A new spirit of community is building on Morningside Heights.
I’ll meet you for a drink at the club…”

Meet. Dine. Play. Take a seat at the newly renovated bar & grill or fine dining room. See how membership in the Columbia Club could fit into your life.

For more information or to apply, visit www.columbiaclub.org or call (212) 719-0380.

The Columbia University Club of New York
15 West 43 St. New York, NY 10036
## Contents

### Cover Story

14 **Student Life: A New Spirit of Community on Morningside Heights**

Satisfaction with campus life is on the rise, and here are some of the reasons why.

_by David McKay Wilson_

### Features

22 **Erica Woda ’04 Tries To Level the Field**

By harnessing the power of Columbia and its people, Erica Woda ’04 founded Level the Field to help local youth achieve.

_by Joshua Robinson ’08_

24 **Columbia Forum**

John W. Kluge Jr. ’05 compiled his father John W. Kluge Sr. ’37’s thoughts on life, success and lessons learned into _John Kluge: Stories_.

### Alumni News

30 **Bookshelf**

Featured: David Rakoff ’86 defends pessimism but avoids memoirism in his new collection of humorous short stories, *Half Empty. WARNING!!! No Inspirational Life Lessons Will Be Found In These Pages.*

32 **Obituaries**

34 Dr. Robert Butler ’49, ’53 P&S

36 **Class Notes**

53 **Alumni Updates**

59 Roy Braeger ’86

68 Elizabeth Craig ’07

72 **Alumni Corner**

Nicholas Rudd ’64, ’67 Business and a number of other enthusiastic alumni convened Glee Club singers from 1952 to the present at reunion 2010.

### Departments

2 **Letters to the Editor**

3 **Within the Family**

4 **Around the Quads**

5 Homecoming 2010

6 Athletics Hall of Fame Inductees

7 Great Teachers Award

8 CC Fund Raises $15.1 Million

9 In Memoriam: Jack H. Beeson

10 5 Minutes with … Emlyn Hughes

11 Alumni in the News

12 Student Spotlight: Dustin Martin ’11

13 Campus News

### Web Exclusives at www.college.columbia.edu/cct

**Five More Minutes**

Professor Emlyn Hughes discusses the unfounded fear that the Large Hadron Collider could destroy Earth.

**Leveling the Field**

Children speak about the influence that Erica Woda ’04’s Level the Field has had on their lives.

**The Birds of New York**

Elizabeth Craig ’07 shares a documentary and slideshow of her work with New York City’s birds.

**Scholarships 101**

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

---

**FRONT AND BACK COVERS: CHAR SMULLYAN**
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 cabinet, 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.

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 decry, 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 expensive) 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 indices 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. 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.
Homecoming 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. 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.gocolumbia lions.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.gocolumbia lions.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 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.gocolumbia lions.com/footballgameday.
Rothfeld To Receive Hamilton Medal

Michael 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.
 Athletics Announces 2010 Hall of Fame Class

Columbia 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 Koppsich ’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 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 Koppsich ’25 (football)
John J. O’Brien ’38 (football, basketball, swimming and diving)
Stephen Sobel ’34 (fencing)
Al Thompson ’34 (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)

Former Student-Athletes, Female

Heritage Era (1852–1955)
Althia Dorsey ’01 (track and field)
Erinn Smart ’02 Barnard (fencing)

Modern Era (1955–Present)
Alison Ahern ’00 (soccer)
Nicole Campbell ’02 (field hockey, softball)
Delliah 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

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 18</td>
<td>FORDHAM</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>TOWSON</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>PRINCETON</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>LAFAYETTE</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>at Penn</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
<td>DARTMOUTH</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30</td>
<td>at Yale</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>at Harvard</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 13</td>
<td>CORNELL</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>at Brown</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For tickets or further information, visit www.gocolumbialions.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 saber competition, while James Williams ’07 and Jeff Spear ’10 were fifth and sixth, respectively, in senior men’s saber.

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.
Robert 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, or Anna Longobardo ’49E, ’52E at 914-779-2448 or longbard@optonline.net, or visit the society’s website, www.socg.com.

Alex Sachare ’71
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 or call 212-851-7488.

Ethan Rouen ’04J
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 Soviet 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) INAUGURAL CHAIR

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.”

Join Steve Case and others in the 1754 Society, alumni and friends who have made bequests and other planned gifts to the University.

To learn more about Steve Case’s Columbia experience—and about planned giving—visit 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 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 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 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 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 violin. I also have three sons from a previous marriage who 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? I’m 36 seconds away from qualifying for Boston, and I will really be gunning for it this year at the NYC Marathon.

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 the ATLAS effort. 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 ’04

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.
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). 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.

- 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 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.

- 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.”

Have You Moved?

To ensure that you receive CCT and other College information, let us know if you have a new postal or e-mail address, a new phone number or even a new name.

Click “Contact Us” at www.college.columbia.edu/cct or call 212-851-7852.

DATE SMART!

Join the singles’ network exclusively for graduates, faculty, and students of the Ivy League, MIT, Stanford, and a few others

The Right Stuff

800-988-5288
www.rightstuffdating.com
Dustin Martin ’11 Shows Indigenous Culture Through Fashion

By Nathalie Alonso ’08

Upon 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 scouts 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 Bashor ’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 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 Martin 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.

Manage Your Subscription

If you prefer reading CCT online, you can help us go green and save money by opting out of the print edition. Click “Manage Your Subscription” at www.college.columbia.edu/cct and follow the domestic instructions. We will continue to notify you by e-mail when each issue is posted online. You may be reinstated to receive the print edition at any time by sending a note to cct@columbia.edu.

Show your Columbia pride

Through Columbia Alumni Association, life insurance is available in amounts up to $1,000,000, underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company (NY, NY 10010).

For details about eligibility, coverage amounts, rates, exclusions and renewal provisions, please visit alumni.columbia.edu/insurance or call the plan administrator at 800-223-1147.
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...
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.

The 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?

For 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
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”), adventurous (walking tours of many neighborhoods, activities fairs and meet-and-greets with myriad campus student organizations, an open mic night at Roone 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.”

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.”

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 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.”

Improving 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

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

Better 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 InterGreek 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.”
With 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 Swearngold 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 1 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...
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 processional. 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.
It 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 (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.

Eighteen 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 there are no more parents to call or athletes to corral. For a few hours, Woda gets to put down the crucial green binder 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 kids.

“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.

To watch a video of LTF at work, go to www.college.columbia.edu/cct.

Joshua Robinson ’08 is a freelance writer based in Manhattan. Read more about him at joshuasethrobinson.com.
The Difference You Can Make

John Kluge: Stories

or 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.

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.

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.
— 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.

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.”

“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.

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 cause 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.

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 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.

These hands will pull me through.
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.

I am open to anything that improves 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 dollars 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-trouser 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 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 swear 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.

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 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 wildcatter. 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.
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).


Theory after Theory: An Intellectual History of Literary Theory from 1950 to the Early 21st Century by Nicholas Bins ’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).


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 Professor 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, $29.30).

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 Ranindra 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 bestselling 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 narrowing 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 outdate enumerated “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 uptown as the son of a psychiatrist). Within the first minute of arriving at his apartment, he offers me something to drink, sets 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 him to the primacy and importance of language; his freshman composition professor, Wendy Graham, for teaching him the value of revising; 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 Q. 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.

“Young 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 ivyLeagueandUnemployed.com.

Economy by Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor; Stiglitz denounced 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/ckt/may_jun10/]

columbia_forum3 [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).


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 St. Louis. 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 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, Eleanor 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 eldest son, Anthony. He is survived by his second wife, Carol, son, Jonathan ’72, and two granddaughters.

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 29, 2009. Failing earned a degree in 1943 from P&G. 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.

1941

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 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 NYU’s culture, music and art. He is survived by his children, Michael, James ’71 and Pamela.

1943

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-

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 Scott 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.

