

Columbia College

Summer 2012

TODAY

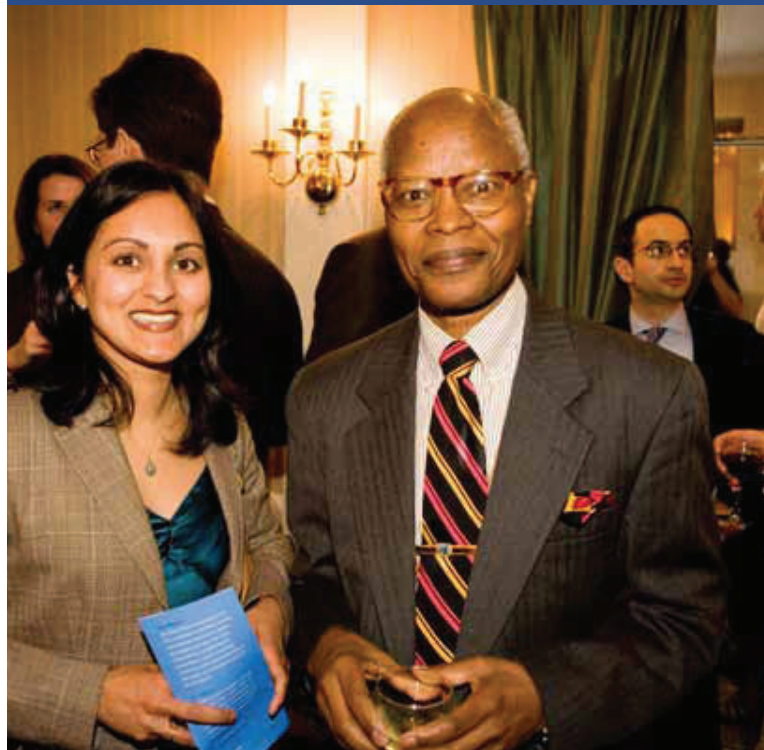


Jodi Kantor '96
Takes Readers
Inside the
White House
in *The Obamas*

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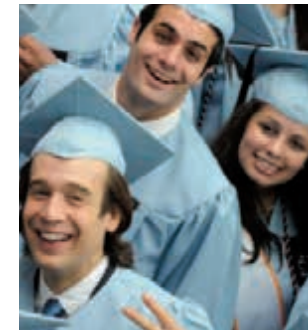


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Our Greatness Is in Our Community

Dear Columbians, At the beginning of the Fall semester, when I had just been appointed Interim Dean of the College, I greeted new students with, "Welcome to the greatest College, in the greatest University, in the greatest city in the world." After serving nine months as dean, I am even more convinced of that truth. It is founded in our unique and uniquely valuable curriculum, in the world-leading scholarship and dedicated teaching of our faculty, in our brilliant and diverse students, and in the deep commitment and intense affection that former students have for their alma mater. But our greatness is in our community, which is much more than the sum of our individual accomplishments.

My challenge as the 16th Dean of the College — no, *our* challenge — is to make the claim "greatest College, in the greatest University, in the greatest city in the world" self-evident to all who are part of Columbia and even to all who are not. That is a tall order, but it is a goal that we can achieve.

To achieve it the College must continue to admit students who are the best in the world, and who also are best able to profit from and contribute to the educational experience we offer. That can be



accomplished only if we recruit students without regard for their ability to pay for that experience. And once they are here, we must ensure that we provide opportunities to develop the talents and further the accomplishments that led to their selection for admission.

The inimitable experience of Columbia College is largely due to the Columbia faculty members who engage and inspire students in the classroom and mentor them in research of the highest caliber. We must enable our faculty to continue as the best teachers and scholars in the world, and recruit faculty of the same distinction, year after year. This means developing endowed professorships and other supports, individual and institutional, financial and structural, to enable the most effective teaching and the most creative scholarship in the humanities, the social sciences and the natural sciences.

The centerpiece of our common intellectual experience is the Core Curriculum, ever-changing but ever-constant, linking generations of faculty and students. Building on the Core is the curriculum of 72 majors and 58 concentrations, evolving all the time, serving students' individual intellectual interests and special abilities. That curriculum, from the Core through the most advanced courses, transforms College undergraduates from brilliant students to brilliant, thoughtful and creative *thinkers*.

As alumni, you serve another special role: as advisers, as role models and as inspiration for current students. Among the most important assets you can contribute to current students are the life experiences you have that show the many and varied paths of success that a Columbia College education opens.

All of your experiences are valuable ones. Because of that, we aim to know all of your stories and have all of you involved, in some way, with the College. A very, very ambitious goal, indeed, but then we have one very, very ambitious group of alumni.

I am honored to have been appointed the 16th Dean of Columbia College. I am respectful of the responsibility being dean conveys. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the College and the University that I love.

To all our great lions, I say Roar, Lions, Roar,



Dean James J. Valentini (right) and President Lee C. Bollinger share a lighter moment during Class Day 2012.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

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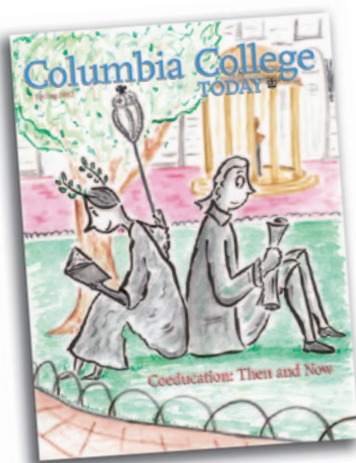
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Letters to the Editor



Coeducation

A hearty thanks for the inspiring and wonderful coverage of Columbia College's migration to coeducation (Spring 2012). As an enthusiastic member of the second class of Columbia College women (a distinction that I wear proudly to this day), this issue brought a wide and long-lasting smile to my face.

Arriving on campus in fall 1984, I was lucky to have one class ahead of me — some footsteps to follow but with enough opportunity left to embrace. Having introduced field hockey to Columbia Athletics by way of a club sport that fall — gathering on the lawns in front of Butler Library — and working to become the first female manager of the men's varsity basketball team, I felt particularly blessed to be able

to make my imprint on the female experience at Columbia.

I can only hope that today's "lionesses," and those to come, will find ways to make their own "first" contributions to Morningside Heights, embracing opportunities that fuel their passions, whatever they may be. Our campus will be the richer for their efforts.

Stephanie Schwartz '88
FAIRFIELD, CONN.

Band Memorabilia?

Attention alumni: Do you have a great photo or video of the Marching Band at a football game? An old Concert Band or Wind Ensemble audio recording or program? A backstage shot from the time the band played in the 1985 feature film *Turk 182!* or for Johnny Carson or David Letterman? An old uniform or other band souvenir?

The Columbia University Marching Band Alumni Council (tinyurl.com/7b33rx) is searching for memorabilia for a campus exhibit to cover the band from its start in 1904 to today, in all its incarnations: Marching Band, Concert (or Symphonic) Band and Wind Ensemble. We'd like to hear from anyone with band artifacts and memorabilia. We'll arrange to borrow or, if possible, duplicate your offering — whichever you choose.

In the 1930s, Columbia's band played Carnegie Hall, cut a record for the Brunswick label, and appeared in a motion pic-



The Cleverest Band in the World received national exposure when it paid a surprise birthday visit to Johnny Carson on *The Tonight Show* in fall 1963.

ture short, *Meet the Professor*. Descendants of band alumni may have material from those or other early appearances; we're interested in those, too.

I was the head manager from 1964–65 and am coordinating the exhibit effort. I will be pleased to hear from anyone with material or leads at jdonaldsmith65@comcast.net.

J. Donald Smith '65
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.



Behind the Core

Your publication of "A Look Behind the Core Curriculum" (Around the Quads, Spring 2012) showcased a tremendous resource for alumni looking to reconnect with that venerable, cherished Core.

Browsing through the online exhibits, I felt memory after memory flooding back, filling me with a longing for those late nights spent in Butler stacks studying the likes of Plato, Aristophanes and Woolf. In those days, reading 300 pages a night was nothing. The thirst for knowledge drove me on! And not just CC and Lit Hum. I recall arguing so heatedly with John Atlas '09 on the merits of surrealism versus pointilism after one Art Hum class that we broke off our friendship and didn't speak to each other for a week! Eventually we came to our senses and reconciled, acknowledging the value of both artistic styles.

Good memories! Thank you, Karla Nielsen, for creating the online exhibit, and thank you, *CCT*, for bringing it to our attention.

Michael Tull Lock '08
MADISON, WIS.

[Editor's note: To access the exhibits on CC and Lit Hum, go to <https://ldpd.lamp.columbia.edu/omeka/exhibits/show/cc> and https://ldpd.lamp.columbia.edu/omeka/exhibits/show/lit_hum.]

Remembering Piero Weiss '50

I join Peter Jacoby '71 in mourning the death of Piero Weiss '50, '70 GSAS (Winter 2011–12), for I, too, had him as my instructor in Music Humanities, and he was indeed a knowledgeable, witty and inspiring teacher. I recall that at the time, spring 1965, he was engaged in translating and editing a selection of composers' letters.

Perhaps I may be permitted to add a comment here about *CCT*'s relation to

some of our former instructors. It is understandable that the passing of so internationally renowned a figure as Edward Said (my Literature Humanities teacher; we arrived at Columbia together, in fall 1963) should receive wide notice. But we were also taught, and often not taught less well, by graduate students, whose appearance in these pages is rare. In the same spirit Jacoby showed, I should like to recall and celebrate two outstanding graduate instructors I had in my freshman year.

Peter Shaw '65 GSAS taught freshman English with wonderful verve and rigor; I give him

credit for making me a decent writer and reader. While I was teaching at Columbia in the 1970s, I had the pleasure of running into him on Broadway, sharing a beer at The West End and catching up with him; by then he was a professor of English at SUNY Stony Brook. For Contemporary Civilization I had another remarkable instructor, Joseph Ransdell '66 GSAS, then a graduate student in philosophy, who succeeded in making the manifold turns and controversies of western thought not only intelligible to a class of raw freshmen but also deeply interesting and engaging. Neither of these two men, unfortunately, can read these simple homages: Shaw died in 1995, Ransdell in 2010.

Joseph B. Solodow '67
WOODBIDGE, CONN.

ROTC

I read the recent letters of Professor Allen Silver (Winter 2011–12) and David Stern '66, '72 GSAS (Fall 2011, Spring 2012) on the return of NROTC to Columbia. My perspective is a personal one as a Columbia NROTC graduate and a retired businessman and Naval Reserve officer.

NROTC provided several dozen full scholarships per class to Columbia, allowing scarce College financial aid dollars to reach more students. I benefited from one

of those scholarships.

My Columbia education served me well throughout my business and military careers. My military experience taught me to think in terms larger than myself, a useful perspective in my personal and business lives. My military training provided the technical foundation for my business career in aviation as well as early exposure to organizational and people management.

I believe the breadth and depth of my Columbia education allowed me to contribute to the organizations and individuals I worked with. The experience gained in my military and business communities allowed me to offer a cross perspective to each.

I believe our country will maintain a sizable military. This will keep avenues of contact between civil and military valuable even as our all-volunteer forces have reduced the direct exposure of civilians to military life.

Columbia, our military and our country all benefit from NROTC. I welcome its men and women back to the Morningside community.

Michael K. Moore '65
PARKER, COLO.



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

Class of 2012 Become the Newest Alumni

BY LISA PALLADINO

The rain held off for much of the day as the Class of 2012 celebrated Class Day on May 15 on South Lawn. The 1,132 graduates marched to the familiar chords of *Pomp and Circumstance* as family and friends looked on and 175 alumni from as far back as 1949 walked with their class banners in the Alumni Parade of Classes, shepherding the graduates into the alumni community.

Salutatorian Zachary Evan Levine '12 delivered the first speech, followed by keynote speaker John R. "Rick" MacArthur '78, an award-winning journalist, an author and president and publisher of *Harper's Magazine*. MacArthur made light of the fact that he was speaking in the shadow of Barnard's May 14 Commencement speaker, President Barack Obama '83: "Many of you are disappointed I am not President of the United States ... I share your disappointment."

Dean James J. Valentini urged the graduates to "take pride in being graduates of the greatest college, in the greatest university, in the greatest city in the world" and was followed by brief remarks from President Lee C. Bollinger. Stephanie Foster '12 and Jacob Goren '12, co-chairs of the Senior Fund, presented the Class Gift. They noted that the class had surpassed its goals of 750 donors to the Senior Fund (thereby securing a gift of \$100,000 from Charles Santoro '82) and 200 donors to Valentini's "3-2-1" Challenge of committing to give \$20.12 for three years, convincing two friends to do the same and then having the gift matched by an alumnus (this year, Gene Davis '75 matched all gifts). After remarks by Class President Sarah Chai '12, the names of the graduates were read and they received class pins from four members of the 50th anniversary Class of 1962.

The next day, the University Commencement ceremony of the 258th academic year was held on South Lawn with upward of 11,000 degree candidates and more than 30,000 participants and guests in attendance. Among the 10 recipients of the Alumni Medal, given for distinguished service of 10 years or more to the University, were Robert H. Douglas '70 and Nicholas Rudd '64, '67 Business. Honored with the University Medal for Excellence, presented each year to an alumnus/a under 45 whose record in scholarship, public service or professional life is outstanding, was Thomas R. Kitt '96, who won Pulitzer and Tony Awards for writing the score to the Broadway hit *Next to Normal*.

To view photo galleries of Class Day and Commencement, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.



(Left) The soon-to-be alumni wait on the ramps in Alfred Lerner Hall to begin their procession onto South Field. (Clockwise from right) Thomas R. Kitt '96 is presented the 2012 University Medal for Excellence by President Lee C. Bollinger; Class Day speaker John R. "Rick" MacArthur '78 (right) with Dean James J. Valentini; President Barack Obama '83 speaks at Barnard's Commencement on May 14; and alumni from the 25th anniversary Class of 1987 march in the ninth annual Alumni Parade of Classes.

PHOTOS: ALUMNI PARADE OF CLASSES: CHAR SMULLYAN; ALL OTHERS: EILEEN BARROSO



WITHIN THE FAMILY

And the Survey Says ...

Many years ago, I was walking down Sixth Avenue in Greenwich Village on a sunny Saturday morning when a tall, balding man ambled up to me, smiled, stuck out his hand and asked in a booming voice, "How am I doing?" Actually, in his distinctive accent, it came out more like "How'm I doin'?"

Ed Koch, mayor of NYC from 1978–89 and for a brief time a judge on one of those daytime TV courtroom dramas, was famous for his impromptu political polling. He would roam the city streets and ask passersby for their opinions on his tenure in office, to the point where "How'm I doin'?" became a catchphrase in New York in the '80s.

Knowing your constituency, your audience, is one of the principles not only of politics but also of marketing, public relations, sales and just about all aspects of business. It surely applies to magazine editing and publishing, including our niche here at *Columbia College Today*. What do our readers want? What do they like about *CCT* and, equally important, what do they dislike? What are their expectations and their desires when our quarterly arrives in their mailboxes, or when they open our latest issue online?

This year, to supplement the Koch-style anecdotal evidence-gathering that we do at alumni events, we conducted an online readership survey. Distributed in March, the survey consisted of 22 questions, most in multiple choice or short-answer formats, followed by an open-ended request for comments, and was designed to be completed in about five minutes.

We sent the survey to every College alumnus/a for whom the University has a valid email address, and we sincerely thank the more than 1,000 of you who responded. I have read every one of your comments, and all have been shared with the *CCT* staff. The survey was conducted anonymously to encourage respondents to be forthright in their answers; two questions regarding age and gender enabled us to confirm that we'd heard from a representative sample of our alumni population.

We are pleased to report that 91 percent of respondents read all four issues of the magazine each year, and 60 percent spend a half-hour or more with each issue. More than 61 percent of respondents said they receive most or all of their information about Columbia College by reading this magazine.

Confirming what we have long believed from Koch-style polling, Class Notes was rated the first-read and most-liked section of the magazine. When asked, "Which section do you go to first?" one alumnus said simply, "Class Notes — who doesn't?" While 76 percent of respondents said that the length of Class Notes is "just right," 21 percent said it was "not long enough." As our Class Notes section is among the most robust of any in the field and regularly fills nearly half the magazine, we take it that the latter were referring specifically to their year's Class Notes, and

not the section in its entirety.

Slightly more than half of respondents said they had at some point submitted a note to their class correspondent. I encourage more of you to do so, as it's the easiest way to stay in touch with classmates. Many respondents said they were unaware that we had an online Class Notes submission form, so here's the link: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your note will go right to your class correspondent.

As for method of distribution, 76 percent of respondents said they liked getting *CCT* in print and another 15 percent said both in print and online. We have no plans to eliminate the print edition; however, keep in mind that if you prefer reading the magazine online and would like to save a tree (or at least a limb) and lower our mailing costs, you can opt out of the print edition by clicking "Manage Your Subscription" at college.columbia.edu/cct and following the domestic instructions.

We asked how you felt about the statement, "*CCT* strengthens my connection to Columbia College," and more than 91 percent said you agreed or strongly agreed, with only 3 percent saying you disagreed or strongly disagreed. Thank you for validating college alumni magazines in general and for the vote of confidence in *CCT* in particular.

What do you like most about *CCT*? As mentioned earlier, Class Notes was the runaway leader with an average value of 4.46 on a scale of 1–5, followed by the profiles and photos in the Class Notes section, Obituaries, Alumni Corner (back page), features and Around the Quads (news) — all receiving a mean score of 3.5 or higher.

How can we improve? We asked you to rate *CCT*'s coverage in 11 categories, and more than 80 percent of respondents said we cover each "very well" or "adequately," with alumni news, profiles, college news, alumni events and campus events leading the way. But 18 percent of respondents said we did not cover the Core Curriculum well enough and 14 percent said the same about academics in general; student activities and athletics were next on the list.

These are things we plan to address. We've already done so with athletics, introducing a redesigned Roar, Lion, Roar section of athletics news in this issue. We are planning a themed issue based on the Core Curriculum for the coming academic year and are working on ways to introduce more information on academics, the Core and student activities into each issue.

Remember, *CCT* is your alumni magazine as well as ours. We welcome your feedback. Get in touch with us at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus or send us a letter the old fashioned way — we love getting those.

Alan Sanhane



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

AROUND THE QUADS



Celebrating at the May 2 awards ceremony were (left to right) Academic Awards Committee Co-chair Erik Kogut '12, AAC Co-chair Lindsay White '13, associate professor David B. Lurie '01 GSAS, the Gustave M. Berne Professor of Philosophy Christia Mercer, Dean James J. Valentini and AAC Co-chair Cathi Choi '13.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

Mercer, Lurie Receive Van Doren, Trilling Awards

The Columbia College Student Council's Academic Awards Committee presented the 2012 Mark Van Doren Award to Christia Mercer, the Gustave M. Berne Professor of Philosophy, and the Lionel Trilling Award to David B. Lurie '01 GSAS, associate professor of Japanese history and literature in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. The awards were presented on May 2 in the Presidential Ballroom at Faculty House.

The Mark Van Doren Award, which honors a Columbia professor for commitment to undergraduate instruction as well as for "humanity, devotion to truth and inspiring leadership," was named for Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, novelist, literary critic and longtime Columbia faculty member with a reputation for pedagogical greatness.

Mercer studied art history in New York and Rome before going to graduate school in philosophy at Princeton, where she earned a Ph.D. in 1989. Mercer joined Columbia's Department of Philosophy in 1991 and became the Gustave M. Berne Professor in 2003. She was presented the 2008 Columbia College Great Teacher Award by the Society of Columbia Graduates and specializes in early modern philosophy, the history of Platonism and

the history of feminism.

The Lionel Trilling Award honors a book from the past year by a Columbia professor that best exhibits the standards of intellect and scholarship found in the work of longtime Columbia faculty member Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS, an author and renowned literary critic. Lurie was honored for his book *Realms of Literacy: Early Japan and the History of Writing*.

Lurie earned a B.A. from Harvard in 1993 and an M.A. (1996) and Ph.D. (2001)

from Columbia. His research interests include the literary and cultural history of seventh- through 12th-century Japan; the Japanese reception of Chinese literary, historical and technical writings; the development of Japanese dictionaries and encyclopedias; and the history of linguistic thought.

The Van Doren and Trilling awards are unique for Columbia because they are the only academic honors judged and presented by students.

Nine Faculty Members Honored with Lenfest Awards

Nine Arts and Sciences faculty members have been honored with the Distinguished Columbia Faculty Awards for their ability to engage, challenge and inspire students in the classroom.

Established in 2005 by University Trustee Gerry Lenfest '58L, the awards are given annually to recognize and reward exceptional teaching and mentoring. Honored at a dinner at the Italian Academy on March 1, the recipients each will receive \$25,000 per year for three consecutive years.

This year's recipients are Daphna Shohamy, assistant professor of psychology; Mark Mazower, the Ira D. Wallach Professor of World Order Studies and chair of the history department; Robert Y. Shapiro, professor of political science; Fredrick C. Harris, professor of political science and director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies; Holger A. Klein, professor of art history and archaeology; Emmanuelle Saada, associate professor of French and history; Laura J. Kaufman '97, associate professor of chemistry; Frances Negrón-Muntaner, associate professor of English and comparative literature and director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race; and Cathy Popkin, the Jesse and George Siegel Professor in the Humanities and Professor of Russian.

Coatsworth Appointed University Provost



John H. Coatsworth
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

After seven months serving in an interim capacity, John H. Coatsworth was named provost in February.

Coatsworth, a professor of history and of international and public affairs, had been dean of SIPA since 2008. He was interim dean of SIPA from 2007–08 and a visiting professor at Columbia from 2006–07.

“John has demonstrated consummate skill in leading Columbia forward on a host of complex matters critical to our future,” President Lee C. Bollinger said in a letter to the University community announcing the appointment. “I am, personally, very pleased that John will serve in this vital University role and as my colleague.”

As provost, Coatsworth is the University’s chief academic officer, overseeing faculty and programs. He plans to expand the University’s capacity for research and interdisciplinary work

among the sciences. As interim provost, he established a standing tenure committee, continued to make progress on the initiative to enhance faculty and pipeline diversity, and coordinated Columbia’s proposal to the city for a new Institute for Data Sciences and Engineering, among other accomplishments.

“This is an opportunity to help make Columbia greater than the sum of its parts and an even better place to work, think and study,” Coatsworth said of his position.

A leading scholar on Latin-American economics and history, Coatsworth was the Monroe Gutman Professor of Latin American Affairs at Harvard from 1992–2007 and was founding director of Harvard’s David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. He taught at Chicago from 1969–92 and has held visiting professorships in Mexico, Argentina and Spain.

Coatsworth is the former president of the American Historical Association and the Latin American Studies Association and has served on the editorial boards of *American Historical Review*, the *Journal of Economic History* and the *Hispanic American Historical Review*. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Coatsworth earned a B.A. in history from Wesleyan and an M.A. and Ph.D. in economic history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship in 1986 and has been appointed a senior Fulbright lecturer three times.

Karen Iorio



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Eight Columbia Professors Win Guggenheim Fellowships

Literature Humanities chair Christia Mercer and Contemporary Civilizations chair Matthew Jones were among the eight Columbia University professors awarded Guggenheim Fellowships in April, the largest number from any institution this year. Mercer, the Gustave M. Berne Professor of Philosophy, and Jones, the James R. Barker Associate Professor of Contemporary Civilization, both will be replaced by interim chairs next year.

Also winning the prestigious fellowship were, from the School of the Arts, associate professor of writing Timothy Donnelly ’98 Arts and adjunct professor of writing Benjamin Taylor ’92 GSAS; from the Mailman School of Public Health, professor and deputy chair for doctoral studies Jennifer Hirsch; adjunct instructor of music Alex Mincek ’12 GSAS and adjunct assistant professor of music Kate Soper ’11 GSAS; and from the Journalism School, adjunct professor Stephen S. Hall.

During her fellowship, Mercer will work on a book project, *Platonisms in Early Modern Thought*. She also will con-

tinue to oversee a new book series, *Oxford Philosophical Concepts*, which offers accounts of key concepts in the history of philosophy (such as matter, soul, evil, space, health, consciousness, sympathy and self-knowledge). Jones will study the history of data mining, a technique for summarizing large sets of data via computer software.

A total of 181 John Simon Guggenheim

Memorial Foundation Fellowships were awarded this year to scholars, artists and scientists in the United States and Canada. Guggenheim Fellows are appointed based on distinguished achievement and exceptional promise for future accomplishment. The purpose of the Guggenheim Fellowship program is to help provide fellows with six to 12 months to work with as much creative freedom as possible.



The Columbia College Board of Visitors held a special dinner on April 26 in Casa Italiana to thank and toast outgoing chair Jonathan S. Lavine ’88 (left) for his nine years of service on the BOV, and particularly for the last four, during which he was chair. Here, with a handshake, he passes the torch to and congratulates incoming chair Yale M. Fergang ’87, ’88E. Lavine, a University trustee, will remain on the BOV as an emeritus member.

PHOTO: RICHARD D. COLE

Travel with Columbia



EXPLORING AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

NOVEMBER 3–23, 2012

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COLUMBIA *alumni*
ASSOCIATION CAA

Saahil Patel ’12 (left) was the winner of a student challenge question announced by Dean James J. Valentini at the March 7 John Jay Awards Dinner. The challenge question: Of the five honorees, name the honoree connected to the following number type: an ordinal (answer, third: Daniel S. Loeb ’83, Third Point); a numeronym (answer, a16z: Ben Horowitz ’88, Andreessen Horowitz’s URL, a16z.com; and a pure number (answer, 30: Ellen Gustafson ’02, 30 Project). As the first student to answer all questions correctly, Patel was awarded a lunch date with the dean; they dined together on May 2.

PHOTO: AMANDA LANG

Julie Crawford is an associate professor of English and comparative literature who specializes in 16th- and 17th-century English literature and culture. She has authored numerous articles as well as a book about cheap print and the Protestant Reformation, *Marvelous Protestantism: Monstrous Births in Post-Reformation England*. Born in Toronto, Crawford earned a B.A. from McGill and a Ph.D. from Penn. She worked at Columbia from 1999–2005 and again since 2007; in 2010, she received a Lenfest Distinguished Columbia Faculty Award.

What drew you to Renaissance literature?

I took a 17th-century English poetry class toward the end of my time at McGill. The professor was amazing and the poetry was amazing [but] I looked at the syllabus — I was at the height of my feminist activism at the time — and I said, “Why are there no women?” The professor said there were no women who wrote in the Renaissance. I thought, “That can’t be true; surely the man is wrong.”

Well, of course he *was* wrong. I went to the library and discovered writers such as Aemelia Lanyer, who published the first collection of poetry by a woman in English, and the women who wrote on the English side of what was called the *Querelle des Femmes* (the Debate on Women); some were poets, but they wrote these polemical texts defending the rights of women to write, among other things, and that got me hooked. It was this connection between various types of activism I was doing and the feminist theory that I was reading and literature, which I’d always loved. It was the moment I turned from being an activist to being a scholar.

Discuss the relationship between teaching and academic scholarship.

There’s a lot that’s alienating and lonely about being a scholar; you spend a lot of time alone, in archives, working through ideas, you and your computer and your books. The classroom is not the opposite of that — it’s the logical engagement with

to me is incredibly boring. So I move around partly as a way of delineating the really big points I want to make, or sometimes creating arguments between things, and eliciting engagement from the students. And part of it is pleasure and excitement — kind of an adrenaline-y, stress-y thing that surrounds this question of, how do you communicate?

Five Minutes with ... Julie Crawford

that; it’s what helps keep it meaningful. It’s actually what makes teaching exciting — not that it’s an escape from the scholarship but rather that it’s a way of making it vivid and communicable to others. It informs your changing perception of your field and your ability to remain invigorated and excited in your field even when it largely comprises texts, in my case, that people have been studying for hundreds of years.

What do you teach?

Shakespeare, Milton, 16th- and 17th-century poetry and prose. My favorite class is a survey of 17th-century English literature in the context of political revolution. I also teach a class on the history of feminist thought to suffrage (through the Institute for Research on Women and Gender) and a class on literature and the history of sexuality.

I read that you are known for your “enthusiastic teaching style.”

[Laughs] I think the official term is “kinetic.” One of my students said to me, “I notice that whenever you try to explain a series of complicated ideas, you position your ideas with your body.” Which I do!

I like to lecture but that doesn’t mean I like to hear myself talk. A potted lecture

This is your one shot at a particular set of ideas or a particular text; how am I going to do the best possible job that I can, not as entertainment or show, but as a combination of clarity and challenge?

What are you working on?

I recently finished a book that will be published next year about women writers, readers, patrons and dedicatees, and the production of literature in early modern England. It takes seriously the idea that literature in the period was produced not on a single authorial model but instead through a range of practices, including patronage and what is sometimes called coterie writing. It’s about what one might conceive of as tidy little literary communities but which I’m instead conceiving of as activist communities in which writing played a central role. I’m also writing a book about Margaret Cavendish, the most prolific woman writer in the 17th century and usually, paradoxically, disdained for that.

Do you have family?

I have a partner, Liza, who teaches at John Jay College, a 7-year-old son and a 2½-year-old daughter.

If you weren’t a professor, what would you do?

Wednesday morning I would have been an early childhood educator. Monday morning, and all of last year, I would have been working on refugee rights. There is also plenty that still animates my attention around issues of domestic and sexual violence.

What are you reading right now?

It sounds pretentious beyond belief, but I’m reading Lydia Davis’ translation of *Madame Bovary*, which is so good. It’s like eating cake, so I only read a chapter a day.

Which character would you choose to have a conversation with?

Satan in *Paradise Lost*. That would be everybody’s choice, right?

Interview: Alexis Tonti ’11 Arts
Photo: Eileen Barroso

For more conversation with Crawford, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.



John W. Kluge Jr. '05 Meets with Kluge Scholars



John W. Kluge Jr. '05 talks with Dean James J. Valentini and students from the Kluge Scholars program about his father, John W. Kluge '37, founder of the program and one of Columbia's most generous benefactors.

PHOTOS: EILEEN BARROSO

Kluge Scholars in the Class of 2015 gathered at Faculty House on February 28 to meet with John W. Kluge Jr. '05, son of John W. Kluge '37, the program's founder. Dean James J. Valentini and Dean Emeritus Austin E. Quigley spoke to the students about Kluge Sr.'s remarkable generosity and enduring legacy at Columbia. Alissa Rae Funderburk '12 shared her experience and gratitude as a Kluge scholarship recipient, and Kluge Jr. reminisced about his four years at Columbia and spoke movingly about his father and how important it was for Kluge to give back to the College that had given him so much.

Kluge Sr., who attended the College as a scholarship student, built Metro-media into one of the country's largest media companies and became one of the world's richest men. One of Columbia's most generous benefactors, he created the Kluge Scholars Program, which pro-

vides financial aid and programming to high-ability students from underrepresented populations; the Kluge Presidential Scholars; the Kluge Faculty Endowment; and other programs. In 2004 Kluge pledged \$400 million to Columbia for

financial aid, the largest gift devoted to student financial aid at any school. He passed away in September 2010.

For more on the Kluge Scholars Program, go to college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/nov04/cover.php.



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ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ **Eileen Lee '05**, formerly a senior consultant at Accenture specializing in technology integration projects for clients such as Bristol-Myers Squibb and PepsiCo, now is COO of Venture for America, a program that trains and places talented college graduates in start-up companies. *Time* magazine featured VFA on April 9, calling the nonprofit “a kind of start-up boot camp.” **Derek Turner '12**, a 2012 VFA fellow who was pictured in the magazine alongside VFA founder and president Andrew Yang '99L, told *Time*, “One thing that draws me to the entrepreneurial world is that everything can change. The moment you stop changing, you die out.”



Kate McKinnon '06
PHOTO: ARI SCOTT/UCB THEATRE

■ **Kate McKinnon '06**, who was known as Kate Berthold during her days at the College, debuted April 7 as a feature player on *Saturday Night Live*. The first openly gay female member of the cast, she portrayed Penélope Cruz and Bravo personality Tabatha Coffey on her first show. *Newsday* lauded her performance as “comfortable, assured, confident and above all, funny.” Prior to joining *SNL*, McKinnon spent three years as a cast member on Logo network’s *The Big Gay Sketch Show*, produced by Rosie O'Donnell, on which she began acting during her senior year at Columbia. Read CCT’s profile of McKinnon online in the March/ April 2007 issue.

■ Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Steven Millhauser '65** was honored with The Story Prize on March 21 for his 2011 book,

We Others: New and Selected Stories. Millhauser received \$20,000 for winning the prestigious award, given annually to an author for an outstanding collection of short stories. Other finalists were Don DeLillo and Edith Pearlman. Millhauser’s Pulitzer came in 1997 for his novel *Martin Dressler: The Tale of an American Dreamer*.

■ In a March 27 article on the growing popularity of computer programming classes and online instruction modules, *The New York Times* called Codecademy, founded by **Ryan Bubinski '11** and Zach Sims, “the center of the recent frenzy in this field.” Founded last summer, the start-up has more than three million students participating in interactive lessons on programming languages including HTML and JavaScript. Sims, who matriculated with the Class of 2012 and has since left the College to run Codecademy full-time, told the *Times*, “People don’t just want to use the Web; they want to understand how it works.” One of its students is Mayor Michael Bloomberg who, according to the *Times*, “made a public New Year’s resolution to use the site to learn how to code.”

■ *Time* magazine in April named **Ai-jen Poo '96** to its “2012 TIME 100” list of the most influential people in the world for her work advocating for domestic workers’ rights. Poo co-founded Domestic Workers United, a New York-based organization for nannies, housekeepers and caregivers, and now is the director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance. Her work led to New York state passing the country’s first Domestic Workers’ Bill of



Ai-jen Poo '96

Rights, with California likely to follow soon. Gloria Steinem, in her *Time* profile of Poo, called her “a gifted organizer ... [who] knows how to create social change from the bottom up.”



David Paterson '77
PHOTO: JUDY SANDERS, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

■ In April, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed former New York Gov. **David Paterson '77** to the board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. At a news conference, as reported by *The New York Times*, Cuomo said Paterson will be a “powerful advocate and informed voice.” MTA chairman Joseph J. Lhota told reporters that Paterson, the state’s first legally blind governor, “will bring a unique and practical perspective, particularly with respect to issues affecting minority communities and disabled New Yorkers.” He will be the first former governor to serve on the transit authority’s board.

■ **Eli Sanders '99**, associate editor of *The Stranger*, an alternative weekly newspaper in Seattle, has won the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for his haunting piece “The Bravest Woman in Seattle.” The article, published last summer, recounts the story of a woman who survived a horrific attack that left her partner dead. The Pulitzer board commended Sanders for “using the woman’s brave courtroom testimony and the details of the crime to construct a moving narrative.” Sanders has chronicled the crime from its inception, also profiling the convicted murderer for the paper. The award, announced in April, is the first Pulitzer for *The Stranger*.
Karen Iorio

Students, Alumni Garner Research Awards

Columbia students and alumni fared well in this year’s competitions for Fulbright and Goldwater Scholarships and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships.

Eight alumni, including three members of the Class of 2012, have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships in the 2011–12 competition. Winners receive grants for individually designed study/ research projects or English Teaching Assistantships for one academic year in a country outside the United States. This year’s winners, listed with the country to which they’ll be traveling, are Sarah Brafman '10, Indonesia; Cristian Gonzalez '10, Germany; David Kang '09, South Korea; Gene Kogan '08E, India; Rithambara Ramachandran '12, India; Natassia Rozario '04, India; Emily Tamkin '12, Germany; and James Tyson '12, India.

Woo Chang Chung '13, Adam Formica '13 and Katharina Shaw '13 have won Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships for the 2012–13 academic year. The scholarships, established by Congress in 1986, aim to provide the U.S. with a continuing source of scientists, mathematicians and engineers by supporting students who plan to pursue careers in those fields. Chung is majoring in mathematics and physics, Formica is majoring in environmental science with a concentration in economics and Shaw is majoring in biochemistry. Each will receive up to \$7,500 toward tuition and fees during their senior year.

Twelve College alumni have been awarded National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, which recognize outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, en-

gineering, mathematics and social science disciplines who are pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees at accredited U.S. institutions. Each fellowship provides three years of support to students, including a cost-of-education allowance to the recipient’s institution, a \$30,000 annual stipend and professional development and international research opportunities.

The College awardees, their disciplines and their intended graduate institutions are Daniel Amrhein '09, geosciences, MIT;

Zachary Brill '12, chemistry, Scripps Research Institute; Anna Fineberg '10, psychology, Temple; Eiren Jacobson '10, ecology, UC Santa Cruz; Katherine Klymko '11, chemistry, UC Berkeley; Jason Pflueger '11, chemistry, UC Berkeley; Noam Prywes '10, chemistry, Harvard; Ali Raza '12, neuroscience, Columbia; Albert Rigosi '11, physics and astronomy, Columbia; Rachel Vishnepolsky '10, mathematics, Chicago; Yinuo Wang '12, molecular biology, Johns Hopkins; and Adam Zelizer '06, political science, Columbia.

Core Scholars Create Winning Works

Four College students in April were selected as Core Scholars for work submitted as part of the second annual Core Scholars Program. Rowan Buchanan '12, Marian Guerra '14, Gabriela Pelsinger '15 and Anneke Solomon '15 each created a “Core Reflection” that analyzed, questioned, dramatized, interpreted or reflected an idea presented in a Core class. Entries were accepted in a variety of formats, from essays and fiction to sculpture and choreography, with honors going to the most “exceptionally creative and well executed” projects.

Buchanan created a triptych inspired by Ovid’s *Metamorphoses*, and Guerra painted Sonya reading the story of Lazarus in Fyodor Dostoevsky’s *Crime and Punishment*. Solomon won for her poem “Departure-In Four Parts,” about four characters featured in Lit Hum (Daedalus, Dante, Daphne and Dido), while Pelsinger performed a spoken-word poem responding to Eve’s story in Genesis. Each student received \$200 and will have his or her work displayed on the Core website: college.columbia.edu/core/scholars/2012.



PAINTING: THE ECSTASY OF SONYA, BY MARIAN GUERRA '14

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Richard Sun '13 Embraces "Triple Bottom Line"

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

Ask Richard Sun '13 to describe his academic and professional interests and you will get a succinct answer: "People, planet and profit."

Since high school, when he served on his hometown of Summit, N.J.'s recycling advisory committee, Sun has envisioned a career devoted to furthering sustainable environmental policies. That goal has guided his College trajectory, which includes the prestigious Undergraduate Award bestowed by the government of Ireland and a White House internship.

Sun, an economics and sustainable development major, has developed a personal mission based on a widely accepted measure of sustainability performance known as the "triple bottom line," which defines organizational success in terms of social welfare ("people"), environmental impact ("planet") and economic growth ("profit").

Sun's selection for Ireland's Undergraduate Award in 2011 is a testament to his grasp of the subject. He was an international winner in the sustainability category for his essay, "Triple Bottom Line Analysis of Sustainable Urban Development," which used Newark, N.J., as a case study. Sun cites mayoral staff recruited from around the country and the \$100 million donation that Mayor Cory Booker inspired Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg to give to Newark's public school system as examples of the city's unconventional approach to leadership and development.

Sun flew to Dublin in October to receive the Oscar Wilde Gold Medal from then-president of Ireland Mary McAleese. He'd completed the 5,000-word entry essay in less than a month last summer while working long hours as a paid research analyst on financial services company Credit Suisse's U.S. electric utilities desk. This summer, he is an analyst for McKinsey & Co. in Washington, D.C.

In 2011, Sun also received the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Scholar-

ship for Excellence in National Environmental Policy, which consisted of \$5,000 and the opportunity to interact with fellow scholars, including Rebecca Chan '12 (see Student Spotlight, May/June 2010) and Adam Formica '13, during a four-day orientation in Arizona.

Sun was away from Columbia during the Spring 2011 semester while he interned full-time in the Office of White House Personnel (a pursuit that began during his days as a *West Wing* fan). There he functioned as the "RA (resident adviser) of the internship



Richard Sun '13, here with Bo, the "First Dog," interned at the White House last spring.

PHOTO: PAIGE EPSTEIN

program," organizing speaker events and coordinating community service projects for his peers.

Sun credits his experience as an RA in McBain Hall for his selection; he has since been community adviser for Schapiro Hall and plans to be an RA in Carman Hall as a senior. In April, Sun was elected to one of the College's three seats in the University Senate; he was chief of staff for the Senate's student affairs committee from September 2010–May 2012.

Though his endeavors have brought

him to different places, Sun hopes to begin his career at the local level in his home state. As a member of Summit's recycling advisory committee from 2006–09, he was instrumental in establishing the city's "freecycling" program, which includes a website (summitfree market.org) where residents can post unwanted items for others to pick up; he believes the program has reduced Summit's solid waste stream by 100 tons during its first four years.

