pushed to the religious realm. *Hozho* should be used to guide your life in every respect," explains Martin. "I'm looking at how running helps contemporary Navajos actualize their quest for *hozho* in everyday life."

Martin nonetheless believes that art and fashion are more useful than academics when it comes to his goal of discrediting misconceptions about Native Americans.

"I could write anthropological articles my whole life, but I would still be heard and read by a small community of academics," he says. "The same ideas can be articulated in a way that is not necessarily scholarly. I see Native art and clothes as a perfect medium for the message I want to convey."

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

## CAMPUS NEWS

■ **MANHATTANVILLE:** In a unanimous decision announced on June 24, New York's highest court ruled that Columbia's long-term campus plan in the old Manhattanville manufacturing area may move forward as proposed. The Court of Appeals reversed a lower court's ruling and upheld the Empire State Development Corporation's power of eminent domain in this matter, agreed with the state's neighborhood condition findings and strongly affirmed the project's educational and civic purposes.

President Lee C. Bollinger said, "We are gratified by the court's unanimous decision and look forward to moving ahead with the long-term revitalization of these blocks in Manhattanville that will create thousands of good jobs for New Yorkers and help our city and state remain a global center of pioneering academic research."

Infrastructure work in the area is ongoing. The first phase of the project, scheduled for completion beginning in 2015, will include the Jerome L. Greene ['26, '28L] Science Center, for research with implications for the treatment of Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and other neurological diseases; new homes for the Business School, SIPA and the School of the Arts. Later phases, expected to be completed around 2030, will emphasize interdisciplinary scholarship, including biomedical engineering, nanotechnology, systems biology and urban and populations studies as well as housing for graduate students and faculty.

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# Student Life

A new spirit of community is building on Morningside Heights

BY DAVID MCKAY WILSON

PHOTOS: CHAR SMULLYAN

Back in the day, when freshmen like Joel Klaperman '67 arrived on campus in jacket and tie and wore blue beanies during orientation, Columbia College was

known as a place for rugged individualists who fended for themselves and took pride in doing so. Klaperman recalls how Manhattan's allure usually trumped on-campus activities. Links between alumni and students were rare at a time when many from the all-male student body commuted to campus from home.

More than four decades later, Klaperman, who hosted a dinner this spring at his home for award-winning seniors and alumni leaders, is contributing to a new spirit of community that has been building on Morningside Heights, where 96 percent of College and Engineering students now live on campus, advisers work closely with students who are now female as well as male (the College went coeducational in 1983), and events and programs are designed to build relationships among students,

faculty and alumni.

Driving this transformation is the Division of Student Affairs, which oversees many facets of the co-curricular experience, including student activities, residence life and student advising, as well

as parent and family programs, for both the College and Engineering.

Also deeply involved in this effort are the Office of the Dean of the College, the Office of Academic Affairs, the Center for Career Education and the Alumni Office.

Of course, the College could not have achieved such success on its own.

Many University offices positively impact the student experience, including Housing and Dining, Health Services, Public Safety, Athletics, Community

*(Opposite)  
Orientation leaders march with flags from every state and country represented in the student body, part of the pageantry of Convocation.*



*Dean of Advising Monique Rinere takes questions during a summer advising session for incoming students and their families in Lerner Hall.*



# The College has made improving the co-curricular experience a priority.

Impact and many more. They, too, have redoubled their efforts in recent years to transform the undergraduate experience into the beginning of a positive lifelong relationship.

**T**he Division of Student Affairs, which also includes the offices of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, is led by Dean of Student Affairs and Associate V.P. for Undergraduate Student Life Kevin Shollenberger, who has worked in the Student Affairs office since 1999 and became its dean in 2008. He has seen a change in student experience and alumni attitude.

"Surveys found that students here got a great education in the classroom and the Columbia degree carried prestige and opened doors for them, but they didn't feel connected to the institution," says Shollenberger. "Now we also are focusing on the student experience outside the classroom. It has been a definite evolution."

Dean of the College Michele Moody-Adams says the Division of Student Affairs has helped create a campus environment where students are comfortable exploring their intellect, developing social relationships and growing into young adults.

"The various services and support provided by our Division of Student Affairs — from advising to residential programming to support for student activities and student well-being — are all part of our effort to make Columbia College safe for reasonable risks of the appropriate kind," she says. "We want Columbia College students to succeed in the classroom and laboratory, in extracurricular pursuits and in their personal relationships."

Sarah Weiss '10 was an integral part of the community-building experience during her four years at Columbia, serving as v.p., policy for the CC Student Council. With support from Financial Aid, she helped create a weeklong program, called Common Cents, to discuss financial issues, such as what it means to be a high-need student on campus. She brought Columbia students to the South Bronx to work with a housing advocacy group called Mothers on the Move, conducted campus tours for prospective students, was senior coordinator of the Columbia Urban Experience and was on the board of Columbia Hillel, where she helped develop a program on women of faith with students from Hillel and the Muslim Students Association. Weiss also was a student member of the search committee that led to the hiring of Dean Moody-Adams and later helped the dean establish a series of regular, informal meetings with students.

Weiss speaks highly of the collaborative atmosphere at the College between students and administrators. "You have ideas, you throw them out and Student Affairs latches on," she says. "The spirit of student involvement is really celebrated here."

College offices are working together more seamlessly than

ever, but are their combined efforts really working? Are students happier with their co-curricular experience today than in years gone by? One measure of student satisfaction may be found in participation in the Senior Fund, the annual gift that graduating seniors make to the College.

In 1999, only 7 percent of seniors chose to donate to the Senior Fund. That percentage doubled the following year, and by 2002 a majority of seniors were making a gift. Participation reached 71 percent in 2003 and climbed steadily until last year, when a whopping 92.7 percent of seniors donated \$18,628 to the Senior Fund, setting records for both participation and dollars raised. While these

numbers may be evidence of increasing satisfaction with the Columbia College student experience, what exactly has led to such a great transformation?

**F**or more than a decade, the College has made improving the co-curricular student experience a priority. The effort begins long before students arrive on campus, as admissions officers travel the world to meet with prospective students and their families to introduce them to Columbia. Throughout the admissions process, admissions and financial aid officers work to craft a diverse body of students who are likely to have a positive experience in and out of the classroom. The Office of Academic Affairs supports this process by coordinating with faculty who are involved in recruiting applicants to the College and helping to yield the most promising newly admitted students. And the Center for Career Education

works with the admissions office to prepare students for what Columbia offers in terms of internship and career support.

Soon after students receive their acceptance letters, they are invited for Days on Campus, two full days of programming in April that offer the chance to meet students, faculty, administrators and alumni. Events include tours of the campus, Morning-side Heights and New York City, sample classes, resource panels and introductions to student activities. There also is a corresponding Perspectives on Diversity event to provide admitted students an opportunity to learn about and experience the diverse campus community in greater depth.

During the summer, Student Affairs partners with the Center for Career Education (CCE) and the Alumni Office to hold advising sessions for incoming students and their families in several U.S. cities, Europe and Asia, a program that has grown significantly in scope and expanded globally in recent years. This summer, nearly 60 percent of the Class of 2014 attended meetings in New York City, Boston, San Francisco, Southern California, Houston, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Honolulu, London, Beijing, Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore and Bangkok.

At the U.S. sessions, students and family members split into two groups. Students learn from a Center for Student Advising



*Dean of Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger presents the Edward S. Brainard Memorial Prize to Sarah Weiss '10 at the 2010 Class Day ceremony.*

## The Center for Student Advising helps students navigate their way.

(CSA) adviser about the undergraduate curriculum, academic expectations and degree requirements, how to receive credit for Advanced Placement courses taken in high school and who to turn to if calculus is either too hard or a boring repeat of what they learned in 12th grade. On the role of CCE at these sessions, Dean of Career Education Kavita Sharma says, "We participate in the summer advising program alongside the Center for Student Advising to encourage incoming students to engage in career planning early and frequently throughout their four years."

This emphasis on advising and support is a theme in the family sessions as well, where family members learn about the College, ways to support their student's transition to college and the city and how to be involved in their student's experience and the Columbia community while still helping their student develop independence and autonomy. "Parents and families are more involved these days," says Shollenberger, citing the growing use of cell phones, text messaging and social networks to stay in touch. "It's no longer just the Sunday night call from the pay phone in the hallway of the residence hall."

These summer meetings culminate with a new ritual that marks the beginning of the Columbia academic experience: an alumnus/a hands each incoming student a copy of *The Iliad*, which has been part of the Core Curriculum for decades. Students are expected to read the first 12 books of *The Iliad* during the summer and be prepared to discuss the poem when Literature Humanities classes begin in September.

When the 1,074 members of the College Class of 2014 arrived on campus in late August, there was no shortage of welcome events. On Monday afternoon, after spending the morning moving in to the residence halls, new students and their families gathered on South Field for Convocation. This formal ceremony welcomed them to Columbia with much pomp and circumstance, including greetings from the deans of the College and Engineering and a parade of colorful flags from each state and nation represented by the undergraduate student body.

Immediately following Convocation, students undertook an elaborate, nine-day New Student Orientation Program (NSOP, pronounced en'-sahp) to become acclimated to the campus and get a taste of the richness of New York City and its cultural scene. NSOP events are practical (campus tours, an introduction to Columbia's libraries and computer system, foreign language placement exams, a "Bed, Bath & Beyond Excursion"), adventuresome (walking tours of many neighborhoods, activities fairs and meet-and-greets with myriad campus student organizations, an open mic night at Boone Arledge Auditorium) and social (outings

grouped by residence hall floor, a showcase of campus performance groups, an event aboard the *U.S.S. Intrepid*).

Thomas Homburger '63, '66L, who hosted a summer advising session at the Chicago law firm, K&L Gates, where he is a partner, recalls the sense that it was "sink or swim" when he arrived on campus from Buffalo, N.Y., in 1959, cocky and full of pluck, but not as well prepared for Columbia's rigorous academic program as many of his classmates. After floundering for a while, he says he was lucky enough to figure out how to swim.

"There was move-in day, a short orientation and classes began," he recalls. "It was an overwhelming experience. After the advising session in my office, I said to my wife, 'It's like night and day.' So much has changed."



**Dancers from CU Bhangra enliven Low Plaza on Activities Day, when many of the more than 300 clubs and organizations attract incoming students to join their ranks.**

Discovering one's passions, and finding the right courses or extracurricular activities to develop them, can be challenging. The Center for Student Advising, working in close partnership with faculty, CCE and other offices, helps student navigate their way. In August, the CSA moved into a much-anticipated renovated space on the fourth floor of Alfred Lerner Hall, consolidating staff previously located in five offices around campus. The new center includes offices, four seating areas, a sun-filled waiting room, a flexible conference space large enough for 70 people and several other conference areas.

The student advising system also has been streamlined, with students assigned an adviser in their first year who stays with them throughout their undergraduate career. Dean of Advising Monique Rinere says it's an improvement over previous systems, in which students were assigned a new adviser each year. In addition to their administrative adviser, students also are assigned a faculty adviser once they declare their major or concentration, usually in the second semester of sophomore year.

With primary responsibility for the undergraduate curriculum, supporting the faculty and upholding the academic policies established by the faculty, the mission of the College's Office of Academic Affairs has been immeasurably enhanced by its close working relationship with the College's Division of Student Affairs and, specifically, the CSA.

"The deans in our Center for Student Advising and the staff of Academic Affairs are in almost daily communication as together we guide and support students through their academic and curricular work," says Kathryn Yatrakis, dean of academic affairs and senior associate v.p. for Arts and Sciences. "From developing strategies, to assisting students who are facing academic difficulties, to identifying candidates for the most prestigious fellowships offered, the close cooperation of the two offices improves

## “Students want to connect with somebody who knows their name.”

the academic experience of all students.”

Rinere echoes this thought. “We want to create a seamless advising experience — both academic and non-academic — as we help students negotiate their way through the University,” says Rinere, who came to Columbia in July 2009 after working in student advising at Harvard and Princeton.

To this end, advising students for the duration of their time at Columbia gives advisers the opportunity to better know their students, which helps in guiding them in pursuit of their passions. CSA advisers also specialize in connecting them with academic departments, internship and career advisers, and financial aid opportunities. Advisers also point students in the direction of events and programs related to their particular interests. Finally, having a good relationship with one’s advising dean or faculty adviser can be crucial when a student needs a letter of recommendation for graduate school, Rinere says.

Isabel Broer ’10 says she worked closely with Advising Dean Jay Orenduff during her four years at Columbia, meeting two or three times a semester. Sometimes she would stop by to ask specific questions: what classes to take, the consequences of dropping a class, how to approach choosing a major. Other times, she would stop by just to chat.

By senior year, when Broer was contemplating life after Columbia, she would meet with Orenduff to talk about her interests and potential paths, without worrying that he would push her in any particular direction. She says Orenduff asked questions that helped her reflect on what she was most passionate about, as a way of identifying what she really wanted to do.

Broer decided to teach in inner-city schools through Teach for America upon graduation and then attend law school, eventually specializing in education law. This fall, having deferred her matriculation at Columbia Law School until 2012, she is one of 38 graduates from the Class of 2010 teaching through Teach for America. Orenduff wrote recommendations for both programs and was a reference for her job in the Denver school district.

“I really felt like Dean Orenduff knew me, my work ethic and style, and what I was passionate about,” Broer says. “I had no hesitation about asking him for letters of recommendation. I felt his goal was only to have my back, and the backs of hundreds of other students. Dean Orenduff was an adviser and friend, in the truest senses of the words.”

Alex España, an advising dean at Columbia since 2001, says the new system was put in place after staff listened to student feedback about previous systems.

“Students told us they didn’t want somebody new every year,” he says. “These students really want relationships. They want to connect with somebody who knows their name.”

Students are encouraged to take ownership of the process in order to achieve the best results. Toward this end, last year Rinere led an initiative called Community Conversations on Advising in which she and her staff met with students, faculty, advisers and other administrators to discuss reasonable expectations of both advisers and students in the advising process.

“We hope students develop a number of advising relationships over the course of their time here,” says Rinere. “It’s not a one-stop shopping experience. They need to develop multiple sounding boards — for study abroad, internships, research and life after Columbia. Students need to avail themselves of the wealth of advising available on campus.”

For most students, this includes a visit (or many) to the lower level of the East Campus Building, where the Center for Career Education is housed and career advisers serve the University community in a number of ways. CCE partners with students

by providing individual guidance and advising to assist them in understanding ways to explore career areas of interest, make informed career decisions, conduct a job or internship search and develop skills that will enable them to navigate and change careers throughout their lifetimes.

“Collaboration with Student Affairs is essential, as we are all advising and working with the same students,” says Sharma, who has been dean of career education since January 2007. “We work with the entire division to ensure that they have a good understanding of the offerings of the center

so that they can direct students where necessary and incorporate career advising into their interactions with students.”



**Robert Douglas '70 and Cristen Kromm (on red chair), assistant dean for community development and residential programs, meet with students as part of the Living and Learning Center programming.**

**I**mproving the experience of Columbia undergraduates beyond the classroom and professional pursuits also has been among the Division of Student Affairs’ priorities. In 2009, Shollenberger established a Community Development team headed by Terry Martinez, dean of community development and multicultural affairs, to coordinate the work of four offices — Residential Programs, Student Development and Activities, Student Group Advising, and Multicultural Affairs. “Students had expressed a need for greater coordination of services that support co-curricular life and a desire to foster a greater sense of community,” explains Shollenberger.

Martinez says advisers on her team help students develop leadership skills in the College’s many student organizations, some of whose banners adorn the ramps in Lerner Hall. They can teach life skills: how to work in a group, plan an event, manage a budget, mediate differences of opinion and ultimately evaluate success. NSOP is one example of a program where students truly own what they work on; its leaders (who apply and are accepted to summer-long positions) spend the entire summer planning the many events listed

## “Dean Orenduff was an adviser and friend, in the truest senses of the words.”

in the NSOP Schedule Book students receive upon arrival.

Student organizations provide a niche for students looking to engage in politics, explore ethnic or racial issues, or perform community service in the greater New York City community. Students of color, for example, participate in a leadership retreat. In another program, called Under One Roof, students learn the skills required of living in a diverse community.

“Because Columbia’s campus community is so diverse, part of our role is to help students develop tools so they can thrive in a culture that celebrates differences,” says Martinez. “We want students to recognize where biases may exist and to support them in the difficult conversations that often result.”

Students are encouraged to not only participate in planned community-building activities but also explore interests that may initially appear outside of their comfort zone.

Carmen McClure ’12, a psychology major, discovered her passions through the Double Discovery Center, which serves more than 1,000 high-need, college-bound New York City teens in programs that improve their academic and personal skills. The DDC, which was founded in the 1960s, is not under the oversight of Student Affairs.

Last spring, McClure took DDC students to Columbia classes to give them a taste of college pedagogy. This fall, she’ll train Columbia students to work as DDC tutors and will meet monthly with the student volunteers to support their work.



*Dean Michele Moody-Adams speaks with former student leaders Sue Yang '10 and Isabel Broer '10 at a campus event last spring.*

**B**etter communication and collaboration between administrators and students is a key underlying element in the improvement in student engagement.

When Moody-Adams arrived at Columbia in summer 2009, she was interested in establishing informal, unscripted monthly meetings with small groups of students. At about the same time, Weiss had proposed a similar concept to the Student Council. “The dean wanted to meet with students, and Student Affairs latched onto the idea and ran with it,” recalls Weiss.

The concept drew a huge response. Fifteen students were chosen at random from among 600 who expressed interest in sharing tea and conversation with the dean. The teas became a monthly event last academic year, with different groups of students attending each time. The dean plans to continue these informal gatherings with students in the future.

“The teas are not really about airing any grievances or concerns that students may have, though they certainly allow students to do that when they feel so inclined,” says Moody-Adams. “More important is that the teas provide a low-key environment in which students can talk about their experiences at the College, about how they see the world and what they care about, and about what things are working well at Columbia as well as what

things might need to be examined and possibly changed.”

During the academic year, the Community Development staff works collaboratively with students on campus issues and supports several hundred student organizations. Policies on cutting-edge campus issues, such as hosting controversial speakers, drinking at parties and gender-neutral housing, also are developed collaboratively among students and administrators. “There was a time when these issues could have created an adversarial relationship between students and the administration,” says Shollenberger, who says his focus in each instance is on developing the best policy for Columbia. “It used to be a very ‘we-they’ thing on many issues. We are working together now.”

For example, Student Affairs worked closely with the Inter-Greek Council on a policy, adopted in 2009, for social events in fraternity and sorority houses. Students wanted to defuse the tensions that arose over crackdowns on drinking by campus security.

David Salant ’10, an officer of Delta Sigma Phi, said the old policy didn’t work because fraternities were forced to hire costly security details and register parties weeks in advance. Rather than adhere to those policies, some fraternity parties went underground, which Salant says encouraged unsafe behavior.

The new policy allows fraternities to register parties five days in advance. The fraternities or sororities name three event monitors for each party to check IDs at the door and distribute wristbands to those 21 and older, who are allowed to drink. A maximum of 75

guests are allowed per party. Alcohol can be served to those 21 and older at a rate of one drink per hour, and parties must end at 2 a.m.

“We got more freedom in exchange for subjecting ourselves to higher standards,” says Salant, who now is an equity derivatives analyst at JP Morgan. “We wanted to show them we could run parties that were safe, and that we could be held accountable. It took a lot of faith on their part to trust a bunch of frat boys. We’re glad they did.”

For Shollenberger, resolved issues like this one have been central in a career in student affairs that included stints at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and American University in Washington, D.C. Developing good relations with students is a key to his success.

“We try to be very visible,” says Shollenberger. “We can’t just sit in our offices and expect students to come to us.”

Moody-Adams says Shollenberger’s encouragement of student engagement has paid dividends.

“He respects students and values their active leadership but also understands the importance of creating an environment in which they can remain safe in the exercise of their leadership,” she says. “He welcomes diversity of all kinds, and works hard to ensure that students give one another space in which to act on their diverse values and opinions, without harming others.”

## “Shollenberger respects students and values their active leadership.”

**W**ith nearly all students now electing to live on campus, the Office of Residential Programs plays an important role in shaping the Columbia experience outside the classroom. Part of the Student Affairs Community Development unit, Residential Programs strives to create an environment in the residence halls that complements the academic and co-curricular experiences students find elsewhere on campus.

Heading up this charge is Cristen Kromm, assistant dean for community development and residential programs. “Living in Columbia’s residence halls is a critical part of each student’s growth and development as they learn to articulate, and occasionally adjust, their personal needs within the context of community living,” says Kromm. “The experiences afforded in Columbia’s residence halls today promote students’ intellectual, social, emotional, and interpersonal growth and development.”

Kromm also notes how important it is to create a welcoming atmosphere where students feel comfortable. To this end, a dedicated team of trained professionals, graduate students and undergraduate students is in place to help residents explore passions and express individuality, while building a sense of community and “home away from home.” Resident Advisers (RAs) facilitate conversations about community standards, encourage residents to work together to overcome differences, and, through a variety of programs and activities, make the Columbia residential experience the best it can be.

Mary Martha Douglas ’11, who is in her third year as an RA in first-year residence halls, said during the summer that she was looking forward to making Furnald’s eighth floor feel welcoming for students who may arrive on campus not knowing a soul and nervous about the upcoming academic challenge.

“I get to be the mother hen and help them branch out,” says Douglas, who is living in Furnald this fall after working in John Jay and Hartley the past two years.

In mid-July, Douglas was planning door tags for first-years and beginning work on the bulletin boards. Last year, she created door tags from classic movie memorabilia, with student names emblazoned on replicas of film posters, movie tickets or Academy Awards. “It’s good to have something fun to greet them and show them we care,” says Douglas, a political science and anthropology major eyeing a career in political consulting.

Douglas also gives campus tours, visits high schools to talk to prospective students and assists with the Days on Campus program in April, when admitted students come for the weekend. She shares that she hoped to arrange a September bus tour of Manhattan and an evening of karaoke at a restaurant for her first-year floormates. She may also take her charges downtown by subway so they can experience walking over the Brooklyn Bridge, or devise a New York City treasure hunt in which they

are given clues to find certain locations around the city, like a restaurant in Chinatown without a sign out front.

“I’m a senior this year, so I really have to go out with a bang,” says Douglas, whose father, Robert Douglas ’70, met his wife-to-be, Barbara, at a Furnald mixer in the late 1960s.

Broer, who was Carman Hall’s community adviser in 2009–10, headed a team that built community in that 13-story residence hall and across the entire campus.

“The first-year residence halls bring together such diverse students, from such different backgrounds,” says Broer. “It’s that diversity that defines Columbia, and it’s a great experience to live with such a terrific group of people so unlike yourself.”

Helping develop a community feeling in residence halls are faculty-in-residence who live among the students. Robert Harrist Jr., the Jane and Leopold Sweargold Professor of Chinese Art History, is among three faculty living in Columbia residence halls. He moved his family into a three-bedroom apartment with a terrace in East Campus five years ago. There, he and his wife, Weizhi, are raising their 10-year-old son, Jack, who attends the nearby Cathedral School. Harrist says he signed up for the assignment for two reasons: he likes students and he likes hosting parties.

Once a semester, the Harrists will arrange for a study-break party at 10 p.m., with pizza and sandwiches. On one Sunday night a month during the school year, the Harrists also host a dinner party for up to 20 students and faculty at their home, with one faculty member attending to speak with students about his or

her academic and professional interests and pursuits. Guests last year included Nobel laureate Martin Chalfee and Dean Moody-Adams.

Harrist says living on campus has rekindled the campus spirit he felt while teaching for a decade at Oberlin College, which is located in a small town in Ohio. He had lived on the Upper West Side for eight years before moving into East Campus.

“Because there’s so much to do in the city, that can sap energy from life on campus,” he says. “These parties create an occasion to stay on campus. They give students a chance to socialize with the faculty and they help bring Columbia together.”

Recognizing the value the faculty-in-residence program brings to campus life, Academic Affairs and Residential Programs are collaborating to select a faculty member to serve as the newest faculty-in-residence and who will reinforce the crucial link between the residential and academic components of student life.

Alumni play an increasingly prominent role in the campus community, thanks in large part to a renewed focus on the connection between students and alumni. Student and Alumni Programs was launched in 2001 as a formal function housed within Student Affairs, with the



*When alumni present copies of *The Iliad* to incoming students, as Tao Tan ’07, ’11 *Business did here* in Lerner Hall, it represents a passing of the torch and an affirmation of the rich tradition of the Core Curriculum.*

## Alumni play an increasingly prominent role in the campus community.

mission of establishing and strengthening these lifelong relationships and developing greater kinship among Columbians across generations. Students benefit from access to the alumni network, including professional, educational and cultural opportunities, and witness the value of remaining involved as Columbians after graduation.

Student Affairs, the Alumni Office and CCE partner to organize a series of career-focused panels where alumni talk with students about their fields. On occasion, physicians who attended the College will speak about a career in medicine. At an event called Legally Speaking, alumni share their experiences as attorneys. Other panels have explored careers in journalism and the not-for-profit world. These events include questions from students and are followed by a networking reception.

CCE also offers students a multitude of opportunities to connect with employers and alumni interested in hiring Columbia students, through the formal on-campus interview program, career fairs, informal networking nights, employer site visits, structured summer internship programs (nationally and internationally) and online tools.

"Students get practical career advice that can be quite helpful," says Kathryn Wittner, senior associate dean of student affairs. But just as important, she says, students get to know alumni and understand the lifetime relationship with Columbia.

In exchange for giving of their experience and expertise to a younger generation of students, alumni feel a sense of continuity and a unique connection to Columbia. "Alumni genuinely enjoy spending time with students and learning about the experiences of a new generation of Columbians," says Wittner.

She adds that not all events are career-focused, and Student Affairs and the Alumni Office partner to plan events and initiatives that connect alumni with students and with one another in more casual settings.

Often this takes the form of a mentorship. College alumni of color may volunteer in a program that matches them with undergraduates of similar racial or ethnic backgrounds, while Columbia College Women, overseen by CCE, matches alumnae with female students. "Sometimes it's based on career interests, other times it's like having a big brother or big sister who can offer practical advice about living in New York," Wittner says.

Alumni and students also frequently meet for social occasions, such as for dinner in residence halls or in alumni homes. Last year, students who were unable to leave campus for the holiday traveled to Westchester to enjoy a pre-Thanksgiving dinner at the home of Rick Wolf '86. Frequently, alumni provide students with behind-the-scenes access to New York City sites, including the

United Nations, Lincoln Center, Gracie Mansion, the New York Stock Exchange, Radio City Music Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The Alumni Parade of Classes reinforces the connection between students and alumni, affording alumni the opportunity to be part of the traditions of Convocation (when students first arrive to campus) and Class Day (as they prepare to depart) by carrying class banners in the processions. Having alumni distribute *The Iliad* to incoming students at summer advising sessions represents a "passing of the torch" and acknowledgment of the traditions of the Core Curriculum, while the alumni presence at the gala Senior Dinner reinforces the notion that a student's time on campus is only the beginning of his or her engagement with Columbia.

Brian C. Krisberg '81, '84L was the head resident in Carman Hall when the College became coeducational in 1983. He became active in the Columbia College Alumni Association more than 20 years ago and was its president from 2006–08. He's now vice-chair of the Columbia Alumni Association and is working to coordinate efforts among the University's alumni organizations.

"Columbia is such a different school from what it was 30, or even 15, years ago," says Krisberg, a partner in the NYC office of the law firm Sidley Austin. "We've come a long way, but there is still so much more that we

can do. It's not a time to rest on our laurels. We must continue to connect alumni with alumni, connect alumni with students and support Columbia students through the Columbia experience."

Shollenberger says the increased involvement by alumni is a crucial piece of the community-building effort that has brought the College into the 21st century stronger than ever. It begins with alumni handing *The Iliad* to incoming first-years and continues with graduating seniors receiving class pins from members of the 50th anniversary reunion class on Class Day. This interaction emphasizes that while students may spend four years on campus, they are lifelong members of the Columbia family.

"There's a growing sense of having an intergenerational community at Columbia," says Shollenberger. "The students learn early that they are part of a larger community — a growing network that supports them now and will be part of their lives in the future."



**David McKay Wilson** is a freelance writer who has profiled U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L; New York Governor David Paterson '77; and journalist Clark Hoyt '64 for Columbia College Today.



U.N. official Fernando Ortiz Jr. '79 (standing, fourth from left) led students on a behind-the-scenes tour, including a chance to sit in delegates' seats in the Security Council chamber.

# Erica Woda '04 Tries To **Level** the Field

BY JOSHUA ROBINSON '08

**I**t had been almost a decade since Erica Woda '04 took her first campus tour in Morningside Heights, a decade since she had been that impressionable recruit deciding, "Yep, this is where I want to be." And now, here she was, with a group of laughing, chattering, bouncing sixth-graders from Washington Heights, walking through the gates.

The chattering stopped and their eyes opened wide.

They slowly made their way along College Walk, taking in the grandeur of the buildings and the buzz of the campus. Woda spoke, as she always does, at a mile a minute, telling them what it means to be a student, where the classrooms are, how hard you have to work. The students, all from the Washington Heights Expeditionary Learning School, hung on her every word. One boy began taking notes, and Woda knew she

had made an impression. She had shown them the prize.

"These kids don't grow up in a culture of achievement," says Woda, who has taught at two schools in the Bronx and now is a P.E. teacher at the KIPP NYC College Prep School on West 133rd Street, just north of Columbia's proposed Manhattanville campus. "But hopefully, they're all going to be first-generation college graduates."

Woda's tool to get them there is sports. A former captain of the Columbia soccer team, she has spent the last two years building Level the Field (LTF; <http://levelthefieldnyc.org>), a free program for inner-city sixth- and seventh-graders to keep them busy on weekends while boosting their academic ambition.

On Saturday mornings, Woda and her team of volunteers pick up a gaggle of kids outside their school on West 182nd Street and shepherd them to one of Columbia's athletics facilities, where they



*Erica Woda '04 founded Level the Field to try to keep youngsters physically active and academically motivated.*

attend clinics for basketball, baseball and of course, soccer, all taught by student-athletes. On afternoons, LTF also takes them to Columbia sporting events at Robert K. Kraft Field and Levien Gymnasium. "The message is that athletics teach intrinsic lessons that cannot be taught by a textbook," Woda says, pointing out how much of her character was developed on the soccer field. "You can't teach a kid to be a leader, or a team player, or a good sport, by showing him or her a textbook."

But just to make sure they know textbooks are still important, the student-athletes then visit the kids at their school on Thursdays. Woda, LTF's organizer and worrier-in-chief, piles them into cabs heading uptown, where they go into the sixth-grade classrooms and preach the gospel of hard work.



*Woda, a former Columbia soccer captain, used her school connections to get Level the Field going.*

PHOTOS: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

**L**Tf was born one afternoon in May 2008, as Woda was heading home. Walking along West 106th Street, she lingered behind the tall black fence surrounding a public soccer field. As she watched kids playing a rag-tag game instead of sitting on their couches, inspiration hit her.

"All these kids, they're out playing soccer," she says. "It's not structured, they don't have the best equipment, they don't know what they're doing, but they're out and they're having fun. It was one of those 'aha' moments."

And Woda has never been one to keep an "aha" moment to herself.

A self-described "crazy, passionate, all over the place, eccentric person," she immediately began firing off e-mails and making calls. She rounded up friends and reached out to her former coach, Kevin McCarthy '85, '91 GSAS. Before she knew it, Woda had cobbled together an advisory board and was holding planning meetings at the lunch tables in the Columbus Circle Whole Foods.

"You can't help but get caught up in the whirlwind of energy — it's a force — around Erica," McCarthy said. "Even when I recruited her, that energy was palpable."

Those who have latched onto LTF around Woda echo the sentiment. They tell stories of frantic calls and breathless explanations that they just couldn't ignore. As they listened to her talk so fast the words tripped over each other, people from all over Woda's Columbia universe offered to help in any way they could.

"Even if they have a lot going on, a lot on their plates, it's soccer and kids, so they come out," former roommate and soccer player Gui Stampur '04 said. With word spreading among generations of soccer alumni, he adds, people are starting to emerge from the woodwork.

Woda reeled in other coaches, such as Columbia baseball's Brett Boretti. She called on Stampur. She enlisted the men's and women's basketball teams, the men's and women's soccer teams and the baseball team. She recruited Fernando Perez '04, who has played for the Tampa Bay Rays and now is in their farm system. The athletics department even offered to make

its facilities available for free — though that didn't stop Woda from once trying to book a field eight months in advance.

"The Columbia University community has completely adopted this program, completely embraced it," she says.

**E**ighteen months of scrambling after Woda came up with the idea and \$30,000 later, LTF was ready to hold its first event. It kicked off with a soccer clinic on Halloween weekend last year, with no guarantees that any kids would show up — especially when Woda had a feeling that soccer might not be the most popular sport in the urban neighborhood. Only seven came, yet Woda was thrilled. The first session, small as it was, had come together.

Woda and LTF's COO, Julia Nozov, believe that the only way they can really gauge LTF's impact is attendance, especially since nothing is mandatory. They are not yet in a position to track grades or classroom behavior, but they know that if kids are coming to the clinics, they certainly aren't playing video games. Before every clinic, Woda spends entire evenings on the phone trying to remind parents about it. She even buys a MetroCard for one girl who cannot afford the \$5.50 round trip from Washington Heights. But after a year, excitement is growing inside the school. Eighty-seven kids are currently enrolled in the program, with 20–25 regularly attending on Saturdays. This fall the program's capacity grew to 190, as it opened up to seventh-graders.

"Kids spread news like wildfire," Woda said. "Whether it's the pizza, whether it's the train ride, who knows what the incentive is that brings them out? But for the most part, if I reach a parent or if I reach a kid the night before, they generally have nothing going on."

Once the kids are under Woda's watchful eye, the fretting subsides and the pace finally slows. The anxiety of waiting to see whether anyone turns up melts away. For a few hours, there are no more parents to call or athletes to corral. For a few hours, Woda gets to put down the crucial green binder full of permission slips. All that matters is making sure the kids have fun, until it's time to start counting heads again and take them home through the subway maze. For now, in the friendly blue confines of University Gymnasium, she can concentrate on demonstrating the drills and applauding the goals.

"It's a bit of relief and it's a bit of excitement to see all the work that goes on in the background come to fruition," Woda said. "When we're actually at a clinic or a game, that's when I get to relax a little."



To watch a video of LTF at work, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct).

**Joshua Robinson '08** is a freelance writer based in Manhattan. Read more about him at [joshuaesthrobinson.com](http://joshuaesthrobinson.com).

## [COLUMBIA FORUM]

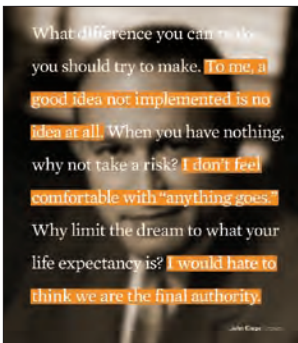
# The Difference You Can Make

## John Kluge: Stories



For Columbia readers, John Kluge: Stories is a rare sort of find: a collaboration between a College father and son (**John W. Kluge Sr. '37** and **John W. Kluge Jr. '05**). Kluge Sr., well known for his philanthropy to Columbia and other institutions, is chairman of Metromedia Company. Kluge Jr. works in the Office of the President at the EastWest Institute in New York.

In 2005, John Kluge Jr. decided to get to know his father a little better. After graduating from the College, he moved in with John Kluge Sr. at his house in the south of France for the summer. As he writes in a humorous, deft introduction: "What I had in mind was a Tuesdays with Morrie-type of experience" — long discussions of life and love, "dreams and poetry," shared meals and of course "bad jokes." But the recording apparatus he was using inhibited them both and made their talks "strained and awkward." He abandoned his attempts to tape. Instead, they started playing cards to pass the time. "Mondays with Kluge was not a book that would ever be written," Kluge Jr. jokes.



But as they played gin, the father talked and the son scribbled notes, "mostly on the back of gin-scoring notebooks." What emerged from those notes was a detailed, common-sense self-portrait in Kluge Sr.'s own words. Kluge describes how, as a young child in Germany, he used fluctuating postwar prices to make a small profit on the shopping errands he ran for his grandmother. He remembers arriving in America with his mother and learning English from Webster's Dictionary to survive: "I wanted to be John Kluge. Nobody other than my family called me Johannes anymore." He recalls cutting lawns for money and then hiring other boys as workers to grow the revenue. Even in his childhood stories, the streak of business savvy that would distinguish him later already is obvious.

Still, before he became a businessman, Kluge Sr. decided, he would need a college education. "I wanted to get more tools for bettering myself," he puts it. In the following excerpt from John Kluge: Stories, he tells how he came to attend the College — and how he flourished there.



John W. Kluge Jr. '05  
PHOTO: SEAN THOMAS

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

## My stepfather didn't believe in education.

He wanted me to stop going to school after the eighth grade. That was all the education he thought necessary for a young man. He wanted me to go into the painting business with him. He already had his own children working for him, so I knew I would always be a second-class citizen. I would always be under his thumb. I convinced him to let me go on to high school, at least for one year. And so I skipped part of eighth grade and went straight to high school.

## I left home at fourteen.

After my first year of high school, my stepfather still wanted me to quit and join his business. I wanted to get more tools for bettering myself and he didn't believe in that, so I left home at fourteen.

There was no big scene. I still stayed in contact with my mother, and I never had any dislike for my stepfather. I was never really mad at him, because if it weren't for him, I wouldn't have come to this country and I would have been in Hitler's army.

Over the years, I don't know whether I was looking for a father, but I had a number of older men who were very generous with their time and advice. I listened to them, and they were good substitutes. Allen Crow was one. Teddy Prentiss was another. Elmer Auden, Judge [Allan] Campbell. These were all men I respected and learned a lot from. But my stepfather, after I finished my first year in high school, said, "No more schooling." I either had to go into business, or I would have to leave home. I chose to leave home.

## I was never afraid of making a decision.

It was an immediate decision, even though I didn't know where I was going to sleep the first night. I was never afraid of making a decision, regardless of the consequences. For a few days, I slept at the school and washed cars for food money. I waited until after dark so I could shower with the hose. Then I went to the home of one of my teachers, Gracia Gray DaRatt. She taught typing and shorthand in high school, and I took her classes and became quite proficient, which served me well.

I washed Mrs. DaRatt's car, and she asked me what I was doing. I said, "Well, I've left home," and I told her why and she took me in. She was a great woman but not someone to make a show. She said, "Here's the refrigerator, here's your bedroom, here's your bathroom," and that was it.

At fourteen, you're a boy. Between fourteen and eighteen, I became an adult. I grew up very

fast. While there was never any pressure, I wanted to be what Mrs. DaRatt wanted me to be, and that was an outstanding student who would go to school beyond high school. She was a remarkable woman, and she encouraged me. She opened up my world. Remember, I was still rather constricted, in every way — in language, in religion, in education. She taught me manners, "the graces." She even introduced me to American foods, such as the baked potato. Corn. She was a very bright woman but quite pragmatic. Not a lot of warmth on the surface. If I had a cold she wouldn't say much, you know. She didn't pamper me at all, and that's good. She hoped that I would be an independent spirit, which she was. Tough American stock. She was all black and all white, nothing in between, and as you're growing up that might be a very good influence.

## I listened to them and I learned.

I remember Mrs. DaRatt would have people over — doctors, businessmen, judges. I listened to them and I learned. Allan Campbell was a friend of hers. He was a judge, the founding dean of the Detroit City College Law School, and one night Judge Campbell was talking to a realtor about a piece of property he owned. You have to remember this was during the Depression, and the judge was going to lose some money on this property. And I remember this distinctly. The realtor said, "Well, you can do so and so and save some money." The judge said, "Oh, yes, I can do that legally — but not morally."

Things like that, these were sign posts to me. It's not how successful you are. Did you do it without being either a con artist or a person who was so burned up with success that anything goes? I don't feel comfortable with "anything goes." Never have, never will.

You know, the teacher said an interesting thing to me once. She said, "John, you're one of the few people I know who can learn from other people without going through the experience yourself." I felt that what they said — the judge, all these others



James Lin and John Kluge, with three of the Detroit civic leaders who organized their tour of the city. (Lin, center front; Kluge, back, to the right of Lin.)

— was so important, so meaningful, I could and should apply it to myself. It became important to do that.

Living with Mrs. DaRatt, little by little I formed a conclusion that I wanted to be somebody but not on the basis of cheating or fooling people. It's been a principle I've lived with; I've always been much more interested in substance than perception. If the substance is right, I feel that everything is right.

## What difference you can make, you should try to make.

In the sands of time, individuals make very little difference. But what little difference you can make, you should try to make. That's what I'm going to put on my tombstone, because there's too much avarice in the world, I think. There's too much competition for things that don't mean much in the long run. If you make a contribution that makes the world better, not only are you somebody, but you're implementing. I don't want to hurt anybody, and I don't want credit for it. I am not oriented toward getting credit. And so much of that came from the teacher.

In 1953, I was in St. Louis. I'd just closed a deal, buying a radio station in Clayton, Missouri, and I got the news of Mrs. DaRatt's death. I was the only person at her funeral. It was in the winter time, in Fairhaven, New York, and cold. I had to really take the gravediggers to task, because it was so cold they didn't want to get out of their hut. I remember so distinctly driving away, and I cried but the tears just froze, it was that cold. Bitter, bitter cold.

She was an inspiration for me. All my life I keep her memory.

## I wanted to go to Columbia because it was in New York.

And not because it was Columbia. I knew I'd need a scholarship so I called Allen B. Crow, who was head of the Detroit Columbia Club.

[The following is Mr. Crow's recollection of the conversation, many years later.]

*I received a phone call at home one evening. The caller asked, "Is this the president of the Columbia Alumni Club?"*

*I said, "Yes, it is."*

*"Do you have a scholarship available?"*

*"Yes, we do."*

*"Well, I want it."*

*"Do you have any money at all?"*

*"No, but I'll earn the rest. I'm willing to work my way through. But I want your scholarship."*

*Well, I admired the boy's pluck.*

## "These hands will pull me through."

I applied for the scholarship and it came down to two fellows: Ed Litchfield and me. Ed was on the debating team, and he was very well-versed in the English language, while I really was not. I wore rough clothes and he was very refined. We both went to Mr. Crow's house for the interview and I said to Mr. Crow, "I'd like to be interviewed second, if you don't mind." So Ed was interviewed first. When Mr. Crow got to me, he asked various questions, the usual things. We were in his sun parlor. Then, as I'm walking to the front door, I turned and walked back. I said, "Mr. Crow, I don't know whether I'll get this scholarship, but I want you to look at my hands." They were very rough because I did a lot of work with my hands. I said, "I don't know whether I'm going to get this scholarship but even if I don't, these hands will pull me through." Well, I think that took Mr. Crow so by surprise.

I still think Litchfield should have gotten the scholarship. But he didn't get it. I did. Litchfield went to the University of Michigan. You know, he became president of Carnegie Tech at a later time. He was an outstanding fellow, certainly better material than I was.

## I had very little chance to get the scholarship but I did.

The point is, I always felt that I could work my way through, and I did. I didn't feel the world owed me anything. As a matter of fact, I consider that, even today, a weakness. The world doesn't owe anybody anything, because it's all within yourself. I can't remember where I ever complained about my life. I always thought my life was wonderful. I really did, even when I didn't have a penny.

But I can't understand, even today, why anybody in this country who has his health can complain, because there are always opportunities. If somebody wants to work in this country, they can find work. Oh, sure, it may be cleaning windows, maybe cleaning sewers — whatever — but you can find a job.

## When I got the scholarship, I wrote back and said it wasn't enough.

I was realistic enough to know that I needed an increase for me to go to New York. If they wanted me, they would do that; if they didn't want me, they'd say no and I would have to live with it. Mrs. DaRatt said, "You know, they're just going to tell you it's been nice to have made your acquaintance, but you go somewhere else because you're too rich for our blood." But that's the chance I took.

Well, they gave it to me, but it took a month or so to find out. That schoolteacher, she and I would stop at the post office every day — Box 63 at the Ferndale Post Office — and I would look into that little window for a white envelope with blue printing, and one day there it was. I came out to the car, a little Ford, and I showed the letter to Mrs. DaRatt. She said, "I'll bet they turned you down." I said, "I'll bet they didn't." And they didn't. They gave me the double scholarship.

## I learn every day, even now.

Going to school is predominantly to discipline your mind. It's also to encourage you to go on learning throughout your life. I learn every day, even now. Children have a sense of awe and that's something we should never lose as adults. The people who have the attitude of knowing everything are sad cases. A scholar knows that when he knows everything, he shuts his mind to anything new.