1944
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 Penitentiary, Marion. Marshall owned and operated Center in Greensboro, N.C. Previously, he had been v.p. of City Stores. Born in New York City, Marshall served in the Air Force as a captain, pilot and doctor in peacetime as well as in the Coast Guard Reserve. Marshall loved flying and belonged to the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and the Experimental Aircraft Association. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Patricia (Servey) Marshall; children, Laura Allen and her husband, Joel, and Suzanne Vickerson and her husband, Antho- ny; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Make-A-Wish Foundation or The Luskton Garden Foundation.

1946
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 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 Debo-rah H. Steinfeld and her husband, 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.

1948
Vincent G. Quinn, retired professor; Asheville, N.C., 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 sur- vived by his wife; sons, Stephen and Thomas; four grandchildren; and three nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to the Brooklyn College Library; Brooklyn College, C/UNY, 2900 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11210.

1950
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 Es- sex County 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 fam- ily 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, Terry; his 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 The Alzheimer’s As- sociation of WNC, PO Box 42453, Charlotte, NC 28215. Obituaries may be made to the Alzheimer’s As- sociation of WNC, PO Box 42453, Charlotte, NC 28215 or Care Part- ners Hospice Foundation, PO Box 25338, Asheveil, NC 28813.

1952
Karl R. Lunde, retired professor and gallery director; New York City, on December 22, 2009. Lunde was born on Staten Island on No- vember 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 Romanian painter John Christian Dahl. Lunde was for many years director of The Contemporary 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 Amuškić (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” or “Announcements” 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, or mail materials to Obituaries, Columbia College Today, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, New York, NY 10025.
Dr Robert N. Butler ’49, ’53 P&S, Gerontologist and Author

Dr. 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, Howard 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 IMC 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 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 Columbia 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.columbia.edu/cct/jan_feb09/alumni_profiles6). 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 Homeland Rd., Davidsonville, MD 21035.

Lisa Palladino

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 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 Klarin.

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 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 a M.E. from Harvard. Finkenstaedt 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 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.

**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  

1938  

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.

1941  

1942  

1945  

1946  
,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  

1948  

1949  
_John T. Lorick Jr._, marketing and advertising executive, Los Angeles, on June 19, 2010.

1953  
_Nolan D. Lewis_, retired airline transportation executive and banker, South Salem, N.Y., on June 20, 2010.

1954  
_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.

1955  
_Arthur W. Seligmann Jr._, retired professor and college president, Columbus, Ohio, on June 18, 2010. Cole earned a Ph.D. in history in 1951 from GSAS.

1956  

1957  

1958  

1958  

1960  
_James C. “Clem” Finkenstaedt Jr._, retired editor, Norwell, Mass., on November 28, 2009. Finkenstaedt 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. Finkenstaedt is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; children, Katherine, R. Lindsay, James III and Thomas; parents, James and Rose; sister, Isabel Schelamer and her husband, Francois; and three nieces and nephews.

1961  
_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.

1963  
_Francis J. Moreinis_, investment banker and musician, New York City, on July 10, 2010.

1967  

1969  
_James III and Thomas; parents, James and Rose; sister, Isabel Schelamer 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  
_Lisa Palladino_.
Class Notes

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.”

Robert Zucker 29 The Birches Roslyn, NY 11576 rzucker@optonline.net


Melvin Hershkowitz 3 Regency Plaza, Apt. 1001-E Providence, RI 02903 DRMEL23@cox.net

On May 17, Arthur “Wizzer” Wel-lington celebrated his 90th birthday in Elmina, N.Y. His entry in to the distinguished Nonarian 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 WW II, Art served as a Ma-rine artillery officer in the Pacific. He returned to Columbia for his degree in optometry and had a long career in that specialty in Elmina 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 ac-tive 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 McDow-ell ‘34, Bill Nash ‘36, Jim Casey ‘37, John O’Brien ‘38, Tom Macioce ‘39, John Naylor ‘40, Stewart McEn- nan and Lester Marters ‘45. After WW II, the great but unfortunate Gordon Ridings, who died sud-denly at an early age, became head coach from 1946–50. His most ac- accomplished team captain was Walt Budko ‘46, 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 Colum-bia’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 profes-sional 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 addic-tion, but eventually recovered to resume his broadcasting career.

In 1961, Jack Rohan ’53 became head coach and served through 1977. 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 Holi-day Festival at Madison Square Garden, defeating West Virginia, Louisville and St. John’s. Walaszek, now a prominent attorney in New York, 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 Portland in a nine-year pro career.

In 1974, Tom Penders succeeded Rohan as head coach. His co-cap-tains 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 1991, 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 Bos-ton 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 engineer-ing. 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, An-drew. 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 Kling on and versatile utility player Arthur Wellington (third base, outfield, catcher). Justin and Leno Fer-rarini ’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.

G.J. D’Angio

Department of Radiation Oncology

Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Donner 2

3400 Spruce St.

Philadelphia, PA 19104
dangio@xrt.upenn.edu

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 multiplicity of means. He was courted 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.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.


Henry Rolf Hecht

11 Evergreen Pl.

Demarest, NJ 07627

hrh15@columbia.edu

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-bred Dr. William V. Beshliah, 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 ‘43ers the privilege of participating in Larry Chamberlain’s first government class at Columbia in 1941–42.

P.S. Anyone have memories of Stan Wyatt ‘43, and I were on the lightweight crew. Sad news.

Jennifer Freely

ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS

ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Jennifer Freely

jft2261@columbia.edu

212-851-7438

DEVELOPMENT

Paul Staller

ps2247@columbia.edu

212-851-7494

Marvin Aronson Ph.D. is an emeritus 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.
Florida and sends warm regards to fellow ’48ers. 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.

Our class has many reasons to be proud but the one reason 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.

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

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 erc2102@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.

OCTOBER 2010

47
Bert Sussman
155 W. 68th St., Apt. 27D
New York, NY 10023
shirbrt@nyc.rr.com

Ed Cramer sent the following report: “Congregation Adas Emanu 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.”

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.”

48
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
ccf@columbia.edu

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 Lubich that

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 horse 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

49
John Weaver
2659 E. 11th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

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 CSAS, 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.

50
Mario Palmieri
33 Lakeview Ave. W.
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
mapal@bestweb.net

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 Bergvoyn, Norman Dozen, 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 Sampiner, Ray Scalantar, Al Schmitt, Tom Sebring, Norm Skinner, Bob Socas, Art Trezise and Ric Yearwood.

A highlight of the weekend was an enthusiastic discussion, following the Saturday luncheon, led and moderated by M.D.’s Goodman, Lubash and Ray Scalantar, 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 playwriting. 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.”

COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY

CLASS NOTES

SEPTMBER/OCTOBER 2010

38
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. Nunn Sr., of Ocean City, N.J., died on May 5. 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, June 3–6, featured a return to the more familiar style of past Dean’s Days with classes and wings 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 Ackerman. 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 alumni 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 this fall, June 2–Sunday, June 5, 2011. If you would like to join the Reunion Committee, please contact Bob at robertsnyder@verizon.net. TEP fraternity brothers should contact Stan Schachter at Ulysses330@comcast.net 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 included among 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 Class of 2003, and his son, Paul, ran 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 student newspaper 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 can of paint!)

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

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, first works 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 a quilt book. Visit his website at 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.

““Listen 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,
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 Prentis (three Columbia alumni) in NYC. In 1959, I moved to Coakley & Booth (another alum of NY ’53) 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, Manta, 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 Walver 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 indentified 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 Walver 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, Troubled Legal Education.夜 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 fast driving, making him a little 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.

Lev Robbins

1221 Stratfield Rd.
Fairfield, CT 06825
levrobbins@aol.com

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 a 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 Dilemma of Campus Capitalism.

As soon as Dan announced 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 Ka-nawha 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 Collector. Thus, for the next
One bit of sad news is that Max Pirner 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.

Howard Falberg
137/10 Paseo Bonita
Poway, CA 92064
westmontgr@aol.com

George Fadok enjoys active retired living in Arizona. He also takes great pride in his children’s achievements and reports that “daughter Val created a golden bear at the Houston Zoo for the 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 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 Knox 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 week-end. They are visiting the 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, Toni, 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 acted in supporting Tony’s hobby.

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!
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).