As a high school upperclassman, Sun participated in Columbia's Science Honors Program, through which he took Saturday morning classes on campus on topics such as fossil fuels and climate change and public health and policy. These courses cemented his interest in sustainable development and his decision to attend the College. "That was really helpful for getting a feel for the school and understanding its values," he says. "It's been a springboard for a lot of my interests."

In fall 2010, Sun took "Economic and Financial Methods to Sustainable Development" with Satyajit Bose, lecturer in the discipline of economics and continuing education, who has become a mentor. "Environmental policy can only be advanced with a plurality of support. Richard, with his determined approach of incorporating feedback and connecting with others, has the potential to be an effective policymaker," Bose says.

Sun, a self-proclaimed "municipal nerd" who enjoys spending time in Central Park and belongs to the fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon, speaks with conviction about becoming "a policymaker [who] aligns societal goals with private interests to make sure the maximum public goal is being achieved."

"The triple bottom line drives my amp and my mission," says Sun, who hopes to "find opportunities that allow me to do all three at once."

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

Class of 2012 Celebrates End of Year at Senior Dinner

More than 900 seniors celebrated the last day of classes at the annual Senior Dinner on April 30 under a tent on South Lawn. The soon-to-be alumni enjoyed a gourmet meal, upbeat music, a slideshow of photographs and remarks from Dean James J. Valentini, Columbia College Student Council Class of 2012 President Sarah Chai '12, Senior Dinner Co-chairs Eylul Kayin '12 and Randy Subramany '12, CCSC President Aki Terasaki '12, Columbia College Alumni Association President Kyra Tirana Barry '87 and Columbia College Young Alumni Board President Justin Ifill '06.

A highlight of the evening was the announcement by Senior Fund Co-chairs Stephanie Foster '12 and Jake Goren '12 that the fund had achieved its goal of 750 donors and raised more than \$16,250. (As of May 23, 777 donors had contributed \$17,208.) By reaching its goal, the Senior Fund secured a \$100,000 gift from Charles Santoro '82 to be given to the Columbia College Fund by June 30, the end of Fiscal Year 2012.

The Senior Fund also exceeded its goal of 200 donors to Valentini's "3-2-1 Challenge" of committing to give \$20.12 for three years, convincing two friends to do the same and then having the gift matched 1:1 by an alumnus/a (for this year, Gene Davis '75 will match all gifts). As of May 23, 235 seniors were committed to the 3-2-1 Challenge.

When Valentini stepped up to the podi-



The Class of 2012 celebrated at the annual Senior Dinner, held under a tent on South Lawn on April 30, the final day of classes. Dean James J. Valentini was on hand, along with College alumni and student volunteer leaders, to offer congratulations and advice to the happy group.

PHOTOS: BEVERIN "BEAR" ORTEGA

um, he was met with cheers and applause. He spoke briefly, noting, "At this point, I am supposed to turn you over to the Columbia College Alumni Association. I refuse. In my lexicon, there are only students — future students, current students and past students ... I am going to give you some advice, and I am going to keep it simple, just four words: Pass the swim test!"

To view a gallery of photos from the dinner, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.



MacPhee Speaks to Students About Healthcare Careers

The Center for Career Education (CCE) and the Columbia College Alumni Association Career Education Committee continued their "Dinner and Discussion" series — created with the thought that there's no better way for students to learn about a field than from people already working in it — on February 27 with speaker John MacPhee '89, '12 PH. MacPhee went from working on road kill crews in Massachusetts to launching some of the world's most successful antidepressants as v.p. of Forest Laboratories. From there, he went on to become president of Strativa Pharmaceuticals and e.v.p. of Par Pharmaceutical Com-

panies. He is now the executive director of The Jed Foundation, a suicide prevention organization founded in 2000 by Phillip Satow '63 and his wife, Donna '65 GS.

Speaking at the event, which was held in the Columbia Alumni Center, MacPhee offered advice about getting into the pharmaceutical industry. He emphasized the value of exploration for students just out of college, noting that he had "absolutely no idea what I wanted to do" after graduating with a political science degree and ended up in the pharmaceutical industry by chance. "A big part of this [college experience] is learning and exposing yourself to different things," he said.

MacPhee, who graduated from the College with no work experience except in physical labor, said he was embarrassed to apply for consulting and finance jobs at firms such as McKinsey and Goldman Sachs and urged students to take advantage of CCE's resources and to focus on networking while in college. Although he conceded that it's a "hard job market" right now, he ended the dinner on a positive note, reminding students not to "stress out" so much and to engage fully in their job searches.

"Put yourself out there," MacPhee said. "Be yourself. Meet people. It'll come together very well for you."

Benjamin W. Gittelsohn '15

Roar, Lion, Roar



The U.S. Olympic women's foil fencing team consists of (left to right) Doris Willette, Lee Kiefer and Columbians Nzingha Prescod '15 and Nicole Ross '11.

PHOTO: NICOLE JOMANTAS

Columbia's Olympians

When you tune in to the Summer Olympics from London beginning on Friday, July 27, look for at least seven Columbians, including four fencers, among the competing athletes.

James Williams '07, a member of the men's sabre team that won a silver medal four years ago in Beijing, returns for a second Olympiad and is joined on the sabre squad by former All-American Jeff Spear '10. Nicole Ross '11 and Nzingha Prescod '15 will compete on the women's foil team in London. Spear and Ross each were national champions in their respective weapons while fencing for the Lions, while Prescod took the past year off from school to train full-time for the Olympics.

Rower Nick LaCava '09 qualified for the Olympics as part of the U.S. lightweight men's four without coxswain, which defeated the Netherlands in a qualification regatta in Lucerne, Switzerland, on May 22. In addition, distance runner Lisa Stublic '06 will compete in the marathon for Croatia, where her father was born and where she has lived for the past four years; and sprinter Erison Hurthault '07, who ran for Dominica in Beijing in 2008, will run for the island nation again in 2012.

Kyle Merber '12 qualified to be invited to the U.S. Olympic Track & Field team trials to be held in Eugene, Ore., from Thursday, June 21–Sunday, July 1.

2011–12 Ivy League Champions

Columbia's women's team won its first Ivy League Heptagonal Indoor Track & Field Championship at Cornell on February 25–26, topping off athletic achievements by Columbians in 2011–12. Following is a list of Lions who were individual Ivy League champions this academic year:

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Nadia Eke '15, triple jump
Marvellous Iheukwumere '14, 200 meters
Miata Morlu '14, 400 meters
Waverly Neer '15, 3,000 meters
Uju Ofoche '13, long jump
Monique Roberts '12 Barnard, high jump

Kyle Merber '12, mile
4x800m relay: Brendon Fish '15E, Harry McFann '14, Liam Tansey '13, Connor Claflin '15
Distance medley relay: Adam Behnke '12, Byron Jones '14, Daniel Everett '15, Kyle Merber '12

OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Nadia Eke '15, triple jump
Uju Ofoche '13, long jump

Harry McFann '14, 800 meters
Kyle Merber '12, 1,500 meters
4x800m relay: Mark Feigen '13, Brendon Fish '15E, Kyle Merber '12, Harry McFann '14

SWIMMING

Katie Meili '13, 100 breaststroke
Katie Meili '13, 200 breaststroke
Katie Meili '13, 200 individual medley
200 freestyle relay: Katie Meili '13, Mikaila Gaffey '15, Salena Huang '15, Laney Kluge '14
400 medley relay: Dorothy Baker '12, Katie Meili '13, Kristina Parsons '13, Salena Huang '15

Omar Arafa '15E, 100 backstroke
Jeremie DeZwirek '15E, 200 backstroke

Varsity C Honorees

Track stars Kyra Caldwell '12 and Kyle Merber '12 were each presented the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Awards at the Varsity C Celebration on May 1. Caldwell is a six-time individual Ivy League champion and a member of four relay champions, while Merber won three individual and three relay titles. The Athletics Alumni Awards went to brothers David Barry '87 and Michael Barry '89 (wrestling) and Leslie Gittess Brodsky '88 (women's tennis).

Men's Tennis to NCAA

Men's tennis earned an at-large bid to the NCAA tennis championships after finishing the regular season with an 18–4 record and a 5–2 mark in Ivy competition, good enough to be ranked 42nd nationally. The Lions dropped their NCAA match at Virginia Commonwealth, which won the first four matches to be completed, after which the remaining matches were suspended. Winston Lin '15, who was 21–1 this season in singles play, was named the Ivy League Rookie of the Year and was one of four Lions to earn All-Ivy First Team honors, along with Haig Schneiderman '12 in singles and the doubles team of Ashok Narayana '15 and Max Schnur '15.

Cowboy Adams

Jeff Adams '12, a three-time All-Ivy left tackle at Columbia, has signed a free agent contract with the NFL's Dallas Cowboys. Adams, who attended the Cowboys' rookie mini-camp in early May, was named a third-team AP All-American in 2011. He is the first Columbia player to earn three consecutive first team All-Ivy honors since Rory Wilfork '97.



Kyle Merber '12 (center) won the 1,500 meters at the Men's Ivy League Heptagonal Outdoor Championships on May 5.

PHOTO: MIKE McLAUGHLIN

Merber's Marvelous Metric Mile

Kyle Merber '12 posted the fastest time ever by an American collegian for the metric mile when he won the 1,500-meter event in 3:35.59 at the Swarthmore Last Chance Meet on May 14. It was the second-fastest time in the United States this year, the fastest collegiate time of the year and the second-fastest collegiate time ever. It smashed the 37-year-old Ivy League record of 3:37.14 and barely missed the collegiate record of 3:35.30, which was run by Sydney Maree of Vilanova, a citizen of South Africa at the time, on June 6, 1981.

SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 18
Columbia University
Athletics Hall of Fame
Inauguration of Class
of 2012, Low Library

OCTOBER 20
Dedication of The
Campbell Sports
Center, Homecoming,
Columbia vs.
Dartmouth Football,
Baker Athletics
Complex

Diamond Stars

In addition to outfielder Dario Pizzano '13 winning Ivy League Player of the Year honors (see left), third baseman Jon Eisen '12 was awarded the Blair Bat as the league leader in batting average. Eisen, Columbia's leadoff hitter, had a league-high 33 hits in 74 at-bats for a .446 average and also led the league in on-base percentage (.534) and runs scored (24). Pizzano ranked second in the league in batting average (.409), on-base percentage (.512) and slugging percentage (.621) and also was among the top five in batting average, runs scored, hits, runs batted in, doubles, total bases, walks, hits by pitch and sacrifice flies.



Nicole Bartnik '13
PHOTO: GENE BOYARS

Players of the Year

Nicole Bartnik '13 (women's tennis), Michelle Piyapattra '14 (women's golf) and Dario Pizzano '13 (baseball) all won Ivy League Player of the Year honors in 2011–12. Bartnik, who achieved a 14–3 record and was unbeaten in seven Ivy matches, and Piyapattra, who posted wins at the Harvard Invitational and the ROAR-EE Invitational, are the first Columbians to gain Ivy Player of the Year honors in their sports. Pizzano is the second Lion in the past five years to earn the honor in baseball, joining Henry Perkins '08, who won it in 2008.

BY THE
NUMBERS

108

Columbia College student-athletes graduated in the Class of 2012.

3

Ways to follow new Patricia and Shepard Alexander Head Coach of Football Pete Mangurian online: Facebook (facebook.com/petemangurian), Twitter (twitter.com/petemangurian) and his blog (petemangurian.wordpress.com).

9

Major Ivy League awards won by Columbia students in 2011–12: Winston Lin '15, Rookie of the Year (men's tennis); Nicole Bartnik '13, Player of the Year (women's tennis); Katie Meili '13, Most Outstanding Performer (women's swimming); Will Spear '15, Rookie of the Year and Most Outstanding Performer (men's fencing); Ramit Tandon '15, Co-Rookie of the Year (men's squash); Michelle Piyapattra '14, Player of the Year (women's golf); Dario Pizzano '13, Player of the Year (baseball); and Jon Eisen '12, the Blair Bat (baseball).

College Celebrates Alumni Reunion Weekend, Dean's Day 2012

BY ALEXIS TONTI '11 ARTS

More than 3,700 College alumni and their guests descended on campus from May 31–June 3 for Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day 2012. The 50-year milestone belonged to the Class of 1962, which capped off its Saturday dinner by presenting a \$1.13 million Class Gift to the Columbia College Fund — the largest reunion Class Gift ever given by a 50th-anniversary class. The Class of 1987, meanwhile, celebrated not only its 25-year reunion but also its silver anniversary as the College's first fully coeducational class.

Gathering this year were classes that end in 2 or 7, and every class had something to celebrate, from the six self-proclaimed members of the "Nonagenarian Club" who represented the 70th anniversary Class of 1942, to the Class of 2007, which made its reunion debut with a record-setting 264 alumni attendees. And among them all, the chorus was the same: how fast time flies.

The sentiment also applied to the weekend itself. On Thursday and Friday, alumni fanned out around the city for special events, tours and receptions. Friday featured Back-on-Campus Sessions, an array of Mini-Core Courses on subjects from Plato and Rousseau, to the *Divine Comedy* and Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony*, to Hellenistic philosophy and the inner workings of the brain. Saturday featured Dean's Day Public Intellectual Lectures in the morning and more Mini-Core Courses in the afternoon; Saturday's lectures and presentations were open to all alumni, including those from non-reunion years, as well as to parents. Saturday also inaugurated the Witten Center for the Core Open House and Core Stories Taping.

Throughout Saturday, Camp Columbia for Kids kept little Lions ages 3–12 busy with sports, arts and crafts, movies and magic. Saturday evening brought the all-class Wine Tasting and class-specific dinners; afterward, all were invited to Low Plaza for the annual Starlight Reception, where guests enjoyed dessert and drank champagne while the band served up songs for every generation. The dancing lasted until 2 a.m., when the party broke up — at least until next year.

To view more photos from Alumni Reunion Weekend and Dean's Day, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct. Class photos and a list of Dean's Pin recipients may be found in the online version of this article.



(From top) Members of the Class of 1962 share a laugh at Friday's class dinner at Smith & Wollensky; "students" hear fresh perspectives at Saturday's "Climate Change: Now What?" Public Intellectual Lecture; and two attendees get into the swing of things at Saturday night's Starlight Reception.

PHOTOS: TOP AND BOTTOM: EILEEN BARROSO, MIDDLE: MICHAEL DIVITO



(Clockwise from top left) Celebrants aboard the U.S.S. *Intrepid* at Friday night's Young Alumni Party; Elaine Sisman, the Anne Parsons Bender Professor of Music and chair of Music Humanities, makes a point during Saturday's Mini-Core Course *Mozart's Don Giovanni and the Literary Imagination*; two guests take a moment to rest on Low Plaza; little Lions have fun at Saturday's Camp Columbia for Kids; and two Columbia families smile for the camera.

PHOTOS: CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: MICHAEL DIVITO, MICHAEL DIVITO, RICHARD D. COLE, EILEEN BARROSO, MICHAEL DIVITO



Jodi Kantor '96 Offers Revealing Portrait of the First Couple

BY ALEXIS TONTI '11 ARTS



On a Thursday night in early February, one mild enough to have New Yorkers unbuttoning their coats, The Kaye Playhouse on the East Side opened its doors for a discussion hosted by the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute at Hunter College. The program originally had been scheduled to take place at the institute's home, a double townhouse several blocks away where Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt once lived. But as the RSVPs poured in, organizers realized the demand for tickets would exceed that venue's 110-seat capacity and changed locations. By 6:20 p.m., almost all of the playhouse's 624 seats were filled.

The stage was set simply: two chairs separated by a table with a water



New York Times Washington correspondent Jodi Kantor '96 offers a behind-the-scenes look at the Obamas' changing roles and adjustment to life in the White House.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

pitcher, the fronds of several large plants splayed in the background. In a few minutes, journalist Kati Marton, who in 2001 published a bestselling book about a dozen presidential marriages (from the Wilsons to the younger Bushes), would interview Jodi Kantor '96, who in 2012 published a bestselling book about one: that of the current President and First Lady, Barack '83 and Michelle Obama.

Kantor, who first garnered attention when she became *The New York Times* Arts & Leisure editor in 2003, at 27, now is a Washington correspondent for the paper. She covered the 2008 campaign and the start of the President's term before taking a 1½-year hiatus to report and write *The Obamas*, in the process securing the co-operation of not only the West Wing but also the lesser known domain of the First Lady, the East Wing. The result is a multi-dimensional book that pulls back the curtain on some of the administration's inner workings. It is also a human portrait of the Obama presidency. The nation's incidents and accidents — including the

Gulf oil spill, the debt crisis, the 2010 mid-term elections and the Gabrielle Giffords shooting — provide the backdrop against which a more personal narrative unfolds. Among other things, Kantor describes how the President and First Lady adjust to life in the White House; how Michelle Obama struggles with and eventually develops a role for herself; the ways in which the Obamas serve as philosophical foils for each other; and how their partnership has affected the presidency.

As Marton attested by way of introduction, "It takes a brilliant reporter to pierce the image and façade in which [politicians] are so invested and to give us the flesh and blood." She noted that the book has won Kantor a national audience; since its publication on January 10, Kantor has traveled extensively for book events (Los Angeles, Chicago, London) and made the rounds of the television circuit (*Charlie Rose*, *Face the Nation*, *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*).

Speaking with Marton, Kantor was thoughtful and articulate. She cited anec-

dotes to the chapter (one got the impression she could cite to the page). Her tone, meanwhile, conveyed the curiosity and delight in discovery that likely drove her reporting. Fifty minutes in, the discussion shifted to Q&A. One audience member wondered about the degree to which the Obamas differ from how they want us to see them. Another wanted examples of how Michelle Obama influenced political decisions. A third asked, "Who were your best sources?"

The audience — and Kantor — laughed. "You know I can't tell you that," she said.

For the record, there were more than 200 of them.

The *New York Times* is the only newspaper Kantor has ever worked for. In fact, aside from her four-year tenure at *Slate*, it's the only publication she has ever worked for. But it's a natural fit for someone whose mother showed her "how to pick out the 'Ninas' in the Al Hirschfeld drawings" in the Arts & Leisure section when she was

6, and who began reading the paper regularly when she was 11 or 12. Still, interest didn't translate to youthful aspiration.

"I didn't think that being a journalist was something I could actually do, because I didn't know anybody who did it," says Kantor, whose mother was a homemaker and whose father worked in real estate. "To me, it was like trying to be an actor or something — there are probably 10,000 wannabes for every success out there."

Kantor grew up in Queens, Staten Island and New Jersey and attended public high school in Holmdel, N.J. "I was from an immigrant family, my grandparents were Holocaust survivors. I didn't feel like I grew up a member of any kind of establishment," she says. "So getting into Columbia and going to Columbia ... it represented that there was this different world in New York City that I might be able to be part of. The *Times* was important to that, too. I grew up reading people like Frank Rich and Anna Quindlen ['74 Barnard], and they also represented this cosmopolitan ideal, a place where gender roles were different than they had been where I grew up."

At Columbia, Kantor had a "complete grab bag of interests." She was a campus tour guide and volunteered in the Admissions Office, did a Wednesday night Torah study program and wrote briefly for *Spectator*. More critical than the activities she pursued were the friends that she made, among them Frank Foer '96, now editor-at-large for *The New Republic*. "He is a professional partner in crime; we've never worked at the same place at the same time, but we consult constantly on the other's careers," Kantor says. "We've had this long-running conversation that started in East Campus in 1994 and has never really stopped."

Foer says their friendship was cemented during their junior year abroad. He studied at Oxford, she at Cambridge, and they did some traveling together. "You could tell from the way that she carried herself that she was somebody who was going places," he says. "She has always been a very gregarious person, and I think she's always been an ambitious person; that was one of the qualities that attracted me to her early on."

Foer recalls that when he applied for his first job after college, "I had written this cover letter that I thought was carefully crafted and brilliant and I showed it to Jodi, and she took her red pen to the copy and she kind of shredded it. I was devastated and reacted in this very passive-

aggressive way," he says, laughing. "But in time I accepted every single one of her edits. It was obvious to me before it was obvious to her that she should have a career in journalism."

Kantor similarly credits Foer, calling up a memory from senior year. "We thought the cool thing was not to study in Butler but to take the train to the main branch of the New York Public Library and do our work there," she says. "We wanted to be New Yorkers in a real sense." For Hanukkah, they bought each other presents from the library gift shop: "He got me a collection of Yehuda Amichai poetry that I still have, and I got him this poster that was a *New Yorker* cover. I thought it was such a cool gift at the time, because he loved the



Journalists, career counselors, friends:
Frank Foer '96 and Kantor at graduation.

PHOTO: COURTESY JODI KANTOR '96

magazine. But when I gave it to him, he got this look on his face. And I realized that he didn't want to have a *New Yorker* poster on his wall; he wanted to write for magazines like the *New Yorker*. He had this sense of possibility, and the idea that we didn't need to just read these publications and be consumers of them but that we could actually help produce them. He helped me see that in myself in a way that was hard to do."

To wit, Kantor began Harvard Law School in 1998 but realized her true calling within her first semester. Foer, who had worked at *Slate* (then a start-up), helped her make a connection. "I wrote a soul-searching letter to [editor/writer] David Plotz asking him what I should do, and it just so happened that *Slate* needed an assistant at that time in its Washington office," says Kantor, who moved to D.C. for the position.

By the next summer she was handling editing assignments, and soon she became culture editor. (She also was transferred

up to the New York office.) She found she liked thinking up ideas for features. To cover season four of *The Sopranos*, for example, she recruited a group of psychologists and psychiatrists to analyze each episode — a savvy choice of critics, given the show's premise of a mob boss in therapy. She also solicited and edited work by Rich, and the two stayed in touch. When *Times* executive editor Howell Raines began looking for an editor to reinvigorate Arts & Leisure in fall 2002, Rich was the one who invited her to "develop some ideas." Kantor wrote two memos: one that critiqued the *Times*' culture coverage in general and one that was more specific about Arts & Leisure and how it should change. She didn't pull any punches, declaring at the outset: "*The New York Times* is serving its readers spinach for dessert." Raines hired her in January.

"Everything moved really quickly. It felt fantastic and a little ... it felt like a huge leap. On the one hand I had read the *Times* all my life and there was a way in which I knew the newspaper in my bones the way you do from really immersing yourself in it every day. But I had never worked in print journalism. And at the *Times*, there are several layers involved. There's the journalism, and then there's also learning to navigate the *Times* as an institution, the diplomacy and lobbying — really learning the ways and standards of the institution from the inside out."

Some of her changes were met with resistance, notably the abolition of the extensive events and exhibitions listings (she and the other culture editors later reintroduced them in modified format). But over time Kantor transformed Arts & Leisure. She made it more visual, recruited writers from other sections to contribute and expanded coverage beyond what was new that week to include more heavily reported profiles and issues-driven pieces. One such article focused on a lawsuit over crude language in a Hollywood writers' room; another examined the use of beta blockers among classical musicians. "We were asking the question, does classical music have an issue with performance-enhancing drugs just the way sports does?" Kantor says. "These were articles that we felt would be compelling to everybody. No matter if you were young or old, whether you were a big classical music or a comedy consumer, they were universal."

David Leonhardt, now the Washington bureau chief and one of Kantor's editors, was then an economics reporter whom Kantor solicited for several articles on

the business and economics of culture. "I found her to be a curious and creative thinker. She really wanted to think about questions from different angles," Leonhardt says. "She pushed me to think about ending stories in ways that weren't simply clever restatements of a point I had made elsewhere in the story — or not clever," he adds wryly.

When Kantor turned 30 in spring 2005, she began to reevaluate her career.

"The strange thing is that I really became an editor before I'd done a lot of writing myself. I felt a little bit like I was helping run a hospital before I had ever been a doctor," she says. "And I was a little bit jealous of the reporters I was working with. I felt like, wait a second: I'm young and I'm in journalism and yet I'm in meetings all day. I'm not doing the fundamental thing that journalists do, which is going out and gathering information in the world and turning it into stories to share with people."

Kantor also soon learned she was pregnant (she had married journalist Ron Lieber in 2002) and no longer wanted to run a weekly section, with the late-night schedule that entails. That fall she stepped down to report for the national desk and a section called The Way We Live Now.

On September 8, 2008, the *Times*' front page featured an article by Kantor about Sarah Palin's fusion of motherhood and politics, and one by Lieber, by then the paper's personal finance columnist, about what the federal takeover of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac meant for consumers.

That page (for which the couple has the printing plates) stands as a testament to one of the more intense periods of their lives. Kantor had transitioned to presidential politics not long after leaving Arts & Leisure, and the campaign was reaching its climax at the same time that the country was grappling with the magnitude of the financial crisis. Both husband and wife were "drinking from firehoses." They were also relatively new parents, living in Brooklyn with daughter Talia, who had been born in December 2005.

"I'm thrilled that we were on the front page together once, but I never want to do it again," Kantor says with a laugh.

As it happens, Kantor's first campaign article, published in January 2007, was about Obama. Knowing Kantor's connection to Harvard Law School, managing editor Jill Abramson had asked her to explore whether Obama's experience as president of the *Harvard Law Review*



Kati Marton interviewed Kantor in February for the Hazel Rowley Memorial Lecture, a program of the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute.

PHOTO: PHILLIP KESSLER

held clues as to how he would conduct himself as President.

It was a great first story, Kantor says. "[There were] 60-80 peers who got to know him really well through that process. When I called his fellow law review editors, I got the sense that they had been waiting for 15 years for somebody from *The New York Times* to call and ask them about Barack Obama. They had incredibly sharp, clear memories and observations." Among the more prescient takeaways, Kantor identified Obama's desire for a consensus-based leadership style and recognition of the power of his biography.

Kantor went on to cover candidates on both sides of the aisle; moving around gave her a sense of the different ways in which they worked as well as the contrasts in their backgrounds. She describes the campaign as "rich in character and meaning and news developments — there was so much I wanted to write." She appraised the significance in Hillary Clinton's rare show of emotion at a New Hampshire coffee shop; uncovered the story behind John McCain's son, who was serving as a Marine around the same time McCain staked his candidacy on a surge in Iraq; and tapped into the debate on motherhood inspired by Palin's choices. Kantor also broke the Rev. Jeremiah Wright story, which touched off an explosive, national conversation about race and faith.

"Learning to report about presidential politics is very different from reporting about the local school board," Foer says. "The stakes are so high; the flaks all behave in such a ruthless way. ... [The Wright story] was the type of controversial scoop that generates a lot of enmity as well as respect. I think one of the impressive things she has shown is she has

very thick skin, which you need in order to write the types of stories she did.

"What makes Jodi such a good journalist is above all else her feel for psychology," he adds. "She has a certain bravery about her willingness to apply psychology to public figures. She does so much reporting and she gets to know her subjects so intimately that she is able to acquire insights into them that enable her to take you several layers deeper into what you thought were familiar figures."

Washington deputy bureau chief Rebecca Corbett, who has edited Kantor for about five years, also notes Kantor's strength in profiling: "She was thrown into it all pretty cold and really established herself at being able to do these conceptual stories that were grounded in deep reporting. There was a human aspect to all of them, as well, which made them distinctive." Corbett adds that Kantor's pieces "make you understand who this person is or what they're about; what it means for their public role."

Kantor speaks openly about the challenges of that era. "When you write about the presidential campaign for the *Times* you're under a ton of scrutiny. And at the same time I was a new mom and learning about motherhood. Sometimes I look at it all in retrospect and don't totally understand how that ended up happening ...

"I traveled a lot during the campaign, all over the country. The first states that Talia knew the names of were South Carolina, Florida, North Carolina, Iowa. I remember covering the Iowa caucus and I went for 10 days, which was a really long stretch. I was torn, because I had never left

my daughter for that length of time. But in retrospect it was absolutely the right thing to do, because there will never be another 2008 caucus."

After Obama was elected, Kantor officially became a Washington correspondent. Lieber's job was based in New York, however, so the family opted to stay in Brooklyn with Kantor traveling to D.C. several days a week. She filed more of the features that were becoming her signature, including one that mapped Michelle Obama's ancestral roots in slavery. Then, in fall 2009, she sat with the Obamas in the Oval Office for an interview on the subject of their marriage. It was a huge get. The article ran as the cover story for the *Times* Sunday magazine on October 26; by mid-November, she'd signed a reported seven-figure book deal with Little, Brown and Company.

"There was so much anticipation," says Geoff Shandler, v.p. and editorial director for Little, Brown, who edited Kantor's book (he also is a longtime friend). "People in publishing had been reading her work in the *Times* on the Obamas, and hoping for a long time that she was going to write about them at length; I'm sure every publisher to whom she submitted the proposal was thrilled. We wanted it before we even had it to formally want, and we wanted to work with Jodi. She was a brilliant star reporter who seemed to have gotten inside the White House in an intimate way that you didn't see other people coming close to doing."

Though some publishers had asked whether Kantor wanted to do a book that would be essentially a longer version of her magazine article — "a history of the Obama union, starting from when they met to the present day" — Kantor says she was far more interested in their transformation to being President and First Lady.

"I wrote the best answer to the question that I thought would be on a lot of voters' minds coming up to the 2012 election, which is how have the Obamas changed in office? What was the effect that power has had on them? Part of their appeal in 2008 lay in the fact that they were not really creatures of the political system — and now they're living in the White House and at the center of the bull's-eye," she says. "And ultimately I wrote [a book] because that story is hard to tell in 1,100-word chunks in the newspaper."

Kantor went on hiatus from the *Times* in April 2010 to work full-time on the book.

"Early in the process I had spoken to a lot of people at the White House, committing the project to paper and describing it. The White House decided to cooperate; what was especially unusual is the East Wing decided to cooperate," she says, adding that's why she was able to reconstruct so much of what happened behind the scenes.

Of Kantor's 200-plus sources, 33 were current and former White House officials, aides and cabinet members. These included inner-circle advisers such as Valerie Jarrett, David Axelrod, Robert Gibbs and Susan Sher. She also spoke with Obama's longtime friends Marty Nesbitt and Eric Whitaker, whom the President charged with keeping him "normal while in office." Kantor did not secure an additional interview with the President or First Lady, but notes how little access the world of political reporting involves these days.



Kantor back at work at *The New York Times* building.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

"There's never an opportunity to sit for hours and hours with the people you're writing about and to ask them deep questions. So on the whole I feel I had a lot of access, in part because of the interview I did with the Obamas in 2009 ... getting that interview and then talking so long about a sensitive subject."

In her reporting, Kantor pulled at a number of threads that aren't often discussed in daily coverage, and she names two as being particularly striking to her. First, that "the life of the presidency is much harder and lonelier and more confined and less glamorous than we think it is. They have incredible privileges but they are also incredibly powerless in so many ways. The president holds the nation's nuclear codes but can't go to Starbucks for a cup of coffee." The second surprise: how

different Michelle Obama's story in the White House was from the one that was being publicly told. "There are things we see from her that are very authentic — the warmth, the crowds, the sense of her being a groundbreaking figure, the maternal concern that she has," Kantor says. "But especially in the first year or two, there were a lot of parts of her experience that we didn't see, which are described in the book ... [Public figures are] under so much pressure to present the perfect image, and there's no way an experience like becoming the First Lady can be perfect."

Kantor hired Corbett from the paper as an additional editor, cross-checked anecdotes with multiple sources and even enlisted a fact checker from *The New Yorker*. The final few months were particularly consuming: the book's closing scene takes place at Obama's 50th birthday party in August, and Kantor faced a mid-September deadline. "It was incredibly tight writing about things that had happened so recently, and exciting to see the story take shape before my eyes. Yet I was working morning, noon and night, reporting and writing at the same time ... my husband heroically took the lead on parenting. It was incredibly intense."

The thoroughness paid off, as *The Obamas* received much scrutiny upon publication. While critics gave it generally positive reviews, some in the media gravitated toward dishier tidbits or plucked moments out of context, creating what Kantor felt were negative distortions. White House officials, meanwhile, pushed back against the book; so did Michelle Obama, who gave an interview where she questioned how someone else could know what she was thinking (at the same time, she admitted that she hadn't read the book).

On *The Daily Show*, Jon Stewart addressed the public perceptions in a segment with Kantor: "I heard a tremendous amount of controversy about this book, portraying the First Lady very poorly as an angry woman; she was on the Gayle King show talking about it ... I made the mistake of listening to that before reading it, so I was very angry at you."

"And then what happened?" Kantor asked.

"I read it," Stewart replied.

In April, reflecting on the initial coverage, Kantor says: "It was a strange situation, with people opining with great certainty on cable TV about a book they hadn't read; once they started reading it,

the conversation really changed. I think it goes to the challenges of publishing a book about a sitting President and First Lady. The political atmosphere is so polarized, everything gets put into positive and negative categories.

"My goal was to write a nuanced, honest book about the Obamas, the way they were changing, the effect that power was having on them, the challenges of their jobs. The book is definitely not the fantasy version, but it's by no means a book that's negative about them; it's intended to say, here are two people whose public images are so carefully managed — let's get behind that a bit. That's something that doesn't come across well in a one-minute sound bite. And so the first week, I kept saying to people, read the book, you'll see the Obamas' successes and their failures, the things they were instantly good at and the things they had to work hard on. Part of what's interesting about the reporting is watching them change so much.

"It's easy to be intimidated by the political world," Kantor adds. "The President is powerful, the White House projects a lot of power, the Rush Limbaughs of the world can make a lot of noise. But you

can't let that intimidate you. You have to still report aggressively and check your facts, obviously, and be very precise, but you can't let that stop you from saying, 'This is what I really see as a reporter, this is a pattern that I think is important to understanding these people.' ... The alternative to that is not to write at all."

Her tone makes clear, that's no alternative.

Saturday mornings are a good time to meet because of the way her deadlines fall, Kantor says over coffee one morning in March. She's keeping a close eye on the time; she's due to pick up Talia when Hebrew school ends, and then they'll meet Lieber for the afternoon. "I'm a big believer in working hard and throwing myself into things entirely, but you can only do it in flashes," she says. "Then you have to recalibrate and have a normal life."

She recalls a recent weekend when the pace of book-related activities was slowing. "I came home and watched *Downton Abbey*, and I realized it had been a few years since I had allowed myself to not work after putting my daughter down. It

was a relief to watch something passively and just enjoy."

Kantor also has re-started at the *Times*, and in fact has an article in that day's paper about Mitt Romney. When asked for a recap, she unleashes a rapid-fire series of observations — how it's such an interesting time for him to be a candidate, given his wealth and the financial crisis; how even his casual remarks can set off powerful emotions in people — that underscore how energized she is to be back on the campaign trail. She will be covering both Romney and Obama in the months ahead.

"I love being back at the paper," she says, "being back at my desk and being with my colleagues. The book was great, but it was kind of a year abroad from my real life."

As for whether she'd tackle another one, her answer comes out part elation, part exhalation, and suggests the question might be premature: "Writing a book is like walking around carrying a piano — when you set the piano down, the relief is immense."

Alexis Tonti '11 Arts is CCT's managing editor.



Kantor is covering both Mitt Romney and President Obama during the 2012 presidential campaign.

PHOTO: DANIELLA ZALCMAN '09

The Full Spectrum

FCC chair Julius Genachowski '85 has made universal access to wireless, high-speed Internet a priority

BY MICHAEL R. SHEA '10 ARTS

Walking into the Hungarian Pastry Shop one day this past winter, Julius Genachowski '85, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, wonders if we'll get a table. The line is long, with students and book bags pressed against the door. Genachowski makes his way to the counter and peers down at the cookies and cakes while I look for seats.

When I tell him nothing's open he says, "That's too bad. I always liked it here. It's not much different, either. Except now I'm sure there's Wi-Fi."

Wi-Fi, I would quickly learn, has come to define Genachowski and the modern FCC.

The chairman has come to the city from his Washington, D.C., home for *Spectator's* Annual Awards Dinner, where he will be interviewed by Steven Waldman '84, one of his senior advisers at the FCC (and his former editor-in-chief at *Spec*). The dinner is scheduled to take place later that night at the Columbia University Club of New York in midtown. But first Genachowski has agreed to a conversation and, as it turns out, a walk up Amsterdam in search of coffee and a table.

Genachowski has for decades lived a particular admixture of technology, business, law and politics. In the early '90s he earned a degree from



(Top left) Genachowski and U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan participated in a roundtable discussion at the first Digital Learning Day — a celebration of innovative teaching and learning through digital media and technology — held at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., in early February.

PHOTO: FCC

(Top right) In March 2010, Genachowski delivered a speech at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History outlining how the National Broadband Plan would benefit children and families. Here he cozies up to Elmo, a special guest at the event.

PHOTO: FCC

(Middle) Genachowski with his wife, Rachel, and children, Jake, Aaron and Lilah, in May 2011.

PHOTO: COURTESY JULIUS GENACHOWSKI '85

(Bottom) In January 2010 Genachowski (third from left) led the United States delegation to Poland for the commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. His parents, Adele and Azriel, stand at far right.





With Manhattan as a backdrop, Genachowski in May 2011 announced a new public safety system that sends geographically targeted alerts to enabled mobile devices. NYPD Commissioner Raymond Kelly and NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg stand at far right.

PHOTO: FCC

“You were completely right to send us that letter,” Steve Jobs told Genachowski, much to his surprise.

Harvard Law School and clerked on the Supreme Court. He later was among the first to migrate from the high court to the FCC and, after two years as a staff attorney, jumped to the technology sector and made his fortune at the Internet media super-company IAC; he then launched a venture capital firm of his own in 2005. Now starting his fourth year at the helm of the FCC, he has taken an agency known for policing Janet Jackson’s wardrobe malfunction and morphed it into a platform for promoting universal high-speed Internet access.

“One thing I’ve tried to do is refocus the agency on broadband, wired and wireless high-speed Internet — on the opportunities, on the challenges,” Genachowski says. “Communications and technology make up one-sixth of the U.S. economy and are disrupting every sector of the economy. We can’t afford not to.”

Most countries have three or four agencies that do what the FCC does. One adopts policy for wired communications like telephone, another handles wireless communication and a third regulates satellite service. Then there’s the unpopular odd man who deals in content regulation — the censor. But thanks to Herbert Hoover, who as Secretary of Commerce in the 1920s fought to regulate radio, all these tasks fall to one agency in the United States.

Much of the world, Genachowski says, thinks the U.S. is at a competitive advantage for having all communication policy under one roof.

“I’m pretty sure I was one of the first people at Columbia to get a Mac,” Genachowski says as we cross West 114th Street heading uptown. “I’m certain I was the first person in Fumald. I got to know Steve Jobs, and that always impressed him.”

Not long after President Barack Obama ‘83 appointed Genachowski chair of the FCC in 2009, Jobs asked for a meeting. At the time, the iPhone and AT&T were in the news because it had become apparent that the video chat platform Skype was blocked from use on what was fast becoming the world’s favorite smartphone (an AT&T demand, it was later learned, that kept people chatting on plan minutes rather than on free Internet services). The FCC said it would look into the fairness of what many talking heads said was an anticompetitive practice, and Genachowski sent Apple a letter saying so.

“We met in San Francisco in a small conference room,” Genachowski recalls. Jobs’ reputation preceded him, so Genachowski steeled himself for a berating. The room was spare. The Apple founder walked in alone.

“You were completely right to send us that letter,” Jobs said to Genachowski’s surprise. “It’s a problem. We’ll fix it. Let’s talk about something else.” The conversation ranged from mobile innovation to digital textbooks, to Wi-Fi and spectrum, which refers to the airwaves that wireless transmissions travel on. Genachowski has found the last is probably the technology sector’s favorite topic of conversation.

When he moved into Carman Hall as a freshman, spectrum carried radio and local television but not much more. The technology he plied was typesetting — a craft he honed at *Spectator* and translated into income with a \$13-an-hour job setting type at a print shop on Broadway.

That night at the awards dinner, Genachowski would recall his days of typesetting and X-Acto knives with Waldman, a co-founder of Beliefnet.com who also is a visiting senior media policy scholar at the Journalism School. Genachowski was editor of *Spec’s Broadway* magazine.

The mid-’80s was a very different time for New York, Morningside Heights and Columbia. Waldman recalled publishing an article about a body, rolled inside a carpet, that was found in a dumpster behind Carman. Twice the Waldman-Genachowski paper broke tradition and ran tabloid headlines: the first when a tuition hike broke all records, “\$14,000!”; the second, “Coed At Last.”

“We were troublemakers,” Genachowski says with a laugh, adding that the work on *Spec* felt important. After a series on wasteful administrative spending, University president Michael Sovern ‘53, ‘55L called the two into his office. He sat them down and accused the duo of “Nixonian tactics.”