I think a person needs curiosity, and a sense of enthusiasm. It doesn't matter what you're enthusiastic about. To be enthusiastic is to be a participant. It's a sign you're alive.

## I remember getting ready for Columbia.

Mrs. DaRatt said, "You've got to have a tuxedo, and even tails," and she found some for me. I was standing at the tailor's as they were downsizing the tuxedo and the tails when I heard one of them say, "Isn't it too bad that so-and-so died?" So I knew these clothes had belonged to someone who was dead. I could never wear them.

My first roommate was Henry Galbraith ['37], from El Paso, Texas. I kept telling him, "Henry, you go to dances and all this, you really ought to have a tuxedo and tails." I finally sold him the whole outfit for twenty dollars: five dollars down, five dollars a month. I didn't need a tuxedo after all. Beautiful material in it, though. The lining was pink.

## I came to Columbia with fifteen dollars, and I left with seven thousand.

To get my scholarship, I had to really work — get all A's and that sort of stuff. When I went to college I didn't care. I didn't care about the Phi Beta Kappa or any of those things, because I had three or four jobs while I was in school and a lot of times I wouldn't sit down to my studies until midnight. I came to Columbia with fifteen dollars, and I left with seven thousand. I guess I got a B-average. That didn't bother me. I got what I wanted, and it wouldn't make any difference what my grades were, as long as they were passing.

## I was always selling something.

At graduation they had a cemetery full of headstones for everyone in the class, with quotations on the stones. On my stone they put, "I'm wiser. I sold my body for fertilizer." I was always selling something.

I was a pricer at the John Jay Dining Hall, so I got my three meals.



*Gracia Gray DaRatt with what may be the car Kluge bought for her with his contest winnings.*

I had a stationery business. Every freshman who comes in wants to write to his friends, or his girlfriend, or his family, on the stationery of Columbia, with his name or his initials and the year he graduates. Being a pricer at the dining hall, I was able to say to students, "Is this your first year?" Yes. "Have you got any stationery?" He might say no. I'd say, "Give me your room number. I'll be up to see you." So being a pricer also gave me a place to sell stationery.

I gave personal service. I brought the stationery to them when it was finished. I did that, also, to collect the money. The printer wanted to get paid right away, so I had to collect the money right away.

In 1938, the *Detroit Times* had a contest, and I won second prize — \$2,000. That was a lot of money then! I used part of it to buy Mrs. DaRatt a car.

I also cleaned motor rooms in boats on the river. I would work cleaning engine rooms on Saturday and I'd have grease all over me. It took half a day to get rid of the grease. I didn't want to come up to the Columbia campus with all that grease.

I represented a shoe company, and I would go around the campus with one shoe under my arm. A guy said, "That's a good-looking shoe," and I'd say, "Come on up to my room. I've got the other one there." I represented a clothing store on 114th Street, and I got my clothes at a very deep discount.

Nothing really bothered me, because I needed the money to exist. Being a pricer, I got my meals. With the scholarship, I got my room and tuition and books. Any clothing I needed, any other money I needed, I got from the stationery or the odd jobs. And all the ways I raised my money were honest ways.

## I am open to anything that im- proves the human condition.

I was never a card-carrying Communist. But I believed in the idea that everyone should contribute. Norman Thomas influenced me

greatly. I heard him the first time when I was in high school; I was mesmerized by him. But, you see, the Communists started burning books and all kinds of things at Columbia, and that's when I left that idea.

I've never liked the establishment because I'm not interested in the status quo. As a matter of fact, change is what I really like. I'm not attached to things. I have things and I like them but if I lost them, I would still feel happy inside myself. In that respect, I'm a revolutionary.

In today's politics, I'm neither a Republican nor a Democrat. I am open to anything that improves the human condition. I'm fiscally conservative because someone has to pay for it. In that way I'm a conservative, but not many others.

## I learned a lot from Jim Lin.

Grace DaRatt said, "John, you're going to go far, because you listen." Actually, I listen a great deal more than I talk. I was secretary to the son of the President of China, and I studied the Mandarin language for six months. James Lin was son of Lin Sen, the president after Sun Yat-Sen and Chiang Kai-Shek.

I learned a lot from Jim Lin. One day we were taking the subway, and you know in New York it's a rush for the subway. He said, "How often do these subways come?" I said, "Every three minutes." He said, "So we'll wait three minutes." He taught me a lot about patience. And, you know, it paid off later. We had a cellular operation in Shanghai, the largest city in China — thirty million people then. The Chinese government said, "Look, we don't want you to own our system. We don't want outsiders to own any part of our telecommunications." I agreed heartily. I said, "I understand your policy." They paid us back ninety million plus interest. Some companies want to fight it. My feeling is, you never fight the Chinese. They have the patience of Job, and they would tie you up so you would never get what you wanted. It's better to give in to their request, and so you learn.

Jimmy Lin was one of my best customers for the stationery business, and I invited him to come to Detroit with me over the winter break in 1933.

When we pulled into Michigan Central in Detroit, the shades in the sleeping car were all down. I put up the shade, and I saw all of these people out on the platform. And, I said to Lin, "There's got to be somebody important on this train." Little did I think it was for Lin, you know.

## Detroit Heaps Honors on Columbia Students; Ford, Chrysler Fete Son of China's President

Excerpts from *Detroit Times*, January 1934

*Jim Lin and John Kluge Receive Keys to City, View Art, Relics, Society. Rival Magnates to Entertain Pair on Holiday Visit*

"... Were Jim and I surprised!" said Kluge last night, speaking of the rousing welcome. "For awhile there I was kind of worrying about entertaining Jim right ..."

... Then the short-trousered dining hall cashier told how he and Lin became close friends.

"I first met Jim while making the rounds of the dormitories trying to sell stationery. He nearly bought me out the first night I saw him ... Four weeks before the Christmas vacation began I asked him to come to Detroit with me. Jim is doing graduate work in economics, and I thought he'd be interested in taking a look at the automobile plants ... On the train," continued Kluge, "I was worried, trying to figure out just how Jim was going to like being mauled [sic] around in a Detroit street car. An executive from Chrysler Motors solved that problem by telling us that the private car of Walter P. Chrysler would be at our disposal through the holidays. There are only eighty cars in the world like Mr. Chrysler's, and the queen of England has one.

"While we were dining at the home of my guardian, Mrs. Gracia DaRatt, Mr. Crow read out our schedule for the holidays. I had no appetite that day. How could a fellow eat after being told he was to meet Henry Ford at dinner?"

On the list of social engagements were visits to the Chrysler, Ford, Dodge, and Packard plants, which Lin insisted on inspecting carefully. The bland Chinese was interested in the mass production methods employed.

"That's what we're going to have in China," he told an interviewer ... [Kluge fainted during a tour of Parke-Davis Drug company.] "They took me to the infirmary," he said. "And they let me have the prettiest nurse I've ever seen. When Jim saw her, he wanted to swat himself on the head and get in the bed right beside me, but the directors wanted him for lunch."

## We agreed to meet in Baghdad.

Another of the fellows I met at Columbia was Baba Ali, who was a son of Sheikh Mahmud Barzanji, the exiled king of Kurdistan. We agreed to meet in Baghdad at noon, August 14th, 1936. That summer I visited Cairo. I went to Israel, which was Palestine then. There were camels on the streets in Tel Aviv. I traveled all around the region but on August 14th, there I was in Baghdad, on Rashid Street, which is the main drag. Then it was just a dirt road, like a frontier town in a Western. I'd said I'd be there and I was — but he wasn't!

Well, Baba Ali did show up finally, with his driver, and we drove across the desert in his Cadillac, up to his family's home. I lived a month up in the hills, in Kurdistan. They treated me very well, though I remember one night we visited a Moslem holy man, removing our shoes at the door, of course. He brought me grapes. "Here, infidel, eat," he said. "You are a welcome guest in my house."

You know, it was quite an experience.

## I was a gambler.

I gambled with sugar heirs from Cuba, anyone who wanted to play. One day the dean of Columbia College asked me to come to his office. He said, "You know, we don't understand you. You're

gambling all night and you're here on that scholarship." I said, "Dean, you'll never catch me gambling again." That's the first time I realized the dean of Columbia College didn't understand the English language. I didn't say I wouldn't gamble again, I said he'd never catch me again.

I remember playing stud poker and five card, with the first card down and the next four up. One night I had a five up and the next card was a five. The two after that didn't mean much but the third card was a five — three fives. Just as the betting was really getting hot, there was a knock on the door. We had all agreed that as soon as there's a knock, all of the cards will go under the table and be cancelled out. So the cards went away and I opened up a book. The door opened and believe it or not, it was a guy who had a headache and wanted some aspirin. I never knew that a headache could be transferred that quickly. So ever since, there have been three fives always landing in my mind.

When I bought the DuMont television stations, they had a Channel 5 in New York and they had a Channel 5 in Washington. I went up to Boston to buy their Channel 5, and I borrowed the money, two hundred and twenty-two million. I said, "You've got a week to decide," because I didn't want them to shop the station and run up the price. And that's how I got the three fives together for Metromedia.

## They took my appendix out for no reason.

My roommate introduced me to beer. I was pretty woozy from that first drink. We came back to the dormitory and I went to the lavatory — there was just one common one on each floor. Well, I looked in the bowl and there was blood. I ran down to our rooms and I said to my roommate, "I'm dying!"

We went directly to St. Luke's Hospital and they took my appendix out. I was there ten days and when I came back, we had a powwow on the floor. This one fellow asked me, "Why did you go to the hospital?"

I said, "I was bleeding, the night of so-and-so."

He took me down to the lavatory and he said, "Which stall?" I showed him. He said, "That's the night I had a nosebleed." They took my appendix out for no reason. But while I was there, I met a very nice young woman, a nurse there, and we went out for some time. So something good came out of it.

## "Outstanding people want to be with outstanding people."

Columbia, I think, is a great institution. Nicholas Murray Butler [Class of 1882] was president of the university while I was there — both before and after, until the 1940s. One time, I asked him, "Dr. Butler, how is it you're able to keep some of these professors here?" He said, "I'm going to tell you. Outstanding people want to be with outstanding people. They don't want to be alone. It doesn't stimulate them." I think he's right, and Columbia's had some great people.



*Lin, Allen B. Crow, Kluge. Crow was the head of Detroit's Columbia University Club, which awarded Kluge a scholarship and then doubled it. Crow remained Kluge's lifelong friend and supporter.*

## When you have nothing, why not take a risk?

There was a professor, Armin K. Lobeck, and he was in geology. He mesmerized me, my second year at Columbia. He made geology so interesting, I thought I would become a geologist — specifically, a paleontologist — and would probably work for an oil company, traveling the world. But in my third year and then, reinforced by my fourth year, I thought it over and I decided I wanted to go into business. I think basically I always wanted to go into business, but this geology course was so interesting. Professor Lobeck made it so interesting, that I darned near changed my mind. If I'd gone in that direction, I can tell you one thing — I would have been a wildcat-ter. My instincts are always to take a risk. I like taking risks. I guess it's like an addiction. My addiction is taking a risk. When you have nothing, why not take a risk? You can only fall on your face.

I know this sounds crazy, but I don't really like a sure thing. It doesn't give me any excitement. As I got older, the risks became more calculating. I felt they would be worthwhile, they would succeed, and it often turned out that way.

And though I like risks, I don't go into them unprepared. I think about them a lot, and I try to read as much as I can. I'm an information junkie, a news junkie. I paid nine dollars once for a *New York Times* in Iran. I gather information and I consult with my people but then I have to make that decision.

Most often, I make it on the basis of — will we add something to this business? I am oriented to improving a product or service. Just me-too business, that's not interesting to me. Every business I've ever been in, my thoughts were always to improve what they're doing. It might not be successful, but I love taking a risk. I really don't like a sure thing. That doesn't give me any thrills.



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*The photographs that accompany this piece are drawn from the papers of John W. Kluge '37, held by the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.*

# Bookshelf

**Over There** by Dr. Robert Schoenfeld '55. Schoenfeld, who earned his medical degree from a Swiss university, recalls the experience of living and studying in Europe (AuthorHouse, \$35.20).

**At the End of the Day: Selected Poems and an Introductory Essay** by Phillip Lopate '64. Lopate has compiled a series of original poems about friendship, young love and life in New York (Marsh Hawk Press, \$16.95).

**Equity Valuation for Analysts & Investors** by James Kelleher '76. A step-by-step guide to determining the monetary value of any asset (McGraw-Hill Professional, \$75).

**Not Even Past: Barack Obama and the Burden of Race** by Thomas Sugrue '84. In three essays, Sugrue analyzes the role of race in the development of Obama's intellectual and political attitudes (Princeton University Press, \$24.95).

**Theory after Theory: An Intellectual History of Literary Theory from 1950 to the Early 21st Century** by Nicholas Birns '88. The author outlines the trends that emerged in literary criticism during the second half of the 20th century (Broadview Press, \$26.95).

**The Feeling of Kinship: Queer Liberalism and the Racialization of Intimacy** by David L. Eng '90. Eng examines the intersection of race, politics and economics in the modern gay rights movement (Duke University Press, \$23.95).

**Asylum: Inside the Closed World of State Mental Hospitals** by Christopher Payne '90; foreword by Oliver Sacks, professor of neurology, psychiatry and the arts. Payne's photographs illustrate the physical and functional deterioration of the large, state-funded mental institutions built throughout America during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (The MIT Press, \$45).

**The Pickup Artist: The New and Improved Art of Seduction** by Mystery; foreword by Neil Strauss '91. Advice and strategies for men seeking to attract single women (Villard, \$22).

**The Secret Miracle: The Novelist's Handbook** edited by Daniel Alarcón '99. Established authors share their thoughts on the technical features and stylistic elements that make for good fiction (Holt Paperbacks, \$16).

**Marathon: The Battle that Changed Western Civilization** by Richard A. Billows, professor of history. Billows describes the Battle of Marathon and the lasting consequences of the Greek victory (Overlook Hardcover, \$30).

**Empire and Nation: Selected Essays** by Partha Chatterjee, professor of anthropology. This collection of essays explores the development of nationalism in postcolonial India (Columbia University Press, \$29.50).

**Commerce Before Capitalism in Europe, 1300–1600** by Martha C. Howell, the Miriam Champion Pro-

fessor of History. Howell argues that the system of gift-giving and exchange that prevailed in Western Europe during the late Renaissance was not a precursor to modern capitalism but a distinct cultural and economic phenomenon (Cambridge University Press, \$29.99).

**The Imaginary Institution of India: Politics and Ideas** by Sudipta Kaviraj, professor of Middle East and Asian languages and cultures. The author examines political and social developments in India from a philosophical perspective (Columbia University Press, \$29.50).

**The 'Woman Question' and Higher Education: Perspectives on Gender and Knowledge Production in America** edited by Ann Mari May; foreword by Alice Kessler-Harris, the R. Gordon Hoxie Professor of American History in Honor of Dwight D. Eisenhower. This collection of articles explores the historical prejudices and modern rationalizations that contribute to the devaluation of women's intellectual abilities (Edward Elgar Publishing, \$35).

**The Ask: A Novel** by Sam Lipsyte, assistant professor of creative writing. Lipsyte's protagonist is a disillusioned father working in the development office of an unnamed New York City university (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$25).

**Climate Change: Picturing the Science** by Gavin Schmidt and Joshua Wolfe; foreword by Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, professor of health

policy and management and director of the Earth Institute. Using scientific explanations and photographic evidence to support their arguments, Schmidt and Wolfe emphasize climate change as a real phenomenon and an imminent danger (W.W. Norton & Co., \$24.95).

**Improving Access and Efficiency in Public Health Services: Mid-Term Evaluation of India's National Rural Health Mission** by Nirupam Bajpai; Jeffrey D. Sachs, the Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, professor of health policy and management and director of the Earth Institute; and Ravindra H. Dholakia. The authors note the achievements and failures of the National Rural Health Mission, a project organized by the Indian government with the aim of improving healthcare among India's poorest citizens (Sage Publications, \$25.95).

**Living Room: A Novel** by Rachel Sherman, adjunct assistant professor of creative writing. Sherman's debut novel follows three generations of women in a Jewish family on Long Island (Open City books, \$14.95).

**Super Sad True Love Story: A Novel** by Gary Shteyngart, assistant professor of creative writing. The setting for this satirical love story is a dystopian version of New York in which podcasts reign supreme and reading is considered passé (Random House, \$26).

**Freefall: America, Free Markets, and the Sinking of the World**



# David Rakoff '86 Makes Pessimism Sound Positive

BY YELENA SHUSTER '09

**"I** feel a little bit like I finally took my top off," David Rakoff '86 says about his new essay collection, *Half Empty* (Doubleday, \$24.95), as we sit in his airy, book-lined apartment in NYC's Union Square. The NPR contributor and best-selling author worries that his most recent work is far more revealing than his first two books, *Fraud: Essays* (Doubleday, 2002) and *Don't Get Too Comfortable: The Indignities of Coach Class, The Torments of Low Thread Count, The Never-Ending Quest for Artisanal Olive Oil, and Other First World Problems* (Doubleday, 2005).

"I'm emphatically not a memoirist. I do write personal essays, usually not so much about my life. *Half Empty* is more about my life," he says. "It makes me uneasy because of the broader cultural development that I see in writing itself. The glut of memoir that's on the shelves right now shows that notions of craft have become secondary to the harrowing nature of the story. I'm far more invested, perhaps far too invested, in being thought of as having a flair for language. I don't want to be known for the particulars of my biography."

But Rakoff, 45, is such a talented writer, and *Half Empty* such an amusing read, that the addition of essays ranging from his childhood as a short, unpopular "shrimp" to his second bout with cancer are only made richer by the personal detail — he writes as deftly about himself as about any of his other subjects. Whether he's skewering the musical *Rent*'s unrealistic depiction of AIDS or exposing Disney's outdated "House of Tomorrow," Rakoff spares no one from his sharp cultural critique — least of all himself.

*Half Empty* is full of hilarious stories in defense of pessimism, a subject near and dear to Rakoff's neurotic, self-deprecating heart. When *Don't Get Too Comfortable* reached *The New York Times*' bestseller list, his reaction was, "Oh, well, it's not going to be on next week." And when describing its success to me, he quipped, "Look, I'm super-proud of it. It's a lovely thing and it's all about changing the obituary." On his acceptance to Columbia, he says: "I was in the last all-male class to be accepted. The standards were a lot lower — or that's what I tell myself."

Rakoff's essays, which delve into everything from his teenage summer at an Israeli kibbutz to his attending a porn convention on assignment, make self-criticism an art — but charmingly so, where in the end you only empathize with his "shrimpy" self even more. And he's just as charismatic in person as he is on the page. The Canadian native has a natural skill for making strangers feel at home (something he has attributed to his upbringing as the son of a psychiatrist). Within the first minute of arriving at his apartment, he offers me something to drink, sets



PHOTO: PAUL ROOSIN

strawberries and peanuts on the table, and then asks me about my Russian name, when I graduated from Columbia and if I have a boyfriend — all before handing me coffee. Before I knew it, the subject was interviewing me on my own assignment.

Rakoff's career can be traced to his years on Morningside Heights. From Dante to Shakespeare, the books of the Core Curriculum pepper his writing. He credits his CC professor, Constantin Fasolt, for introducing to him the primacy and importance of language; his freshman composition professor, Wendy Graham, for teaching him the value of re-writing; and his Japanese professor, Mary Hue, for instilling in him a dogged work ethic. And because of Columbia's gay-friendly environment, he stopped hiding a major part of his identity when he came out in his senior year.

The East Asian studies major developed lifelong friends while working on Columbia theater, including Jeanine Tesori '83 Barnard, a composer for the musical *Shrek*; Alexa Junge '84 Barnard, a writer for Showtime's *United States of Tara*; and Adam Belanoff '84, an executive producer and writer for TNT's *The Closer*, all of whom he worked with on *The Varsity Show*. Rakoff's theater background served him well when *The New Tenants*, a film he starred in and adapted for the screen, won an Academy Award for Best Live Action Short Film this year.

For someone whose name is said in the same breath as David Sedaris and Ira Glass, Rakoff's rise to literary fame didn't come easily or quickly. His first book of essays was published when he was 36 — after 13 years of working at a full-time job in publishing, starring in downtown theater productions and freelance-writing for everyone from the *Times* to *GQ*. Even though *Half Empty*'s subtitle is "WARNING!!! No Inspirational Life Lessons Will Be Found In These Pages," Rakoff insists on telling recent grads that success has no deadline.

"Being young, I remember very, very clearly the extreme pressure I felt to achieve early and prodigiously. There is so very little profit in peaking early. Your life and your experience is richer when you're older," Rakoff says.

"Believe me, I understand the world you're in. I know that you're going to, on a daily basis, or at least weekly, find yourself at a party where a colleague or classmate will say something that will consume you with jealousy and you will feel like you will never catch up. You will catch up. There really is no map."

**Yelena Shuster '09** is a freelance writer whose work has been featured in *Cosmopolitan.com*, *NYMag.com* and *The Huffington Post*. She blogs at [IvyLeaguedandUnemployed.com](http://IvyLeaguedandUnemployed.com).

**Economy** by Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor. Stiglitz denounces *laissez faire* economics and argues for increased market regulation on the part of the U.S. government. [Editor's note: See May/June "Columbia Forum": [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/may\\_jun10/](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/may_jun10/)

[columbia\\_forum3.j](http://columbia_forum3.j)] (W.W. Norton & Co., \$27.95).

**Mismeasuring Our Lives: Why GDP Doesn't Add Up** by Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor; Amartya Sen; and Jean-Paul Fitoussi. The authors explain the limitations

of gross domestic product as a measure of economic success and propose alternative ways of assessing prosperity (The New Press, \$15.95).

**The Selected Papers of John Jay, Volume I: 1760–1779** edited by

Elizabeth M. Nuxoll. A collection of correspondences spanning the education and early career of John Jay (Class of 1764) (University of Virginia Press, \$85).

Grace Laidlaw '11



# Obituaries

1937

**Lloyd D. Flint**, physician, Myrtle Beach, S.C., on February 2, 2010. Flint was born on March 25, 1917, in Paterson, N.J. He was a graduate of Yale Medical School and a WWII veteran, having served as a medical officer aboard the *USS Shreveport*. During his career in Boston, Flint's pioneering work in the diagnosis and surgical management of adrenal gland diseases was widely published in medical literature and surgical texts. He staffed several post-graduate courses for the American College of Surgeons and in 1973 was president of the New England Section of the American Urological Association. Flint originally retired to Myrtle Beach in 1982 after a 35-year career as a urological surgeon at Boston's Lahey Clinic. He then accepted a clinical professorship at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston until 1990. In Myrtle Beach, Flint was education director for the Long Bay unit of the U.S. Power Squadron. He also was a judge of the Boxer dog breed. Flint and his wife, Mary Dreher Flint, founded the Flintwood Kennels of Boston, having raised many champion Boxer breeds. Flint was predeceased by his wife in 2008 and is survived by his niece, Eleanore Dreher.

1938

**Alan D. Kandel**, retired social work executive, archivist, West Bloomfield, Mich., on August 21, 2009. Kandel earned a degree in 1942 from the School of Social Work and served in the Army during WWII. He lived for 18 years in Shaker Heights, Ohio, working for the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland as director of community relations. Relocating to Detroit in 1968, Kandel was assistant executive director and director of budgeting and planning for the Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit. After retiring in 1984, he pursued a career as an archivist, contributing to two books about the Jewish history in Detroit published by Wayne State University and wrote numerous articles for the Jewish Historical Society. Kandel was a founding member and past president of the Institute of Retired Professionals of the Jewish Community Center. He was recognized for a lifetime of contribution to the Detroit Jewish community by Jewish Welfare Federation. Kandel was predeceased by his first wife, Bernice, and elder son, Anthony. He is survived by his second wife, Carol; son, Jonathan '72; and two granddaughters.



Edward S. Liska '38

**Edward S. Liska**, retired adult and child psychiatrist, San Francisco, on January 10, 2010. Liska was born on May 15, 1916, in Putnam, Conn. He was raised in Adams, Mass., and worked in textile mills as a child. Liska earned an M.D. from Tufts and completed a residency in adult and child psychiatry at UC San Francisco. During WWII, he was a Navy flight surgeon for the Marine Corps. Liska later was an assistant clinical professor in psychiatry at UCSF and was the medical director of Edgewood Children's Center in San Francisco for 35 years. He was one of the few Polish-speaking psychiatrists in the Bay Area. Liska traveled the world extensively, read profusely and enjoyed gardening. He was an avid woodworker who made furniture and inlaid boxes, and trivets out of corks. Liska was predeceased by his first son, Robert ("Butch"), brother, Theodore, and sister, Phyllis Janket. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Claire (née Carter); children, John and Ann; son-in-law Peter Rockwell; and three grandsons. Memorial contributions may be made to Tufts University School of Medicine, Office of Development & Alumni Relations, 136 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02111.

**James W. Stitt**, sales and advertising manager, Easton, Pa., on January 12, 2010. Born in Cleveland on April 25, 1916, Stitt entered with the Class of 1938 but instead earned a degree in 1938 from the Business School. He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta. Stitt became an assistant sales manager for Safeguard Corp. and an engineer with Leeds & Northrup. During a 20-year career with the Dixie Cup Co., he was sales promotion manager, advertising manager and director of administrative services. He also was an advertising manager with Rodale Press. A lifelong golfer, Stitt won seven club championships and qualified for the USGA National

Amateur Championship. He was extensively involved with several Jaycees clubs; a board member of the Hotel Easton, the YMCA and the Salvation Army; and an avid traveler. Stitt is survived by his wife of 70 years, the former Dorothy Gladys Jewett; and son, Thomas Sr. An older son, James, predeceased him. Other survivors include two grandsons; five granddaughters; and several great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The University of Missouri for the Stitt Memorial Fund, Department of Geology, Attn.: Marsha Huckabey, 101 Geology Bldg., Columbia, MO 65211.

1939

**Merrel P. Callaway**, clergyman, Charleston, S.C., on January 31, 2010. Born in Dublin, Ga., on January 5, 1916, Callaway graduated from the Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania and attended Harvard. He served as a Baptist missionary to the Middle East and North Africa from 1945-86. During his missionary service, Callaway led international congregations, was principal of a school, helped found a hospital, taught English and ran a bookstore. He was preceded in death by his first and second wives, Elizabeth Fountain Callaway and Arlene Jensen Callaway. Callaway is survived by his daughters and their husbands, Sharon and Carl Knechtel, Susan and Brent Anderson, Joy and Blake Godbold, Star and Richard Dority, Margaret and Jeff Pearson, and Martha and Drew Whitson; 16 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention c/o First Baptist Church of Charleston, 48 Meeting St., Charleston, SC 29401.

1940

**Willard N. Failing**, ophthalmologist, Utica, N.Y., on May 25, 2009. Failing earned a degree in 1943 from P&S. He was a WWII Army veteran and served as a doctor for an artillery unit. Failing practiced in Brooklyn, N.Y., and Utica, N.Y., and was interested in lifelong learning.

**Theodore S. Hecht**, magazine correspondent, Forest Hills, N.Y., on January 1, 2010. Hecht grew up in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, N.Y., went to Boys H.S. and at 16 entered the College, where he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi. Hecht was briefly enrolled in a master's program at



Theodore S. Hecht '40

Columbia studying Indo-Iranian languages but his studies were cut short by WWII. He served in the European theatre as a sergeant in the Army-Air Force. In 1944, Hecht married Ruth Hertz; she predeceased him in 2001. After the war, Hecht was employed as a Washington correspondent for *Life* magazine. Subsequent to that, he worked in the independent magazine business. Hecht loved hunting, trapshooting, fishing, bird watching and hiking. Two of his favorite magazine projects were editing *Fresh and Salt Water Fishing* and *Guns and Game*. Hecht and his wife also enjoyed NYC's culture, music and art. He is survived by his children, Michael, James '71 and Pamela.

1941

**James W. Cronenberg**, engineer, Midland, Texas, on January 1, 2010. Cronenberg was born in El Paso, Texas, on February 4, 1919. He entered with the Class of 1941 and then became a member of the Class of 1942 at the Engineering School. Cronenberg was commissioned an ensign in the USN Reserve in May 1941 and immediately ordered to active duty. After completing a course in aeronautical engineering at NYU, he was sent to USNAS Pearl Harbor, arriving in October 1941. Cronenberg survived Pearl Harbor and remained on active duty for 5½ years, serving at Naval Air Stations, CASUs, CASDs and on aircraft carriers. He retired as a commander from the Navy Reserve after 20 years. Following WWII, Cronenberg worked for El Paso Natural Gas for 37 years in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, retiring in Midland, Texas, in 1983. He married Helen Quigg on October 26, 1946; she preceded him in death in 2007. Cronenberg is survived by a son, Steven; daughter, Nancy Boothe; two granddaughters; and son- and daughter-in-law, Diane Cronenberg and Stephen Boothe. Memorial con-

tributions may be made to St. Luke's Methodist Church [Midland, Texas] General Fund.

**T. Hall Keyes III**, dog breeder, handler and trainer, Ridge, N.C., on January 6, 2010. Born in New York City, Keyes owned and operated Nanhall Pet Resort and Training Center in Greensboro, N.C. Previously, he had been v.p. of City Stores. Keyes enjoyed spending time with his family and devoted his life to breeding, training and showing dogs of many breeds, but had a lifelong passion for German Shepherds. He was the father of the late Scot and Mark; and brother of the late Dale. Keyes is survived by his wife, Frances; children, R. Dean, T. Hall, Hayley and Scott; brothers, Noel and Glen; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Ave., 7th Fl., New York, NY 10001.

## 1 9 4 3

**Bernard Amster**, physician, West Hollywood, Calif., on December 4, 2009. Amster was born on February 16, 1922, in New York City. He served in the Army from 1943-45, entered Cornell University College of Medicine after the war, earned an M.D. and in 1951 moved to Los Angeles. As a family practitioner, he served thousands of patients for more than 50 years, practicing mostly in the underserved sections of the Crenshaw district and South Central Los Angeles. Amster enjoyed sailing, Chinese cooking, antique cars and many aspects of art and science. He was preceded in death by his first and second wives, Ruth and Lois, and daughter, Mary. He is survived by his children Lynne, Robin, Janis, Andy, Peggy, Doug, Nancy and Jim; several grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Clifton C. Field Jr.**, retired editor and speechwriter, Brunswick, N.J., on November 30, 2009. Field was born in Natchez, Miss., and raised in New York City. He attended DeWitt Clinton H.S. and served in the Army Air Corps in Saipan during WWII. In 1946, Field met and married the former Georgiana Pentlarge, moved to Montclair, N.J., and joined Western Electric. During his 38-year tenure at the company, Field was editor of a number of company publications, wrote position papers and speeches, and for a time was company press spokesman. He was an active volunteer in Montclair government as well as an avid reader. Field enjoyed canoeing the Delaware River with his daughters, and summers on Martha's Vineyard. In retirement, he spent several summers studying Spanish in Madrid and bicycling in Europe. Field was

predeceased by his first wife and is survived by his second wife, Freela C. Field; daughters, Martha Cagwin, Georgiana Devine and Barbara Field Curry; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

## 1 9 4 4

**Frank C. Marshall**, Rye, N.Y., on February 8, 2010. Marshall was born on November 5, 1922, in Queens, N.Y. He was a WWII Army veteran, serving as a first lieutenant in the Medical Corps stationed at the Pentagon. Marshall was an avid golfer, voracious reader and a lover of classical music. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Patricia (Survey) Marshall; children, Laura Allen and her husband, Joel, and Suzanne Vickerson and her husband, Anthony; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation or The Lustgarten Foundation.

## 1 9 4 6

**Jack L. Orkin**, retired attorney, Miami, on January 15, 2010. Orkin was born in Port Chester, N.Y. He earned an M.S. in 1946 from the Business School and a J.D. from the Law School in 1949. Orkin was admitted to the Bar in New York, Oklahoma and Florida and to the U.S. Supreme Court of Claims and Tax Court. He was among the first group of Florida attorneys to be board-certified in estate planning and probate. After private practice in New York City, Orkin was the attorney adviser for the U.S. Tax Court for 2½ years. He subsequently focused his practice on personal and business tax law. In 1958, Orkin joined the Florida firm of Blackwell, Walker and Gray, where he rose to senior partner. He also was the national attorney for developers of Oil of Olay for 10 years. After retiring to Sarasota, Orkin and his wife, Ann, became members of The Lifelong Learning Academy. She survives him, as do daughters Deborah H. Steinfeld and her husband, Steven, and Laura B. Orkin and her husband, Lonnie; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice and Palliative Care Fund Development, 5955 Rand Blvd, Sarasota, FL 34238.

## 1 9 4 8

**Vincent G. Quinn**, retired professor, Seattle, on December 21, 2009. Born in New York City in 1926, Quinn moved to Seattle in 2006. During WWII, he served in the Army Intelligence Corps, studying and then teaching Japanese. Quinn married Esther Casier in 1951. He earned a Ph.D. in 1959 from GSAS and retired as a professor of English from CUNY Brooklyn College, where he had been chairman of the department and received a Great Teacher Award. Quinn authored two books, *Hart*

*Crane* and *Hilda Doolittle*. He is survived by his wife; sons, Stephen and Thomas; four grandchildren; four nephews; and a niece. Memorial contributions may be made to the Brooklyn College Library, Brooklyn College, CUNY, 2900 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11210.

## 1 9 5 0

**James L. Garofalo**, physician, Essex Fells, N.J., on February 26, 2010. Born in Newark, N.J., Garofalo grew up in Bloomfield and lived in Essex Fells for 30 years. He earned an M.D. from Hanaman University and an M.S. from the School of Public Health (1953). Garofalo was a family physician for many years, with offices in West Caldwell. He served in the Air Force as a captain, pilot and doctor in peacetime as well as in the Coast Guard Reserve. Garofalo loved flying and belonged to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and the Experimental Aircraft Association. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn (née Clark); children, Jim and his wife, Terry, Lisa and Alexander; two granddaughters; brother, Robert, and his wife, Nina; sister, Joyce Ranucci; and a niece. Memorial contributions may be made to Eagle Flight Squadron, 143 New St., East Orange, NJ 07017.

**Harvey M. Radey Jr.**, retired Army lieutenant colonel and hospital administrator, Clarkesville, Ga., on December 24, 2009. Radey was born on August 8, 1923, in Amarillo, Texas. He served with the Army in WWII and retired from the service as a lieutenant colonel. Radey's hospital administration career spanned from Pennsylvania to Clifton-Fine Memorial Hospital in Star Lake, N.Y., from which he retired. He was a former administrator of Frisbee Memorial Hospital in Rochester, N.H., and a member of Fellowship Church in Baldwin, Ga. Survivors include a son and daughter-in-law, Harvey III and Cindy Spence Radey; daughter and son-in-law, Susan Radey Wyrick and Benny Lee Wyrick; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

## 1 9 5 1

**John W. Garrett**, transportation safety research expert, Asheville, N.C., on January 14, 2010. Born in New York City, Garrett served in WWII with the Army with the 14th Armored Division, known as the Liberators for their repeated success freeing German concentration and Allied POW camps. He was awarded two Bronze Stars. After military service, Garrett graduated from the College and began work in accident research at Cornell. Subsequently, he was the director of accident research at Calspan Corp., and Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory in Buffalo, N.Y. Gar-

rett was a pioneer in transportation safety research, and his work demonstrating the effectiveness of passive restraint systems in automobiles resulted in seatbelt requirements for all cars in 1966. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Mary Margaret Higgins; children, John and his wife, Janet, Eileen Dunne and her husband, Robert, Brian and his wife, Judy, Maureen, Jean MacKenzie and her husband, Stuart, Daniel and his wife, Maria, Julia Salzmänn and her husband, Peter, and Michael and his wife, Patricia; 24 grandchildren; sister, Ethel Higgins; and brother, Francis. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association of WNC, PO Box 42453, Charlotte, NC 28215 or Care Partners Hospice Foundation, PO Box 25338, Asheville, NC 28813.

## 1 9 5 2

**Karl R. Lunde**, retired professor and gallery director, New York City, on December 27, 2009. Lunde was born on Staten Island on November 1, 1931. He earned an M.A. and a Ph.D., both in art history and archeology, in 1953 and 1970, respectively, from GSAS. Lunde's dissertation was on 19th-century Romantic painter Johan Christian Dahl. Lunde was for many years director of The Contemporaries gallery on Madison Avenue. He taught art history as an instructor at General Studies from 1957-70 and as a professor at William Paterson University from 1970-96, from which he retired. Lunde specialized in American painting and sculpture, Asian art, prehistoric art and the Romantic art of Scandinavia and Germany. A frequent contributor to professional and scholarly journals, he was the author of *Isabel Bishop* (1973), *Richard Anuszkiewicz* (1976), *Robert Kipniss* (1980), *John Day* (1984)

## Obituary Submission Guidelines

*Columbia College Today* welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box, but due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct), or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.

## Dr Robert N. Butler '49, '53 P&S, Gerontologist and Author

**D**r. Robert N. Butler, a physician, activist and visionary, and president and CEO of the International Longevity Center-USA, died on July 4, 2010, in Manhattan. He was 83.

Butler was born on January 21, 1927, in New York. His parents separated when he was 11 months old, and he was raised by his grandparents in Vineland, N.J. Butler served in the United States Maritime Service before matriculating at the College, where he was the editor of *Spectator* in 1948-49. He credited the College and the Core Curriculum for giving him his start in the academic world and helping him to think broadly across disciplines. Butler continued his education at Columbia, earning a degree from P&S in 1953, after which he did his residency at UC San Francisco. In 1955, Butler became a research psychiatrist at the National Institute of Mental Health, where he studied the central nervous system in elderly people, work that became part of a large study of aging. Butler also helped Ralph Nader investigate problems in nursing homes.

He was a U.S. Public Health Service surgeon from 1955-62; had a private practice in the Washington, D.C., area; and was a researcher and gerontologist at the Washington School of Psychiatry from the early 1960s-1976. Butler taught at several medical schools, including those at Georgetown, How-

ard and George Washington.

Described by many as the "father of gerontology," Butler was the founding director of the National Institute on Aging, in 1975, and won the Pulitzer Prize for his 1975 book, *Why Survive? Being Old in America*, in 1976. He founded Mount Sinai's Department of Geriatrics and Adult Development in 1982, the first such department at a U.S. medical school. Butler coined the term "ageism" to describe discrimination against the elderly and advocated for them before Congress and the United Nations. He was the first to identify and describe the "life review process," a naturally occurring, universal mental process characterized by the progressive, conscious return to past experience. President Clinton named Butler the chairman of the 1995 White House Conference on Aging.

Butler wrote several books, including *Sex After Sixty*, co-written with his late wife, Myrna I. Lewis Ph.D. '65 SW, '00 SW; *Aging and Mental Health: Positive Psychosocial and Biomedical Approaches*, co-written with Lewis and with Trey Sunderland; and *The Longevity Revolution: The Benefits and Challenges of Living a Long Life*. His most recent book, *The Longevity Prescription: The 8 Proven Keys to a Long, Healthy Life*, was published in May.

Class president Fred Berman '49 said of his classmate, "Bob Butler was a very special human



PHOTO: KIM MARTINEAU '97J

being who contributed so much to the world about the problems of aging but always in such an optimistic and upbeat way. He was a giant in the field of geriatric medicine, a proud Columbian and devoted member of the Class of 1949. Last year, at our 60th reunion, we honored him for his lifelong dedication to the problems of the elderly. We will miss him greatly."

CCT profiled Butler in January/February 2009 ([www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan\\_feb09/alumni\\_profiles0](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb09/alumni_profiles0)). He is survived by his daughters, Christine Butler and her husband, Richard Guest; Carole Hall and her husband, Brooks ("Boots"); Cynthia Butler and her husband, James Gleason; and Alexandra; as well as six grandchildren, including Brendan Gleason '07. Memorial contributions may be made to Robert N. Butler Charitable Trust c/o Cynthia Butler, 3211 Homewood Rd., Davidsonville, MD 21035.

Lisa Palladino

wife, Ellen (Forrest) Rigatti; sons, Paul and his wife, Jane, Gary and his wife, Laurie, Thomas and his wife, Cathleen, and Matthew and his wife, Janna; daughters, Marianne, Michelle and her husband, Jack Shoemaker, Cynthia and her husband, Brian Ashe, and Melissa and her husband, Paul Farrow; 11 grandchildren; brothers, Frank and his wife, Karen, and George and his wife, Armida; sisters, Catherine and her husband, Albert Loffredo, and Teresa. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leopold Schepp Foundation, 551 Fifth Ave., Ste 3000, New York, NY 10176.

1956

**Stephen D. Schenkel**, TV writer, producer and executive, New York City, on January 11, 2010. Schenkel was an Emmy-nominated television writer, producer and network executive who earned his reputation as a creative force and innovator by producing *All My Children*, *Another World* and *Edge of Night*. He was co-creator/creative consultant on *Ryan's Hope* and ABC's *After School Specials*. Schenkel was an executive at NBC, CBS, ABC and Benton & Bowles. He developed and produced a full spectrum of entertainment programs and Discovery Channel documentaries. Schenkel married Penny Bergman in 1990 after meeting her on the set of *All My Children*. Survivors include the families of Ellen and Cantor Tyrone Bauer, and the Bergman and Gottlieb in-laws. Memorial contributions may be made to Parkinson's Disease Foundation or Trustees of Columbia University c/o Dr. Leonard Stern/Chronic Kidney Disease Program at the Columbia University Medical Center.

1960

**Michael D. Hein**, teacher and librarian, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on February 7, 2010. Hein was born in New York City on May 30, 1939. He earned an M.S. in 1974 from the School of Library Service. On November 4, 1978, Hein married Ann Sarver, and they moved to Dobbs Ferry in 1980, where they raised their daughter, Rebecca. Hein spent his career as a teacher and a librarian, most recently working at the Horace Mann School in Riverdale, N.Y. He was an avid Yankees and Knicks fan and loved "Old Time Radio Program Tapes." Hein's wife and daughter survive him, as does his daughter's partner, Travis Klami.

1970

**Stephen G. Plummer**, chairman and CEO, Crumpler, N.C., on October 20, 2009. Plummer was born on April 8, 1948, and was his high school class' valedictorian. As a high school student traveling abroad, Plummer became interested in European culture

and *Nat Neujean* (1986). Lunde was predeceased by his partner, Roy Moyer, and is survived by his brother, Asbjorn '47, '49L.

1954

**George M. Thomas**, retired geologist, Houston, on January 30, 2010. Thomas was born on April 8, 1932, and earned a master's in geology from the University of Oregon. Following graduation, he married Sally Jean Passmore and went to work for Humble Oil (Exxon) in Eugene, Ore., as a geologist. During his 36-year career with Exxon, Thomas moved his family to Chico, Calif., and Los Angeles, then in 1969 to Houston, where he retired in 1992. Thomas enjoyed activities related to

music, singing, photography, gardening, fishing, biking and community service. Among other things, he participated in Stephen Ministries and Taping for the Blind, was a docent at the Museum of Natural Science, tutored at the local elementary school and volunteered with the Lions Club. Thomas is survived by his wife of 52 years, Sally; sons, Steve and his wife, Paula, Scott and his wife, Ann, and Stuart and his wife, Susan; four grandchildren; sister, Pat Reno, and her husband, James; stepsister, Judy Beacon; stepbrother, George Pickering; and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to MDUMC Music Ministry, 12955 Memorial Dr., Houston, TX 77079.

1955

**John L. Rigatti**, physician, Sturbridge, Mass., on January 11, 2010. Rigatti was born in New York City on April 7, 1934. He graduated from Albany Medical School in 1959 and completed his internship at Brook Army Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, and his residency at Dow AFB, Bangor, Maine. Rigatti was an Air Force veteran. He practiced medicine for more than 50 years and was a member of The American Association of Family Practitioners. Rigatti was instrumental in the development of the family practitioner's program at Harrington Memorial Hospital, where he served two terms as chief of staff. He is survived by his

and studied at the American College in Paris, France, for two years after high school. He transferred to Columbia and later graduated with a bachelor's from Indiana University in Bloomington with a double major in anthropology and linguistics; he also earned an M.E. from Harvard. Plummer returned to American College, where he held positions as dean of students and v.p., leaving the university in 1986 to found Reseaux et Communications Informatiques, S.A., of which he was chairman and CEO. Plummer lived in Paris for 20 years. For the last 17 years of his life, he lived in the United States. He founded Strategies and served clients involved in Photo Lab, Powell Street Art Gallery, land development in North Carolina and M2 Products. Plummer is survived by a brother, Alfred III and his wife, Patricia; nephews, Alfred IV and his wife, Teresa, and Alexander; a niece; two grand-nieces; and a grand-nephew.