As for our literary class members, Joe Pimsleur, who has worked for the San Francisco Chronicle for many years, penning many articles including one in 1998 about Cuba that predicted the change in 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, once took a 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 Ganther, director of athletics communications department, at fg2131@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 benefit from networking — you know Columbia.

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 tbl18000@earthlink.net. I will pass these on to the Reunion Committee members for inclusion in our September 21 meeting. In that regard, Bob Sirroty, 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 Hemminger: hemminger@iol.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.

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 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 McNeal, Alan Brown, Bob Klipstein, Carlos Muñoz, Dave Kinne, Joe Feldschuh, Ron Kapon, Martin Geller, Mark Stantos, John Censor, Stan Barnett 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, 302-344-1438; 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 in 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.”

Barry Dickman
25 Main St.
Court Plaza North, Ste 104
Hackensack, NJ 07601
bdickmanes@gmail.com

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.

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 School. 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 Sar- gent Center 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 Waldman has taken on two new jobs. First is running the Robert S. Waldman 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. 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, Daniel, 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 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 New York City at Cambridge gave me the self-liberation that I’d not been able to attain during my commuter years at Columbia. But even though I soon made it to becoming a senior designer at L.M. P. first and then at SOM New York, NY, I’d always longed for the 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. Sure enough, for my friend Yeshiva Obel Moshe classmate Isser Wolcho, 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 schoolmates, there won’t be any other me because of how few friendships my fearful shyness allowed me to for counteracting my near-absolute isolation that my being a full-time West-End-line commuter from 78th Street, Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, had me embarking home in Carnegie Hall 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 Charyni’s case, re-
lated to our A-grade essays having
translated my opinion of Jim Shenton ’49 favorites. Lifelong-so
for Charyn, while not so endur-
ingly to my own timid insular-
ity that did not allow my actively
engaging Shenton as a friend once
post-graduation. I’d fallen away
from any more resorting to his
laughed-off pater 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 he had been
the animated irresponsibility 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 ador-
able children, Our son, Oren, is an
attorney; our daughter, Oril 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,
Avira; functions in technical consult-
tation to the pacemaker embodiment
and activation procedures that heart
surgeons engage in. September 2 is
the scheduled date for her marriage
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 Avir Alster-Mihalic. All
of my children are grown, and
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 visit-
ishing 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)
Disson. I have recently edited its
book review editor, and I have
much thinking, reading and writing
to do for a book of my own, tenta-
tively titled, Fateful Decisions: The
Rise And Fall Of The American Politi-

Since Shenton and 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
so 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 passed through
three or four long and serious reviews
of movies such as Savage Nights,
Mythic 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 earli-
er blog or communication, many
of the people who were my friends or
chums or whom I admired greatly
are dead, such as Henry Ebel, Er-
win Glikses and Dale Kramer. I’ve
kept in touch with Ken Scheffel,
but that’s largely because both
have issues 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 Barzin
‘27 still is alive.”

Allan Franklin was on a ride.
“My big activity will be a bike ride
half a thousand acres, for example,
Minn., to Bar Harbor, Maine. I
am doing half of what we call Sea-
Shining-Sea. The trip has started,
and it already wants to find
the exploits of my colleagues you
can go to www.crazyguysonabike.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 Pada send us the informa-
tion 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 ideal happiness and freedom.
In contrast, the lower part
of the mountain possesses many
obstacles and challenges that need
to be overcome. This is really not
different so from bringing a chemi-
cal research project to fruition
and getting it published.

“My first real mountaineering
experience was a climb to the top
of Mount Rainier in 1984. Dur-
ing 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 Lincancabur in the Salar
de Uyuni region of Bolivia, which
tops out at 19,600 ft. I am still
somewhat active as a professor
of chemistry at Emory. For anyone
interested in details and photos
of some of my climbs, go to http://
euch6l.chem.emory.edu/padwa.

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 Cabezade Condor
Bolivia 18,640 ft.
2000 Mount Ararat Turkey
Quandy, Lincoln, Democrat USA 14,280 ft.
2001 Mount Kala Pittar – Everest
trek Nepal 18,300 ft.
2003 Mount Cuyor – Huayhuash
Peru 19,000 ft.
2005 Mt Kosciusso Australia
7,300 ft.
2006 Mount Elbert , Mount Mass-
sive USA 14,400 ft.
2007 Torres del Paine - Patagonia
Chile 10,000 ft.
2008 Mustagh Ata West China
19,800 ft.
2009 Annapurna trek, Thorung-
La Pass Nepal 17,870 ft.
2010 Volcano Lincancabur Bolivia
19,600 ft.”

Bob Stone wants us to know that,“On May 17, Steve Burner, 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 had met were extraordinarily gifted with positive ideas
for the future of mankind. I think we are in good hands.”

Steve Trachtenberg is a grand-
father once again, “Isaac, 6 lbs.,
12 oz., born in San Francisco to
Beth and Adam Trachtenberg ’97. All
is well. Huzza!”

Josh Fieger has celebrated his 50th anniversary. Congratulations!
He writes that, “In 1960, I married a Barnard woman, Norma Damashek, who
was in his class. 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 grandchil-
dren 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.

Robert A. Machleder
69-37 Fleet St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375
rmachleder@aol.com

During that memorable extended
weekend in June, Alumni Reunion
Weekend 2010, the Class of ’60
returned 141 classmates who reg-
istered 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 commit-
tee 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

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010 44

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 Scheck was established with photographic evidence that his 18 grandchildren put him indubitably 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 has been contacting NROTC members. 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 extended 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 PI ranks when 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.”

The highlight of 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 grandfather record with 16 grandchildren. I am in contact with my beloved wife, Denise, and grandchildren. I am in touch 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:

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 Forestal from 1961–65. He had 310 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.” Logcuous 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 lived 40–6 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
ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS
Jennifer Freely
jf261@columbia.edu
212-851-7438

Michael Hausig
San Antonio, TX 78259
mhausig@yahoo.com

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 1976, 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 Love D. Brandes: 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.

Roman Kernitsky practices ophthalmology in Freehold, N.J. He wrote: “I am 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 wrote: “I was vacationed in Turkey, where he visited Greek and Roman ruins. He found that “his knowledge of Greek and Roman classics enabled him 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@wesleykan.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@opton line.net) recently retired from North Shore Long Island Jewish Medical Center, where he was involved in various 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: https://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 (neilson1948@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 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 her work as a teacher by dozens of the young people. She made suggestions to her 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.

John Freidin (1020 Town Line Rd. Charlotte, VT 05445) jfr@bicyclevt.com

With this column, Dick Schwartz has been a professor emeritus of art history. “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 the problem to about 20 years of competitive running, and Dick can again walk and exercise seven days a week. Stan Lupkin (slupkin@glaw.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 organized team of independent 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 involved extensive forensic and 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 grandchildren and one grandson. They range in

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.richardschwartz.com. Dick would love to hear from you at rjschwartz@gmail.com.

Hilmi Toros (wordsmithsailor@hotmail.com) wants us to know that he is alive and well and living on the tiny island of Svaldyke (from the French word meaning “Icelands”) in the spices committee 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 Svaldyke and Hilmi by using Google.

In July 2007, Stan Lupkin (slupkin@glaw.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 organized team of independent 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 involved extensive forensic and 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 grandchildren and one grandson. They range in

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010
46
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 Fleming Zulak William-son & 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 children, when she guides them on building learning and reading skills and how to be parents. She recently was president of the Solomon Schecther School of Queens. There is only one blemish in this idyllic story. In Stan’s words: “We are all rabid Mets fans.”

Barry Leeds (bhlleeds01@smet.net), distinguished professor emeritus at Central Connecticut State University, teaches senior and graduate level courses in Hemingway, Faulkner, 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 classes of many years, when he guides them on building learning and reading skills and how to be parents.

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 re-ponse 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 intercon-nected 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 toby-221@gmail.com.