“He didn’t realize,” Waldman says, “we were probably the first generation not to get the reference.”

Genachowski was on the pre-med track before switching to art history in 1982. He joined the Columbia University Emergency Medical Service, then made side money as a CPR instructor. He edited the *Columbia Guide to New York*, which was distributed

to bookshops throughout the city. And, after some time at *Spec*, he set up to compete against it by reestablishing Columbia’s oldest newspaper, *Acta Columbiana*, which was founded in 1868 but had been on a 100-year hiatus until Genachowski came along.

“When I was in college, I wouldn’t have guessed how this would have tied together, but — it’s interesting in retrospect — what Columbia provided for me was the opportunity to be entrepreneurial: to start a newspaper, to run the guide to New York, to teach CPR. It was an invaluable time in my life,” he says.

With his interest in the media well stoked, Genachowski applied in his junior year to be a research assistant for Fred Friendly, Edward R. Murrow’s producer, legendary newsman and eventual president of CBS News, who was teaching at the Journalism School. Genachowski was selected as the only undergraduate in a small army of J-School students. Their research became the basis of Friendly’s popular book and PBS series, *The Constitution: That Delicate Balance*.

Friendly gave the undergraduate a challenge: Find Jane Roe, the anonymous plaintiff in the seminal *Roe v. Wade*. He tracked down her real name, Norma McCorvey, and the fact that she lived in Texas. “I spent a lot of time in the library, and a lot of time looking at phone books,” Genachowski says. “I made a lot of phone calls.”

McCorvey would go on to appear in *The Constitution* and became a lifelong friend of Friendly’s. “I count that experience and having Fred Friendly as a mentor as deeply inspirational to me on the importance of free speech and the First Amendment,” he says.

We have found our way to Kitchenette and a table near the door. The waiter asks if we need a drink. “That would be interesting, wouldn’t it?” Genachowski says with a laugh. He is due on stage for *Spec* in a few hours. He orders a decaf cappuccino.

Genachowski seemingly grows younger with age. Photos from his days at Columbia and Harvard Law show a woolly beard creeping high on his cheeks, rumpled clothes and what looks like a slouch. All these years later, clean shaven, wrinkle-free — in face and dress — his appearance matches the boyish enthusiasm he shows for his work.

When I say I spent many a Columbia afternoon studying at Kitchenette, he points out, in what becomes his refrain: that I *could* study here “because it has Wi-Fi.”

Wi-Fi and unlicensed spectrum like it is a great success of the FCC. In the mid-’90s, the FCC auctioned the rights to these airwaves on the free market. Some were licensed bands — proprietary frequencies — and became the wireless networks for the likes of AT&T and Verizon. Others remained unlicensed and open to all, allowing innovators to develop technology for the space. Enter Wi-Fi.

For many, Genachowski points out, Wi-Fi provides the only public connection to high-speed Internet. In speeches and public events, he often mentions a letter the FCC received from a Florida high school student. (He notes that, while he had never believed it, government agencies actually do receive letters from constituents.) The Florida student wanted the FCC to know that in order to do her homework, she had to go to the local public library after hours, sit in the parking lot and connect to the library’s Wi-Fi.

In March 2010 Genachowski unveiled the National Broadband Plan, with the stated goal of connecting 100 million American homes to high-speed Internet within 10 years. He worked with cable and telecommunication companies to develop a national broadband rate for low-income families. Any home with children in free lunch programs can qualify for \$9.95 a month high-speed access, a savings of 75 percent or more in some areas. Equally significant, Genachowski’s FCC revamped the moldy Universal Service Fund in order to pay for this access.

Started during the Great Depression as part of the Communications Act of 1934 — then revamped and renamed in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 — the Universal Service Fund is essentially an enormous pool of money, collected in cents through a charge on our phone bills, used to extend telephone service into rural communities. In 2011 Genachowski convinced Congress that it was time to switch emphasis. The Depression-era goal of telephone service for all areas had been accomplished; now was the time to connect the nation via broadband. Congress agreed.

“Columbia provided me the opportunity to be entrepreneurial: to start a newspaper, to run the guide to New York, to teach CPR. It was an invaluable time in my life.”

Genachowski’s son Aaron met President Barack Obama ‘83 in August 2009.

PHOTO: COURTESY THE WHITE HOUSE



Genachowski's dedication to promoting universal high-speed Internet access has been noticed, and has set him apart from his predecessors at the FCC.

"He's knowledgeable, he's been in the industry, he's been at the FCC as a staff person and he was also with Barry Diller's company [IAC], so he's been out there on the government side and entrepreneurial and corporate side. He comes to this unusually well prepared," says FCC watcher Eli Noam, the Paul Garrett Professor of Public Policy and Business Responsibility at the Business School and director of the Columbia Institute for Tele-Information. "Typically these FCC positions are filled with ex-Congressional staffer types who know their way around Washington, which is a real skill to have in this job, but aren't entrepreneurs themselves. Sometimes [FCC chairmen and board members] are Washington lawyer types. Genachowski comes into this job probably better prepared in new types of media than just about anybody."

I've asked Genachowski a couple different ways, with varying degrees of tact, about his friendship with Obama. They got to know each other during their days on the *Harvard Law Review*, and he manages to answer without saying anything particularly revealing about the First Family. They are good friends, he says, adding that they attended each other's weddings, but beyond that, they deserve privacy, like any other American family.

"How about poker at the White House? Tell me about that," I joke.

Immediately, stoically, he says: "I haven't confirmed that's ever happened."

He does confirm, however, that at the *Law Review*, poker games and basketball were routine. Genachowski has played basketball since childhood in Great Neck, N.Y., and his 21-year-old son, Jake, who attends Michigan, has proven athletic as well. (His other children are Lilah, 7, and Aaron, 5.) When Jake was in high school — and even now, on college breaks — he joined his father for a regular Sunday morning game at Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C. *ESPN The Magazine* has written it up, noting Jake's excellence, at least on the court with 40- and 50-year-old Washington ballers. The game includes regulars such as Federal Trade Commission chairman Jon Leibowitz; Hans Binnendijk, the No. 2 man at National Defense University; Yochi Dreazen, a reporter for *National Journal*; Tom Freedman, who was a senior adviser to President Clinton; and former Secretary of the Navy Richard Danzig.

"We've all played together for a very long time, like 20 years," Genachowski says.

Obama, Genachowski says, has not attended that game, but his right-hand man, David Axelrod, has. The President's interest in and fluency on technology issues, however, is as impressive as his

reported ballhandling.

As a fundraiser and technology adviser during Obama's presidential run, Genachowski was the guy in the room preaching social media. The President, he says, "instantly got it." Those early conversations about the power of apps, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube were foundational to the grassroots campaign that tipped a close Democratic primary in Obama's favor, and ultimately the election.

"I remember a conversation I had with Barack at law school," Genachowski says. "Only in a place like the United States could two people like us, from our backgrounds, end up at a place like Harvard Law School and work on the *Harvard Law Review*. We have very different backgrounds — his is well known, my parents are immigrants and Holocaust survivors — but it says something about our country that this could happen here."

Genachowski's father's experience as an immigrant in America who earned an engineering degree at M.I.T. is the first thing Genachowski mentions when asked about his influences. He explains how, as a 5-year-old, Azriel Genachowski was whisked from Belgium with his parents after the Nazis occupied the country and began rounding up area Jews. What is known about the family members who stayed behind is due to meticulous Nazi record-keeping: they were driven to a cattle car, shipped via train to Auschwitz-Birkenau and "gazed à l'arrivée" — gassed on arrival. When Obama asked Genachowski to head the U.S. delegation commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, in January 2010, Genachowski said in his speech that the family he lost in the death camps has lived on in eight grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren and 45 great-great-grandchildren.

At M.I.T., the elder Genachowski's engineering thesis was a system designed to allow blind people to read books without Braille. It didn't take off but, Genachowski says, "I learned at a very early age the power of communication technology to change people's lives."

In 1985, Genachowski moved to D.C. and into a Dupont Circle apartment with Waldman and none other than future Congressional flame-out Anthony Weiner. The future FCC chairman soon distinguished himself on the staff of then House Rep. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and worked for the House Select Committee on Iran-Contra. He attended Harvard Law from 1988–91, afterward returning to D.C. to clerk for Abner J. Mikva, then-Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

As Mikva tells the story, he first offered the position to Obama, whose credentials as president of the *Law Review* made him an ideal candidate. "But Obama," according to the judge, "said no. He wanted to go back to Chicago and run for public office." Mikva's connection at Harvard then said

something like, "Well, there's this other guy ..." and Genachowski, when offered the opportunity, immediately said yes.

Genachowski laughs when I recount the judge's story. "That is how it happened, but what's funnier is that I stayed in touch with the President over a number of years, and he called me when he was first contemplating a run for Senate. He asked whether I'd help him. I paused for a minute and before I could say, 'Yes,' he said, 'And don't forget you got that clerkship because of me.'"

"He was one of the best clerks I've ever had," Mikva says, "and I was on the bench for 15 years and saw more than 500 cases. He's a very enthusiastic person." Genachowski later clerked for Supreme Court Justices William Brennan and David Souter. Among the cases he worked on was the first "must carry" decision, which required cable companies to carry locally licensed stations.

Around this time, a friend set him up on a blind date with filmmaker Rachel Goslins, whom he married in 2001. (Goslins also is a heavy hitter inside the Beltway: In 2009, Obama appointed her executive director of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, which advises the White House on cultural and arts policy.)

In 1994, Genachowski made the move from Supreme Court clerk to FCC staff attorney. It was an unheard-of migration back then, but has since become routine for attorneys interested in tech policy. During this time in his life, Genachowski says he first glimpsed the new, connected America in the basement of the engineering library at Georgetown. Two rudimentary servers were set up and FTP files could be transferred between them.

"I had been interested in technology early on, and then in 1994, standing in that basement library, I just had this sense that communications technology was about to explode," he says. "It was the kind of explosion I wanted to be near."

Genachowski leapt into the private sector in 1997. Soon he became chief counsel, and then COO, for Barry Diller's IAC. It's where Genachowski says he learned the lessons of management.

"No one can bat 1.000. One of the things Barry Diller used to say is that if you're not making mistakes you're not doing anything. In all the things I've been doing I try to have a culture where mistakes are regarded as inevitable. What's important is aiming for a high batting average and learning from mistakes."

In 2005, Genachowski branched out on his own and founded Rock Creek Ventures, a Silicon Valley angel investment firm. Then, after Obama won the election, Genachowski was called back to D.C. as a transition team advisory board member. In March 2009 Obama called again and offered him the top spot at the FCC. "My parents taught me, when the President asks you to do something, the only answer is 'Yes.'"



Genachowski's decaf cappuccino has gone untouched. In an hour he's due at the Columbia University Club. I ask him one last question, a question he'll be asked on stage later that evening and one he is asked, I imagine, everywhere he goes.

Technology-wise, what will the future look like in five years? In 10 years?

"One of the wonderful things about innovation is you can predict some things, but the coolest things you can't," he says. "Five years ago, who could have predicted Twitter? Who could have predicted the success of Facebook, or the way we're using Amazon? A lot of things we'll be talking about in five years haven't been invented yet."

"The world is changing. We live in a flat, hyper-connected world that's about digital communications and we need to modernize our policies to seize the new opportunities and make sure we're globally competitive in the 21st-century. The challenge is always that change is hard. Entities that benefit from the old system don't like change. And often the beneficiaries of new systems are companies that don't exist. So part of what we try to do is create the climate, create the conditions, for a nation of newcomers: the next Facebook, the next Amazon, the next eBay, the next Google. We want those companies to start in America. It's very important that the next Apple start in America."

Genachowski spoke at a rally for Obama during the presidential campaign in August 2008.

"I just had this sense that communications technology was about to explode. It was the kind of explosion I wanted to be near."

Michael R. Shea '10 Arts is a freelance writer based in New York.

As a fundraiser and technology adviser during Obama's presidential run, Genachowski was the guy in the room preaching social media.

A Closer Look

From a tank of live fish in a Hong Kong restaurant to an aerial view of Shanghai, the following student photographs from a recent Weatherhead East Asian Institute exhibit are instantly eye-catching. Not immediately obvious, though, are the social, economic and political realities the photos reveal. “A Closer Look,” as the exhibit’s name urges viewers to take, shows narratives of family life, bustling cities and time-honored traditions.

The exhibit was the result of the institute’s third annual student photography contest, which began last summer with a call for photos of East and Southeast Asia taken in the year between September 2010 and 2011. A panel of students, staff and faculty selected the final 25 images out of 130 submissions; they were then displayed at the institute from November through February and for the month of April at Standard Auto Parts Building Gallery in Long Island City. Here, six of the College students included in the exhibit explain what’s hidden behind their images.

Compiled by Karen Iorio

Jiawen Tang '15

Photo: “View from the Top”

Location: Shanghai, People’s Republic of China
from atop the Oriental Pearl Tower

“I hope to highlight the organized chaos of the city below. This image represents the incredible development of cities in China and the emergence of the fast-paced lifestyle that accompanies it. Like the city of Shanghai, the traffic circle is a never-ending stream of cars and people, entering and exiting, all heading toward the future.”



Su Ann Lim '12

Photo: "Call the Police"

Location: Kuala Lumpur

"This was to be a peaceful rally calling for free and fair elections in Malaysia. The only people who seemed unaware of this was the ruling regime, which had a few weeks earlier declared this planned rally illegal and said anyone wearing yellow, the symbolic color of the rally, would be arrested."



Shivina Harjani '13

Photo: "First Shave"

Location: Hong Kong

"A boy confronts himself. At a much-anticipated moment, he raises his jaw with the solidity of a grown man. He is maturing though his face is still young. And even in old age, as in youth, he is supported by a band of brothers. The figures dance in celebration on the wall behind them."



Anna Sacks '13

Photo: "Go Go Power Rangers"

Location: Singapore

"This was taken at a national Comic-Con. Viewers will note how absurd it is not only for a Power Ranger to be photographing Sailor Moon and a SWAT officer but also for the Power Ranger to take the picture while his helmet is still on. Even though he probably cannot see what he is photographing, the Power Ranger refuses to break character."

Photo: "Portrait of a Buddha"

Location: Bangkok

"Worshippers, one by one, applied gold-leaf to the Buddha's face after offering prayers and incense. The beauty of the collage is the result of a collective and spontaneous effort, and I like how the Buddha's face changes with each contribution."



Bennett Hong '11

Photo: "Duties of the Family"
Location: Vientiane, Laos
"The family of a patient camps outside of the intensive care unit of Mittaphab Hospital. In Laos, it is customary for families to take care of stabilized patients in this way. Family members will rotate in and out of the camp, forgoing work, until their relative is ready to go home."

Photo: "Behind the Storefront"
Location: Bangkok
"This is a typical sweatshop where people work seven days a week. Small businesses are frequently family-run. Family, occupation and survival are melded into one."

Photo: "Fish in Hong Kong"
Location: Sai Kung, Hong Kong
"Diners are encouraged to handpick their seafood meal before it's prepared. Hong Kong's fishing industry has been in decline for many years due to overfishing. Reform is needed in fishing practices and regulating food quality."



Russell Varriale '13

Photo: "Moving Forward"
Location: Xi'an, People's Republic of China
"Look at how the lights are interwoven with the traditional architecture and how the building hovers over the people who are silhouetted against its backdrop. Can you tell who they are? Are they just another silhouette in the cultural landscape? Is it a hopeful picture or an ominous one? My picture is about stirring up emotion and curiosity."

Wallace Broecker '53, '58 GSAS, the
"dean of climate scientists," at his office
at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory.
PHOTO: ARIANA FALERNI

Wallace Broecker '53 Battles the Angry Climate Beast

Broecker popularized the term "global warming" and explained how ocean currents effect abrupt climate change

By TIMOTHY P. CROSS '98 GSAS

PROFESSOR WALLACE BROECKER '53, '58 GSAS, dressed in a rumpled green rugby shirt, worn jeans and new running shoes, appears at ease. But as he relaxes in his office at Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, his calm demeanor belies a deep concern for the topic under discussion. "We're in for big trouble," he says matter-of-factly. There's been a "true disruption of the basic climate of the planet."

He would know. Described as the "dean of climate scientists," Broecker is credited with popularizing the phrase "global warming," which he first used in a 1975 article that accurately predicted the current climb in global temperatures

as a result of rising carbon dioxide levels. A pioneer in the use of radioisotope dating to deduce historical climate patterns, Broecker developed the concept of the "great ocean conveyor," a loop of deep ocean currents that circulates water, heat and materials around the world. He was the first to offer an explanation for abrupt climate change and articulate how the oceans, rather than just the sun, affect the earth's climate.

"He has singlehandedly pushed more understanding than probably anybody in our field," says Richard Alley, the Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences at Penn State, who has collaborated with Broecker for years. "He is intellectually

so huge in how the earth system works and what its history is that all of us are following Wally in some way or another."

A Columbia faculty member for 54 years, Broecker is the Newberry Professor of Geology in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, a scientist at Lamont-Doherty and an Academic Committee member at the Earth Institute. He has taught everything from advanced geology courses at Lamont-Doherty to the Frontiers of Science course for first-year students, a part of the Core Curriculum. He has written more than 460 scientific articles and is the author or co-author of 10 books.

For his work in geochronology, radiocarbon dating and chemical oceanography, Broecker has won international acclaim. In 1996, President Bill Clinton awarded Broecker the National Medal of Science, the nation's highest scientific award, in recognition of his "pioneering contributions in understanding chemical changes in the ocean and atmosphere." Broecker has testified before Congress and been profiled or interviewed by *The New York Times*, *The Guardian* (UK), *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Foreign Policy*, *Business Week*, PBS, the BBC and the CBC, among others. In 2007, he was elected to the Royal Society, London, signing his name in the same register that Sir Isaac Newton did more than three centuries ago.

Not bad for someone who describes himself as a "do-what-you-have-to student," who ended up at Columbia almost by accident and who originally planned to become an actuary.

That same summer, Broecker married (he and his wife, Grace, eventually would have six children). Kulp let the young couple stay in his home to babysit his youngest child while he went on vacation with his wife and two older children. Broecker had planned to return to Wheaton for his senior year, but when Kulp returned, he suggested that Broecker stay in New York. "You don't really want to go back to Wheaton," he told Broecker. "They don't have any courses that would be of interest to you. Why don't you transfer to Columbia?"

"I never dreamed I could get into Columbia," Broecker says. But he followed Kulp's suggestion and wrote out a transcript of his Wheaton courses. Kulp took it to the University registrar the next day and got Broecker admitted on the spot. "It was really rather amazing," Broecker says.

Broecker's tuition was waived because he became Kulp's research assistant, which also provided a meager income to support Broecker and his wife. He spent most of his senior year studying physics, though he did take his first geology course, with Professor Walter Bucher, a renowned structural geologist. But as someone who lived near Lamont, driving to campus when necessary, Broecker bypassed the traditional Columbia College experience. "I didn't have to take the Core Curriculum and I was never asked to pass a swimming test," he says.

Broecker graduated with a bachelor's in physics and im-

temporary and that rising CO₂ levels in the atmosphere would soon inaugurate an extended period of global warming.

In August 1975, the journal *Science* published a piece by Broecker, "Climatic Change: Are We on the Brink of a Pronounced Global Warming?" In it, he argued that "a strong case can be made that the present cooling trend will, within a decade or so, give way to a pronounced warming induced by carbon dioxide." As RealClimate (a blog for climate scientists) noted in 2010, "Broecker's paper is a reminder that global warming was actually predicted before it became evident in the global temperature records over a year later." Or, as *Foreign Policy* wrote on the paper's 35th anniversary, "Wallace Broecker predicted decades of dangerous climate change caused by humans. Unfortunately, he was all too prescient."

"I was just goddamned lucky," Broecker says.

Lucky or not, Broecker had helped set the parameters of the question. He quickly became hailed as the father of "global warming." Not wanting to be typecast ("I didn't want 'global warming' on my tombstone," he says), Broecker later offered his students a \$275 bounty to locate an earlier use of the term. It didn't take

them long to find that the late *New York Times* columnist William Safire had one, a 1957 report from a local Indiana municipality, which was in turn reporting on the work of an unnamed scientist. But that usage had not stuck; Broecker's had. So while the cognoscenti sometimes note that Broecker popularized "global warming," or first used the term in a scientific paper, most just credit him for coining it.

"He showed that he was a smart guy right from the start," says Karl Turekian '55 GSAS, the Sterling Professor of Geology and Geophysics at Yale. Turekian, who was a graduate student in geochemistry at Columbia when Broecker arrived, says Broecker's work has "made him a powerful agent to contribute to the whole debate regarding the climate change. He has never been foolish about that. He says serious things that people listen to."

Broecker continues to caution about global warming. In a memorable phrase from the early 1990s, he described the world's climate as an "angry beast" that we're continuing to poke through growing emissions of CO₂.

"My point was that by adding large amounts of CO₂ to the atmosphere, we were poking our climate system without being sure how it would respond," he says.

And he's unsure about the future. More CO₂ was discharged into the atmosphere in 2011 than in any other year, but so far, he notes, the United States has only spent \$10 million on research and development of technologies to address the problem — "less than [the salary of] one Yankees pitcher in one season." Skeptical about the acceptance of alternative energies, Broecker has come out in favor of systems to capture and store CO₂, including an air capture system proposed by Klaus Lackner, Columbia Engineering's Maurice Ewing and J. Lamar Worzel Professor of Geophysics. He favors experiments under way in Norway and Iceland to store CO₂ underground and has proposed experiments to test undersea CO₂ storage, though he notes these face intractable opposition from Greenpeace and other environmental groups.

It's not an accident that most of these experiments are taking place overseas. In the U.S., Broecker has been a prime target of what he describes as a "well-funded political campaign" attempting to deny the reality of global warming. "They call me a 'junk scientist' to my face," he says.

Nevertheless, he insists, "The debate is false. One of the main drivers of ice ages was the CO₂ content in the air. When the CO₂ was lower it got plenty colder. So, as we add CO₂ it's going to get a lot warmer.

"There can be a question about how big the warming will be, but there's no doubt in my mind" that warming has occurred, he says.

Despite the recognition from his work on global warming, Broecker doesn't think of it as his most important scientific achievement. "In global warming, I'm an educated amateur," he says.

In the early 1980s, borings in the Arctic icecap showed results similar to those taken in Greenland. Broecker set himself the challenge of explaining dramatic swings in global tem-

peratures revealed in the ice. His crucial insight was to focus on the role of oceans. Earlier scientists had posited a belt that carried warm upper-ocean water to the North Atlantic, where it cooled, became denser and sank to the deep ocean. According to the model, currents then carry the water to the South Atlantic, where it shuttles around the tip of Africa into either the Indian Ocean or the Pacific, where it warms and is carried back to the North Atlantic, repeating the process.

Unlike earlier scientists, Broecker was able to quantify the amount of water carried by what he dubbed the "great ocean conveyor." More importantly, he showed why it mattered. Broecker had the revelation that interruptions in the conveyor — which could be caused by a sudden influx of fresh water into the North Atlantic — and subsequent restorations of



President Clinton presented Broecker with the National Medal of Science, the country's highest scientific award, in July 1996.

PHOTO: COURTESY WILLIAM J. CLINTON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

the conveyor pattern in the Atlantic could explain abrupt events of cooling and warming that were recorded in the fossil ice record in Greenland and the Arctic.

"It is a global system of currents, which carries a lot of heat and affects the climate of the planet," Broecker says. "I found that circulation reorganizing in the ocean led to huge changes in sea ice cover, and those in turn affected almost everything on the planet. They shifted the tropical rain belts, and they warmed and cooled the high latitudes in the north." While earlier science pointed to changes in the earth's orbit to explain climate, "it turns out you need to couple that with these abrupt changes to make the full story," he says.

He published his initial theory in *Natural History* magazine in 1987. "No one was thinking of abrupt climate change" before this work, he notes. "I would have to rank it my No. 1 accomplishment by quite a bit." And his conveyor research dovetails with his work on global warming, which holds the potential to disrupt the conveyor, with uncertain results.

Broecker has described his findings, along with how he arrived at them (missteps and all) in his 2010 book, *The Great Ocean Conveyor: Discovering the Trigger for Abrupt Climate Change*.

"I learned to put together apples and oranges — i.e., field and laboratory observations."

Wallace Smith Broecker was born in 1931 in Chicago and grew up in nearby Oak Park, Ill. At the end of the summer of his senior year of high school, he and a friend drove their jointly owned 1934 Ford coupe (complete with rumble seat) 30 miles west to attend Wheaton College, a local bastion of fundamentalist Christianity. (Broecker came from a devoutly fundamentalist family.) "Wheaties," as the college's students were called, pledged not to smoke, drink, dance or go to movies, had to attend chapel each day and began each class with brief "devotions."

To hear him tell it, Broecker was an indifferent student, more interested in sports and practical jokes than in academics. (He once surreptitiously showered an unpleasant librarian with a boxful of mothballs.) But he did gain a solid foundation in calculus and physics that would serve him well later on. And he forged some important connections, notably with his "big brother," Paul Gast '57 GSAS, an upperclassman at Wheaton who became an important friend and mentor.

The idea of becoming an actuary came from a magazine article that Broecker read while waiting in a dentist's office. When he told Gast, who had been encouraging Broecker to think about his future, his friend was appalled. "Do you have any idea of how boring that would be?" he said. Instead, Gast encouraged Broecker to interview with a young geochemistry professor, J. Laurence Kulp, who was conducting research at Columbia at what was then called the Lamont Geological Observatory in Palisades, N.Y. (Gast had interned with Kulp the previous summer.) A winter break interview during Broecker's junior year led to a research appointment at Lamont for the following summer. He worked in Lamont's radiocarbon counting laboratory, at that time one of a handful of labs in the world conducting such research.

diately entered graduate school at Columbia, working as Kulp's research associate before earning his doctorate in geology in 1958. With Kulp's assistance, Broecker joined the faculty of the Department of Geology as an assistant professor in 1959.

Anyone who imagines scientists working quietly in a laboratory or in front of a computer hasn't met Wally Broecker. A chance encounter at a 1950s academic conference on radiocarbon dating led to an impromptu field expedition to Nevada's Great Basin with another conference participant. The trip marked the beginning of Broecker the field researcher; he has taken part in scientific expeditions in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Bahamas, the Sierra Nevadas, the California coast, Barbados, Greenland, Canada — indeed, all around the globe.

"Many of my laboratory-oriented contemporaries paid only scant attention to field observations," Broecker says. "So, unlike many of my colleagues, I learned to put together apples and oranges — i.e., field and laboratory observations."

This capacity to understand both apples and oranges was pivotal in what, to popular audiences, is Broecker's claim to fame: his work on global warming. For the first two decades of his professional career, Broecker had been primarily interested in how the oceans absorbed CO₂. Then a Danish scientist published a paper about borings from the Greenland ice cap; the deep cylinders of ice, which had been drilled from the cap, enabled scientists to track CO₂ trapped in the ice and determine a precise chronology of periods of heating and cooling. Those results prompted Broecker to begin examining the effects of CO₂ in the atmosphere. In the 30 years leading up to the Danish study, Greenland had experienced a period of cooling, but Broecker realized the trend was

Broecker has managed to accomplish all this without many of the modern accoutrements of academic life. He doesn't use a computer, preferring to write as he always has, in pencil on sheets of plain, unruled white paper. Co-workers transcribe his notes and answer his email. "I'm kind of spoiled," he admits.

His one concession to modern technology is that he now uses a mechanical pencil rather than a traditional No. 2, though an electric pencil sharpener still rests smack in the center of one of his two large conference tables, both covered with books and papers, in his office in the Gary C. Comer Geochemistry Building at Lamont-Doherty.

That building itself is a testament to Broecker's wide influence. In 2002, the late Gary Comer, founder of Lands' End clothing retailer, wrote to Broecker. Comer, who had just sailed his yacht though a Northwest Passage no longer choked with Arctic ice, wanted to learn more about global warming and its link to fossil fuels. After a visit with Broecker, Comer decided to pump \$60 million into climate change research. This included an \$18 million gift to help build the building that bears his name, which opened in 2009, and a fund to support climate researchers and students.

Broecker's computerless office offers an eclectic travel log of his extraordinary career as well as an homage to the college prankster. A 10-foot stuffed snake, rescued from a roadside as a stand-in for the angry climate beast, adorns the wall leading to his office, which

things that Wally set forth in that course."

Broecker's teaching also contributed to his own writing. His first textbook, *Tracers in the Sea* (1982), on the chemistry of the ocean, was described in *The New York Times* as standard reading for scientists who use chemical clues to understand climate." The book is long out of print but Broecker notes with satisfaction that copies are selling on Amazon for as much as \$450. His *How to Build a Habitable Planet* was the outgrowth of a course he taught in the early 1980s. In 2012, Broecker published a revised edition, now co-authored with Charles Langmuir, a Harvard professor.

Broecker also played a role in the development of Frontiers of Science, the Core Curriculum course introduced by the College in the early 2000s. While the course was in its initial stages, he developed modules on climate change for the trial sections held in Miller Theatre. He continued to teach these modules when Frontiers became a required part of the Core, though he declined to teach discussion sections because he didn't want to have to master the other disciplines taught in the course. "Too much new stuff to learn," he says.

Broecker has remained at the top of his field. He has been elected a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences as well as a fellow of both the American and European Geophysical Unions. In addition to his National Medal of Science and Royal Society induction, he's garnered just about every award imaginable for a geoscientist, notably the Vetle-

His prodigious scholarly output hasn't stopped Broecker from being a favorite of Columbia students.

is guarded by a garden lion statue. A 5-foot-tall cardboard cutout of Elvira, Mistress of the Dark, with a photo of Broecker's face pasted over Elvira's, shares a wall with a bookcase containing a certificate marking his selection to the Royal Society. The bookcase also houses a photo taken at the 800th anniversary of the founding of Cambridge, where he received an honorary doctorate (he's pictured just behind Prince Philip and next to Bill and Melinda Gates).

His prodigious scholarly output hasn't stopped Broecker from being a favorite of Columbia students, undergraduate and graduate. Although his base of operations has been Lamont-Doherty, Broecker has taught regularly on the Morningside campus as well.

Originally, he shared many teaching and administrative responsibilities with his mentor, Kulp. Later, when Kulp left Columbia to devote himself full-time to a company he started, Broecker worked with his friend Gast, who had also earned a doctorate at Columbia. In the late 1960s, Broecker taught the introductory geology course at Barnard after the professor who had taught the course abruptly resigned.

"He has a great concern for students. I think that's one of his great strengths," says George Denton, professor of earth sciences at the University of Maine, who started working with Broecker in the early 1970s.

Broecker's teaching has launched more than a few careers. Michael Bender '70 GSAS, now a professor of geosciences at Princeton, met Broecker in 1964 during a summer geochemistry program. "I remember thinking that this guy was out of his mind," Bender says. This notwithstanding, Bender started working with Broecker on developing a research method to date archaeological deposits. He later took a Broecker chemical oceanography course that sealed the deal. "When I finished that course, I kind of felt like I had a roadmap to my career. To this day, I'm working on

sen Prize, widely considered the geoscience equivalent of a Nobel Prize. In 2009, Broecker was awarded the Frontiers of Knowledge Award in Climate Change, one of the world's largest science prizes, from Spain's Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria Foundation.

Now 80, Broecker shows little sign of slowing. Before being interviewed for this story, he had just returned from teaching a 7½-week course at Arizona State University in Tempe. This year, *Geochemical Perspectives*, a new journal published by the European Geophysical Union, will devote only its second issue to a single author: Wally Broecker. His contribution, "The Carbon Cycle and Climate Change: Memoirs of My 60 Years in Science," is essentially an intellectual autobiography, recounting his triumphs and stumbles on the way to his major discoveries.

Grace Broecker died in 2007. Their six children have produced eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Broecker has since remarried to Elizabeth Clark, with whom he works at Lamont-Doherty. Though Broecker had made New Jersey his home for decades, the couple now lives on Riverside Drive near the Morningside Heights campus, making the short reverse commute to Lamont-Doherty. He stays active by walking 30 minutes each day. "I can pass for under 70 with no trouble," he gently brags.

As for the future? Standing in his office near a wooden ship's wheel — a gift from Lackner — Broecker doesn't hesitate. "I'll never retire," he says. "I wouldn't know what to do."

To read an op-ed by Broecker about direct air-capture of CO₂, go to Web Extras at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Timothy P. Cross '98 GSAS, a former CCT associate editor, is a freelance writer living in Brooklyn, N.Y. Robert E. Calem also contributed research to this story.



Geochemistry faculty and graduate students gather in front of Lamont Hall in 1954. Broecker is seated in the second row from the bottom, far right; geochemistry professor J. Laurence Kulp, who encouraged Broecker's enrolling at Columbia, is seated with neck tie at center front. PHOTO: COURTESY LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY ARCHIVES

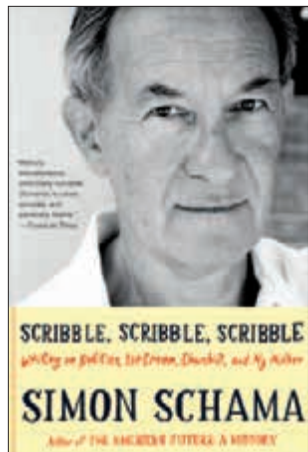


Broecker, surrounded by former students, toasts to 50 years of teaching in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences; the special anniversary event and reception was held in April 2010. Pictured back row (left to right) are Michael Bender '70 GSAS; Dennis Adler '82 GSAS; Billy Moore '64 GSAS; Richard Ku '66 GSAS; Rik Wanninkhof '86 GSAS; Broecker; Robbie Toggweiler '75, '83 GSAS; Steve Emerson '74 GSAS and John Wehmiller '71 GSAS. Pictured front row are Kenneth Wolgemuth '72 GSAS (left) and Tsung-Hung Peng '73 GSAS. PHOTO: COURTESY LAMONT-DOHERTY EARTH OBSERVATORY

[COLUMBIA FORUM]

Scribble, Scribble, Scribble

SIMON SCHAMA POSITS WASHINGTON THE CITY
IS THE VISION OF WASHINGTON THE MAN



Simon Schama, University Professor, has taught at Columbia since 1993. His books, which include the bestsellers *The Embarrassment of Riches: An Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age* and *Citizens: A Chronicle of the French Revolution*, have been translated into 15 languages and have won prizes ranging

from the Wolfson Award for History to the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction. He has been an essayist and critic for *The New Yorker* since 1994.

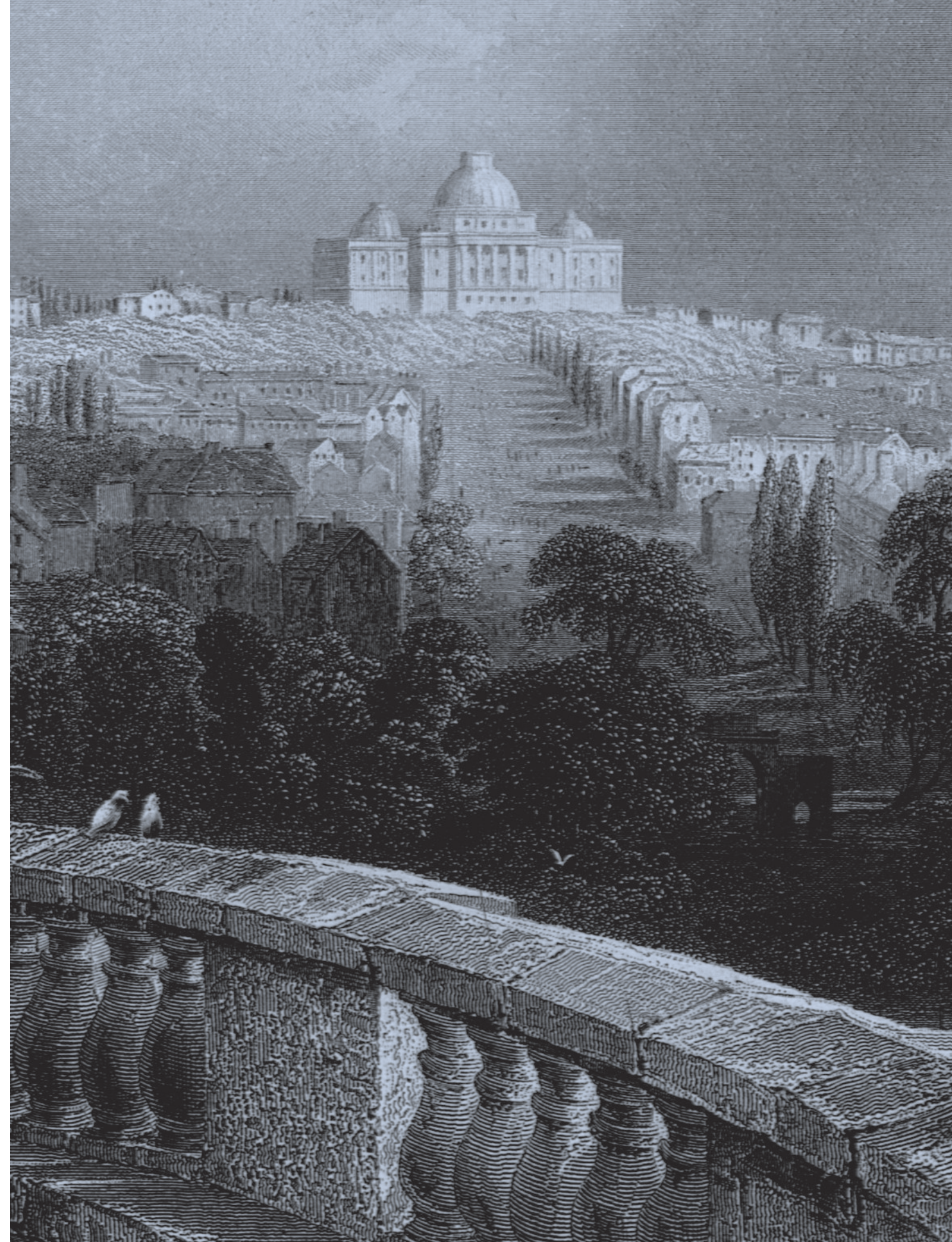
Schama is best known for his incisive studies of art (Rembrandt's Eyes) or historical eras (Rough Crossings: Britain, the Slaves and the American Revolution). He describes his latest book, *Scribble, Scribble, Scribble: Writing on Politics, Ice Cream, Churchill, and My Mother* (Ecco, 2012 in paperback), as a "salmagundi": a hearty dish of salad, in which the variety of ingredients is practically the point. Here you can find Schama's celebrity profiles and his lectures; notes from theater programs; articles about food; reportage; and op-ed pieces — all bearing the hallmarks of what Publishers Weekly calls his "omnivorous erudition." In the following essay on Washington, D.C., Schama points out the ways in which the city's wide avenues and spacious architecture embody a kind of political theory, "an idea made architecturally visible."

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

Are there any city avenues more inhumanly broad than those of Washington, D.C.? For they are not really boulevards at all, these immense expanses at the centre of the institutional city. There are no sidewalk cafés with coffee-drinkers while away the time as they check out the evening strollers — and for the reason that there are no strollers. What there are, are Visitors to Our Nation's Capital, disgorged from tour buses, pointed at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, or the Washington Monument, and gathered up again when their business is done. Even new buildings like the East Wing of the

Washington, D.C. — The President's House. Circa 1856 engraving of the U.S. Capitol building as seen from the roof of the White House. Engraved by H. Wallis after William Henry Bartlett.

PHOTO: © CORBIS



National Gallery, perfectly beautiful on the interior, manage to have a broad, low stepped plaza in front of them, complete with massively monumental sculpture that sucks all human life out of the space. Bow your head, revere, and enter the temple; so the message goes. Mandatory solemnity at the expense of the human swarm was there right from the beginning. The engineer who drew up the first plan, Pierre Charles l'Enfant, prescribed avenues not less than 160 feet wide. That's what you get when you hire a French classicist; someone who doesn't notice that the place gets broiling in the summer and for whom narrower, densely tree-shaded streets might have been a kinder idea that might have encouraged some ease of street life. But what l'Enfant valued in his royal prospects were (in his endearingly strangled English) 'reciprocity of sight, variety of pleasant ride and being to ensure a rapid intercourse with all the part of the city which they will serve as does the main veins in the animal body to diffuse life through smaller vessels in quickening the active motion of the heart'.