## 1972

**Glenn R. Switkes**, environmentalist, São Paulo, Brazil, on December 21, 2009. Born in New York City, Switkes studied history at Columbia and filmmaking at UC Berkeley. While a student, he worked with Randy Hayes and Toby McLeod on his first film, the award-winning *Four Corners: A National Sacrifice Area?*, which shows the depredations of mining on the Native Americans and desert landscapes of the southwestern United States. Switkes first went to the Amazon on the urging of his Colombian first wife, Monti Aguirre. The couple made the award-winning documentary *Amazonia: Voices of the Rainforest*. The film was sponsored by Rainforest Action Network, and after its completion, Switkes joined RAN as its Western Amazon oil campaigner. Switkes joined International Rivers Network in 1994 and at the time of his death was Amazon program director. He devoted most of the last two decades of his life to the cause of keeping the rivers of South America, especially in the Amazon, flowing free of dams and shipping channels. Switkes also volunteered with Columbia as a member of the Alumni Representative Committee. He is survived by his second wife, Selma Barros de Oliveira; and their son, Gabriel.

## 1975

**James C. "Clem" Finkenzaedt Jr.**, retired editor, Norwell, Mass., on November 28, 2009. Finkenzaedt earned a degree in 1976 from the Journalism School. His career took him from the *Asbury Park Press* to the *Agence France Press*, *International Herald Tribune* in Paris and finally to the international desk of the *Boston Globe*, a position from which he recently had retired. Finkenzaedt

is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; children, Catherine, R. Lindsay, James III and Thomas; parents, James and Rose; sister, Isabel Schelameur and her husband, Francois; and three nieces and nephews.

## 1977

**George M. Mackor**, dentist, Tiverton, R.I., on December 6, 2009. Mackor was a graduate of Phillips Academy, Andover and a cum laude graduate of the College. He earned a degree in 1982 from the

Dental School and was a captain in the Army at Fort Stewart, Ga., prior to opening his dental practice in Manlius, N.Y., and later practicing in North Dartmouth. Mackor is survived by his wife, Jill; three children; father, Michael; sister, Paula and her husband, Victor; aunt, Emily; uncle, Vincent Cirincione; and many cousins.

## 1981

**James A. Eddinger**, architect, photographer and writer, Camarillo,

Calif., on December 24, 2009. Eddinger was born in Seoul, Korea, and spent much of his youth in Maryland and Pennsylvania. His life's work included architecture, fine arts photography and fiction-writing. He is survived by his wife, Pam; son, Nicholas; and his siblings and mother. Memorial contributions may be made to Moorpark College Foundation.

Lisa Palladino



## OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

*Columbia College Today* also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

- 1928** **Abe R. Druss**, retired military officer, builder, Roslyn Heights, N.Y., on June 18, 2010.
- 1933** **Arthur W. Seligmann Jr.**, physician, New York City, on June 6, 2010.
- 1934** **Chester A. Cole, Jr.**, retired shipping executive, Dayville, Conn., on June 4, 2010.
- 1938** **Irving N. Wolfson**, physician, Worcester, Mass., on July 8, 2010.
- 1940** **Robert J. Alexander**, professor emeritus of economics and political science, Piscataway, N.J., on April 27, 2010. Alexander earned a Ph.D. in economics in 1950 from GSAS.  
**Hector G. Dowd**, attorney, New York City, on June 23, 2010.  
**Julius J. Phillips**, retired school head of guidance and counseling, Whitesboro, N.Y., on June 20, 2010.  
**John L. Giove**, Rehoboth Beach, Del., on December 31, 2009. Giove earned a B.S. in 1941 from the Engineering School.
- 1941** **John M. "Jack" McDonald**, retired attorney, Allentown, Pa., on June 27, 2010.
- 1942** **Frank P. Gherardi**, accountant, Wethersfield, Conn., on June 28, 2010. Gherardi entered with the Class of 1942 but earned a B.S. in accounting in 1947 from the Business School.  
**Justin B. "Jud" Thompson**, retired business executive, Houston, on May 30, 2010.  
**Franklin J. Tobey II**, retired military servicemember, editor, Purcellville, Va., on May 6, 2010. Tobey earned an M.A. in economics in 1947 from GSAS.
- 1943** **Charles C. Cole Jr.**, retired professor and college president, Columbus, Ohio, on June 18, 2010. Cole earned a Ph.D. in history in 1951 from GSAS.
- 1944** **John H. Bruzza**, West Orange, N.J., on May 30, 2010.  
**Ira W. Gabrielson**, retired physician, Williamsburg, Mass., on January 18, 2010. Gabrielson earned a degree in 1949 from P&S.  
**John T. Lorick Jr.**, marketing and advertising executive, Los Angeles, on June 19, 2010.
- 1945** **Justin C. Walker**, retired physician, Yonkers, N.Y., on May 31, 2010.
- 1946** **Nolan D. Lewis**, retired airline transportation executive and banker, South Salem, N.Y., on June 20, 2010.
- 1948** **John W. Gould**, professor, Santa Monica, Calif., on January 26, 2010. Gould earned an M.A. in English and comparative literature in 1949 and a Ph.D. in education in 1962, both from GSAS.  
**Albert F. Serocke**, retired salesman, Kennett Square, Pa., on June 26, 2010.  
**Mortimer J. Shaff**, retired publishing executive, New York City, on May 18, 2010.
- 1952** **Thomas P. Vogl**, West Tisbury, Mass., on May 31, 2010.
- 1953** **Irwin K. Kline**, physician, Villanova, Pa., on July 4, 2010.
- 1954** **Richard B. Wettureau**, Manhasset, N.Y., on April 29, 2010.
- 1957** **Ronald H. Boorse**, retired business owner, Houston, on July 6, 2010.  
**George Dickstein**, teacher, Riverdale, N.Y., on February 3, 2010.
- 1958** **George N. Braman**, retired physician, professor, Riverdale, N.Y., on June 23, 2010.  
**Edward A. "Bud" Spraker**, retired physical education teacher, Teaneck, N.J., on July 3, 2010.
- 1968** **Melvin L. Dennis**, architect, expeditor and photographic gallery curator, New York City, on June 13, 2010.
- 1973** **Dennis E. Milton**, judge, New York City, on May 31, 2010.
- 1981** **Charles G. "Grant" Fulk**, plumbing business co-owner, Menlo Park, Calif., on June 14, 2010.  
**Michael W. Stevenson**, commercial banking v.p., New York City, on July 19, 2010.
- 1985** **William F. Evans**, investment banker and musician, New York City, on July 10, 2010.
- 1986** **Joshua A. Moreinis**, senior planner and landscape painter, Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., on July 16, 2010. Moreinis earned an M.S. in urban planning in 1988 from the Architecture School.

# Class Notes

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**Columbia College Today**  
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New York, NY 10025  
cct@columbia.edu

**Howard N. Meyer '34** writes:  
"Classmates and other interested parties will no longer find me east of the Rockies. I have moved to Bolinas, Calif. My e-mail remains the same. CCT will share my new postal address and phone number on request."

41

**Robert Zucker**  
29 The Birches  
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In 1991, HarperCollins published a book by **Ray Robinson**, *The Home Run Heard 'Round the World: The Dramatic Story of the 1951 Giants-Dodgers Pennant Race*. This commemorated the 40th anniversary of Bobby Thompson's title-winning blast. Now, Ray's book is being republished by Dover Publications, with a foreword by Bob Costas, in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the hit.

*The New York Times* had an interesting article about Dr. **Sherwin Kaufman**, his 99-year-old sister and their grandfather, Sholom Aleichem, the great Yiddish writer. Sherwin's sister wrote the bestseller *Up the Down Staircase* and still is going strong. Aleichem's most famous character was Tevye the Dairyman of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Sherwin's son, Kenneth, was MC of the "yahrzeit" service, of which he noted "of all the yahrzeits my family has held over the last 94 years, this is by far the most recent."

Yours truly has been out of touch in Prague and Israel and on the beach in Southampton, N.Y., and news both good and bad is scarce. Don't hesitate to send me a note.

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.

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**Melvin Hershkovitz**  
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On May 17, **Arthur "Wizzer" Wellington** celebrated his 90th birthday in Elmira, N.Y. His entry in to the distinguished Nonagenarian Club was marked by a surprise birthday party and reception for 50 friends and family at Art's church. Art's sons, Jim and David, supervised the proceedings and brought along Art's wife, Marilyn, who enjoyed the ceremonies from the comfort and safety of her wheelchair. Art was pleased to see so many old (in both senses of the word) friends at this gathering in his honor.

In WWII, Art served as a Marine artillery officer in the Pacific. He returned to Columbia for his degree in optometry and had a long career in that specialty in Elmira while also becoming a prominent co-owner of the local minor league baseball club and an owner of harness-racing horses. In his retirement, Art remained active in church affairs, was a driver for Meals On Wheels and enjoyed summer visits to his cabin on the water in Tenant's Harbor, Maine. He tells me that his 12-year-old great-grandson, a star athlete who struck out 12 batters and walked only one in a recent game, also is an excellent student with an A+ average. I advised Art to enroll this young man in our Class of 2020. Many more happy birthdays, Art, on your journey toward the Class of 1942 Centenarian Club.

The appointment of Columbia's new basketball coach, Kyle Smith, who replaced Joe Jones, led me to review some of my research notes on Columbia's previous great coaches, team captains and great players. In the years 1938-42, when our Class of 1942 was on campus, our coach was the charismatic and irascible Paul Mooney, who had been a great player himself. Mooney's team captains were an impressive group: Owen McDowell '34, Bill Nash '36, Jim Casey '37, John O'Brien '38, Tom Macioce '39, John Naylor '40, **Stewart McIlvennan** and Lester Martens '45. After WWII, the great but unfortunate Gordon Ridings, who died suddenly at an early age, became head coach from 1946-50. His most accomplished team captain was Walt Budko '46E, who led his teams to 36 victories and only eight losses

and later played professional ball. In 1950, Ridings was succeeded by another great coach, Lou Rossini '47 TC, who stayed until 1958. Rossini coached some of Columbia's most talented teams, led by the following gifted captains and players: John Azary '51, Alan Stein '52, Jack Molinas '53, Frank Thomas '56 and Chet Forte '57. Molinas became a star in professional basketball but was convicted of involvement in a gambling scandal, which ended his career. Forte, a small, deadly outside shooter, led the nation in scoring, finishing ahead of the famous Wilt Chamberlain. Forte later became a well-known television network director of sports programs and radio talk-show host. Like Molinas, he struggled with gambling addiction, but eventually recovered to resume his broadcasting career.

In 1961, Jack Rohan '53 became head coach and served through 1974. Like Rossini, he coached some of Columbia's greatest teams. Among his captains were Larry Borger '68, Roger Walaszek '69 and Jim McMillian '70. Borger led his team to the Ivy League championship, and they also won the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden, defeating West Virginia, Louisville and St. John's. Walaszek, now a prominent attorney in Northampton, Mass., led his team to a 20-4 record, and McMillian's team finished 20-5, both second in the Ivy League. McMillian won the Haggerty Award as the best player in the NYC Metropolitan area for three consecutive years. He was drafted by the L.A. Lakers, whom he helped to the 1972 NBA championship, and later played for Buffalo, New York and Portland in a nine-year pro career.

In 1974, Tom Penders succeeded Rohan as head coach. His co-captains in 1976-77 were Alton Byrd '79 and Ricky Free '79. Byrd was voted the best player in the nation under 6 feet in height and later played professionally in England. Penders resigned after the 1978 season and went on to a long career at various major basketball schools, most recently at the University of Houston. In 1990, Rohan returned to once again become head coach, staying through 1995. His 1992-93 team captain, Leonard "Buck" Jenkins '93, led his squad to a 16-10 record and second place in the Ivy League.

In 1995, Armond Hill, a former Princeton and pro player, replaced

Rohan as head coach. He was unable to win an Ivy League title for Columbia and was replaced in 2002 by Jones, who also was unsuccessful in his quest for the Ivy League championship (Jones' record in Ivy League games in seven years was 49-69). Jones now is the associate head coach at Boston College under Steve Donahue, who was hired away from Cornell to replace BC's former successful head coach, Al Skinner.

We welcome our new head coach and wish him well in his efforts to lead Columbia to great success in the near future.

Our Alumni Office has reported the death of **Waldemar Hertwig** on April 1 in San Diego. Waldemar earned a B.S. in 1942 and an M.S. in 1943, both in chemical engineering. I was in a chemistry class with Waldemar and remember him as a brilliant student. He had a long career with Amoco Corp. before retirement. A full obituary notice will follow in a future issue of CCT.

I am sad to report the death of **Justin Thompson** at age 90 on May 30 in Houston. After graduation, Justin enlisted in the Navy, and after officer training at Notre Dame, he served as a lieutenant senior grade in the Pacific theater. Upon return to civilian life, Justin embarked on a productive 36-year career with Exxon-Mobil as a purchasing executive. He lived in Houston from 1961 until his death. He is survived by his wife, Doris; daughter, Claire; sons, Justin Jr. and his wife, Sue, and John and his wife, Christine; and brother, Andrew. Justin had six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. A memorial service was held on June 7 at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church in Houston. On June 16, Doris sent me a warm note about Justin, saying, "He loved his years at Columbia — and his friends in Hartley Hall." At Columbia, Justin had many friends, especially among his fellow student-athletes on the baseball team, including first baseman Dr. **Gerald Klingon** and versatile utility player **Arthur Wellington** (third base, outfield, catcher). Justin and Leno Ferrarini '43 were the varsity catchers. Art recalls that after Justin and Leno left for military service, he became the starting catcher, but the position was new to him, and in a game against Penn, the Penn players stole seven bases off of Art and his pitcher, "Long George" Smith '41.

I was friendly with Justin and always enjoyed seeing him emerge from the Hartley Hall elevator with a warm smile and a cheerful greeting as we were going to our classes. We send condolences to Doris and to Justin's extended family from members of the Class of 1942, who remember him with affection and respect.

With so many of us approaching, or at, our 90th birthdays, I am hopeful that some classmates will still be around and in good enough health to celebrate our 70th reunion in 2012. I keep hearing an old Judy Garland lyric, "It's cold, cold, cold, and we're old, old, old," but then I recall one of our Columbia slogans to give us some encouragement: "Hold fast to the spirit of youth." Kind regards to all.

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**G.J. D'Angio**

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Regarding interesting Columbia faculty members: I recently finished reading a fascinating biography, *Lorenzo Da Ponte: The Extraordinary Adventures of the Man Behind Mozart*, by Rodney Bolt. It deals with the Venetian Emanuele Conegliano (1749–1838) who took the name of Lorenzo Da Ponte. He became the first professor of Italian at Columbia. Da Ponte led a most picaresque life, arriving in New York via multiple European cities and London. In New York, he not only established the first Italian Opera House in the city but also became the first Jew and Roman Catholic priest appointed to the Columbia faculty. It was 1825. You may have recognized the name Da Ponte as the librettist for three of Mozart's best-loved operas. Same man.

Have you discovered in your reading a person with a little-known tie to Columbia? Share your find with the readers of these Class Notes.

**Albert W. Cayot** sent his recollections of former University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882), as had been requested in this column. Those contacts were indirect, one of them being through Albert's sister, Mary, who worked for Butler at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Albert also recalled the visit to Columbia by the Queen of England and Prince Charles in the late 1930s, the visit having been arranged by Butler. The royal party arrived on the *USS Warrington*, which was escorted by the J.P. Morgan yacht,

the *Corsair*, on which Albert was one member of the 58-man crew. He recalls the black smoke laden with carbon particles from the *Corsair's* funnel. This was because its engines were being driven hard in trying to keep up with the *Warrington*. Such smoke, of course, was a no-no because it besmirched the *Corsair's* white canopies.

**Richard M. Garten** wrote to provide his personal contact with Butler. Richard, like me, left for graduate school at the end of the third year and thus was absent from the graduation ceremonies. He may therefore have missed shaking the hand of our famous prez, but while a student, he used to deliver mail to the president and says he was always greeted pleasantly by the great man. He also has pleasant memories of Dean Herbert Hawkes, who had pithy and cogent rejoinders at the ready. He replied, "Yes, but they were different things," when Richard remarked, "I've learned more working my way through college than in the classroom."

Anyone else have memories of NMB or the dean?

Below is news regarding the death of **Warren Eason**. We were classmates in A.B. Davis H.S. in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. He had already started a distinguished musical career back then, excelling in playing the French horn. More memories: **Bill Loweth** and I were on the lightweight crew.

Sad news:

**Henry Corey**, an attorney, died on February 27 in Falmouth, Mass.

**Philip J. Bliss**, an advertising v.p. and personnel director, Portsmouth, N.H., died on April 22.

**Warren W. Eason**, a musician and professor at Ohio State University, in Columbus, died on March 22. Warren earned an economics certificate and Ph.D. in 1951 and 1959 from SIPA and GSAS, respectively.

**William R. Loweth**, Tequesta, Fla., died on May 5.

**William M. Webb**, a retired engineer, Louisville, Ky., died on April 16, 2010. William earned a B.S. and an M.S. in mechanical engineering in 1943 and 1949, respectively, from the Engineering School.

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**Henry Rolf Hecht**

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Sadly, our diminishing band of survivors has been further diminished by the departures of engineer **Kenneth Englar** and of **Harold Polton**, who spent many years in his family's Garden State Paper Co. (since sold), a pioneer in paper recycling. Also, we lost Turkey-



**Greg Wyatt '71 and CCT class correspondent Bert Sussman '47 show off a cartoon drawn by Wyatt's father, Stan Wyatt '43, '47 GSAS, ridiculing local politicians afraid of a demographic shift after Columbia faculty and staff moved into housing in Upstate New York in the 1940s (see the 1947 column for a further description).**

PHOTO: FAY WYATT

born Dr. **William V. Beshlian** who, after his Army medical service, had a distinguished 52-year career at St. Joseph Hospital Medical Center in Paterson, N.J. And we recently were told by Mary Gabrielson that her husband, Dr. **Ira Gabrielson** '49 P&S, died suddenly earlier this year.

We also regretfully note the passing of **Bill Loweth** '43, a stalwart of the crew, who shared with many of us '44ers the privilege of participating in Larry Chamberlain's first government class at Columbia in 1941–42.

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**Barnett Zumoff** recently published his 17th and 18th books of translation from Yiddish literature: *Yiddish Literature in America, 1870–2000* (the first of three proposed volumes with this title), and *Pearls of Yiddish Poetry*, by Joseph and Chana Mlotek. He has five other books of translation in various stages of preparation for publication. The books can be obtained from the publisher in New Jersey (Ktav Publishing House, www.ktav.com).

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 ecr2102@columbia.edu. Until then, please send notes about your life, thoughts, travel, family and experiences at Columbia to the address at the top of the column.

**REUNION JUNE 2–JUNE 5**

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46

**Bernard Sunshine**

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**Marvin Aronson** Ph.D. is an eminent psychologist who continues his practice in individual, group and couples therapy. His CV includes the editing of 10 volumes on group and family therapy. Marvin shares a particularly interesting insight on this stage of his career:

"A well-functioning older psychotherapist can make valuable contributions to younger patients who have been handicapped by difficult family constellations during their formative years. Many individuals in their 40s, 50s and 60s suffer from the fact that they had too few positive interactions with their parents and extended family members. Interacting with a positive, responsive older therapist can help repair some of these deficits.

"The mere fact that the older therapist continues to function effectively as a professional can serve as an inspiration for those patients whose parents manifested serious physical and psychological disorders as they aged.

"A competent 'grandfatherly' or 'grandmotherly' therapist can evoke positive recollections of grandparents who rescued patients from effects of early mistreatments by their biological parents."

**Burton Sapin**, who regularly stays in touch, has retired to south

Florida and sends warm regards to fellow '46ers. He and his wife, Judy, were active in Washington, D.C.'s academic/political community. Burt's new contact information: 3124 La Posada Dr., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410; 561-429-5147.

Of his new home, he says: "This is a retirement/extended care community. As long as your health holds up, it is like living in a nice hotel."

**Paul Marks** couldn't make our recent class luncheon because of a conference he attended in Paris. His note reads: "I am continuing my work on our cancer drug and trying to understand more about how and why it works."

Our class' scholar in the Class of '57, **Richard Gooder**, a professor at Clare College, Cambridge, e-mailed: "I read quite a lot about Columbia these days, and it is gratifying to think that the College I attended, and the course I went through, still figures so prominently in developing academic debate. It shows how well it had all been put together, and how durable it has proven. I remain grateful to you and your classmates for making it possible for me to have been a participant and beneficiary."

If you haven't noticed the header at the top of this column, we will celebrate our 65th reunion Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. Quite a milestone. I find it a little hard to believe, yet happy in its anticipation. How should we note and celebrate the occasion? Please send me your thoughts and ideas.

I am sorry to report the passing of **Raleigh Estrada**, who lived in Chicago Heights, Ill.

47

**Bert Sussman**  
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**Ed Cramer** sent the following report: "Congregation Adas Emuno in Leonia, N.J., honored three of its members at a dinner on June 12. Included were **Ed Cramer**, his wife, Ethel, better known as Robin; and Dr. Sam Shapiro, a retired physician. Ed has been the longest standing member, and all of them are active in weekly services and in special events. Introducing Shapiro was Alan Alda, known for his starring role in the long-running television series, *M\*A\*S\*H*, and active in lecturing on science.

"Ed was introduced by Sheldon Harnick, a distinguished co-writer, with Jerry Bock, of many Broadway shows including the Pulitzer-Prize winning *Fiorello*; *She Loves Me*; *The Rothschilds*; and *Fiddler on the Roof*. He is not only a lyricist but also a songwriter and a composer,

having collaborated on several operas. He also is a performer and lecturer.

"Robin was introduced by members of her family using a video presentation. **Al Burstein, Larry Friedland** and their wives were present.

"The dinner was followed by a concert, and 'a good time was had by all.'"

That ends Ed's note. However, I feel the need to add: For decades, Ed was president of Broadcast Music, the entertainment industry organization dedicated to protecting the rights of writers and publishers for the performance of their music around the world.

**Ed McAvoy** thinks green these days with the move to more carpooling for conservation and remembers in the late '40s he was involved in this movement, but for a different reason. Columbia had spearheaded conversion of barracks in Camp Shanks in Rockland County, N.Y., into temporary housing for faculty, administrators and students: Shanks Village.

Probably 10,000 Columbia families resided in these apartments during Shanks Village's short lifetime. Its sudden presence in this then-rural county created a few problems. There was no Tappan Zee Bridge and New York State Thruway, nor that beautiful 50-mile Palisades Parkway from the George Washington Bridge to Bear Mountain. Commuting to the 116th Street campus and further uptown medical center was by Red & Tan bus and subway (then 5 cents). The bus company greatly raised fares, as did many local stores (there were no supermarkets and big box stores then), and Shanks commuters started an organized 25-cent carpool from the seven areas of Shanks to, mainly, 116th Street and Broadway.

At almost any hour of the day, riders would be waiting at street corners in Shanks and at 116th Street for the half-hour drive. Sometimes, several empty cars might be awaiting passengers.

### Dave Berger '50's one-act play, *Ray Who*, was one of 11 plays in 24 sold-out performances of Sixth Street Theater's "2010 Snowdance 10 Minute Comedy Festival."

One villager even bought a hearse and built in extra seats for added income. Of course, gas was only 25 cents a gallon then.

Residents also started a successful co-op food market that helped feed the community. With limited monthly G.I. benefits checks of slightly more than \$99, this was

a necessity! It all helped solve the problem.

Rockland County had been about 90 percent Republican at that time, and the heavy influx of Democrats and liberals caused entrenched politicians to be worried. New voter registration was hampered by the demand for these newcomers to produce high school diplomas. Ph.D.s and others were forced to take literacy tests. Stan Wyatt '43, '47 GSAS, a professor of art at City College, became the resident artist for the Shanks newspaper that was started, *The Villager*, and did dozens of cartoons about life at Shanks [see photo]. His son, Greg '71, is the noted sculptor-in-residence at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine on Amsterdam Avenue, adjacent to the main Columbia campus.

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**Columbia College Today**  
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The Class of '48 still is 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 [ecr2102@columbia.edu](mailto:ecr2102@columbia.edu). Until then, please send notes about your life, thoughts, travel, family and experiences at Columbia to the address at the top of the column.

49

**John Weaver**  
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After the "rush" of mail from classmates, which I shared in July/August's notes, there has been a paucity of communication from classmates, so I guess all are out having a great time doing things that do not allow time for reporting to this column.

I do hear from **Bill Lubic** that

statistics, Ruth continues to battle to bring us into a more enlightened state of being.

Yours truly continues working with PortSide New York. Our son has moved to a location only six blocks from the campus. Revisiting local haunts always is occasion for good feelings.

On a sad note, word has just come, but it will be old news when you read this, that we have lost a treasure in the person of **Bob Butler**. Our class has many reasons to be proud but proudest must we be for having had Bob as our friend and classmate, and most rich are we all for his legacy of knowledge and care. [Editor's note: See Obituaries.]

Find time! Make time! Let us hear from you.

50

**Mario Palmieri**  
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Our 60th reunion attracted 22 classmates to campus. That number may not sound impressive, but it equaled the attendance at the 55-year reunion, and it's good that we held steady. Attendees were **Phil Bergovoy, Norman Dorsen, Franklin Gill, Ralph Italie, Ted Karchuta, Dave Karlin, Bud Kasel, Jerry Kaye, Dan Kelly, Len Kliegman, Jerry Lasser, Glenn Lubash, Mario Palmieri, Ted Reid, Dave Sampliner, Ray Scalettar, Al Schmitt, Tom Sebring, Norm Skinner, Bob Socas, Art Trezise** and **Ric Yarwood**.

A highlight of the weekend was an enthusiastic discussion, following the Saturday luncheon, led and moderated by M.D.s **Glenn Lubash** and **Ray Scalettar**, on the subject of the nation's health care.

The class as a whole responded well beyond the norm for our class (in a non-reunion year) in supporting a class gift to the College. Participation in the Columbia College Fund provided \$43,494, which will be used to grant McVeigh-Buchmann current-use scholarships. These scholarships have long been the focus of our class's fundraising efforts as a meaningful way to memorialize **Tom McVeigh** and **Bob Buchmann**, who died heroically as Marines in the Korean War. All donors will be acknowledged in the CC Fund's *Annual Report*.

**Dave Berger** has had two significant successes in his post-retirement career in playwrighting. His one-act play, *Ray Who*, was one of 11 plays in 24 sold-out performances of Sixth Street Theater's "2010 Snowdance 10 Minute Comedy Festival" in Racine, Wis., in February. The Ray of the title is Raymond Nowske, a 60-year-old

man who thinks that he is Ray Nitschke, the deceased middle linebacker for the Green Bay Packers and Pro Football Hall of Fame honoree. Raymond's plan to stay in shape is to train by tackling adult deer. A game warden spots him doing his training exercise, and Raymond ends up in court, which is where the play takes place.

Dave's second work, *The Reel Thing*, was one of 30 one-minute plays presented at Spare Change Theater's "In a New York Minute" festival in Manhattan in June. In this play, two fish at the bottom of a lake are commenting on fishermen's lures passing over their heads. But they don't bite until one of them sees what he thinks is a big, juicy night crawler. The plays were run on two consecutive nights and were competitively judged by the audiences. *The Reel Thing* finished third on the first night and second on the next night.

Sad to report, **Desmond J. Numan Sr.** of Ocean City, N.J., died on May 5.

#### REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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**George Koplinka**

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How many classmates know the origin of the official Columbia colors, white and light (Columbia) blue? To get the true story, check the last paragraph of this column.

No survey has been made concerning the number of grandfathers and grandchildren in our class. However, from reunion conversations, the number is substantial.

**Willard Block** passed along a poem written by his granddaughter, Tess, and he is justifiably proud to be called *The Perfect Grandfather*. Here's the poem:

Time said to Grandpa, "You are eighty, you must slow."  
Grandpa said to Time, "I'm in a hurry, you should go."

He travels the world, he see all things anew,  
With Grandma by his side there is little he won't do.  
He wakes with a melody, a hymn if you please,  
The song of the universe, he learned from the trees.  
He gives a greeting to all, strangers, neighbors and kin,  
Always helpful, always a friend.

He asks so many questions, they come by the score,  
And when you've answered everything there's always one more.  
He teaches me things he says I must know,  
About art and literature and music from long ago.  
Chopin and Bach, Mozart and Beethoven.  
"I'm listening I promise, must my eyeballs be open?"  
Just when I think my head will explode  
He hands me a piece of chocolate cake à la mode.

The trips we have taken, adventures and more.  
He once drove away without closing my door.  
Car horns were blaring, they seemed quite perturbed,  
One guy shouted, "You left the kid's door open!"  
We swerved to the curb. "Oh my God," Grandpa gasped,  
"What's wrong with you? Why didn't you tell me?"  
Amanda was five, me barely two.

His family and critics are one and the same.  
Has ever a man been so loved and so blamed?

Let my words now be clear, with so much in jest,  
Remember this, forget all the rest.  
You're the dearest to us, grandsons and granddaughters,  
We love you Grandpa, you're the perfect Grandfather.

(Poem published without any reference to the late Art Linkletter and what he said about kids!)

Susan K. Feagin, e.v.p. for university development and alumni relations, recently announced that the Columbia Campaign reached the \$3.5 billion mark, with a goal of raising \$4 billion by December 2011. Congratulations to all contributors, who can now take pride in the long-range plans to develop state-of-the-art University facilities.

Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010, June 3-6, featured a return to the more familiar style of past Dean's Days. Class members and wives attending included **Dave Berman** and Sharon, **Willard Block** and Roberta, **George Koplinka** and Peg, **Warren Nadel** and Susanne, **Bob Snyder** and Elaine, and **Elliot Wales** and Fran as well as **Lowell Ackiron**. Stimulating lectures from Columbia's talented faculty were combined with affinity group receptions affording additional opportunities for celebrations. Dean Michele Moody-Adams paid a special visit to Low Library to greet '51 alums at the class luncheon. A week prior to Dean's Day, class

president **Bob Willard** and **Elliot met with Archie McGregor, George Prozan, Mark Kaplan, Paul Wallace and Harvey Krueger** at the first of several luncheons to plan activities and a program for the 60th reunion of the Class of 1951, scheduled for Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2011. If you would like to join the Reunion Committee, please contact Bob at robertsnyder@gmail.com. TEP fraternity brothers should contact **Stan Schachter** at Ulysses330@aol.com to discuss membership participation.

**Richard Wiener**, living in Rockville, Md., came to the United States at 13 as a Holocaust survivor. He experienced Crystal Night while his father was interned at Buchenwald and was one of the Kindertransport children who escaped to England. When the Berlin Wall fell, Richard made several visits to his hometown of Wittenberg and expects to be inducted as an honorary citizen this fall. Following a tour of duty with the Army, Richard entered Columbia College. His collegiate claim to fame included a stint with the Columbia Players and some published articles in the *Columbia Review*. This led to a recommendation from Professor Lionel Trilling '25 to the Dodd, Mead Literary Fellowship contest, where Richard's novel was awarded second place. After obtaining a law degree at NYU and The George Washington School of Law, Richard became an international patent lawyer, ultimately running his firm's Washington, D.C., office and then chairing the Patent, Trademark and Copyright Section of the D.C. Bar and serving as a member of the bar's board of directors.

Richard is active in *The Mankind Project*, a mission-oriented international men's community, as head elder of its Washington center and as a facilitator in its transformational weekend trainings. He speaks widely to diverse audiences and offers a workshop, "The Power of Forgiveness," at venues around the country. His marriage of 23 years ended in divorce. Richard's daughter, Evelyn, and her husband run the well-known Doma Cafe in Greenwich Village, and his son, Michael, is a New York actor and performance artist.

So, what about Columbia's True Blue? According to an article published in Columbia University's *The Record*, dated May 14, the first display of Columbia colors was unveiled in 1873 when the College competed in the Springfield Boat Race. In the ensuing years, various shades of blue decorated athletics uniforms, course catalogs, banners and beanies. Finally, in 1957, the

Columbia University Trustees, after browsing through more than a dozen shades of blue (swatches of which remain in the archives), selected what is today's official white and Columbia Blue. (No telling what a person can learn from a campus newspaper!)

Hope you enjoyed a great summer. Tell me about it soon. E-mail is best!

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As the poet says: "It's a long, long time from May to December / And the days grow short when you reach September."

Of course, as intended, these words have more than one meaning, but right now let's stick with the seasonal interpretation.

So, did you enjoy the lazy days of summer? Going to the beach, picnics on those sweet summer days, perhaps fishing and/or swimming in some cool lakes and streams, and enjoying that ice cream as if it were a reward for having all that fun.

Graduations and weddings in June, fireworks and hot dogs in July, vacations and baseball games in August.

As they say, it's a tough job, but somebody has to do it.

Of course, it's acceptable to vacation in July and even see a baseball game as well, and eating a hot dog in August is OK, too.

Now changes will happen again. Mother Nature will be getting ready for her nap. Slowly, the days shorten and cool off, and soon the bright and glorious colors of autumn are everywhere and sending the message of "Hello" and "Goodbye," smiling and waving at the same time. Yes, gentlemen, those of us who are lucky have reached September.

**Robert Adelman** writes: "Recently, I took two trips to south Florida. In late January, on my way to Naples, my wife, Judith, and I had lunch with **Charlie Jacobs** and his wife, Rosalind. Charlie is busy writing and has recently published quite a few books. Visit his website at [www.retirement-writing.com](http://www.retirement-writing.com). In late February, on my way to Stuart, I had lunch with **Howie Hanson** and his wife, Diane. They are both fine and active in the insurance services sector.

"Based upon the conversations at these meetings, I was wondering if any other of our classmates have considered the possibility of a 60th reunion. This could be a one- or two-day event on campus, and any other place that people would like to visit."

So, gentlemen, the question is,



**Crew team members from the 1950s and '60s got together in the Gould-Remmer Boathouse on June 4 to tell war stories and relive old times. Joining the party were (seated, left to right) Dan Hovey '55, Jim Cooper '59, Bob Prendergast '53, Don Fagan '53 and Marty Fisher '57; and (standing, left to right) D'Arcy Roche '60, Ken Bodenstein '57, Terry Doremus '55, Bill Mink '55, Roy Hanson '60, Bob Hanson '55 and Paul Neshamkin '63.**

would you be interested in a 60th reunion? It's never too early to start thinking about making plans for a Reunion Committee that would work with the Alumni Office to make it happen in 2012.

This is from **Henry William Kramer**: "Upon graduation from Columbia Engineering in June 1953, I went into the Naval Civil Engineer Corps for three years to fulfill my obligation to the NROTC program.

"After discharge from the Navy in 1956, I joined Spencer, White and Prentiss (three Columbia alums) in NYC. In 1959, I moved to Coakley and Booth (another alum of NYC) and then to Schnabel Foundation Co. of Bethesda, Md. All three jobs involved the bidding, design and supervision of difficult building foundation work. In these moves, I progressed from a field engineer to general superintendent. In 1970, I signed a contract with American Structures of Chicago and supervised the first contract on the Washington, D.C., Metro.

"In 1971, I joined the George Hyman Construction Co., also in Bethesda, as a general superintendent on general construction contracts. I retired from there in 1994 as an s.v.p. I was involved in many projects in many parts of the country but mostly in the D.C. area. The company now is called Clark Construction Group and does a yearly volume of \$3-\$4 billion. My last project was the renovation of the Willard Hotel in D.C.

"I live near Asheville, N.C., with my wife, Judy. We have two children and four grandkids. Our daughter, Jean, lives in Denver. Her husband, John Welch, is an assistant coach under George Karl with the Denver Nuggets basketball team. Our son, Davis, is chief estimator for Blach Construction in San Jose, Calif. His wife, Maria, is the head of research for Stem Cells of Palo Alto."

**Bob Hartman** writes: "I came across a [classmate], **George Paxton**, an Alpha Delta Phi. George went to medical school at Boston University, then to New Orleans and ended up in Denver in 1960. He was a pediatrician for many years in Denver and recently retired. He said that he really enjoys spending time with his children and lots of the grandchildren."

Peter Carbonara '53 sent this heartfelt obituary:

"On New Year's Day, **Frank Walwer** was driving in Bradenton, Fla., when his car crossed the highway divider and slammed head-on into a large truck. Frank was killed. No one else was hurt. He was 79. I met Frank in 1944 shortly before we graduated from P.S. 69 in Jackson Heights, N.Y. We quickly became friends with mutual hopes and needs, not the least of which was the fact that our fathers had died not too long before. We both went on to William Cullen Bryant H.S. in Astoria, Queens, and when we graduated in 1948, Frank was class treasurer. That year, Frank enrolled at Columbia. In college, Frank was a member of the Senior Society of Nacoms, Sigma Chi, Dorm Council, Pre Law Society, Canterbury, and Gold and Silver Crowns, and the business manager of *Spectator*. He entered Columbia Law School and graduated in 1955, then did his military service until 1957. He was appointed associate dean at the Law School in 1958 and worked there until 1980. He oversaw financial aid and admissions.

"In 1960, Frank had a conversation with an assistant dean at Harvard Law who inquired how many African-Americans were at the Columbia Law School. There were almost none, motivating Frank to visit several predominantly black colleges. He identified five promising students and had them admitted to Columbia Law School

after increasing the class size to make room. A professor at the University of Toledo College of Law said, 'Dean Walwer believed it was essential to broaden the ranks of the law schools and thus enrich the profession and system of justice. It was as simple as that. Whether that analysis was a normative-based social justice approach, a market based approach or a color-segregationist approach, by his action it was clearly the approach of an activist to the problem: find blacks and admit them.'

"Frank's efforts to recruit more people of color to American law schools led to the creation of the Bar Association's Council for Legal Education Opportunity. While he was chairman, the council published a study of law school curricula and also adopted affirmative action standards, revised the code of recommended standards for bar examiners and so forth.

"Frank left Columbia in 1980 to become the dean of the University of Tulsa School of Law and remained in that position for 11 years. In 1987, he was in a small group that visited the Peoples Republic of China to enhance relations between American and Chinese legal educators. In 1994, Frank left Tulsa and became dean of the newly founded Law School at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, where he worked until 1999. During Frank's tenure, the Law School was fully accredited by the American Bar Association. He was co-author of a book published in 1974, *Cost and Resources of Legal Education*. In the copy he gave me, he inscribed: 'No publisher has yet accepted my manuscript entitled, *The Costs and Resources of Friday Night Poker Playing for High School Students* (fictional of course, but based on fact).'

"Frank also served on the American Bar Association's Law School Admissions Council, the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, and chaired many committees on law school admissions and financial aid. Despite his distinguished professional accomplishments, Frank always was humble and self-effacing, maybe even a little bit wacky. Those who knew Frank welcomed his company and the laughter and playfulness that always came with our get-togethers. As a matter of fact, it took us time to realize that this entertaining guy was fast becoming a giant in the field of legal education. He was a gentleman and loved nothing more than engaging in sometimes heated political debates, but always with kindness and humor.

"I became convinced that Frank was too good and kind to really be a hardened Republican as he

proclaimed but took that posture so we could debate the issues with vigor. He was fun to be with. He loved his family and his friends. He leaves his wife, Mary Anne; son, Gregory; and grandchildren."

Thank you all for your contributions.

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Every so often, news arrives indicating that a book by one of our esteemed classmates has just been published. Thus, several weeks ago, **Daniel S. Greenberg** sent an e-mail describing his first novel, *Tech Transfer: Science, Money, Love and the Ivory Tower*. For many years, Dan was a journalist in Washington, D.C., who covered science and health politics. For more than 25 years, he wrote an op-ed column that appeared in *The Washington Post* and was a frequent contributor to *The New England Journal of Medicine*; *Nature*; *New Scientist*; *The New York Times* and *U.S. News & World Report*. In 2002, the Brookings Institute asked Dan to be a guest scholar and to report on his research concerning "The Impact of Commercialization on Academic Health Research." Previously, Dan authored three nonfiction books that were published by the University of Chicago Press concerning science, politics and money: *The Politics of Pure Science*; *Science, Money and Politics: Political Triumph and Ethical Erosion*; and *Science for Sale: The Perils, Rewards, and Delusion of Campus Capitalism*.

As soon as I learned that Dan's latest venture was a fictionalized account of faculty intrigue at a highly ranked, dysfunctional university in New York City, I flew to Amazon.com to purchase a copy of *Tech Transfer* and was rewarded with several spellbinding days of reading a fascinating story about what really might happen when a widely respected professor and scientist under a secret Army contract invents an anti-sleep drug that will keep troops permanently awake on the battlefield.

The director of the Center for the Absorption of Federal Funds wrote the following review of Dan's novel: "*Tech Transfer* reveals far too much about how the science system really works."

The novel is published by Kanawha Press and is available from Amazon.com. Don't miss Dan's fascinating tale. Good luck, Dan!

A week after my reading Dan's first novel, **Tony Robinson** sent along a copy of his sixth novel, *The American Golfer*. Thus, for the next

three days, I was buried in Tony's intriguing story and soon became aware of why our classmate has been acclaimed as "America's consummate golf novelist." *The American Golfer* is about a "down on his luck" PGA Tour golfer who goes to Ireland for the summer in order to visit his great-grandmother's village. Reading Tony's words about Irish romance, political intrigue and self-discovery, I began to feel what it might be like to return to Professor Fred Dupee's comparative literature class and once again read James Joyce's *Ulysses*.

Tony has clearly inherited his father's writing gene. When we were undergraduates, Henry Morton Robinson's bestselling novel, *The Cardinal*, was published and in 1953, he was invited to be the guest speaker at the annual *Spectator* dinner. I'll never forget the moment Tony's distinguished, famous father looked at the audience of aspiring young journalists, and referring to our campus on Morningside Heights said, "We were nourished on this self same hill."

Interestingly, professors Mark Van Doren and George Noble encouraged Tony to pursue writing as a career. After his first two novels were published, he became an instructor of English in 1964 at SUNY New Paltz, N.Y. His first wife, Mary, died in 1976. In 1998, Tony married a childhood friend and an accomplished artist, Tatiana Padwa of Woodstock, N.Y. Tony and Tatiana live in New Paltz, where they write and paint.

Good luck, Tony! Based on your special, delightful sixth novel, *The American Golfer*, the Columbia College Class of 1953 is expecting to see your works included in the literature of the 20th and 21st centuries that is taught in college classrooms across America. *The American Golfer* is available from Amazon.com. A book that is not to be missed!

Sad news: **Irwin Kline's** daughter, Tess, telephoned with news that her father had passed away on July 4. As an undergraduate, Irwin had been a rigorous, active member of the class. He became v.p. and secretary of Alpha Epsilon Pi, the production manager of *Spectator*, a member of the Sawbones Society, secretary of the Pre-Medical Society and a member of the freshman swimming team, the Ted Kramer Society and the Class Steering Committee.

Irwin met his wife, Talde, while they were medical students at Western Reserve. They were married in 1956 and had four children, Tonie, Joel, Tess and Stephan, and 12 grandchildren.

Irwin was chairman of pathology at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia from 1969-95, after which

he retired to travel, read, spend time with his family and take online courses in history and finance. Through the years, he found the time to co-author with Talde a number of articles and books about pathology. For many years, Talde also was an active pathologist.

On the telephone, Tess told me that Irwin remained a wonderful, warm, caring person who will be sorely missed. Tess can be reached at andrewgreenberg@hotmail.com.

His classmates will remember Irwin as a hard-working, great guy!

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**George Fadok** enjoys active retired living in Arizona. He also takes great pride in his children's achievements and reports that "daughter Val treated a golden bear at the Houston Zoo for allergies. She thinks a change in the weather will help the critter out. Son George retired from the Navy with the rank of captain. Son David pinned on another star and is now a major general in the Air Force. Son Christopher was ordained a Dominican priest on June 25 and has invited our entire class to confession."

Congratulations George, you have much to be proud of.

Two classmates have been named to the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame: **Steve Sobel** and **Al Thompson**. Congratulations are certainly in order.

**Bob Weber** reports from his home, which is "near Plymouth Rock, Mass.," that he is president of the Friends of the Kingston Library and sits on the board of the KPL Foundation trying (among other things) to narrow the gap between the budget and state aid. Washington, please learn from a pro. Bob also is involved with a local environmental group and has been counting herring at the fish ladder three days a week. John Jay Dining Hall, please take note.