Armando Favazza reports that the Western Historical Manuscripts Collection of the University of Missourhi 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 comfort- ing 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-dimen-sional sound. Recorded sound is now almost exclusively available as binaural, usually called stereo. That means that the music we hear actually travel only horizon-tally, while live sound travels verti-cally 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 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 build-ings, 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.charliemorrow.com or contact Charlie at charliemorrow.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 Kiwan-is Club of Warner Center, Division 25, Cal-Nev-Ha District of Kiwanis International. You may reach him at srfribourg@earthlink.net.

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

Paul Neshamkin
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50
Hoboken, NJ 07030
pauln@helpauthor.com

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 Lefshin 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 Com modore’s at 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 in Florida. His 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 just as green as possible. Our new floor will be bamboo, our ceiling lights low-pressurized 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 entirely out of a combina-tion 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, obtain-ing most youthful!ing most youthful!”

David Alpern reports that, after May, Newsweek On Air became “For Your Ears Only.” If you haven’t listened to David’s broad-casts, you can 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, sched-uled 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 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.

Norman Olch
233 Broadway
New York, NY 10279
norman@nolch.com

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 from 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 Spering, Alan Tobias, Harvey Weiss and Mark Zuckerman.

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 America’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 in Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, and the author of 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 B’rith Magazine, the quarterly publication of the 167-year-old Jewish humanitarian, human rights and advocacy organization. The magazine can be viewed at http://bnai.brit.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 alumnus, has been hard at work reviving the organization that was founded in 1873. Through his efforts, a reunion was held in June during Alumnus 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://cgc.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.

Leonard B. Pack
924 West End Ave.
New York, NY 10025
packlb@aol.com

Regular readers of this column know that a family commitment required me to miss our Class of ’65 Alumni Reunion Weekend, held June 3–6. Two of the attendees, Brian Fix and MichaelSchlanger, 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 stellar 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 ’29.


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, there was a new development at this year’s event. 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 tos!). 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. Frankly, 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.

Leonard Pack: packlb@aol.com
Brian Fix: bdfix1@gmail.com
Michael Schlanger: mschlanger@cox.com

---

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, May 25. Please contact Stella for information about time, place and so forth.

---

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.

---

“If I were to choose one line from the poem, it would be the last one,” said Andrew. “‘Every morning I wake up and I say, ‘I’m going to be a poet today.'”

---

“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 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.”

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. There is no reason to believe 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.”

68 Arthur Spector
271 Central Park West
New York, NY 10024
abszzzz@aol.com

With 10-year treasuries below 3 percent, we sure are seeing an amazing era. Paul Broun 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 Spinn 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, Larry Noyes, Tim 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 — since the days of 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.) For my academic faculty of the Catholic 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 Directive 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) “oversaw 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 systems. Martin also is a 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 he practices for more than 20 years in matters of 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.

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 wine and cheese Saturday night 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 ’68 spirit — about the dangers of global warming. I caught up with old friends Bernie Joesefsky, 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 Ruskot-
ti, Fred Rapaport, Bob Douglas, Dennis Graham, James Hazen, Dr. Fred Kushner, Charles Silberman, Professor Paul Starr, Fred White, Paul Lehner, Michael Onishenko, Charles Struthides, Norman Greene, Martin Newhouse, Michael Passen, Robert Graber, 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 in the participation of the audience — and the Meyer Schapiro Professor of Art History David Rosand ’99’s talk on Venice, which also was brilliant.

**Ron Rosenberg:** "Passing the 60-year-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. I find 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.

"Reflections for a moment, I am priviledged to represent Columbia before the New York City Council in obtaining final approval for the West Harlem site [for the new Manhattanville campus]. The Columbia Indians are entitled to 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 Sachan:** "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 too many weekends for freshmen to 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. The first is the foundation, I am now gravitating to the ‘rut’ of putting technology outside of work. Jim will recall how my broad view of what life is about. Core Curriculum, which enhanced my view of what is life. Even so, I keep gravitating to the Incomparable City that Arose with Socrates next spring. I am moved 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 multitalented young woman from Turkey who teaches chemical engineering at MIT; and Joseph ’11J, a journalist and student at the Journalism School, who was paid to live in Paris in June. I visited restaurant after nightclub after bar after... as he updated the Paris for Dummies travel guide (for the third time)."


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, DC, 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 at 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 dime.”

“A few months ago, I started a non-profit for financial education. My wife, Lindy, and I are pleased to say that our son, Yoni ‘03, and daughter-in-law, Emily ’05E, have presented us with our first grandson, Joshua Even, who was born in June. He joins his sister, Eliesha (2).”

Barry Etra
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
betra1@bellsouth.net

As we enter the twilight of our youth, startlingly enough, some of us pass on. One such case is Dennis Millen, 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!

Betrayed by his family to save his own life and avoid financial ruin, Dennis was wise enough to realize that life is too short to be a ‘wealth manager,’ as do some of my colleagues, I would choke on the words. I also am starting a nonprofit for financial education. My wife, Toby, is thrilled to be a big sister. And my dad, Herb Jacoby, is wisely avoiding the financial crises in history. It was a predictably rough first year, but we are happy to say that we are still in Atlanta and have a daughter 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 Columbia Oxonians Bob Delahunty ’58, 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 Lehenan, Steve Steindel ’69 and Manuel Pietrantoni ’70 before the beginning of an incredible walk-about. I enjoy reading about you all. Keep the CCT notes coming.”

For me, Jim Shaw, I arranged a mini-reunion dinner with classmates in the San Francisco area at the Waterfront Café and Bistro 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!”

Paul S. Applebaum
39 Claremont Ave., #24
New York, NY 10027
papple1@aol.com

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
is large enough to contain both the most content and the most desper-
ate. 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 workhouse 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 stan-
dardized 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 Soci-
ety. There, I met, among others, Charlie Lindsay ’75, who is active in,
the arts. I’m inspired by things like,
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 hap-
pily (according to Gallup) with his
wife and four sons (19, 17, 13 and 4).
He says that the addition of his lat-
est child means, “There is no early
retirement for me!” While lawyers
Jon Cuneo and Abbe Lowell were
dueling champions for youngest
offspring (by my incomplete
records), lawyer Jerry seems to have
beaten them. (What’s with the cor-
relation 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 law-
yer 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 about 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 geophysics 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!

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 ap-
pointed 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.
This time it’s Dewey Coleman,
free of academic misadventures,
who has been named the associate
director for public affairs, and
services. Dewey was the
assistant secretary for planning and
evaluation for the Department of Health
and Human Services. Sherry had
to step down from her position as
county health policy and manager
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.

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
and Chinese class;
mates 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, recently moved to
attended his housewarming party
(with his wife, Yasmin) the next
week, so I heard some news first-
hand. 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 the band’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 of Fernando E.
Slade III, a physician and profes-
sor of orthopedics and rehabilita-
tion 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
Aaffairs to 15 established visual, literary
and performing artists who live and
work in Los Angeles. Each A
grant recipient receives a commis-
sion to create new work that is
showcased in a non-thematic group
exhibition, a series of performances,
special events and a catalog. Ferna-
dio’s new work explores the notion
of place, race and ancestry, 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, Gui-
lin, 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
mimeory 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
park 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 ques-
tions than answers.