Washington does have its true neighbourhoods where the beehive hums, people sit on stoops in the spring sunshine, and wander in and out of bars and jazzy cafés; where you can eat anything from Ethiopian to Brazilian — Adams Morgan, for instance, where in season there is even a fine farmers' market, fruit and vegetables trucked in from farms in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, a reminder that there is true country out beyond the beltway. Or around U Street where African-American Washington comes alive near the Duke Ellington Theater. And the sense of a vast bureaucratic-punditocratic savannah is broken by Washington's bosky places, the parks and gardens laid out after the recommendations of the McMillan Commission at the turn of the century. In Rock Creek Park joggers jog (although muggers mug); the Zoo nearby is where Washingtonians come as families, and the gardens of Dumbarton Oaks, Harvard's institute of medieval and Byzantine studies, is shared between the philosophically contemplative and the blissfully amorous. But most of the young people who make up the clientele and who come to love the place aren't there because of the romance of the city, but because they need to live in an idea made architecturally visible: the idea of democratic government. That is at the beating heart of the place; the pulse of its body politic, but that same notion is also why 'Washington' in some quarters of American life is not so much an actual city as a byword for bureaucratic remoteness and self-importance.

Its problems and its many genuine splendours are both products of the original split personality of the American Republic. For Thomas Jefferson (who nonetheless seized the opportunity to be President with robust eagerness), the true America lay in the myriad farms where the yeomen citizens, whom he believed were the life-blood of democracy, were building a truly new society and polity. George Washington, whose own plantation farm, Mount Vernon, is just fourteen miles south of the District, was more ambiguous. On the one hand, he too was averse to empty pomp; on the other hand, it mattered deeply to him that the United States hold its head high in a world of vainglorious monarchies; that a capital city, like the Roman Republic, be the visible expression not just of the parity, but of the superiority of a democratic constitution. It helped foster those dreams of the New Rome that the eventual site had running through it a mucky creek grandly known as the Tiber. Washington, the city, is in fact very much the vision of Washington the man. Dolly Madison, the fourth President's wife, knew this when, on the approach of the British in 1814, she took a knife to Gilbert Stuart's beautiful

portrait of Washington, cut it from its frame, rolled it and made haste with it to the soldiers' camp where she spent the night on the run from the invaders, watching the horizon flame with the ruins of the town.

The very characteristic of which self-designated conservatives (many established in Washington think tanks) complain — the artificiality of the city, its detachment from anything resembling a self-sustaining commercial economy — was precisely the reason why George Washington wanted such a capital in the first place. Metropolitan wens like London and Paris, were, he and Thomas Jefferson thought, the breeding places of idle fashion, vice and corruption. But a nation founded on the majesty of the people ought to have a great city custom-designed as a residence for democratic institutions. The relationship between the independent legislature and the governing executive, for example, ought to be made visible by their mile-long separation at opposite ends of Pennsylvania Avenue; the two, however, always in each other's sight. It was an American thing to ensure that it would be the legislature, not any executive residence, that would be the elevated structure, sitting on its eighty-foot hill, watching over the servants of the government beneath, keeping them accountable.

The very notion of a federal city originally came from necessity as much as ideology. Because of the moving theatre of peril during the revolutionary war, the itinerant Congress had shifted no fewer than eight times, and had sat in places as various as York Pennsylvania, Trenton New Jersey and the academic Nassau Hall at Princeton. To have a single, defensible site, perhaps no more than ten square miles, where law and governance were published and treasury accounts cleared, was obviously essential to the integrity and efficiency of government. A decision was taken almost as soon as the war was over in 1783, but a protracted debate then ensued as to where that site should be. The criteria were a location on a navigable river, but sufficiently far inland to be protected from the naval raids the founding fathers expected of the British — or, indeed, their ex-allies the French. The mid-Atlantic suggested itself as arbitrating between the already conflicting claims of the great sectional interests of the new republic — industrial, high-minded New England and the plantation slave world of the South. Two choice sites were on the Delaware in New Jersey or on the Potomac at the line separating Maryland and Virginia.

But even those choices were thought to favour, respectively, northern and southern preferences, so that for a few weeks two capitals, one on each site, were seriously contemplated, at least until Francis Wilkinson, in a burst of inspired ridicule, proposed building a gigantic trolley that could wheel the capital and its archives from one place to the other, along with an equestrian statue of Washington. Ultimately it was Washington himself — who had begun his career as a land surveyor — whose firm preference was for a city on the Potomac, surrounded by gentle hills and, as he thought, blessed with a benign climate, who decided the matter. When the land was plotted he rode it himself, charting its topography and imagining where, amidst the farmland and the river valley, would arise the grand buildings and monuments that would embody the vital social virtues of working democracy.

For a detailed plan Washington, in 1790, turned to Pierre Charles l'Enfant, a French military engineer who had been honourably wounded at the siege of Charleston (where the French



“IT MATTERED DEEPLY TO
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lost the city) and had become a kind of official artist to the Continental Army. Not surprisingly l'Enfant's vision was formed by classical French urbanism from the reigns of the Sun King and Louis XV: central *grandes places*, each embellished with statuary, obelisks and monuments from which broad radial avenues would extend, along which the edifices of government would be aligned — Treasury, Department of War, Post Office (*very* important in the early Republic), Patent Office, etc. The Potomac and its Great Falls outside the city would provide (possibly by making more of the Tiber) a chain of watercourses, so that Washington would not just resemble classical Paris, but a little bit of Venice and Rome too, with a cascade falling down Capitol Hill and feeding handsome canals. Though l'Enfant ran foul of Congress, and the execution of a much-modified plan was carried out by the less grandiose Andrew Ellicott, much of his essential vision — the emblematic separation and connection of executive and legislature; the eminence of the latter, the gentility of the former; as well as those immense avenues — survived. It was the other great Enlightenment mind, that of Jefferson, who had the idea of calling the intersecting streets by letters and numbers and who made sure that both l'Enfant and Ellicott were supplied with plans of all the great European cities from Strasbourg to Amsterdam.

By 1800, when Jefferson moved into the President's House, there were just 3,000 inhabitants of the federal district, of whom a third were slave and free blacks. The House itself, resembling 'a country gentleman's dwelling' according to one visitor, already had its little colonnade and modest park and the East Room planned for state receptions, but most of it was unfinished. Abigail Adams, the first First Lady to attempt to run the House, complained of the expense of heating and lighting and the difficulty of finding thirty reliable servants who could be entrusted with its management. The Capitol was being built by the Boston architect Charles Bulfinch, who had created the domed Massachusetts State House and who provided for the nation's legislature another dome flanked by two pavilions. The ensemble when built was grand by American standards but, as the Republic grew, not ceremonious enough, resembling, as one wag put it, 'an upside-down sugar bowl between two tea chests'.

After the British burned Washington in the summer of 1814, it took time before rebuilding got under way, the eager and scientifically minded John Quincy Adams providing much of the impetus. But for decades Washington was jeered at in much of the country as the 'great Serbonian Bog' — a place of 'streets without buildings' — while its neighbour, the busy port of Georgetown, had 'buildings without streets'. The climate was more brutal than the First President imagined; mosquitoes devoured the population in the fetid summer; the water supply was foul and prone to delivering cholera to the city rather than the graceful torrents and limpid basins l'Enfant had envisioned. Hogs wandered the Mall, and at some distance from the grandeur, rickety taverns and disorderly houses made their contribution to the city's peculiar mix of solemnity and squalor; the emblems of liberty and the reality — in the persons of the unfree without whom the place would never have functioned — of slavery. Washington literally, but barely, held the line between two Americas rather than symbolising its unity.

And then in the early 1850s there arrived in town one of the most prodigious and still relatively unknown American heroes, the army engineer who as Quartermaster General of the Union would win the Civil War for the North quite as decisively as Lin-

coln, Grant and Sherman. Montgomery Meigs was first and foremost a builder. His spectacular brick Romanesque temple-like structure of the Pensions Building (created in the 1870s to provide welfare for old soldiers and memorialise the fallen), now the Buildings Museum, is one of the most extraordinary architectural achievements in the entire country. But it was Meigs who, throwing an immense masonry span over one gorge and an iron bridge over Rock Creek, created the aqueduct that carried, at last, a decent supply of fresh water (also imperative for the extinguishing of fires) from the Great Falls of the Potomac to the city. It was Meigs too, a regular tartar when it came to coming down hard on the dubious businessmen who saw in the growth of the District an opportunity for fat profits, who presided over the rebuilding of the Capitol to its present appearance and magnitude, and who replaced the Bulfinch sugar bowl with something taken instead from Brunelleschi, Michelangelo and Wren, but which had an iron fabric just in case the British decided to set fire to it again.

During the Civil War, Washington became a barracks — almost 100,000 troops camped there; bivouacs on the Mall, soldiers amidst the hogs and geese (for they had no intention of moving); beef and milk cattle grazing. In July 1864 the invalids and veterans under Meigs’s command had to man forts and trenches at the advance of General Jubal Early, who, however, never made it. The wounded and mutilated were carried in carts and barges from the two battles of Bull Run, and some of those who perished were buried, on Meigs’s orders, on the confiscated land of his former friend, Robert E. Lee, up on Arlington Heights. Meigs and Lincoln were always anxious that if the Confederacy took the Heights they would have a direct line of fire on both the White House and the Capitol, so that turning the proprietorial gentility of the Lee estate into the first national cemetery became, for them both, a matter of strategy as well as national symbolism.

Modern Washington, though, came to be in the years around the turn of the century. It was then that the old federal government buildings were replaced by the masonry-faced piles that house the Treasury, the Department of State and the rest. Every so often there were wonderful, eccentric exceptions like the Gothic Smithsonian ‘castle’ — the result of a legacy offered (and accepted by Congress in 1846) by English scientist James Smithson as an ‘establishment for the increase of knowledge among men’, a rubric sufficiently broad to extend, now, to fighter planes and space capsules as well as historical artefacts and treasures of American

“FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT,
WHO SPECIFIED HE DID
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GOT ONE ANYWAY”

technology and invention. The Corcoran Gallery was intended as Washington’s first art gallery, but the Beaux Arts building, designed by one of the city’s mavericks, Renwick, stayed unrealised as its Confederate-leaning patron sat out the war from the safety of Paris. By the end of the century, the Corcoran and the Freer were home to spectacular collections, but it was only with the gifts of the Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew Mellon, and the Widener dynasty that the immense National Gallery was finally established on a scale befitting the collections in the 1930s. And the great memorial monuments that bookend the axis of the Mall — Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson — and which, for most visitors, along with the Capitol and the White House, are the ‘Nation’s Capital’, took a long time coming. A Washington memorial of some sort was mooted almost as soon as the General-President was dead, at the end of 1799; and before long the idea of an equestrian statue was scrapped for a grander mausoleum, to house his remains, from which some sort of column or obelisk would sprout. The reluctance of the owner of Mount Vernon to release the sacred relics, the usual squabbling of interested parties *in situ*, and above all the cost of the structure meant that it took a century before, in 1885, the obelisk in its finished state was formally opened. Lincoln’s great memorial with the seated figure sculpted by Daniel Chester French, the bare temple-like space decorated with the fallen hero’s words and friezes of the emancipation of the slaves, was likewise a creation of the second half of the nineteenth century.

And now everyone wants a monument in Washington. Franklin Roosevelt, who specified he did *not* want one, got one anyway. A major memorial to the fallen of the Second World War, also on the Mall, is still being hotly debated. But sometimes a convergence of national passion and inspired design takes place and something gets built that transcends its own materials to become a place of true communing. Such of course is the profoundly eloquent Vietnam memorial created by Maya Lin: a basalt wall in a cut trench that rises and falls with the body count and the grief of the country.

Though Boston and New York have been my home towns, I feel I know this city well. I remember crossing the grilling breadth of Pennsylvania Avenue in 1964 to see an Assistant Secretary of Labor who became a friend and mentor, and who would well up in an impassioned Irish way at the thought of the slain Jack Kennedy not a year before; I remember the jazz piano bars in the tougher end of town around M Street and 14th; the rising hemispherical walls of Watergate; my first astounded sally into the glory of the Library of Congress Reading Room, as welcoming to a young student as the British Museum Reading Room (then) was chilly and difficult. I went back last year each week in November to give the Mellon Lectures at the National Gallery, beginning to make the white grandeur of Union Station and the amiably shouting directives of the taxi despatchers on the threshold a kind of homecoming. I have friends, a daughter living there, all happily, all very much settled into the weave of the place; knowing its street corners and park benches, its dogs and ice cream. And there, when the cherry blossom is doing its shameless thing, and the streets of Adams Morgan are warming to the kids on the block, it’s entirely possible to see Washington as not just DC, not just ideology made visible, but as an American community; and a good one at that.

From the book SCRIBBLE, SCRIBBLE, SCRIBBLE by Simon Schama. Copyright © 2010 by Simon Schama. Reprinted by arrangement with Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers.



Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan for the city of Washington, printed by Thackara & Vallance in 1792. PHOTO: LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GEOGRAPHY AND MAP DIVISION

Alumni News

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College Class Day on Van Am Quad in 1949.

PHOTO: MANNY WARMAN,
COURTESY COLUMBIA
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

CCAA Board Turns Alumni Energy Into Results

We have reached the close of the academic year and the transition of another College class from students to alumni — or to former students, as Dean James J. Valentini likes to call us. We are excited to have the Class of 2012, with its strong attachment to and enthusiasm for the College, join our ranks. They are extraordinarily talented and we look forward to their continued success.

I am reminded daily of the affection Columbia students and former students have for the College. The Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA) Board of Directors helps translate this passion into tangible benefits for Columbia.

This past year has been filled with not only transition but also the anxiety and concern for the College that comes with any change, especially an unexpected one. The board worked with the administration and staff to guarantee as seamless as possible an experience for the students this academic year. I am very grateful for the time and commitment of our incredibly dedicated Executive Committee members and board committee chairs. These alumni spend hours each week on issues important to the College, students, faculty and alumni. Their priorities mirror those of the alumni community and students.

I am more firmly convinced than ever that if we can open up more avenues for alumni engagement and communication Columbia will continue its ascendancy. The CCAA board is for the students and former students of Columbia College. Its efforts benefit us all. Please do not hesitate to contact Kim Rogers, associate director, volunteer management, at kr2276@columbia.edu with your concerns and ideas. To learn more, go to college.columbia.edu/ccaa. To nominate someone for consideration by the Alumni Recognition Committee, go to college.columbia.edu/ccaa/nominations. This is your board and our Columbia.

For the CCAA board, every second June is a time of transition as we conclude a two-year term and prepare for the upcoming term. Like our graduating students, who may leave campus but will always be Columbians, alumni may depart the board but they are not leaving Columbia, rather transitioning into different roles.

My recent conversation with Conrad Lung '72, who is becoming an honorary member of the board after years of dedicated service, exemplifies the many conversations I have had with alumni about Columbia. I reached out to Conrad to talk about the board and to get his thoughts on alumni engagement. His immediate response was full of ideas and suggestions on how to increase the value of the Columbia experience in Asia. An Alexander Hamilton medalist in 2009 for his service to the College, Conrad remains actively engaged in helping build on and improve the Columbia alumni and student experience. This kind of passion typifies our alumni volunteers. The CCAA board's role is to ensure that every alumnus/a has the ability to see his or her dreams for Columbia realized.

This summer, we say goodbye to four board



New CCAA Board members (left to right) Michelle Estillo Kaiser '87, Stephanie Foster '12 and Joan Campion '92 join President Kyra Tirana Barry '87.

members, congratulate two on becoming honorary members due to their long and extraordinary service and welcome seven new members. Thank you, Eugenio Cano '95, John Crabtree '78, Marc Mazur '81 and Mark Wojciechowski '76 for your years of service to the College. We welcome James Brandt '79 and Conrad Lung '72 in your new roles as honorary board members and thank you for your continued commitment to the College.

We welcome Joan Campion '92, Rick De Los Reyes '97, Stephanie Foster '12, Justin Ifill '06, Michelle Estillo Kaiser '87, Paul Neshamkin '63 and Jonathan Sobel '88 to the CCAA board. To highlight a few of their many contributions to date: Joan is a former president of the Varsity C Club and a member of her 20th Reunion Gift Committee; Rick is an active member of the Alumni Representative Committee and a Class Agent; Stephanie was co-chair of the 2012 Senior Fund; Justin is the outgoing president of Columbia College Young Alumni, events chair of the Black Alumni Council and a board member of the Columbia

University Club of New York; Michelle was a leader of her 25th reunion and a member of the Dean's Alumnae Leadership Task Force; Paul is a longtime CCT class correspondent and a member of his 50th Reunion Committee; and Jonathan is finishing his term as a member of the College's Board of Visitors and currently provides student internships. We eagerly look forward to their contributions.

Columbia College has never been stronger, and I am confident the efforts of the past year will propel it to new heights. There is a newfound focus and strong new relationships among the faculty, administration, trustees, alumni and students. This collective effort of those who care deeply will make the difference. What unites them all is their passion for Columbia.

Kyra Barry

CCAA Executive Committee Officers

Kyra Tirana Barry '87, president

Geoffrey J. Colvin '74, chair

Brian C. Krisberg '81,
honorary chair

Michael P. Behringer '89 and
Ira B. Malin '75,

co-chairs, Columbia College Fund

James P. Gerkis '80 and
Ted Schweitzer '91, co-chairs, FDC

Craig B. Brod '77, past chair, FDC

Francis Phillip '90 and
Daniel S. Tamkin '81,

co-chairs, Class Agents Program

Jess H. Drabkin '79, secretary

Laura A. Lopez '92,
assistant secretary

Mark L. Amsterdam '66

Bookshelf

Crime and Punishment by *Fyodor Dostoevsky*, adapted by *Joseph Cowley '44*. Cowley adapts Dostoevsky's legendary 1866 novel for ESL students, cutting each chapter down to only a few pages (iUniverse, \$11.95).

Poetic Craft and Authorial Design in Shakespeare, Keats, T.S. Eliot, and Henry James, with Two Essays on the Pygmalion Legend by *George T. Wright '45*. Wright, professor emeritus of English at the University of Minnesota, assembles a collection of his essays from as long as 30 years ago in this book of literary criticism (Edwin Mellen Press, \$119.95).

Reflections on Medicine: Essays by Robert U. Massey, M.D. by *Dr. Robert U. Massey*, edited by *Dr. Martin Duke '50*. This collection of 70 of Massey's monthly columns for *Connecticut Medicine* from 1973–2005 addresses issues that remain relevant for physicians, such as medical ethics and morality and medical technologies (Gordian Knot Books, \$21.95).

The Floodplain by *Anthony Robinson '53*. Mother and wife Chloe Forrester is forced to choose between her marriage and a relationship with a charismatic psychiatrist in this novel set in 1970s America (Codhill Press, \$20).

Dr. Bernstein's Diabetes Solution: A Complete Guide to Achieving Normal Blood Sugars by *Dr. Richard Bernstein '54*. In the fourth edition of his "bible for diabetics," Bernstein updates his practical approach to maintaining normal blood sugar

levels, curbing carbohydrate cravings and overeating (Little, Brown and Co., \$29.99).

Self Cure: You Can Do More for Your Health Than Your Doctor Can by *Dr. Mark J. Sicherman '56* with *Chuck Stormon*. In this manual for improving health and preventing disease, Sicherman presents principles of mind/body medicine to help readers transform their health (CreateSpace, \$17.95).

Resurrecting Democracy: A Citizen's Call for a Centrist Third Party by *Dr. Robert A. Levine '58*. Levine, a Vietnam veteran, decries the partisanship and influence of special interests in Washington, D.C., and calls for a strong third party to bring about change (The Editing Co., \$12.95).

Useful Star Names: With Nebulas and Other Celestial Features by *Thomas Wm. Hamilton '60*. In this aid for stargazers, Hamilton, a retired astronomy professor, sets out a comprehensive list of the 88 constellations and explains how to calculate their brightness and locations (Strategic Book Group, \$12.97).

Sculptors at Work: Interviews About the Creative Process by *Victor M. Cassidy '62*. Cassidy, an art critic and journalist, talks with internationally and regionally known sculptors about their artistic techniques (McFarland, \$40).

The Case for Polarized Politics: Why America Needs Social

Conservatism by *Jeffrey Bell '65*. The author contends that social conservatism remains essential to American politics as an alternative to the "liberal enlightenment" and sexual revolution of the 1960s (Encounter Books, \$25.95).

Lizard World by *Terry Richard Bazes '70*. A New Jersey dentist ends up in the clutches of a depraved family of amateur surgeons living in a Florida swamp in Bazes' novel (Livingston Press, \$33).

Diary of a Company Man: Losing a Job, Finding a Life by *James S. Kunen '70*. In this memoir, Kunen recounts being laid off from Time Warner and finding himself "too young to retire and too old to hire." He chronicles his search for meaning in his life and his decision to teach English to immigrants (Lyons Press, \$24.95).

Zen Questions: Zazen, Dogen, and the Spirit of Creative Inquiry by *Taigen Dan Leighton '71*. Leighton, a Soto Zen priest, introduces and expands the contemporary understanding of Buddhist teachings, explaining that Zen awareness is based on constant questioning, and shows how it is found in artistic works from a Bob Dylan song to a Wallace Stevens poem (Wisdom Publications, \$17.95).

A Clockwork Counterpoint: The Music and Literature of Anthony Burgess by *Paul Phillips '78*. Phillips examines the role of music in the writing and life of *A Clockwork*

Orange author Burgess (Manchester University Press, \$89.95).

Essential Neuromodulation edited by *Jeffrey Arle '86* and *Jay Shils*. The authors detail the clinical methods and potential benefits of neuro-modulation, an emerging field of neurology that uses electrical, chemical and mechanical interventions to heal disorders such as Parkinson's disease and epilepsy (Academic Press, \$125).

Invisible Families: Gay Identities, Relationships, and Motherhood among Black Women by *Mignon Moore '92*. Moore draws attention to the family life of gay women of color and analyzes how they understand their sexual orientation, find partners and form families (University of California Press, \$26.95).

Lineages of Political Society: Studies in Postcolonial Democracy by *Partha Chatterjee*, professor of anthropology. In this series of interlocking essays, Chatterjee examines the connection between liberal political thought and western imperialism (Columbia University Press, \$27.50).

Rites of Return: Diaspora Poetics and the Politics of Memory edited by *Marianne Hirsch*, the William Peterfield Trent Professor of English and Comparative Literature; and *Nancy K. Miller*. This collection of essays from 24 writers, historians, literary and cultural critics, anthropologists, sociologists and other commentators examines the legacy of various historical injustices and

Steven J. Ross '71 Surveys Politics in Hollywood

BY JUSTIN DEFREITAS

From Charlie Chaplin's pacifist comedy *Shoulder Arms* to Charlton Heston's "cold, dead hands," the Hollywood elite have a long history of engaging with the body politic. Starting with WWI, the immense popularity of movie stars became a form of political currency; no longer seen only as artistic muses or vessels for profit, they also became known as attention-commanding, prestige-bearing spokespersons for policy, politics and propaganda. And they've wielded their considerable influence ever since.

Steven J. Ross '71, professor of history at the University of Southern California and co-director of the Los Angeles Institute for the Humanities, delves into this fascinating history in *Hollywood Left and Right: How Movie Stars Shaped American Politics* (Oxford University Press, \$29.95). Ross uses the careers of nine actors and one studio mogul to tell the story of Hollywood's political and cultural impact, and he comes to some surprising conclusions. Despite the perception of Hollywood as a bastion of liberalism, Ross argues that the industry's conservatives have proven more effective in mobilizing their forces and instituting their values, placing Hollywood figures in the Senate, the California governor's mansion and even the White House.

Raised in Queens, Ross attended Bayside H.S., where he recalls feeling lost amid a class of 1,600. Though he was the first in his family to be going to college, he figured he was an average student headed for Queens College or Stony Brook. But when a friend told him he was smart and urged him to set his sights higher, Ross applied to Columbia. His first year at the College changed his life.

"The Core Curriculum turned me into an intellectual," Ross says. "It introduced me to the world of ideas." He discovered his passion for history from reading the classics — "all those old Greek guys" — and realized that humanity has grappled with the same topics for thousands of years. Ross credits Columbia for what he characterizes as his "big-picture approach" to history.

Ross earned his B.A. in history and political theory and later earned a B.A. in philosophy from Oxford and a Ph.D. in history from Princeton, where he studied the Civil War and Reconstruction. Upon landing a job as a history professor at USC in 1978, Ross sought a new avenue of study — one that would allow him to reach beyond academia for a broader audience. When his wife, Linda Kent, a film and television producer, suggested Hollywood, it seemed a perfect fit: Ross always had been a cinema fan, the industry was centered just a few miles from his home and movies would provide an accessible gateway into history.

"If you look at the 20th century, I think film is one of the most powerful tools for shaping consciousness, ideas, society and politics," Ross says. And the prospect of new material was



PHOTO: ALEXANDRA BISSONETTE

intriguing. "I like to write about things I don't know about, so that I can write that sense of discovery and surprise into my work."

Hollywood Left and Right has its roots in one of Ross' previous books, *Working-Class Hollywood: Silent Film and the Shaping of Class in America*. In the course of researching it, he had learned that the FBI saw enough of a political threat in the film industry that it kept tabs on stars even in the medium's first few decades. He said to himself, "If J. Edgar Hoover was so freaked out as early as 1918, let's take a broader look."

Ross tells the stories of the left and right in alternating chapters, depicting the swing of the political pendulum across the decades and describing six types of political activism. Chaplin, for example, employed visual politics, putting his populist, humanitarian views on the screen in comedies such as *Shoulder Arms*, *Modern Times* and *The Great Dictator*. MGM chief Louis B. Mayer, meanwhile, engaged in electoral politics, essentially putting his studio at the disposal of the Republican Party in the 1930s. Mayer instructed politicians in the art of storytelling and loaned them MGM staff, talent and equipment for the production of high-quality film and radio campaign material.

Among the other types of activism are the movement politics of George Murphy, Ronald Reagan, Harry Belafonte and Jane Fonda, who helped build coalitions that would shape the political landscape for decades;

the image politics of Heston, who used his heroic image to establish credibility for his political views (most notably as president of the National Rifle Association); and the issue-oriented politics of Edward G. Robinson, a liberal humanitarian and a victim of the Red Scare of the 1940s and '50s. Robinson's story isn't as well-known these days, but Ross contends it is especially significant. "It's about what happens when the House Un-American Activities Commission goes after a *non*communist. His story is more effective in silencing Hollywood, in many ways, than [the persecution of] the Hollywood Ten."

The book concludes with the celebrity politics of Arnold Schwarzenegger, who, says Ross, "recognized that if you were a big enough star, you didn't need roots in a political party ... nor did you need to play ball with the traditional serious news outlets."

Ross' next book is about "the myth of the good war." It will examine the fate of Hollywood's "premature anti-fascists," industry figures who decried the rise of fascism in Europe at a time when the U.S. government was on good terms with Italy and Germany — and not inclined to intervene in the looming conflict that would become WWII.

Justin DeFreitas is a Bay Area writer, editor and cartoonist.

considers how to acknowledge and repair the damage (Columbia University Press, \$27.50).

Under Blue Cup by *Rosalind E. Krauss*, University Professor. Opening with "Late in 1999, my brain

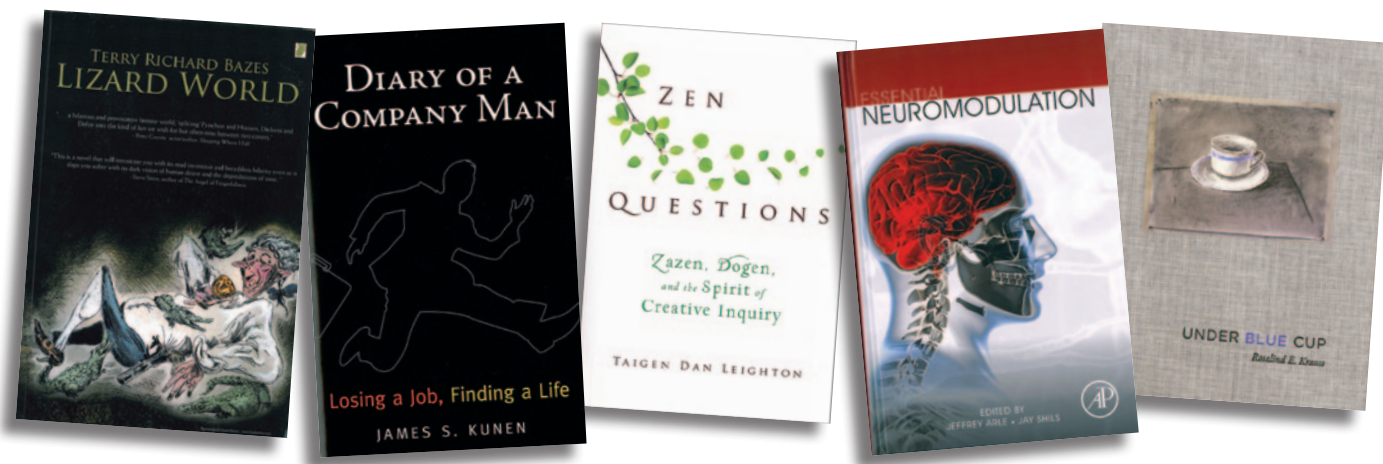
erupted ..." Krauss delves into the experience of having an aneurysm and her recovery (MIT Press, \$24.95).

Economies of Abandonment: Social Belonging and Endurance in Late

Liberalism by *Elizabeth A. Povinelli*, professor of anthropology. Povinelli uses her ethnographic work in Australia and the United States, along with critical readings of legal, academic and activist texts, to explore how "alternative social worlds

and projects generate new possibilities of life in the context of ordinary and extraordinary acts of neglect and surveillance" (Duke University Press, \$22.95).

Benjamin W. Gittelson '15



Obituaries

1931

Fred W. Farwell, retired geologist, consulting mineralogist, Stamford, Conn., on February 1, 2011. Farwell was born in Keene, N.H., on November 9, 1910. He was educated in Leonia, N.J., public schools. At Columbia he earned a B.A. in American history and in 1936 an M.A. in geology. In 1937 he married Katharine Doane Pier of New York City, whom he met at a Wyoming geological fieldwork camp several summers earlier. From 1937–41 Farwell was a geologist for the American Smelting and Refining Company in Mexico. He taught for a year as an assistant professor at the Colorado School of Mines and during WWII served in the Strategic Minerals Program of the U.S. Geological Survey, working in various regions of the Rocky Mountains. From 1946–72 Farwell worked at the Research Laboratories of American Cyanamid in Stamford. He was a consulting mineralogist after his retirement. Farwell was predeceased by his wife; sister Alice Farwell McCann; and one great-grandson. He is survived by his children, Nancy Beals, Calvin, Elizabeth Harman and Roy; 14 grandchildren; and 20 great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 372 Danbury Rd., Ste 159, Wilton, CT 06897.

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 1st Fl., New York, NY 10025.

1936

Zachary B. "Bert" Friedenberg, physician, professor of orthopedic surgery, Philadelphia, on January 27, 2011. After graduating from P&S in 1939 and following an internship at Kings County Hospital, New York City, Friedenber served in WWII as a surgeon in the 95th Evacuation Hospital, an advanced army field hospital, in North Africa, Italy, France and Germany and participated in three D-Day landings. He was honored with several commendations. After the war, he joined Penn's School of Medicine, where he attained the rank of full professor of orthopedic surgery. Though he maintained a private practice, his interests were teaching and research. Friedenber became a SCUBA diver and filmed undersea life throughout the world, receiving an award from Jacques Cousteau for one of his films. He was a world traveler, particularly in the Middle East and Asia, and published numerous books on medical history. He was predeceased by his first wife and mother of his children, Ruth Stratton, in 1966. He leaves his wife of 43 years, Kathleen; son, Steven, and his wife, Kathleen; daughter, Joan Hayden, and her husband, Francis; brothers, Stanley and his wife, Marilyn, and Richard and his wife, Gloria; sister, Vivian Gluck; and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, 19 S. Twenty-Second St., Philadelphia, PA 19103.

1942

Clarence C. Eich, retired, e.v.p., Decatur, Ga., on January 8, 2011. Eich was born in Cleveland, graduated from the College with an A.B. and in 1943 from Engineering with a B.S. He then served in the Navy, where he tested depth charges. After the war, Eich joined Combustion Engineering, where he was a mechanical engineer until 1962, when he went to work for Foster Wheeler Corp. as an assistant manager. He was elected an e.v.p. in 1981, an office he held until his 1984 retirement. Eich was issued a number of patents for new designs and products for power generation. In 2001 he was named "Volunteer of the Year" by the State of New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Canal Society of New Jersey. Eich traveled the world with his wife of 65 years, Ellen. He also enjoyed golf and gardening. Eich is survived by



Clarence C. Eich '42

his wife; children Mary Eich and Randy Albelda, Robert Eich and Kari Lemay, and Claire and Jim Newbury; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Canal Society of New Jersey, PO Box 737, Morristown, NJ 07963.

1945

Carter H. Golembe, retired author and banking economist, Delray Beach, Fla., on December 18, 2010. Golembe was born in Liberty, N.Y., on April 21, 1924, the son of Harry '17, '19 P&S. After returning from WWII with a Purple Heart, he earned an A.B. and then in 1952 an M.A. and Ph.D. from GSAS. He completed an LL.B. at the George Washington University. Golembe joined the FDIC in 1951 and worked for Sen. Wallace Bennett and the American Bankers Association. From 1966–89 he headed a bank-consulting firm, Golembe Associates, and chaired the Secura Group until 1994. He also founded the International Financial Conference and was a director of Barnett Banks. He wrote *The Golembe Reports* and his book, *But I Never Made a Loan: My Career in Banking — The Early Years*, is an insider's account of banking in postwar America. Surviving are his wife, Patricia; sons, Gregory and Christopher; four grandchildren; and brother, John '62. Memorial contributions may be made to the Carter H. Golembe Scholarship Fund c/o Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

1946

Marvin L. Aronson, psychotherapist, Mount Vernon, N.Y., on February 27, 2011. Born on May 3,

1925, Aronson grew up in Borough Park, Brooklyn, N.Y. He earned an M.A. in psychology from GSAS in 1947 and a Ph.D. in psychology from Michigan in 1951. Aronson maintained a private practice until his death and also was director of the Group Psychotherapy Training Department of the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health in New York from 1971–2001. The program brought together psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric social workers and psychiatric nurses to study in an atmosphere of acceptance and warmth coupled with rigorous clinical training. In 2006, Aronson received the Award for Outstanding Contributions in Education and Training in the Field of Group Psychotherapy from the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists. He also was a passionate supporter of Israel and maintained close relationships with family and professional colleagues there. In addition to his wife of 62 years, Helen, Aronson is survived by his son, David; daughter, Ruth; sisters, Barbara Margolin and Judith; brother, Norman; sister-in-law Annette Zimmerman; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, 25 E. 21st St., 6th Fl., New York, NY 10010, with an indication that they are for the scholarship in Aronson's name.

1951

Jeremy Gaige, newspaperman and chess archivist, Philadelphia, on February 19, 2011. A native of Peekskill, N.Y., Gaige graduated from Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass. During WWII, he served in the Army Medical Corps and then matriculated at the College. He began his journalism career as a copy boy at *The New York Times* and contributed obituaries to the *New York Herald Tribune*. He was later a radio and television editor at the *Syracuse Herald-Journal*, editorial editor at the *Toledo Blade* and a reporter at *The Wall Street Journal*. While at the *Journal*, he met his future wife, Harriet Oken. They were married in February 1959. Two weeks later, Gaige joined Philadelphia's *Evening Bulletin*. He was a copyeditor in the business section when the paper closed in 1982. In the early 1960s, while an editor at the *Bulletin*, Gaige began compiling detailed records of chess events, particularly tournaments, and

collecting data about players and writers. He set up a printing press in his basement and hand-set type to produce six volumes of tournament cross tables played from 1851–1980. He also self-published other books and booklets. In addition to his wife, Gaige is survived by a daughter, Monica Gaige-Rosenweig, and a granddaughter.

1955

Arnold J. Schwartz, radiologist, Stamford, Conn., on March 8, 2011. Born on July 25, 1933, Schwartz was raised on the Grand Concourse near Yankee Stadium and graduated from Bronx Science. After graduating from P&S in 1959 he completed a surgery internship at UCLA and a radiology residency at Columbia. He moved to Stamford in 1970 with his wife, Myna, and was a founding partner of Stamford Radiological Associates. During his career Schwartz was elected president of the Stamford Medical Association and was respected for anatomical expertise and his ability to solve difficult diagnostic dilemmas. For many years, he served on the boards of Temple Beth-El and the Bi-Cultural Day School and was active in local Jewish causes. He was predeceased in May 2000 by his wife and is survived by son and daughter-in-law Marc '90 and Kelly; son and daughter-in-law Robert and Erika; four grandchildren; and partner, Rhea Stein. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Stamford Hospital's Bennett Cancer Center or to Temple Beth-El.

1957

Robert I. Brockman, architect, Haverford, Pa., on June 12, 2011. Brockman grew up in New York City. He rowed crew at Columbia and was a member of the Alpha Delta Phi Literary Fraternity. After college, he practiced field archaeology in New Mexico and South Dakota. Brockman went on to study architecture at Penn and completed commercial and residential projects in the Philadelphia region, Atlantic City, N.J., and in Africa, Canada and Europe. He enjoyed the outdoors and spent vacations camping and hiking in the national parks with his family. After being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, Brockman studied tai chi and then Nia (non-impact aerobics). He practiced Nia in New Mexico and became an advocate for it in the Philadelphia area. Working with Bryn Mawr Hospital's cancer support group, his efforts led to the establishment of Nia classes there and at the Cancer Support Community of Philadelphia. Brockman is survived by his wife, Jeannette; sons, Joshua '97 and George and

his wife, Amy; two grandchildren; and brother, Alan. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Support Community of Philadelphia.

1958

William W. Bartlett, retired financial executive, Chappaqua, N.Y., on March 25, 2011. Bartlett was born in 1936 and earned an M.B.A. from the Business School in 1960. He had a long and distinguished career on Wall Street, starting at Citibank and Commercial Credit Corp. He went on to First Boston Corp., Dillon Read and Lehman Brothers, where he was s.v.p. He retired in 1998 as s.v.p. at Salomon Smith Barney. Knowledgeable about mortgage-backed securities, Bartlett was an adviser to Freddie Mac and wrote a monthly research publication, *Executive Mortgage Report*. He published articles on mortgage-backed securities in several financial journals and published two editions of his book, *Mortgage Backed Securities: Products, Analysis, Trading*. He was senior instructor in mortgage-backed securities for the New York Institute of Finance. Bartlett was predeceased by his wife, Francoise, on March 7, 2011, and is survived by his sons Courtney and his wife, Caroline, and Peter; three grandchildren; and brother, Raymond. Memorial contributions may be made to The Green Mountain Club, 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Rd., Waterbury Center, VT 05677.

1964

Brian Safer, retired biochemist and researcher, Adelphi, Md., on February 6, 2011. Safer was born in New York City and earned a medical degree from Baylor in 1969. He earned a doctorate in biophysics from Penn in 1973. That year, he was awarded the Louis N. and Arnold M. Katz Basic Science Research Prize, an American Heart Association award given to young medical investigators. His research focused on mitochondria in the heart. Safer worked at the NIH from 1973 until retiring in 2003. His research was at the forefront of the study of protein synthesis, the process by which the genetic information in DNA is converted into protein. He helped discover and purify the components involved in this process and also helped determine how protein synthesis is regulated in the conversion of DNA to messenger RNA. Safer was chief of the molecular hematology branch of the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute. He served on editorial boards, wrote numerous publications and was granted

Richard M. Ruzika '81, Board of Visitors Member and Football Alumnus



PHOTO: CHRIS TAGGART

Richard M. Ruzika '81, a former partner at Goldman Sachs, member of the College's Board of Visitors from 2002–08 and a Lions football alumnus, died on May 7, 2012, at a Stamford, Conn., hospital following a stroke on April 22, three days after surgery on his left knee. He was 53 and lived in Greenwich, Conn.

Ruzika was a generous donor who endowed several scholarships as well as contributed \$1 million toward the new Campbell Sports Center at the Baker Athletics Complex. "Rich was bigger than life in stature and impact," President Lee C. Bollinger said. "He was an extraordinary man who balanced his career at Goldman with his dedication to his family and his loyalty to Columbia."

Ruzika was born on April 16, 1959, in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was raised in West Hempstead on Long Island. He earned a B.A. in economics from the College and was a defensive tackle for the Lions. After graduation he signed with the Dallas Cowboys as a tight end but departed after training camp. In 1982, he joined Goldman Sachs in New York and went on to serve the firm for nearly three decades. Ruzika began his career as a silver and gold trader on the floor of COMEX, moving to the floor of NYMEX in 1984 as one of the original team members in the firm's energy platform.

He was a member of the board of NYMEX for nine years. Ruzika moved to the firm's trading floor in 1990, becoming head of Natural Gas Trading in 1996, and in 1998 relocated to Baltimore as one of the founding members of Goldman Sachs' electricity business.