**David Bardin** and his wife went to Morningside Heights for a weekend to see and hear their grandson (Class of 2012), who lives in Livingston (now Wallach) Hall, perform in a Columbia Musical Theatre Society production. David reports that "It's striking how much construction has taken place and is in progress but how much remains familiar."

Some people talk about changes in what is considered a "normal work week." **Sheldon Licht** remembers when he was a commissioner for the NYC Department of Buildings. His work week consisted of 16 hours a day for six and sometimes seven days a week.

One bit of sad news is that **Max Pinner** died on May 9. His wife, Marilyn, wrote that he had pancreatic cancer for more than two years. They were married for nearly 54 years and dated during high school and college. Perhaps she summed it best when she wrote, "He was a wonderful man."

Please continue to keep in touch and wear light blue whenever you can.

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The results are in for our reunion, held in June. The stalwart Class of 1955 has set several records for a 55th reunion — largest attendance ever and dollars raised (more than \$226,000). We even beat other classes with larger enrollments.

Following the write-up of the reunion events in the last CCT, we must include additional classmates who made an appearance on- and off-campus: **Norm Goldstein** (all the way from Hawaii), **Milt Merritt**, **Stanley Corngold**, **Tony Disanto**, **Herb Finkelstein**, **Sven Johnson**, **Ivan Leigh**, **Julius Brown**, **Neil Opdyke**, **Jesse Roth**, **Ed Siegel**, **Joe Vales**, **Ralph Wagner**, **Anthony Viscusi**, **Ed Francell**, **Paul Frank**, **Dan Hovey**, **Bill Mink**, **Jules Rosenberg** and **Herb Gardner**. **Lew Sternfels** (our roving photographer from Los Angeles) took close to 140 pictures as he traveled from event to event. If anyone is interested in seeing the photos, let your class scribe know.

Special thanks should go to **Gerry Pomper**, who shared the microphone with **Sid Sheinberg** on Saturday morning. Gerry gave an invigorating and thoughtful talk on the presidency of the United States.

As a side note, **Harold Kushner** lived those days of yesteryear by being interviewed and taped on WKCR for about a half-hour of reminiscences. The good old days in Hamilton Annex.

It is always good to give a plug to a Columbian in another class. Ben Oppenheimer '94, a member of the astronomy department, gave a fascinating lecture Friday morning of reunion to a group of '55ers at the American Museum of Natural History and then joined everyone for lunch. The Core comes to life!

Others who could not be part of the festivities and sent regrets but promised to be at the 60th were **Mike Vaughn**, **Charlie Sergis** (family issues), **Jack Stuppin** (whose art exhibit in March received an excellent review in *Art News*), **Ben Kaplan**, **Herman**

**Okean**, **Jim Hudson**, **Bob Sparrow** (getting better every day), **Harvey Greenberg** (still practicing psychiatry on the Upper West Side of Manhattan and clinical professor of psychiatry at Albert Einstein College of Medicine) and **Shelly Bloom** (living in Ojai, Calif., and teaching courses in psychology and American government at the Brooks Institute in Ventura).

A lot of interesting things will be and have been taking place around the world, in the United States and on campus over the next several months. As part of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, in March there will be a tour by private jet of the "Hidden Wonders of the World," a journey to extraordinary cultural treasures of remote lands (Japan, Indonesia, New Guinea, Vietnam and more). Noted commentator Bill Moyers will be the special lecturer for a cruise in late 2010 exploring "Ancient Cities of North Africa and Andalusia." A special voyage will be conducted in February 2011 to Namibia and South Africa with guest lecturers Paul Volcker (yes, that Paul Volcker) and David Welsh (Cape Town native).

Columbia will be well represented at the Sundance Film Festival by the School of the Arts in Park City, Utah, in late January. It is always an exciting and rewarding event.

In case those classmates in the Chicago area missed it, Provost Claude Steele spoke to a packed house about his groundbreaking research on stereotypes. We are sure there will be a repeat performance.

A huge crowd turned out for the fifth annual Columbia Alumni Association picnic, held on South Field in July and bringing Columbians from different departments, as well as alumni and students (who were around the city) together to eat, drink, play games and just be happy. We espied Columbia's new men's basketball coach, Kyle Smith, around campus. (In fact, **Ron McPhee**, our captain, met Kyle during a brief interlude at reunion.) It could be an exciting year for the Light Blue.

The Café series has been proceeding apace. Two interesting lectures were given by the all-star Columbia faculty. Café Humanities: the George Sansom Professor of History and Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures Carol Gluck explained how, after 65 years, WWII remains a contested issue in history and memory in many countries; Café Science: Palisades Geophysical Institute Senior Research Scientist and lecturer in environmental science Robin Bell explored the extremely cool science at the ends of the earth. Remember, every Monday from 6-7 p.m., there is a lot of

knowledge coming forth from the PicNic Café. Be there. Read more on the Alumni Office's Events Calendar: [www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events](http://www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events).

A new sport has emerged — speed dating. Although it might not pertain to most members of our class, the purpose in mentioning it is to broaden everyone's scope of knowledge on how recent grads socialize and try to find their soul mates. The last gathering was held during the summer at the Columbia University Club in New York City and will be repeated as we get into the colder months.

Gentle and sensitive souls of the Class of 1955. Stay on top of your game. You guys are the best in everything you do. Let's not rest on our laurels. Love to all, everywhere!

#### REUNION JUNE 2-5

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**Alan Miller**, our esteemed class president and longtime CCT class correspondent, is fighting pancreatic cancer. Hopefully by the time you read this he will have been released from the hospital and will be involved in treatment to cure this serious disease. Meanwhile, I have been keeping classmates informed as to his condition and attitude, and it is all good. We have a number of classmates who have beaten cancer or serious illness, including **Mark Novick** and **Lou Hemmerdinger**, who beat prostate cancer; **Joe Pimsleur**, who beat colon cancer; and **Ron Kapon**, who survived thoracic surgery. We can only hope that Alan's name will be added to that list. I ask for your continued concern and prayers for Alan's recovery.

In the interim, I will be writing the Class Notes along with **Leonard Wolfe**, our class historian. I will collect all the information that you had previously sent to Alan or the Alumni Office. Please contact me at the postal or e-mail address at the top of the column, and Lenny and I will make sure your note makes it into a future column. I did this edition solo in order to make the deadline. Please bear with me while I get up to speed!

Members of our class (and one wife) who attended Dean's Day events this year: Ruth and **Stan Soren**, **John Censor** and **Jordan**

**Bonfonte** enjoyed the lectures and a luncheon discussion with the dean, Michele Moody-Adams. She expressed interest in expanding the courses offered to alumni, which **Alan Miller** has taken and speaks of so highly ([www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events](http://www.college.columbia.edu/alumni/events)).

As for more of our literary class members, **Joe Pimsleur**, who has worked for the *San Francisco Chronicle* for many years, penning many articles including one in 1958 about Cuba that predicted the chain of political events before Fidel Castro came to power, is collecting records of all his past contacts and hopes it will become an interesting book some day. **Leonard Wolfe**, who has worked for *Time*, is writing a primer on economics for the layperson. I have seen an initial draft of his book, and if anyone can make economics simple, understandable and fun, it is our Lenny. **Jordan Bonfonte** will be relocating from Germany, where he was based as a *Time* correspondent, to NYC. We look forward to seeing more of Jordan.

**Ron Kapon** celebrated his 75th birthday at the Hudson County Community College of Culinary Arts; **Marvin Geller** attended. I can only assume that the food and wine were superb. Ron is arranging for a wine tasting event at our 55th reunion.

**Fred Brooks** tells me that he and Sid Sheinberg '55 and other Sammy fraternity brothers meet regularly to discuss — what else? — business deals ... go for it! **John Censor**, when he is not busy with his consulting business, contributes to New York theater organizations, and regularly in-line skates to keep in shape. My twin brother, **Maurice Easton** (Pop quiz: How many twins were in our class? Answer in next Class Notes.) keeps in shape with regular tennis games with his Michigan group of players while planning his annual six weeks of skiing in Aspen.

On Friday, October 22, **Frank Thomas** will be inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame at a reception on campus. Anyone interested in attending should contact Felicia Ganthier, development assistant, athletics department, at [fj2131@columbia.edu](mailto:fj2131@columbia.edu).

Since 2011 is a reunion year, there are many exciting upcoming events. The first will be Homecoming, Saturday, October 23, Columbia vs. Dartmouth, at Baker Athletics Complex. In connection with Homecoming, Al Franco '56E will work with **Danny Link** to arrange an after-football-game dinner at the Compass Restaurant. Danny arranged that for us last year, and everyone enjoyed the special food and service we were accorded thanks to Danny's relationship with the

restaurant's owner. Al, by the way, is working with Joseph Godfrey '69 Business at Mass Mutual (Advance Wealth Solutions). You may recall Joseph's wealth management presentation at our 40th reunion. So you can see the benefit of networking with Columbia alums.

The next scheduled reunion planning meeting will be at **Alan Press'** office, East 41st Street and Lexington Avenue (details will be sent out) on Tuesday, September 21. Any thoughts or comments you have about events you would like to see during our 55th reunion should be sent to me at [tball8000@earthlink.net](mailto:tball8000@earthlink.net). I will pass these on to the Reunion Committee members for inclusion in our September 21 meeting. In that regard, **Bob Siroy**, former president of the Columbia University Club of Northern New Jersey, and I will be coordinating efforts to get two exceptional speakers, one for our Saturday lunch and one for our Saturday dinner. Again, suggestions are welcome.

Thanks to Class Agents **Daniel Link**, **Alan Press**, **Al Franco** '56E, **Alan Miller** and **Stanley Soren** for making this year's Class of '56 class scholarship fund a success in terms of total dollars and class participation. Thanks to all classmates who contributed.

Class members who want to keep in touch should send their e-mail address to **Lou Hemmerdinger**: [lhemmer@aol.com](mailto:lhemmer@aol.com). This seems to be the best way to stay in touch with the majority of class members. Please keep in contact with Columbia in whatever ways you feel appropriate. It has been a force of power, I am sure, in each and every one of our lives.

Until our next issue, love and regards to all.

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**George Leibowitz**: "I was shocked when I read in CCT of the passing of **Albert Anton Jr.** He was a classmate of mine at Wharton as well. Although we were never very close, during our professional careers we crossed paths several times and almost did some deals. Al was in the World Trade Center on 9-11 and reduced to writing shortly thereafter his observations."

Al's account of his escape on 9-11 appeared in the November 2001 issue of CCT; it is reprinted here as a memorial to Al:

"**Al Anton** experienced what he described as 'a day like no other' on September 11, when he was at the World Trade Center for a seminar instead of at his midtown office.

He was having coffee with a friend and enjoying the view from the north windows on the 44th floor when the first plane struck. All he could see was a blur above him. 'The building shook, making it hard for me to maintain my balance,' he related.

"In a most moving three-page account of the day's events, Al tells of his descent on the smoke-filled stairway, passing firefighters and security people, and his subsequent odyssey through the financial district, Chinatown, Little Italy and Greenwich Village. All the while he was unable to reach his wife, two sons and daughter; only in the afternoon did they learn that he was safe.

"Seared in his memory is 'the image of the young firefighters and security people heading up the stairs ... in all likelihood going to their deaths.' Al thought of this passage from John 15:13: 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man may lay down his life for his friends.' He added, 'The hate that inspired the raid has been eclipsed by the love and compassion and devotion to duty that has characterized New York and, indeed, all America in the past few days. If we can retain this spirit, all the loss and suffering will not have been in vain.'"

**Ed Weinstein**: "Seventeen '57ers gathered at The University Club on June 14 to partake of friendship, good food and an elegant architectural surrounding. There were two round tables and the conversation was animated, ranging from the ramifications of the oil spill, the idea of altering the format of these luncheons (little support was found for this) and discussion of current economic and stock market conditions, to discussions of recent events in our lives. We welcomed **Jim Barker**, **Mike Lipper** and **Peter Anker**, and especially **Stan Barnett**, who traveled from Kingston, R.I., to join us. Regulars in attendance included **Neil McLellan**, **Alan Brown**, **Bob Klipstein**, **Carlos Muñoz**, **Dave Kinne**, **Joe Feldschuh**, **Ron Kushner**, **Sal Franchino**, **Mark Stanton**, **George Lutz**, **Marty Fisher** and myself. **Bob Lipsyte** also joined us and announced the completion of a book of memoirs on his sportswriting career, which will be published next year. The conversation was spontaneous among both old friends and classmates making new acquaintances. After the meeting broke, **Steve Fybish**, who had been attending another lunch at the UC, joined Marty and me for further conversation and regaled us with stories of recent romances. Several who had arrived early used the club atrium and

reading room for a prelude to our luncheon. As usual, we all left with smiles, grateful for a great education and wonderful camaraderie."

**Alan Zuckerman:** "My wife, Marilyn, and I moved to Madison, Wis., on June 14. We took possession of our new downtown condo on June 15. Our address is 360 W. Washington Ave., #704, Madison, WI 53703.

"We still have our cell phones: Marilyn, 302-344-1933 and Alan, 302-344-1458; our land line is 608-237-2884. Our e-mail address will remain the same. We hope you will stay in touch with us.

"We are just 10 minutes from where our son, Jonas, daughter-in-law, Kate, and grandson, William (1), live. William is the magnet that drew us to Madison.

"We'll miss our friends in Bethany Beach, Del., but we plan to stay in touch and come back to visit, as we have with friends we left in Philadelphia, North Miami Beach, Washington, D.C., and South Africa. We're looking forward to a new adventure in our lives."

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**Barry Dickman**

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We regret to report the deaths of two classmates. **James Meyers** died in Ithaca, N.Y., on April 15. According to his obit in the *Ithaca Journal*, he was a "civil rights activist, dancer of Universal Peace, librarian, free thinker, writer, actor, lover, nudist and free spirit." Quite a resume! James met his wife, Joan, while he was at the College, and they returned to her hometown, South Bend, Ind., where he was for many years the film librarian at the South Bend Public Library. Unusual for both the "Silent Generation" and Indiana in the '60s, Jim joined the countercultural revolution and became an anti-war activist; he conducted a seminar at the library called "World Peace Through World Law." He later was a librarian with the Albuquerque Public Library. James is survived by his sons, Pete and David, and one grandson.

**Robert Ott**, a Pennsylvanian from first to last, died in Mt. Lebanon, Pa., on March 27. At the College, Bob was on the football team. He served in the Navy during the Korean War. After many years as a director of personnel for U.S. Steel (which became USX) in Pittsburgh, he became a consultant after he retired. Bob's wife, Eary, predeceased him. He is survived by five children, Eary, Robert, Aleta Weakland, Ilena Yurochko and Bruce,

and seven grandchildren.

We also are truly sorry to pass along the news of the death of Joan and **Mark Weiss'** daughter, Sarabeth, who died of a heart attack on May 16. Sarabeth graduated from Clark and earned an M.A. in special education at Bank Street College. She devoted her career to teaching special education and in Head Start programs for underserved populations in the D.C. area. At her death, Sarabeth was teaching special education classes at Sargent Shriver Elementary School in Maryland. Your reporter knew her for her entire all-too-short life. A sweet child who grew up to become a warm and caring woman, she dedicated her life to kids who really needed her and had an unusual and impressive ability to connect with the wide range of people she dealt with. Sarabeth is survived by her siblings, Rebecca, Jonathan '88 and Debby.

### Bob Tauber '58 has been appointed the chairman of the Council on Ethics of the N.Y. State Dental Association.

Congratulations to **Steve Jonas** on receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Yale School of Public Health. In addition to his College degree and M.D., Steve received his M.P.H. from Yale in 1967. Steve teaches at SUNY Stony Brook as a professor of preventive medicine at both the School of Medicine and the graduate program in public health. He has written or edited more than 30 books and published more than 135 papers in scientific journals. In his spare time, Steve is a triathlete and ski instructor.

**Bob Tauber** has been appointed the chairman of the Council on Ethics of the N.Y. State Dental Association. The Council holds hearings on complaints by patients about possible NYSDA ethics code violations. Bob is a past president of the 9th District Dental Association (covering Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess and Orange Counties).

"Getting older, but still going strong," **Bob Waldbaum** has taken on two new jobs. First, he is heading the Robert S. Waldbaum Center (named in recognition of Bob's accomplishments), a Manhasset satellite office of the Arthur Smith Institute for Urology. He also has been named vice-chair of the Development Council of the AUA Foundation. He remains chairman emeritus of the Department of Urology at North Shore University Hospital. And in his spare time, Bob is chairman of the Dean Council of the new Hofstra North Shore LIJ Medical School, which will greet its first class in September 2011.

**Fabrizio Melano's** "sleek direction" led to rave reviews for the Juilliard Opera's production of *Dialogues Des Carmelites* earlier this year. Fabrizio had a long involvement with the New York City Opera.

New but retro horizons await **Dick Dreiwitz** and his trombone. Dick played in the College marching band and for many years was part of Woody Allen's combo (along with Dick's wife, Barbara, on the tuba). He and Barbara still perform regularly. Now Dick will appear in a new HBO series, *Boardwalk Empire*, as a member of a band that's featured in this story of Atlantic City in the 1920s. The series stars Steve Buscemi as a political boss, along with Gretchen Mol, Dabney Coleman and Michael K. Williams (Omar from *The Wire*). Dick's role requires regular visits to the main set at Steiner Studios at the Brooklyn Navy Yard to refresh his '20s

haircut. "Until now, I had to pay the barber; now he pays me. What a curious world," Dick observes.

**Marshall Front** hosted an informal breakfast at the Chicago Club for Dean Michele Moody-Adams and a group of Chicago-area alumni, including Norman Gelfand '59, John C. von Leeson '62, Thomas C. Homburger '63, Paul D. O'Connor '79, Daniel Balsam '91 and Rebecca L. Nathan '01. This was the dean's first trip to Chicago, her hometown, since her appointment. She updated the group on College activities and answered questions about the University's expansion above 125th Street, athletics and the future of the Core Curriculum, among other things.

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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**Ralph Alster** sent an interesting contribution, which unfortunately is too long for a single issue of CCT. I am including the first part here; the second part will be included in the next issue.

Ralph writes, "Architecture,

painting, writing, wife and kids have pretty much consumed my life since '59. Right out of Columbia, I did brief stints at the *New York Post* and *The Wall Street Journal*. I received my M.Arch. degree from Harvard in '66. Harvard and my life away from home in Cambridge gave me the self-liberation that I'd not been able to attain to during my commuter years at Columbia. But even though I soon made it to becoming a senior designer at I.M. Pei first and then at SOM New York before going off on my own, architecture ultimately panned out as an arid wasteland for me, as it was too much of a detour from my writing and painting passions that my fearsome lack of self-confidence shunted aside post-'59 and did not allow their taking full hold of me until the late '80s.

"Mid-'80s, I designed and patented two novel furniture systems. The first I sold to a Swedish manufacturer. The second — a Lego-style, all-solid-hardwood, no-hardware-or-glue required self-assembly system — I decided to manufacture and produce on my own. But my marketing ignorance and essential antipathy to marketing never knew how to get it off the ground commercially.

"This in keeping with my being probably so archetypically a locked-inside-himself outsider that there will be hardly any of my '59 classmates remembering my having existed amongst them all. And with possibly only those several of my high school classmates — **Bob Pecora**, **Joe Krieger**, **Ray Cohen** and **Allan Franklin** — remembering that I'd gone with them out of New Utrecht H.S. in Brooklyn to Columbia. Same goes for my Yeshiva Ohel Moshe classmate **Isser Woloch**, who likewise went to Columbia with me, but in his case out of Yeshiva of Flatbush H.S.

"Isser, as everyone knows, later found himself everlastingly Columbia-embedded as a French Revolution specialist, tenured in the University's history department until his retirement in 2008. Aside from those several high school and grade school carryovers, there won't be any others who'll remember me because of how few friendships my fearful shyness allowed to me for countering my near-absolute isolation that my being a full-time West-End-line commuter from 78th Street, Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, had me embracing.

"Isser then lived two blocks away on 80th street in Bensonhurst. But he'd managed to swing it somehow, his becoming full-time resident starting during the spring semester of our freshman year. And so while Isser's joining Phi Sig along with **Allan Franklin** had

him eventually developing closer ties with my high school friends than my own painful shyness had been able to maintain, even those grade school and high school friendships that I'd brought with me faded into nothingness rather quickly.

"Perhaps **John Corigliano** and **Jerome Charyn** will have some vague recollections, as vague as my own, of our lives having briefly intersected. In Charyn's case, related to our A-grade essays having translated into our becoming Jim Shenton '49 favorites. Lifelong-so for Charyn, while not so enduringly to my own timid insularity that did not allow my actively engaging Shenton as a friend once post-graduation. I'd fallen away from any more resorting to his laughter-filled patter that I'd seek as a student from time to time whenever I'd be able to muster the courage for yet another visit to his Hamilton Hall attic office. And as for my really having been a favorite of his, mightn't it simply have been the delusional beguilement that his large-spirited genius knew so well how to cast, and with especial effectiveness on the friendship-hungering of such introverted souls as I'd then been one of myself?

"With regard to Corigliano, I can remember only that it had been the animated irrepressibility of his outgoing friendliness that sought to befriend the non-responsiveness of my own overwhelmed sense of inadequacy that had brought us together only ever so briefly.

"My wife, Adi, and I met in the States when she visited from Israel. Our rocky-road marriage is in its 38th year. We dearly love our adorable children. Our son, Adam, is an attorney; our daughter, Orel Alster-MacNamee, is a teacher — these days a full-time mother to her son, Hudson (3), and her daughter, Grey (5). Our 3-month-preemie daughter, Aviv, functions in technical consultation to the pacemaker embedment and activation procedures that heart surgeons engage in. September 2 is the scheduled date for her marriage to Mike Mihalic that will have her becoming Aviv Alster-Mihalic. All of my children studied undergrad and grad at Rutgers."

**Sheldon Golub** writes, "I have retired from the practice of child and adult psychiatry in Great Neck, Long Island, and now live in sunny Sedona, Ariz., and enjoy Red Rock country. I would like to hear from members of the Class of '59: drsgolubmd@aol.com.

From **Wally Katz** we hear "about not participating. I would guess that many of us are busy and have lost touch with some in our class. For example, I am associate editor of an online journal at Stony Brook,

*Globality Studies Journal*, and a visiting scholar at the university. I'm likewise a member of the Columbia seminar, "20th-Century Global Politics and History," as well as a contributor, on occasion, to *New Labor Forum* and (forthcoming) *Dissent*. I not only edit *GJ* but also am its book review editor, and I have much thinking, reading and writing to do for a book of my own, tentatively titled, *Fateful Decisions: The Rise And Fall Of The American Political Economy Of Growth (1945-2008)*.

"Since my open-heart surgery, I have had a few trivial complications, not always well-treated or easily discerned by local doctors — I live on Long Island, near Huntington (West Suffolk) — and to ensure that my pump continues to work well (above 65 ejection fraction) and with repaired valves, daily (or almost daily) exercise is both necessary and pleasurable. I also keep up endlessly with friends scattered over the globe, am a devoted movie buff who has published three or four long and serious reviews of movies such as *Savage Nights*, *Mystic River*, *Crash* and *Syriana*, and I meet many friends in NYC and elsewhere for lunch, dinner, drinks whatever, as well as trying to pursue a life in line with the demands of eros and libido, having been divorced since 1992. So where is there time for chat?

"I don't remember our class as a particularly cohesive group and in addition, as I mentioned in an earlier blog or communication, many of the people who were my friends or chums or whom I admired greatly are dead, such as **Henry Ebel**, **Erwin Glikes** and **Dale Kramer**. I've kept in touch with **Ken Scheffel**, but that's largely because he was in my fraternity. Where, for example, is **Ben Haimowitz**, an old chum and fraternity brother? What's he doing and where does he live? I heard a good number of years ago that he was doing publicity for Giuliani rather than being the poet he was meant to be. Anyway, you get the drift. At least Jacques Barzun '27 is still alive."

**Allan Franklin** was on a ride. "My big activity will be a bike ride halfway across America, from Brainerd, Minn., to Bar Harbor, Maine. I am doing half of what we call Sea-to-Shining-Sea. The trip has started, and if anyone wants to follow the exploits of my colleagues you can go to [www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/seatoshiningsea2010](http://www.crazyguyonabike.com/doc/seatoshiningsea2010).

"I joined the group on July 1 and became the leader of the peloton, but only if you start counting from the rear."

**Al Padwa** sends us the information that, "It was in the mid-1980s that I discovered that another passion in my life, aside from chemis-

try and my family, lay in climbing tall mountains. To me, mountains are like life: You see them from the bottom up and the summit seems hard to reach. However, once you are on the top, everything is clear. I associate the top of mountains with success, achievement and freedom. In contrast, the lower part of the mountain possesses many obstacles and challenges that need to be overcome. This is really not so different from bringing a chemical research project to fruition and getting it published.

"My first real mountaineering experience was a climb to the top of Mount Rainier in 1984. During the ensuing 26 years, I have climbed extensively in Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Tanzania, Western China and Nepal. A table of climbs is listed following. Not long ago, I climbed the Volcano Licancachur in the Salar de Uyuni region of Bolivia, which tops out at 19,600 ft. I am still scientifically active as a professor of chemistry at Emory. For anyone interested in details and photos of some of my climbs, go to <http://euch6f.chem.emory.edu/padwa.html>.

"1984 Mount Rainier U.S.A. 14,400 ft.  
 "1987 Mount Cotopaxi Ecuador 19,800 ft.  
 "1988 Mount Chimborazo Ecuador 20,700 ft.  
 "1992 Mount Fuji Japan 12,400 ft.  
 "1994 Mount Aconcagua Argentina 22,840 ft.  
 "1996 Mount Kilimanjaro Tanzania 19,340 ft.  
 "1997 Asangate Cocha trek Peru 17,160 ft.  
 "1999 Mount Cabeza de Condor Bolivia 18,640 ft.  
 "2000 Mount Quandry, Lincoln, Democrat USA 14,280 ft.  
 "2001 Mount Kala Pittar – Everest trek Nepal 18,300 ft.  
 "2003 Mount Cuyoc – Huayhuash Peru 19,000 ft.  
 "2005 Mt Kosciuszko Australia 7,300 ft.  
 "2006 Mount Elbert, Mount Massive USA 14,400 ft.  
 "2007 Torres del Paine – Patagonia Chile 10,000 ft.  
 "2008 Mustagh Ata West China 16,300 ft.  
 "2009 Annapurna trek, Thorung-La Pass Nepal 17,870 ft.  
 "2010 Volcano Licancachur Bolivia 19,600 ft."

**Bob Stone** wants us to know that, "On May 17, **Steve Buchman**, **Jack Kahn** and I accepted an invitation from the Alumni Office to carry the Class of 1959 banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day. I assume the invitation/honor can be attributed to our continuing support, financial and other, of the College and its activities.

"The day was beautiful. There was a champagne brunch, and a good time for us, friends/spouses and the about-to-graduate Class of 2010. Marcia, my wife of 50 years by the time you read this, was most impressed by the dignity and fun of the whole morning and proud to see the Class of 1959 banner go by, held by Steve, Jack and me. The speakers were excellent, including Dean Michele Moody-Adams and President Lee C. Bollinger. The representatives of the Class of 2010 whom we heard and met were extraordinarily gifted with positive ideas for the future of mankind. I think we are in good hands."

**Steve Trachtenberg** is a grandfather once again, "Isaac, 6 lbs., 12 oz., born in San Francisco to Beth and Adam Trachtenberg '97. All is well. Huzza!"

**Josh Fierer** has celebrated his 50th anniversary. Congratulations! He writes that, "In 1960, I married a Barnard woman, Norma Damashek, who was in her senior year. We have three children who are grown, and three grandchildren under 7.

"We gathered them all, with their spouses, to take an Alaskan cruise in June after the grandchildren were done with school. We had never been to Alaska; in fact, we had never been on a cruise. This seemed like a good time to break the mold.

"Norma stepped down from her second term as president of the San Diego League of Women Voters, and I finished my 40th academic year at UC San Diego School of Medicine."

Josh has agreed to tell us about the cruise for a later edition of our Class Notes.

We also have a contribution from **Ralph Wyndrum Jr.** about a trip through the Panama Canal, which will have to wait for the next issue. Also, **Ken Scheffel** has promised to tell us about his trip to Europe this summer.

Take care and stay well.

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During that memorable extended weekend in June, Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010, the Class of '60 returned 141 classmates who registered to commemorate the 50th anniversary of our graduation. The previous record for a 50th reunion, set by the Class of '55, was 141. It was a goal our reunion committee had hoped to surpass, but our achievement of that number was gratifying. We salute the Class of '55 for setting a standard that challenged us to exert every effort

to duplicate its accomplishment. In due course, particularly with significantly larger class sizes, the record surely will be broken.

A Reunion Committee, which worked relentlessly to encourage your return through direct mail, e-mail and countless telephone calls, has taken its bows. The professional Alumni Office staff that was indefatigable in working with our class and pulling together the events that assured a seamless, magical weekend, including Paul Staller, Meghan Eschmann and Kimberly Peterson, deserves the highest praise, as does Susan Feagin, who has taken the University Office of Alumni and Development to a new level of professionalism. But the highest accolades belong to all of you who made the trip to Morningside from every part of the country, from across oceans and from as far as Taiwan, bearing a radiant warmth and enthusiasm that infused every event on and off campus. So here's an acknowledgment to the magnificent 141. And if you were a walk-on who attended but didn't register, or if the list omits a classmate you know was there, drop a note and let us know (not that we're competitive of course, but it would be a treat if we could add to our total, thereby establishing a record):

**Bob Abrams, John Albright, Don Altshuler, Alan Ashare, Barry Augenbraun, Geoff Basson, Robert Berlind, Bob Berne, Bob Berselli, Peter Bogdan, Paul Brief, Steve Brown, Jerry Cantor, Paul Chevalier, Eldon Clingan, Steve Cooper, Joseph D'Erasmio, Art Delmhorst, Ted Demetriou, Bill Engler, Bruce Ettinger, Byron Falk, David Farmer, Harold Federman, Fred Feiner, Alan Feld, Paul Feldman, Andrew Feuerstein, Paul Fierstein, Peter Fischbein, Robert Fischbein, John Foulds, Richard Friedlander, Lenny Fuchs, Ralph Galdo, Michael Gelfand, Joe Giacalone, Marvin Gilbert, David Goldman, Syd Goldsmith, Frederick Gordon, Nathan Gross, John Gubbings, John Hamby, Tom Hamilton, Sidney Hart, Carl Henriquez, Bob Hersh, Gary Hershendorfer, Mike Hertzberg, Phil Hirschkop, Bill Host, Jay Jackman, Ira Jaffrey, Lee Jaret, Danny Jezer, Fred Johnson, Elliott Kaback, Ernie Kaiman, Ron Kane, Joel Kanter, Alfred Kaplan, Michael Katz, Dick Kerber, David Kirk, Ivan Koota, David Krebs, Andy Kubishen, Norm Lane, Larry Lefkowitz, Stephen Lerner, Joel Levine, Bob Levine, Bob Lewis, Herb London, Thad Long, Leonard Lustig, Bob Machleder, Geoffrey Maltin, Harris Markhoff, Claudio Marzollo, Karl Mauzey, Miles McDonald, Doug McKnight, Alvin Michaelson, George Miller, Mike Millman,**

**Robert Morgan, George Morren, Paul Nagano, James O'Reilly, Bob Oberhand, Stephen Ollendorff, Elliot Olstein, Carlos Oltavaro, Tom Palmieri, John Pegram, Frank Pepe, Peter Phillipps, Martin Piltch, Martin Pincus, Rene Plessner, Josh Pruzansky, Tony Quintavalla, Stephen Reich, Ian Reiss, D'Arcy Roche, Rich Rodin, Lee Rosner, Joe Rubin, Larry Rubinstein, Vince Russo, Michael Scheck, Steve Scheiber, Daniel Schwartz, Joe Schwartz, Peter Schweitzer, Bill Seeger, Howard Seyffer, Dan Shapiro, Serge Shewchuk, Joel Silverman, Frank Siracusa, Fred Slavik, Steve Solender, Irwin Sollinger, Jonas Strimaitis, Phil Suraci, Bill Tanenbaum, Orlin Trandahl, Frank Turkheimer, Ivan Vamos, Mike Villano, Robert von Zumbusch, Steve Wang, Rolf Weingardt, Paul Wolsk, Irwin Young, Jack Zeller, Marvin Zelman and Frank Zmorzenski.**

On the subject of records, two discoveries at the reunion will be noted:

First, in the alphabetical listing above, **Vince Russo** and **Michael Scheck** appear, coincidentally, sequentially. It had long ago been reported that Vince held the grandfather record with 16 grandchildren. Michael, however, established with photographic evidence that his 18 grandchildren put him indisputably in the lead.

And we learned that a second member of our class has the distinction of having an asteroid or minor planet named after him by the internationally recognized naming authority, the International Astronomical Union, for his achievements in science.

**Paul Feldman** was so honored for his work in spectroscopic astronomy at The Johns Hopkins University, where he has been since 1967. Paul, a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, had Asteroid 3658 named after him. The designation reads that he was so honored for his numerous contributions in ultraviolet spectroscopy, particularly of the Earth's atmosphere, Venus, the outer planets and comets. His design and supervision of a number of spacecraft instruments have led to many advances in our understanding of physical processes in the solar system.

In our outreach efforts to classmates, one of the most successful was spearheaded by **David Kirk**, who was responsible for contacting NROTC members. Of the 44 surviving classmates who were in NROTC, 22 returned for the 50th. Two who didn't attend responded to the NROTC survey.

**Steven Hess** served for two years as damage control assistant on the *USS Forrest Sherman* and ex-

tended for another two years when offered a billet as press officer for the 9th Naval District in New York City. "I had gotten our ship a lot of good press in my collateral duty as ship's public information officer. I had hoped to stay in, but there were no openings in the PIO ranks where I felt I had the best shot at an interesting career. I left the service as a lieutenant (jg), but for some reason, my discharge papers promoted me to lieutenant even though I never got to wear two full stripes.

"I spent most of my business life in the photo industry and built a successful manufacturing company that I sold in 1998 and thought I was going to retire.

"Some years back, after a divorce and a remarriage, my wife begged me to run the business side of her growing practice, and I found myself again working 60-plus hours a week; this time pro bono.

"I am active with the Coast Guard Auxiliary program, and when we have an occasional weekend free, my wife and I cruise on Lake Ontario on our 36-ft. trawler. My ties to the Navy remain strong. I am in contact with my beloved tin can skipper, although he now is very frail. I also am in touch with several of my wardroom mates. We have been trying to save our ship from the welder's torch for years, and it will come down to the wire shortly."

Another NROTC member, **Michael O'Connell**, wrote this:

**Paul Feldman '60 was honored for his work in spectroscopic astronomy at The Johns Hopkins University, where he has been since 1967.**

"After three years of active Navy duty, I worked for more than 20 years in various aspects of the international engineering and construction business: large industrial plants for minerals processing, chemicals, forest products and so on.

"I then got involved for a while in development of commercial and industrial real estate until I settled down to something I enjoyed: building and repairing small boats.

"At middle age, I got back into competitive rowing at the masters level and still have my single-scurll sitting in my yard.

"Four years ago, I retired to North Carolina with my sweetie, unfortunately now deceased. I am restoring (slowly) my 38-year-old 36-ft. ketch, which is consuming most of my time and money."

Only weeks before the reunion, **David Kirk** was on the phone with **Norm Nordlund**. Norm had responded to the NROTC survey.

He was uncertain whether he would be able to make the reunion. On April 28, after a brief illness, Norm died.

Norm was born in Pori, Finland. He came to the United States with his parents and grew up in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. Commissioned an ensign, his first duty assignment was in Rhode Island. He became a naval aviator flying the Douglas Skyraider. He served on the aircraft carriers *USS Independence*, *USS Saratoga* and *USS Forrestal* from 1961-65. He had 303 carrier landings. From 1965-67, Norm was a flight instructor in Pensacola, Fla., instructing student naval aviators in carrier landings. He achieved rank as Lt. USNR Ret. After leaving the Navy in 1967, Norm pursued a distinguished career with TWA that lasted 31 years, flying every major aircraft, including the 707, 727, L1011 and 747.

Norm was an avid fisherman and loved deep sea fishing, or just spending time on a lake with his wife, Denise, and grandchildren. He is survived by Denise; daughter, Carolyn; sons, Michael and Karl; and four grandchildren.

We missed Norm and send our deepest condolences to his family. Some final thoughts:

Reflections, recollections, reunion highlights and sidelights are yours. They are best when shared. **Peter Fischbein** commented to me that the Class Notes seemed to serve a handful of guys sending

letters to each other. "But Peter," I rejoined, "you never wrote." Loquacious and open about their lives in face-to-face conversation, our classmates are a fairly reticent bunch about submitting a note for publication. So join the conversation. Let's hear what you're doing; what's on your mind; what's important to you in your life; what thoughts and emotions you took away from the reunion; or why you didn't attend.

As a four-year commuter at the College, I shared a lunch table on virtually a daily basis with a sizable group of commuters, most of whom I've not seen in 50 years. Spending time and catching up with **Andy Feuerstein**, **Bill Engler** and **Lenny Fuchs** was the highlight of many highlights for me. What were yours?

Take a few moments and send a note.

**REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5**

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**Michael Hausig**  
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We are now less than one year away from our 50th reunion, which will take place Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2011. The Reunion 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.

**Bob Pollack** has been a professor of biological sciences at Columbia since 1978, even when he was dean of the College in the '80s. For the past decade, he has been the director of the Center for the Study of Science and Religion as well, and this past year was appointed a member of the Faculty of the Earth Institute at Columbia.

Now 70 and in his 23rd year as a Columbia professor, Bob will take on another new responsibility, replacing his Humanities A teacher, Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages Robert Belknap, as director of University Seminars.

Bob is looking forward to seeing many classmates next spring. He invites classmates to be in touch with him at pollack@columbia.edu and to let him know when there is something happening on campus that they would like to know more about.

Among the six books honored with Ambassador Book Awards from the English-Speaking Union on June 10 were two by members of the Class of '61, **Morris Dickstein's** *Dancing in the Dark: A Cultural History of the Great Depression*, in American studies, and **Melvin Urofsky's** *Louis D. Brandeis: A Life*, in biography. Morris delivered the June 2 Commencement Address at the CUNY Graduate Center.

The George Washington University Associate Professor of Sociology **Richard Zamoff**, who directs the Jackie Robinson Project at GW, is looking for elementary schools, middle schools and junior high schools interested in partnering with GW's Jackie Robinson Society to further Robinson's legacy as an informal civil rights leader by introducing his story to their students. Representatives of interested schools should contact Richard: 202-994-8125 or 202-994-6345.

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 jf@bicycllevt.com

**Roman Kernitsky** practices ophthalmology in Freehold, N.J. He writes that the Core Curriculum helps him interact with his patients because "I can discuss any topic with any patient regardless of his/her cultural background." In addition, the Core Curriculum affects the way Roman spends his leisure. He recently vacationed in Turkey, where he visited Greek and Roman ruins. He found that his "knowledge of Greek and Roman classics enabled me to enjoy and appreciate the trip even more." Roman also interviews students from central New Jersey who are applying to Columbia. He may be reached at Roman10418@aol.com. His son, Andrew '03, is a diplomat with the State Department and has been assigned to our embassy in Warsaw.

**Anthony Avalerio** (avalerio@wesleyan.edu) is surprised to find himself "at this stage" able to "employ all that I learned as an editor and writer to help in a major way a much younger person at an important crossroads in her creative life and at the same time engage in a major writing project of my own. How is this? Happy-go-lucky fool. Trained and practiced and worked real hard without much expectation. Focus is even sharper, shot straight and true through the eye of a needle."

Anthony is working on his 10th book. He claims it is "a purely technical enterprise to do with sex."

**Paul Gitman** (pgitman@optonline.net) recently retired from North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where he was v.p. for medical affairs. Following a long career as a general internist, Paul moved into administrative medicine with an emphasis on quality and then entered the final segment of his career in a health system position. He is married to Gail Yeager Gitman '63 Barnard, and they are approaching their 47th anniversary. They have three children and nine grandchildren. Paul enjoys traveling and photography. You may see many of his photographs at <http://gitman.shutterfly.com>. "So far," he writes, "retirement is a blast." He and Gail recently traveled to Tibet, Mongolia, Myanmar (Burma), Bergen, Norway and Iceland.

Last year, **Neilson Abeel** (nabeel1940@gmail.com) was one of a group of citizens who sued the City of Portland (Ore.) over the misuse of Urban Renewal Funds and succeeded in stopping the creation of a satellite district comprised solely of an elementary school (non-tax-paying) eight miles from the established River

District Urban Renewal District.

In May, Barbara and **Ed Pressman**, Brenda and **Burt Lehman**, and Kathryn Thompson and I had a wonderful Asian dinner together in New York. As Ed said, "I hope the ladies were not bored with us talking so much about old times." We laughed too much and told endless stories of our experiences together 50 years ago.

Ed's daughter Susan recently received the President's Award for Math and Science Teaching, for which she was honored in Washington, D.C., and met with President Barack Obama '83 and Vice President Joe Biden. More recently, Susan appeared on the 11 p.m. news on Channel 4 in NYC because she has been front and center in the budget battle with New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

Ed's granddaughter, Maddy Poage, is a high school student and budding author who is writing a fictional trilogy. She has honored her grandfather by allowing him to make suggestions about her early drafts! Ed would love her to go to our alma mater. At a recent Columbia Bridge Program event, Ed spent a wonderful time with **Paul Alter**. "It is," writes Ed, "extraordinary how much our college experiences stay with us throughout our lives."

Although officially retired, Ed works part-time with a foundation that runs summer camps for inner-city kids from NYC. He is the summer camp coordinator, helping hire staff and taking the parents through the process of enrolling in the program. "I have done much volunteering over the years, but this is the most rewarding work I have ever done," Ed writes.

**Dick Schwartz** continues his work as v.p. and advertising director of *Mort Walker's The Best of Times Magazine* and is developing two new associate publishers for it. His client, Mort Walker, of *Beetle Bailey* and *Hi and Lois* cartoon fame, will celebrate the 60th anniversary of Beetle later this year.

Great tennis player that he is, Dick nevertheless has been suffering from ligament, tendon and cartilage trouble in his right knee. He attributes that to about 20 years of competitive hard-court tennis in California. Fortunately, the prolotherapy treatments and nutritional supplements his physician has prescribed are working, and Dick can again walk and exercise seven days a week!

This spring, Dick attended an all-day colloquium at Schermerhorn Hall in honor of Theodore Reff '52, professor emeritus of art history. "It was an awesome experience," Dick says, "for I met many of Dr. Reff's students who had traveled from all over the country to pay tribute to him. All had prepared 30-minute

audio/visual tributes to the artists they had studied for their doctorates: Matisse, Van Gogh, Gris, Roy Lichtenstein, Manet and Klee, to name a few."

You can follow Dick's blog adventures, "Tell it like it is," at [www.rjschwartz.blogspot.com](http://www.rjschwartz.blogspot.com). Dick would love to hear from you at [rj@richardjschwartz.com](mailto:rj@richardjschwartz.com).

**Hilmi Toros** (wordsmithsailor@hotmail.com) wants us to know that he is alive and well and living on the tiny isle of Sovalye (from the French word *chevalier*, it having been a fortress during the crusades) and the town of Fethiye in southern Turkey, also known as The Land of Lights.

After a career at the Associated Press with assignments in New York, Miami, the United Nations (1964-80) and heading the media operations of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome from 1980-2000, Hilmi opted for sun, light, organic food, swimming and so on. "If any classmates have an intention to come our way," he writes, "please let me hear from you. Best from myself and Karen, my Welsh partner. (Nobody is perfect!)" You can find lots more about both Sovalye and Hilmi by using Google.

Since July 2007, **Stan Lupkin** (slupkin@gnlaw.com) has been almost wholly occupied by a long-term assignment (through 2013 or 2014) as the CEO and executive director of Fortress Monitoring Group. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PANYNJ) selected FMG to be the integrity monitor for the construction of 1 World Trade Center (formerly referred to as the Freedom Tower). "What," writes Stan, "is an integrity monitor? Some have described it as an organization of experienced investigators, forensic auditors, attorneys with law enforcement backgrounds and, in the case of this construction project, forensic structural engineers, whose task is to detect and attempt to prevent white-collar crime in a business or government-funded project. We report directly to the Inspector General of the PANYNJ."