He is donating a service to the NYC
City area with the MTA, Gary Del-
averson 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, Ottawa, Hong
King, London, Los Angeles, New
Orleans, New York, Newwark, Paris,
São Paulo and Washington, D.C.
By my still-unofficial determina-
tion, Peter Garza-Zavaleta traveled
the farthest to be on Morningside
Heights for reunion, coming from
Sarasota, Fla. Peter and I reconne-
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anastasia Barnes</td>
<td>Edward Barnes ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ari Berg</td>
<td>Howard Berg ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Berger</td>
<td>Barry Berger ’75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Bonvillian</td>
<td>William Bonvillian ’69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Bram</td>
<td>Jonathan Bram ’87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justin Brathwaite</td>
<td>Evan Brathwaite Sr. ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Brennan</td>
<td>Douglas Brennan ’87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leigh Colvin</td>
<td>Geoffrey Colvin ’74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret D’Arcy</td>
<td>Sean D’Arcy ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Dugue</td>
<td>Gabriel Dugue ’82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Ziegelllaub Eichler</td>
<td>Richard Eichler ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Evans</td>
<td>Steven Evans ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Falk</td>
<td>Elliot Falk ’74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camille Richardson</td>
<td>Gary Friday ’73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Garfinkel</td>
<td>Arthur Garfinkel ’67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerome Genova</td>
<td>Leonard Genova ’85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reza Gheissari</td>
<td>Ali Gheissari ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Goodman</td>
<td>Marc Goodman ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Harris</td>
<td>Herbert Harris ’64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Holodny</td>
<td>Andrei Holodny ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinn Jackson</td>
<td>Donald Jackson ’73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesley Johnson</td>
<td>Theodore Johnson ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Jonokuchi</td>
<td>Vivian Jonokuchi ’90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Kazer</td>
<td>Ross Kazer ’68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanna Kelly</td>
<td>Michael Kelly ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noah Kolatch</td>
<td>Jonathan Kolatch ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Kreitman</td>
<td>Stuart Kreitman ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Lebovic</td>
<td>Saul Lebovic ’83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebeca Lebwohl</td>
<td>Nathan Lebwohl ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Levy</td>
<td>Carlos Daniel Levy ’75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Lopez</td>
<td>Edward Lopez ’82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Lopez-Balboa</td>
<td>Lopez-Balboa ’82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah Lowin</td>
<td>Leam Lowin ’66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elie Kaplan-Marans</td>
<td>Hillel Marans ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dara Marans</td>
<td>Zvi Marans ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael May</td>
<td>Morgan May ’67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camilla Mazzolini</td>
<td>Renato Mazzolini ’69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle McCormick</td>
<td>Paul McCormick ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalia Mnyarmeh</td>
<td>Sami Mnyarmeh ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Muniz</td>
<td>Peter Muniz ’86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Muzikowski</td>
<td>Muzikowski Sr. ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yael Neugut</td>
<td>Alfred Neugut ’72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma O’Connor</td>
<td>Stephen O’Connor ’74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Robert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Ortiz</td>
<td>Angel Ortiz ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Perez</td>
<td>James Perez ’73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail Pucker</td>
<td>Michael Pucker ’83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Reggio</td>
<td>William Reggio ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bessie Rentzler</td>
<td>Joel Rentzler ’62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Ripp</td>
<td>Marc Ripp ’80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Seife</td>
<td>Alan Seife ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Rosen</td>
<td>Gideon Rosen ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Seife</td>
<td>Alan Seife ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliot Taffet</td>
<td>Allan Taffet ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Vlahos</td>
<td>Louis Vlahos ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Falk-Wallace</td>
<td>Edward Wallace ’71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac White</td>
<td>Jonathan White ’85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yael Wiesenfeld</td>
<td>Batia Wiesenfeld ’88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Wolf</td>
<td>Edward Wolf ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Bodkin</td>
<td>John Bodkin ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Brodsky</td>
<td>Kevin Crotty ‘71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Cohen</td>
<td>Gary Cohen ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Escherich</td>
<td>Kyle Escherich ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zac Kornberg</td>
<td>Thomas Kornberg ’70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Pomp</td>
<td>Martin Pomp ’67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett Rosnick</td>
<td>Lyle Rosnick ’70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Strauch</td>
<td>Robert Strauch ’82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Member of the SEAS Class of 2014
**Deceased

Eight incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.

### Student Parent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Parent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Jonokuchi</td>
<td>Vivian Jonokuchi ’90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Kazer</td>
<td>Ross Kazer ’68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanna Kelly</td>
<td>Michael Kelly ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Kreitman</td>
<td>Stuart Kreitman ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan Lebovic</td>
<td>Saul Lebovic ’83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebeca Lebwohl</td>
<td>Nathan Lebwohl ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Levy</td>
<td>Carlos Daniel Levy ’75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Lopez</td>
<td>Edward Lopez ’82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Lopez-Balboa</td>
<td>Lopez-Balboa ’82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah Lowin</td>
<td>Leam Lowin ’66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elie Kaplan-Marans</td>
<td>Hillel Marans ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dara Marans</td>
<td>Zvi Marans ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael May</td>
<td>Morgan May ’67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camilla Mazzolini</td>
<td>Renato Mazzolini ’69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle McCormick</td>
<td>Paul McCormick ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dalia Mnyarmeh</td>
<td>Sami Mnyarmeh ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Muniz</td>
<td>Peter Muniz ’86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Muzikowski</td>
<td>Muzikowski Sr. ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yael Neugut</td>
<td>Alfred Neugut ’72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma O’Connor</td>
<td>Stephen O’Connor ’74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Robert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Ortiz</td>
<td>Angel Ortiz ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Perez</td>
<td>James Perez ’73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abigail Pucker</td>
<td>Michael Pucker ’83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathryn Reggio</td>
<td>William Reggio ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bessie Rentzler</td>
<td>Joel Rentzler ’62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elena Ripp</td>
<td>Marc Ripp ’80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Seife</td>
<td>Alan Seife ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Rosen</td>
<td>Gideon Rosen ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Seife</td>
<td>Alan Seife ’79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliot Taffet</td>
<td>Allan Taffet ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christina Vlahos</td>
<td>Louis Vlahos ’84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Falk-Wallace</td>
<td>Edward Wallace ’71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac White</td>
<td>Jonathan White ’85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yael Wiesenfeld</td>
<td>Batia Wiesenfeld ’88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gideon Wolf</td>
<td>Edward Wolf ’76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Bodkin</td>
<td>John Bodkin ’78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Brodsky</td>
<td>Kevin Crotty ’71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Cohen</td>
<td>Gary Cohen ’81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Escherich</td>
<td>Kyle Escherich ‘81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zac Kornberg</td>
<td>Thomas Kornberg ’70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Pomp</td>
<td>Martin Pomp ’67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bennett Rosnick</td>
<td>Lyle Rosnick ’70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Strauch</td>
<td>Robert Strauch ’82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 Peter 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-appor-
tion among the candidates. They rejected a government proposal to break the village into six districts, including one that took in heav-
ily 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 had been 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 Hispanic-
tics 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 Ten-
nessee.

Firm managing director at Wil-
lamette Management Associates Robert Reilly recently received the prestigious Institute of Business App-
raisers (IBA) literary award for the Best Business Valuation Article of the year. Robert received this liter-
ary recognition for his article, “Intel-
lectual 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 Certi-

died 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 Schweiks.

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 plan-
ning 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 can talk 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, espe-
cially those who worked on and at-
tended 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 year.

On our 40th to 2015!

REUNION JUNE 2–JUNE 5 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Stella Mieler-Zanedis mzl2413@columbia.edu 212-851-7846 DEVELOPMENT Sam Boyer sb3029@columbia.edu 212-851-7452

Clyde Moneynun Program in Writing and Rhetoric Serra Mall 450, Bldg. 460, Room 223 Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305 cam131@columbia.edu

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 Ana-
lysts 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 invest-
ment meeting, host client confer-
ence 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 Online’s ‘Street’s All-Star Analyst Survey.’

Jim lives in northern Westchester county with his wife, Marie Fergus-
on, 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.

David Gorman 111 Regal Dr. DeKalb, IL 60115 dgorman@niu.edu

This is one of those rare columns without news. I hope everyone is ferociously busy finding and keep-
ing a place in the new economy or, even better, taking advantage of rock-bottom hotel rates in Iceland. But please do write in!

Matthew Nemerson 35 Huntington St. New Haven, CT 06511 mnemerson@snet.net

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 sit-
ting on the deck in the Hamptons or on Nantucket and send them in.

We are in the midst of an excit-

ing (well, it is if you like politics) race for governor here in Connecti-

cut, and my organization has been compiling useful informed voter and policy ideas for all the candidates. At the end of July, the family travel-
ed for two weeks in China.

Hope to see you at Homecom-
ing on Saturday, October 23, and to hear from you soon.

Robert Klapper 8737 Beverly Blvd., Ste 303 Los Angeles, CA 90048 rkclappermd@aol.com

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 spe-
cializing in early-modern Catholi-
cism, most recently was a professor of religious studies at the University of Iowa.