In 2000 Ruzika was named head of commodities, where he developed the firm's Asset-Co business, and was later appointed co-head of Global Macro Trading and then co-head of the Global Special Situations Group. He was named a managing director in 1996 and a partner in 1998. Ruzika retired from Goldman Sachs in April 2011 as head of the Global Special Situations Group and a member of the Management Committee, the Securities Division Executive Committee and the Firmwide Risk Committee. In 2006, Ruzika was honored by the College with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement.

An active and generous supporter of Columbia athletics, Ruzika was a member of the Columbia Campaign for Athletics Leadership Committee.

"All of us involved with the Columbia athletics program are saddened to hear of Rich Ruzika's passing," said M. Dianne Murphy, director of intercollegiate athletics and physical education. "Rich was such a generous and caring person. He was beloved by his teammates, coaches, classmates and colleagues. We will miss him greatly."

University Trustees Chair William Campbell '62, '64 TC, Ruzika's football coach at Columbia, added, "We are so sad to have lost Rich Ruzika, one of our finest alumni. I remained close to him throughout his phenomenal business career. He was a wonderful father, husband and friend."

Ruzika is survived by his wife of almost 30 years, Ruthanne; children, Craig '16 and Caitlin; and brother, Keith.

Lisa Palladino

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

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

- 1930** **Malcolm S. Mason**, legal counsel to federal agencies, Earlsyville, Va., on November 1, 2011.
- 1931** **Paul E. Queneau**, engineer, Hanover, N.H., on March 31, 2012.
- 1932** **Leonard S. Bases**, otolaryngologist and surgeon, Sarasota, Fla., on January 25, 2012.
- 1936** **Irwin Grossman**, president of clothing manufacturing company, Roslyn, N.Y., on March 1, 2012.
- 1939** **Thomas P. Armstrong**, retired business administrator, Russell, Mass., on April 15, 2012.
- 1940** **Gilbert H. Glaser**, retired medical school professor, North Haven, Conn., on January 21, 2012.
- 1941** **John T. Beaudouin**, retired editor-in-chief and publishing v.p., Palm Beach, Fla., on May 3, 2012.
Louis Cohn-Haft, retired professor, Castellina in Chianti, Siena, Italy, on November 15, 2011.
- 1942** **Paul W. Hoffert**, vascular surgeon, Tucson, Ariz., on February 6, 2012.
- 1943** **Sidney Warschausky**, retired educator, Ann Arbor, Mich., on April 9, 2011.
- 1944** **John D. Brereton**, retired academic administrator, Chestertown, Md., on April 28, 2012.
Mort Lindsey, orchestra leader and composer, Malibu, Calif., on May 4, 2012.
- 1947** **Edward M. Cramer**, intellectual property attorney, Englewood, N.J., on May 1, 2012.
Norton D. Zinder, molecular biologist, New York City, on February 3, 2012.
- 1948** **John P. Corn Sr.**, insurance agent and attorney, Little Rock, Ark., on February 24, 2012.
Richard Stang, professor emeritus, St. Louis, Mo., on December 14, 2011.
- 1949** **Joseph S. Karas**, retired physician, Rumford, R.I., on May 14, 2012.
Thomas M. D’Ambrosio, Coral Springs, Fla., on February 20, 2012.
- 1950** **Richard D. Cushman**, retired v.p. and general manager, Auburn, Calif., on November 9, 2011.
Jerome R. Kaye, Somerset, N.J., on April 11, 2012.
William A. Maloy, Waldorf, Md., on March 3, 2012.
Jay K. Poust, wine importer, New York City, on February 4, 2012.
- 1951** **Walter G. Berghahn**, retired v.p. of manufacturing, Gilford, N.H., on February 7, 2012.
John J. “Jim” Evans, retired systems analyst, naval lieutenant commander, Culpeper, Va., on March 6, 2012.
Francis L. “Frank” Raimondo, real estate development and construction consultant, Newton, N.J., on December 7, 2011.
Theodore J. Schwiebert, Stamford, Conn., on October 30, 2011.
Robert C. Silver, attorney and naval aviator, Auburndale, Mass., on January 15, 2012.
- 1952** **Richard B. Kiltie**, Warrnambool, Australia, on August 19, 2010.
- 1954** **James Z. Ginos**, Carlsbad, Calif., on November 29, 2010.
- 1955** **Philip D. Bleser**, Bonita Springs, Fla., on October 28, 2011.
Francis J.S. Hughes, New York City, on December 9, 2010.
Stuart M. Kaback, retired scientific adviser, Cranford, N.J., on February 13, 2012.
Donald P. McDonough, West Palm Beach, Fla., on December 14, 2011.
Morris P. Tenner, Jamaica Estates, N.Y., on April 10, 2012.
- 1956** **Stuart M. Glass**, retired attorney, New York City, on February 5, 2012.
- 1958** **Howard V. Dubin**, dermatologist, Ann Arbor, Mich., on October 16, 2011.
Howard B. Grunther, retired radiologist, New York City, on January 11, 2012.
David J. Londoner, retired financial analyst, New York City, on May 11, 2012.
- 1959** **Raphael J. “Ray” Osheroﬀ**, retired nephrologist, Cranford, N.J., on March 18, 2012.
- 1960** **Barry S. Augenbraun**, retired attorney, St. Petersburg, Fla., on September 20, 2011.
Louis G. Gladstone, Menands, N.Y., on February 13, 2009.
George E.B. Morren Jr., retired professor and former mayor, Rocky Hill, N.J., on September 29, 2011.
- 1961** **Arthur D. Friedman**, computer science researcher, professor and author, San Diego, on October 24, 2011.
- 1963** **William F. Finley Jr.**, actor, New York City, on April 14, 2012.
Yoshiharu Fujisawa, retired CEO and chairman, Saitama-Ken, Japan, on March 15, 2012.
Charles Kleinhaus, Jerusalem, Israel, on March 9, 2012.
John Marovskis, Bronx, N.Y., on November 3, 2011.
- 1964** **Howard W. Kissel**, arts and theatre critic, New York City, on February 24, 2012.
Howard I. Nusbaum, Englewood, N.J., on March 21, 2012.
Alan B. Reis, attorney, New York City, on March 30, 2010.
- 1965** **David R. Wallace**, inventor, San Francisco, on March 2, 2012.
- 1968** **John R. Tait**, attorney, Lewiston, Idaho, on February 1, 2012.

patents for his discoveries. Safer’s marriage to Nancy Dietz Safer ended in divorce. Survivors include his children, Jillian Torgan and Mattie; mother, Anna; and two grandchildren.

1 9 7 6

Josiah T. Greenberg, attorney, Montclair, N.J., on January 5, 2011. Greenberg initially matriculated at GS, then entered the College after one semester. He left the College in 1978, after his junior year, to attend the Law School, from which he graduated in 1981. Greenberg is survived by his wife, Janette; daughters, Jessica ’12 and Julia; mother, Sema Greenberg; father, former Dean of the College Jack Greenberg ’45, ’48L, and his wife, Debbie ’57L; and siblings David, Ezra, Sarah ’86 GS, Suzanne and Billy Cole ’84. Memorial contributions may be made to the Montclair Volunteer Ambulance Unit, 95 Walnut St., Montclair, NJ 07042 or to the Montclair Public Library, 50 S. Fullerton Ave., Montclair, NJ 07042.

1 9 8 8

Nancy E. McAdoo, communications/knowledge exchange content manager, Medford, Mass., on January 15, 2011. McAdoo was born in Longview, Wash., on June 29, 1966, and later moved with her family to North Carolina, Minnesota and Idaho. She attended schools in Lewiston, Idaho, graduated from the Northfield Mount Hermon School in Northfield, Mass., and from the College with a B.A. in philosophy. McAdoo spent much of her youth in Lewiston and was active in music and performing arts. She danced and played flute, piano and violin. Her interest in social justice, women’s rights and world issues expanded throughout her life. McAdoo had been a resident of the Boston area (Cambridge, Somerville and Medford, Mass.) for nearly 25 years. During the three years prior to her death, McAdoo worked with Management Sciences for Health, an international health care NGO in Cambridge, Mass., as its communications/knowledge exchange content manager. In previous years she was a barista and retail salesperson, a freelance academic publication editor, an editorial associate and an assistant editor. Survivors include her father, James; mother, Rita; sister, Laura; and brother, J. Matthew. Memorial contributions may be made to Doctors Without Borders, the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or Partners in Health.

Lisa Palladino



Class Notes

25 40

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

Bernard Queneau ’30, ’33E writes, “It has been suggested that retirees from Columbia might be interested in what an ‘old timer’ does in his spare time. I’m a good one to ask, because I keep going and going (like the Energizer Bunny). How else could I have attended my 95th birthday party and family reunion?”

“I do much volunteer work to keep busy on a daily basis. I’m active at St. Clair Hospital, volunteer in the used bookshop at the local library, help at the church library and participate in the local Veterans Breakfast Club and the Boy Scouts of America.

“Although I am 99, my wife, Esther, and I expect to travel as much as usual this year. To recap 2011, in March we drove to New Hampshire to attend my brother Paul ’31, ’33E’s 100th birthday party. We then drove to a family reunion in Washington, D.C. However, I developed pneumonia in April and had to cancel trips to the West Coast in May and to Alumni Reunion Weekend in June. I even developed heart fibrillation and had a pacemaker installed.

“We were back on the road in August to attend a reenactment of the D-Day invasion at Conneaut, Ohio. In September we flew to Minneapolis to visit relatives and spend some time at the University of Minnesota. Then we rented a car, and spent the weekend in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of northern Minnesota. We traveled the length of the Gunflint Trail and stayed at the Loon Lake Lodge.

“In November, we drove to Williamsburg, Va., to attend the wedding of my grandson, Lt. Kirtland Marsh, U.S.N. JAG, to Carolyn Teague. It was a beautiful and fun

wedding. We drove home, and promptly flew out to Las Vegas to celebrate Esther’s 87th birthday on December 6. What made it especially fun for her was a surprise reunion with her daughter, Jan Hunnicutt, who had flown in from California.

“With all of that travel, we decided to stay home for Christmas. “For 2012, as of this writing, we were planning on a trip to London in April and to Columbia in June — and then to have the big 100th birthday party on July 14 right here in Pittsburgh. So, my advice to retirees is not to relax too much, but to keep active.”

Nick Stevenson ’40 writes, “I live in Princeton, N.J., but sadly lost my wife, Shirley, last summer. We met in the seventh grade, but I could not afford her dowry until after Columbia and the war. I had planned to attend this year’s Class Day, as the speaker is John. R. MacArthur ’78, with whom I have served on the board of *Harper’s Magazine* for 26 years. I am president of the Association of Macular Diseases in New York City. We have helped thousands who are afflicted across the United States. It’s harder for me to get into the office these days, and New Jersey Transit does not allow me to ‘ride the blind’ (just behind the coal tender on a steam engine), as I did in summer 1940, with **Bob Lubar ’40**, from New York to Los Angeles. *Trains Magazine* published my account of this adventure last year. Try to get a copy; it’s the January 2011 issue. And if you would like to get in touch, please call me: 609-919-0353.”

Art Joseph ’40 reports, “Since retiring some years ago, my wife, Claire, and I have spent our newfound leisure time traveling extensively. More recently, we moved into a senior development called The Ponds. And since it is located in New Jersey, midway between NYC and Philadelphia, our excitement consists of visiting those two cities. Regards to my classmates!”

41

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

The last issue of *Columbia College Today* noted the deaths of several classmates: **Dante Bove**, **Arthur Kragen** and **Al Rosenblum**.

Al had been a friend for more

than 80 years. We had been elementary school classmates from the second grade on. After Columbia, he went to Yale Law, where he was editor-in-chief of *The Yale Law Journal*. Our LIRR conversations showed a wide divergence between his conservatism and my more liberal bent.

I recently spoke with **Arthur Friedman** and his lovely wife, Cynthia ’44 Barnard. Art was in his family’s printing and publishing business for a number of years before he started one on his own; he also has held patents in hands-free, battery-powered lights, which he has manufactured in China and distributes in the United States. His claim to fame is that he “never missed a deadline.”

Trains Magazine published **Nick Stevenson ’40’s** account of his railway adventure with **Bob Lubar ’40**.

So far this year I have been in Israel and Ixtapa, Mexico, and was planning a Danube River cruise in May. But I have plenty of time to hear from all of you for the next issue.

42

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

I was pleased to have an email message from **Allan Creeger** on December 19 inquiring about his old friend, our distinguished classmate Judge **Leonard Garth** (see my notes on Judge Garth in the Winter 2011–12 issue). Allan celebrated his 90th birthday on December 9 at his retirement community, where he rides around on a scooter to pursue his activities. He retired long ago, after a successful career as president of AArrow Rentals in Richmond, Va., and was recognized as a leader in the equipment rental industry.

Allan earned a certificate in industrial administration, with distinction, from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1943. At Columbia, Allan, a member of TEP fraternity, won numerals in freshman track, was a member of the Columbia College Players and the Undergraduate Dormitory Council, and was manager of *The Varsity Show*. He was awarded Silver and Gold Crowns for his many contributions to undergraduate life.

We congratulate Allan on his entry into our Columbia Nonagenarian Club. It is a distinguished group whose members include **Bill Carey**, **Bob Kaufman**, Dr. **Gerald Klingon**, **Don Mankiewicz**, **Stewart McIlvannen**, Dr. **William Robbins**, **Donald Seligman**, Dr. **Fred Spannaus**, Dr. **Arthur Wellington** and probably several others who have not been in touch with me or our Alumni Office.

On December 30, **Nicholas Cicchetti** ’44 TC sent a long, masterfully written, philosophic letter, reflecting on his forthcoming 90th birthday on January 19. Nick recalled our freshman orientation meeting in McMillan Hall (now Miller Theatre) in 1938, when the average life expectancy in the United States was 64. In

1974, Nick traveled with his family to Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Karakoram Range and Hunza, where he had heard there was extraordinary longevity in the population. His personal observations did not confirm that rumor.

Now, Nick has joined our aforementioned classmates in the Columbia Nonagenarian Club. At Columbia, Nick rowed on our freshman and varsity crew teams. He had a long career with the New York City Board of Education — as a secondary school principal, an educational consultant and superintendent of schools in District 11 in New York state. Nick ended his letter with thanks to our class’ pre-med students, who became doctors and thus contributed to his longevity.

Incidentally, Nick’s letter was written in perfectly symmetrical longhand, with not one irregular scrawl or scribble to indicate his chronologic age.

Congratulations, Nick, and thank you for this interesting reminiscence.

We have not heard much from **Bill Carey** recently, but I recall him as a prominent executive in the aviation insurance industry, and a loyal Lion, who came to all of our Homecoming games. He also entertained us with his swingy jazz piano at our 50th reunion at Arden House in 1992.

The New York Times of January 20 published the obituary of Dr. **Elliott Levinthal**, who died in Palo Alto, Calif., on January 12. Elliott, one of

the most brilliant members of our class, had an extraordinarily varied and productive career as a physicist, inventor and engineer, and a professor and dean at Stanford.

Elliott earned an M.S. from MIT in 1943 and a Ph.D. from Stanford in 1949; there, his dissertation on the magnetic resonance of the hydrogen atom led to further work and a Nobel Prize for his mentor, Felix Bloch. Elliott then became a research director at Varian, where he developed analytical and measurement instruments based on his NMR (nuclear magnetic resonance) discoveries. In 1953, he established Levinthal Electronics Products, which created some of the earliest cardiac monitors, pacemakers and defibrillators. In 1961, Elliott returned to Stanford as a member of the genetics department of the medical school. He worked on the Mariner 9 Mars Orbiter and the Viking 1976 Lander Camera, and became associate dean for research and director of the Instrumentation Research Laboratory at the medical school. After a two-year leave to be director of the Defense Sciences Of-

The Wall Street Journal in February published a letter to the editor by **Edward Kalaidjian '42**.

fice at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, he returned to Stanford as research professor in the department of mechanical engineering and associate dean for research at the engineering school. Elliott and his wife, Rhoda, were generous donors toward scholarships at Stanford, establishing the Levinthal Fellows Program in creative writing and additional scholarships in the humanities.

This brief summary of Elliott's creative and productive career is a mere scratch on the surface of his extraordinary accomplishments, stimulated by his undergraduate years at Columbia and later studies at MIT and Stanford.

This writer remembers Elliott as a friendly neighbor on the fifth floor of Hartley Hall in our junior year. He was quiet and polite, and spent a lot of time playing his silent piano keyboard in his room. Although he was not an active participant in extracurricular activities, nor was he later active in College alumni affairs, he became one of our most distinguished alumni of the 20th century.

Elliott is survived by his wife; sons, David, Michael and Daniel; daughter, Judith Randall; and seven grandchildren. We send condolences to his family and friends.

With sadness and regret, I must also report the death of Dr. **Paul**

Hoffert; an obituary notice appeared in *The New York Times* on February 12. Paul, a retired general and vascular surgeon, died in Tucson, Ariz. He had a long and productive career on the faculty of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, working in the Bronx and Yonkers, N.Y., where he gave excellent care to his many grateful patients while a member of the surgical staffs at the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center, Montefiore Medical Center, St. Joseph's Medical Center and Yonkers General Hospital.

At Columbia, where Paul was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, he found time between his pre-medical studies to be an associate editor of the *Columbian* yearbook and co-editor of the *Pre-Medical Journal*. He also was active on the Debate Council and was a member of the 1818 Society, Pre-Medical Society and Sawbones. He earned both Silver and Gold Crowns. Paul graduated in 1945 from Yale Medical School, where he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. Paul is survived by his wife, Rosolyn; children, Marvin, Renee and Debo-

rah; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held at the Riversville Cemetery in Glenville, Conn., on February 12.

Paul was among the numerous gifted and brilliant members of our class. We send sincere condolences to his widow, children and other members of his family.

I also learned that **William Mazzarella** died on January 2 in Oceanside, Calif. Bill served in the Marine Corps from 1942-56; he was on active duty during WWII in the Pacific Theatre and in the Korean War. He was a life insurance field underwriter from 1956-62, after which he was a revenue officer for the Internal Revenue Service until his retirement. Bill was a recreational hunter and a member of the National Rifle Association, the California Rifle and Pistol Association and the North American Hunting Club. He also was a life member of the First Marine Division Association, the Chosin Few, the China Marine Association and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Several years ago, Bill corresponded with me and with my predecessor as class correspondent, the late Dr. **Herbert Mark**, sending us photographs of his hunting trophies and news of his vacation travels with his beloved companion, Marguerite Moore. In August

2010, Bill sent me a note about his participation in the 60th reunion of his Marine Corps unit, which fought in Korea in the disastrous retreat from the Chosin Reservoir, where U.S. forces sustained 12,000 casualties. Bill survived that battle and at 90, on July 3, 2010, he participated in the 60th reunion parade of "the Chosin Few" in Oceanside, Calif., showing his indomitable spirit by pushing his walker along the parade route until the end.

Herb and I appreciated Bill's warm letters, interesting hunting photographs, courage, good humor and loyalty to Columbia.

Bill was predeceased by his wife, Rita, and daughter, Judith. He is survived by Marguerite; his children, Rita Gray, Patricia Larson and William; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. We offer our sincere condolences to Bill's family as we say farewell to our brave and gallant classmate. (You can see my report about Bill in the November/December 2010 issue.)

The Wall Street Journal of February 27 published a letter to the editor by **Edward Kalaidjian**, retired and living in Jupiter, Fla. Ed, our former class president and a distinguished partner and maritime attorney with Thacher Proffitt & Wood, discussed the uncertainties and hazards inherent in any military responses to Iran's nuclear weapons program. We have not heard from Ed recently, so it is good to know he is alive, alert and probably pursuing his hobby of hitting the little pimpled white satellite over the fairways, sand traps and water hazards of Jupiter's golf courses. Warm regards to Ed, and many thanks to him for all he has done for our class.

Send me your news via email, or call me at home: 413-586-1517.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013**
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There was a brief burst of responses late last year to the appeal for news from 1943ers. And nothing since. Please write and provide updates on your activities and those of your

families. In fact, I'll treat to lunch here in Philadelphia any CC '43 alumnus who calls or writes with news or who wants to talk over "old times."

The winter holiday season came and went quietly for me. It is always a time to catch up with family members and friends. This year it netted some sad news, too: one of my three roommates from medical school died last July. I have not heard from the other two, so I am perhaps the only one left.

Happier news arrived from Ralph Gladstone '47, an eminent Greek scholar. He is well, and we had a nice reunion luncheon in February.

My second son has left Scranton, Pa., to become rector of Trinity Church in Covington, Ky. Though I'm sorry to see him move away, the new appointment gives him an opportunity to work with a congregation and vestry with goals similar to his.

There is more than one ecclesiastic in the family. My grandson-in-law was ordained an Episcopal priest in January and conducted his first Mass the next day. His wife completed her studies at the same seminary where he matriculated and graduated in May. They were job-hunting as of this writing.

In a little less than a year, we will celebrate the 70th anniversary of our College graduation by gathering on campus for Alumni Reunion Weekend. It's never too early to save the date, so mark your calendars for Thursday, May 30-Sunday, June 2, 2013.

As always, class members are encouraged to join the Reunion Committee to help plan the weekend's events. If you're interested in participating, contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member noted at the top of the column. You need not be in the New York area and can participate in meetings via conference call.

More about reunion will follow in this column during the next year as well as arrive at your home via mail and email. To ensure that Columbia has your correct contact information, update it online (reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488).

44 **Henry Rolf Hecht**
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With no news from any of you, dear classmates, I am left to report on the only '44er with whom I had contact this past quarter — myself. In mid-February I was hit by spinal stenosis; my scientific understanding of this is low but it seems to be a narrowing of the left spinal chan-

nel, leaving little room for nerve signals to go through. In any case, it severely limited my mobility and left me largely house- and even room-bound. There's been some improvement and optimistically I look forward to once again being a carefree youngster in his late 80s or early 90s.

I'll try to hang in there as your class correspondent but I'm totally dependent on your feeding me material. So please, don't hold back. Let your old friends and the rest of the Columbia community share your joys and, if need be, sympathize with your sorrows. The address is at the top of this column. Plain old phone will do (201-750-7770), or write or email, but do let's hear from you.

45 **Enoch Callaway**
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enoch.callaway@ucsf.edu

I reached Dr. **Albert Beasley** by phone, and he sounded in good spirits. He has retired from a pediatric practice after 49 years, although he does some charity work, attends grand rounds and generally keeps abreast of his field. He spends a great deal of time at Earthplace (The Nature Discovery Center) in Westport, Conn. He is on the Board of Trustees and has developed the "Green Earth Series" presentations to help those in our communities learn what has to be done to save our environment, our habitat and our world. His wife, Janet, also is involved with Earthplace and is an animal rights advocate. His son, Scott '72, a graduate of the Yale University School of Medicine, is a neonatologist in Los Angeles. His daughter, Jean, a graduate of Princeton, is an attorney, also in L.A.

Albert plays the guitar, although he says he doesn't practice enough, and spends time in various ways on computers. He also is involved in an organization called RODEO (Retired Older Doctors Eating Out), which now has chapters in southern California. Dr. **Jack Falsone** is a member, too, and Albert has enjoyed reconnecting with him.

Speaking of Jack, he and I touched base as well. He had just come from visiting his wife, Anna, who lives in a nursing home; she has had some strokes and also suffers from Alzheimer's. He says she was a raven-haired beauty, and now is a white-haired beauty, but only sometimes can he get her to smile. Like many of us, Jack's college days were truncated by the war. After graduating, he was hurried into basic training and then sent to spend time in a hospital where, as he puts it, he was a

"commode commando."

Jack then went to Long Island Medical College (now SUNY Downstate Medical Center) and became an internist specializing in pulmonary function. As a reserve, he was called up during the Korean War, but was lucky enough to be stationed in Alaska. That was before Alaskan statehood, so it made him a veteran of foreign wars. He is retired now, if you can say someone is retired when they actually do lots of charity work in a free clinic.

Dr. Albert Beasley '45 retired from a pediatric practice after 49 years but still attends grand rounds.

Jack commuted during college, and he was very involved with the fencing team; he recalls being exhausted by the time he finally got home in the evenings after practice. He also remembers one time when Giorgio Santelli was instructing him on fencing with the saber. Jack was having great difficulty defending himself against the coach's attacks, when the coach suddenly stopped. "Falsone," he said, "that's not a fencing position. That is a toilet position!"

I am sorry to report news of two deaths (with details to be published later). **Robert Hehn** of Yonkers, N.Y., died on September 18, and **Eric Jenett** of Houston died on October 20.

On the other hand, I am pleased to announce the publication of my second non-technical book. The first, *Asylum, A Mid-Century Madhouse and Its Lessons About Our Mentally Ill Today*, received honorable mention at the New England Book Fair. My new one, *The Mating Flower: A Botanical Murder Mystery*, can be purchased at matingflower.com.

46 **Bernard Sunshine**
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The 65th anniversary year of the Class of 1946 brought interesting and sometimes telling responses to the survey that I distributed to everyone. I would have loved a 100 percent response rate but realistically knew it would not be so. That said, we had about a 17 percent response rate, which people in the direct mail business tell me is pretty good. I thank all who took the time to reply. These are the compiled results.

Personal: Careers in medicine dominate the class profile (47 percent), followed by business (18 percent) and academia (15

percent). Science, engineering, law and the arts constitute the balance in smaller numbers.

Four of every five '46ers are married, which at our stage of life I find an unexpected but happy statistic. On average we have two children and three grandchildren. **Howard Cohen** wins the Grandfather Cup with 11, and the Great-Grandfather Cup is shared by **Larry Jukofsky** (four) and **Paul Rotondi** (two).

Regarding state of health, 76 percent reported being in excellent or

good health. In an earlier column, **Alan Berman** reported that, based on current American mortality tables, our class has outdistanced the tables for survivors. This seems reflected in the above statistic.

Columbia: To the question, "Was Columbia your first choice?" all but two responded in the affirmative. And one of the no's, **Niel Wald**, said it would be his first choice if he were applying to schools now. **Gerard Jegge** commented that he applied to no other school. All but one said they would choose Columbia again. One reply added that Columbia was "probably the most important thing that happened to me." Perceptions about Columbia today were overwhelmingly favorable though not universally so. One comment: "Too liberal."

We did not do too well with our progeny at Columbia. Only about one-third of responders have children or grandchildren who attended.

To the question, "What were the most important influences on your Columbia experience?" the two most often cited were extraordinary faculty (also characterized as "brilliant teachers" and "distinguished professors") and classmates. The Humanities and Contemporary Civilization classes were cited almost as often and may also have been what classmates were thinking of when they answered "faculty." Many responders listed the names of professors, perhaps in a way paying personal tribute to legends of academia.

Most important issues confronting us: In order of the frequency with which they were mentioned, issues cited were 1) the economy, characterized variously as "unemployment," "loss of manufacturing" and "global instability"; 2) inequalities of rich and poor, also described as "threat of a permanent underclass"; 3) paralysis of the political system; and 4) terrorism and rogue states.

A warm welcome to **Larry Ross**, who asked to be affiliated with our class. We are delighted.

I also have received many interesting communications from classmates, which I will share in the next issue. Now, I suggest you turn to the '71 Class Notes for the Lloyd Emanuel '71 piece. Lloyd is well known to tennis buffs in our class, as he captained Columbia's varsity tennis team.

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By the time you read this column, the Class of 1947's 65th reunion will have passed. *Columbia College Today* hopes that everyone who turned out had a wonderful time, and encourages attendees to write and tell us about everything that happened during the weekend: events attended, old friends met, reminiscences had. We want to include a full report in the Fall issue! Please send your reunion news — and/or your life updates, in general — to CCT at the postal or email address at the top of the column, or via CCT's easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

We also continue to seek a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti '11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013**
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48 *Columbia College Today*
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Dr. **Robert B. Mellins**, professor emeritus of pediatrics and special lecturer at Columbia University Medical Center/NewYork Presbyterian, recently completed three years as president of the Louis August Jonas Foundation. The foundation sponsors Camp Rising Sun, a full scholarship international summer leadership program for teenagers selected for their intellect, character and leadership potential ("creating a better world tomorrow by inspiring young leaders today"). Robert also shares, "On June 12, I will be

honored as ‘Physician of the Year’ at the annual dinner of the Society of Practitioners of the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center.”

Marshall W. Mount writes: “I teach ‘History of African Art’ at NYU’s College of Arts and Science in the fall semester and at the Fashion Institute of Technology (SUNY) in the spring semester. My teaching-related travels this year have included Ghana, Togo and Benin (in January) and Namibia (this summer).”

Also sharing news is **David N. Brainin**: “I formally retired from the practice of law as of my 87th birthday on April 19. I’m doing a limited amount of arbitration and mediation, as a neutral. I live in Spuyten Duyvil, the Bronx, with Sema, my wife of nearly 49 years. We’re a ‘his, hers and ours’ family, with five children, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, scattered from Puerto Rico to Florida; from Aurora, Ill., to Austin; from Los Angeles and the Bay Area to NYC. I’ve enjoyed reading about classmates and contemporaries in Class Notes.”

Larry Spelman ‘48 started playing a four-string tenor banjo and is now a member of the Gulf Coast Banjo Society of Florida.

John Zanders writes: “I am 86 and for that age am in reasonably sound health. Minor problems, of course, but my physicians assure me I’m in good shape and should continue to do well. Who knows? I’m trying.

“I stay busy, mostly with jewelry-making and metal-smithing. Among other things, I still do some coin trading. I work in gold and silver, but as of late I have been doing larger items in copper, which, after shaping, I then enamel.

“A number of years ago I was active as a coin and currency dealer (collectibles). I’m active in three local coin clubs.

“I have fond memories of my years at CC. For a time I lived in Livingston Hall, later moving into a variety of rented rooms near campus. I had a somewhat limited group of friends while at CC, probably because my interests were esoteric at that time, i.e., Chinese language and culture.

“If there is anyone reading this whom I knew at that time, feel free to contact me: 713-729-3330.”

Fully retired is **Tom Colven**. “I have lived at the beach in Emerald Isle, N.C., since 1985. The highlight of my year is to have my four sons, their wives and 11 grandchildren visit for ‘Beach Week,’ usually in

July,” Tom writes. “My wife, Barbara, and I play duplicate bridge five days a week. In fact, I am the director of two of those games. Otherwise, we live a quiet life.”

Robert Weaver shares, “I doubt that there are any alumni who remember me. My wife, Norma, and I have moved into a retirement home, Treyton Oak Towers, 211 Oak St., Apt. 1106, Louisville, KY 40203. Email address is rweaver8514@insightbb.com. We would greatly enjoy hearing from any classmate. I am the general editor of the Monuments of Tuscan Music. I hope Volume Five, a collection of 18th-century motets prepared by John Karr Ph.D., will be published by June of this year.”

Larry Spelman and his wife, Dorothy, live in Sarasota, Fla. He writes, “I used to practice law in both New York and Florida. For the last few years I did voluntary work, but I am now retired completely. Some years ago I started playing a four-string tenor banjo and I now am a member of the Gulf Coast Banjo Society of Florida. We (about 40 of us) play every

Thursday during the day in Venice, Fla., from October through May. None of that bluegrass stuff but all the old songs that our parents and we sang as kids.

“If any classmates are in this area of Florida on such a Thursday, please contact me (lardor520@comcast.net) and attend our session (we get a large audience); the hot dog, hamburger, cheeseburger and beer or other drink for you and your spouse or significant or insignificant other are on me. It’s outdoors, it’s a dive and it’s a lot of fun.”

Dr. **Frank Newmark** ‘53 P&S checked in: “Since retiring from the practice of medicine in 2000, I have done volunteer work for a community agency, written a biography of a WWII hero and humanist, Bernard Englander, and traveled over a good part of the world helping my wife, author Elle Newmark, research her novels. She recently passed away and I am involved in promoting humanism in San Diego and nationally.”

“I was a transfer student to Columbia College after 3½ years in the Army Air Corps and I took mostly graduate courses in politics, so that I didn’t get to know many classmates, I’m afraid,” writes **John Cooper**. “In my senior year, I wrote a novel, *The Gesture*, that

got me a full-page review in *Time* and three months of fame that I was too young to handle. I didn’t go on writing but used the rest of my GI Bill to get a degree from New York Law School. Eventually, with my wife and three children, I moved to Colorado Springs, where I practiced law and was assistant general counsel of Holly Sugar Corp., which was headquartered there, and my wife taught in the public school system. After we retired, we lived in Belfast for a year (during ‘the Troubles’), where she was a Fulbright exchange teacher; later we both taught E.S.L. in Czechoslovakia with Education for Democracy after the Soviets left. We retired in Santa Fe and Tucson, where we now live.

“Much of this is reflected in a collection of stories that I have written and posted on my website, ‘John Cobb Cooper, Kinder, Gentler Wars.’ You can download it without charge at johncobbcooper.com, username: jccguest@123mail.org and password: 71wkpauG.”

Dr. **Richard J. Calame** shares, “I’ve been retired from medical practice for almost 16 years, and my wife and I divide our time between Vero Beach, Fla., and Hingham, Mass. A little golf, a little painting and generally enjoying the scenery.”

For those who missed the mention of **Merrill Brockway**’s recent memoir, *Surprise Was My Teacher: Memories and Confessions of a Television Producer/Director Who Came of Age During Television’s Adolescence*, in *CCT*’s Spring 2012 Bookshelf, he wants classmates to know it is available on Amazon and has been described on that site as such: “As both a producer and director, Merrill Brockway pioneered dance on television on the Emmy Award-winning PBS series, *Dance in America*. Through this series and CBS’ *Camera 3*, Brockway brought the performing arts to the ‘vast wasteland’ of television in its early years. Working with the greatest artists of the day ... Brockway brought high art into the homes of the average American.”

Sylvain Bromberger writes: “I retired a number of years ago as professor emeritus from the MIT Department of Linguistics & Philosophy, which I joined in 1965, but I still have my corner there and go in regularly. Though officially a professor of philosophy, I have taught and directed dissertations in both areas and continue to work on issues that overlap both fields, such as the foundations of phonology. The most recent *Journal of Philosophy*, which is published by Columbia, has a piece by me on some aspects of all this. I recommend it, like my others, if you have insomnia.

“I am still married to Nancy (almost 64 years!). We moved a few years ago from our big house in Newton to a condo in Cambridge, walking distance from Harvard and not very far from MIT. Perfect. I have a step-grandson who is a practicing lawyer and two granddaughters, ages 7 and 8. One of our sons married a doctor. I am very proud of that. I am fairly active with the Sousa Mendes Foundation, which is dedicated to the memory of Aristides de Sousa Mendes, a Portuguese consul who saved my immediate family, including myself, during WWII.

“So life is still good, much better than I had expected for this age. Columbia feels like a previous life.”

Dick Hyman wrote to wish everyone well and let the class know he is still concertizing and composing. His schedule is under “Events” on his website: dickhyman.com.

In a little less than a year, the Class of 1948 will celebrate the 65th anniversary of its College graduation by gathering on campus at Alumni Reunion Weekend. Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. To ensure that Columbia can get in touch with you about the event, please update your contact information online (reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488).

Class members are encouraged to join the Reunion Committee to help plan the weekend’s events and to reach out to classmates for gifts to the Columbia College Fund in honor of reunion. If you’re interested in participating, contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member noted at the top of the column. You need not be in the New York area and can participate in meetings via conference call.

Thank you to all who shared news with *CCT*. The Class of 1948 still is in need of a class correspondent to write this column. If you are interested, please contact Alexis Tonti ‘11 Arts, managing editor: alt2129@columbia.edu or 212-851-7485. In the meantime, please send updates to *CCT* at the postal or email address at the top of the column, or via *CCT*’s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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While the past few months have seen very little news from classmates, there is a note from **Campbell Geeslin**, a hitherto unheard-of from quarter.

Noting the appearance of a film

version of *Coriolanus* last December, Campbell asked if I was in the Columbia Players production of that show all those years ago. He notes that he “thinks” he remembers yours truly in a costume — a toga he describes as “brown tow-sack material.”

I must correct Campbell; I did not appear in the play. As I recall, it was staged in our senior year, and in the title role was **Dolph Sweet**, who went on to a successful career as an actor and departed this earthly stage far too soon.

This reminder brought forth a flood of memories for your correspondent. Dolph was one of my closest friends through our undergraduate years. He was a fascinating man with a remarkable history. After high school he went to work driving a Drake’s bakery truck. He played semi-professional football and then WWII found him in the Air Force. A bombardier, he trained for that very special sortie, the bombing of the Ploesti oil fields known as Operation Tidal Wave. It was a “low-level” bombing run, and the timing of bombs dropped by a plane some minutes ahead was faulty; they exploded as Dolph flew over, and he spent the entire balance of the war in a prison camp.

The G.I. bill brought Dolph to Columbia, where he was an extraordinary student of English literature and, during his senior year, wrote a brilliant and poetic play recounting his prison camp years. It was optioned for Broadway but never produced. I was one of the first to read it and the memory is as clear as if the manuscript were in my hands today. It was titled *Trumpet Makes No Sound*.

Thank you, Campbell, for this trip down memory lane.

Let’s here from more of you, friends. Enjoy the summer.

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Dr. **Martin Duke** is retired from the practice of cardiology but stays active in the medical field as a writer and editor of medical literature. His most recent project was editing *Reflections on Medicine: Essays by Robert U. Massey, M.D.*, a collection of 70 essays written by the late Massey, which Martin organized and adapted into book format. The book is available in bookstores, online (email to university.press.newengland@dartmouth.edu) and by phone, 800-421-1561.

Martin is on the editorial board of *Connecticut Medicine*, the journal of the Connecticut State Medical Society, for which he contributes

and reviews articles.

Earlier this year, **Jack Noonan** received a memento of his service with the Army in WWII. The Philippine Consul General to New York presented to him and other veterans the Philippines Certificate of Honor in recognition of their service in liberating the islands from Japanese occupation. The certificates were awarded at a luncheon commemorating the release of more than 2,400 civilian prisoners from the Los Baños prison camp, behind enemy lines, an event reported in a previous Class Notes column.

Jack, who still is engaged full-time as a U.S. administrative law judge in New York City, has joined a group of veterans of the 11th Airborne Division on a mission to find and bring home the remains of one of their comrades who was reported killed in action on Luzon but whose final resting place remains a mystery. “Even though it’s 67 years later,” Jack says, “we will do everything in our power to bring a fellow member home.” Jack was accompanied at the awards ceremony by his wife, Eileen, granddaughters Kelly and Meghan Felter, and **Phil Bergovoy** and his wife, Hindy.

Gerry Weissmann is “still hanging in there” as director of the Biotechnology Study Center of the NYU School of Medicine, where he also is research professor of medicine. In addition, he has been editor-in-chief of *The FASEB Journal*, the most-cited journal in biology, for five years. With all that, Gerry has published his 10th book of essays, *Epigenetics in the Age of Twitter: Pop Culture and Modern Science*. (Epigenetics attempts to explain how our genes respond to our environment.) University Professor Eric Kandel, a neurophysiologist and recipient of the 2000 Nobel Prize, said of the book: “A joy for the heart and instructive for the mind.” The book is available in bookstores; additional information is available at blpress.org.

Sadly, we report the death of **Jay Poust** of New York City on February 4.

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In early March, tensions between Barnard and Columbia were bubbling up over the offer by President Barack Obama ‘83 to give the 2012 Commencement address at Barnard on May 14. Thankfully, the simmering resentments have calmed since then, and as of this writing the President was scheduled to speak.

The New York Times, in a sidebar to its online coverage of the ker-

fuffle, related the following local legend: “*Alma Mater* is the statue in front of Columbia’s Low Memorial Library. An owl is hidden in the folds of *Alma Mater*’s robes. According to this legend the first student of each College class to find the owl would graduate as the valedictorian and marry a Barnard woman (back when the College was all-male).”

Here is my question: Who was the valedictorian of the Class of 1951 and did he take a Barnard bride?

Jim Lowe and **Leonard Stoehr** have done a magnificent job in keeping the NROTC graduates in our class active and together. Recently, Jim spoke to **Tex McNallen** about a 67th NROTC reunion to take place in Arizona in fall 2013. NROTC alumni should keep in touch with Len (434-985-8315) and be sure he has your latest email and telephone information in his file — especially **Warren Wana-maker**! Where are you, Jack?

By the way, Len and his wife, Jan, attended the memorial service for **John James Evans**. Jim died in early March. He had retired as a systems analyst for Morale Space Systems in McLean, Va., and held the rank of lieutenant commander in the Navy.

Walter G. Berghahn ‘52E died in February following complications from surgery. After earning a B.A. from the College he earned a B.S. from Engineering. Walter had a long career with GE and retired as a v.p. of manufacturing in the Polaris missile program.