So far, Stan has found his assignment to be challenging and exciting. "It has been," he writes, "an emotional return to ground zero, where I served the same executive function in 2001-02 monitoring the deconstruction of the remnants of the Twin Towers. It has enabled me and many members of my team to witness Phoenix literally rising from the ashes."

Stan's wife, Anne, and he are in the 48th year of a marriage that "gets better and better as time moves forward." Their children, Jonathan (41) and Deborah (39), have blessed Stan and Anne with five granddaughters and one grandson. They range in

age from 12–18. Shira, the eldest, was accepted early decision to Barnard. Her father, Jonathan Lupkin '89, '92L, is a partner in the NYC law firm of Flemming Zulack Williamson & Zauderer. He specializes in complex commercial litigation and some white-collar criminal matters. Jonathan recently was elected chair of the New York State Bar Association's Commercial and Federal Litigation Section.

Anne has been consulting part-time as a teacher of underprivileged parents of pre-schoolers, where she guides them on building learning and reading skills and how to be parents. She recently was president of the Solomon Schechter School of Queens. There is only one blemish in this idyllic story. In Stan's words: "We are all rabid Mets fans."

**Barry Leeds** (bhleeds01@snet.net), distinguished professor emeritus at Central Connecticut State University, teaches senior and graduate level courses in Hemingway and Mailer. He became a grandfather last June, when Gavin Leeds Woods was born to Barry's daughter, Brett Ashley Leeds, and son-in-law, Gary Woods, both of whom are professors at Rice. Barry looks forward to hearing from classmates and seeing everyone in 2012 at our 50th (!) reunion.

**Tobias Robison** is almost retired, enjoying the trials and tribulations (with his wife, Elaine Golden Robison '63 Barnard, '71 Princeton Ph.D.) of two children, Naomi and Ezra, and four grandchildren.

"When I graduated from Columbia," Tobias recalls, "I asked friends for advice on how to make money before starting graduate school. Someone suggested I try computer programming. My response was, 'What's a computer?' But I soon learned, because the Princeton music department was trying to use computers in every possible way. A career in programming, management and auditing ensued, an intense 40 years of fascinating software, hardware and people interfaces."

Tobias and Elaine have run a tiny consulting company for nearly 25 years. Through it all, he longed to see computers hit the mainstream so that people would understand what he was doing. "So," he writes, "it was very gratifying to see the PC make it big, and yet so horrifying to see all the evils that the interconnected computer world has brought upon us: spam, and, sadly, so much more."

In his almost-retirement, Tobias writes novels. His first, a fantasy, as well as others, are available at Amazon.com. Tobias and Elaine live in Princeton, N.J. He may be reached at tobyr21@gmail.com.

**Armando Favazza** reports that

the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection of the University of Missouri has asked to be the official repository of his papers and other artifacts of his life. He has copies of *Jester* issues that he edited, his final exam blue book from Margaret Mead's class and all sorts of other material. Armando considers this "a good excuse to clean out my closets and basement files! Everything will be catalogued online and then stored. It's mentally comforting to know that some part of me will survive."

In May, I spent a delightful morning in Burlington, Vt., with **Charlie Morrow**, whom I hadn't seen since Columbia. Charlie was warm and superbly interesting. He has been composing and doing sound art since graduation and recently developed a fascinating way to reproduce true three-dimensional sound. Recorded sound is now almost exclusively available as binaural, usually called stereo. That means that the recorded sounds we hear actually travel only horizontally, while live sound travels vertically as well. Consequently stereo sound is unable to fully reproduce natural or live sound. Charlie's systems correct this shortcoming by using a computer to adjust what is recorded on a CD for example and then playing it through speakers in or near the floor and ceiling as well as the ones along walls. This incredible invention also produces true sound regardless of the acoustics of the space where it is heard. Charlie has installed systems in major buildings, outdoors and in a few private residences. Someday I'd love to have one of his True 3D inventions in my home. For more information, go to [www.sensations3D.com](http://www.sensations3D.com) or contact Charlie at [cmorrow.com](mailto:cmorrow.com).

Many apologies to Dr. **Sylvain Fribourg** for my failure to include his May note. Sylvain received the "Distinguished President" award for his year of service to the Kiwanis Club of Warner Center, Division 25, Cal-Nev-Ha District of Kiwanis International. You may reach him at [srfribourg@earthlink.net](mailto:srfribourg@earthlink.net).

Thanks for all the news. Please keep e-mailing.

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It occurred to me that in three years, you will be reading a summary here of our great 50th reunion. It's hard to believe, but planning will start in earnest this fall (if you'd like to help, let me know). The results of the Class of 1963 survey that **Don Margolis** and I recently sent to you showed that 38 percent indicate

that they will definitely attend (36 percent answered "maybe"). Obviously, a lot of you have been looking forward to this one. Mark your 2013 calendar. I hope you will all be there; it should be a terrific gathering.

**Lee Lowenfish** and I proudly carried the Class of 1963 banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day. The College threw a great breakfast and arranged for a glorious day (the University had a little trouble with rain at Commencement the following day). I hope more of you will consider joining us next year at what has become a great tradition. **Patrick Cary-Barnard** continues to post his reports to YouTube. You can see his latest "Pimento Report" by searching for Pimento3. Patrick deals mostly with environmental and development issues in Montréal.

I must say, Patrick, you are looking most youthful!

**Barry Jay Reiss** sent in an update on his remodeling project: "My wife, Brenda, and I are completing a major remodeling of the first floor of our home, which we've owned since 1968. Like most homes of the '60s, our ground floor had rooms: a hallway, a kitchen, a dining room and a family room. We have entered the new millennium by taking down the walls and making what is called a 'great room,' and we are doing it as green as possible. Our new floor will be bamboo, our ceiling lights low-power halogen, our under-counter lights LED, our paint low-VOC, our cabinets with wood from certified renewable forests, our appliances 'Energy Star' and our countertops from a wonderful company we found here on Long Island that makes them entirely out of a combination of recycled bottles, recaptured stone dust and recycled mirrors, all bonded with a natural corn resin. They are as hard and durable as granite and cost just about the same, and the colors are wonderful. All will be powered, of course, by the solar panels on our roof."

**Steve Langfelder** writes, "Last winter in Florida, I saw my four-year college roommate, **Don Putnoi**, for the first time in decades. After Columbia, Don and I stayed in touch for a while and were even each other's best man at our respective weddings in 1964. But he went on to Harvard Medical School, became an ophthalmologist and eye surgeon, and settled in the Boston area, where he still resides. Both of us enjoy the Berkshires, and we planned to meet there again this summer.

"I remained in New York, obtaining an M.B.A. in accounting from Columbia and spending the better part of the next four decades in public and corporate taxation. I retired in 2001 and have spent most

of the last 10 years enjoying life and working on a graduate degree in couch potato. My wife, Ruth, and I have two married daughters and six grandchildren. One daughter and four of our granddaughters live in Israel, so each year we travel there in the spring, then "import" them in the fall to keep the interval between hugs at six months.

"A friend told me that at this stage, what counts are health, family and friends. So far, health has been good, and two years ago, I started working on my family tree. So far the tree has several hundred 'leaves,' and I've made it back to 1825 with two great-great-grandparents, leaving only 30 more to find at that level. However, this quest will end only, as one genealogist has said, when I can reach the Garden of Eden with one click of the mouse!"

Travel notes from all over: **Don Margolis** recently returned from an Alaskan cruise, and **Jerry Dwyer** and his wife are back from London. Let me know what you did this summer.

The Alumni Office sent me an update saying that Dr. **Charles Cantor**, chief scientific officer of Sequenom, is a director at Exsar Corp. and is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. With a Google search, I discovered that Sequenom manufactures a mass-array genetic analysis system, and I found that Exsar is "a development stage company dedicated to identifying, developing and commercializing small molecule therapeutics for protein misfolding diseases."

**David Alpern** reports that, after May, *Newsweek On Air* became "For Your Ears Only." If you haven't listened to David's broadcasts, you can find them on the Web (just Google David) or subscribe to them as podcasts. I often listen to them on my Zune when I'm driving. Great stuff, David.

If you are in NYC, try to make the next Class of '63 lunch, scheduled for Thursday, September 9 (then on Thursday, October 14. It's always the second Thursday of the month.). Check our website at [www.cc63ers.com](http://www.cc63ers.com) for details and to see pictures of our perpetually youthful classmates. 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.

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It is early in July, very hot in New York City, and writing this column in an air-conditioned office is my escape from the heat.

With the arrival of summer, our monthly class lunch at the Columbia Club was adjourned till September. Thank you to those who have attended during the past few months and contributed to the good-natured banter and wide-ranging discussions: **Steve Case, Marty Isserlis, Gil Kahn, Fred Kantor, Beril Lapson, John Langbein, Jeff Newman, Rob Rivitz, Steve Rodner, Nick Rudd, Dan Schechter, Steve Solomon, Allan Sperling, Alan Tobias, Harvey Weiss and Mark Zucker.**

We will resume in the fall and meet on Thursdays, September 16, October 14, November 11 and December 9. All the lunches are at the Columbia University Club in Manhattan. We begin at 12:30 p.m., so mark your calendars and join us.

**Jeff Newman** is president and executive director of the National Child Labor Committee, a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1904 that is one of the nation's leading organizations working with major corporations and government agencies on behalf of young people in the areas of child labor law, youth occupational safety and health, and education. Jeff's son, David, will be married in October in New Orleans. Congratulations. David is the former director of clinical research at the St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Emergency Medicine Department in Manhattan, and the author of *Hippocrates' Shadow: Secrets from the House of Medicine*, a highly regarded book on improving the physician-patient relationship. He recently moved to Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan.

**Gene Meyer** is editor of *B'nai Brith Magazine*, the quarterly publication of the 167-year old Jewish humanitarian, human rights and advocacy organization. The magazine can be viewed at <http://bnai.brith.org/magazines/index.cfm>.

**Richard Epstein**, who taught for many years at the University of Chicago Law School, now is the Laurence A. Tisch Professor of Law at NYU School of Law.

**Nick Rudd**, a Glee Club alum, has been hard at work reviving the organization that was founded in 1873. Through his efforts, a reunion was held in June during Alumni Reunion Weekend/Dean's Day; about 100 attended, and the group put on a 75-minute performance for an audience of 300. Nick has put up a website at <http://cugc.alums.com>. [Editor's note: See "Alumni Corner."]

By the time this is printed, the summer will be over. I hope it was a good one for you and your loved ones. Send me a note about yourself or someone else from '64. Your classmates want to hear from you.

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Regular readers of this column know that a family commitment required me to miss our class' 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend, held June 3-6. Two of the attendees, **Brian Fix** and **Michael Schlanger**, graciously agreed to report on all the doings I missed. Here is their report:

The Class of '65 came out in great numbers and in even greater enthusiasm to produce a sterling 45th reunion. And a very good time was had by all, from **Mike Cook's** opening cocktail party (and we are proud that Dean Michele Moody-Adams started her rounds that evening with us), through the Chelsea Art Gallery Crawl (ably led by **A.G. Rosen**), to more drinking on Friday evening at the architecturally exquisite new headquarters of Bloomberg (complete with aquariums and the Charlie Rose studio), to a three-hour class lunch and "open mike" session in Casa Italiana, to a rousing Glee Club alumni concert (featuring **Jeff Krulwich, Bill Wood, Bob Gunn** and **Brian Fix**, inter alia), to a quiet and dignified dinner in the newly renovated reference room of Butler Library (that is, quiet and dignified until one of our classmates stood next to a cabinet to better hear and see our featured speaker, and to the surprise of all (including building management), when his rear end hit a button that looked like a cabinet key lock, we also heard a 10-minute "Glories of Columbia" manifesto from the late Larry Wien '25).

It is only fitting and proper that we tell you all who came: **Don Bachman, Marty Blank, Allen Brill, Mike Bush, Dan Carlsinsky, Bob Caserio, Peter Clough, Mike Cook, Andy Fisher, Brian Fix, Jim Fleischer, Dean Gamanos, Lionel Goetz, Ed Goodgold, Louis Goodman, Alan Green, Mike Griffin, Bob Gunn, Bob Henn, Peter Herman, Steve Hoffman, Paul Hyman, Mike Krieger, Bob Kronley, Jeff Krulwich, Jay Kuris, Arnie Lesser, Barry Levine, Jim Levy, Marty LeWinter, Ed Malmstrom, Howie Matz, Chris Morren, Mike Newell, Bruce Peck, Noah Robbins, A.G. Rosen, Peter Sack, Dave Sarlin, Jonah Schein, Michael Schlanger, Charlie Schwartz, Rick Shuart, Neil Silver, Don Smith, Neil Smith, Steve Steinig, Dave Stewart, Steve Strobach, John Sullivan, Mike Tapper, Bernard Weinstein, Serge Wind, Derek Wittner, Elliot Wolff, Bill Wood, Jay Woodworth, Bob Yunich and Leonard Zwerling.**

While we all had a chance to catch up on comings and goings with such common themes as children and grandchildren, retired or not?, second and third careers, philanthropic activities, travels, and sadly, departed classmates, the "open mike" class lunch on Saturday was a real treat that allowed each of us to take no more than three minutes to reminisce and consider what College meant to him (as in 1965 there were no hers!). Several common themes emerged, particularly how Columbia instilled in each of us a sense of values, spiritual as well as intellectual and utilitarian, and what is important in life; an opportunity to explore new horizons, whether or not they led to a career; a sense of intellectual curiosity; and of course, a sense of camaraderie, whether in the classroom, in sports, among the faculty or just carousing, partying and taking advantage of this great city of New York.

To that end, we urge — and indeed implore — each of our good classmates to sit down now and send to our three e-mail addresses below a few paragraphs on your Columbia experience and comings and goings, so that we can reprint as many of them as we can in the coming issues of CCT. Certainly, our liberal arts education trained us for that!

And now we start planning for the big 50th! Are we truly that old? We look forward to receiving your blurbs.

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**Mark Levine** brought to our attention a few months ago an article in *The New York Times* "Week in Review," commenting on senate candidate Richard Blumenthal's apparent lapse of memory about whether he served in Vietnam. In it, **Jay Kwawer** is quoted:

"In the normal developmental process — beginning in early childhood — the discovery that one can lie is a significant advance in personal growth and development," said Jay S. Kwawer, director of the

William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis and Psychology in New York. From the age of 4, the ability to say, 'It wasn't me,' or more complex confabulations, he said, 'fuels the development of fantasy life, creativity, and is often at the core of play and drama: 'I can fly!' 'Bang, bang, you're dead!' 'Let's play house.'

"In other words, lying is the foundation of fiction itself. 'Within certain normal limits, there's nothing pathological about that at all,' he said."

Hear ye, hear ye: A committee is now being formed for the 45th reunion of the Class of 1966! All those interested in taking part in the planning for this splendid event, to take place Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, 2011, should contact **Stella Miele-Zanedis**, assistant director, Alumni Affairs, at the e-mail or phone number above. The next meeting of the planning committee will take place on Wednesday, September 15. Please contact Stella for information about time, place and so forth.

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**George Leonard** writes, "Hello to all the guys from the fifth and sixth floors of John Jay Hall. 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, where his grandfather, Charles '37; father; and uncle, Robert Andrew Leonard '70, had lived. My middle name is Jay because my mother waited on the steps of John Jay so often for Pop 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."

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

"Even more meaningful, Andrew had the incredible luck to take Lit Hum with the great John D. Rosenberg '50, '60 GSAS, who was my Lit Hum teacher in 1963-64 and later my Ph.D. dissertation director. I was sitting in John's class as a freshman, doing Aristophanes, when Kennedy died and all the bells of St. John the Divine started tolling. (Remember?) What an education both Andrew and his father have gotten from John. It's been a great year."

"I would love to hear from one

and all. You can reach me through my professional website, [www.georgeleonard.com](http://www.georgeleonard.com)."

**Mark Minton** writes, "I retired on November 1 from a 35-year career in the Foreign Service, after duty in Washington, D.C. (of course) and in Japan, Korea and Mongolia — the last from which I retired as U.S. ambassador. This spring, I started a 'second career' in New York City as the president of the Korea Society of the United States, the foremost private organization promoting broad relations between the two countries. I would be delighted to have classmates living in the city or traveling here visit our headquarters at 950 Third Ave. (at East 57th Street) to say hello, attend one of our programs or visit our gallery. A more convenient opportunity to see classmates may be at the Korean Film Festival we will run in conjunction with MoMA at the museum in September."

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With 10-year treasuries below 3 percent, we surely are seeing an amazing era. **Paul Brosnan** regularly sends e-mails that have good humor or political views that I of course censor, so I need some updates from him as to what he is up to. And **Bob Carlson** sends the best pictures from Sitka, Alaska. If you would like to receive them, let me know.

**Mas Taketomo** helped organize a Glee Club reunion with a group of others that was held during Alumni Reunion Weekend/Dean's Day and drew a large turnout. Mas wrote: "The Columbia Glee Club had its first reunion for all classes on June 4-5. The following classmates attended — joining Glee Club alumni from 1952 to now, plus current undergrad members — **Art Gallancy, Jeffrey Kurnit, Robert Levine, Jeffrey Rosen, Rich Rosenblum, Paul Spirn and Mas Taketomo**, along with John Suggs '69. Several others had conflicts but planned to come for the next one: **Jon Bauman, Steve Brown, James Charney, Tony Kao, Terry Noyes and Jim Rizzo**. (Hope I didn't forget any names.) We had a couple of rehearsals and gave an informal performance that included Glee Club standards and all the Columbia College songs. A great reunion, and the next one is scheduled for 2013, which would coincide with '68's 45th. I ran into **Buzz Zucker** as I was checking in Saturday morning."

Sounds like a fabulous time. [Editor's note: See "Alumni Corner."] Mas, did you tape any of this? Maybe you all could sing at a basketball game this year at

halftime. That would be grand.

**Janet Furman Bowman** wrote me a note. (Janet, bring your sneakers. We can jog four miles and bike six. That is the best I can do.) She wrote: "I recently completed a short memoir about my professional life. It has lots of anecdotes about the Grateful Dead and the rock and roll scene of the '70s. Not your usual Columbia academic stuff. I tried to make it entertaining. Check it out if you have a moment (well, about 15 minutes. It's not a book-length extravaganza) at <http://furmanhistory.com>."

"I live in Corte Madera, Calif. If I weren't so far away, I'd be calling you for a run in Central Park."

It has been a while since I heard from **Hollis Petersen**. He was in the Keys enjoying, I suspect, great weather. He reported that he was on his way back, and I am hoping to see him at a football game this year. I think with my prediction of a great season, he will return. I recommend getting tickets this year and enjoying the fun.

I continue to run into **Seth Weinstein**. He spent July 4 in London, I think. Wrong place, Seth. The winners are here. He looks great, seems to be enjoying biking in Central Park. **Gregg Winn** and Vera were married in D.C. in June and live in Naples, Fla., at least part of the year. Congratulations, Vera and Greg!

I continue to enjoy public finance, though the public sector financing world is becoming more complex and challenging. I went to Newport Beach for the July 4 weekend, good fun. I was in Saratoga for one night in late June, and I must admit, the country is beautiful. Surely that would be a wonderful place to spend more time.

I heard that **Ted Kaptchuk** was looking for my e-mail address. I sent it to him (and it's always at the top of this column), so I will be hearing from him at some point, something about reunion. Ted, sorry no more '68 Bust stuff at reunions. We have done it so many times. I think we can talk about good health.

I hope you are all well and enjoying a year that seems to me to be quite different. Hope to see you at Homecoming on Saturday, October 23, and do write in.

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Once again, there was no incoming news from classmates, and e-mails requesting news went unanswered.

So, facing a deadline with an empty inbox, I went to the web. I discovered some news of which I had not been aware.

**Mark Kator** is the president and CEO of Isabella Geriatric Center, a not-for-profit organization serving the elderly since 1875, and the immediate past chair of the board of directors of the Continuing Care Leadership Coalition, which is dedicated to improving continuing care services in New York. For many years, Mark was a member of the adjunct faculty of the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service of NYU. He spent more than 20 years in the public health care system in New York City and has had a long interest in developing and improving systems of care for underserved and vulnerable populations. Mark has been chair of the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging and has chaired the Commission on Ethics of the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging. He is a board member of the Audubon Partnership, an economic development corporation for northern Manhattan, and a member of the Health Policy Forum of the United Hospital Fund.

**Martin Konikoff** is a partner at Robert Derector Associates, a full-service engineering firm that focuses on the design and commissioning of corporate offices and mission-critical facilities, as well as on the modernization of existing building infrastructures. RDA is a tenant advocate, structured to make sure its clients achieve their project goals in an efficient and effective manner. Since joining RDA in 1985, Martin has (quoting the firm's website) "overseen many of the firm's largest tenant alteration and building modernization projects for commercial, institutional, industrial and residential developments. His engineering specialties include design of medium voltage distribution systems, retrofit/modernizations of electrical distribution systems for high-rise buildings, fire alarm systems, on-site power generation, high-tech tenant fit-out projects and vertical transportation." Martin also is an active member of the Illuminating Engineering Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers.

**Joshua Hochberg** is a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of McKenna Long & Aldridge, where his practice focuses on individual and corporate white collar defense, internal investigations and compliance. Prior to joining MLA, Joshua was chief of the Fraud Section and deputy chief for litigation of the Public Integrity Section, in the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. As chief

of the Fraud Section, he organized national complex investigations and prosecutions of corporate, securities, health care, procurement and bank fraud matters. Joshua received the DOJ's highest award for litigation, the Attorney General's John Marshall Award. He also was a recipient of the Criminal Division's highest award, the Henry E. Petersen Memorial Award, and a Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Service.

Looking over the class list, I was surprised to find a classmate with an address in Lerner Hall. **Alan Kouzmanoff** joined Columbia's Health Services in 1976. Alan's professional interests include the treatment of anxiety and bipolar and post traumatic stress disorders. He also has a private practice in geriatric psychiatry, forensic psychiatry and psychiatry at a West End Avenue office.

These bios drawn from the web show that there is class news that has gone unreported. It would really be appreciated if classmates sent in news about themselves or others in the class, or shared views on how the College years have had an enduring impact on your life since graduation. We spent several interesting hours during our 40th reunion last year reflecting on the College's impact, and both for those who attended and those who did not, that dialogue can continue in this column.

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The most significant matter I have to report on is our 40th reunion, which turned out to be a smashing success. We had 68 attendees at the Friday night cocktail party at **Mark Pruzansky's** apartment. Mark and his lovely wife deserve our thanks for hosting this event, as they have in the past.

**Michael Braun** also deserves special thanks for his dedication to raising money for the College. The Saturday dinner was an even bigger success — we filled every table in the room and had more than 125 College and Engineering School attendees. **Peter Joseph**, an emergency room physician in the Bay Area, spoke to us passionately — in true '60s style — about the dangers of global warming. I caught up with old friends **Bernie Josefsberg, Dan Feldman, Paul Rosen and Tom Keenan**, and spent time learning about the important events in the lives of dozens of other classmates.

Among the others in attendance were **James Periconi, Phil Rusot-**

ti, Fred Rapaport, Bob Douglas, Dennis Graham, James Hazen, Dr. Fred Kushner, Charles Silberman, Professor Paul Starr, Fred White, Paul Lehner, Michael Onishenko, Charles Strouthides, Norman Greene, Martin Newhouse, Michael Passow, Peter Sugar, Victor Hertz, Joel Mintz and Professor David Sokolo. I also attended two of the lecture programs, The Miriam Champion Professor of History Martha Howell's talk on feminism, which just blew me away — both in content and the participation of the audience — and the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History David Rosand '59's talk on Venice, which also was brilliant.

# REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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**Ron Rosenberg:** "Passing the 60-years-old marker has given me a greater appreciation for people and places in my past. I never realized how significant those four years were in terms of establishing my intellectual outlook and worldview. It is really amazing how durable some ideas can be.

"I appreciate hearing about people and events that were important back then, i.e., Dave Newmark '69, Jim McMillian '70 and so on.

"One thing that hasn't been mentioned has been the great success of the 1967-68 freshman basketball team, of which I was a member. We did extremely well that year and produced a number of future varsity players of distinction."

Ron, I remember and enjoyed the freshman team games, which often were played just before the varsity games. Let's do something in a future column, and members of that team, write.

And thinking back to Jimmy Mac, I enjoyed finding this link, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1970\\_NCAA\\_Men's\\_Basketball\\_All-Americans](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1970_NCAA_Men's_Basketball_All-Americans), which, with its companion pages for 1968 and 1969, confirms that Wes Unseld, Bob Lanier, Rick Mount and Calvin Murphy were consensus All-Americans. And, of course, we know that the varsity Lions defeated every one of those future NBA superstars, as well as Geoff Petrie. And the page confirms that McMillian was an All-American.

**Greg Wyatt:** "June was a chal-

lenging and rewarding month, with three well-planned cultural projects launched and landed. Two are a long distance away so I'll share a few written impressions:

"On Memorial Day weekend, the *Price of Freedom*, a bronze monument in tribute to WWII veterans, was unveiled at the Visitors Center of Arlington National Cemetery. Many WWII veterans attended.

"Within 10 days, my wife, Fay, and I then traveled to Pisa, Italy, for the installation and unveiling ceremony of the *Two Rivers* bronze monument, permanently placed at the Duomo Museum garden, within yards of the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa.

"A few days later, I conducted open-air architectural watercolor studies in a three-week international study program developed with Kathryn Ytrakis, dean of academic affairs, and Michael Pippenger, associate dean of fellowship programs and study abroad. Full scholarships for three students were provided by a private foundation. The selected Columbia undergraduates, absolutely true to our highest academic College standards, spent 12 outdoor hours per day working with me (as did Pippenger, whom I asked to join us) in a penetrating study at the three Magna Grecia historically significant Paestum temples.

"When we then arrived to Ephesus, all of us became in-residence at the Crisler Institute Library, immersed with daily academic lectures, archaeological site digs and field tours with five renowned Viennese archeology professors. The three Columbia students joined a 15-member international group of archeology students (from Russia, Germany, Turkey, Palestine, Austria and the United States). With them, I continued my daily architectural watercolor instructions at the Hellenistic masterpiece in stone, the Celcus Library."

**Ed Wallace:** "In 2008, I was privileged to represent Columbia before the New York City Council in obtaining final approval for the West Harlem site [for the new Manhattanville campus]. The Court of Appeals recently upheld the use of eminent domain for non-residential property to complete assembly of the site. Maybe we will finally get a 50-meter pool as the CC coach promised me in 1967 we would have!

"Even more thrilling, our second son, Will Falk-Wallace '14, will join his brother, Richard Falk-Wallace '12, at the College in September. Both are swimming for coach Jim Bolster. My wife, Pamela Falk '92L, and I are very proud."

**Alex Sachare:** "My wife, Lori, and I are proud to let you know that our

daughter, Deborah, was accepted early decision to the Barnard Class of 2014. She had participated in its summer program the last two years and was very happy when 'the fat envelope' came in December. Unlike the College, which posts decisions online, Barnard still lets its applicants know by mail only. She'll be living on campus, three blocks from my office in the Columbia Alumni Center on West 113th Street."

**Joshua Rubenstein:** "Our family marked two milestones this past year. Our son, Ben, celebrated his bar mitzvah in December. It was a lovely event, with friends joining us from Budapest and Oxford, as well as family and still other friends from the Midwest and along the East Coast.

"And to my astonishment, I have now been on the staff of Amnesty International USA for 35 years. I started as a volunteer activist in spring 1975. With some work and lots of luck, our chapter helped secure the release of three prisoners of conscience that summer in Ecuador, Rhodesia and Pakistan. Then, in the fall I was hired to be a part-time organizer with a focus on starting chapters in New England. The rest, as they say, is history. I also am soon to finish my eighth book, a concise biography of Leon Trotsky for a new series about famous Jews to be published by Yale University Press."

**Arvin Levine:** "After almost a year of hunting, I joined the international bank/brokerage Credit Suisse in NYC. So after many years of home office, I am now commuting into NYC again on a daily basis. If any classmates want to meet for lunch around the Chelsea area, give me a buzz!

"Reflecting for a moment, I have had multiple opportunities to redefine myself, including the years at Columbia. I am grateful to the Core Curriculum, which enhanced my broad view of what life is about. Even so, I keep gravitating to the same 'rut' of putting technology into practice, which provides me with satisfaction and compensation, while allowing time for a life outside of work. Jim will recall how I wrote a computer program for him in [senior] year (satisfaction but no compensation). Graduate school for 'computational' linguistics, multiple computer companies and projects during the past 30 years (developing, selling, strategizing) all have pointed in the same direction. At the same time, family, religion and music have been deeply involving. Despite passing the 'big 6-oh' together with most of the Class of '71, I don't see myself getting out of my rut any time soon. I'm having too much fun!"

**Nick Alexiou:** "Thirty-nine

years in a few paragraphs: Spring semester 1968 was, for this student from Greece (then under a right-wing junta) a composition in culture shock, political awakening and sheer exuberance. I stayed at Columbia, taking classes on and off for 14 years, all the way through a D.Phil. in Greek and Latin. I married fellow Greek and Latin student, Alice Sparberg Alexiou '76 GSAS. Sanity and market forces directed me to NYU Business School and a career in banking, trusts and estates administration.

"In 1998, a second career change (after two years of studying nights at Columbia) brought me to Pain-eWebber, and then UBS, as database architect; I spent 10 wonderful years translating between finance executives and computer nerds, and designing some pretty complicated databases. The best part — I could go to work in jeans.

"Semi-retired a couple of years now, as a database consultant, I spend time with the Institute for Retired Professionals at the New School, teaching and taking classes. I hope to teach Plato and the trial of Socrates next spring. I am moving back to the Upper West Side after many years in the suburbs.

"I remember fondly **Vinnie** (now Father) **Rigdon** and brothers **Phil Bartolf** and **Mike Bartolf**, from sixth floor Livingston, and **Ed Eitches** from fifth floor John Jay.

"Two sons: Alex, a computer engineer living in Boston and married to Ayse Asatekin Alexiou, a multitasking young woman from Turkey who teaches chemical engineering at MIT; and Joseph '11, a journalist and student at the Journalism School, who was paid to live in Paris in July and visit restaurant after nightclub after bar after ... as he updated the *Paris for Dummies* travel guide (for the third time).

"My wife's second book, *The Flatiron: The New York Landmark and the Incomparable City that Arose with It*, came out June 8. For more about the Flatiron, and Alice's connection to it and about her book, go to [www.nytimes.com/2010/05/26/realestate/commercial/26flatiron.htm](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/26/realestate/commercial/26flatiron.htm).

"Many fond memories of the years at Morningside Heights, and looking forward to reunion next year."

**Peter Jacoby:** "I retired as a general attorney in the AT&T federal regulatory law group in Washington, D.C., after 26 years as an in-house counsel and eight years before that at the Dewey Ballantine law firm in New York City, where I also principally represented AT&T and its Bell System affiliates. While at Dewey, for job enrichment I spent two years involved in a challenge to Grand Central Terminal's

landmark designation, representing the developer of proposed office towers on the site. (A visit to Midtown will tell you how that endeavor turned out.) Fortunately, my in-house career was generally more successful.

"It was an enormously exciting period for me to practice on AT&T's behalf, as it spanned the time from the filing of the government anti-trust suit against the Bell System; the subsequent divestiture of the local telephone companies; AT&T's period of growth (e.g., the acquisitions of NCR, McCaw Cellular and cable systems); the corporation's lengthy retrenchment through the NCR, Lucent Technologies and AT&T Wireless spin-offs, as well as de facto exit from several markets; and ultimately the company's merger with SBC, which has adopted the AT&T brand.

"Along the way, there were sea changes in both the technology and regulation of telecommunications that made for constant need to learn new approaches in supporting the corporation's business and regulatory agenda. I feel I truly endured the 'Chinese curse' of living in 'interesting' times, and it was great fun that I wouldn't trade for a moment.

"After a three-year sojourn residing in historic Old Town Alexandria, Va., I have returned to Bedminster, N.J., in the Somerset County hunt country, where my family and I have lived since 1985. On May 24, I became a grandparent for the second time with the birth of granddaughter Mackenzie. My older granddaughter, Taylor (3), named in memory of my late wife Toby, is thrilled to be a big sister. And my dad, Herb Jacoby '34, '37L, is overjoyed to once again be a great-grandparent."

**Mike Kusin:** "Reading this latest ['71C eNewsletter] was especially pleasurable. I especially enjoyed seeing the names of several classmates whom I thought had fallen off the edge of the earth: **Charlie Ferguson, John Dubberstein and Larry Teitelbaum.** BTW, I'll make a major effort to be at the 40th reunion."

Classmates, if you did not receive the eNewsletter, I may not have your correct or best e-mail address. Send it to me.

**Terry Chorba:** "My wife, Lindy, and I are still in Atlanta and have a son at Georgia State, a daughter at Emory and two sons in high school. Lindy teaches at Emory, and I finally brought to successful closure a 35-year quest, receiving my doctor of science from the University of Oxford 'for original contributions to the advancement of knowledge in public health.'"

"Originally inspired by Colum-

bian Oxonians Bob Delahunty '68, Peter Darrow '72 and the late **Dave Gelfand** when I left the Navy after two years as an enlisted man, I pursued my physiology degree at Oxford (Brasenose College) and that launched me into a career in medicine and public health. I have had a great 30-year run with the U.S. government, mostly with the Centers for Disease Control, and have led major research and programmatic efforts in public health in Central Asia (mostly in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan) and in Cote d'Ivoire.

"But the real credits go to the inspiration of my dad (William Chorba '22, '25 P&S); to the Alice-in-Wonderland adventure that was Columbia, with its exacting two-year science requirement that exposed me to chemistry and experimental psychology; and to the encouragement of friends long ago such as Steve Varady '71E, **Art Lenehan**, Steve Steindel '69 and Manuel Pietrantonio '70, and the beginning of an incredible walk-about. I enjoy reading about you all. Keep the CCT notes coming."

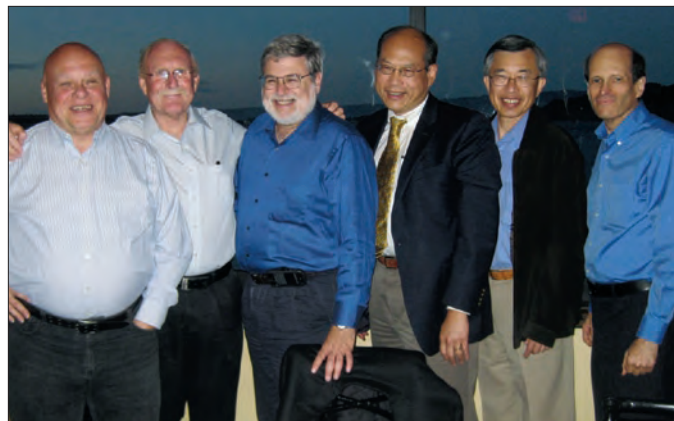
As for me, **Jim Shaw**, I arranged a mini-reunion dinner with classmates in the San Francisco area at the Waterfront Cafe and Restaurant on June 5 and had a splendid good time with **Lambert Chee, Francis Lu, Charles Ferguson, Len Renery and Ray Stricker**, and guests. The trip coincided with a visit to my daughter, Amy '08, a UCSF medical student. [See photo.]

See you next column. And, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011, see ya at reunion!

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**Tim Sobolewski** writes to catch us up on his life. "After years of unhappily working as a financial adviser in the banks, I thought it would be a good idea to start my own financial planning and investment management firm in the middle of one of the worst financial crises in history. It was a predictably rough first year, but business has improved so that I'm able to keep living in the style to which I've become accustomed — indoors. I do financial planning at an hourly rate and fee-based investment management, specializing in the middle-class investor; having grown up in the '60s, if I called myself a 'wealth manager,' as do some of my colleagues, I would choke on the words. I also am starting a non-profit for financial education. My much smarter and better-looking son is wisely avoiding the financial



**Charlie Ferguson '71, Len Renery '71, Ray Stricker '71, Francis Lu '71, Lambert Chee '71 and Jim Shaw '71 (left to right) and guests had a splendid time at dinner at the Waterfront Cafe and Restaurant in San Francisco on June 5 during a mini-reunion organized by Shaw to coincide with his vacation there.**

PHOTO: AMY SHAW '08

field and is going on to graduate studies in history."

Tim recently was elected to the board of directors of the Financial Planning Association of Western New York.

**Armen Donelian** was "in Tel Aviv, Israel, this summer to join Executive Director Martin Mueller and professors Rory Stuart and Richard Harper from The New School Jazz Program (NYC) to continue our work as academic consultants in a pioneering venture, a curriculum collaboration with the Israel Conservatory of Music through which students there undertake their New School degree requirements and then complete them in New York. Rory and I also appeared at Shablul Jazz Club."

Capitalizing on his trip to the area, Armen spent time in the Palestinian Territories as a jazz clinician for one week at the Al-Kamandjati Summer Music Camp, hosted by the Talitha Kumi Lutheran School in Beit Jala, and followed up at Edward Said National Conservatory of Music at Birzeit University with a three-day jazz piano clinic.

My wife, Dede '75 Barnard, and I are pleased to say that our son, Yoni '03, and daughter-in-law, Emily '03E, have presented us with our first grandson, Joshua Even, who was born in June. He joins his sister, Elisheva (2). Think there'll be some family pressure about which university they'll attend?

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As we enter the twilight of our youth, startlingly enough, some of us pass on. One such case is **Dennis Milton**, who passed away in early

June. Dennis was a judge in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for nine years after serving more than 25 years as a prosecutor, municipal attorney and litigator in private practice. From 1988–91, he was chief deputy attorney for Suffolk County, N.Y. Dennis was an active alumnus of Regis H.S., serving as president of the Alumni Association from 1987–89. He lived in Greenlawn, N.Y.

The June 7 edition of *The New Yorker* highlighted **Eugene Drucker** and the Emerson Quartet on pp. 80–81, discussing their then-new three-CD survey of Dvorak's later chamber works. Interesting reading.

We're light this edition, fellas. Someone sent me a response to a plea for notes that "nothing new has happened." In 37 years? The mind boggles. Let us know!

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A few months ago, *The New York Times* carried an article reporting on a recent Gallup poll that found that, starting at age 50, there was a sharp rise in the level of happiness reported. The article noted that many studies have found over the past years that "middle age" is generally the happiest time of life for a majority of Americans. (The most anxiety-ridden years are the 20s and early 30s. Take that, Gen Xers!) A few weeks later, the same publication said that those in the "middle age" group had overtaken those in their 80s as the group with the highest rate of suicide. Speculation is that this may be due to the increased financial stress and job loss in the enduring economic downturn.

One conclusion to reach is that the bulging baby boom generation

is large enough to contain both the most content and the most desperate. It also might indicate the need for all of us to stay in contact with each other in order to find the joy of old friends and to be there when those friends need our support.

Our mutual support might be especially important during times of transition, such as when we are moving — voluntarily or involuntarily — from working to retirement. For some it will feel like the ultimate success of a lifetime of hard work. For others, it will feel more like a workhorse being sent to the “glue factory.” As we enter the last few years of our 50s, I would expect we’ll hear a lot more tales of both. We’ll also hear from classmates of their different visions of “retirement.”

As of October 1, 2009, **Mike Rozza** clapped his last chalk eraser and retired as an NYC school-teacher. He said in a recent e-mail, “I think some of my Columbia English professors might be just a little surprised that I ended up teaching English for 30 years!”

Since “retiring,” Mike has continued to teach part-time in a program for the Specialized High School Institute that helps prepare “motivated, academically talented but economically less-advantaged middle school kids” for the standardized test to get into NYC’s top high schools, such as Stuyvesant and Bronx Science. He says, “It’s probable that the new group of seventh-graders I recently met may include several future applicants to the Class of 2020!”

To this I add, “Keep the dream alive.”

A last note from Mike: “I am still ‘happily unmarried’ to Melissa, whom I met at the Plimpton Hall Valentine’s Day party in our senior year.”

Ah, a story that brings a tear to our (wives’) eyes!

As part of the Class of ’75’s 35th reunion, the Classes of 1974 and 1976 were invited to join them at the Grateful Dead exhibition at the New-York Historical Society. There, I met, among others, Charlie Lindsay ’75, who is active in Chinese business ventures. I suggested he contact **Don Koblitz** (general counsel of Volkswagen for China) for advice in dealing with China’s “red tape.” While looking up Don’s e-mail address, I happened upon **Tom Polin**, among Columbia alumni living in China. Seems that Tom, a longtime reporter for *Asiaweek* magazine, has retired and still lives in Hong Kong. I’ll dig deeper to find out what he is up to these days.

A classmate who says he has no plans to retire soon is **Jerry Sanchy**. Jerry has a general law practice in

Torrington, Conn., and lives happily (according to Gallup) with his wife and four sons (19, 17, 13 and 4). He says that the addition of his latest child means, “There is no early retirement for me!” While lawyers **Jon Cuneo** and **Abbe Lowell** were the dueling champions for youngest offspring (by my incomplete records), lawyer Jerry seems to have beaten them. (What’s with the correlation of lawyers and fertility?)

The mention of **Abbe Lowell** made me recall the recent article in the *New York Post* that said “high-powered Washington defense lawyer Abbe Lowell” had been named the interim attorney of the former Scores stripper/wife of jailed money manager Kenneth Starr. (While Abbe obviously has a lot of more significant clients to represent, I have to include a little prurient patter in order to make sure you read the rest of the column!)

With the BP oil spill filling the nightly airwaves, it seemed time to talk with our National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration classmate, **Evan Forde**, to find out whether the spill might enter the “loop current” and spoil the Florida coast. With a master’s in marine geology and geophysics and 36 years with NOAA, Evan knows a lot about how to look for oil underwater and via currents. Unfortunately, as of the early July deadline of this column, Evan confirmed that the loop current was both real and powerful. I’ll try to reach other classmates working in the oil industry to find out what insights they can add.

There you have it. A choice between happiness and despair in “middle age.” Classmates retiring but continuing to contribute. And new progeny continuing to add to our mosaic. There are a lot more stories to follow. Stay tuned!

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Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010 (our 35th!) is over, and a great time was had by all. In addition to the good times, the class did very well for Columbia College. We met the goal for our Reunion Gift: more than \$575,000 in unrestricted funds, with substantially more when all categories are considered. By meeting our class dollar goal, John Kluge ’37 will establish a financial aid endowment in honor of our class upon the realization of his bequest. Many classmates upgraded their John Jay Associates membership or became John Jay Associates members. All of your Class Agents deserve our gratitude for their work to meet our goal and secure the scholarship endowment. **Bob Katz** summed it up best: “We are proud that a deserving young man or woman will have part of his or her college expenses paid with a scholarship provided by our class.” **Ira Malin** deserves special thanks and credit for his extraordinary leadership of the Class Agent Program.

Updates from attendees and other reunion items will fill Class

### Poet Fernando Castro ’75 received a Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs Individual Artist Fellowship.

Not since news of a few years back of **Brad Higgins** being appointed as the COO of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq have we been able to report on a new appointment of a classmate (or relation) to the national leadership. Thanks to **Dewey Cole** (or more accurately, his law-student son), we learn that **Richard Briffault**’s wife, Sherry Glied, has been appointed by President Obama as the assistant secretary for planning and evaluation for the Department of Health and Human Services. Sherry had to step down from her position as chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Mailman School of Public Health, but you can be assured that we can all feel more comfortable about the evolution of our nation’s healthcare system.

Notes for the next couple of issues. But there also is news to share from others, so I’ll mix it up a little bit.

After all of the work, planning and anticipation, I missed reunion. Darn! Car and cat troubles! I did ask for other eyes, ears and scribes “on the ground,” and your classmates helped. I received e-mail updates during the weekend from “the regulars,” and **Steve Jacobs** and **Bob Schneider** left a message after the Saturday dinner at Casa Italiana. **Jim Dolan**, who lives in Baltimore, where I recently moved, attended my housewarming party (with his wife, Yasmin) the next week, so I heard some news firsthand. I have great pictures of Jim and Yasmin on my roof deck from the party. Maybe you’ll see one on Jim’s Facebook page soon.

One of the class highlights of

reunion was a private party at “Grateful Dead: Now Playing at the New-York Historical Society.” Classmates, friends and guests from CC ’74 and CC ’76 had a private party at the exhibit, which features the first traveling collection of materials on loan from the Dead’s own vast archive of art, documents, photographs and memorabilia, which the band donated in 2008 to UC Santa Cruz.

While we celebrate our 35th reunion, we also send condolences to the family and friends of **Joseph F. Slade III**, a physician and professor of orthopedics and rehabilitation from Guilford, Conn., who passed in May.