Walter F. Schleimer ’82L re-
cently 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 For the past 10 years, Robert’s marble sculptures were featured in an art exhibition at the American Academy of Or-

thopedic 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 Ac-

tion, will travel from New Orleans to the State Senate to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the United Nations. (They have a web-


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 Man-
hattan 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 attend-
ed 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!”

Michael C. Brown London Terrace Towers 410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F New York, NY 10011 mcbcat80@yahoo.com

“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 Li-
os are coming off their best league finish in six years, and coach Nor-
ries 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-

54 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010
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 Schuttly had a great conversation on the state of the Big Apple. Neil Sader was impressed with the new Big Apple. Stolarz 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 perspective of this 1930s elevated railway turned into a public park was very revealing. We then went to Gaslight’s G2 Lounge for a reception with Dean Michele Moody-Adams. Jim Gerks, Bruce Paulson and Van Gofner 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 mcb88@yahoocom.

**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. The College’s Alumni Parade of Classes 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. Papers gathering 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 as we were walking by our class banners, we could not help but feeling a little sentimental. It certainly was one of the best post-CC moments in near 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: “I am unable 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 my exercise for my mind and 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 (as I happen to think of it). 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 for me to cross 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 made a donation to the endowed chair, then, after thanking the Catholic chaplain at Columbia.

Rob Canning was best man.

---

**Andrew Weisman**

710 Lawrence Ave.
Westfield, NJ 07090

weisman@comcast.net

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 “Arrint thee, nump-fed runion!”

---

**Roy Pomerantz**

Babkying/Petking
82-20 Liberty Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11412

bkroy@msn.com

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 friends 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 Dibs Hills neighborhood 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 30 years and we are assembling a board of directors to help with 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 back 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 am sorry for buttering 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 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.”

“Just moments before I wrote my first note to you about the twins, Ben Heimath and his wife, Sandi, drove away from our house in Nashville, Tennessee, one person per car. 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 fresh- man year by getting a Karman 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. Clayton Grainger and I are in regular correspondence and I see some of it at heimaths.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 High School, and Jena (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 included work with a southeastern tribe to develop an intervention for their traumatized youth with substance use problems that expands Western cognitive behavioral therapeutic 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 Western health facilities. Doug 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, Where’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 (authorhondavidrubel.blogspot.com).”

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.

In a full-page announcement in The New York Times, it listed David Krieger 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 Bill Pasco in Mohs micrographic skin cancer surgery and cosmetic laser surgery.

Castle Connolly Medical is the publisher of America’s Top Doctors. In a full-page announcement in The New York Times, it listed David Krieger 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 Bill Pasco 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 Bill Pasco 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 Bill Pasco 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 Bill Pasco 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 Bill Pasco in Mohs micrographic skin cancer surgery and cosmetic laser surgery.
Dennis Kleinberg 84
Berklay Cargo Worldwide
JFK Intl. Airport
Box 300665
Jamaica, NY 11430
dennis@berklay.com

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 on 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 Investor-Force, 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 Sommerfeld, 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), in both cases under her trade name of Larkspur & Hawk. Jim laments that buying jewelry for her now is “like bringing coal 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: reggiep@dco.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.

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

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 great space. We had a nice gathering of about 20 classmates. The good part for Brian was that it was easy 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 Contemporay 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 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 with 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 the 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 Zeenwa 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 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, Tommy and Cassie, 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 directs 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
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 Brode ’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 alumni, 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 Trinkley ’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 Kreshok ’81, Eric Hansen ’81 and Larry Soones ’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 Whitney. Other familiar faces included Genny 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 Vi&i, 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 CCF 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 Coudreau, who was there with his wife, Kimberly, and their children, Curtis and Tilleli. 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 31 Jay midnight soccer games that often rattled my door during freshman year.

Also in attendance were a pair of 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, Francine; two 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 partnershyps) regarding investments and fundraising activities globally. He is managing director at GTK Partners. Prior to joining GTK, Steve was employed at Lehman Brothers from 2000–04, 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 manager 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 JP Morgan 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 (oldest age 14) and live in Westchester.

After dinner concluded, many of us headed over to The West End, Evret Shea’s drink of choice. It was 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 counselings. He lives in Larchmont with his wife and children (14, 12 and 8).

Among others present was Furnald 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 a stint in 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

Alumni office contacts

Alumni affairs Jennifer Freely jtf226@columbia.edu

Development Kimberly Rogers kr2276@columbia.edu

Everett Weinberger 50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B New York, NY 10023 everett66@gmail.com

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 showdown there. The July 4 Nathan’s hot dog eating contest might still be in Coney Island, where it started, and the July 4 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 veggiedogs in Austin, Tex., to name a mouthful. Now
Roy Braeger ’86 Celebrates Good Times

By Gordon Chenoweth Sauer ’11 Arts

When 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 gala, 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 corporate 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 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 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 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 enlivened the festivities 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 16,092 calories). You can see the fun side of George at 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, “Chachas4Nevada.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 Mastic with Dr. Donna Pacicca ’57 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, and their two boys, and An CLASS NOTES of McGuire AFB, Col. Scott F. Smith and his family who 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 FFI, with during the mid-1980s. In addition to Andrew and Dom, email and almost yearly visits have kept me up to date with Dave Madoff ’85, Dr. Mike Goldfishe, 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 McGragile and his clan, Steve Huskey and his family, Philip Nevinn, Don Chisa ’88, Tony Oquendo 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 development and design 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 California community by presenting to the attendees a copy of The Illiad by Homer — perhaps it is time for me to finally read it as well!”

Sarah A. Kass and her family, Box 304908 Brookline, MA 02446
sarahkassUK@gmail.com

We have a few updates from some old friends. Tom Dixon wrote: “I went through a career change last year. After producing Wesburnough, 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 Wash- ington). He worked in various capacities in the D.C. area who would like to join. Please contact him at jfeuer@ 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!”

Abha Jain Sinha 9633 Eagle Ridge Dr, Bethesda, MD 20817 abhasinha@comcast.net

Sweltering summer days are soon to wind down, but as of this writing, talk of summer camps, vacations and the closing of air conditioners surrounds me. I hope all of you are enjoying the season in happiness! I have had the pleasure of hearing from Carl C. Erle, 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-floor 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 time 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 a son-in-law that I train in Relativity 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 appreciate hearing from anyone who may remember me. My contact info is rglazer@jdadvisor.com.”

Steve Cohen shares his good news: “My wife and I are very pleased to announce that we had a daughter, Leo Jones the third, on January 13, who joins our daugh- ter, Nina Jones Cohen (2). I live in 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 Gittles also shares some exciting news: “After 16 years working for professional sports leagues (NHl and MLB) in various capacities (most recently in digital media business de- velopment), Leslie Gittles 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/ iPod/ Android application that allows 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 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 Kagi, and I have four kids, Georgia (13), Isabella (13), Marrie (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! Emily Miles Terry 45 Clarence St, Brookline, MA 02446 eterry32@comcast.net

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, Rome, 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 m H dwell 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 surr arounds 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 pietre dure artists 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 light walk through the cemetery. Great markers for Shoguns, royalty (and...
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 Horowitz. The Langosch family is still doing well, though I can’t say 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, and is now at the age of 40 (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. Eric 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, 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 pulp-fiction harbor TV show. He’s called 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. He was an adjunct professor at Columbia and an assistant professor of history at MIT.

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.). He believes in his husband, Ivan 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 to 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 homeown- ers. 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 Car- man 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 do better. Even than 8, we had Issac Astrachan, Lisa Cohen, Val Dormady, David Eng, Sharon Rogers, Judy Shampianer, 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" Linh ’90E hosted Jennifer Lee, Balan Venugopal and Rich Yaker ’90E at his house in Venice on the Saturday night of reunion. Words has it they listened to ‘Plex music (gotta love the late ’80s) and toasted the rest of us. Awww, thanks guys.