Ernest H. Von Nardroff Ph.D. ‘66 GSAS in a recent note indicated, “Nothing momentous to report; life is just a time of contentment.” He stopped teaching in 1992, concluding his career as a professor of German. He now resides in Morris

Plains, N.J.

Ted Bihuniak is not enjoying the same contentment. What happened? After getting plenty of parachute training with the Air Force in B-29s, Ted fell off a ladder last winter while trimming tree branches without wearing his chute. Fortunately, successful surgery repaired his shoulder and he is back to enjoying life with his wife, Marilyn, children and grandchildren. Ted retired from Union Carbide, now a part of Dow Chemicals, in 1991. He had numerous assignments in plastics and chemicals, which took him to Panama, Brazil and Austria, and he’s followed up that career by starting his own consulting business, which keeps him in touch with the industry. The Bihuniaks live in Wilton, Conn., and hope at least one of their progeny will attend Columbia College.

Donald A. Beattie has written a new book, *No Stone Unturned: A Life Without Bounds*; check Amazon for ordering details. Autobiographical in nature, the book includes previously unreported tales of days at Columbia College. Don previously authored *Taking Science to the Moon* and *ISScapades: The Crippling of America’s Space Program*. Many of his articles have been published in professional magazines including *Spaceflight*, the British Interplanetary Space Society’s monthly. A Navy pilot during the Korean War, Don has attended a number of reunions of his squadron, VS-30. He also attended the 40th anniversary of the first Apollo lunar rover and the 100th anniversary of naval aviation in Pensacola, Fla. Quoting Don, his main job now is to hang out at home and keep his wife, Ann, happy.

Do our classmates read *Columbia*

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COLUMBIA COLLEGE TODAY brings you news of your alma mater and profiles of its people you won’t find anywhere else. Wherever you are — Los Angeles, Louisville, London or the Lower East Side — *CCT* is the best way to stay connected with your classmates and with Columbia.

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WE GREATLY APPRECIATE your support and ask that you stay in touch and share news at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.

College Today? Yes, they do! **Frederick C. Stark Jr.** wrote a letter to the editor, published in the Fall 2011 issue, congratulating Ted Graskie '59 for his efforts to both establish a war memorial at Columbia to honor those alumni who had been killed during wars engaging U.S. armed forces and to bring ROTC back to Columbia. Fred worked for the Social Security Administration as a claims representative, disability examiner and policy specialist, after which he became a program analyst for what was then called the Health Care Financing Administration, which administers Medicare and Medicaid. Quoting Fred, "It gave me great satisfaction to have been involved in helping 40 million people to attain a good measure of economic security."

Fred's wife, Margaret, died three years ago and he has since moved to Abingdon, Md., to be close to his son and daughter-in-law.

Dr. **Jay Lefer** had his letter to the editor published in the Winter 2011–12 issue. Jay took issue with Dr. Samuel Salamon '74 for his espousing the philippic that the United States is the mecca of medicine. Citing examples of treatment for patients in Belgium and the development of insulin in Canada, Jay concluded that one needs only to take a trip to France, Germany and Switzerland to experience real medicine dedicated to the ill.

Please give your Class Notes writer some feedback about your experience with receiving an email with links to the online version of CCT (college.columbia.edu/cct) as opposed to hard copy. [Editor's note: Both are available to domestic readers. Overseas readers may request hard copy.] I'm interested to hear what you think. Meanwhile, keep in touch with news about recent activities and contacts with our classmates.

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The earth rotates and the years go by — 60 since we graduated from the College, as those of us who recently celebrated reunion know. A full recap from the weekend will appear in the Fall column. In the meantime, consider that the passage of time is one of the few constants in life. Another constant: We all share this same space vehicle. The world always seems to be a dangerous place with potential catastrophes around every corner. This is not a new phenomenon. All of history tells the same story of hostility, threats, war and destruction. On an individual level, a person can be good, kind, giving and pure. On a

societal level the picture shifts too often to self-interest and power. Why is that the way it is? We could answer, "It is what it is," and be correct with that summation. In any event, it may be the only possible answer we can formulate.

Bob Kandel, who as of this writing hoped to see everyone at reunion, sends the following: "My wife, Evelyn, and I recently celebrated our 51st anniversary. It was much quieter than last year (our 50th), when the festivities lasted for two days. We have four grandsons, and the oldest will start college in the fall. We must be having fun because the time is flying. We slowed down a bit with some illness in the family, but we are going to pick ourselves up and start going again. We plan to travel to Philadelphia to see the Van Gogh exhibit at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and then, in the summer, we will be off to Scotland to see Evelyn's family."

Dr. **N. David Charkes** reports, "My career was spent in the practice of nuclear medicine (the use of radioisotopes in medical diagnosis and treatment), from which I mostly retired at 65. However, I've continued to do biomedical re-

The Philippine Consul General to New York presented Jack Noonan '50 and other WWII veterans the Philippines Certificate of Honor.

search, mostly directed to problems requiring mathematical modeling and computer simulation. This continues to be a fruitful avenue for the remaining neurons upstairs, and I still have a drawer of papers to get to before the final trumpet call.

"So, consider this a follow-up to my letter of about 15 years ago, in which I reported having just climbed Mount Washington for the 11th time (having only started when I was 53). Well, what with a change in my health, progressively bum knees and advancing middle age (ha!), I quit while I was ahead and applied myself to woodworking, piano-playing, museum-going and, yes, knocking out the medical research papers the world seemed to be crying for. One of my best moves was reconnecting with **Norman Krasnow**; we get together for artsy days every once in a while, sometimes in New York and sometimes here in Philly.

"I'm still married to the lovely Nancy Amsterdam '53 Barnard. Our Columbia family includes not only son Evan '82 and daughter Susan '83L but also Evan's wife, Juli '88 Barnard, '08J. Can you top that?"

As of this writing, David was

"looking forward to renewing friendships and making new ones at reunion." Let's hope he was successful! Perhaps he'll send another update.

Bruce Biavati reports, "It's been 60 years since I received my B.A. from the College. I began working toward a Ph.D. in physics and, while getting my course requirements done, I worked at Lamont geophysical labs and at Hudson Laboratories. (This took me into the North Atlantic doing research in underwater sound for the Navy.) Along the way I met Marion Hamann, a physics Ph.D. candidate from Barnard. We married at Earl Hall in 1954 and went on to receive our degrees. My Ph.D. is in low temperature physics with Professor Henry Boorse and Marion's is in nuclear physics with Chien-Shiung Wu Ph.D.

"After receiving our degrees we went to the radiological research labs at the Columbia University Medical Center, where we studied the interaction of radiation and tissue. I was appointed assistant professor in 1964. We remained there until the birth of the first of our two sons. Marion retired to raise the boys, and I went to work for Computer Ap-

plications (a company that ran the NASA computer facility at Columbia). When Computer Applications went bankrupt in 1968, three of us formed what became a successful computer company, Dubner Computer Systems. We created advance real time computer systems and developed new graphic techniques that are still in use.

"We did extensive work for ABC Television and although my interaction with ABC Sports was long, I don't believe that **Roone Arledge** ever realized that we were classmates. In 1982, I began activities as a private consultant and worked in Great Britain. There were long-term consulting commitments with Technicon in Westchester, N.Y.; Williams Communications in Tulsa, Okla.; BE Aerospace in California; and Allied Gaming in Las Vegas. After 18 years as a consultant I retired in 2000. I now am happily watching my three granddaughters grow up. One of them is on crew at her high school, copying my 1949 freshman crew experience at the College. Time sure does pass quickly.

"Through the years I consulted on security systems, blood analysis systems, back office broker systems, automating the General

Motors boardroom and finance boardroom, a control system for a nationwide fiber optic video carrier, designs for 'one-armed bandits' (slot machines) in Las Vegas and flight system controls. My ability to contribute in these vastly different fields is a tribute to the training I received in graduate school, where my abilities were expanded by Professors Boorse and Quimby of the physics department."

Dr. **John R. Benfield** writes, "In 1951, I should perhaps have stayed at Columbia instead of moving on after only three years. I had seen much of the United States while accompanying my father on his military assignments (before his overseas service), and I had developed a love of California but New York City was my home and my dream was to proceed to P&S. I was told that my P&S admission would need to be deferred until I completed my fourth year at the College. The University of Chicago School of Medicine (now the Pritzker School of Medicine), however, offered me admission without completion of the fourth year, and I decided to go.

"The difficult decision to go to Chicago changed the course of my life. I stayed there 13 years, eventually achieving a coveted junior faculty position and finding my wife, Joyce. (She was born and raised in Chicago, and graduated from Northwestern with a postgraduate degree from Chicago.) She had vowed not to marry a doctor and never to leave Chicago, but I fortunately convinced her to become the superb mother of our three children and to accompany me to Madison, Wis., and to California. Her untimely death in 2003 parted us, but our children and six grandchildren carry our family tradition forward.

"Chicago's School of Medicine was remarkable. As an expression of its emphasis on research and academia, and the ongoing bond between medicine and basic science, the medical school was (and is) part of the Biological Sciences Division. All of the faculty, including clinicians, served full-time, and the clear emphasis was upon educating academicians. I loved it. My research career began during my first year in the physiology laboratory of thoracic surgery, and it might be argued that I never left it. Now, the annual John and Joyce Benfield Visiting Professorship in Thoracic Surgery emphasizes transitional research and education.

"Military service in Korea taught me more than I had anticipated, even though it was a disappointment when I was not deployed to Europe. I was the commanding officer of the 44th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital after most of the active

fighting had stopped. I gained new respect for most (almost all) career military officers and made lifelong friends in Japan when I presented my first paper to the Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery in Kanazawa. In retrospect, my deployment to Asia opened avenues I otherwise might not have known.

"When I returned to U of C, I became one of the first lung transplantation research workers. What a privilege it is to have seen my research dream of the 1950s and 1960s become a clinical reality. Successful lung transplantation is now giving new, good-quality life to respiratory cripples worldwide.

"After three interesting and good years as assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin, I was delighted to move to UCLA where, in 1971, the students honored me with the Golden Apple Award for the best teacher in the School of Medicine. I became the James Utley Professor and chairman of the Division of Surgery at Boston University in 1977, but that did not last because of academic politics. My family and my laboratory were still at UCLA. When I returned, I thought a respite from full-time academics was in order. I converted my academic appointment to a clinical one and entered independent practice with a Chicago classmate. Independent practice was an excellent experience, but I missed the academic environment.

"In 1979 I wrote *A Dual Perspective of University and Independent Practice and a Proposal for Renaissance of Preceptorships* as an expression of my belief that community practice had much to offer for undergraduate and postgraduate medical students. I returned to full-time academia, remaining clinically active, and I was fortunate to have 22 years of uninterrupted NIH support for my research and teaching. I now am professor emeritus, still teaching at UCLA. However, I now have the luxury of doing only what I wish to do. A course I would like to teach might be titled 'Manners and Realities in the Practice of Medicine.' Many talented and experienced medical practitioners gladly would share their experiences with students, interns and residents, and such a course might help to resume and to preserve personal doctor-patient relationships and to resist the takeover of corporate, insurance company-driven medicine. The doctor-patient relationship and patients' access to doctors engender mutual trust, and trust is needed when illness strikes.

"My peers have rewarded me with a number of honors, including for my service as director of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, as president of the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (largest in the

world) and as the honored guest of The Japanese Association for Thoracic Surgery and of the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery.

"EACTS asked me to speak about the 'language of science' in 2000. I agreed to the topic only after consultation with the chairman of UCLA's Department of Linguistics, who encouraged the applied linguistic project I had in mind and connected me with a vigorous young linguist who joined me as investigator and coauthor. This led to a decade of work with colleagues in the University of Michigan's English Language Institute, to develop programs in English for medical purposes. Much work along these lines remains to be done.

"On a personal note, I am thankful to the United States for the opportunities that I, a refugee who was born in Vienna, have had. My family escaped the Holocaust in 1938 when they had the courage to leave Austria for a purported vacation. Instead of returning to Austria, we moved to New York City, essentially penniless. My father died during WWII while serving in the Army's China-Burma-India Theater. He was too old to be drafted but not too old to volunteer so as to show his gratitude to the U.S. I have reclaimed my EU (Austrian) citizenship to be able to vote against fascism, and I do so. Last July, I swam in the 13th European Maccabi Games in Vienna, where my aunt had been the Austrian breaststroke champion and part of Austria's Olympic swim team in 1932. The organizers suggested that I be part of the Austrian team, but I declined, saying that I am alive because I am an American. I swam five events (two bronze medals) as part of Team USA, as a symbol of my opposition to fascism."

Your reporter thanks you for your contributions, and wishes good health to all.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013
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In a fascinating telephone conversation with **Walt Nitardy**, I learned that after graduating from the College, Walt became a professor at Oswego (N.Y.) State College

and was a member of its health and physical education department until he retired in 1986. As an undergraduate, Walt pitched for Columbia and was a member of the baseball team that included our famous teammate **Mitch Price**. Walt and his wife, Barbara, will celebrate their 60th anniversary in November along with their seven children and 14 grandchildren. The couple spends seven months a year in Florida and five months, during the warmer weather, up north at Sacketts Harbor, N.Y. Walt and Barbara enjoy good health and spending holidays with their extended family. They are going to try to attend our 60th reunion in 2013.

After reading that **Rolon Reed** passed away, his Phi Gamma Delta fraternity brother **Bob Jones** sent me the following letter: "Rolon not only championed the endorsement of Adlai Stevenson in 1952, but he also actually believed Adlai would win. Rolon had a clipboard with state-by-state electoral votes listed, showing how it would be done. While Rolon was a political science major, I was a physical chemist and completely taken in. I went to the fraternity house to hear the victory results roll in and learned that political science was not much of a science — and that Rolon had a vivid imagination. "I'm not sure what Rolon learned that night but he was not happy. Although we never crossed paths after 1953, I can picture Rolon-the-Democrat as he watched the results of the 2008 election, clipboard in hand, enjoying himself immensely." Bob lives in San Jose, Calif. I'm sure our popular classmate would

be delighted to hear from all of his many friends in the class.

For the Nitardys and the other planners among us, mark your calendars for Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. To ensure that Columbia can get in touch with you about the event, please update your contact information online (reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488).

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I'd like to include stories and anecdotes about classmates in the next CCT. Would you please take a moment to phone me (203-372-6961) or send an email with appropriate information?

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I received a lovely letter from **Larry Kobrin**. He had come across some 1954 pictures of a number of our classmates and sent them to me. What a reminder! We have grown considerably older, given the number of years that have passed, but as far as I'm concerned everyone looks

Columbia School Designations

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

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

the same now as they did then. I think it would be great if classmates sent me some photographs that were taken during the time we were students at Columbia.

Larry, thank heavens, feels the way many of us do at this stage of our lives. He says that when he met an older friend recently and asked how he was doing, the response was, "Given my reduced expectations of myself, I am doing great."

Like most of us, Larry and his wife, Ruth, have had some ups and downs physically but otherwise are chugging along nicely. Ruth works three days a week and Larry, an attorney, is in his office about four days a week. "That, plus visiting and babysitting for grandchildren keeps us pretty busy," he says. Larry made a suggestion that I find terrific: that we develop a website to which we could upload pictures of ourselves and our classmates, and so on.

Bernd Brecher, as class president, you have a great assignment.

(I'm waiting until December) are looking forward to that celebration. Please let us hear from you so we can compare notes.

55

Gerald Sherwin

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There has been a bevy of activities during the past several months involving the University and the College, on-campus and off-116th Street — never a dull day. On March 7, five extraordinary alumni were honored at the annual John Jay Awards Dinner in midtown Manhattan. The "Cafés Columbia" series of outstanding lectures by our "second to no one" faculty continued at PicNic Market & Cafe. Both Café Social Science's "Epidemic City: The Politics of Public Health in New York" and Café Science's "Exploring the Birth and Death of Black Holes" drew

eled to Chile, where another Global Center opened in Santiago. (It's full speed ahead with this initiative.)

More personnel news: A new provost has been appointed — John Coatsworth was named after a stint as interim provost, replacing Claude Steele. John was formerly dean of SIPA.

There is always something happening at the Columbia University Club of New York. In February, at the first Columbia Networking Night in 2012, the club hosted experts in risk and volatility fields, who spoke and networked with more than 250 Columbia people in an evening that could have gone almost forever. A tremendous amount of knowledge was exchanged by all.

Now for our brilliant classmates. There is never a shortage of news about them.

We turn again to **Bill Kronick**, who had a book signing for *The Art of Self-Deception* in March at Book Soup in Los Angeles. Bill keeps churning out novel after novel. You can check out his other books at authorhouse.com.

Bob Thonus let us know that his longtime roommate and buddy, **Lary Faris**, is slowly recovering from a malady in Sun City, Fla. Bob, who lives in California, plans to visit Lary shortly. The guys both lived in Livingston Hall (now known as Wallach).

One of the most highly attended events of the year is the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception, held this year in Lerner Hall's Boone Arledge Auditorium on February 2. The 2012 Class of 1955 Scholarship Fund was awarded to Emma Sarachan '15 from Guilderland, N.Y. Emma plans to major in physics and to work toward a doctorate in that field. She is well-rounded and has done a lot of traveling. Classmates who have given scholarships are **Larry Balfus**, **Bob Bernot**, **Anthony Viscusi**, **Allen Hyman**, **Steve Rabin** and **Stanley Lubman**. Stanley has retired from teaching. However, he still conducts research at UC Berkeley Law and writes a column for *The Wall Street Journal* online. He travels to China, has visited Europe and lectures at the University of Venice. Free time? We're sure he can fill it.

We didn't get a chance to visit with **Harold Kushner** when the basketball team played at Harvard in February. Maybe next year. Unfortunately, the Light Blue lost by 5 points. Next year should be exciting for the "good guys." The radio announcers might even have Harold as their halftime guest.

Don Laufer heard from **Bob Sparrow**, who has gone through a series of mishaps — he and his wife are on the road to recovery,

however. Don still coordinates the monthly class dinners and from time to time brings key faculty to speak to our group. Classmates who have attended the dinners are **Alfred Gollomp**, **Bill Epstein**, **Herb Cohen**, **Aaron Hamburger**, **Roland Plottel**, **Berish Strauch**, **Elliott Gross** and **Bob Schiff**, among others.

One of the more prestigious awards out there was given to **Jim Berick** at the end of last year; he was named National Development Volunteer of the Year by the Arthritis Foundation. The award is presented annually to a volunteer who has exemplified the true spirit of fundraising and who has selflessly given time, resources and energy to further the growth of the Arthritis Foundation. Terrific!

We espied **Ezra Levin** strolling on campus recently. He was heading to a classroom where he was going to impart words of wisdom to a group of wide-eyed students. With baseball season upon us, our thoughts go to our old coach, **Rolie Rourke**, and **Walt Deptula** '56E, '65E. Walt is doing well, now that you ask. We're waiting for him to make the long trip from Placerville, Calif., to the East Coast. No word about Rollic.

We heard from **Ed Francell**, who lives in Dunwoody, Ga. Ed holds the Columbia flag on high as he continues to wear his blue beanie around town. Maybe he will bring it to our 60th. Do you think Atlantans **Ross Grumet** and **Dick Heffner** might bring theirs as well and start a trend?

Speaking of basketball, there was a chance encounter with **Dick Kuhn** at the Columbia/Princeton game a couple of months ago. (Where was **Bob Pearlman**?)

Abbe Leban — who is back on his feet after being under the weather for a while — lives in Wilmington, Del., and will attend the class soirees again later this year.

Some sad news to report: the passing of **Stu Kaback**, **Phil Bleser**, **Don McDonough** and **Alan Pasternak**. Condolences go to their family and friends.

My dear classmates.

There is no doubt that the Class of Destiny always rises to the top in everything we do.

Be all that you can be. You remember the 55th — the 60th will be even better.

Love to all, everywhere!

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By the time you read this, my wife, Elke, and I will have returned from

two weeks skiing in Steamboat Springs, Colo. (March), and two weeks playing golf in Las Cabos, Mexico (April). Steamboat is a family-oriented ski area; the town sports good restaurants in addition to wonderful art galleries. The high points for non-skiers are the hot springs, located in the mountains about five miles outside of town. Other classmates who like hitting the slopes are **John Censor**, who takes a week off from his consulting business each year to ski moguls in Aspen, and my twin, **Maurice Easton**, who goes to Aspen for at least three weeks each winter to see many of his Michigan friends. It's always nice to hear how our classmates stay active, whether at work, traveling or other activities. Please email me and let me know what activities you are engaged in.

One of our more interesting class luncheons was held in February at **Alan Press'** office; we enjoyed sandwiches from the 2nd Ave Deli and a wonderful talk by Alan on his travels to some of the more interesting and out-of-the-way places in Southeast Asia and India. This was followed by a group discussion, with questions and comments. Attendees included **Arthur Frank**, **Dan Link**, **Buz Paaswell** (whom we welcome back from London), **Mark Novick**, **Ralph Kaslick** and myself.

For April and May, we moved our monthly luncheons back to campus, at Faculty House. We have included in these luncheons, as guests, several of our class scholarship students. If you are interested in being informed as to when our class luncheons are scheduled, but are not on our email list, please get in touch with me.

One of the most interesting functions that I have as class president and as a Class Agent is meeting and spending time with our class' scholarship recipients at the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception. This year's event was held on February 2 at Alfred Lerner Hall. At the present time we have 14 scholarship students, in addition to the new permanent scholarship in the late **Alan Miller's** name, to become viable as soon as John W. Kluge '37's estate is settled. In 2007, Kluge pledged \$200 million to the College for financial aid endowment for undergraduates, payable upon his death. Classes that raise \$150,000 in donations to the Columbia College Fund have the opportunity to have that amount matched by funds from this estate.

In attendance at the reception were **Vic Levin** and his wife, Fran, who recently moved back to Manhattan; **Al Franco** '56E; myself; and Helene Ruddy '60 Barnard. Our class scholars in attendance were

Virgilio Urbina Lazard '15, Daniel Shi '15, Katherine Bergstrom '14, Ellen Vitercik '15 and James Cheong '13. It always is amazing to see the quality and variety of interests that our scholars have. If anyone would like a bio on any or all of them, please email me. I look forward to getting to know more about each of them through our planned class luncheons.

The next meaningful class event was the Columbia-Cornell basketball game on February 10. It was meaningful from two points of view. First, all Class Agents were invited to attend as guests at the Alumni Office-sponsored Burgers and Basketball pregame reception. And second, it was the last Ivy League game that Columbia won. To be fair, this year's basketball team was a lot better than the record suggests. As the saying goes, wait until next year!

Our annual Florida reunion event was held at the Boca Pointe Country Club in Boca Raton on February 29. I flew in from New Jersey the day before and stayed with **Lou Hemmerdinger** and his wife, Anita, for three days, enjoying their hospitality. **Marty Mayer** hosted a well-attended luncheon. Henry Seagull '71 GS, president of the Columbia University Club of the Palm Beaches, joined in the festivities; he described the club's many activities, which range from social events (such as attending spring training baseball games) to supporting charitable work for Florida youths.

I would like to know what other local Columbia Clubs do, so if any '56 alums are involved with their local clubs, please email me with the particulars.

Attending along with myself and my Florida trip hosts, Lou and Anita, were **Ed Botwinick**, who had completed successful back surgery and was looking well, and his wife, Vicki; **Mike Spett**, who has relocated from Jupiter, Fla., to Boca with his wife, Lisa; **Marty Mayer**, who has retired from the real estate business in New Jersey and is enjoying tennis at Boca Pointe, and his wife, Susan; **Don Roth** and his wife, Jackie;

Larry Cohn and his wife, Judie, who were visiting from California; **Stan Manne** and his wife, Fern, who relocate from Chicago to Florida every winter; and **Don Kazimir** '57E. Also there were **Murray Eskenazi**, who brought as his guest Bobby Reiss '52 (who played on Columbia's undefeated basketball team) and Otto Decker '53E and his wife, Pearl. There was much lively discussion, and many good memories were shared. Everyone agreed that they're looking forward to next year's event. And by the way, what about our 60th reunion? Only four years to go, so stay healthy and plan ahead.



Edith and Arthur Bernstein '57 (left) and Sandra and Dick Cohen '57 traveled to Italy in October. The couples are pictured in front of the Baptistery of San Giovanni in Piazza del Duomo in Florence; they also visited Rome and Venice.

Now for our class correspondence and news.

Taylor Thompson writes that his and his wife Elizabeth's redesigned house was reviewed in *Chronogram* magazine in the November 30 article "Kingston Restoration: Eighteen Rooms of Calvert Vaux." A quote: "In addition to their children's families, recently widened by a great-grandchild, the holiday gathering will include Matthew Ling, a Chinese-born graduate of SUNY New Paltz whom Elizabeth and Taylor sponsored as a foreign student. He's now married and a father, and considered part of the extended Thompson clan."

Ron Kapon probably is one of our busiest classmates. From Columbia basketball to his wine classes, magazine articles and, I suspect, a soon-to-be-developed book, Ron knows that keeping busy is a good way to stay young as we get older.

I am sorry to report the recent death of two classmates. **Donald Nunziato**, who played football for Columbia and was involved in New Jersey real estate as a developer and contractor, suffered from Alzheimer's, and **Stuart Glass**, who practiced law in New York and used his legal expertise to help in archival projects, died of a sudden stroke. Stuart was a good friend of **Vic Levin**. My condolences go out to both families.

It is important to note that Columbia relies on alumni contributions to the Columbia College Fund. So when you are

solicited by students or by our Class Agents, **Dan Link**, **Stan Soren** or **Al Franco** '56E, please respond generously. You also can give online (college.columbia.edu/giveonline); by calling the Alumni Office (212-851-7488); or by mailing a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

I am again asking all class members who want to keep in touch to update their email addresses by contacting **Lou Hemmerdinger**, our class coordinator, at lhemmer@aol.com and providing him with your email address. That being said, please keep in contact with Columbia in whatever ways you feel appropriate, as I believe that it has been a force and power in our lives.

So there it is for these notes. If you have news to share, please email me at tball8000@earthlink.net and I will make sure it gets into the next Class Notes. Wishing that we all seamlessly go from summer to fall. Give some credit to our Columbia education, and enjoy life.

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Stay tuned next issue for a recap of our 55th Alumni Reunion Weekend. In the meantime, our classmates



Martha and Phil Matthews '59, Linda and Gene Appel '59 and Kathy and Dudley Ferrari '59 (left to right) enjoyed reminiscing at their March mini-reunion at Pelican Bay beach in Naples, Fla.

continue with travels, regional get-togethers and visits with far-flung friends. We are mid-septuagenarians; nevertheless, many of us remain pleasantly and meaningfully active. Although some have succumbed to the infirmities of advancing age, there have also been instances of inspiring recovery.

First case in point is **Elroy Wolff**, who has been recovering after a severe stroke. **John Breeskin** writes, "I am eager to bring you up to date as to my dear friend Elroy's progress. His doctors have let him go on the road again, and his clients, because of their intense loyalty to him, are asking him to fly all around the country. While he was in Washington, D.C., he and I shared dinner at a fancy K Street eatery." Elroy is an attorney, as some of you may remember.

In late October, East Coast classmate met West Coast classmate as Sandra and **Dick Cohen** of San Francisco traveled with Edith and **Art Bernstein** of Setauket, Long Island, for an extraordinary 12 days in Rome, Florence and Venice. In many ways, the trip reinforced the greatness of their Columbia education. Dick writes, "As we looked upon some of the most remarkable paintings and sculpture that the world has ever seen, [we couldn't help but remember] all we learned in the fine arts course we had taken together with professor Howard Davis. Coupled with the great pizzas and the sipping of wine at outdoor cafes while watching the crowds go by, it was an unforgettable reunion. We are already laying plans for this fall." (See nearby photo.)

Paul Frommer: "While working as part of a Road Scholar project to maintain and restore the *U.S.S. Missouri* (BB 63), moored at Pearl Harbor, I visited with **Harry Siegmund** and his wife, Peggy Anne, at their home in Kailua, Oahu. Harry

is still running marathons and I am still chipping paint, as I (and others) did as NROTC midshipmen."

John Taussig writes, "On January 14, Judy and **Gene Wagner** hosted a cocktail reception at their home in Pacific Palisades, Calif. The invited guests included all of us from the Class of 1957 living in Southern California. This is the same group that meets on a regular basis for lunch in Long Beach, only this time, our spouses joined as well.

"The evening was a pure delight. Cocktails and food were in generous supply (and demand), and we all felt the interaction enhanced the bonding we have experienced over the past four years through our lunch gatherings. Beyond myself and the host, attendees included **Ken Bodenstein, Michael Gold, Bernard Lynch, Lew Schainuck, Ken Silvers, Herb Sturman** and **Gerry Werksman**.

"People were reluctant to leave because of the pleasant company and abundant food, but eventually all left, except for me and my wife, Jan. We had such a wonderful time, we stayed overnight in the Wagners' guest room and enjoyed breakfast with them. Long drive, tired — you all know the drill.

"We will of course continue our regular lunch meetings and from time to time enjoy more gatherings with our wives in different venues. In any event, thank you, Judy and Gene, for such a splendid evening at your beautiful home."

Sad news: **Walter C. Rabe** of Floral Park, N.Y., died on January 10.

Yours truly returned from a February trip to visit my older grandnephew, Noah, in London, where he is taking the semester at University College. The 55 years between us did not stand in our way as I introduced him to my frequently visited and much-loved city. Reminiscent of Professor Andrew Chiappe '33, '39 GSAS' most

memorable Shakespeare class was our visit to the rebuilt Globe Theatre in Southwark; Noah is much interested in the theatre. In the spirit of my Humanities classes (professors Vladimir Ussachevsky and Dustin Rice) we visited the British Museum (Elgin Marbles, Rosetta Stone and the Assyrian bulls), Westminster Abbey, the Museum of London, St. Bartholomew-the-Great (Norman church dating from 1123, believed to be the oldest in London), St. Paul's Cathedral, parts of the London Wall, St. Martin-in-the-Fields (famous for its musical program) and the National Gallery. Apropos of Professor Richard Webb's class on British constitutional history, we attended a session of the House of Commons. We also spent a day in Oxford, visiting three of the colleges and the Ashmolean Museum. The Oxford visit brought back happy memories of my visit there with Noah's father, my older nephew, when he was there for a semester in 1988.

On my way to London, I stopped in Columbia, S.C., to see my grand-niece play the lead role in *Beauty and the Beast*; at 13, Maddie Rae is quite an accomplished thespian.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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We have lost two more of our classmates, both doctors. **Howard Dubin** '62 P&S died on October 16, 2011, in Ann Arbor, Mich., of complications from Parkinson's disease and chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Douglas, Kathryn Dubin Flynn, David and Michael; and 10 grandchildren.

At the College, Howard was a member of the freshman fencing team and of the Pre-Med Society Executive Board. He graduated from P&S and completed two residencies, one in internal medicine at New York Presbyterian/Columbia University Medical Center and the other in dermatology at Michigan, where he then joined the Department of Dermatology and became a clinical professor. He also was in private practice in Ann Arbor. Howard was president of The Michigan Dermatological Society, the Board of Trustees at Greenhills

School and the Dermatology Foundation. After leaving the foundation's executive board, he received the organization's Distinguished Service Medallion.

Dr. **Howard Grunther**, a retired radiologist, died in New York City on January 11, 2012. Surviving him are his wife, Eileen; sons, Richard and Scott; and four grandchildren. As an undergraduate, Howard was a member of the varsity crew, the Van Am Society and ZBT. He graduated from New York Medical College, did his residency at Mount Sinai and was in private practice for the rest of his career.

Steve Jonas' latest book is *Duathlon Training and Racing for Ordinary Mortals*, a companion to his *Triathlon Training for Ordinary Mortals*; it covers the history of the sport as well as training principles. (A duathlon consists of running and biking; a triathlon adds a swimming segment.) Steve, a professor of preventive medicine at Stony Brook's School of Medicine, has participated in multi-sport racing for more than 30 years.

Another author-physician, Dr. **Bob Levine**, writes: "My new book, *Resurrecting Democracy: A Citizen's Call for a Centrist Third Party*, has been getting a lot of play. A *New York Times* editor asked me to write a letter to the paper about the need for a centrist third party to start a 'dialogue' about the idea. The editor subsequently said they were inundated with responses to my original letter and she chose a few for the dialogue." You can search for them on the *Times* website.

Dr. **Henry Solomon** has been appointed to the PreVu medical advisory board at Miraculins, a medical diagnostic company with headquarters in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Henry had been the chief medical officer, business development, of the American College of Cardiology; he continues to be senior medical adviser to the organization and chair of its Professional and Corporate Consortium. Miraculins is developing new tests under the PreVu brand name for coronary artery disease.

As the job and stock markets picked up earlier this year, **Marshall Front** appeared on PBS's *Nightly Business Report* to explain what it all meant.

Paul Gomperz sends this dispatch: "Bidding for honors as the most remote, minor-scale class reunion, **Phil Strenger** and **Paul Gomperz** recently concluded their 12th almost-annual get-together in the U.S. Virgin Islands (not a bad place to be in February).

"Phil and his wife, Sharon, sailed their 40-ft. boat from New York to the Caribbean in December 1992 and have been based on St. John

since 1998. They have visited all the islands down to Trinidad. Phil helps marine research scientists and kills invasive lionfish, which threaten the local coral reef ecology. Sharon founded and runs the community NGO on St. John.

"Paul and his wife, Jan, have been vacationing in St. Thomas regularly for about 30 years. They were joined this year by their daughter [and fellow class correspondent], Betsy Gomperz '93, and her sons.

"The get-together started with a dinner on St. Thomas, though the highlight of the reunion was an afternoon boat ride on Phil's 26-ft. powerboat to various St. John beaches during which entertainment was provided by Paul's 6- and 4-year-old grandsons and a sea turtle. The next reunion is scheduled for February 2013."

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

Finally, here's an early "save the date" for our 55th (!) Alumni Reunion Weekend, which will be held Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. So that the College can get in touch with you, please update your contact information (if necessary) online at reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate or call the Alumni Office: 212-851-7488.

We're hoping for our usual enthusiastic turnout for the Reunion Committee both to plan the weekend's events and to reach out to classmates for gifts to the Columbia College Fund in honor of reunion.

If you're interested in participating, contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member at the top of the column. No problem if you're not in the NYC area; you can participate in meetings via conference call. We're hoping to see some new faces in addition to our loyal regulars.

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First, I'd like to correct an error that appeared in our Fall 2011 Class Notes. The information about **Allan Gardner** living in Colorado was incorrect. Our classmate living in Colorado is **Alvin Goldman**, who wrote, "As one who lives in the mountains of Colorado during the winter (and summer), I'm able to get to the nearby ski slopes

whenever I feel the need for the added exercise and pleasure of the sport. Those who travel long distances to ski generally feel compelled to spend every available hour on the slopes, regardless of the conditions or their conditioning. At our age, being a fair weather skier holds the promise of being able to pursue the sport for at least another decade."

Lou Stephens reports, "I have lived in Mexico City since graduation and three years in the Navy. I first managed a chemical manufacturing firm, then, after selling that, ran a small real estate company that sells land in the Tepoztlan valley near Mexico City. As an avocation I paint — going on 45 years now. I had my first one-man show in Mexico City two years ago, and since then four more shows: at the Xochicalco World Heritage Site in Morelos state, at the Milk Gallery in New York City, at Oberlin College and, most recently, at the Northfield Mt. Hermon School in Northfield, Mass. Art and painting are my real passions (check out luisstephens.com).

"Two daughters, Phoebe and Annette, are jewelry designers and have set up their own company, Anndra Neen. They recently won first place in the Dorchester Collection Fashion Prize. This event was aired on TV on *America's Next Top Model*.

"Best to all classmates."

Marshall Front '58 appeared on PBS' *Nightly Business Report* to discuss jobs and stock markets.

Bill Pepper writes, "After 52 years and being out of the country for considerable periods of time, I believe that my catching up with class members is long overdue.

"After the College, I earned an M.A. and then went to the London School of Economics for a year on a Rotary Grant to receive an introduction to international law. During that year I also played basketball for the University of London; we won the national championship but, as everyone knows, it was a very different game in those days.

"Upon returning and entering the University of Pennsylvania Law School I became involved in leading a reform movement in my corrupt hometown, Yonkers, N.Y. Bob Kennedy asked me to be chairman of his citizens' committee in Westchester County when he ran for the Senate in 1964, and I also was commuting to the south as a civil rights activist.

"In 1965, the city of New Rochelle was, so they advised, about to burn down, and I took on the

post of executive director of the Commission on Human Rights. Using direct action, we gradually set in motion the desegregation of housing and the integration of the skill trades unions. During this period of the '60s academic work seemed irrelevant and, though I would return to degree study in the 1970s, I dropped out of law school after the first year.

"In 1966, the war became such a compelling issue that I went to Vietnam as a journalist. My photographs, notes and recordings — kept to myself when in country — culminated in articles upon my return. One, 'The Children of Viet Nam,' published by *Ramparts* magazine in its January 1967 issue, was read by Martin Luther King Jr. and he asked to meet. He openly wept when he reviewed the residual files and photographs, and this led to his April 4 speech at Riverside Church and my agreement to work with him as the executive director of the National Conference For New Politics.

"When they killed Martin, I walked away from politics and political activism. We had become quite close during that period and the degree of movement infiltration and subversion was bad enough. The assassination was the last straw.

"I went in the direction of education, forming experimental, quasi-Summerhillian schools in New York, Massachusetts and Vermont.

Harper & Row commissioned my first book, *The Self-Managed Child*, which was written in Jamaica with the assistance of Marie, who became my first wife in 1973, the year of publication. Three children followed, Tara, Sean and Liam. Tara is a psychotherapist, like her mother; Sean is a private investigator for an NYC company; and Liam is, as am I, a member of the English Bar (Barrister). They all were raised in Cambridge, England, where we moved in 1981. I had, by then, completed law school and become an attorney, and also obtained an Ed.D. My second book, *Sex Discrimination in Employment*, was published in 1978. During this period, I moved from educational consulting back to law, focusing on international work and spending time in Africa and Asia.

"Around this time, Ralph Abernathy (Martin's successor) asked me to arrange a visit for him with James Earl Ray, Martin's convicted assassin. He wanted me to interrogate Ray in front of him, since he

had doubts about the official story. After questioning, we became convinced that Ray was not the shooter though we did not know what role he might have played.

"That session started me on what became a 30-year quest for the truth and a private investigation which, 10 years after it began, led me to agree to be Ray's last lawyer. ... [In an attempt to get him the trial he never had, we held a televised] mock, unscripted criminal trial that resulted in a not guilty verdict. We also pursued an [actual] 30-day civil action during which 70 witnesses laid out for the judge and jury how and why Martin was killed; the King family, finally, had closure as the jury found no liability for Ray and liability for the government and its agents. This work resulted in two more books, *Orders To Kill* and *An Act of State*. A third and final book is in process.

"Subsequently, I have convened the Seminar in International Human Rights at the University of Oxford, been an expert for the court in Spain on these issues and became convinced by relevant family and friends to take on the Habeas claim of Sirhan Sirhan in the assassination of Bob Kennedy. As with Ray, I had to be convinced of his innocence before accepting the brief. In Ray's case it took 10 years. With Sirhan it was a matter of months. Having now, for the first time, forced a consideration of facts demonstrating actual innocence, the government's case, aided and abetted by his trial defense lawyer who was under indictment and therefore compromised, is falling apart. Please stay tuned.

"I play basketball, tennis and baseball, am heavily into herbs and vitamins, supplements, ozone therapy and organic food. My second family consists of Minha (a Ford Foundation Fellow from Vietnam, whom I'll be marrying this summer), daughter Sophia Lillian ('Lilly', 19 months) and Duke, our 13-year-old Himalayan cat. We are deciding whether to stay in the United States or return to England.

"Apologies for the long silence, but fond memories and loving thoughts to all of you and your families. For me, Columbia really was the beginning of this journey."

From **Arthur Newman**: "I live in retired bliss in Houston, a city that has everything including world-class culture (symphony, opera, theatre) and great indoor tennis facilities, which are essential in a city with unpredictable weather; I play singles tennis virtually every day. My older son, Stephen, is CEO of culturemap.com, an online magazine covering Houston and Austin. My younger son, Douglas, is a documentary producer; his first film is slated to

be broadcast on PBS early next year. He also produces fashion shoots for the industry. I have two grandsons. We spend our summers in the Berkshires a few minutes from where the Tanglewood Music Festival takes place. If any classmates plan to be the area, please let me know. [Actually, let *me* know and I'll put you in touch with Arthur. — NG] Also, if anyone knows the whereabouts of **Hugh McSurely**, let me know that as well; we served as naval officers together in the western Pacific and I'd like to see him."