Poet **Fernando Castro** was one of the recipients of the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs Individual Artist Fellowships. The fellowships are annual awards given by the Department of Cultural Affairs to 15 established visual, literary and performing artists who live and work in Los Angeles. Each COLA grant recipient receives a commission to create new work that is showcased in a non-thematic group exhibition, a series of performances, special events and a catalog. Fernando’s new work explores the notion of place, real and imaginary, and the myth and spirit of Los Angeles.

Fernando couldn’t make reunion, as he was in China. In 25 days, he toured Beijing, Xi’an, Chengdu, Guilin, Shanghai and Hong Kong. The language barrier was frustrating. He wished for subtitles but discovered the magic of pointing: directions from the hotel desk, the Chinese writings of maps, phrase books and mimicry skills. Since 1979, somehow a scary Red Communist Mao turned into a Confucius patriarchal figure and the country went on triple overdrive into a market economy. While American cities skimp on services, there is plenty of money to do gigantic infrastructure, keep parks clean and build ambitious complexes such as for the Olympics or the World Fair. (Does investing in the United States render that much funding?) Fernando says he came back to the States with more questions than answers.

After years of service to the NYC City area with the MTA, **Gary Delaverson** now is special counsel at Proskauer Rose. Proskauer, founded in 1875, is an international law firm providing a variety of legal services to clients worldwide from offices in Boca Raton, Boston, Chicago, Hong Kong, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Newark, Paris, São Paulo and Washington, D.C.

By my still-unofficial determination, **Peter Garza-Zavaleta** traveled the farthest to be on Morningside Heights for reunion, coming from Sarasota, Fla. Peter and I reconnect-

# Alumni Sons and Daughters

*Fifty-seven members of the College Class of 2014 and three members of the SEAS Class of 2014 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent's last name.*

STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT
Anastasia Barnes	Edward Barnes '79 Manhasset, N.Y. • Manhasset H.S.	Alexander Jonokuchi	Vivian Jonokuchi '90 Greenwich, Conn. • Brunswick School	Sarah Perez	James Perez '73 New York City • Ramaz Upper School
Ari Berg	Howard Berg '76 West Orange, N.J. • Kushner Yeshiva H.S.	Samuel Kazer	Ross Kazer '68 Englewood, Colo. • Cherry Creek H.S.	Abigail Pucker	Michael Pucker '83 Chicago • Walter Payton College Preparatory School
Kate Berger	Barry Berger '75 Englewood, N.J. • Fieldston School	Joanna Kelly	Michael Kelly '79 Wilmington, Del. • Tower Hill School	Kathryn Reggio	William Reggio '84 North Massapequa, N.Y. • Friends Academy
Marcus Bonvillian	William Bonvillian '69 Great Falls, Va. • St. Andrews Episcopal School	Noah Kolatch	Jonathan Kolatch '78 Englewood, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School	Bessie Rentzler	Joel Rentzler '62 New York City • Stuyvesant H.S.
Nathan Bram	Jonathan Bram '87 Bronx, N.Y. • Fieldston School	Benjamin Kreitman	Stuart Kreitman '79 Palo Alto, Calif. • Henry M. Gunn Senior H.S.	Elena Ripp *	Marc Ripp '80 Short Hills, N.J. • Millburn H.S.
Justin Brathwaite	Evan Brathwaite Sr. '79 Brooklyn, N.Y. • Xaverian H.S.	Jordan Lebovic	Saul Lebovic '83 Scarsdale, N.Y. • Ramaz Upper School	Grace Rosen	Gideon Rosen '84 Princeton, N.J. • Princeton H.S.
Jane Brennan	Douglas Brennan '87 Ossining, N.Y. • Croton-Harmon H.S.	Rebecca Lebwohl *	Nathan Lebwohl '79 Surfside, Fla. • Rabbi A.S. Gross Hebrew Academy	Andrew Seife	Alan Seife '79 White Plains, N.Y. • White Plains H.S.
Leigh Colvin	Geoffrey Colvin '74 New York City • Trinity School	Eva Levy	Carlos Daniel Levy '75 ** West Hollywood, Calif. • Harvard-Westlake School	Eugene Stelow	Joshua Stelow '80 San Antonio • Texas Military Institute
Margaret D'Arcy	Sean D'Arcy '81 Mt. Vernon, N.Y. • Ursuline School	Douglas Lopez	Edward Lopez '82 Pleasanton, Calif. • College Preparatory School	Julia Straus	Daniel Straus '78 Englewood, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School
Andrew Dugue	Gabriel Dugue '82 New Hyde Park, N.Y. • New Hyde Park Memorial H.S.	Andrew Lopez-Balboa	Victor Lopez-Balboa '82 New York City • St. Paul's School	Jacob Sunshine	Andrew Sunshine '79 New York City • Stuyvesant H.S.
Emma Ziegellaub Eichler	Richard Eichler '76 New York City • Stuyvesant H.S.	Rebekah Lowin	Leeam Lowin '66 Greenwich, Conn. • Greenwich Academy	Elliot Taffet	Allan Taffet '81 Ardsley, N.Y. • Ardsley H.S.
Steven Evans	Steven Evans '81 Upper St. Clair, Pa. • Upper St. Clair H.S.	Elie Kaplan-Marans	Hillel Marans '76 Lawrence, N.Y. • Hebrew Academy Five Towns	Christina Vlahos	Louis Vlahos '84 Port Washington, N.Y. • Paul D. Schreiber Senior H.S.
Gabriel Falk	Elliot Falk '74 Riverdale, N.Y. • SAR H.S.	Dara Marans	Zvi Marans '79 Teaneck, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School	William Falk-Wallace	Edward Wallace '71 Andover, Mass. • Phillips Academy Andover
Camille Richardson	Gary Friday '73 Bertown, Pa. • Lawrenceville School	Michael May	Morgan May '67 New York City • Stuyvesant H.S.	Isaac White	Jonathan White '85 Port Washington, N.Y. • Paul D. Schreiber Senior H.S.
Rachel Garfinkel	Arthur Garfinkel '67 Santa Clarita, Calif. • Buckley School	Camilla Mazzolini	Renato Mazzolini '69 Monaco • Lycée Albert Premier	Yael Wiesenfeld	Batia Wiesenfeld '88 Scarsdale, N.Y. • Scarsdale H.S.
Jerome Genova	Leonard Genova '85 Massapequa Park, N.Y. • Chaminade H.S.	Kyle McCormick	Paul McCormick '78 Ridgewood, N.J. • Immaculate Heart Academy	Gideon Wolf	Edward Wolf '76 Baltimore • Beth Tfiloh Community H.S.
Reza Gheissari	Ali Gheissari '79 La Canada, Calif. • Flintridge Preparatory School	Dalia Mnaymneh	Sami Mnaymneh '81 London, U.K. • American School in London	* Member of the SEAS Class of 2014 ** Deceased	
Morgan Goodman	Marc Goodman '76 Honolulu • Punahou School	Joshua Muniz *	Peter Muniz '86 Fox River Grove, Ill. • Choate Rosemary Hall	Eight incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.	
Olivia Harris	Herbert Harris '64 Brooklyn, N.Y. • Brearley School	Robert Muzikowski	Robert Muzikowski Sr. '78 Chicago • Chicago Hope Academy	STUDENT	PARENT
Elena Holodny	Andrei Holodny '84 Demarest, N.J. • Northern Valley Regional H.S.	Yael Neugut	Alfred Neugut '72 Teaneck, N.J. • Frisch School	Samuel Bodkin	John Bodkin '78
Quinn Jackson	Donald Jackson '73 New York City • Fieldston School	Emma O'Connor	Stephen O'Connor '74 New York City • St. Ann's School	Claudia Brodsky	Kevin Crotty '71
Wesley Johnson	Theodore Johnson '81 Brooklyn, N.Y. • Millennium H.S.	Alexander Ortiz	Angel Ortiz '81 Garden City, N.Y. • Chaminade H.S.	Trevor Cohen	Gary Cohen '81
				Mary Escherich	Kyle Escherich '81
				Zac Kornberg	Thomas Kornberg '70
				Joseph Pomp	Martin Pomp '67
				Bennett Rosnick	Lyle Rosnick '70
				David Strauch	Robert Strauch '82

ed about two years ago and have been talking about reunion since. Peter also was enticed by the Glee Club reunion and concert, held as part of Dean's Day. I've asked him for a report on the Glee Club reunion, and by writing this now, I am really putting him on the spot! [Editor's note: Also see "Alumni Corner."] Peter visited his sister in NYC and brought her to reunion events, and then spent part of June and July visiting family in Texas.

We all learned (much earlier than our Columbia days) "one man, one vote." Voters in Port Chester, N.Y., recently experienced cumulative voting, in which residents get six votes each to apportion among the candidates. They rejected a government proposal to break the village into six districts, including one that took in heavily Hispanic areas. Although the village of about 30,000 residents is nearly half Hispanic, no Latino had ever been elected to any of the six trustee seats, which until now were chosen in a conventional at-large election. **Randolph McLaughlin**, who represented a plaintiff in the lawsuit, said the goal was not merely to encourage more Hispanics to vote but "to create a system whereby the Hispanic community would be able to nominate and elect a candidate of their choice."

**Robert Morgan** is of counsel at Emmet, Marvin & Martin in New York City. He earned a J.D. from Vanderbilt before being admitted to the bar in New York and Tennessee.

Firm managing director at Wilamette Management Associates **Robert Reilly** recently received the prestigious Institute of Business Appraisers (IBA) literary award for the Best Business Valuation Article of the year. Robert received this literary recognition for his article, "Intellectual Property Appraisal During a Distressed Economy." That article was published in the 2009 Third Quarter issue of *Business Appraisal Practice*, the IBA's quarterly professional journal. Robert accepted the award at the 2010 Annual Consultants Conference, co-sponsored by IBA and the National Association of Certified Valuation Analysts. Robert was honored in 2009 with IBA's Best Publication of the Year literary award for the book *Guide to Property Tax Valuation*, co-authored with partner Bob Schweih.

Some people's job is real estate and real estate is their hobby as well. **David J. Wine**, a vice-chairman of Related Cos., spends his days in Manhattan toiling over intricate design and marketing plans for commercial real-estate development. For fun, he toils over plans for a private residential development deal. David spent

the past few years planning and building an oceanfront house in Bridgehampton, Long Island, and he recently put it on the market for \$14.95 million. Now that the house is just about finished, David spends his time going to garden tours and open houses.

After a few deep breaths, the "regulars" are back at work planning things to keep us busy for the next five years. In this age of social networking and with the tools for oral histories and other types of documentaries, we're talking about using both tools to foster communications and capture and share more of our individual and collective Columbia histories. And, of course, our efforts to continue supporting Columbia College in its mission always will be part of our work. When called and asked for support, please be generous.

Finally, from all of the class, especially those who worked on and attended reunion 2010, a huge thank you to Kimberly Peterson, associate director, alumni affairs, and to Sam Boyer, assistant director, Columbia College Fund, who provided the ultimate in guidance and support throughout the last year.

On to our 40th in 2015!

**REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5**  
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My former Riverside Drive apartment-mate **Jim Kelleher** now is director of research and senior analyst at Argus Research in New York. McGraw-Hill is publishing his book, *Equity Valuation for Analysts and Investors*, which builds on decades of investment valuation experience during which Jim has built financial models for hundreds of companies in nearly every sector and industry. The book introduces a proprietary methodology, Peer Derived Value, that values an equity based on the stock's current variation from its historical relation to a user-specified peer group.

"Things are lively at a small Wall Street firm trying to weather two market collapses just since the millennium turn," Jim reports. "As research director, I've helped develop and refine the investment

analysis process for new analysts. I run the company's weekly investment meeting, host client conference calls, manage several model portfolios, co-manage the Argus Focus List and prepare the Argus daily Technical Analysis product. As a senior analyst, I continue to cover communications technology (equipment and semiconductors) and electronic manufacturing services. Along the way, I became a chartered financial analyst and a three-time winner in *The Wall Street Journal's* 'Best on the Street' All-Star Analyst Survey."

Jim lives in northern Westchester county with his wife, Marie Ferguson, and their kids, Angus (12), Jack (9) and Wallis (4).

"I know, I lag the '76 average on kids' ages by 10-15 years; keeping me young, I guess."

Apologies to **Robert Siegfried**, whose name I misspelled in the May/June column.

**77** **David Gorman**  
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This is one of those rare columns without news. I hope everyone is ferociously busy finding and keeping a place in the new economy or, even better, taking advantage of rock-bottom hotel rates in Iceland. But please do write in!

**78** **Matthew Nemerson**  
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Sorry folks, again, a slow month with no news coming in and your humble scribe a bit too maxed out to collect it by hand. We had a good run for 30 years, and we have hit a dry patch of late. Let's see if we can draft a few letters while sitting on the deck in the Hamptons or on Nantucket and send them in.

We are in the midst of an exciting (well, it is if you like politics) race for governor here in Connecticut, and my organization has been compiling useful information and policy ideas for all the candidates. At the end of July, the family traveled for two weeks in China.

Hope to see you at Homecoming on Saturday, October 23, and to hear from you soon.

**79** **Robert Klapper**  
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**Ralph Keen** has been named the Arthur J. Schmitt Chair in Catholic

studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Ralph, a historian specializing in early-modern Catholicism, most recently was a professor of religious studies at the University of Iowa.

**Walter F. Schleimer** '82L recently joined the 550-lawyer Texas-based firm of Haynes & Boone. He will be a partner in the New York office and continue to practice real estate and finance law.

**Robert C. Klapper**: "In the past year, two of my marble sculptures were featured in an art exhibition at the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. The exhibit is dedicated to injured war veterans, and the show will move around the country over the next several years. The exhibit, *Wounded in Action*, will travel from New Orleans to the State Senate to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the United Nations. (They have a website, [www.woundedinactionart.org](http://www.woundedinactionart.org), if you want to check it out.)

"The reason I mention it is because this passion has enriched my life so profoundly. The joy I get from sculpting in marble — both in Italy and in my studio in Manhattan Beach, Calif., also reaches many of my patients who proudly tell their friends that their surgeon is an artist. None of this joy would have happened if I had not attended Columbia and been forced to learn something I had no interest in or knowledge of coming from the streets of Far Rockaway. As I get older, I realize that the things you really want in life are those that are priceless. The education that the Core Curriculum gave us all was just that, priceless.

"Till next time, God bless!"

**80** **Michael C. Brown**  
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"Football combines the two worst things about America: it is violence punctuated by committee meetings."  
—George Will

The fall is such a great time to be in NYC with the wonderful weather, changing of the leaves and plenty of good football to watch. The Lions are coming off their best league finish in six years, and coach Norries Wilson's team is ready for that breakout year. I hope to see you at Homecoming on Saturday, October 23! [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads."]

Our 30th Alumni Reunion Weekend was a success with the Class of '80 exceeding expectations on both attendance and commit-

ment to the College. We owe **David Leahy** our gratitude for his hosting of the cocktail party at the NYAC. **John Metaxis, Josh Stolow** and **John Schutty** had a great conversation on the state of the Big Apple. **Neil Sader** was impressed with the new baseball stadium at Baker Field and hopes to see his son play there. On Friday night, we had a walking tour of the High Line conducted by **Kevin Baker**. His historical prospective of this 1930s elevated railway turned into a public park was enlightening. We then went to Gaslight's G2 Lounge for a reception with Dean Michele Moody-Adams. **Jim Gerkis, Bruce Paulson** and **Van Gothern** enjoyed the festivities over martinis.

On Saturday afternoon, I hosted a discussion on the College in the same classroom in which many of us studied *Don Quixote* with Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. **Kevin Matthews** did a wonderful job with his perspective as both a parent and executive of the institution. **Jeff Field** reminded us that 30 years ago the acceptance rate was about 40 percent, compared with 9 percent today, which made us all thankful for our timing. Saturday night, **Jon Dahl** gave an enlightening speech at our dinner on the future of the financial system. It was great to see **Dave Malouf, Sam McPherson** and **Stephen Kane**. On behalf of the Reunion Committee, I thank you all for coming to the event.

**Greg Semler** won the longest drive contest for his trek from Portland, Ore., to reunion. Greg is the co-founder and managing director at Pivotal Investments, a venture capital firm focusing on growth companies in the Northwest. He is a clean tech entrepreneur with more than 20 years of experience financing high growth companies.

I look forward to seeing you at Baker Athletics Complex for Homecoming on Saturday, October 23, and always feel free to drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

#### REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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**Jeff Pundyk**  
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Although they look somewhat underdressed without their freshman beanies, **Jay Lee, Dan Tampkin** and **Harvey Cotton** represented the Class of '81 in the Alumni Parade of

Classes during Class Day. Since all three have full heads of hair and do not have significant weight gain, I'd say they are a perfect representation of our class 29 years after graduation. Jay reports:

"We had a great time coming back to Columbia for the College's Alumni Parade of Classes. It was a real honor and joy to represent the Class of '81. The day started with a fancy breakfast at the John Jay Dining Hall, where we reminisced while receiving our Class Day Pins. We then gathered outside the building where each class' banner was handed out.

"We casually chatted to pass the time before collectively marching toward Butler Library, where the parade started. We then started the formal traditional procession along the path between the fields as the Class of '10 cheered us on. The cheering was so loud and enthusiastic that as we walked by holding our class banners, we could not help getting a little sentimental. It certainly was one of the best post-CC moments in nearly three decades for me."

I'm happy to relay that **Bob Zinna** has rejoined the workforce, as a system programmer working at Austin Community College. Perhaps this will force Bob to drop the golf clubs and slowly back away from the tee.

**Kevin Bilms** has managed to simultaneously lose his mind and get into great shape: "Not much to report here, except that, in my dotage, I have taken up distance running. I ruptured three lumbar disks in 2008 and was unable to walk for two months. As I recuperated, my neurosurgeon told me that walking was great exercise for my back — the more the better. I figured that since running is really nothing more than fast walking (in my case not too fast), I started running. A mile, then 5k, 10k and so on. I ran my first half-marathon at Virginia Beach on St. Patrick's Day, and in a fit of foolish elation, submitted an entry for the NYC Marathon. Never having won anything in my life, I figured there was no chance my name would be drawn in the lottery. It was (luck of the Irish, I guess). So, come Sunday, November 7, I will be slogging through the five boroughs, and no doubt cursing the dementia that made me think this would be fun. My daughter Joanie '12 and her friends have all promised to meet me at the finish line. I only hope that they won't have to carry me across."

While Kevin takes to the streets, **Steven R. Buchman** takes a seat, although in a comfy endowed chair. Steven was inaugurated on June 10 as the first M. Haskell Newman Professor in Plastic Surgery at the

University of Michigan Medical School. He is the chief of pediatric plastic surgery and director of the Craniofacial Anomalies Program at the C.S. Mott Children's Hospital, and he holds a joint appointment as a professor of neurosurgery. The endowed chair was awarded to Steven for his distinguished service in the reconstruction of children with congenital deformities, his clinical teaching and his NIH R01-funded research. As a tip of the hat to his education at Columbia College, Steven's lecture at the inauguration was titled "Guiding Telemachus on the Road to Knowledge."

Still more so-called news from the relentless **Ed Klees**: He co-chaired a presentation and published a paper on investment law at the annual meeting of the National Association of College and University Attorneys, held in Washington, D.C., on June 28. Ed also will speak at *Institutional Investor* magazine's annual hedge fund conference in San Francisco in September.

**Fred Meyers** takes time out from sitting on his porch and yelling at those pesky neighbor kids to check in:

"For 30 years, banks gave me money when they shouldn't have, but now that they should, they won't. There is some real existential humor in that that only a Core Curriculum education could teach one to appreciate. My oldest daughter completed her freshman year at Elon College, and I am dismayed by how little she actually learned that I would consider of value, but I guess the Columbia curmdudgeons have been saying that for years. If anyone out there needs logo shirts (minimum order four shirts, great prices, unconditional 10-year guarantee) you automatically qualify for the CC '81 discount. (Custom logo shirts: [www.queensboro.com](http://www.queensboro.com).) And if any of you happen to be the CEO of Wachovia/Wells Fargo, up yours! Best to my brethren (we can still say that safely!) and don't worry, things are actually going pretty well."

**Roger Keller** has a slightly more upbeat world view: "God continues to be good to me and my family. I am blessed to have a job I enjoy where I can make a difference. I am a milieu therapist on a tuberculosis unit. I run into all kinds of folks, many very troubled. It is my job to help them follow through with their treatment by helping them with activities and setting up a supportive, friendly and responsive environment. I intervene to resolve problems. A few of the staff meet regularly to pray. God is concerned with these suffering folks, and we pray for them regularly. I saw one man who was not long for this world. His eyes were glassy and he was

not responsive. And suddenly he turned around and was able to leave in a wheelchair. The life had returned to his eyes, and he was laughing and talking with his family. The medical staff said they didn't know what happened. It looked like he had decided to get better. But we knew that God had answered our prayers."

Lastly, I leave you with a note of lovely continuity: Patricia and **Steve Masiar** are soon to celebrate 29 years of marriage. They were married by Fr. Paul Dinter, then Catholic chaplain at Columbia. **Rob Canning** was best man.

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**Andrew Weisman**  
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Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio: a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy; he hath borne me on his back a thousand times; and now, how abhorred in my imagination it is! For still extant he would have risen from his keester and made fair contribution to this missive.

How's that for some impromptu editorial throat clearing? By way of warning, I'm going to start with Zs and work my way back until I've rustled some commentary from every one of you; even if your response is nothing more than a devil-may-care "Aroint thee, rump-fed reunion!"

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**Roy Pomerantz**  
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Greetings, classmates.

**Robert Hughes**: "It was an unexpected, but pleasant, surprise to see the mention in the May/June Class Notes. But it seems that the edition of *The New York Times* that you read is different from the one I read. Or perhaps there's another Robert Hughes working in a parallel universe to preserve old horses and help their owners avoid liability. In my universe, I work to preserve historic houses and try to ensure that preservation of those houses does not impede their livability. Since we're on the subject, I recently secured a \$400,000 grant from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (and you thought it had no money) to restore and expand a historic building used to house the Huntington Historical Society's extensive archive of historic records. In the last several years, we have raised by donations

and grants more than \$1 million to restore various properties in the National Register Old Town Hall historic district in Huntington's downtown.

"I also am working to restore the last home of John Coltrane, who moved to the Dix Hills section of Huntington in 1964. Considered by many around the world to be a spiritual as well as a musical landmark, as it was where Coltrane composed his masterpiece *A Love Supreme*, the home has been vacant for about 10 years. We are assembling a board of directors to help steer the restoration project and create innovative programming that will spread the Coltrane legacy. If any of Columbia's Coltrane fans are interested in getting involved, I'd be happy to hear from them.

"You may want to note that **Marcus Brauchli**, who now is the executive editor at *The Washington Post*, was the keynote speaker at *Spectator's* annual Blue Pencil Dinner. Marcus spoke to the aspiring journalists about the future of journalism. After the dinner, a few of us old-timers and many of the students gathered at Haakon's Hall on Amsterdam Avenue, where Marcus and Stuart Karle '82 sat on the backs of their chairs and the current *Spec* staff literally sat at their feet to seek their advice and absorb their words of wisdom."

Robert, I'm sorry for butchering your write-up in *The New York Times*. It highlights why you were publisher of *Spectator*, and I was the campus juggler/clown.

In the *New York Times Book Review*, Lloyd Grove critiques Sarah Ellison's new book, *War at The Wall Street Journal: Inside the Struggle to Control an American Business Empire*. She notes, "**Marcus Brauchli**, the top-ranking editor at the time of the sale, worked diligently on a detailed editorial-independence agreement that, in a version Murdoch rejected, would have created an advisory board to vet personnel choices and would presumably have protected senior editors from the new owner's whims. Brauchli tried to meet Murdoch's mandate that the *Journal* drop its idiosyncratic identity to cover breaking national stories and beat the *Times*. But his efforts to placate the boss came to naught. He lasted less than a year before Murdoch forced his resignation."

My son, Ricky (2), modeled several Easter fashions on *The Today Show*. A photo of my wife's 1979 Hunter College Elementary School class appeared in *The New York Times* article, "Meet the Kagans." Elena Kagan's mother, Gloria Kagan, was their teacher.

**Miguel Estrada** received heavy praise from Supreme Court nomi-

nee Kagan. *The New York Times* reports, "As they had on Tuesday, Republicans extracted an endorsement from Ms. Kagan of Miguel Estrada, a former law school classmate and longtime friend of Ms. Kagan's whose nomination to the federal appeals court was blocked by Democrats when George W. Bush was president. On Tuesday, Ms. Kagan testified that Mr. Estrada was qualified to sit on not only the appeals court, but also the Supreme Court. On Wednesday, Mr. Coburn demanded to know if she would have voted for him. 'I would have,' she said, before amending her comment to hedge just a bit."

Castle Connolly Medical is the publisher of *America's Top Doctors*. In a full-page announcement in *The New York Times*, it listed **David Kriegel** as one of the selections. David also was listed in *New York Magazine's* Top Doctors. He is a board-certified dermatologist and specializes in Mohs micrographic skin cancer surgery and cosmetic laser surgery.

I was blown away by the full-page First Republic Bank ad in *The New York Times Magazine* section featuring a photo of **Daniel Schultz** and Ross Goldstein, co-founders and managing directors of DFJ Gotham Ventures. They state: "First Republic always meets our needs. They move quickly to customize solutions for us."

**David Lyle**: "Mary Charlotte Lyle-Murray, 6 lbs., 10 ozs., and Frances Elizabeth Lyle-Murray, 5 lbs., 7 ozs., were delivered at 1:51 p.m. and 1:52 p.m. on July 7. Both girls and their gestational carrier, Suzanne, are thriving. My spouse, Charles Douglas Murray, and I stayed in Sacramento with them until July 28 to let them put on weight before they join the jet set and fly home to Nashville. The squeaking noise coming from this part of California is the sound of our hearts getting wrapped ever more tightly around their little fingers."

"Just moments before I wrote my first note to you about the twins, **Ben Heimsath** and his wife, Sandi, drove away from our house in Nashville after an overnight visit. They're on their way home to Austin after driving to and from New Hampshire for a two-week holiday. It reminds me that Texan Ben always has been a demon about long drives. He and I ended our freshman year by getting a Karmann Ghia through a drive-away service (for transporting other peoples' cars), which we drove at one sitting from the Carman Hall gate on Broadway to my parents' home in Nashville. We had gone through most of New Jersey before we realized this thing had a fifth gear, and

we'd been in fourth the whole time. We had thought the tachometer was running kind of fast. After 14 hours, we hit Nashville, and Ben continued the next day to Austin, another 14 hours. Ben's architecture firm continues to thrive and to do interesting work. Classmates can see some of it at Heimsath.com."

I caught up with **Doug Novins** in between our respective travels. Doug and his wife, Andrea, live in Denver with their daughters, Sylvie (15), a sophomore at Denver's East H.S., and Lena (12), a seventh-grader at Denver School of the Arts. Andrea '83 GW, '89 Brooklyn Law, recently left a small law practice to be a career counselor at the University of Denver's Sturm College of Law. Doug was promoted to professor of child, adolescent and general psychiatry at the University of Colorado's School of Medicine. Doug has spent most of his career focusing on improving mental health and substance abuse services for American Indian and Alaskan native people across the United States. His research has been supported by several NIH institutes and has included work with a southeastern tribe to develop an intervention for their traumatized youth with substance use problems that blends Western psychotherapeutic approaches, such as cognitive behavioral therapy, with traditional native healing. For the last 12 years, Doug has directed a technical assistance center for tribes and tribal organizations that receive federal funding to redesign their children's mental health services. He also has been a leading advocate of the use of videoconferencing to provide mental health services to Native communities that do not have easy access to specialty care and uses videoconferencing himself for serving his native patients in Alaska. Doug is particularly proud of having finally found the time, perseverance and wisdom to put together his first Boston Marathon qualifying performance last year and had a great time at this year's race (where he qualified again).

"The amazing people I've met and worked with at Columbia and in my life since have reinforced some of my core personality traits — humility, listening hard and working harder — while also pushing me to overcome my inherent shyness," he says.

**David Rubel**: "I work in publishing as a book producer (also known as a book packager). My company is Agincourt Press, and my business is similar to that of an independent film producer. In much the same way that Warner Bros. gives Oliver Stone \$150 million to make a movie that Warner Bros. will market and distribute, publishers hire me to create books

that they will market and distribute. (Of course, these publishers pay me considerably less than Warner Bros. pays Oliver Stone.). Some of the Agincourt titles I write; others, involving more well-known authors, I edit. For all, I manage the creative process from the idea stage through publication, which makes my job consistently interesting and satisfying. As Marx wrote about alienation, it's important to see one's self in one's work. I'm fortunate that I get to do that."

"Another benefit of my work is that it allows me to live in the country. My wife of 15 years, Julia, likes to say that I've never left home (she's from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan), but that's only because she defines 'home' quite broadly. In fact, 14 years ago, we moved to Chatham, N.Y., a small town in the Hudson Valley about two hours north of the city. My office is on Chatham's one-block-long Main Street, but we have DSL and a FedEx box, so I can work just as effectively as I did when my office was on Lafayette Street in SoHo. I write for both adults and children — mostly, but not exclusively, about American history. Classmates may even have one of my children's books on their shelves and not know it. Several have told me that they picked up my encyclopedia of the presidents at a Scholastic book fair only to notice months or years later that my name was on the cover."

"Because book deadlines are much longer than the newspaper ones I used to work under as sports editor of *Spectator*, I typically get to enjoy a rural pace. I drop my children (a 12-year-old daughter and 11-year-old son) off each morning at the local middle school and drive another three blocks to work. Even with this detour, my commute is just 10 minutes. I also get home most evenings early enough to cook dinner. During the summer, we get our vegetables from the large garden in back of the house. Over the years, I've been active in the area of local food. I took part in a campaign to keep farming economically feasible in the town, and for five years, I hosted a program on Northeast Public Radio, *What's for Dinner?*, that featured fresh meals parents could make for their children on school nights. If anyone's interested, I'm in the process of transferring them to my new blog (aouthardavidrubel.blogspot.com). I've also begun to dabble in wine- and cheesemaking. When the revolution comes, I'm planning to be well-fed!"

Lastly, I had an enjoyable telephone conversation with **Eric Epstein**. Eric and his dad are tireless Columbia supporters, and Eric is looking forward to our 30th reunion.

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Dr. **Adam P. Dicker**, also a Ph.D., has been appointed chairman of the Department of Radiation Oncology at Jefferson Medical College, Thomas Jefferson University (where one of the residents is Dr. Nitin Ohr '03E). Adam is an international authority in radiation oncology, drug development and the treatment of prostate cancer and brain tumors. He is proud to announce that his daughter, Michal, will attend Barnard in the fall.

**Bruce Skyer**, aka "Baruch of the Buckboard" and "Blotto Band Booster," checks in: "As of April 1, I am the COO of the National Kidney Foundation. NKF is dedicated to preventing kidney and urinary tract diseases, improving the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by kidney disease, and increasing the availability of all organs for transplantation. I am responsible for maximizing the effectiveness of our operations to pursue our mission and meet the objectives of the foundation and its many volunteers. As you can imagine, this is a wonderful opportunity about which I am incredibly excited.

"All alumni should feel free to contact me to donate or to learn of sponsorship opportunities of our many events: bruce.skyer@kidney.org."

**Jim Satloff** started a new gig as executive chairman of InvestorForce, a financial services data company that operates in the institutional investment arena. He maintains his position as chairman of Liberty Skis, the Colorado-based independent ski manufacturer. Jim recently had lunch with his former suitemate, **Frank Sommerfield**, and Barnard alumnae Kay Diaz and Margie Smith. Jim's wife, Emily, was named "America's top new jewelry designer" by *Vogue*, and her wares can be seen either at Barneys shops around the country or on her website ([www.larkspurandhawk.com](http://www.larkspurandhawk.com)), in both cases under her trade name of Larkspur & Hawk. Jim laments that buying jewelry for her now is "like bringing coals to Newcastle." Jim also recently attended a ceremony honoring his father, Aaron '56, for 50 years of continual medical practice in Jim's hometown of Rochester, N.Y.

**Reggie Henderson** sends the following announcement: "Several members of the Class of '84 were in the now-defunct Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity, which had lots of track and rugby players. Phi Ep held an

all-classes reunion on July 31 at the Amsterdam Restaurant and Tapas Lounge at 1207 Amsterdam Ave. You can find more info on Facebook, or e-mail Reggie: reggiepv@rochester.rr.com.

**David Stafford** and his wife, Caryn Tager '85 Barnard, celebrated the bar mitzvah of their son, Andrew, on June 13. David is a v.p. and associate general counsel at The McGraw-Hill Companies, where he's worked since 1992, having returned to the company's legal department after a three-year rotation working as the chief of staff to the company's chairman and CEO. David and his wife live in Scarsdale, N.Y., with their children. In addition to Andrew, they have a son, Daniel (16), and a daughter, Allison (9). David says his life these days revolves around his kids, including tons of weekend sports events. He reports that Allison is the all-around athlete that he always wished he could be. David plays tennis regularly, and he looks fondly back on his time at Columbia. He said he's thrilled to see the school enjoy a surge in popularity and with it, a growing reputation as one of the top and most coveted academic institutions in the country.

**Heather Paxton '85 is the author of four books with an emphasis on Kansas City history, and works with *The Independent* there.**

After eight years as the chief administrative law judge for New York City, **Roberto Velez** will become v.p. for corporate compliance and counsel at Promesa, an organization that provides a range of services to Bronx communities. Roberto has purchased a home in Riverdale, the Bronx, and moved in late June with his wife, Natalie, and daughter, Noelle. Roberto is very proud that Noelle will be attending the prestigious Fiorello H. LaGuardia School of Music & Art and Performing Arts.

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After many months of planning, our 25th reunion has come and gone. I was not sure I knew what to expect, but I can report that everyone (myself included) seemed to have had a wonderful time. There are many stories to tell ... and I will use the next several columns to relate some of the weekend's activities, as well as my notes from those

who were there. My apologies in advance for not getting to everyone. Please send me an update with additional info.

On the fundraising side, I am pleased to report that the Class of '85 exceeded every benchmark from previous years. Six years ago, our class raised \$29,000. Five years ago, we improved to slightly more than \$100,000 (this level was approximately maintained the last several years). This year, our class raised approximately \$325,000 in unrestricted funds (with athletics receiving additional donations in excess of \$100,000). By meeting our class dollar goal, John Kluge '37 will establish a financial aid endowment in honor of our class upon the realization of his bequest. So our class was able to give more than \$525,000 to Columbia this year. Wow! And our class participation level soared as well. Our class traditionally has given in the 16-20 percent range; this year, more than 22 percent of our class made a gift. To everyone who contributed, thank you so much for your generosity and support.

Reunion started off with a great Thursday evening reception at *The New York Times* building. Thanks to **Brian Cousin** for coordinating the

provides legal support for a variety of product, engineering and marketing teams at Adobe, including Brand Marketing, Advertising and eBooks. He often bumps into **David Zapolsky**, who is in an in-house corporate counsel role and who has been at Amazon for 13 years. His son, Ian, completed his junior year in high school and spent three weeks playing jazz in NYC this summer. Ian played in the national finals at Lincoln Center. Finally, it was great to spend time with former Glee Club head honcho **John Phelan** and his wife, Kimberly. Their children (Unity, Amanda, Joseph and Jack) were around during the weekend. Unity lives in the city as a high school student. John continues to lead the Zweena effort, to provide coordination for electronic patient records (with the new health care bill, the timing couldn't be better ...).

I spoke with **Mike Rivera**, who went to law school at UCLA; his firm serves the entire Southern California area, including the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino. His firm is bilingual (English/Spanish) and helps in legal matters regarding bankruptcy, corporations, real estate, and trusts and estates. Additionally, Mike has provided clients with services in drafting and negotiating contracts, prosecuting or defending litigation, assisting with compliance with governmental regulations and dealing with other legal issues that arise in a business setting.

I also spent time with **Adam Catana**, who is an attorney, works for JP Morgan Chase and lives in Manhattan with his wife and two children; and **Heather Paxton**, who has lived in Kansas City for eight years but traveled extensively before that. She is the author of four books, with an emphasis on Kansas City history, and works with *The Independent* there.

We were graced with the presence of former Dean of Students Roger Lehecka '67 (along with his wife, Ria Coyne '84 Barnard) and Peter Johnson (who also worked in the Dean of Students' office, and who now is associate dean in the Admissions Office). Both happened to be on the same floor attending another reception. Roger's eldest daughter, Vivian '13, completed her first year at the College.

On Friday, while there were a series of lectures and tours, my afternoon highlight was with the Glee Club alumni reception/rehearsal. The Alumni Office has (properly) recognized that so many of us have strong connections to the activities that we participated in as well as our class at large. For many years, various sports teams

great space. We had a nice gathering of about 20 classmates. The good part for Brian was that it was easy for him to get to the reception, as his office is in the same building. The bad part for Brian was that it was too easy for him to go back to his office. Brian is an employment practice attorney at Seyfarth Shaw. He lives in Larchmont with his wife and three children.

**Tom Carey**, from my Contemporary Civilization class, helped to memorialize the evening (and much of the weekend) by taking pictures with one of the few non-digital cameras left in the world. Tom lives in Great Falls, Mont., having ventured to many other places in the last 25 years. He is a pathologist and has three children (18, 16 and 13).

I spent much of the evening with three of my fellow Glee Clubbers. **Dan Poliak** is senior corporate counsel for Adobe and lives in Seattle; he is responsible for managing the trademark group, which includes supervision of the registration, protection and enforcement of all Adobe trademarks and domain names. He also



*A hardy corps of Glee Clubbers gathered at the Sundial at midnight during Alumni Reunion Weekend in early June. Enjoying the music and beverages were (front row, left to right) Thomas Vinciguerra '85, Beth Knobel '84 Barnard, Jon White '85, Ari Brose '84 Barnard, Shelley Friedland '87, Laurie Gershon '87 and Sue Raffman '87; and (middle row, left to right) Rich Froehlich '85, Cathy Schwartz Cotton '83 Barnard, Maya Panvell-Hartheimer '87, David Zapolsky '85 and Linda Macri '87; and (back row, left to right) Tom Scotti '85 and John Phelan '85.*

have done a great job with this. For the first time last year, "affinity receptions" were held during reunion/Dean's Day, allowing all alums, not just the reunion ones, to attend. This year's receptions included such groups as *Spectator*, WKCR, Marching Band and Glee Club/singing groups.

More than 80 former Glee Clubbers, spanning more than 40 years of Glee Club history, attended, including two former wonderful Glee Club conductors, Bruce Trinkle '66 and Gerald Weale '57, who led the group in the '60s. As the a cappella groups have grown during the last 25 years, starting with the Kingsmen and now numbering 10 groups, Glee Club membership waned significantly and was in jeopardy of disappearing after more than 130 years. Fortunately, some great work by Nick Rudd '64, Michael Garrett '66 and several others have helped to revitalize the alumni network. [Editor's note: See "Alumni Corner."]

There were many familiar faces in the room from the various classes from the '80s, both from our class and beyond. From our class, in addition to the classmates mentioned above, it was great to see **Leslie Smartt McCarthy**, who lives in the Bay Area, has worked with the AP and was enjoying NYC with her three children (15, 12 and 9), and my former Stuyvesant classmate, **Alan Newman**. Alan lives in Denver, where he is a practicing psychiatrist and author. Several other classmates joined us on Saturday morning (to be included in the next issue's column).

Other early '80s Glee Club veterans and legends were there, including Ed Krishok '81, Eric Hansen '81 and Larry Scoones '82. Eric and Larry had anchored the

bass section nearly 30 years ago when I joined the Glee Club, and continued to do so that weekend. It also was great to spend time with former Glee Club President Cathy Schwartz Cotton '83 Barnard. Cathy is married to Harvey Cotton '81, and our lives have had similar post-Glee Club turns: Between our kids going to Columbia (Cathy's son Ben '11 is editor-in-chief of *Spectator*) and Cathy marking the end of Harvey's turn as president of their synagogue. It was wonderful to catch up with Beth Knobel '84 Barnard, who I know from my Stuy High days. Beth was the Moscow correspondent for CBS News for many years (I would often hear her radio reports). She has two children and lives in Whitestone. Other familiar faces included Ginny Perrin '85 Barnard, and the musical talents of CC '87: Sue Raffman, Lee Ilan, Laurie Gershon and Maya Panvell-Hartheimer, among others.

On Friday night, we filled the back room at V&T, with dinner featuring the same pies, pasta, decor and tablecloths that you may remember from long ago. Dean Michele Moody-Adams stopped by. There also was face painting for the kids. We sat with **Tom Vinciguerra**, writer par excellence. After his work as an editor at *CCT* for more than a decade, and many years as deputy editor of the newsmagazine *The Week*, with frequent contributions to *The New York Times*, Tom still is writing and still is unmatched in relating great Columbia stories.

I also spent some time with my John Jay 11 floormate, **Mike Coudreaux**, who was there with his wife, Kimberly, and their children, Curtis and Tillie. Mike attended medical school at Columbia and was a major in the Air Force. He is a psychiatrist in Salt Lake City and is the chairman

of the Department of Psychiatry at Intermountain Healthcare. Seeing Mike fondly reminded me of the 11 Jay midnight soccer games that often rattled my door during freshman year.

Also in attendance were a pair of Pauls: **Paul Getzels**, who continues both his legal practice and voice-over career in New York as well as regular singing with the City Bar chorus, with his wife, Kathy; and **Paul Bongiorno**, who made it a family night out with his wife, Francesca, and young children, Paul, Gabriel and Olivia. Paul is working in the city with Opus 3 Artists.

**Steve Carty** and I chatted both prior to and at reunion. Steve has 20 years of multi-disciplinary and multi-industry investment banking experience. His experience has included advising both U.S. and international companies regarding corporate finance and M&A activity, and advising U.S. and international institutional investors (pension funds, endowments, foundations, investment advisors and partnerships) regarding investments and fundraising activities globally. He is managing director at GTK Partners. Prior to joining GTK, Steve was employed at Lehman Brothers from 2000-06, and at UBS from 1994-2000. He lives in New Jersey with his wife and two children.

Some of our Engineering classmates were at reunion as well. I chatted with Lydia Tang '85E, who has three kids (15, 12 and 9) and is a math teacher, also doing some options trading. Daniel Lew '85E works in Darien for a large brokerage firm.

Leading the crew contingent as always was **Colin Redhead**, who is a director of structured finance at MBIA Insurance Co. After getting his M.B.A. at a somewhat well-known university in Cambridge, Mass., Colin was a v.p. at JPMorgan Securities Inc, assistant v.p. at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. and a senior analyst at Chemical Bank. He and his wife, Anne '87, have four children (eldest age 14) and live in Westchester.

After dinner concluded, many of us headed over to The West End, or rather what's left of The West End, which is now an establishment called Havana Central at The West End. The "back room" is gone, and the music made it difficult to chat. I spent time with **Brian Margolis**, who is a partner in the Corporate Department at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe. Brian has a corporate and securities law practice, with an emphasis on public offerings, private placements, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance issues and general corporate counseling. He lives in Larchmont with his wife

and children (14, 12 and 8).

Among others present was Fumald grocery maven **Kevin Kelly**, who continues his work in the Department of Small Business Services for NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg; his previous post-Columbia stints have included the Peace Corps, various stops around the world and with Bloomberg. And **Daniel Savin**, continuing with his work as a senior research scientist at Columbia's Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, also was there, in the midst of a spirited discussion with several College and Engineering classmates.

A few of our Barnard classmates attended (my apologies for not seeing any of the faces in that part of the room), ably greeted by **Rich Maimon**. Rich continues his architecture practice in Philadelphia and was kind enough to spend some time at lunch Saturday with my eldest son, Isaac '14, who is thinking about a career in architecture.

Stay tuned for Part Two of the reunion update in the next edition of *CCT*...

#### REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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**George Shea** and his brother, Richard, have a public relations firm, Shea Communications, in Chelsea. But that's not what George is best known for. I'll let *The New York Times* take over from the article on George and Richard in the sports section on July 2. "Without the Shea brothers, there would still be a county fair pie-eating contest here, a bar-sponsored chicken-wing chowdown there. The July 4 Nathan's hot dog eating contest might still be in Coney Island, where it started in 1916. But few beyond New York would know about it, and it would certainly not be televised live to ESPN's biggest audience of the day. The words 'competitive' and 'eating' would not be conjoined. There would be no International Federation of Competitive Eating. And presumably, there would be fewer eating contests, particularly those on Independence Day: pies in Houlton, Me.; hot peppers in Round Rock, Tex.; burritos in Coralville, Iowa; and veggie dogs in Austin, Tex., to name a mouthful. Now

# Roy Braeger '86 Celebrates Good Times

BY GORDON CHENOWETH SAUER '11 ARTS

**W**hen Lincoln Center celebrated its 50th birthday in May 2009, tens of thousands of orange and fuchsia balloons were used for decoration, with 2,000 of them devoted to a 20-foot tall "50." The man responsible for this "kids' birthday party for adults" was **Roy Braeger '86**, founder and operator of the party-planning company Roy Braeger Events (<http://roybraeger.com>).