Rachel Cowan Jacobs 313 Lexington Dr. Silver Spring, MD 20901 cowan@jhu.edu

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. Unfor- tunately, although Barnard does not have 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
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 (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. I just continued to work 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. Now (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 skiing 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 Feuil- lan ’91 Barnard, and children, Isaac (11) and Dinah (9). Lee has worked for 10 years for the National Marine Fisheries Service, where he started his own TV production company, “In Water, Out of Water” (premiered in Chelsea, in New York City, where he and his wife lived for 10 years for the National Marine Fisheries Service, 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 Gil- lette ’91 often.”

Our 20th Alumni Reunion Week- end 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 Tarana 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!

Jeremy Feinberg
315 E. 65th St. #3F
New York, NY 10021
jeremy.feinberg@verizon.net

[Editor’s note: It’s not just Jeremy who needs news. It’s all of your classmates, too. Please send him a note telling him about life, family, work, travels or the subject of your latest political manifesto so his C.C.T editor will stop yelling at him. E-mail too time-consuming? C.C.T has made it even easier to send a Class Note. Just go to 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.]

Betsy Gompertz
41 Day St.
Newton, MA 02466
BetsyGompertz@gmail.com

A big thanks to everyone who shared updates with me! Jenny Kim said, “I am 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 product manager at Cisco Sys- tems, 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 memo- rial event, and we usually plan a baseball or football game in Chicago or Cincinnati once a year.”

Last time I wrote, there was some mention, and I did not hear from you directly. I’d love to get an update!”

Leyla Koken
440 Thomas Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55405
leylak@earthlink.net

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 combination of good timing and I got to produce everything from a daytime talk show on ABC to the White House Christmas tree light- ing ceremony,” he writes. Then a few months ago, Ocean joined Current TV, the channel started four years ago by Al Gore, and is v.s.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 through — 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 sym- pathy goes out to Millie’s family and friends.

Janet Lorin
127 W. 96th St., #2GH
New York, NY 10025
jrf10@columbia.edu

Our 15-year reunion brought us back to Butler Library for dinner in a first-floor cafe. That many of us had never been in.

Maria Celis-Jeanseau enjoyed catching up with everyone. She lives in Eastchester, N.Y., with her husband, Vincent Jeanseau, and kids, Max (2) and Audrey (4), who had a blast at Camp Caleidia 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 pro- ducer and NEA chairman) Rocco Landesman in Chicago at events with Mayor [Richard] Daley and the Nederlands, 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 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 daugh- ter, Nora (3). Juliet, my Carman 10 suitemate, was at the reunion. She teaches art history at American.

Brian Lanzet has been 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.

Thanks to Anna Lisa Raya, also my classmate at the J-school, for a fruitful update.

She married Kevin Rivera in September 2008, and 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, so 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 Aranda ’95E; Tatiana Tsinberg and her fiancé, Tom Fahy; Cesár Chávez ’96 and his partner, Joseph Lavin; and Daniel Cole ’96 and his partner, Nick Grinder.

Bolén is v.p. of audience development at The New York Times. She and David were married last summer in Boston. They live in the Bronx with their daughter, Natalie (8). Tatiana 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 Hashem, and Cecilia Cabello ’96. Pia gave birth to her second child and is enjoying being a second child and is enjoying being a library assistant at the Ridgewood Public Library, near her home in Woodcliff Lake.

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 ballet recital. She and her husband, Ed, have a son, Nicolai (1), with her fiancé.

Jocelyn Liang Freiblingsen 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 for the University of British Columbia, 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 Carmon [2020 with Rajiv Dada] 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 keep 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 ALUMNI OFFICE CONTACTS ALUMNI AFFAIRS Taruna Sadhoo W 212-851-7849 DEVELOPMENT Rachel Towers R1233@columbia.edu W 212-851-7833**

**Ana S. Salpe,** 24 Monroe Pl, Apt. MA, Brooklyn, NY 11201

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 notes. 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 organizations and has just released an online video channel. For more information or to contact Dorothy, go to www.DACBooks.com.

**Jose Machuca** is a partner at NOQCA Partners in Madrid, Spain. Jose joined NOQCA Partners in April 2009. 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 in the local chapter.

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 or find the organization on Facebook.

An architect of multi-family, affordable housing projects, Phuong Phan-McManamna lives in Bremer ton, Wash., with her husband, Ed, and son, Evan (2). Her first photo exhibit, “Quang Dong 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?**

Letting classmates know about what’s going on in your life is easier than ever. Send your Class Notes! **ONLINE** by clicking “Contact Us” at www.columbia.edu/cct. **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 Cenica, Italy, in September 2009. Enjoying the Tuscan wedding were (left to right) Tara Gangadhara ’06; Homin Lee ’06, ’04E, ’09 GSAS; Ommeed Sathe ’00; Bryan Carmel ’00; Richard Katz ’05L; Benny Chang ’00; Ronald Bhatia ’00E; and David Torres ’00E.

PHOTO: JENNIFER BUTLER

been a director of a 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, klancyspot luck.typepad.com. Klancy writes that Scott Eastman is a journalist and was in South Africa covering the World Cup. Klancy often runs into Eddie Griffin at CU/MC; he received honors as a rising physician-scientist. Marcel Agueros will begin a professorship at Columbia this fall. Rick Shuart 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 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 Loeves 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 Holot, 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 Committee person in Upper Saddle River, County, N.J., 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!

Amol Sarva wrote in with more big news. Not only is his company, Peek (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).

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.
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! I’m sure you’re all happy to hear that.

I hope everyone had a lovely summer!

Prisca Bae
344 W. 17th St., Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10011
pb134@columbia.edu

Afia 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.”

Tejaul 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 Tejaul recently launched a website, RecreateMyNight.com, under his startup, MediaMixer. 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.

Chori Chibnall is still in China and reports that Johnny5 is getting married on October 10 to Ethel Choi, a fashion designer from Hong Kong.

Sander Cohen and his wife, Katie, welcomed a son, Peter Connolly Cohen, 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!

Jonathan Gordin
3030 N. Beachwood Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90068
jg53@columbia.edu

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 Grinfield 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 alumni in Las Vegas at their wedding were Christina Okereke, Sumathi Rajanikanth, Tania D’Alberti, 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-runner in raising online donations. Using an online fundraising strategy modified from President Barack Obama’s 2008 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.

Anne Lainer coincidentally sat next to Miles Berger at the rehearsal dinner of a mutual (non-Columbia) 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. Anne recently started a new job at Public Counsel, a public interest law firm in Los Angeles. Please keep in touch!

Sonia Dandona
3000 N. Beachwood Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90068
soniah57@gmail.com

When Alec Borenstein was at Columbia, he won the George William Curtis Prize for a speech he gave on the Quarterly Life Crisis. Last month, he launched his life coaching practice targeted to men and women in their 20s and 30s dealing with the Quarterly Life Crisis. The name of his new business is Great By 38, and his website is 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 prexpective) meals to hungry children. Visit www.feedprojects.com to learn more. [Editor’s note: CCT profiled Gustafson in July/August 2008: www.colege.columbia.edu/cct/Jul_aug08/alumniProfiles.]

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 Godiwalva 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 O’Ell’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.colege.columbia.edu/cct_archive/sepOct07/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 grandfather’s and role models, Benjamin Chubak and...
Amalia Golvaser ’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 Cannar ’89; Anna Cherneff ’05; Molly Conley ’10; Daniel Fastenberg ’05, ’11; Gary Gagliardi ’05; Michael Goldberg ’05, ’11 Business; Ru Hockley ’05; Adam Hussani ’04; Courtney Johnson ’05; Mira Kogen Resnick ’04 G5; Kim Manis ’05E; Neil Manis ’04 TC; Rachel Paul ’05; Kenneth Smith ’74 Pharmacy; Anne Rollins ’05; Zachary Rose ’05; Gabriel Rose ’07; Jonathan Sellin ’06; ManEui Song ’01 Barnard; Ezra Surowicz ’07; and Evan Weiner ’05.

03

Michael Novielli
World City Apartments
Attention Michael J. Novielli, A608
Block 10, No 6, Jinhui Road,
Chao Yang District,
Beijing, 100020, People’s Republic of China
mjnr29@columbia.edu

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 Columbia students 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 Malia Hari-
dat and Courtney Murphy from 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 Penters-
son remains involved with the Scandinavian American Theater Co., which had a performance of Miss Julie in June.