Steve Trachtenberg has been selected by the Greater Washington Urban League to receive the 2012 Whitney Young Award for Public Service. Steve, who is President Emeritus and University Professor of Public Service at The George Washington University, has appeared on CNN discussing college rankings. In February, he spoke at a luncheon sponsored by The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, the American Jewish Committee and the American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; his talk was titled "Does Higher Education Have a Future?" Steve also was featured in a *Washington Post* article about the establishment of the Churchill Center at GW.

Perhaps more important, Steve has another grandchild! His daughter-in-law, Joanna, and son, Ben, welcomed a daughter whom they named Shoshana. She weighed more than 8 lbs. and was delivered by the father when the midwife was delayed by the weather in Columbia, Mo. Ben caught the baby in his hands.

From **Bernie Pucker**: "Always a pleasure reading about classmates, some of whom I even remember. In any event, a brief update on this end. Pucker Gallery is entering its 44th year in the building we own on Newbury Street in Boston, and all on this end has gone remarkably well. We have purchased a warehouse building in Somerville. Our son, Jon, who now works with us, renovated the back part for our framing operation, PSG Framing, and we are in the midst of negotiating with a first-rate restaurant in the Boston area to take the front retail space. This would be a great boon for the neighborhood and also for us. . . .

"In addition, the gallery itself continues to do well. This has been one of the best years that we have ever experienced, and it certainly is counter to the economic realities around us. We have been fortunate to come across new artists to add to the stable of artists whom we have dealt with for years, including and especially the wonderful Samuel Bak. We recently sent an exhibition of his work to the Jewish State

Museum in Vilnius, Lithuania. The exhibit will open December 29 and run for four or five months. . . .

"In addition, we have been involved with establishing the Brother Thomas Fellowship Awards through the Boston Foundation. The awards, created in the name of a Benedictine monk and world-renowned ceramic artist who died in 2007, support artists working at high levels of excellence and creativity. Eight Brother Thomas Fellows were announced in October.

"We have also come across the work of the modern master American photographer Paul Caponigro. His exhibition was paired with that of Brother Thomas in September and was one of the most successful exhibits we have ever presented.

"Finally, our contact with Columbia continues in a positive way. Our granddaughter Abigail Pucker '14 loves the College! Our grandson, Oliver, is a freshman at Brown."

Stanley Keller was one of the co-chairs of the 30th annual Federal Securities Institute, which was held February 16–17 in Miami. He also moderated a panel, "Ethical Issues/Challenges Faced by Lawyers Dealing with Disclosure Issues."

Professor **Lou Kushnick** OBE has been a lecturer for more than 40 years at The University of Manchester. He is the author of several books and founder of the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre at The University of Manchester.

Steve Trachtenberg '59 was selected by the Greater Washington Urban League to receive the 2012 Whitney Young Award for Public Service.

Finally, **George Semel** writes, "My dog was killed by a large dog in August but he survived in tissue culture. He was cloned and was born as triplets on December 28, 2011. This song is his story (youtube.com/watch?v=5DGIRfZVxho). I co-wrote the lyrics with Alexander Michael, who also sang the song; it was recorded at Del Casher Productions."

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A memorial celebration for **Bob Morgan**, organized by his sisters, Nancy and Faye, took place on February 1 in a spacious hall at the New York Society for Ethical Culture on Central Park West in Manhattan. Many friends from the various circles Bob occupied — as a Columbia scholar, educator,

artist and neighborhood activist — shared memories of this talented, cultured, exuberantly funny, delightful and generous soul. **Claudio Marzollo**, **Josh Pruzansky**, **Richard Friedlander** and **Art Delmhorst** mingled with Bob's neighbors, colleagues, students and friends from the Columbia classes that bookended ours.

Arrayed along two walls of the room were Bob's paintings, photographs, poems and notebooks full of his observations. An open mic welcomed anyone who wished to speak. The atmosphere was relaxed. No formalities. No prepared eulogies. Celebrants shed their inhibitions and the open mic drew everyone's attention. Bob taught social studies, and a group of his former students, whom he taught at a middle school in Chinatown, approached the mic en masse to describe the impact Bob had on their lives; it was the most moving and beautiful of tributes. One, who pursues a life in public service, recalled how after joining the White House staff she made two phone calls — the first to her father, the second to Bob.

What quality did he possess that made such an indelible impression? Another of the students related an incident that had the others smiling and nodding, which perhaps offers a partial answer to the question: Having observed the behavioral pattern of his classes through the

years — many of them first-generation Americans, others immigrants, recently arrived from Asia with their parents — Bob began to lecture on a culture that was not all that familiar to them. As he had come to expect, they kept their heads buried in their notebooks, silently and earnestly transcribing his every word. The first bell rang, preparatory to dismissal. He ended his lecture. As the students began to collect their belongings, ready to depart for the next class, he bellowed, "Tear up your notes. Just pull 'em out and tear 'em up." All eyes stared at him in utter astonishment. "Yes," he declared with his signature bellowing guffaw. "Tear up your notes. Nothing I said is true. I made it all up."

Then he deconstructed his lecture, pointing out his many inventions that were inconsistent, directly in conflict, implausible, improbable, impossible. "I want you to think critically and challenge everything

you hear and read," he said. "I want you to ask questions." The second bell sounded. Nothing would ever be the same. In the space that separated a raucous laugh and the intoning of a bell, a classroom of students had been transformed.

We have two New Year's greetings to the class. They may seem belated, but these are greetings of the Year of the Dragon, and so are appropriate at any time. (Of course, there's also the CCT publishing schedule, which doesn't allow for us to deliver greetings to you sooner.)

The first comes from **Paul Nagan**, who finds special significance in the Year of the Dragon. He writes, "The dragon is the one creature of the Asian zodiac to be found in neither farm nor zoo, or, for that matter, on this earth. It has always appealed to me because it suggests the power of the creative imagination. We think the dragon into existence."

Parenthetically, might I add that I, too, always have found the dragon appealing; I was born under its sign, as were the other members of our class who were born in 1940.

Paul continues, "In May, thanks to the kindness of **Paul Chevalier** and his wife, Florence, I spent a productive and enjoyable week in their extraordinary home in Sedona, Ariz., enjoying a beautiful part of the country I'd never visited, far from the coast and the sea. The geographical features of the high desert were a towering sculptural surprise, like alien giants in red rock." Paul painted several watercolors during that visit including a magnificent landscape of the sculpted soaring red rock, background to a gliding hawk, simply titled *A Hawk: Sedona*.

The second greeting comes from **Syd Goldsmith**, at home in Taipei. He wishes all health, happiness and success in 2012, and flourishing creativity in this Year of the Dragon. Syd notes, "In this part of the world, Dragon Years bring more babies than any other year in the Chinese cycle." He reports that his son, Harrison (18), prepares to graduate Taipei American School. Daughter Jessica (13) is devoted to music, art and helping friends with English. She plays bass guitar in a band as well as classical guitar and piano. His wife, Ann, translates in China and Bali for self-growth workshops. Syd attended the San Francisco Writers Conference, is involved with another flautist in a recording project that will survey the literature of flute duets from 1700 to the present, and — as this Class Note was filed — his second novel, *Two Musicians and the Wife Who Isn't*, was on its way to the publisher. Syd and his family look forward to spending their 13th summer in Chautauqua, N.Y.

Jim Scala is a retired nutritional

biochemist. He has authored numerous papers and several books on nutrition. He supervised nutrition programs for the 1986 *Voyager* flight and three Mount Everest expeditions, was sports medicine council nutritionist for the U.S. Olympic ski team for two Olympics and worked on the *Apollo* program. Jim entered the College as a transfer student after serving in the Air Force. He earned a doctorate from Cornell, where he was a U.S. Public Health Service fellow, and did post-doctoral studies at Harvard and Indiana. In 1998 he received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Hofstra.

Jim has a passion for astronomy that began when he was just 6. He was president of the Mount Diablo Astronomical Society in the Bay Area and is a director emeritus of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. In 1957, after his first year in college, Jim and Nancy were married. They have four children and six grandchildren.

In contemplating the number of sunrises he has experienced thus far in life, Jim wrote the following on the occasion of his 28,154th; he also hopes his grandchildren will read it one day, and be inspired: "In my mind's eye I soar like an eagle above this beautiful world. All those glorious sunrises have shown me that what counts is simple: Hold fast to the spirit of youth, let years come to what they may, nurture your youthful dreams and never let them go. As a young lad I was fortunate to face troubling times. As evening lowered, but before dark took over, I'd read about what others had done. Then, in the dark, I'd dream. In my mind, I became those men. I marveled at the things I could do. No matter what, I held fast to those dreams. They morphed into my goals. I read about and then dreamed of being a Flying Tiger in the war. Later, I became a fighter pilot, and soared among the clouds. I shared the joy of those tigers, became their brother and was euphoric.

"I got the Korean GI Bill, and college seemed right. I went to Columbia College, where professors were supportive and encouraging; they said to strive and follow your star. I was in the Class of 1960 and focused on chemistry. Those professors encouraged me and helped me win a fellowship to Cornell University. They said to work hard and you'll succeed. As a boy, I had read about Louis Pasteur; how he told the world something new and good and how it helped people. I studied hard at Cornell and became a scientist. Though my discoveries pale against Pasteur's, I did increase the wealth of human knowledge. I knew the sweet joy of

telling something new. In the quiet as a boy, I'd read about adventurers. How they went where men hadn't gone before. I learned, as I got older, that to join them I had to escape my box. I saw that most men let themselves be defined by others or by their work, and are put in a box that can be very comfortable. I got out of my box and went on my own. Scary at first, but the fear subsided and I was free. I worked on three Mount Everest climbs, with astronauts, the *Voyager* crew, our great skiers for two Olympic Games. And, for my part in their EPCOT adventure, the Walt Disney folks gave me a gold Mickey Mouse watch I proudly wear. I stood with the *Voyager* pilots and met President Reagan.

"But all that paled when a Crohn's disease patient said, 'Your book changed my life. Thank you.' In that instant I understood that it's all about helping others. Ed Hixson, Mount Everest climber, great surgeon and a simple guy, put it all clearly when he said, 'Jim, it's not about reaching the top, it's about how we make our climb.' Ed's words echo in my mind as I soar above this beautiful planet and await another glorious sunrise. I shout to young people, 'Dream big. You can achieve those dreams like others who have gone before. And never, ever take your eyes off that horizon. Hold your head high, enjoy your climb, and make it good.' Later, as your sunrises accumulate, come with me. Be my wingman, and we'll look down together on this beautiful planet. I promise, you'll love it."

Three sad notes. We mourn the losses of **Louis Gladstone**, **George E.B. Morren Jr.** '74 GSAS and **Barry Augenbraun**.

Louis died on February 13, 2009. He was a social services worker. Somehow his death escaped our notice and his name did not appear in our 50th reunion necrology.

George died on September 29, 2011. He was an anthropologist and a professor, and he was mayor of Rocky Hill, N.J. After service in the Navy, George returned to Morningside Heights and earned a doctorate in 1974. In the field of anthropology he pioneered the use of remote-sensing satellite technology to investigate human and environmental changes in the South Pacific. He conducted research on the Miyanmin tribe in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. As a member of the Rutgers faculty he developed a program and chaired the Department of Human Ecology. He is survived by his wife, Janet, and son, Karl.

Barry died on September 20, 2011. He earned a master's in European history from Cambridge



John Drake '61 (left) and Michael Hausig '61 went skiing at Copper Mountain, Colo., in December.

PHOTO: JB HAUSIG

and a law degree from Harvard. He practiced corporate and business law in New York, then moved in 1994 to Florida, where he was general counsel of the Home Shopping Network. In 1996, Barry became v.p. for risk management at Raymond James, retiring several years ago. He was a prolific writer of letters to the editors of several newspapers. His hometown paper, the *St. Petersburg Times* (now *Tampa Bay Times*), estimated that it had published nearly 100 of Barry's letters on subjects ranging from the economy to the Middle East. His letters also appeared in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. **Eldon Clingan**, Barry's debate-team partner at the College and a lifelong friend, remarked of Barry in a remembrance published in the *St. Petersburg Times*: "You are talking about a man who had substantial intellectual power."

Despite their differences in political philosophies, he said, "We could raise our voices at each other, but we never had a discussion that ended with one or the other of us putting down the phone in anger."

Barry is survived by his wife, Janet, a son, a daughter and one grandchild. Janet writes "Barry cherished his association with Columbia University and always credited the Core Curriculum for forming and inspiring his intellectual life. And he remembered everything he learned."

The class sends its condolences to the families and friends of Louis, George and Barry.

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Readers of *Los Angeles* magazine might have seen that **Art Wisot**, a reproductive endocrinologist,

has been named to the 2012 list of Southern California Super Doctors. In selecting Super Doctors, thousands of ballots are sent to doctors asking them to nominate colleagues they know to be exceptional in their fields. Physicians are asked to consider the following question: "If you needed medical care in one of the following specialties, which doctor would you choose?" Candidates are then evaluated on 10 indicators of peer recognition and professional achievement.

In addition to practicing full-time, Art frequently comments on reproductive issues for the media. He and wife, Phyllis, enjoy spending time with their grandchildren, America (4) and Benjamin (2) — hopefully Columbia Classes of '28 and '30. The Wisots were looking forward to their son Andrew's spring wedding.

Tom Lippman reports that his new book, *Saudi Arabia on the Edge*, was published in December. In it, he explains the strategic, economic and social issues that confront the kingdom as well as the reasons that they matter. He also evaluates the trends, conflicts and pressures that have shaped the rapid evolution of Saudi Arabia and looks ahead to where the kingdom will be several decades from now. Tom is associated with the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C.

Stuart Sloame '64L attended the funeral service and interment of **Joel Karp** '64L, who died in January from metastatic pancreatic cancer. Joel was our class v.p., a ZBT brother and chancellor of the Anglo-American Society. He was an international tax and estate planning expert in Washington, D.C.

Although Stuart and Joel were not close, Stuart had much contact with him during the seven years they spent together in classrooms and at various reunions. Joel's

widow, sister and son David '99 were grateful for Stuart's presence, as well as for the many emails they received from Columbia classmates during Joel's illness. They were read to Joel before he passed away, and gave him pleasure at being remembered.

Stuart, who was the only member there from our class or their Law School class, said he found the service both sad and uplifting. Sad, naturally, because of the premature loss of a good man, one who was dignified and scholarly, devoted to his profession and family; his sudden illness and death provide a vivid reminder of our own mortality. Uplifting, because as he listened to friends and family members describe Joel's interests — which ranged from the law to politics and government — and discuss the loving, caring relationships he had with them, he realized that the way Joel lived his life could be considered a testament to the enduring value of a Columbia education (both in the liberal arts and the law). He was glad he attended.

Richard Zamoff, who is an associate professorial lecturer in sociology at The George Washington University, wrote that the university's Jackie and Rachel Robinson Society celebrated the 65th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic breakthrough with a brunch on April 15. The event took place at Darlington House in Washington, D.C. Richard said that anyone interested in learning more about the school's Jackie Robinson Project can contact him at 202-994-8125.

Tom Bratter writes that 27 years ago, while he was disrupting a professional meeting that offended many, one frustrated and skeptical colleague challenged him: "If you think you know better than we do, start your own damn program."

Tom took those words to heart and founded the John Dewey Academy in Great Barrington, Mass. The academy provides intensive instruction and treatment for high-potential students who have a history of self-defeating or self-destructive choices, and thus have not been succeeding in school or life. Most students enter being at least one grade level below their chronological age and, at best, having compiled mediocre academic records. These same students go on to attend quality colleges; in recent years, these have included both the College and GS.

The faculty's credentials are awesome. One is a Rhodes Scholar. Another won a Fulbright and became a professor in this program. Another is a former ambassador to the United Nations. Most have doctorates.

Tom also writes that in December he experienced a near-death

situation when he had a heart pump installed. Fortunately, he has made a good recovery.

Dr. **Ted Stanley** has had some interesting developments in his life. He became a serial entrepreneur (11 going on 12 new companies in the last decade). Ted also is a seed venture capitalist helping develop new life science technologies in Utah into new products — proffered by new companies — through Upstart Ventures. He is an anesthesiology professor at the University of Utah and last year was honored at graduation by receiving (along with a colleague) the school's Distinguished Innovation and Impact Award for 2011.

Art Wisot '61 has been named to the 2012 list of Southern California Super Doctors.

Bob Pollack has been the director of Columbia's University Seminars since last year. The University Seminars movement has flourished for more than 60 years, growing from the original five seminars in 1945 to approximately 80 today. Each seminar acts as an autonomous and voluntary grouping of scholars and practitioners, brought together under the auspices of Columbia by their dedication to a particular line of investigation. The movement is not only interdisciplinary but also inter-institutional and involves members of the community who might not otherwise participate in University activity.

Bob also wrote that as the 11th dean of the College, he thanks Judge **Jose Cabranes** for his years of service as a University trustee.

Richard Neel's daughter, Victoria, had an exhibition of her work at the Jason McCoy Gallery (41 E. 57th St. in Manhattan) through February 24. More information on her work can be found at jasonmccoyinc.com.

In case you missed **Nat Reichek's** January letter to the editor in *The New York Times*, which responded to Ezekiel J. Emanuel's online commentary piece "What We Give Up for Health Care," I've included it below:

"To the Editor:

"Ezekiel J. Emanuel cites many adverse economic effects of American health care but exhibits a blind spot for a potentially catastrophic hazard of reform. Health care is enormously labor-intensive. A reform that reduces health care's percentage of gross domestic product to Germany's 10.5 percent or Britain's 8.7 percent inevitably reduces employment by as much or more.

"Many hundreds of thousands of hospital nurses, technologists, ad-

ministrators, secretaries and doctors become unemployed or must find new positions. One does not simply free 6.5 to 8.3 percent of G.D.P. for other purposes; it disappears.

"Moreover, those losing jobs cannot simply be reprogrammed instantly to support education or some other virtuous purpose; their skills are obsolete.

"Thus, the demand for government programs to support the unemployed and prematurely retired will increase enormously. If advocates for health care reform continue to ignore this issue, any success they have will only undermine our economy in the future."

Nat is a professor of medicine

and biomedical engineering at Stony Brook University.

My wife, JB, and I returned in March from our annual ski trip to Copper Mountain, Colo. In December, we had visited with **John Drake** and his wife, Linda, at their magnificent home in Silverthorne, Colo. (See nearby photo.) We skied with John and also, in February, with **Alex Liebowitz** and his son, David '99.

Finally, some sad news: **Donald G. Roesch**, a retired attorney, of Woodside, Calif., passed away on September 19, 2010.

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Just days after the deadline for the last issue, **Jeff Milstein** sent these telling reflections on 2011: "This year seems to have just flown by! As I have another birthday on Christmas Eve (my 72nd), my thoughts turn to how many I might have left. I am in fairly good health, but since we never know what might happen, I keep thinking 'Carpe Diem' — seize the day!"

"But seize the day to do what?

My thinking has been evolving on this question. I really am retired from my past career ambitions but I still try in some ways to influence the wider world. This past year *The New York Times* published three of my letters. I wrote my congressmen and officials in the executive branch and received some positive feedback. But I am well aware of how limited my influence is.

"My thinking now is 'enjoy the moment!' So I try to enjoy the beauty and wonder of the world. I am taking more time to feel the

warmth of the sun; play with a grandchild; listen to the laughter of a baby; touch a loved one; taste a favorite food; listen to a beautiful melody or the caw of a crow; take a walk; have a good conversation; learn something new; enjoy clearing out old stuff; and delight in the company of sons, daughters and grandchildren, the comfort of my bed and a good night's sleep. In short, the gift of life!

"May your holidays and New Year be filled with wonderful moments, good health, love, peace, good fortune and life! I'd love to hear from you!"

You can write him at jeffrey_milstein@msn.com.

More than a year ago, Nancy and **John Garman** (new email: john@garman.net) moved from Anderson, S.C., to Durham, N.C., into a home built for them by their son Jim, owner of Garman Homes. John and Nancy enjoy the educational, cultural and sporting attractions of the Research Triangle region of North Carolina. "Life could not be better," John writes. "We have kept our houseboat on Lake Hartwell in South Carolina and use it as a 'freshwater condo' for swimming, water skiing and boating. ... I am in occasional contact with **Dick McKenna** (richard.mckenna2@gmail.com) and **Joe Leska**. Dick lives in eastern Pennsylvania; Joe, near Binghamton, N.Y. Both are doing fine."

John is a trustee for the North Carolina Humanities Council, a legislative contact for AARP North Carolina and a member contact for the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce.

Once again, I must report the sad news of the death of a classmate.

John E. Zucker, 70, a Maryland allergist, died from a heart attack on December 27 at his winter home in La Quinta, Calif. For years John provided pollen updates to D.C. media outlets. He determined the concentration of allergens by collecting pollen on a microscope slide that was placed on the roof of one of his three allergy offices in Prince George's County. He was a past president of the D.C. chapter of the International Wine and Food Society. John is survived by his children, Jeremy Zucker and Amanda Bowker, both of Washington; four grandchildren; and his wife, Kitty Kelley, a biographer of celebrities including Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Frank Sinatra, Nancy Reagan and Oprah Winfrey.

Rich Curtis sent a note to say that **Pete Russell's** name is on panel 24W, line 090 of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Pete was killed in action flying an OV-10 — a turboprop light attack and observation aircraft — on May 23, 1969.

The University of Tennessee Press recently published the autobiography of **Larry Wittner** (lwittner@albany.edu), professor of history emeritus at SUNY / Albany. For more than 40 years, Larry has pursued a career of historical scholarship, university teaching and international agitation against war and social injustice. He's been tear-gassed, threatened by police with drawn guns, charged by soldiers with fixed bayonets, spied upon by the U.S. government, arrested and fired from his job for political reasons.

His book, *Working for Peace and Justice: Memoirs of an Activist Intellectual*, traces his extraordinary experiences from a Brooklyn boyhood through his education at Columbia and Wisconsin to the front lines of anti-war activism, the fight for racial equality and struggles of the labor movement. He sketches colorful vignettes of fighting racism in Louisiana and Mississippi in the early 1960s, collaborating with peace-oriented intellectuals in Gorbachev's Soviet Union and leading thousands of antinuclear demonstrators through the streets of Hiroshima. One chapter, in Larry's words, "shows how deeply marked my subsequent activities were by my Columbia education — especially the Contemporary Civilization and Humanities courses, which convinced me that ideas played a key role in changing the world."

Gary Dorrien, the Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and a professor of religion at Columbia, calls Larry's book "a jewel ... wonderfully lucid, evocative, honest, unpretentious, precise and interesting."

When this reaches you, our 50th reunion will have passed. Would those of you who attended please write something about how you felt on your return to campus a half-century after graduating? And would those who did not attend, please write why they chose not to? Let's keep this column lively.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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I hope that you all have marked your calendars for Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013, our 50th Alumni Reunion Weekend. The

Reunion Committee is planning a memorable time, and we hope to see each and every one of you. If you want to join the committee or have suggestions for our program, please contact me or the appropriate Alumni Office staff member at the top of the column.

I'm sad to share news of the deaths of several classmates. Ilze Marovskis writes, "I am the widow of **John Marovskis**. John passed on November 3, 2011. Cause of death: complications from cancer. A 'coda' was published in Volume 14, Number 6 of *The Audiophile Voice*."

Al Baumgarten reports that **Charles (Chuck) Kleinhaus** died in Jerusalem on March 9. He writes, "Chuck was my classmate not only at Columbia but also at Ramaz, from third grade to the end of high school. We also were neighbors in Jerusalem for more than 20 years."

In addition, I've been informed that **James F. Brogan Jr.** died in Charlestown, a neighborhood of Boston, on December 26.

If you would like to share your memories of our classmates, please send them to me.

David Alpern reports that the hunt continues for new foundation grants and tax-deductible corporate underwriting to keep his *For Your Ears Only* weekend radio and Internet program alive. During the winter, the show won a place in the database of Grantmakers in Film+Electronic Media, and launched a YouTube channel for its audio interviews: youtube.com/user/foryouarearsonlyonair#p/u.

Bruce (Jeff) Wechsler writes, "I sold the major part of my Chicago real estate portfolio in 2009. I am now semi-retired and office-ing with an affiliated company doing real estate consulting and investing. In another vein, my son Jeremy opened his new theater, called Theater Wit, with three 99-seat theaters. The building was remodeled and houses not only his own productions but also those of other local theater companies. My other son, David, is Theater Wit's business manager — a real family project."

Your former class correspondent, **Sid Kadish**, passed on a fascinating letter from **Sy Moskowitz**, who now is a law professor at Valparaiso University. Sy, with family and friends, completed the "Kili Trek," the hike and ascent of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. His letter describes the exhausting six-day, five-night trek. I will post it, with Sy's permission, on our website, cc63ers.com.

Sy, thanks for showing us all that at 70 not even the highest mountain in Africa can stop you.

Michael Hassan wrote with further details about his move to Mexico. Here are a few excerpts;

the rest is (you guessed it) on our website. "After eight years of traveling I'm living in Cabo San Lucas, where I landed in 2009. I loved and still love traveling but those long trips were getting harder and harder on my body, and I began missing my family and friends more and more. Additionally, traveling a lot means you compromise your diet and exercise regimen as well as relationships, so it was time to reorganize my priorities.

"I got here from Los Angeles by sailboat after a one-month leisurely but maiden voyage on the *SSV Calypso*, a 45-ft. beautiful ketch owned and operated by my best friend and her husband. ... Soon after landing I decided to develop beach home properties on the Pacific coast of Mexico. It's a magical area with high mountains and ocean beaches, so I bought several pieces of land and have recently finished building the first beach home. It's for sale, so all comers / tire kickers / the curious are welcome. Check out photos at cerritosbeachhomes.com.

"Life as a retiree is wonderful but requires almost the same amount of changes as growing up — just of a different variety, direction and tone. Speaking of tone, I've lost mine but I'm at the gym now and intend to get it back."

Art Eisenson writes, "As I recall, my last update was that the TV writers' class action age discrimination suits settled. About 14 months ago we distributed \$41 million to writers whose careers were lost or damaged. The settlement also created the Fund for the Future, the mission statement of which can be found at tvwritersfundforthefuture.com/mission.html. In December, I was elected president of the Board of Governors of the Fund for the Future."

From **Jonah Raskin** we hear: "[I was] co-captain of the 1962 Old Blue Rugby Club, retired as of January after 30 years of teaching at Sonoma State University and have written 14 books including, most recently, *Marijuanaland: Dispatches from an American War* and *Rock 'n' Roll Women: Portraits of a Generation*."

Mel Gurtov writes, "Although I officially retired from university teaching in 2010, I continue to be quite involved in academic work. I'll give three examples: I remain editor-in-chief of *Asian Perspective*, an international quarterly; I am organizing an international conference on 'Engaging Enemies'; and I am finishing a book, *Will This Be China's Century?*"

Elliott Greher reports, "Recently my family attended the wedding of my first grandchild, Isaac Hersh. He does not have parents so I walked him down the aisle. What a thrill."

Alexis Levitin reports, "I teach

English (and Greek tragedy) full-time at SUNY Plattsburgh and am translating from the Portuguese and now the Spanish. Recent books include *Tapestry of the Sun: An Anthology of Ecuadorian Poetry* and *Brazil: A Traveler's Literary Companion*. In the fall, I will go on a three-month reading tour with prize-winning Brazilian poet Salgado Maranhao, presenting bilingually from one of his collections, *Blood of the Sun*. We will read at Dartmouth, Yale, Middlebury, Williams, Iowa, Indiana, the University of Southern Illinois and many other venues. Any Columbians interested in inviting us to read at their institution, please get in touch with me at levitia@plattsburgh.edu.

"After that tour, I plan to take it easy for a month in the Galapagos, then go to Paris for a few weeks, followed by Burkina-Faso, where I will work on a translation of the first anthology of poetry compiled in that small African country. Meanwhile, I continue to work with younger poets from Ecuador, such as Ana Minga and Santiago Vizcaino.

"My son Michael (35) is an editor of the Occupied Wall Street Journal (online) and Occupied.com. My daughter Christine (25) is beginning to work behind the scenes with a film crew in New York."

Michael Bumagin sends greetings from Fort Worth: "Here in Texas we're finally getting a little rain (the water table remains low, however). The grass is green and the daffodils are in bloom. **Bruce Miller**, **Arnie Barkman**, **Bob Whelan** and I still hold periodic meetings of the CC '63 local FW/D bagel club, but it's been a while since we noshed together. I'm hoping to induce them, along with **Harry Lesch** (who's in Eureka, Calif., raising his two fine sons), to join me for the 50th.

"I'm working on the second edition of *Exploring Fort Worth with Children. Legends of the Vampire* (both volumes are still available) remains popular with fans who demand better writing than is seen in the *Twilight* books. I'm happy to send

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autographed copies to anyone who is interested (email drmiike9151@sbcglobal.net for details).

“Enough advertising. See y’all on campus in ’13.”

Bill Burley sent a picture of himself on a cycling trip in Italy’s Dolomites last May in celebration of his 70th birthday (see cc63ers.com). He writes, “I’m training (yep, I have a coach) for five time trial races to be held this summer cycling up New England’s mountains. By the end of June I will have accumulated 8,000–9,000 miles for 2011–12. I’ll be wearing Columbia University cycling gear for at least one event. I’m competing against others in my age group, so the young Tour de France hopefuls have nothing to worry about from me.

“My bride, Suzanne, and I have been married for 43 years and live in Chatham on Cape Cod. For the past 10 years, we have traveled to NYC in January, where I pipe in the haggis at the Penn Club to celebrate the birthday of the poet Robert Burns. I also pipe for weddings and funerals.”

Dr. **Ira Malter** writes, “Retired from practice in Suffolk County in 2008. Spend winters in Scottsdale, Ariz., and summers in Dorset, Vt. Have partial season tickets to Boston Red Sox and Arizona Diamondbacks. Looking forward to 2013.”

Peter Belfiore writes, “I married Betty, a Barnard girl, in 1966, and we are still having a wonderful time. Lucky for me I was in The West End that fateful night, sucking on a Marlboro and sipping Scotch, though we only looked at each other and did not speak until the next day on the Barnard lawn.

“I have been writing all these years — poetry, fiction, plays, librettos, filmscripts — most of it, alas, not published. But I’ve never made a great effort to publish, I just wanted to write and write and write. Betty, who became a classical scholar, has been the much-published one. Her latest book is *Socrates’ Daimonic Art: Love for Wisdom in Four Platonic Dialogues*.

“All my jobs have been for the purpose of finding time to write, but I’m glad I had them. I’ve taught college English, been an editor and retired a number of years ago as a social worker licensed in Minnesota, where we moved in 1980 due to Betty’s job at the University of Minnesota. We are both retired now, but still have many writing projects going.

“Our son and his wife live in Woodstock, N.Y., with our granddaughters (3 and 7). I like being a grandpa, but you do realize you’re getting old when, as your younger granddaughter prepares to take a running jump down a hill, into the air, expecting you to catch her, your

middle-aged son strolls by and says, ‘Look out, now, you might break Grandpa.’

“I remember Columbia fondly as the place where, for the first time in my life, intelligent, often distinguished people took us seriously as thinking beings engaged with them in a common quest.

“One story about that. Freshman year, in Donald Frame’s Humanities A1 course, I went up to him at the end of the class and said something like, ‘You know, I sometimes think that there’s no such thing as truth, only beauty.’ And he leaned back, took a drag on a cigarette and said, with total sincerity and kindness, ‘You know, I sometimes think so myself.’”

Mike Bowler sent a great, long note, some of which I’ve included here (the rest is on our website). “I don’t know if I’ll make the 50th reunion next year but will try. If we do get to New York, it will also be our 50th wedding anniversary. Margaret French ’64 Barnard and I were married in the Columbia chapel on June 1, 1963, a Saturday that year, as it will be next year. To get things off on the right foot I took her to a Mets doubleheader the next day. Odd, the things you remember. My last meal as a single was breakfast at Prexy’s en route to the chapel. I remember almost nothing about the earlier commencement, including the speaker.

“Margaret will retire this summer after a distinguished career as a community college professor and administrator. I haven’t been full-time since 2007 but keep busy as a writer, consultant and member of the Board of Education of Baltimore County (Md.). Our grandson, Michael, got a first name from me but lots of smarts from his parents and grandma. I’ll miss him when he goes off to middle school this fall from the local elementary, where I read to kindergartners every Thursday. How could 49 years have gone by?”

Our regular Second Thursday lunches are a great place to reconnect. If you’re in NYC, the next two are scheduled for June 14 and July 12. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, make plans to attend our 50th reunion (reunion.college.columbia.edu)! And, as always, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

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When we have our informal class lunch on the second Thursday of the month at the Columbia University Club in Manhattan, sitting

a few tables away are members of the Class of ’63, which holds its monthly lunch at the same time. In March, we overheard as ’63 started to plan for its 50th Alumni Reunion Weekend in May 2013, and it made me think that ’64 is not far behind — Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014. It’s not too soon to start the conversation about how we should celebrate. Please send along your thoughts. At past reunions all of the speakers were ’64 classmates. I think we should continue that tradition. What do you think?

Nick Rudd will be awarded the Alumni Medal at Commencement this year. Nick has been instrumental in organizing our reunions and is the driving force behind renewed alumni interest in the Glee Club. Well done, Nick! **Steve Case**, who retired as a University trustee last year after 14 years in the role, received the award in 2009.

Steve Rosenfeld writes, “Your observation in the Spring issue of *Columbia College Today* that ‘retirement is in the air’ reminded me that I may never have written to you about my so-called retirement, now in its fourth year!

“I retired as a litigation partner of Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison in New York City at the end of 2008, after which I began a whole new life professionally. While continuing to chair the New York City Conflicts of Interest Board (the agency that administers the ethics law applicable to all 300,000 NYC employees) and the Board of Visitors of the CUNY Law School, I embarked on a second career as a Legal Aid lawyer.

“I had been a president of the Legal Aid Society, and when I stepped down in 1991, I made a vague promise to return once I retired (which I then thought would be 20 years from never). But 20 years passed rapidly, and so I kept the promise and now spend two days each week representing children in abuse and neglect cases in New York County (Manhattan) Family Court for Legal Aid’s Juvenile Rights Practice. With those three occupations running simultaneously, I am busier than ever — and loving every minute of it.

“Still, my wife, Joan, and I find time to enjoy our lives as West Villagers, spend time with our five grandchildren and travel — we’re doing the Alumni Travel Study Program’s ‘Wild Alaska Journey’ in June and are going to Rome and Sicily in the fall to celebrate our fifth anniversary.”

Martin Krieger is the author of *Urban Tomographies*, which explores the Los Angeles infrastructure through tomography, an imaging process whose origins are X-rays.

Finally, I am saddened to report

the death of **Howard Kissel**, longtime theater critic at the *New York Daily News*, in late February. He was 69.

Howard had been chairman of both the New York Film Critics Circle and the New York Drama Critics’ Circle, but as *The New York Times* obituary noted, “He never overestimated the power of theater criticism.” At a 2005 panel discussion of critics, he noted, “Many shows have become big hits without us. I think that’s just fine. Our job is not to make hits. Our job is to make judgments.”

In addition to his numerous newspaper reviews, Howard was the author of *David Merrick: The Abominable Showman*, a biography of the famous Broadway producer, and he appeared in Woody Allen’s film *Stardust Memories* in the role of the manager for a filmmaker played by Allen.

Ben Brantley, the theater critic for the *Times*, wrote a wonderful tribute to Howard that you can find by searching the newspaper’s ArtsBeat blog (headline: “Theater Talkback: Howard Kissel, A Man Who Relished Culture”). A similarly wonderful appreciation appeared in *The Hollywood Reporter*. Links to both can be found in the online version of these Class Notes.

In his final blog for The Huffington Post, a few days before his death, Howard wrote: “I wish I were one of those people who, as the years go by, continue looking forward. Alas, I’m not. I thank you for your indulgence.”

Requiescat in pacem.

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Doug Barnert reported some happy news: “In July I got a double knee replacement to finally deal with those football legs. After six weeks, walked out of the rehab center with no canes or anything. Six months later and walking a mile. Everest is next.”

Go, Doug! You can email him at doug@barnert.com.

On the subject of repairing our aging bodies, I ran into **Paul Hyman** on March 15 at a Bach concert at Alice Tully Hall in New York. Paul looked great, but astonished me by revealing that he had recently undergone seven hours of open heart surgery to repair a defective heart valve. Paul was clearly enjoying the beautiful music and the rest of life.

Jeffrey Bell, about whom I wrote in a recent issue, was quoted in a piece by John Heilemann, published February 25 in *New York Magazine*. Heilemann’s article was

about the Republican primary season and its surprising twists and turns. In discussing what he calls “the seismic changes within the Republican party,” Heilemann quotes Jeff as follows, “‘Compared to 2008, all the candidates are way to the right of John McCain. ... The fact that Romney is running with basically the same views as them but is seen as too moderate tells you that the base has moved rightward and doesn’t simply want a conservative candidate. It wants a very conservative one.’”

Bob Caserio has a new book out. “My latest edited volume from Cambridge University Press, *The Cambridge History of the English Novel*, has recently appeared. I co-edited the book with Clement Hawes of the University of Michigan. It represents the work of 54 contributors, each of whom is a leading scholar in the study of the history of fiction.

“I’m at work on another volume for Cambridge, *The Cambridge Introduction to British Fiction, 1900–1950*. This time I’ll do the writing for all of the book. But I continue editorial work as an editor of the *Journal of Modern Literature*, published quarterly by the University of Indiana Press.

“Last semester I was a resident fellow at Penn State’s Institute for the Arts and Humanities. I am on sabbatical this semester, and am relocating to Rome for three months.” Although you’ll have missed your chance to visit Bob in Rome by the time you read this, if you’d like to communicate with him, his email address is rlc25@psu.edu.

Congratulations to **Steven Millhauser**, whose book of short stories, *We Others: New and Selected Stories*, won the prestigious Story Prize on March 21. He was in fast company; the runners-up were admired collections by Don DeLillo and Edith Pearlman. Stephen took home a check for \$20,000 and an engraved silver bowl. If you have not read any of his stories, I urge you to get started. You will be well rewarded.

Steve Steinig sent some interesting news: “Embarked on a 10-day trip to Israel with my wife, Renee ’67 Barnard, our two daughters and their families — 10 of us in all. It was our seventh trip to Israel, but the first for half the other adults and for the four children, ages 5–13. The occasion was the bar mitzvah of our grandson; while the sightseeing had something of a ‘been there, done that’ quality for Renee and me, the overall emotions of the trip were the most intense imaginable. And watching the three younger children turn the 2,000-year-old Roman remains of Caesarea into a playground for running, jumping and hiding was, as they say, priceless.

“Closer to home, those of you

who have never volunteered to interview high school seniors on behalf of the Admissions Office are missing out on something. I’ve been interviewing for the last five years, and the young people who are interested in Columbia are remarkable, invariably with resumes and achievements far greater than mine were at that stage of life. This year, the Admissions Office sponsored a special one-day event of interviewing (in addition to interviews I had been conducting through the fall), with about 10 interviewers and 70 interviewees in one location. Having seven interviews back-to-back is a challenge — by the end of the day you can be uncertain who told you what — but that is offset by the fact that you get a much sharper sense of who the best candidates are and how they stack up against one another. It is clear to me that the quality of the future student body will continue to assure the greatness of Columbia.” You can reach Steve at sns24@columbia.edu. [Editor’s note: For more information on the Alumni Representative Committee, visit studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/alumni/volunteers.php.]

Anthony Starace ’66 organized a three-week physics workshop, “Attosecond Science — Exploring and Controlling Matter on Its Natural Time Scale.”

I had lunch with **Bob Yunich** recently. I asked him to share some news, and I got a handful:

“Since our safari to Tanzania in July 2008, my wife, Joanne, and I have been fortunate to be able to continue our adventure travel. The Galapagos archipelago, located approximately 600 miles west of the coast of Ecuador, comprises 50 islands of volcanic origin spread out over an area covering more than 1,700 square miles. Most people associate Charles Darwin with the Galapagos due to his research leading to his monumental work, *On the Origin of the Species*, published in 1859. In fact, Darwin visited the Galapagos only once for five weeks in 1835, spending only 19 days ashore on five islands.

“Our 16-day trip in late September and early October 2009 started with the exploration of eight islands of the Galapagos aboard the *National Geographic Endeavour*. Fauna and flora varies from island to island, with most species indigenous to one and sometimes two islands. Two of the more unusual birds of the more than 100 species we spotted were blue-footed boobies and courting red-throated frigates. We also saw an abundance of Darwin finches, lava

rocks piled with layers of motionless marine iguanas, and acrobatic sea lions and sally lightfoot crabs inhabiting the beaches. Several trips in a glass-bottom boat let us view countless varieties of colorful, tropical fish, the Galapagos penguin, giant turtles and other mammals. Grasslands provided cover for land iguanas (they don’t go near the water) and vegetation and nesting palaces for giant tortoises.