Braeger, who works from his design studio in Red Hook, Brooklyn, specializes in event design and production. He is responsible for both the organization and execution of galas, birthday parties, corporate events, weddings — "basically, any occasion worth celebrating," he says.

"On the planning side," Braeger explains, "I coordinate all the vendors, such as the entertainment, caterers, photographers, tent companies, limo companies, DJs, security services and more. On the design side, I create the look and layout of an event. I create the floor plans; design the lighting scheme; and provide custom linens, flowers, props, furniture or anything else the party requires."

With a staff that varies from two to 20, depending on both the number and scale of events, Braeger maintains a diverse clientele of 30 ongoing corpo-



**Party planner Roy Braeger '86 with some of the colorful fabrics he uses in designing an event setting.**

PHOTO: JON COURIE

rate and private clients, including A&E Television Network, NYU Langone Medical Center and eBay.

Braeger describes his vision as "combining an East End elegance with a Brooklyn edge." Basically, he says, "That's taking any object that you might find anywhere and doing something fun and elegant with it."

Originally from Southampton, N.Y., Braeger chose Columbia in order to live in Manhattan and credits the College for his intellectual preparation and his exposure to the city. He says, "The first opera I saw was with Music

Humanities, and now I do work for the Metropolitan Opera and the City Opera; the first symphony I saw was at Lincoln Center, and now I do Lincoln Center's special events. Basically, Columbia gave me my start here in the city in every area — culture, music, everything."

Majoring in English with a pre-med concentration, though taking many art courses, Braeger believes his design sensibilities also are a product of his College experience. "There is a sense of monumental scale, which is evident in the architecture at Columbia, which is

evident in the thinking, which is evident in the implicit position in the world that you're granted when you leave. Big thinking. Big design," he says.

Braeger was accepted to dental school but deferred. He designed a line of handmade table lamps and worked at a friend's Brooklyn design company before starting Roy Braeger Events in 2004. Best friend Jacob Werksman '86 says it was a wise career decision. "Roy went through Columbia trying to convince people he was planning to be a dentist," says Werksman. "I think he has found a more painless way of improving peoples' smiles."

Braeger, who recently finished writing his first book, a horror novel, has not been immune to the economic downturn. "Everything is becoming much more last-minute, and that makes me nervous," he says. And though he has worked hard to "ratchet things up," including opening a Los Angeles office, his optimism is perhaps his greatest rebounding asset. "I have a new campaign, which I state on the home page of my website, called 'get happy,'" says Braeger.

**Gordon Chenoweth Sauer '11 Arts** is a freelance writer, instructor in Columbia's University Writing Program and M.F.A.-in-fiction candidate.

the brothers conduct more than 80 eating contests each year, most not involving hot dogs. They have an archive of about 150 eating records, including those for cow brains, cheese steaks, candy bars, cabbage, cannoli, crab cakes, corn dogs, cranberry sauce, crawfish and calamari — to name some starting with 'C.' About 250 eaters compete exclusively under their Major League Eating banner, though only Joey Chestnut and Takeru Kobayashi of Japan make a living from overeating."

I watched the Nathan's hot dog eating contest on ESPN and heard George introduce all the competitors with tremendous enthusiasm. He told me that there were about

40,000 spectators, and they put on an extensive pre-show featuring Ringling Brothers and several well known rappers and DJs. George emceed the festivities and at some point found himself singing 99 Luftballons in German to the crowd. Chestnut won this year for the fourth consecutive time by eating 54 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes (that's 16,052 calories). You can see the fun side of George at [www.ifoce.com](http://www.ifoce.com).

It was not to be for **John Chachas**, as he could not overcome the name recognition that his Nevada Republican primary opponents had built up over the years. John also was not as far to the right as winner Sharron Angle, who enjoyed the support of

the Tea Party. We're curious to see what John does next. As he said on his website, "ChachasforNevada.com will become an interactive outlet to disseminate policy ideas relevant to the public discourse on how to improve life in Nevada and the nation. Some of what we post will be concurrent with policy pieces I published in the Republican primary. But we will also post data, interpretations, opinions and work of others."

Stay tuned!

**Kevin Quinn** is back in NYC after 10 years away (six in the Bay Area and four in Tokyo). He's been with Goldman Sachs for almost 20 years and is a senior member of its technology/media team. Kevin and

his family live in Short Hills, N.J., and look forward to reconnecting with their CU and NYC friends.

**Peter Muniz** and his wife, Ivette Feliciano-Muniz '86E, are happy to inform their friends and classmates that their son, Joshua Muniz, is a member of the SEAS Class of 2014.

**John "Murph" Murphy** e-mailed a great first-time update. "Hard to believe we'll be celebrating our 25th reunion next year, and I am only now providing an update, although I have tried my best to stay current with many of my fellow Columbia graduates. In fact, in late July, my family and I shared a summer house in Massachusetts with Dr. Donna Pacicca '87 and her husband, Dominic DeCicco '84E, godparents to my

son, and their two boys, and Andrew F. Upton '85, his wife, Alison, and their two girls. While back East, we hope to catch up with my former roommate, and godfather to my daughter, the commanding officer of McGuire AFB, Col. **Scott F. Smith** and his family, who now live in the next town over from where I was raised in New Jersey. Not a week goes by that I do not communicate with the same group of friends that I shared a townhouse, known as FIJI, with during the mid-1980s. In addition to Andrew and Dom, e-mail and almost yearly visits have kept me up to date with Dave Madoff '85, Dr. **Mike Goldfisher**, Matt Barr '87, Bill Flick '87, Arthur Ajzenman '83 and many others. I am a lucky man!

"Right after graduation, I thought I would never leave Manhattan. However, I have been happy to call Southern California home for nearly 20 years, and I have been blessed to have my wife, Cindy, and our children, Elizabeth (10) and Ian (6), enjoy the sun and surf that comes from living in Orange County. My family enjoys spending time with our West Coast Columbia connections, including **Patrick McGarrigle** and his clan, **Steve Huskey** and his family, **Philip Nevinny**, Don Chiesa '88, Tony Arguello '88, and, of course, the ever-entertaining **Jack C. Merrick** and his merry band of children. As some might recall, I had a great opportunity during school with Ian Schrager and Steve Rubell that allowed me to be part of the design and development team that created the Morgan, the Royalton and the Paramount hotels in NYC. Since that time, I have been fortunate to have developed several theme park projects for the Walt Disney Co. and The Grove in the Fairfax District of Los Angeles as well as resort housing in Utah and Maui. I enjoy working three miles from my home as I manage the development of retail projects in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, La Jolla and San Jose for the Irvine Co.

"This summer, I spent a great evening being part of the Columbia College Southern California Summer Advisory Session, welcoming the Class of 2014 to the Columbia community by presenting attendees with a copy of *The Iliad* by Homer — perhaps it is time for me to finally read it as well!"

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We have a few updates from some old friends.

**Tom Duval** wrote: "I went through a career change last year. After producing Westborough,

Mass., singer-songwriter Luanne Crosby's new CD, *Ceremonies and Celebrations*, I left my day job with Nuance Communications in March 2009 and accepted an invitation to join the Foreign Service. I completed my training with the State Department and have been at my first assignment for the past year as a vice consul in Vancouver. My wife, Carole, and daughter, Kate (9), also are enjoying the adventure so far."

Resident author **Garth Stein** reports from the Pacific Northwest that as of the end of June, his novel, *The Art of Racing in the Rain*, is continuing its run on *The New York Times* bestseller list with 54 weeks and counting.

**Joe Feuer** is executive director of the Society for International Development (a professional association for those working in international development) in Washington, D.C. He recently started a CC/Lit Hum Book Discussion Club (attached to the CU Alumni Club of Washington). He welcomes any alums in the D.C. area who would like to join. Please contact him at jcf Feuer@hotmail.com.

And I am looking forward to hearing much more from all of you either by e-mail or on Facebook. Remember, this column can only be as good and as juicy as you make it!

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Sweltering summer days are soon to wind down, but as of this writing, talk of summer camps, vacations and the hum of air conditioners surround me. I hope all of you are enjoying the season in happiness!

I have had the pleasure of hearing from **Carl C. Eierle**, who writes, "In brief, I am the director of adult reconstruction (orthopedics) at the combined Walter Reed Army and Bethesda Naval Medical Centers. I returned from Iraq just before Christmas 2009. I have four kids and a wife of 21 years at home. My eldest three children are teenagers. Recently, I was ranked among the top five physicians in patient satisfaction among all physicians in the Navy. Two years ago, our residents selected me as Orthopedic Educator of the Year. In addition to caring for our nation's warriors, I also provide top-shelf orthopedic care for retirees and a good number of the highest ranking members of the military and government."

**Ruth Glazer** sent in the following: "I live in Weston, Conn., with my husband, Steven Glazer, and our children, Emily and Ethan. Although we spend most of our

time in the suburbs, we do go into NYC many times a year and often visit the Columbia campus. I think both my kids have found the owl in Alma Mater, but we probably should check on that on our next visit. After a long tenure with Credit Suisse, I took the leap and started my own consulting firm, JD Advisor. We advise clients, many of whom are law firms and law departments in corporations, on how to operate their businesses efficiently. I feel fortunate that I have found a career that I truly enjoy. Plus, being self-employed has given me the luxury of spending quality time with my husband and family. That is the best bonus of all.

"Sadly, I have lost touch with many classmates and would enjoy hearing from anyone who may remember me. My contact info is rglaizer@jedadvisor.com."

**Steve Cohen** shares his good news: "My wife and I are very pleased to announce that we had a beautiful son, Leo Jones Cohen, on January 13, who joins our daughter, Nina Jones Cohen (2). I live on the Upper West Side and am a partner at Wachtell Lipton. Of all the great privileges I have enjoyed, being a father to Leo and Nina is by far the greatest."

**Leslie Gittess** also shares some exciting news: "After 16 years working for professional sports leagues (NFL and MLB) in various capacities (most recently in digital media business development), Leslie Gittess has opened a media advisory boutique, Blue Sky Media NYC, where she is advising early stage companies on their digital strategy and distribution of their content. She also has launched a startup that is developing an iPhone/iPad application that she knows all Columbia grads will love."

**Jon Burstein** is an emergency physician and the Massachusetts State EMS director. He lives in Lexington with his "wonderful wife and fantastic daughter." **Rob Daniel** is an anesthesiologist. He writes, "I live in Westfield, N.J., with my wife, Sharon, and kids, Matt, Erika, Ryan, Colin and Jenna." **Aaron Gleckman** shares, "I am the medical director of the histopathology and cytopathology laboratory at Urologic Specialists of New England in West Warwick, R.I. I live on the east side of Providence. I am married to Dorit Kagy, and I have four kids, Georgia (13), Isabella (13), Marnie (13) and Isaac (3)."

**Jesse Greenberg** is busy "working at IBM (13 years now) and still happily married to my wife of 20 years, Karen. Our kids are doing great: Daniel (17) recently earned his Eagle rank in the Boy Scouts and attended Boys State this summer as a delegate. Hannah (15) wants to go to Columbia (Class of 2017?)

and Sophie (13) recently had her bat mitzvah."

I am looking forward to hearing more from our class. Please write and let us know of your fortunes since 1988!

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Classmates, I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful summer of travel and relaxation.

Thankfully, I heard from **Rachelle Tunik**, who traveled enough for all of us on an around-the-world trip. She writes, "I've always had a passion for architecture. The focus of my trip was great art, architecture and gardens." Having already stepped away from her work at Disney in order to manage an interior design and remodeling project, Rachelle had a gap before her project phase would start and decided to take advantage of it. Her trip went from March-June.

"After landing in Frankfurt, I stopped in Brussels, London (had to see the Athenian marbles), Paris (to go in-line skating), Florence, Pisa, Genoa, Milan, Athens, Rome, Barcelona, Granada, Madrid, Copenhagen, Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, Kyoto, Nara, Mt. Koya and Seoul," Rachelle writes. "I returned to the United States via San Francisco and visited family in the East Bay before returning home to Orlando. Thankfully, my dogs still seem to recognize me."

"The biggest challenge wasn't volcanic ash, as I had train travel already booked during the period when flights were grounded over Europe. Nor was it strikes or protests, as those are fairly common in Europe when the weather is nice. The biggest challenges were mildew and cigarette smoke in Italy and air pollution in China. I could have spent a day at the Shanghai World Expo but the air quality was so poor I couldn't see the river three blocks from my hotel despite looking out a 21st-story window."

"Aside from having a wonderful time in Athens, my favorite places were Kyoto and surrounds and Barcelona. Everything there — art, architecture, gardens, music, shopping, food — was wonderful. I also enjoyed seeing Lord Leighton's home and studio in London; Parc Citroen in Paris; the museums of Florence and the *pietra dure* artisans at work; the Alhambra and Generalife above Granada; the gardens of Suzhou; hiking up Mt. Inari through the torii; and Mt. Koya, especially a nighttime lantern-lit walk through the cemetery past markers for Shoguns, royalty (and

their present-day equivalent) to the shrine of Kobo Daishi.

"The items and information I gathered during the trip certainly will influence my artwork. I'm spending time organizing the hundreds of photos I took and finishing a book about these travels."

Though my summer was far less exciting than Rachel's, I did attend a reading at my local bookstore in Brookline by Ann Brashares '89 Barnard (of *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* fame). Ann recently wrote her second adult novel, *My Name is Memory*. It was great to see Ann after so many years and to hear her read from her latest novel, which I highly recommend to anyone who enjoys well-crafted characters and an imaginative plot.

**Lee Feldman**, with his wife, Suzanne; and their two sons recently welcomed a third child, a girl, Allison Margaret. According to Lee, who is a partner at Choate, Hall & Stewart in Boston, "Everybody is doing well. Based on the age gap between Allison and my oldest, Henry (11), by the time that Allison goes to college (hopefully Columbia), I will probably be a grandfather."

**Ed Hamrick** and his partner, Jen, welcomed their second child. At publication date, he was known as "Abby's little brother."

My husband, Dave Terry '90, and I visited with **John MacPhee**, president of Strativa Pharmaceuticals, at the launching of the New York office of Bottom Line, a nonprofit Dave has chaired for a couple of years. Besides running Strativa, John has been busy as the coach for his daughter's basketball team and holding down the fort while his wife, **Donna MacPhee**, travels to faraway destinations as part of her position as v.p. of alumni relations for the University and president of the Columbia Alumni Association.

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What a thrill it was to have seen so many people at our 20th reunion. And I'm talking dozens and dozens more people than I expected. Unfortunately, although Barnard does its reunion at the same time as we do, there is little overlap with events, so it's much harder to see Barnard classmates than CC and SEAS. While I was enjoying the Saturday lunch and dinner events, I also was thinking about this column. How boring it would be to simply list all the people I saw on campus without having anything to say about them. At dinner, I invited everyone to e-mail me with news, rather than

have to go around with a notepad and pen (does anyone even have those things anymore?). I thank my faithful and first-time contributors for their news.

A few weeks before reunion, I received an update from **Eric Horwitz**, who claims he "never does this" but always reads Class Notes. I think Eric means that he never sends news because this is the first time I recall writing about him. Eric got married right after graduation, became a father nine months later (she is now at the University of Maryland) and also has a son (16) whose driving style is akin to a grandmother's. Eric says this is a good thing. Five years ago, Eric left his life as a senior manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers and has been doing business and life coaching to Ivy Leaguers ever since. What he has discovered is that 35-year-olds would get a lot more out of the Core Curriculum than 19-year-olds ever can.

**Durahn Taylor** also wrote for his first time (in my nine-year memory of writing this column) a few weeks before reunion. He and Eric both said that they planned to attend some events, but I think I missed them. Guys, were you there? If I could give Durahn a nickname, it would be Dr. History. After earning his B.A. in history, he got a master's in history from American and interned at the Smithsonian while living in D.C. Durahn returned to Columbia for his Ph.D. in history (1999), writing his dissertation on Harlem politics during the Depression and WWII. As a doctoral student, he taught CC and some history classes as an adjunct professor at Concordia College in Bronxville. In 1999, he began teaching at Pace. In 2005, Durahn received tenure. Some of the classes he's taught in the past 11 years include "History of Immigration and Diversity"; "Culture and History of Black America"; and "History of the American Presidency." Every few years, he also teaches immigration history at Columbia's summer program. But wait, there's more! Durahn also is the creator, producer and host of a public-access history TV show in White Plains, *Stories in Time with Durahn Taylor*. He says he likes teaching history on TV as much as teaching it in the classroom. Career-wise, Durahn describes the past 20 years as blessed.

**Melissa Landau Steinman** was not at reunion but wrote all the same. "While I could not attend reunion because my oldest son (12) had the bad manners to be born the first weekend in June, thus ensuring a birthday-related conflict for pretty much every reunion thus far, I can assure you I was with everyone in

spirit. I was in NYC the following week to attend the 2010 Chambers (law) Awards, where I picked up an award on behalf of the Advertising, Marketing and New Media practice group at Venable, the Washington, D.C., law firm where I am a partner. Unbelievably enough, I have been at Venable for 17 years, nearly as long as we have all been away from Morningside Heights. I started at the firm's D.C. office immediately after graduating from Harvard Law School.

"This year has been a big one professionally, as I also was recommended in the 2010 Legal500 for my work in sweepstakes and social media advertising, and I have been serving on the board of the Promotion Marketing Association.

"I live in Chevy Chase, Md., just over the District line, with my sons, Charlie (12) and Jamie (8), along with our gerbil, Popsicle, who is here on sufferance, as he escaped while I was on a trip to Spain this past February and chewed into the refrigerator power cord. Both boys are, of course, handsome, smart and talented (at least according to their mother). I was particularly pleased when Charlie announced this spring that he wants to go to Columbia, although he was in part influenced by a misperception that the university is somewhere near Katz's Delicatessen (which he had just visited as part of a religious school trip to Ellis Island)."

Hmm, that was one of the reasons I wanted to go to Columbia, too!

And now, people at reunion, all of whom I had not seen for a long time, and all of whom look absolutely fabulous! Since March, **Anita Bose** has been director of Healthcare Business Development for North America at MS&L, the same global communications company she's been with for a while now. She's coming up on 20 years living in New York and as in love with it as ever. Through the years, Anita's had the great fortune to enjoy traveling for work and pleasure. Last summer, she went to Russia to visit Tony Wong '90E, who has lived in Moscow for 12 years and is the general manager for Abbott Laboratories in Russia.

**Paul Greenberg** also made a job change in March. He now is with Time as president of digital for its Lifestyle Group. He is in charge of 10 digital brands and properties (including websites, mobile, iPad, etc.).

**Nancy Pak**; her husband, Jim Marshall; and their children, Cecilia and Ryan, live in Bangkok, Thailand, where Nancy is the marketing director of Greater Asia for Colgate-Palmolive. How great that a business trip brought Nancy and Jim to New York and they could stay for reunion.

**Arlene Hong** became a mom to Colin in October 2009. In July, Arlene and the family left NYC for Montclair, N.J.

It happened to me, too: traded city life for house and yard when the family grew. Not that I don't like where I live, but I do miss the urban landscape and walking to public transportation.

**Dan Sackrowitz** schlepped over from the East Side, but next time, he'll be driving in. As of mid-June, the family relocated to Larchmont, N.Y., and have become homeowners. Congratulations, Sack!

Anita hosted an old-fashioned sleepover at her apartment on Saturday for Arlene, **Gloria (Kim) Pak**, Joy (Kim) Metalios '90E, Betty (Mar) Tsang '90E and Peter Hsing '90E. Anita reports that from a Carman 11 perspective, at reunion she saw Nancy, Betty, **Andrew Cohen**, **Marc Seidenberg**, **Mike Kanner** and Lara Bashkoff '90E. That's a pretty good turnout, but I think I can beat that. From Carman 8, we had **Isaac Astrachan**, **Lisa Cohen**, **Val Dormady**, **David Eng**, **Sharon Rogers**, **Judy Shampianier**, **Laura Shaw Frank**, **Peter Spett**, **John Vincenti**, Robin (Zornberg) Wald '90E and yours truly.

I love that in solidarity with our reunion, some Los Angeles types had their own mini-reunion. Andrew "Fuzzy" Lih '90E hosted **Jennifer Lee**, **Balan Venugopal** and Rich Yaker '90E at his house in Venice on the Saturday night of reunion. Word has it they listened to 'Plex music (gotta love the late '80s!) and toasted the rest of us. Awww, thanks guys.

## REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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Hello, all! I recently returned from a trip to NYC, where I spent time with **Julie Levy**, **Beth Shubin Stein**, **Ken Shubin Stein**, **Ann (Giarra-tano) Della Pietra**, **Jodi Williams**, **Lara Bashkoff** '90 and **Gabrielle Armand** '90 Barnard. Even though we talk on the phone and e-mail regularly, I love that we can pick up our friendships in person, right where we left off, no matter how long it's been. From reading the updates that I've received during the past 1½

years, it's clear that a lot of you have the same kinds of friendships from our days at Columbia.

One of those people is **Corey Wallach**, who wrote: "Things are going well here just outside of D.C. My little monsters are growing (Zoe (6) and Cole and Drew (4)) and had a great spring, once we finally dug ourselves out of the snow. I never saw anything like it here. Work is going well, and I recently was appointed medical director for the INOVA Spine Center in Alexandria, Va., and recognized as one of the top 50 spine surgeons in the United States. I also spent a few days with **Joel Barron** and **Darren Finestone** in Los Angeles and, as you know, that is always entertaining."

**Connie McVey** sent in this update: "Five years ago, **Mike So-colow** and I moved from Boston to Bangor, Maine. Mike left his job at Brandeis to teach at the University of Maine. I was pregnant with our second son. Now Geo (George) is 4 and Simon is 6. I am a psycho-therapist specializing in trauma and clinical hypnosis, and Mike recently was awarded tenure in the Department of Communication and Journalism. The slower-paced living is great, as is the hiking in nearby Acadia National Park, and eating from our blueberry bushes, though sporadic travel to big cities and exotic places are no doubt essential. It will be 20 years ago this fall when I met Mike at The West End!"

**Lee Benaka** lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Danielle Feuillan '91 Barnard, and children, Isaac (11) and Dinah (9). Lee has worked for 10 years for the National Marine Fisheries Service, where he coordinates a fishing gear research program and tracks mid-Atlantic fisheries issues. Lee's band, The Starlingtons, released its second CD, *I'm Proud, I'm Happy, I'm Sorry*, last December (available on iTunes and Amazon). Isaac and Dinah are budding musicians, playing electric guitar and drums, respectively. Lee was delighted to meet up with **Joel Johnson** for breakfast in February. Joel's band, 2 Skinnee J's, is still rocking out with mini-tours on the East Coast.

**Dina Kotkin Feivelson** and her husband, Neal Feivelson '91E, had twin girls in September 2009, Sonya Rose and Dahlia Tamar. Before that, Dina earned an M.P.H. and a Ph.D. in medical anthropology, both from Columbia. They live in NYC and have since we graduated.

After four years in Atlanta, **Joel Rubenstein** relocated to Edinburgh, Scotland. Joel accepted a position as the global sales and marketing director for Lighthouse Caledonia, the largest independent supplier of Scottish Salmon.

And, finally, my suitemate from Carman 8, **Betsy Kalin**, sent in this update: "I'm a filmmaker living in West Hollywood, Calif., and directing and producing three feature-length docs. My short documentary, *Chained!*, is screening at festivals around the world. Next up is Michigan Womyn's Music Festival and Vancouver Queer Film Festival in August. More info on my projects can be found at [www.itchybeeproductions.com](http://www.itchybeeproductions.com). I saw Vera Scanlon '90 when *Chained!* premiered in NYC (she came to the screening in Chelsea) and saw Beth Clement '90 during the holidays. I have been working on a documentary in Western Massachusetts for WGBY, Springfield's PBS, so I see Dana Gillette '91 often."

Our 20th Alumni Reunion Weekend is scheduled for Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011 ... how did that come upon us so quickly? If you are interested in serving on the Reunion Committee, please contact Taruna Sadhoo, assistant director, alumni affairs, at the e-mail or phone number at the top of the column. Committee members and volunteers do not need to live in the NYC area in order to participate in the planning efforts — meetings can be attended in person or via conference call.

It will be great to catch up with everyone in person next year! Until next time ... cheers!

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[Editor's note: It's not just Jeremy who needs news. It's all of our classmates, too. Please send him a note telling him about life, family, work, travels or the subject of your latest political manifesto so his CCT editor will stop yelling at him. E-mail too time-consuming? CCT has made it even easier to send a Class Note. Just go to [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct) and select "Contact Us" on the left side of the page, then "Submit a Class Note" to send a note directly to Jeremy.]

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A big thanks to everyone who shared updates with me! **Jenny Kim** said, "I'm an associate counsel with the Depository Trust and Clearing Corp. on Water Street. Live in Chelsea. Love being an aunt to Sophia (2). Planning a scuba dive trip for fall. In touch

with **Melissa de la Cruz** and **Thad Sheely** ... Typical New York living!"

**Eric Redhead** wrote, "Since my last update, I've done a bit of traveling. I never went back into finance, but did a bit of acting, namely Conan and some commercials. I know **John Balestriere** has his own law firm now, and he and his wife recently had their fourth child. I sometimes see **Rachel Mintz** and **Sandra Fahy**."

**Scott Spivey** wrote, "I am a global account manager at Cisco Systems, covering GE. I live in northern Kentucky with my wife, Teena; daughters Sidney (11), Morgan (9) and Emma (7); and son, Zach (5). I recently caught up with **Billy Basso** and **Dennis Lafferty** in NYC, which was great. I see fellow Sammys Brian Hansen '94 and **Greg Watson** at Brian Williams '94's annual memorial event, and we usually plan a baseball or football game in Chicago or Cincinnati once a year."

If your name was mentioned, and I did not hear from you directly, I'd love to get an update!

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**Ocean MacAdams** writes with lots of news, both on the home front and the work front:

Ocean and his wife welcomed their second child, Axel, in February. The family recently moved to Park Slope, Brooklyn. Ocean has been just as busy at work. In 2009, after 13 years at MTV, he started his own TV production company. "It was a lot of fun, and I got to produce everything from a daytime talk show on ABC to the White House Christmas tree lighting ceremony," he writes. Then a few months ago, Ocean joined Current TV, the channel started four years ago by Al Gore, and is s.v.p. of programming. Ocean writes, "I'm going help them relaunch and rebrand the channel. It's an exciting opportunity — you don't get to be part of a start-up TV network that often — and we have some pretty great things on the way."

On a more somber note, I was very sad to hear that **Mildred E. Niss**, a poet and web artist, died on November 29. I last heard from Millie last fall, when she reported that she and Martha Deed (her co-author and mother) presented a digital multimedia project, *Erewhon 2.0*, at the fourth &Now Conference on Innovative and Experimental Writing in Buffalo, N.Y., in October. My deepest sympathy goes out to Millie's family and friends.

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Our 15-year reunion brought us back to Butler Library for dinner in a first-floor room that many of us had never been in.

**Maria Celis-Jeanseume** enjoyed catching up with everyone. She lives in Eastchester, N.Y., with her husband, Vincent Jeanseume, and kids, Max (2) and Audrey (4), who had a blast at Camp Columbia and loved meeting all the other alumni kids. Maria works in the customs and international trade area of law with Neville Peterson, while her husband has successfully turned the United States into a viable truffle market with Sabatino Tartufi.

**Jamie Bennett** last September moved to Washington, D.C., where he is director of public affairs for the National Endowment for the Arts. "I was with (Broadway producer and NEA chairman) Rocco Landesman in Chicago at events with Mayor [Richard] Daley and the Nederlanders, the MacArthur Foundation, the Field Museum and the Museum of Contemporary Art, which is why I wasn't able to make it to reunion until Saturday night," he writes.

Jamie was thrilled to catch up with **Chad Levinson**, who is getting his Ph.D. in political science at the University of Chicago; **Aileen Love**, who landed a job for the next year at the Hospital for Special Surgery, before heading to Philadelphia for a job at Penn the following year; and **Sara Moss**, who is working on the Second Avenue subway project.

Jamie recently was in Providence with **Chris Strnad** and Trina Vithayathil, who was at Columbia's School of Public Health before going to Brown as a Ph.D. student, and their new son, Markose. Chris is the administrator for Family and Children's Services for the state of Rhode Island. He lives two blocks from **Juliet Bellow**; her husband, Charlie Schulman; and their daughter, Nora (3). Juliet, my Carman 10 suitemate, was at the reunion. She teaches art history at American.

**Brian Lang** has been living in Paris for three years. "I originally was a derivative/collateralized debt obligation (CDO) trader (yes, everything that caused the crisis) for a Belgian bank. However, the bank had some issues, so now I am a lecturer in finance and economics at a couple of schools in Paris," he writes. "In other words, I teach the youth of France about the evils of communism. In English, no less."

Brian is training for his eighth Ironman race and 18th marathon. Last year, he ran one in Antarctica, and he will run one later in the year

in Greenland. He also started a small business, [www.parisrunningtours.com](http://www.parisrunningtours.com).

Thanks to **Anna Lisa Raya**, also my classmate at the J-school, for a fruitful update.

She married Kevin Rivera in September 2008. A year later, they relocated from Los Angeles to Northern New Jersey, where Kevin accepted a new position with BMW North America.

"After having been an out-of-work magazine journalist for a little over a year — the last magazine where I worked had folded — I decided to switch careers," Anna Lisa writes. This fall, Anna Lisa will attend Rutgers' Master of Library and Information Science program and has been designated the American Library Association's Betty J. Turock Spectrum Scholar. She is a library assistant at the Ridgewood Public Library, near her home in Woodcliff Lake.

"I became a journalist to serve the public; being a librarian seems to be a great new extension of this goal," she says.

Now that she's back on the East Coast, Anna Lisa gets to NYC and spends time with **Belén Aranda-Alvarado** and her husband, David Antonio '95E; **Tatyana Tsinberg** and her fiancé, Tom Fahy; Cesar Chavez '96 and his partner, Joseph Lavin; and Daniel Cole '96 and his partner, Nick Grinder.

Belén is v.p. of audience development at the New York office of Urban Daddy. Previously, she was in online marketing at *The New York Times*. She and David were married last summer in Boston. They live in the Bronx with her daughter, Natalia (8). Tatyana is a marketing director at Pfizer, also in New York. She has a son, Nicolai (1), with her fiancé.

Anna Lisa keeps in touch with Los Angeles-based Columbia peeps, including **Pia Hernandez** and her husband, Jason Hashm, and Cecilia Cabello '96. Pia gave birth to her second child and is enjoying being a full-time mom to daughters Sierra and Marina; she also does a little consulting as a social worker from home.

"Everyone is doing wonderfully, career- and family-wise. Fifteen years later, and we all still reminisce about our crazy Columbia days like they were yesterday," Anna Lisa writes.

At the reunion, Anna Lisa also caught up with **Rocco Barone**, a senior sales representative for Boston Scientific who lives in Bayonne with his wife, Carolina, and their three kids. Vivian and **Newman Sund** live in Baltimore, where Newman is an ophthalmologist. They have a daughter, Hadynn.

**Sara Cross** is directing and producing a feature documentary, *Manhattan Lullaby*, about Colony

Records, a family-owned business in Times Square since 1948. She produced a feature documentary that won a Peabody Award, *The Order of Myths*, about Mobile, Ala.'s racially segregated Mardi Gras. She lives in Park Slope with a beagle named Simone de Beauvoir.

Sara previously worked in TV and film, did a master's at Oxford and from 1999–2004 ran her own eco-friendly and socially-responsible clothing company called coolnot-cruel. "I had several celebrities wear my clothes: Eva Longoria (before she was really famous), Alicia Silverstone, Charlize Theron, Kathy Griffin, Lisa Kudrow and Bill Maher," Sara says.

Sara also worked on the Oscar-nominated documentary *Murderball*, co-directed by **Henry Alex Rubin**. Jeff Mandell '96, '03L, '03 Business was a producer. Henry is a commercial director with Smuggler ([www.smugglersite.com](http://www.smugglersite.com)) and has directed national spots for major brands including Burger King, Walmart, AT&T and Microsoft, Sara writes.

**Jennifer (Lew) Goldstone**, who lives on the next block from me on West 96th Street, started a new job as a v.p. at SeaChange Capital Partners, a nonprofit that funds and raises money for nonprofits involved in education reform and youth development.

Jenn leads communications and marketing as a senior member of the high net-worth donor engagement team for "this new model of philanthropic investment inspired by private sector capital markets." She started her job 10 weeks after the birth of her second son, Charles William. She's now preparing for a half-marathon in October.

**Jocelyn Liang Freilinger** didn't make it to the reunion but nonetheless sent in an update. She finished a master's in landscape architecture at the University of Washington in 2007. She couldn't make the trip to the reunion because she was cramming for licensing exams the following week.

Jocelyn and her husband, Peter, moved to Edmonton, Alberta, a year ago after spending five years in Seattle. He is treasurer at ATB Financial, and she is looking for work "after spending the last few months getting familiar with Canadian bureaucracy."

**Andy Tempest** wrote that since his time at Columbia, "in Carman (202b with **Rajiv Arya**) and the Psi Upsilon fraternity house on 115th Street, I moved to Texas, moved to Tennessee, moved to Detroit, moved to New Jersey, got married (to Lynne ... we had a whole *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*-type of celebration. She's Greek, I'm the WASP-ish non-Greek), had triplets

(boys, Teddy and Will, and girl, Signe) and moved once again, this time to Rochester, N.Y."

Andy's triplets turned 3 in March. He said if he learned one lesson at Columbia, it was "take whatever comes your way in stride. Whether it was getting caught in the middle of two conflicting groups of protesters in the quad (that was fun) or getting grilled in L&R writing classes, you just kept going and learning. I can't wait to take my kids down to see the campus when they get a bit older."

Thanks to so many of you for these updates. See you at the 20th!

## REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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Greetings, classmates! I'm thrilled to report that my desperate mass e-mail plea for notes brought about great results. Thanks to all of you who sent me news. I received so many replies that I am not able to put them all in this issue of CCT, but rest assured, if you don't see your notes this time around, you will see them in the next issue.

**Charles Cho** is the global head of credit flow trading at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Charles played football at Columbia for a season and recently was profiled by *Investment Dealers' Digest*. The dealmaker, who has held various positions in credit trading at Credit Suisse and Morgan Stanley, said he loves the world of managing risk and interpreting how economic and political events influence the market.

**Dorothy Cadet** had her fourth child, Alexander, in February. She also wrote her first nonfiction book, *Laundry Can Wait*, published in April. Dorothy has spoken at several conferences and to women's groups and soon will host an online video channel. For more information or to contact Dorothy, go to [www.DACBooks.com](http://www.DACBooks.com).

**Jose Machuca** is a partner at NOQCA Partners in Madrid, Spain. Jose joined NOQCA Partners in April 2008 from Corporacion Caixa Galicia, where he was an associate. Prior to that, he was an investment analyst for Qualitas Equity Partners, a private equity firm, and earlier was a financial analyst with Goldman Sachs in New York, where he participated in several M&A, equity and debt transactions.

**Scott Walker** and his wife, Heather, recently purchased a home on Lake Valhalla in Montville, N.J., where they live with their boys (9, 6 and 4). Scott practices complex commercial litigation with an emphasis on structured credit products cases at Lowenstein Sandler in NYC and Roseland, N.J. Scott also is on the board of directors of the Columbia Club of Northern New Jersey, and he encourages Columbia alumni in the Northern New Jersey to come to one of the club's events and get involved ([www.ccnj.org](http://www.ccnj.org)).

**Adrianna Melnyk** lives in Bronxville and recently started a job as v.p. of advancement (fundraising) at Maryknoll Lay Missioners. The organization sends medical professionals, engineers, teachers, social workers and other professionals to sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America to work with poor communities. Adrianna writes that the work is fulfilling, and if any of you are interested in a 3½-year stint overseas, check out [mklm.org](http://mklm.org) or find the organization on Facebook.

An architect of multi-family, affordable housing projects, **Phuong Phan-McManamna** lives in Bremerston, Wash., with her husband, Ed, and son, Evan (2). Her first photo exhibit, "Changing Landscapes," which includes landscapes and sights of the Pacific Northwest through the seasons and floral macro photography, was shown in June and July at Café Paloma in Seattle.

**Julissa Ramos** (née Villarreal) lives in San Antonio, Texas, and has two children, Mia (3) and Luke (1). Julissa received a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2005 and is a medical writer for KCI. Prior to that, she was a postdoctoral fellow at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and a special volunteer at the National Institute on Aging in Baltimore.

**Klancy Miller** moved back to New York City in 2006 and has

## What's Your Story?

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**E-MAIL** to the address at the top of your column.

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

Class Notes received by **September 1** will be eligible for publication in the **November/December CCT**.



**Tejpaul Bhatia '00E and Erika Esposito were married in Cecina, Italy, in September 2009. Enjoying the Tuscan wedding were (left to right) Tara Gangadhar '00; Homin Lee '00, '04E, '09 GSAS; Ommeed Sathe '00; Bryan Carmel '00; Ronnie Roy '05L; Reshan Richards '00; Andrew Warshawer '00; Davinder Bhasin '76E; and David Torres '00E.**

PHOTO: JENNIFER BUTLER

been a director of constituent strategy for Columbia University Medical Center in the Office of Development. Klancy was in Paris from 2000–04 as a culinary student, pastry chef and recipe writer, and she keeps her food hat on these days through her blog, [klancyspotluck.typepad.com](http://klancyspotluck.typepad.com). Klancy writes that **Scott Eastman** is a chef in Berkeley, Calif., and that **Robin Shulman** is a journalist and was in South Africa covering the World Cup. Klancy often runs into **Eddie Griffin** at CUMC; he received honors as a rising physician-scientist. **Marcel Agueros** will begin a professorship at Columbia this fall.

**Rick Stuart** has been living in Los Angeles and working for a private equity firm, Caltius Mezzanine, since 1999. Rick is getting married this fall to a native Angeleno. Congratulations, Rick! Rick lives in Venice Beach and would love to hear from classmates who find themselves in the area. He also is going to be involved with our 15th reunion committee and is looking forward to making it back to Morningside Heights Thursday June 2–Sunday, June 5. Rick writes that it is going to be a great event, so he encourages everyone to get it on their calendars now.

**Ravi Iyer** also lives in Venice Beach, and after years in the dot-com world, he decided five years ago to seek a different career. Ravi will be finishing a Ph.D. in social psychology at USC next year. He blogs about his research at [polipsych.com](http://polipsych.com). People can participate in his research, which has to do with the intersection of moral and political attitudes, at [yourmorals.org](http://yourmorals.org). Congratulations are also in order to Ravi, who is getting married in September.

**Topher McGibbon** recently celebrated the third “birthday” of Kid Car NY, a black car service in New York City with children’s car seats in every vehicle. [Editor’s

note: CCT profiled McGibbon in November/December 2007: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct\\_archive/nov\\_dec07/updates5.php](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/nov_dec07/updates5.php).]

After years of living in Italy, Costa Rica and (mostly) NYC, **Kate Villa** moved back to Vermont a few years ago. She is the director of development for ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center at the Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. Kate volunteers for too many good causes and is trying to learn how to garden, as she recently bought a house. **Kay Park** is an assistant attending pathologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in Manhattan and the associate director of the fellowship training program in the pathology department. Kay completed her fellowship training in oncologic surgical pathology in 2005 and stayed on staff. She recently had a boy (her first), Sydney Matthew Kaplan.

**Hussein Rashid** finished his Ph.D. in near Eastern languages and cultures at Harvard. He has been teaching at Hofstra and Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. Hussien also is an associate editor at *Religion Dispatches* ([www.religiondispatches.org](http://www.religiondispatches.org)). You can contact him through Facebook or [www.husseinrashid.com](http://www.husseinrashid.com).

**Tobi Molko** is married with a child, Julian Kizner (1). Tobi works at Bank of America in the Equity Derivatives Group.

**John Fitzgibbons** is an associate in Sidley Austin’s Los Angeles office; he has been there since finishing at Loyola Law School in 2005. John’s focus is on cases involving accounting firms, and he also does antitrust work. John writes that his triplets, Jack, Ellie and Brady (2), are great and keep him and his wife, Julie, busy. His fellow Columbia golf alums, **Rick Stuart** and **Dennis Chang '96E**, played with Columbia’s men’s golf team during their spring break trip to California last March. They were joined by a

number of other alums, including former CU football players **Marcelus Wiley** and **Bobby Thomason**.

**Samantha Averbuck** lives in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and is a marketing director at Coty Beauty on a color cosmetics line, New York Color. **Steven Kasow** is a medical biller for an infertility clinic in Manhattan.

**Nicholas Chremos** attended the University of Texas School of Law, from which he graduated in 2000. Nick worked for Sematech, a consortium of the world’s most innovative integrated circuit manufacturers. Nick writes that after a multi-year and highly rewarding career with Sematech, he returned to the University of Texas at Austin in 2008 to earn a degree in electrical engineering. He recently completed this degree and is seeking opportunities that will use both his legal skills and his technical knowledge.

**Constantine Dimas** sold out of the restaurant business two years ago and now is director of operations at the Loews Regency Hotel. He and his wife, Ana, live in Bronxville and have a son, Simos (4). **Henry Tam Jr.** and his wife, Lan, had a second child, Alexander. Henry left the Atlantic Media Co. in February, where he was v.p. and managing director of digital product development. He co-founded a company, the American Learning Network, which partners with U.S.-based institutions to provide online and offline training to the China market.

Congratulations to **Chris Holst**, who succumbed to the urge to write himself in on primary and special Election Day and got a Certificate of Election to the position of Democratic Committeeperson in Upper Salford, Montgomery County, Pa., in the mail. Chris writes: “It seems that one vote was all it took. Ha!”

And on that amusing note, I leave you. A lot more news to report, but not enough space. Thanks to all of you. Hope you had a great summer!

97

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By the time you read this, it will be fall, so I’m giving you a homework assignment: Send an e-mail to your Class Notes secretary titled “What I did with my summer.” That way, we’ll be sure to have more notes for a future issue of CCT!

The only and yet exciting news I have to share is that **Susanna Daniel** writes that her first novel, *STILTSVILLE*, was published in hardcover on August 3 by Harper. Her husband and 2-year-old son are very excited about it. The novel is the story of a three-decade-long

marriage, set against a vivid South Florida background; it was called an “exquisite debut” by *Publishers Weekly*, and “lushly descriptive and complex” by *Booklist*. Visit [www.susannadaniel.com](http://www.susannadaniel.com).

98

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The summer was slow with CC ‘98 news, but via Facebook, I learned that **Lori Meeks**, an associate professor of religion and East Asian languages and cultures at the University of Southern California, published an academic book, *Hokkeji and the Reemergence of Female Monastic Orders in Premodern Japan*, in April. She received glowing reviews from fellow scholars, one of whom said, “Her book should appeal to a wide variety of readers, including those interested in Buddhism, Japanese history, Japanese literature, and gender, and will establish her as a leading figure in the field of women and Buddhism and Japanese Buddhist history.”

Congratulations, Lori!

**Amol Sarva** wrote in with more big news. Not only is his company, Peek ([getpeek.com](http://getpeek.com)), responsible for *Time*’s Gadget of the Year (now available on three continents) but he’s also building a loft condo building in his beloved neighborhood of Long Island City, to be called East of East ([eastofeast.com](http://eastofeast.com)).

Amol asked if there is an official class Facebook page. There isn’t an “official” one, but **Suehyun Kim** started one shortly after our 10th reunion called “Columbia College Class of ‘98.” It has about 105 members as of this writing. It would be wonderful if more classmates joined. It’s yet another way you can send me your updates!

Happy fall to all of you.

99

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Classmates, I’m sorry to report that it has been a moribund news cycle. Fortunately, **Ben Schneider** has stepped into the void with this felicitous announcement:

“I’ve spent years scanning the life updates and alumni trivia in Class Notes. Now I have one of my own to share: My wedding was May 30 to Stacy Kitsis ’01 Amherst, to whom I was introduced some years back by Martha Sparks ’01 in Boston. The wedding was in the lovely Tower Grove Park in St. Louis (where Stacy is from). We live in Maryland, just outside

of D.C. I am a story writer in the video game industry, at Big Huge Games, and Stacy, after teaching high school English for four years, is earning an M.L.S."