Jacque 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 Figment 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-size businesses. I advise the owners on selecting the best plans for their employees to maximize their benefits and contributions. My husband, Nathan 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

Angela Georgopoulos
200 Water St., Apt. 1711
New York, NY 10038
aeg90@columbia.edu

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 pro-
ducer at CNN International. He produces CNNI’s International Desk, anchored by Hala Gorani, the flag-
ship news cast of CNNI’s Europe; prime-time 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 alumni celebrating with the happy couple: Mary Amasia ’04E, Rajesh Banik ’02E, Tom Biegeleisen, Mark Chu, Andrew Nathan’s Contemporary Jewish Studies at University of Denver.

Shifra Koyfman graduated from New Jersey Medical School in May and began her pediatric residency at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx. She lives on the Up-
per East Side. Julia Stiles will be on 10 episodes of the Showtime hit series Dexter this fall. She will, according to a Show-
time press release, play a “myste-
rious young woman who forms a unique relationship with Dexter” after his wife dies.

A birth announcement! Caryn (Watson) 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 weigh-
ing 8 lbs., 9 oz. and measuring 21.5 inches.”

Congrats! And an ’05 wedding! In May, Amalia Golvaser 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 ’07E, ManEui Song ’01E and Evan Weiner.

Congrats to Amalia and Larry!
06

Michelle Oh
17 John St., Apt. 2D
New York, NY 10038
moc.2057@colubam.edu

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer!

I’m pleased to share exciting news that Jen Schnidman, 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://momsmadelicious.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 Dreb) 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, who recently graduated from 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! Hongkongers 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 Sophie Chau, the regional chair of COYA 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-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.

07

David D. Chait
1308 New Hampshire Ave. N.W., Apt. 815
Washington, DC 20036
dde2106@columbia.edu

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/ct/ jul_aug10/featurlesl].

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 (née 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

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; Glibbuda Witham ’06e; Oren Shur ’06e; and Rachel Shurer ’06e; and (bottom row, left to right) Paasha Mahdavi ’06; Marco Persico ’06e; Pervin Chandraratna ’97, ’03 GSAS; Tyler Boyd ’06 and Laurie Stricks ’98 TC.

PHOTO: CAROL ROSS OF CAROL ROSS PHOTOGRAPHY
Elizabeth Craig ’07 Monitors Bird Breeding Activity

BY NATHALIE ALONSO ’08

Every 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.

“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 active 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 anywhere 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 “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.

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

Gina Sudduth 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.

Anna Ma and Jacob Weaver have had an exciting 2010 so far! After researching behavioral economics at Columbia’s Center for Decision Sciences, Anna joined Google’s Enterprise Division in Mountain View, Calif. She is helping businesses go Google, working on the Gmail product support team and occasionally sipping 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-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.

A large Columbia contingent made the trek to Jaipur, India, in February for the three-day celebration of the wedding of Ambaalka Pinto ‘07 and Ajay Sudan. Crossing oceans were (front row, left to right) Allison Mirkin ‘07, Shiko Kawashima ‘07E, Vadim Avshalumov ‘07, Alma Pinto, Alissa Crowell, Corey Crowell and Maria Tonioni; and (back row, left to right) Clay Cordova ‘07, Nada Petrovic ‘05, Anmol Sinha, the bride, the groom, Danielle Mohney, Atish Nigam, Ambika Singh, Paul Tietz ‘08, Ping Song ‘07, David Flowerdew, Leanna Ressaguel, 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

Julia Feldberg
C/o CCT
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

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 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 Gose 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 Ripoli 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!
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 apology, “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 and deserves a more developed explanation. There are many stories of Columbia athletics, including more than 300 reunion-goers and singers’ families filled every seat in the house. Glee Club alumni 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 rehearsal 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.cugalumni.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 gleecub.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.

Lerner Hall. An audience of more than 300 reunion-goers and singers’ families filled every seat in the house. Glee Club alumni 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
SERVICES


PROMOTE YOUR BOOK on tv-radio talkshows, print. Columbia alum offers free consultation. Frank Promotion, (561) 737-2315, frankpromo@aol.com.

HEARTSTONE Senior Living for Engaged Graduates Santa Fe Luxury Affordable Heartstonecommunity.com.

WAR BRIEF ALPHA: Understanding & Fighting World War IV at melos.us.

RENTALS

Naples, Florida: Luxury condominium overlooking Gulf, two-month minimum, 802-524-2108 James L. Levy CC ’65, LAW ’68.


Englewood, FL: Brand New Luxury 2 BR/2 BA Waterfront Condo w/pvt. boat slip. Walk to the Gulf, pool, floor to ceiling glass, awesome water views, Lanai, elevator. Professionally decorated. Contact Evan Morgan, CC ’85 at (330) 655-5766 for details.

St. Croix, VI: Luxury Beach Villa. 5 bedroom house, East End (949) 475-4175; richard.waterfield@waterfield.com CC ’94.


Jupiter Island Condo, 3 br, 2.5 bths., pool, splendid ocean, intracoastal. Sunset views from wraparound balcony; boat slips available. Sale or Seasonal Rental, min. 2 months. (772) 321-2370; Edward Kalaidjian, ’42C, 47L, eckalai@aol.com.


Vieques, PR: Luxury Villa, 3 brs, pool, spectacular ocean view, 202-441-7982 or droitsch@msn.com CC’63

REAL ESTATE SALES

Maine luxury lakefront town homes for sale on pristine Kezar Lake. www.kezarlakecondos.com or (713) 988-2382.

2-BEDROOM Co-op Apartment, newly renovated, immaculate, steps from Columbia. Asking $3785,000. www.545west111th.com, 917-687-6876 Mackenzie.

Litchfield Cty, Connecticut — Contemporary Townhouse 3 BR/2 BA gated community. Fishing, indoor/outdoor pools & tennis, camp, horseback riding & skiing. Paid $134,000 — all reasonable offers considered. sing2bill@aol.com, Bill Wood CC ’65, GSAS 67.

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY’S LANDMARK GUEST ROOMS
3041 Broadway at 121st Street
New York, NY 10027
(212) 280-1313
(212) 280-1488 fax
www.uts.columbia.edu

CLASSIFIED AD INFORMATION

REGULAR CLASSIFIED RATES: $3 per word for one issue, discounts for six consecutive issues. Ten-word minimum. Phone (including area code) and PO boxes count as one word. Words divided by slashes, hyphens or plus signs are counted individually. E-mail and Web addresses are priced based on length. No charge for Columbia College class years or ampersands (&). We boldly face the first four words at no charge. Additional boldface words are $1 per word. Display Classifieds are $100 per inch.

PAYMENT: Prepayment required on all issues at time of order. Check, money order, MasterCard, VISA and Diners Club with MasterCard logo only. No refunds for canceled ads.

10% discount for Columbia College alumni, faculty, staff, students and parents

Mail, fax or e-mail orders to:
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
Telephone: 212-851-7967
Fax: 212-851-1950
E-mail: cctadvertising@columbia.edu
www.college.columbia.edu/cct

Deadline for November/December issue:
Tuesday, September 28, 2010
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 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.
Federal Mortgage Program

FOR EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

Federal Mortgage Program may enable you to obtain a substantially lower interest rate than a conventional mortgage program.

MORTGAGE PROGRAM FOR HOME BUYERS AND CURRENT HOMEOWNERS

NO POINTS
NO ORIGINATION FEES
NO MORTGAGE BROKER FEES
NO PROCESSING FEE
NO UNDERWRITING FEE

PURCHASING
• Superior Interest Rates
• 100% Financing Available
• FREE Pre-Qualification

REFINANCING
• Save up to $1000 per month
• Consolidate Debt
• Lower Your Interest Rate

CURRENT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE
• New Purchase • Refinance • Residential and Commercial
• Investment Properties • FHA - First-time Home Buyers

ICC MORTGAGE SERVICES
1-800-500-6323
WWW.ICCMORTGAGE.COM
A student pyramid rises on Low Plaza during Activities Day, an event held each fall when more than 300 student clubs and organizations try to attract new members.