And perennial Class Notes newsmaker **Daniel Alarcón** was featured as one of *The New Yorker's* "20 under 40" fiction writers. Yay!

That's all I got for you. Clearly I didn't go out of my way to dredge up any items of interest, but you should really be ashamed for continuing to ignore my desperate pleas. It's downright cruel. Consider: We're that age now where lots of you must have little kiddies running around. Or if you plan to never have kids, don't you think your classmates deserve to know? Or let's say you're dithering on the whole question; why not share your indecision with the readers of CCT? It could be cathartic, at the very least.

I hope everyone had a lovely summer!

00

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**Afiya Jordan** practices law in NYC and lives in Brooklyn. She walked in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day this year as the only representative from our class and writes that she "was really there to see her mentee from the Columbia College Women's Mentoring Program graduate."

**Tejpaul Bhatia '00E** and **Erika Esposito** were married in Tuscany on September 9, 2009. I'm told it was a gorgeous weekend. They live in Manhattan, where Tejpaul recently launched a website, *RecreateMyNight.com*, under his startup, *MediaMerx*. Erika works for RAI Corp., the U.S. subsidiary of RAI, the Italian television company. [See photo.]

**Nadia Carter** writes that her sister, **Nicole Carter**, was married on July 10 to Dr. Sadi Ozelge in Central Park. They traveled to Istanbul for their honeymoon. Nadia lives in New York City and works at Accenture.

**Charles Saliba** is still in China and reports that **Johnny-5** is getting married on October 10 to Ethel Choi, a fashion designer from Hong Kong.

**Sander Cohan** and his wife, Katie, welcomed a son, Peter Connolly Cohan, into the world at 4:11 p.m. on June 25. He weighed 7 lbs., 14 ozs., and measured 21 inches. Congratulations all!

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our 10-year Alumni Reunion Weekend, especially on the *Intrepid* and on campus. Congratulations to our class for having the largest 10-year reunion in Columbia history!

Some stats:

Whole weekend = 178 alumni,  
260 people total

Thursday Class of 2000 reception = 62

Friday Class of 2000 CC and  
SEAS Reception = 128

Saturday Class of 2000 Decades  
BBQ = 57

Saturday Class of 2000 cocktails  
and dinner = 232

To everyone whom I caught up with at reunion, I'd love to include your updates in the next column. Please e-mail me!

#### REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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01

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I hope everyone had a fantastic summer and that the fall is off to a great start. I'm sure the summer yielded many weddings. If you have news, please pass it along.

**Julie Grinfeld** married Dr.

David Orbach '97 Cornell on May 30 at the Central Park Boathouse in Manhattan. Julie is the director of a private tutoring company, *Learning for Life*, and recently started a company called *Brain-Go*, which makes fun and educational games for kids. David teaches biology and bioengineering courses at Cooper Union and is its pre-medical adviser. They live on the Upper East Side. Some alums in attendance at their wedding were **Christina Okereke**, **Sumathi Rajamanickam**, **Tania D'Alberty**, **Trina Chaudhuri '01E**, **'02E** and **Jessica Barson '00**.

**Rachel Goodman** reports, "I've been living in the south and lost touch with a lot of my college friends through the years. I spent my first year at Hampden-Sydney College in Farmville, Va., as an assistant professor of biology. I love working closely with the undergrads here and getting them involved in field research and environmental and community service projects. My research focuses on ecology and conservation biology of reptiles and amphibians. My husband and I moved to Virginia after spending eight years in Tennessee (where I got an M.Sc. and Ph.D. at UT Knoxville) and are coming up on our seventh wedding anniversary in June. Maybe my update will inspire some old colleagues to look me up!"

**Rhode Island State Rep. David Segal** recently announced his candidacy for Congress and quickly outpaced the presumed front-run-



**Akhil Chopra '01 and Camille DeLaite '01 hosted a crew of Columbians at their May 2009 wedding in Columbia, Mo. Making the trip to the Midwest for the Hindu/Christian ceremony were (left to right) Usman Tahir '01, Sejal Shah '01, Amy Kimpel '01, Namrata Tripathi '01, Elspeth Wilson '01, Rodman Williams '01, the groom, the bride, Cassia Mosdell '01, Sofia Berger '01, Sheila Lavu '01, Krish Devidoss '01 and Gareth White '02 Barnard, and (not pictured) Lina Chopra Haldar '03E and Kavita Kumar Puri '97.**

PHOTO: ADRIENNE MAPLES

ner in raising online donations.

Using an online fundraising strategy modified from President Barack Obama '83's netroots campaign, David raised money from more than 1,000 mostly small-dollar contributors, totaling close to \$50,000 in just nine days.

David described his campaign as a grassroots effort, fueled by the energy, excitement and dollars of the state's progressive community. Read more about David's campaign at [SegalforCongress.com](http://SegalforCongress.com).

**Annie Lainer** coincidentally sat next to **Miles Berger** at the rehearsal dinner of a mutual (non-Columbian) friend. Miles finished his M.D./Ph.D. at UCSF a year ago and is doing a residency in anesthesiology at Duke. He lives in Durham with his wife, Miriam. Annie recently started a new job at Public Counsel, a public interest law firm in Los Angeles.

Please keep in touch!

02

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When **Alec Borenstein** was at Columbia, he won the George William Curtis Prize for a speech he gave on the Quarterlife Crisis. Last month, he launched his life coaching practice targeted to men and women in their 20s and 30s dealing with the Quarterlife Crisis. The name of his new business is Great By 38, and his website is [greatby38.com](http://greatby38.com). I logged on and am sure many of you will be tempted, too, since many of us just reached or soon will reach the big 3-0!

**Ellen Gustafson** appeared on *CNN Money* with her business partner, Lauren Bush, discussing the success of their company, FEED, which has provided 56,311,140 (at

presstime) meals to hungry children. Visit [www.feedprojects.com](http://www.feedprojects.com) to learn more. [Editor's note: CCT profiled Gustafson in July/August 2008: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul\\_aug08/alumni\\_profiles](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul_aug08/alumni_profiles).]

**Rajan Bahl** is doing an adult psychiatry residency at Massachusetts General/McLean Hospital and will be the chief resident of addictions this coming year.

**Nihal Godiwala** recently graduated from medical school at Tulane in New Orleans. He and his wife, Michelle, who is a small-animal veterinarian, will move to New Haven, Conn., so Nihal can start his residency in pediatrics at Yale. He is looking forward to being back in the Northeast, just a quick Metro-North ride away from the Heights and CU campus. When he's not in scrubs or in his world-champion Saints black and gold, Nihal will be sure to wear as much light blue as possible up in ol' Eli's den.

**Sara Velasquez** continues to work in film, theatre, volunteerism and business development. After seven years in New Zealand, she is moving to do volunteer work in Indonesia and the Solomon Islands. Sara will be in Padang, West Sumatra, working in development with a local NGO until November. Afterward, she'll volunteer in development in the Solomon Islands with her partner, Hassan. Sara's first supporting actress lead role in a New Zealand feature film (<http://ahistoryofmapmaking.com/>) will be released in 2011. [Editor's note: CCT profiled Velasquez in September/October 2007: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct\\_archive/sep\\_oct07/updates3.php](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/sep_oct07/updates3.php).]

**David Chubak** writes: "Jamie, Lindsay and I were overjoyed to welcome our second child, Benjamin Alan, on February 4. Benjamin is named after my grandfathers and role models, Benjamin Chubak and



**Amalia Goldvaser '05 and Larry Manis '05 were married at the New York Botanical Garden in May. Joining them were Sandra Amari '06; John-Paul Bellistri '04; Sinan Biro '05E; David Boillot '05; Steven Canner '89L; Anya Cherneff '05; Molly Conley '10; Daniel Fastenberg '05, '11J; Gary Gagliardi '05; Michael Goldberg '05, '11 Business; Ru Hockley '05; Adam Hussani '04; Courtney Johnson '05; Mira Kogen Resnick '04 GS; Kim Manis '09E; Neil Manis '84 TC; Rachel Paul '05; Kenneth Pollack '74 Pharmacy; Anne Rollins '05; Zachary Rose '05; Gabriel Rose '07; Jonathan Sellin '06; ManEui Song '05; Elizabeth Sovern '81 Barnard; Ezra Surowicz '07; and Evan Weiner '05.**

PHOTO: MARK NELSON

Alan Mandel, of blessed memory. Ben already has enjoyed meeting many new friends, including the many children of my roommates from the legendary suite 1002. We are hoping Ben will be a proud member of the Class of 2031!"

**Julia Campins** (née Wildorf) had a son, Silas Abraham, in February. Julia, Silas and her husband, Nick Campins '05L, have been spending some quality time with Patrick Gallagher '04 and his wife, Sarah Gallagher (née White) '04 Barnard, and their daughter, Maeve, who is two weeks younger than Silas. Patrick and Julia have been reliving the good old times from Shapiro 15, Spring 2001 edition, although they haven't yet gotten around to 7th Heaven marathons.

03

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Having lived in Beijing for the past year, life has obviously changed a great deal since I worked for alma mater. Nonetheless, Columbia has a strong presence in Beijing, so it is nice for Columbians living here to stay connected. In June, a number of administrators visited Beijing, including Dean of the College Michele Moody-Adams, Dean of Student Affairs Kevin Shollenberger, Senior Associate Dean of Student Affairs Kathryn Wittner, former Dean of

Alumni Affairs and Development Derek Wittner '65, and Malla Haridat and Courtney Murphy for the Center for Career Education.

Our class also has had its impact on nightlife here in Beijing: **William (Bill) Isler's** popular bar, Kokomo, has a great view of the city from the rooftop, and **Don Lee's** Bacon Bourbon Old Fashioned from PDT in New York City is on the menu at cocktail bar Apothecary. Let me know if you're ever in town so I can take you out to one of these hot spots. Now, on to news in the rest of the world ...

**Katori Hall** continues to earn critical acclaim for her work, having recently won an Olivier Award for her play *The Mountaintop*. Also in the theater realm, **Lisa Pattersson** remains involved with the Scandinavian American Theater Co., which had a performance of *Miss Julie* in June.

**Jacquie Strycker** writes: "I live in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, with my boyfriend and artistic collaborator, Samuel Sherman. We also share an art studio nearby. This spring, we received a grant from the Action Arts League to create *Yellow Brick Road*, a mini-golf hole that was part of the juried Pigment Mini-Golf Course on Governor's Island all summer. *Time Out New York* called it the "most inspired" golf course of the summer and mentioned our hole. I also work at the School of Visual Arts for its new M.F.A. Art Practice Program, and this fall, I'll teach a printmaking class at Columbia as an adjunct professor. I'm excited to be going back to Morningside Heights!"

**Seth Wax** writes, "I'll be spending the upcoming academic year in

Jerusalem for the third year of my program at Hebrew College Rabbinical School, which is a pluralistic rabbinical school in Newton, Mass."

**Philip Chu** was married in September 2009 to Flor.

**Lindsay (Shrier) Bourkoff** is "a financial adviser at Shrier Wealth Management in Beverly Hills (in my fourth year there) and really enjoying what I do. I have started a new area for our firm and manage 401k and other retirement plans for startups, entrepreneurs and mid-sized businesses. I advise the owners on selecting the best plans for their employees to maximize their benefits and contributions. My husband, **Natan Bourkoff**, and I recently celebrated our seventh wedding anniversary! We met our freshman year at Columbia and are still going strong."

Last, but certainly not last, congratulations to **Eleanor L. Coufos** on her success with the Young Alumni Fund this year; she has worked tirelessly on behalf of our class and recently assumed a new role as the Director of Annual Giving Programs in the Alumni Office.

04

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Greetings, fellow alumni!

I hope you're all doing well and settling into fall. Please send me any and all updates!

Congratulations to **David Molko**, who was promoted to senior producer at CNN International. He produces CNNi's *International Desk*, anchored by Hala Gorani, the flagship newscast of CNNi's Europe primetime programming, seen in 100-plus countries.

Congratulations also to **Judy Vale** and **Mike Rubin**, who were married on July 4 in Garrison, N.Y. It was a Columbia mini-reunion, with the following alums celebrating with the happy couple: Mary Amasia '04E, Rajesh Banik '04E, **Tom Biegeleisen**, Eric Chang '04E, Marisa Cohn '02 Barnard, **Mark Franczyk**, **Joe Gaynor**, **Kentaro Kaji**, **Zoe Marcus**, **Fernando Martinez**, **Rae Neugarten**, **Kimberly Ong**, **Zach Rosner**, Jon Steiner '04E, Sara Topek Spronz '04 Barnard and **Neil Vaishnav**.

05

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Wasn't reunion fun? It was nice seeing many of you back on campus. I particularly enjoyed Professor Andrew Nathan's Contemporary

Civilization lecture, and my fiancée, **Melanie Lee**, who took one of his classes, introduced him to the audience. And the wine-tasting was a good time as well, although the extreme mugginess made me stick to the cold whites.

The class dinner was well attended and a great opportunity to catch up with old friends. Some people I saw in attendance throughout the night were **Cedrick Mendoz-Tolentino**, **Harmony Davis**, **Mike Camacho**, **Merry Boak**, **Sandy Huang**, **Stephanie Katsigianis**, **Michael Sin**, **Jeff Engler**, **Diana Benton**, **Amalia Goldvaser**, **Ravi Desai**, **Robert Gross**, **Anna Lee**, **Lizza Dwoskin** and **Anil Kumar**. Unfortunately, I did not attend the party on the *Intrepid*, but I heard it was a blast.

Please send me your thoughts on reunion so I can add them to a future column.

Some notes:

**Natasha Shapiro**, who graduated from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the beginning of June, started her pediatric residency at Yale. **Luis Saucedo** will also be in New Haven this fall, working toward an M.B.A. at Yale School of Management.

**Anya Cherneff** graduated in August with an M.A. in international human rights and concentrations in gender, human trafficking and international development, from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at University of Denver.

**Shifra Koifman** graduated from New Jersey Medical School in May and began her pediatric residency at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx. She lives on the Upper East Side.

**Julia Stiles** will be on 10 episodes of the Showtime hit series *Dexter* this fall. She will, according to a Showtime press release, play a "mysterious young woman who forms a unique relationship with Dexter" after his wife dies.

A birth announcement! **Caryn (Waterson) Gehrke** writes: "My husband, **Martin** '06E, and I welcomed our son, **Martin Robert**, into the world on April 29. He was born uptown at Columbia weighing 8 lbs., 9 oz. and measuring 21.5 inches."

Congrats!

And an '05 wedding! In May, **Amalia Goldvaser** and **Larry Manis** were married at the New York Botanical Garden. Alumni in attendance included **David Boillot**, **Anya Cherneff**, **Daniel Fastenberg**, **Gary Gagliardi** '06, **Michael Goldberg**, **Ru Hockley**, **Courtney Johnson**, **Rachel Paul** '05E, **Anne Rollins** '05E, **Zachary Rose**, **ManEui Song** '05E and **Evan Weiner**.

Congrats to Amalia and Larry!

## REUNION JUNE 2-JUNE 5

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06

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer!

I'm pleased to share exciting news that **Jen Schmidman**, a New Orleans resident, took second place in the only business plan competition focused on improving education. Her Drop the Chalk product earned her \$15,000 in the Milken-Penn GSE Education Business Plan Competition. Drop the Chalk is web-based software that empowers teachers and principals to measure students' academic growth by providing an overall picture of what students know and what they still need to learn. It ranked second among 125 submissions from the United States, India, Taiwan and South Korea. For those of you in education, especially at charter schools, I encourage you to reach out to Jen to learn more about Drop the Chalk's progress.

Speaking of schools, many of our classmates are beginning, continuing or have recently graduated from school. **Teddy Diefenbach** was a game designer for Disney Online Studios this summer. He is going back to USC's School of Cinematic Arts in the fall to continue his M.F.A. in interactive media. **Alicia Harper** completed her first year of graduate school at Teachers College. She is expecting her Ed.M. in psychological counseling in May 2011. "In the meantime," she writes, "I'm enjoying motherhood (Aiden is 2½), and I created a blog for other young mothers and mothers in general, <http://momdelicious.blogspot.com>. Check it out!"

**Jasmine Ting** went to Taipei, Taiwan, to study Chinese intensively for a year. Now she will be attending the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins for an M.A. in international economics and China studies, but not before first attending its Hopkins Nanjing Program in Nanjing, China, this fall for another year in Asia.

**Tova Katz** and her husband, Ithamar, recently welcomed their first child, Amiel David. They left Manhattan this summer and moved to Boston, where Tova will pursue an M.B.A. **Andrew Lichtenberg** (aka Drebb) graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in May. He is planning to start

work at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy in January. **Andrew Liebowitz** graduated from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse with a master's in public administration. He accepted a job as economist with the Independent Budget Office of New York City and plans to relocate to Brooklyn or Queens.

As always, classmates are moving to all parts of the globe for work. Here's the latest on some of their whereabouts: **Megan Browder** swore in as a small enterprise development Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya on July 22. **Daniel Billings** has taken on an international assignment with Thomson Reuters in Hong Kong, managing public relations for the company's Markets Division across Asia Pacific. He writes, "I miss New York, but Hong Kong is the best place for my career right now; it feels like the center of a different universe. Classmates planning an East Asian adventure or coming through the city on business should say hi! Hongkongs love to party and can show any jaded New Yorker a good time." **Thessaly La Force** left her job at *The New Yorker* in April to join *The Paris Review* as its first web editor.

And last, but certainly not least, here are updates from classmates closer to home: **Eva Colen** is on Teach For America's full-time staff. She moved to Richmond, Va., in June and transitioned to senior recruitment director, managing on-campus recruitment at the University of Virginia and the College of William & Mary, in addition to managing digital engagement and social media strategy for nationwide recruitment. **Sean Wilkes** writes, "After four years in the Army, I'm finally getting a break! I am in graduate school at Harvard, studying biology. It's only been a few weeks, but I'm enjoying it immensely. Spent my first week playing tourist, watching the Red Sox and touring breweries with my good friend and token New Englander, **Bob Wray**, and already met up with some local Columbia alumni thanks to the eminent **Sophia Chau**, the regional chair of CCYA in Boston."

After working for Lehman Brothers upon graduation and two years as web producer at Scholastic Publishing, **Carly Miller** has moved from books into the world of news as an online strategic analyst at Fox News. **Jeremy Kotin** co-produced and co-edited (alongside producer Jeff Mandel '96, '03L, '03 Business and co-writer Evan M. Wiener '96) the feature film *Monogamy*, starring Chris Messina and Rashida Jones, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in April and played the Seattle Film Festival in mid-



Ross Gabrielson '06, '12 Business and friends showed some Light Blue pride during his wedding to Elizabeth Ruddle in September 2009 near her home in Carversville, Pa. Waving the Columbia banner with him were (top row, left to right) Andrew Greenspan '77; Xing Wang '06; Benjamin Russell '05; Nicholas Jennings '06E; the bride; the groom; Daniel Concepcion '06, '12 GSAS; Patricia Gordon '14 GSAS; Mansi Mehta '06 Barnard; Gibbuda Witham '06E; Oren Shur '06E; and Rachel Sherer '06E; and (bottom row, left to right) Paasha Mahdavi '06; Marco Persico '06E; Previn Chandraratna '97, '03 GSAS; Tyler Boyd '06 and Laurie Stricks '98 TC.

PHOTO: CAROL ROSS OF CAROL ROSS PHOTOGRAPHY

June. Jeremy recently wrapped an electronic press kit for The Punch Brothers and another for jazz bassist Esperanza Spalding. He also completed work on a behind-the-scenes piece for Mountain Dew and a shoot for Gillette and directed the filming of a live performance for Gretchen Parlato.

**Amanda Rose Smear** writes, "In addition to planning events for Marquee Nightclub (where I've worked literally since the day I finished finals after graduating a semester early) and the new Avenue Lounge in Chelsea, I'm also helping to open a new restaurant in the Columbia neighborhood! It's going to be called Mel's Burger Bar and I'm hoping to make it what The West End was back in our day ... We were slated to open at the end of August, and you can expect Mel's to be a big supporter of Columbia athletics and events! For more info, check out [www.twitter.com/melsburgerbarny](http://www.twitter.com/melsburgerbarny).

07

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I hope that everyone had a great summer!

As the fall approaches, many of our classmates are heading off to graduate school, starting new jobs and making some exciting announcements ...

**Subash Iyer** and **Helam Gebremariam** traveled through France, Italy and Spain this summer before returning to New York City. After

working for more than a year at the Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C., Subash is excited to move back to New York. He will start at NYU School of Law in the fall. Helam graduated from NYU Law this past May, and will begin a clerkship this fall with the Honorable Robert P. Patterson of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. [Editor's note: See the feature "Young Lions in Washington," in the July/August '10 issue, which included Iyer: [www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul\\_aug10/features1](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct/jul_aug10/features1).]

**Becca Hartog** writes, "I'm back from my Peace Corps service in Cameroon [since November], and began medical school at Emory in July."

**Lenora Babb** will leave her job as reservationist at West Village hotspot The Lion to start law school this fall at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, where she plans to get in as much snowboarding as possible between classes.

**Jessica Zen** (néé Wong) shares, "I am sending you greetings from Cambridge, Mass. My husband and I recently moved here, and I will be starting business school at MIT Sloan this fall. We traveled to Los Angeles, Seattle and Alaska for a bit this summer."

**Margaret Bryer** writes, "Since January, I have been working on a research project on baboon behavior, assisting a CUNY Ph.D. student, in Cape Town, South Africa. Being here during the World Cup was a nice perk! I'm heading back to New York this fall to enter Hunter's master's program in anthropology."

**Samantha Rotstein** recently

# Elizabeth Craig '07 Monitors Bird Breeding Activity

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

**E**very spring, **Elizabeth Craig '07** island-hops between the off-limit islands within New York Harbor — but she's no trespasser.

As a research associate for New York City Audubon, Craig is granted access to 18 uninhabited islands that the organization has identified as potential nesting habitats for a variety of colonial water birds. The islands are scattered throughout the East River, Jamaica Bay, Lower New York Bay, Arthur Kill, Kill Van Kull, the Hutchinson River and Long Island Sound. Craig's mission is to survey the breeding activity of several bird species on each island.

"I do feel that I have the best job in New York," says Craig. "Since there is no longer human activity on these islands they have been reclaimed by nature. They truly are little wild patches within the city."

The solitude of the islands makes them appealing nesting grounds for herons, cormorants and gulls. Access to the islands is limited, not only to protect the sensitive habitats but also because dilapidated buildings and other structures pose potential dangers.

As leader of the NYC Audubon's Harbor Herons project, Craig counts and categorizes the nests, eggs and chicks on each island with the help of a research team composed of volunteers from several organizations, including NYC Audubon, and staff from the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation and the National Park Service. The task sometimes involves climbing trees. In 2009, nine of the islands showed evidence of ac-

tive nesting colonies.

Craig has worked closely with Dr. Susan Elbin, NYC Audubon's Director of Conservation, on the annual harbor surveys and other related projects.

"Liz doesn't usually view her research projects — or preparing for research, presentations or programs — as work," says Elbin. "She will get up in the middle of the night to be at a roost before first light; she'll learn how to captain a small boat in the busy New York Harbor; she'll volunteer to help colleagues collect data."

Elbin was employed by the Wildlife Trust, another nonprofit, when she agreed to mentor Craig for her senior thesis, for which they designed a project to determine the effects of a growing double-crested cormorant population on the New York Harbor ecosystem.

"Liz was excited about and truly enjoyed urban ecology — not wishing she were somewhere else more exotic," recalls Elbin.

Craig, from Mendham, N.J., has been interested in wildlife

since she was a child and was drawn to ornithology during her junior year of high school, when she participated in a semester-long environmental education program in Wiscasset, Maine, offered by the Chewonki Foundation.

"On Saturday mornings we had a bird identification class," says Craig. "We had to learn about more than 100 species before the end of the semester."

During her time in Maine, Craig also became involved with bird rehabilitation. She enjoyed the experience so much that she spent the following six summers working at The Raptor Trust, a wild bird rehabilitation center in Millington, N.J., where she dealt primarily with orphaned chicks of various species.

"For the most part, during the summer my job was to be a 'mother bird,'" says Craig, who adopted a female turtledove that was brought to The Raptor Trust one summer. "Depending on their age, some birds needed to be fed on the hour, every

two hours or every four hours up until the point where they could eat on their own."

Craig majored in ecology, evolution and environmental biology (E3B) and recently completed her second year of graduate school at Cornell, where she is pursuing a doctorate in zoology. She is writing her dissertation on the ways in which the winter fish diet of the cormorants that nest in New York Harbor affects their summer breeding success and hopes to embark on a career that will allow her to "have some impact on the management and conservation of these important species."

Craig chose to attend the College because of her high regard for Columbia's E3B program and to have access to institutions such as the American Museum of Natural History and the Bronx Zoo. She nonetheless believes an important part of her education took place not in the classroom but in Central Park, which she frequented to bird-watch.

"By the time I was a senior I was spending a couple of hours almost every day in the park walking around and writing down what I saw," she says. "That's really where I learned most of what I know."

*To watch a documentary about and see a slide show of Craig's work, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct).*

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



Elizabeth Craig '07 banding an egret in order to track its activity.

completed her master's of real estate development from USC and is an architect.

**Joseph Anzalone** "recently got his girlfriend, Gillian DiPietro '07 Barnard, drunk while in Venice and tricked her into saying yes when he asked her to marry him. When the hangover faded, she decided to keep the ring. The wed-

ding will be sometime in 2011 (fingers crossed!)."

**Avi Zenilman** recently left Brooklyn and "is moving back into Savta's!"

**Eric Bondadarsky** shares that "**Jakob Reich** recently started a blog about the various interesting things he reads in magazines or on the Internet that he wants to

remember and share. Its highlights include posts about the World Cup, food and digital marketing, in which he is an expert. You can (and should!) check it out at <http://content-consumer.blogspot.com>."

**Allison Mirkin** writes, "**Am-balika Pinto** married Ajay Sudan in February in Jaipur, India. **Allie Mirkin**, **Clay Cordova**, **Shiho**

**Kawashima '07E**, **Ping Song**, **Vadim Avshalumov**, **Paul Tietz '08**, **Casey Levine**, **Nada Petrovic '06**, **Kori Gatta** and **John Estrada** traveled to Jaipur for the three-day celebration. It was an incredible experience for everyone!"

Thank you again for all of the submissions, and have a great autumn!

08

**Neda Navab**  
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I hope everyone had a fabulous summer! Check out the latest Class Notes below, and let us know what you have been up to by e-mailing me.

**Ingrid Scholze** is moving to Chicago in September to begin law school at Chicago.

On Mother's Day, May 9, **Dalinez Martinez** married her high school sweetheart, Eliu Lanzo, at the Surf Club in New Rochelle, N.Y. **Laura Lee**, who came up from Virginia and as a surprise, brought a groom's cake in the shape of a boxing glove; **Nickisha Berlus**, who took a break from med school finals to come; **Meylin Mota '09** Barnard; and **Tiffany Tiburcio '10** Barnard; and **Tiffany Tiburcio '10** Barnard were bridesmaids. Also in attendance were **Marcela Calidonio '06**, Dali's roommate in Brazil in the SEE-U program, and **Sadia Collins '09**, Dali's Art Hum buddy.

**Scott Hughes** is moving to Washington, D.C., to join the Carlyle Group as an associate. Before the big move, Scott finally took a well-earned vacation: "I'm bumming around Spain and Italy for a couple of weeks before I start, so it's nice getting a respite from the banking grind." It turns out that Scott was in Madrid to watch the World Cup final and celebrate the victory!

In April 2009, **Dan Haley** launched smallGRAND productions, a comedy video production company. SmallGRAND's videos have been featured on Gawker, Urlesque, Heavy.com, TheApiary.org and other irreverent pop culture sites. In addition to the videos he has written, Dan has produced videos written by **Abby Rosebrock**, **David Iscoe '09** and **Adam Nover '10E**. "Though a rising comedy video mogul, I am by day a media relations coordinator at North American Precise Syndicate, a public relations company in Midtown." Dan lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn.

**Mark Clemente** is director of marketing and communications for the New York Junior Tennis League.

**Rachel Levenson** is starting a Ph.D. in clinical psychology this fall at Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology, which is part of Yeshiva University.

09

**Alidad Damooei**  
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While the Class of 2009 has long dispersed across the globe, **Colin**

**Felsman, Jordan Keenan, Ellen Kessel, Eric Hirsch, Alison Yang, Lauren Rennee** and I returned to South Lawn in May to participate in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day. It was a warm, sunny day that brought back fresh memories of our graduation as we celebrated the accomplishments of the Class of 2010. While we took a moment to remember the past, our class continues to push forth.

Since graduation, **Idara Udofia** has been working on an independent documentary about female professional basketball players in Senegal and how they revolutionize the female identity in that country. Last summer, Idara was in Dakar for preproduction, and she now is in Senegal working on production. Idara has even been able to train and travel with the team — doing just about everything with them except for playing in the tournaments. She reports that women's basketball is pretty exciting in Senegal, and it is actually preferred to men's basketball. You can check out Idara's blog ([joyfuleyeproductions.blogspot.com](http://joyfuleyeproductions.blogspot.com)) for details.

**Amy Duffuor** is pursuing an M.Phil. in migration studies at Oxford. She recently completed her first year and was a summer research assistant for Oxford's Department of Politics and International Relations in London. Amy also conducted fieldwork for her dissertation, a project concerning how West African Pentecostal churches impact the local political involvement of a West African community in South London. Taking advantage of her new European location, she'll travel to Brussels, Paris and Tanzania before the end of the year.

**Carla Baricz** is looking forward to a break from New York City. For the past year, she has been an assistant editor for Trinity University Press, a part-time librarian and a graduate research assistant. This fall, she will move to New Haven to begin a dual Ph.D. in English literature and renaissance studies at Yale. Carla spent the summer in Bucharest, where she conducted research in the state archives and prepared another article for publication.

**Annie Ma** and **Jacob Weaver** have had an exciting 2010 so far! After researching behavioral economics at Columbia's Center for Decision Sciences, Annie joined Google's Enterprise Division in Mountain View, Calif. She is helping businesses Go Google, working on the Gmail product support team and occasionally supping with fellow Googler **Brendan Ballou**.

Jacob spent a few months commuting coast-to-coast every weekend while working for McKinsey, before joining the San Francisco-



**A large Columbia contingent made the trek to Jaipur, India, in February for the three-day celebration of the wedding of Ambalika Pinto '07 and Ajay Sudan. Crossing oceans were (front row, left to right) Allison Mirkin '07, Shiho Kawashima '07E, Vadim Avshalumov '07, Alma Pinto, Alisa Crowell, Corey Crowell and Maria Tonione; and (back row, left to right) Clay Cordova '07, Nada Petrovic '05, Anmol Sinha, the bride, the groom, Danielle Mohny, Atish Nigam, Ambika Singh, Paul Tietz '08, Ping Song '07, David Flowerdew, Leanna Resseguie, John Rowan '01, Casey Levine '07, Phil Lee, Shreyas Vijaykumar, Eric Lee, Nishant Sinha, Hollis Kline, Akshat Ghiya and Vijay Sudan.**

PHOTO: KEVIN PAUL PHOTOGRAPHY

based mutual fund Dodge & Cox in August. In their spare time, Jacob and Annie enjoy biking through San Francisco and looking for new places to Yelp.

After enjoying a year in California's sun-soaked weather, your class scribe (**Alidad Damooei**) will be returning east, braving the cold winters to study at Yale Law. I hope to focus my studies on the intersection of law and economics while also leaving myself open to pursue other areas of law that inspire me. Perhaps the greatest perk next year will be that I will be only a short train ride away from the city on Metro-North. I plan to make trips into New York to visit those of you who are still living in the Empire State of Mind. I hope these trips and occasional visits to College Walk will ensure that my loyalties do not stray too far away from our Lions.

10

**Julia Feldberg**  
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Whether you've been working, traveling, relaxing at home or looking for a job, I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer. Now, on to the news:

**Tara Barrett** will be in Ecuador for a year starting in August working with WorldTeach. If you happen to be in the area, she would love to see you!

**Nicole Beach** is heading to the West Coast for the next two years to work at a law firm. She is in the

process of looking for a place to live, so if anyone is going to be in San Francisco or has friends there, let her know!

**Anthony Pascua Jr.** has returned to his native San Francisco Bay Area to work at Google in its Mountain View, Calif., headquarters. He will join Google's Global Online Advertising division, and he hopes one day to design a Google Doodle, a creative logo posted on google.com.

**Valerie Sapozhnikova** has trouble believing four years at Columbia have come to an end. It has been great, and she is thankful for everyone who made her college experience as wonderful as it was. This summer, she traveled to Italy and Russia, and she started a job in New York at the end of July.

A big congratulations to the 2010 alumni who will be starting graduate school in the fall. **Natalie Gossett** will be attending Villanova Law and plans to focus on entertainment and intellectual property law.

**Hieu Pham** did a summer internship in public health in Gulu, Uganda, then began graduate school at Johns Hopkins in August.

**Ben Freeman** was an R.A. for Barnard's pre-college program during the summer and is heading to Harvard Law in the fall.

**Gabriella Ripoll** is excited to start NYU Law this fall. She spent the summer in New York City teaching the PSAT to kids.

In September, **Morgan Parker** will begin her studies as an M.F.A. candidate in poetry at NYU.

Thank you for sending in your notes, and please keep them coming!



## Letters

(Continued from page 2)

and disposed of relatively quickly. Mediocrity is often tolerated for far longer periods of time, either because administration does not perceive the defects, the individual involved is a pleasant and popular person or because change is difficult. In this case, the mediocre situation persisted for a six-year period, far longer than it should have.

Columbia cannot tolerate mediocrity in the coaches of its major sports programs. Considering the recruiting standards that Ivy League schools must impose, it is not possible to assure the success of a program merely through recruits. Therefore, the role that coaches play in determining the success of a program may be far greater than programs in which the recruits have such stunning talent that the success depends less upon excellent coaching. Administrative personnel must have the perception and the courage to analyze whether coaching excellence is present. It is not clear that that was the case in dealing with coach Jones.

Richard D. Kuhn '55, '58L  
STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.

I find it passing strange that your first major article in recent memory about team sports at Columbia is your apologia, "Hoop Hopes, Coaching at Columbia" ["Within the Family," May/June].

I am a fairly diligent reader of your magazine, and the last article I remember about a major sport was your celebration some years ago of Columbia's Ivy League baseball championship. The fate of the team since that happy occasion is shrouded in mystery. There are minor stories of Ivy League championships in tennis and fencing, but these are sort of mentioned in passing. These items aside, perhaps it is my failing memory, but the only "sports" articles that I can remember in recent years were celebrations of outstanding individual athletes.

I think this is a very real failing in an otherwise excellent magazine. Many alumni are very interested in how all the teams do, even if the reading causes pain. Diligent coverage on your part might also help produce greater alumni support for the teams.

I urge you to report regularly on how all the teams are doing and to devote regular space to sports coverage.

Arthur Feder '49, '51L  
NEW YORK CITY

*Editor's note: The print schedule of a bimonthly magazine makes it impossible to provide up-to-date athletics coverage. In addition, we have a finite number of pages, and sports is only one of many areas of life at Columbia that need to be included. We provide sports news highlights in "Roar, Lion, Roar" in most issues, and print features and profiles as developments warrant. For the most complete coverage of Columbia athletics, log on to [www.gocolumbiaions.com](http://www.gocolumbiaions.com), the official Athletics website. Another option during the school year is [www.columbiaspectator.com](http://www.columbiaspectator.com).*

### The Columbia Club

On page 9 of the May/June issue, there is a full-page advertisement for the newly renovated Columbia University Club at 15 W. 43rd St. The accompanying picture over the fireplace in the dining room appears to be Woodrow Wilson. If, by chance, the viewers can't see his relevance to Columbia, it's because the club is the Princeton Club of New York.

There was a Columbia Club in my time. It was located at 4 W. 43rd St., across from the Princeton Club, and had old but quite beautiful facilities including a large dining room, bar, grill, library, gym and squash courts, and about 75 bedrooms. The club invited seniors to tour the facilities and, of course, offered a minimal dues structure for us to join. At the bar for free drinks (the age of consent was 18), we were informed that if we received a traffic or parking ticket, we could amble up to the bar and find District Attorney Frank Hogan '24 and he would take care of it. Even at the tender age of 21 I didn't believe that, but considering that I had no prospects of a car it was OK. I used the club with pleasure a number of times and then went on active duty as a commissioned officer in the Army, during which time club dues were waived in the interest of patriotism. By the time I returned to New York City in the 1970s, the club had been sold to the World Unification Church.

So that was the Columbia Club. What is across the street is a very nice place for Princetonians, but it's not a real Columbia Club. Firstly, the Columbia Club is in residence at the Princeton Club (its official relationship), but that's not what the advertisements and mailings say. Secondly, except for a few pictures and a handful of mementos, everything

## Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 72)

Lerner Hall. An audience of more than 300 reunion-goers and singers' families filled every seat in the house. Glee Club alumni filed in to sing together once more: Mozart, Orff, spirituals, folk songs, even a barbershop quartet. Plus College songs, of course.

And the sound! The sound of all those lovely lifted voices, male and female, ringing together off the walls! I lived a part of my life again that day when I sang the bass solo in "Set Down Servant," as I had nearly 50 years before, even though my breath escaped and my voice broke as the emotions grabbed my throat. I know I wasn't the only one feeling those emotions. I could see it in the faces and hear it in the voices.

ChorusAmerica, the choral trade association, has research showing that more adult Americans, 32 million of them, sing in choruses than participate in any other musical activity. That Columbia University Glee Club alumni across a span of nearly 60 years gathered to perform proved the point.

We made a CD of the performance, and listening to it afterward made me shake my head. These men and women had never sung together before. None of them had sung all the pieces on the program before. To sound as we

did after four hours of rehearsals was pretty amazing.

Our special times in the Glee Club pulled us to gather and sing. We swapped stories about concerts and tours that brought Columbia's name and Glee Clubbers to California, Puerto Rico, Canada and Europe. We spoke about the diminished place of today's Glee Club on campus and its accomplishments in coming back last year against difficult odds. That led us to discuss what alumni might do to help today's club prosper in the future. We've even started to talk about getting together to sing as a chorus of Columbia alumni.

We may have started something here.



For details on Glee Club alumni activities and/or to purchase the performance recording, visit [www.cugcalums.com](http://www.cugcalums.com). If you did not receive e-mail messages about the Glee Club reunion performance and want to receive communications about alumni singing, send your name, school, class year and e-mail address to [glee.club.alumni@columbia.edu](mailto:glee.club.alumni@columbia.edu).

**Nicholas Rudd '64, '67 Business** lives in Westport, Conn., and sings with the Greenwich Choral Society. He looks forward to singing again with a chorus of Columbia alumni.

hanging everywhere is about Princeton. My wife and I joined a number of years ago, and at the orientation for new members we received Princeton T-shirts — luckily I had a business friend who had gone there and who appreciated the re-gifting. We put up one of our daughters and her husband there overnight and she said this place is all about tigers, not lions.

So, why are there Harvard, Yale, Princeton and other college clubs in New York but no Columbia Club in the city where Columbians intone "Who owns New York?" is a mystery to me. Perhaps one day an old building could be found and a real club started again. Until then, the advertisements and mailings should say the truth: the Columbia Club in residence at the Princeton Club.

Jay R. Deutsch '66  
NEW YORK CITY

*Editor's note: Following is a response from the president of the Columbia University Club:*

Mr. Deutsch's letter misses the mark.

Despite losing the clubhouse in the 1970s due to a falloff of members, many alumni believed there were benefits in providing a gathering place for Columbians. Today's cost of replicating the former club would exceed \$50 million. When the opportunity arose to create a special relationship with the Princeton Club, the directors took it. "In residence" affiliation has given Columbia's alumni the best approximation of what some remembered, working with another Ivy partner.

With more than 2,000 Columbia members and a renovated facility with much Columbiana, the Columbia Club is flourishing and welcomes inquiries from all Columbia alumni, including Mr. Deutsch.

Mark Lemle Amsterdam '66, '69L  
PRESIDENT  
THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CLUB  
OF NEW YORK





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**Deadline for November/December issue:  
Tuesday, September 28, 2010**

## ALUMNI CORNER

# Hark! The Glee Club Alumni Sing

BY NICHOLAS RUDD '64, '67 BUSINESS

For some of us, that special time was team sports or the arts, a compelling professor, student organizations or perhaps a close-knit group of classmates — that certain space of energy and devoted commitment that comes to mind when one thinks of the College each of us experienced in our time.

For me, it was the Columbia Glee Club in the early 1960s: a large, well-respected, all-male collegiate chorus that was the first college group to perform in Philharmonic (now Avery Fisher) Hall at Lincoln Center, received write-ups in *The New York Times* and brought Columbia's name to high school kids in Westchester and alumni in the Midwest. I found joy in blending my voice with dozens of others, learning new music, making lifelong friends and having experiences I talk about to this day.

When I discovered that by the 2008–09 academic year the Glee Club had essentially faded away after several years of decline, I was forcefully reminded that things change. A part of Columbia that had been especially important to me was no longer there.

Until then, affinity reunions had been planned as two-hour wine and cheese receptions on Saturday, between post-lunch class sessions and dinners. But Glee Club people sing!

So was born the notion of a performance by Glee Club alumni, preceded by enough rehearsal time to avoid undue embarrassment. We would sing for everyone attending reunion/Dean's Day, or at least everyone who cared to listen. As it happened, no other singing group alumni organized to perform.

Fortunately, Jerry Weale '57 and Bruce Trinkley '66, both Glee Club alumni concerned with the club's near-demise, had gone on from being associate directors of the Glee Club to distinguished careers as choral directors at Boston University and Penn State, respectively. Bruce had even led the Columbia Glee Club for a year.

They took on a daunting musical challenge: We don't know who's coming. We don't know what shape their voices are in. We don't know the balance of voice parts we'll have. We don't know the acoustics of the room where we'll be singing. We want to put on a program both singers and audience will enjoy, but we only



Nearly 100 Glee Club alumni from as far back as 1952 gathered to sing in Roone Arledge Auditorium during Alumni Reunion Weekend/Dean's Day 2010. To see a larger version of this photo, go to [www.college.columbia.edu/cct](http://www.college.columbia.edu/cct).

PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

Working with the Student Development and Activities Office and a handful of alumni from my era, some dedicated, motivated students revived the Glee Club in 2009–10 and sang at December's Tree-Lighting, put on the traditional Spring Concert on campus in April and performed "Stand, Columbia" at Commencement.

But what about the future?

When I attended my class' 45th Alumni Reunion Weekend in 2009, I noted gatherings of alumni who had been on the *Spectator* staff or part of WKCR. These relatively new "vertical" receptions were an effort by the Alumni Office to reconnect alumni with each other and with Columbia through "affinity groups," ongoing collectives of shared interest and activities.

The near-disappearance of the Glee Club suggested that its alumni were not aware of how much things had changed. Getting them together seemed to me like a good place to start. Other former Glee Clubbers, like Michael Garrett '66, also thought a Glee Club affinity reception would be a good thing and had begun talking about having one. Former Dean of Alumni Affairs and Development Derek Wittner '65 and Executive Director of Alumni Affairs Ken Catandella agreed. In 2010, Alumni Reunion Weekend/Dean's Day would, for the first time, include an affinity reception for singers, open to anyone who had sung in any group while at Columbia.

have 3½–4 hours for rehearsal across two days, and not all singers will be at both rehearsals. Now, what shall we sing?

Meanwhile, we needed to find some singers. Older alumni may remember how the yearbook included photos of various student organizations and identified participants by name. That practice stopped around 1970, with only occasional returns to that norm since. The Alumni Office had tagged some names in the University alumni database with activity codes, but the list was incomplete.

That realization kicked off several months of effort to identify 40 years of missing Glee Club alumni and to get their e-mail addresses. Efforts included days in the University Archives/Columbiana files (now part of the Rare Book and Manuscript Library), digging through concert programs and setting up a Facebook page. By reunion, we had identified more than 950 members, with more still to be found. But at least we had a start.

Over the course of the weekend, nearly 100 Glee Club alumni, representing College, SEAS, GS and Barnard classes from 1952–2010, showed up to rehearse, socialize and sing. A few days before the event, registrations exceeded room size and the performance was moved to the Roone Arledge Auditorium in Alfred

(Continued on page 70)



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