“Upon disembarking at the Baltra Island, we flew to Guayaquil, then to Lima, and onto Cusco, the gateway to Machu Picchu and its surrounds. Cusco is a fascinating city at 11,000 ft. above sea level. It was built during the 12th century by the Incas as the heart of their empire until its discovery by Francisco Pizarro, around 1533. As history recounts, in short order, Pizarro and his conquerors fought and subdued the nearly defenseless Inca, as missionaries exposed them to Christianity. Today, Cusco is a blend of remnants of the Inca culture and religion and the Catholic Church. The most notable example is the Convent of Santo Domingo, a church standing on a foundation of a temple originally built by the Incas. Descending down from

Cusco into the Sacred Valley of the Incas on the road leading to Machu Picchu is breathtaking. The ‘ruins’ of the Inca place dubbed Machu Picchu (8,500 ft. above sea level), were discovered in 1911 by Hiram Bingham III. During the last century, efforts to carefully restore Machu Picchu to its previous glory have been supervised by the Peruvian government. One can only marvel at and wonder how the Incas, without iron or other tools, were able to shape large stones to fit tightly together to make homes and temples and to create a city with streets, terraces for farming and a water system on such an expansive scale. This entire trip was extraordinary and amazing.

“In August 2011, we cruised on the *Seabourn Sojourn* from Stockholm to Copenhagen, with port calls at Visby (Sweden), Tallinn (Estonia), Helsinki and St. Petersburg (Russia). St. Petersburg was the high point of the trip, especially the State Hermitage, Peterhof and the Catherine Palace. The tsars and tsarinas surely knew how to live in splendor. L’Hermitage, formerly a palace, is a museum *extraordinaire*. We were told that two weeks was barely ample time to spend viewing every exhibit and gallery; we

had just one morning. “Catherine the Great was the self-appointed curator for L’Hermitage, sending her emissaries to Europe and other places to buy 300–400 *objets d’art* at a time. We started with the gold and precious gems exhibits (generally closed to the majority of visitors) to see the treasure trove used or gifted to the tsars and tsarinas. A series of galleries house an unbelievable collection of modern paintings, including 50 by Matisse. Aside from being a beautiful palace, the grounds of Peterhof are exquisite, complete with 63 fountains, choreographed to spout and cascade water with great ceremony several times of day. Catherine’s Palace is notable for its furnishings, including a dining room with an imported 1,500 piece set of Wedgewood china.

“Visby remains as untouched as it was in the medieval times, with its stone walls to protect the city. Tallinn is home to one of the oldest apothecaries in the world, founded in 1422. We arrived in Copenhagen on a Sunday morning and did a whirlwind museum tour, as they were closed on Monday and we were leaving early Tuesday morning. The Louisiana Museum of Modern Art houses an unbelievable collection in an architecturally impressive structure. The Danish Museum of Art and Design (Kunstindustrimuseet) is testimony to Denmark’s reputation in graphic arts and design. The Museum of Danish Resistance includes many exhibits showing the Danes’ courageous and heroic efforts to fight the Germans during their occupation of Denmark in WWII. We thoroughly enjoyed the places we visited and probably would not otherwise have been able to see as much as we did.

“Joanne and I have been together for 35 years as of May. To celebrate we have planned a trip to Berlin and Istanbul. For the majority of the year we are spending half our time at our upstate home, Y’SACRES in Andes, N.Y., and the remainder in New York City. My insurance and investment advisory practice is still going strong; our Andes home is perfect for taking care of those clients residing in the Hudson Valley. New York remains my primary base.”

You can reach Bob at rhyunich@aol.com.

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An electronic epistle arrived recently from the Levant, sent by **Sabri Sayari**, who claims to be one of the longtime silent members of the

class: “After graduating, I stayed at Columbia and received a Ph.D. in political science. Since then, I’ve taught in several universities in the United States, Europe and Turkey. I was the director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Georgetown from 1994–2005. Then I joined the faculty of Sabanci University in Istanbul, where I’m Emeritus Professor of Political Science. Last summer I met **Ira Katznelson**, who was in Istanbul for a conference. It was great seeing him again after 45 years! I continue to teach and divide my time between homes in Istanbul and Washington, D.C.”

Your correspondent lived in Turkey for four years, 1981–85, but unfortunately never met our Turkish classmate. His email is sabris@sabanciuniv.edu.

Anthony Starace reports on his highly productive and rewarding travels to the Orient and the Balkans: “In May 2011, I organized a three-week workshop, ‘Attosecond Science — Exploring and Controlling Matter on Its Natural Time Scale,’ at the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics in Beijing. The reason for such a long workshop was to bring together experts from around the world for the purpose of interacting informally on physics problems at the frontiers of current understanding. Roughly two-thirds of the participants were from China, including many students, and one-third mainly from Europe, North America and Japan. The workshop was a scientific and social success, as many collaborations were initiated and many insights into how matter behaves on ultrashort time scales were obtained. (For the record, one attosecond is a billionth of a billionth of a second; an electron in the hydrogen atom takes around 150 attoseconds to make one orbit around its proton.)

“Following the workshop, my wife, Katherine, and I joined an escorted tour. We flew to Xian, Guilin and Shanghai, where local guides met us. My last visit to Shanghai was in 1991, when bicycles were the primary means of transportation. Now there are mostly automobiles. Most impressive is that in 1991 there was talk of a new economic zone in Pudong, which was then vacant land across from the Bund. Today it is the financial center of China, filled with skyscrapers. What a change in only 20 years!

“On the way to the airport, we rode the magnetically levitated train from downtown Shanghai. It went 300 km/hr (although capable of 400 km/hr) and was amazingly smooth despite the high speed. We then flew to Taipei for rest and relaxation with one of my former doctoral students (now a professor), who drove us to the beautiful

Sun Moon Lake, where we stayed in the luxurious Hotel Lalu, which overlooks the lake. What a way to relax! On the way back to Taipei we traveled by high-speed rail, which took only one hour (compared to three hours by car). It also was very smooth and comfortable. Rail travel in Asia is thus far superior to that in America.

“Later in the summer, I traveled to conferences in two places I had never been: Sapporo and Sarajevo. In Sapporo (on the northernmost island of Hokkaido) there were no effects of the earthquake that had occurred earlier in 2011. The Japanese organizers were very grateful to those who came, as many from other countries had canceled their attendance following the disasters on the main island.

“In Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, I gave a plenary lecture at a major international physics conference. Sarajevo is a beautiful city, but bullet-riddled buildings are still common, as are memories of the war in the early 1990s. On an excursion to Mostar, capital of Herzegovina, we crossed over a mountain range and entered a sunny, beautiful landscape. It was like going from northern Europe to southern Europe over the Alps as far as the change in the weather. A culinary discovery was Blatkin wine, which is unique to Herzegovina and is very good. Also, although many Muslims there are quite secular (owing to the fact that hundreds of years of Ottoman rule essentially required that the population convert to Islam), there remain tensions with Orthodox Christians owing to the war in the 1990s.

“So all in all, my travels in 2011 gave me many new perspectives on several different parts of our planet.”

Anthony is the George Holmes University Professor of Physics at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. His email is astarace1@unl.edu.

“Dr. Banjo,” aka **Peter Wernick**, writes, “I live in Niwot, Colo., near Boulder — moved here in 1976. I am deeply involved in my music career, which was nourished in my early days at Columbia, where I performed and started the bluegrass show on WKCR. I worked at Cornell as a sociologist after getting a Ph.D. from Columbia, then took a leap toward music. I lived off instruction book royalties at first, then launched the band Hot Rize, which in time became a leading bluegrass attraction worldwide. The band was full-time from 1978–1990 and plays some gigs every year. I perform with my wife, Joan, as a duet and we recently have played in Russia, Israel, Holland, Ireland, England and around home. I’ve supplemented my performing with

doing music camps and instruction videos. Two years ago I got the Distinguished Achievement Award from the International Bluegrass Music Association.

“Our son, Will, is a filmmaker in Los Angeles and doing well. He and I and Joan were all on the *Late Show with David Letterman* a few years ago as part of a band that Steve Martin put together; the band also included Earl Scruggs, my No. 1 hero, who was 88 when he passed away on March 28. A clip of that performance is on drbanjo.com (I’m to Steve’s right). I’ve fulfilled many ambitions as a performer and am now working to launch The Wernick Method, certifying teachers to teach jamming to novice bluegrassers — just like jamming at Ferris Booth Hall!”

Pete’s email is pwernick1@aol.com.

Byron Michael Noone was remembered by his widow, Lana, at the Vietnam Memorial Wall 30th Anniversary Program, held in Fort Myers, Fla., on January 26. A highlight of the program was the attendance of President Gerald R. Ford’s brother, Richard, who talked with Lana at length regarding the late President’s implementation of Operation Babylift; he also remembered Byron during their conversation. Please contact lananoone@yahoo.com for details.

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Don Brophy ‘69 wrote, “When I read your notice in the Spring issue of *CCT* of **Dave Koffler**’s death, I was immediately transported back to Hartley Hall sometime in winter 1966–67. Dave and I were on the football team together and were roommates on the ninth floor of Hartley for a couple years. One drab Saturday evening, Dave asked if I would go down to the first floor and keep a woman company while he got ready. Apparently she was the girlfriend of a friend of Dave’s, in NYC for a visit, and Dave was going to show her the town.

“When I stepped off the elevator and turned the corner, there against the windows looking out on the quad was the most beautiful, elegant, exquisitely dressed woman I had ever seen. I overcame my shyness, she overcame her reserve and we had a delightful time.

“Well, the real story was the backdrop. Hartley around 6 o’clock on a Saturday evening in the winter always had zero traffic. But as she and I talked, I became aware of a sudden stream of traffic as it moved in and out the door, and around the

floor people ringed the balconies. Dave appeared with that little twinkle in his eye; we said goodbye and they left. Right then the balconies emptied, the traffic ceased and I was left by myself looking out on the snow falling on the quad, like something out of Joyce. I don’t know if such things happen anymore at Columbia. I hope they do. Dave was a great guy.”

Other than this sweet memory, the mailbox has been empty for the past three months. I presume that the absence of news simply means that you were busy gearing up to share at our 45th reunion. I hope that many of you were able to attend and enjoyed the warmth of old friendships in a setting that means so much to all of us. Be sure to send me a note saying how the weekend went, what you did and who you saw. I’ll have a wrap-up in the Fall issue.

REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013
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Spring arrived early in New York, which was a pleasure. I hope all is well in your corner of the world, and that you are thinking about our 45th reunion (Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013). If you would like to join the Reunion Committee to help plan the weekend’s events, contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member noted at the top of the column. You need not be in the New York area and can participate in meetings via conference call.

More about reunion will follow in this column during the next year as well as arrive at your home via mail and email. To ensure that Columbia has your correct contact information, update it online (reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488).

For those who are still using my ancient AOL email address, I will only hold onto it for a little longer. My new address is arthurspector@gmail.com. Do send notes. I have been a little less conscientious about checking both accounts, and worry I may have lost an email in the process. If I have, please let me know.

Columbia men’s basketball has a great and talented coach in Kyle Smith, and the team coming back

next year may well be Ivy League champs. Yes, you read that here first. While Columbia lost to the 2012 Ivy champs, Harvard, at the end of the season at home in overtime, the younger Lions looked great — and the starters will all be back. Get your tickets early. And do come to Homecoming this year (Saturday, October 20); football should be much better. I predict a win against Dartmouth.

I received a gracious note from **Alan Seplowitz** ‘72 P&S, who received a Ewig Award for excellence in clinical teaching this academic year. It was conferred by the Department of Medicine at P&S, where he has been a faculty member since 1978. Alan also has a practice in adult endocrinology at the Columbia University Medical Center.

Congratulations, Alan. It would be great if we could list the exceptional records of our many classmates who work in the medical school professorial ranks and elsewhere in medicine.

Continuing the medical theme, I received a note from **Wayne Wild** ‘73 P&S, who is a resident of Belmont, Mass., Mitt Romney’s hometown and where I went to Hebrew school despite being a resident of Arlington. Wayne writes with some zest and great cheer about reconnecting with **Samuel (Sandy) Rabison** and Ethan (Sam) Rofman ‘61, ‘65 P&S:

“The delightful coincidence of three Columbia College graduates ‘discovering’ each other while working part-time at Tufts Health Plan, with two of us being from the Class of ‘68 and two of us from P&S, simply cried out for a note to you. The three of us cannot get enough of recalling fond memories and personalities over lunch each week.

“I’ll start with me. I am a medical director and essentially have managed care medical review, for about five years now. But the rest of my week is spent as associate professor at Berklee College of Music, where I have been for 10 years, teaching freshman writing and my course in aesthetics (largely poetry) and having a ball. I published a book on doctor-patient correspondence in the 18th century, *Medicine-by-Post*, which relates medical rhetoric to the language of illness in novels of the period. And I am nearing completion of a work on aesthetics, which describes aesthetics from the point of view of artists rather than philosophers.

“Sad news was that my second wife, Faye, died last year of breast cancer, and I miss her terribly. But my colleagues at both Tufts Health and Berklee have been real family, and it has been so great to discover my Columbia fellows at Tufts. My

daughter, Zoe, lives in Oakland, Calif., and is busy as a life coach and a Sufi minister; she spent time in Burma as a Buddhist nun. She has a great website on spiritual joy and other life essentials, Wild Life Coaching (zoewild.com), and she’s engaged to be married this summer. My son, Nicholas, who teaches music in the Danvers public school system, has become prominent in the American Orff-Schulwerk Association [a professional organization of music educators], including as an editor of its journal.”

Here’s the update from Sandy: “I can’t remember if this is my second check-in since graduation (which already tells you something about me and/or our collective life stage). Here are the barebones headlines since ‘68. Immediately after graduation, I taught for a year while sorting out career interests and taking advantage of a teaching deferment. Then came two years of post-graduate, pre-med courses at GS. I started med school in Lausanne, Switzerland, and transferred back for the last two clinical years at Connecticut. Continuing the westward thrust, I interned in Colorado and completed a psychiatric residency at UCSF, where I stayed on as a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry, in charge of an inpatient adolescent service.

“During this time I married Ronnie Fuchs, also a psychiatrist. We had our first child, Rebecca, and two years later moved to the Boston area, where we’ve been since 1987. I’ve held a variety of administrative and clinical positions during this time. Ronnie, after a stint as co-director of the outpatient department at Beth Israel, has been in private practice. Rebecca is at Yale in a dual degree program at the Schools of Management and Forestry. Joey, who was born in Boston, lives in Manhattan and teaches first grade in the South Bronx through the Teach for America program. Rebecca had considered Columbia undergrad, but in the end both kids happily chose Wesleyan.”

Sam, meanwhile, reports that he was president of the Glee Club while at the College. He recently retired from the VA and now works part-time as an outpatient mental health medical director. He also maintains a small psychiatric private practice in Wellesley, Mass. His eldest daughter, Amy, works for the State Department and his youngest daughter, Julie, has developed a successful line of jewelry (julierofmanjewelry.com), which she sells online and at stores across the country. When not at work, Sam plays tunes on the accordion, reworks his model train collection

to amuse his grandchildren and travels to Washington, D.C., to help with their care.

Great to hear from all of you. And Sam, we welcome you as an honorary member of the Class of 1968 — one of the great classes in the history of Columbia — though I wonder if Groucho Marx might have some comment about our class having class or no class. We certainly went to class, except maybe second semester senior year. It is great to get updates — and I have heard from many classmates who say they love reading about others. I do, for sure.

Alan Seplowitz ‘68, ‘72 P&S received a Ewig Award for excellence in clinical teaching this academic year from the Department of Medicine at P&S.

I have heard from **Pete Janovsky**, who has twins, and I suspect we will run into them all on the Columbia campus at some point. He sounds vigorous as usual; I’d love to sit with him sometime to talk about economics and politics. **Paul de Bary** and I sat together at a Columbia basketball game this year, and that was fun. He recently wrote a book about wine; I don’t know when it will be published but I will find out.

Mark Constantian sent a note to say that **John Tait** passed away recently. I wish his wife, Tina, and his family well. John was a wonderful classmate; I remember when he met his wife, then a Vassar student, our freshman year.

I have a general policy against mentioning classmates who have died, so as not to let the column get bogged down by sadness, but sometimes it’s right to make exceptions.

Well, let’s end on some good thoughts. The College is doing very well. And the women’s track team won the 2012 indoor Ivy League championship, which is great progress for Columbia. Congratulations to the women and their coach, Willy Wood.

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As mentioned in the last issue, I sent a blast email to all classmates for whom CCT has email addresses, asking for news or reflections on how the College experience has had an enduring influence on their lives.

I included some of the responses in the Spring issue, and here are some more. I’ve almost exhausted my inventory of news and views, though, so I must return to grovel mode and solicit news and/or views from you for next time (especially from those who have not given Columbia an email address).

John Herbert is alive and well after retiring from Columbia in 2009. He writes, “I continue to be chairman of anesthesiology at Howard University Hospital and College of Medicine in the nation’s capital, where I now actually attend alumni events!

“My daughter, Amy ‘98, ‘01 Arts, graduated from the Dental School in the spring. At this point, I think a dozen Columbia sheepskins are in the family. Amy already had helped us score a ‘triple-double’ when she earned her Arts degree, thus extending the double-degree status to a third generation. My father, Benne S. Herbert ‘32, ‘36 Dental, was the pioneer, while I did P&S in ‘73. My brother, Mike ‘77; my niece, Aina Hunter ‘03J; my cousin, Richard ‘69 PH; and my wife, Sandra ‘70 TC, each stopped with one but, like me, pursued additional academics elsewhere. Then we must not forget Aunt Lessie, who turns 100 either next year or the following; she earned her master’s from TC the year I was born! But Amy broke the family record in May, when she earned her third degree. We are very proud.”

John Bernson has spent most of the last 18 months restructuring an emerging markets real estate developer owned by one of the Gulf Emirates. He says the project was challenging, and he had opportunities to travel to some places well off the beaten track. His destinations included Tbilisi, Georgia; Cochin and Coimbatore in Kerala, India; Isfahan, Iran (a touristic trip) and Kinshasa in the Congo. He reports a trip up one stretch of the “awesome” Congo River that was 14 miles wide. John headed home to family and friends for Christmas 2011, which he says is one of the emotional highpoints of any overseas assignment.

From **Mel Yost**: “**John Marwell** attended a nationally sponsored real estate CLE seminar at the La Fonda Hotel in my hometown of Santa Fe, N.M. He emailed me in advance of traveling from Mount

Kisco, N.Y., and for the first time since our graduation, we got together. We had lunches and dinners in great Santa Fe restaurants. Our lovely spouses, Barbara and Gloria, joined us for some of the meals. We caught up on what both of us have been doing since graduation and obtained some information about classmates. We are both lawyers and discovered we had a lot in common after decades in practice. We also discussed how long we want to continue doing what we are doing (both undecided) and how we can continue to enjoy our practices in the years ahead. We enjoyed each other’s company and we hope to maintain our reestablished friendship.

“My legal practice is now more than 50 percent mediations, settlement facilitation and arbitration. I work throughout New Mexico and occasionally in adjoining states. I occasionally travel to New York City on business and for pleasure. Barbara and I are almost done writing checks to educational institutions. Our oldest daughter, Sarah, is a transplant pharmacist at the University of Arizona Medical Center and assistant clinical professor at the University of Arizona Schools of Medicine and Pharmacy. Our son, Austin, earned an M.B.A. at the Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico last year and is a credit analyst and venture capital liaison at a bank here in Santa Fe. Our youngest daughter, Catie, is finishing her studies to obtain a master’s in social work at the University of Denver and will graduate in June.”

Neal Handel writes: “Everything here in Los Angeles is stable (except perhaps the ground). I have three children, a 7-year-old daughter, a 6-year-old daughter and a 5-year-old son. I assume I take the prize as the ‘oldest’ dad in our class, a distinction I am not sure I am proud of. Folks our age aren’t designed to run around chasing kindergartners! I still work hard on my plastic surgery practice, have the opportunity to speak at many international meetings (recently returned from the Philippines and Vietnam) and frequently hang out with my good buddy here in L.A., **Bill Stadiem**. I also get sporadic visits from **Steve Valenstein** and **Larry Berger**, so I am not completely out of touch with our class.”

From **Steven Berger** ’70E: “After graduating, I traveled for nine months in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, worked for Sperry Rand on Long Island, got a fellowship to Stanford (’74 M.S.E.E.), worked for IBM and lived for a couple of years in Boulder, Colo. I went through many changes there, which led to a sabbatical leave

to travel in a van though Mexico and Guatemala. Then I went to the Congo, then Zaire, on a contract to install a province-wide computer network. I lived there for 16 years, going through many more changes, starting my own company, selling systems and developing applications in all sectors of the economy in Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi. I also lived in huts, hunted with wooden spears, traveled overland throughout Africa, and confronted military troops and militia running amok during riots and civil wars. After that experience and having been completely looted, both my home and offices, I lived in Europe for a few years, then migrated to Australia in 1995, invested in a global computer education business. Married thrice and helped raise five children over four continents. Then about seven years ago, I decided to leave everything and travel alone, mostly in the poorer countries, living very simply and occasionally visiting family and friends in America, Europe and Australia.”

Performance artist John Borek ’71 was inspired by his recent reunion to assemble a group of short plays and monologues called *The View from Carman Hall*.

Henry Jackson reports: “For the past 22 years, my wife, Kathryn, and I have been freelance translators. The materials we have translated have varied widely, from historical articles having to do with anything from the Reformation to the Third Reich, to informed consent materials for clinical trials. Like everything else, this occupation has its positive and negative aspects. Among the positives is the relative flexibility it affords. Chief among the negatives is the fact that clients determine on Thursday or Friday afternoon that they want and /or need translations by 9 a.m. the following Monday. Consequently, the traditional weekend is exceedingly rare. We attend plays and concerts fairly regularly and we belong to a local book group. We consider ourselves fortunate to live in close proximity to New York. It is difficult to imagine being able to do what I do without my Columbia education. I am particularly grateful to Professor Wohlleben for his courses on German civilization and to Professor Howard McParlin Davis for his art history courses. Most of all, I am grateful for the breadth of the education I received at Columbia.”

Francis Levy writes: “My second novel, *Seven Days in Rio*, about a sex tourist who gets waylaid at a psychoanalytic convention, was published in August. My first novel, *Erotomania: A Romance*,

published in 2008, has been optioned by a film producer and director. ... I am indebted to the Core Curriculum. It’s made me into the intellectual wanderer and polymath that I am. Someone once said about Henry James that he chewed more than he bit off. Well, I frequently bite more than I chew, which means that my mouth is frequently stuffed — in my case both literally and metaphorically. ... The notion of the liberal arts education has been and is under attack at many institutions that now emphasize specialization. It seems to me that is a good prescription for an artificial intelligence, but not necessarily one you’d recommend for a human being interested in developing the capacity to think.”

From **Michael Jacoby Brown**: “I provide training in organizing and leadership skills, mostly to labor and community groups, as I’ve done as a community organizer for many years. My book, *Building Powerful Community Organizations*, is widely

used by colleges and organizations across the country. I recently became certified to use the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator instrument, which I find useful in team building. My 38-year-old daughter, Corita, earned a master’s in organizational development from Teachers College and works for the Center for Inter-Generational Learning, affiliated with Temple. We are looking for opportunities to train together.

“I live in Arlington, Mass., just outside Boston, with my wife, Jessica Goldhirsch; our 12-year-old daughter, Nessa, who attends the local middle school; and my 91-year-old father. My dad moved in with us after my mom died about four years ago. It is an inspiration to see him still active and making art. It is a joy to be a parent and active in local politics and school affairs. From Columbia, I learned (from getting beaten and arrested on April 30, 1968, by the NYPD in the building where I studied American history) that people in power will use ‘state violence’ (a phrase I learned in sociology and then saw in action) to maintain dominance. More recently, this is evident with the Occupy movement. I am never surprised by the use of state violence when power is threatened. When people demonstrating against injustice are not organized or trained to deal with such violence (as I and most white students were not), such vio-

lence can be effective in curtailing protests. Many of us white students were not prepared, trained or organized to deal effectively with the beatings and arrests, and I learned something about the importance of strategy, preparation, planning and organizing. From Columbia, I also learned about the power of small groups to influence individual behavior. Several of my Columbia colleagues, normally decent, sane people, joined the Weather Underground and others, and the isolation and dynamics of these small groups led these otherwise sane, decent people to tragic and violent behavior. From this, I never underestimate the power of a peer group to powerfully influence a person’s behavior, for good or ill.”

Victor Cahn reports: “This year marks my 30th as professor of English at Skidmore. In the past couple of months, I’ve published two books: *Bard Games: The Shakespeare Quiz Book and Political Animal: An Essay on The Character of Shakespeare’s Henry V*. Two of my plays, *Embraceable Me* and *Roses in December*, were published by Samuel French. Last fall, the former was produced in Arizona, the latter received its West Coast premiere in Beverly Hills, and my latest play, *Dally With The Devil*, was produced Off-Broadway. Last year I presented several performances of my one-man show, *Sherlock Solo* (originally produced Off-Broadway). Finally, in 2010 I published the novel *Romantic Trapezoid*. About memories of Columbia, details can be found in a chapter in my 2009 memoir, *Classroom Virtuoso*.”

Lastly, *The New York Times* reported on February 1 about an exchange between **Paul Auster** and the Turkish prime minister, prompted by the publication in Turkey of Paul’s new book, *Winter Journal* (an autobiographical work to be published in the United States this September). Paul told a Turkish newspaper that he would not visit Turkey “because of imprisoned journalists and writers”; the prime minister then called Paul “an ignorant man” and I got some news.

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I have been receiving bits and pieces from class members, and welcome newsworthy items.

I attended the Columbia basketball game against Brown on February 10 and watched Columbia’s squad shellac the Brown team 86–60; the game was not as close as

the score. It’s unfortunate that the basketball team has not fared so well for the balance of the season. However, by attending the game I got a dividend, because I ran into **Bernie Josefsberg**, **Dennis Graham**, **Jack Probolus** and **Peter Stevens** (your former class correspondent). The former Lion gridiron greats had nice things to say about our new football coach, Pete Mangurian. We all can’t wait to root for the team next season!

In other news, **Peter Joseph** reports, “I finally retired after 35 years in the emergency room biz, half of which was as a department director. It was a great career, but the way medicine is going, it’s a great time to change. I now work full-time as a volunteer with two organizations promoting climate change education and carbon pricing — The Climate Reality Project and Citizens Climate Lobby. Despite all the data, civilization seems to be sleepwalking off a cliff and losing the climate battle.

“We recently welcomed twin granddaughters, and my youngest is a freshman at Tufts, heading into computer science. They are great motivation to keep working for a sane energy policy! It’s late, but not too late.”

Larry Rosenwald, professor of English at Wellesley College and co-director of the school’s program in peace and Jewish studies, writes: “Humm, what have I been up to? On the Jewish front, learning to *leyn* (chant from the Torah scroll) and becoming a lay cantor. On the academic front, finishing a lot of long-term projects. They include a book, *Multilingual America: Language and the Making of American Literature*, with Cambridge University Press; the Library of America edition of Emerson’s journals; and an essay for a volume in honor of my beloved teacher and friend, Saki Bercovitch, whom I met at Columbia in 1970. I am working now on a large project on literature and nonviolence.

“April marked the 24th occasion on which my wife and I have refused, as pacifists, to pay the military percentage of our federal income tax. And, next August, I’ll be officiating at a wedding for the eighth time, an honor made possible by the generous and imaginative laws of Massachusetts.”

Dov Zakheim’s book, *A Vulcan’s Tale: How the Bush Administration Mismanaged the Reconstruction of Afghanistan*, was featured in CCT’s Spring 2012 Bookshelf. Dov also reports that in 2011 he was elected to the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences, which was founded in 1739 and has a small number of foreign members.

James Kunen, author of *The Strawberry Statement* and an ESL

instructor at LaGuardia Community College in Queens, asks that we consider reading his memoir, *Diary of a Company Man: Losing a Job, Finding a Life*. The book chronicles his journey from having a job in corporate communications for Time Warner, to experiencing a gratuitously insulting layoff (“We’ve eliminated the bloat,” said the millionaire CEO) and his subsequent quest that leads to meaningful work teaching immigrants. Jonathan Alter, author of *The Defining Moment: FDR’s Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope*, says that the book adds up to “an acute, observant, funny and moving story of what’s truly important in life. ... a beautiful piece of writing and enduring source of inspiration.” Learn more at jameskunen.com.

For those who still toil in the corporate world, James’ book will touch on some familiar experiences we have had during our long careers — it’s certainly true in my case.

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Lloyd Emanuel writes, “In February I attended a very nice [arranged by the Alumni Office] Burgers and Basketball dinner at Havana Central at The West End (lots of memories there!) and then watched a well-balanced Lions basketball team rout Brown at Leven. I attended with a good friend, Bernie Sunshine ’46, who is his class’ correspondent for CCT. Bernie and I play tennis once a week (I am a tennis professional) — he helped recruit me to Columbia 42 years ago! Bernie was the manager of the varsity tennis team during his time at school and still is a fit enthusiast and supporter of men’s tennis.

“I had such a great time at the basketball game — can anyone say McMillian-Dotson? [That’s Jim McMillian ’70 and Heyward Dotson ’70.] — that I came back alone to Morningside Heights the next night and bought a ticket to the Yale game, which drew a capacity crowd. We started out on fire and, with 15 minutes to go in the game, we were up by 20, 51–31. In following the Ivies in the news, I see that most winning teams score about 60 points, so I figured 9 more points and we were a lock. Well, Yale went on a tear, incorporated a successful full-court press and trapping defense and beat the Lions 59–58! The good news is that most of our starters will be back next year, and so will I.

“I live in Rye, N.Y., with my wife, Kate, and children (late start), who are 18 and 15. Some of you

know that I remained in tennis after college and have coached and directed programs for four decades. In addition, I have been a nationally ranked senior player and have come back nicely from knee replacement in ’09. I was honored in February as USTA Eastern’s Leslie J. FitzGibbon Tennis Man of the Year for a lifetime of contribution to the sport. It was nice of Bernie to come celebrate with me, and nice to see Phil Williamson ’87, arguably one of the greatest tennis players of all time for the Lions. I remain connected to Columbia men’s tennis and get down to the Dick Savitt Tennis Center at the Baker Athletics Complex as often as I can to watch our stellar athletes compete.”

John Borek, who, you may recall, became a late-in-life performance artist, reports that he was inspired by our recent reunion to assemble a group of short plays and monologues called *The View from Carman Hall*. Anyone who wishes to submit a play or monologue describing life at Columbia during our freshman year can do so by contacting John: johnwborek@yahoo.com. He suggests that it be no more than 10 minutes, which is 6–10 pages of speech. John says the plays and monologues will be performed at the MuCCC Theater in Rochester, N.Y., where he is director of artist development.

I hope that he will expand eligibility to any of our classmates who lived in Carman in any year, and to any who lived in Carman while we did, even if they were not in our class.

Anyway, don’t bet he can’t get you into *The New York Times*: nytimes.com/2008/04/21/theater/21moos.html.

Ron Bass: “My short story, *Zen and the Art of Hooking*, appears in *Have a NYC*, an anthology of stories about New York City.”

Bennett Alan Weinberg says, “Please visit worldofcaffeine.com to read the latest scientific, health care and cultural information about caffeine.”

If you go to Amazon from any of the links on the website that take you there, and buy something from Amazon, or even put it in your cart and buy it a few months later, Bennett’s website gets a percentage.

Bennett is co-author of the well-received books *The World of Caffeine* and *The Caffeine Advantage*. He adds, “I’ve written an exciting novel largely set on the Columbia campus called *The Case of the Missing Rembrandt*. This book is part of the forthcoming Columbia Mysteries Series. I’m looking for agents or publishers who would be interested in seeing the manuscript.” Contact Bennett at baw@bawinc.com.

Another of Bennett’s novels, *Ex-*

piration Date, is available for free download in PDF at worldofcafaine.com; click the “Caffeine Prose” tab. Bennett invites everyone to check it out.

Arvin Levine writes, “My daughter, Livia Rose Levine, is engaged to be married this July in Jerusalem to Noah Moline. This will close out another happy chapter (paragraph?) of my lifecycle with both children married. I reject the ‘empty nester’ assignation in favor of a widened nest, supported by virtual presence technologies and supplemented by real presence in multiple geographic locations, across the fourth dimension of time. If you will be in Jerusalem on July 3 (or even if you won’t), contact me at arvinlevine@gmail.com!”

Phil Bartolf announces, “On February 22 I became a grandfather. My daughter, Julia Bartolf Milne ’04, gave birth to Harper Diana Milne at Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC. Everyone is ecstatic, and well, and Harper is adorable if I say so myself. My wife, Patsy, and I plan to spend a fair amount of free time in NYC now that we are grandparents. A great, heady feeling. All the best to the class.”

John Borek started his recent correspondence by noting “**Bob Brintz**’s astonishing meditation. He owns the game and it’s the game of life.” John was referring to the Spring 2012 Class Notes column, which included an excerpt from an essay Bob posted on an ALS website, and the March 2012 Class of ’71 eNews, in which I included the full essay (lightly edited).

If you are a member of the class and not receiving the eNews, email me with your name and the email address at which you would like to subscribe.

Bob himself reports: “I’m doing great — hope the same for you. All the feedback on the post has been uplifting, especially to know

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that so many have gotten benefit. I received a message just this morning from a PALS [People with ALS] in Japan, who told me he reads it often and that it has given him and many others life. Thanks so much for all your help in disseminating it to another audience. I am working on another."

Remember back 45 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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Our 40th reunion is now behind us with, I hope, a lot of great memories for all who were able to attend. Keep an eye out for complete coverage in our next Class Notes column.

What our time at Columbia meant to each of us is strongly linked to those aspects of College life with which we became involved. That was underscored for me by a note from **Gary Pepper**, who said he "wanted to drop a line in praise of the new head coach of the Columbia men's and women's fencing teams, Michael N. Aufrichtig. I credit the fencing team for my not turning to the dark side during four turbulent years on the Heights. Ever since, I have supported the team in whatever way I am able.

"A few months ago I was surprised and gratified when Michael called me at home to thank me and shoot the breeze about the team and its complex history. I could tell he enjoyed the call as much as I did. I also received a holiday card signed by the whole team and a letter from a member of the squad sharing some of her background and goals. I'm sure there are many other team alumni who feel as I do: that it's a pleasure to have coach Aufrichtig and the team put so much time and thought into including us in alma mater in a meaningful way. I'm now hoping to make it back to Columbia in the coming year to take in the changes (and the unchanging) on campus."

Gary was twice All-Ivy in foil for Columbia during our years on Morningside Heights.

Lee Davies notes, "I have spent my professional career in health-care communications consulting: Pfizer, Schering-Plough and Merck. For 38 years, I've been married to Jody Messler '73 Barnard, a noted psychoanalyst in New York, and raised two wonderful young women, one of whom is an editor for Penguin (and a published novelist) and the other a first-year student at NYU School of Medicine."

Lee is an executive at Makovsky Health, a New York-based consulting group, and among other things is coordinating a program for cancer patient advocacy groups at this year's American Society of Clinical Oncology meeting in Chicago.

Finally, there's some sad news to share. Henry Rosenberg '73 was so kind as to let me know that **Richard B. Kaplan** '76 Dental died in New Jersey on November 30, 2011. Richard was a periodontist who was president of the New Jersey Society of Periodontists. A more complete obituary will appear in a subsequent issue of CCT.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013**
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Who says you can't teach an old dog new tricks? **James Minter** and David Schnabel were married last September on their 21st anniversary, with University Chaplain Jewelnel Davis officiating. The happy couple honeymooned, traditionally, at Niagara Falls. Guests at the ceremony included **John Chan;** Richard Lorber '67; James' niece, Elise Minter '07; and a gaggle of admissions colleagues.

Bob Dillinger has practiced law in St. Petersburg, Fla., for 36 years, the last 15 in the elected role of public defender. Bob earned a law degree from Stetson in 1976, was assistant public defender for several years and then went into private practice until winning the race for the defender's office in 1996. Bob has received numerous awards for service to the St. Petersburg community. After their daughter died, he and his wife created the Beth Dillinger Foundation to aid children in need, and his wife still devotes her time there; find out more at bethdillinger.org.

Joel Pfister mourns the loss of his brother, Jordan '80, to complications from cancer. Jordan was captain of the squash team and was in a rock band during his college years. Joel is a humanities professor at Wesleyan. Last year he spent the summer term as visiting professor at the Freie Universitat in Berlin, and this July he will be one of two American faculty members teaching in Xi'an, China, as part of the West-China Faculty Enhancement Program in American Studies. The program is

co-sponsored by the Ford Foundation and the China Association for the Study of American Literature; Joel will be teaching American literature to Chinese college and university professors.

Remember, next year is the big 4-0. Get involved in Alumni Reunion Weekend by contacting the appropriate staff member at the top of the column, and also let us know what's up in your life. As *Short Circuit*'s Number 5 would say, "Need more input." Thanks in advance.

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Earlier this year there was a news item that caught my ear. It said that NBC's *Today* had just turned 60. That means that for all but a handful of us who were born before January 1952, this iconic stalwart has been part of our lives from the time we were eating baby food, to when we served our kids baby food, to now, when many of us are serving our grandkids baby food. In contrast, I was surprised to learn that *Saturday Night Live* didn't debut until October 1975. (Does anyone share my delusion of having memories of watching this show in the dorm lounge?)

A press release arrived recently from Oppenheimer & Co., announcing that **John Rodstrom** has joined its firm with the title of managing director, national public finance. The release goes on to say John will have the responsibility for "expanding Oppenheimer's public finance bond capabilities nationwide." Sounds like a step up from his previous position at Sterne, Agee & Leach, a regional financial firm; there, John was only in charge of the firm's southeast public finance effort. While he will work out of Oppenheimer's Fort Lauderdale, Fla., office, something tells me he is going to book a lot of frequent flyer miles!

From out of the shadows emerges **Steven Simon**, who has tremendous influence on our nation's Middle East policies. After serving a spell at the State Department, Steve served a five-year stint in the Clinton White House and three years at the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London. He now is the senior director for the Middle East and North Africa at the National Security Council. The NSC is chaired by the President of the United States and its meetings are frequented by the likes of the Secretary of State, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretary of the Treasury

and other bigwigs. Depending on how the election goes, Steve may return to the Council on Foreign Relations, remain connected to the White House or pursue some other opportunity. Stay tuned for an update!

When Dr. **David Mandelbaum** read our recent update from Dr. **Joel Halio** (who cited Peter Pouncey as a Columbia professor who had a great influence on him), David decided he had to break his nearly four decades of silence. He started his treatise with, "Sorry if this is a little wordy, but it does cover 37 years." I'll save you some of the details, but the story is a good one. Seems that David was a psychology major for his first two years at the College, then switched to pre-med in his junior year. (Reminds me of Dr. **Tom Long**, who followed the same timetable as he shifted from majoring in English to pre-med, which led him to be a dermatologist in Rhode Island.)

David continues: "Pre-med adviser Patricia Geisler and chemistry professor George Flynn were extremely supportive and encouraging during this rather intense and tumultuous transition." Psychology professor Stanley Schachter's encouragement, meanwhile, led him to the M.D.-Ph.D. program at P&S. There he met up with Nobel Laureate Eric Kandel's neuroscience group, which led him to an interest in neurology, which he eventually narrowed to child neurology. For nearly a decade David has been the director of child neurology and professor of neurology and pediatrics at the Alpert Medical School of Brown. His research has focused on "cognitive aspects of epilepsy, antiepileptic medications, the genetics of epilepsy and the neurological aspects of autism."

David added that he remarried in 2004 to Alison, a photographer — "third time's the charm," he says — and his favorite role is that of "Pop Pop" to two grandsons, ages 6 and 2, who live in Manhattan. On his frequent visits to NYC, he likes to bicycle to the Columbia campus and visit *The Thinker* (who, his elder grandson speculates, "is thinking about where his socks are").

The above led me to email David, to ask if knew that Dr. **Mark Mehler** is the chairman of the Department of Neurology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx (and also director of its Institute for Brain Disorders). In a continuation of what we used to refer to, in our politically incorrect world, as "Jewish geography," he replied that he was still in contact with Dr. **Steven Schonfeld** (a neuroradiologist in East Brunswick, N.J.) and Dr. **Mi-**

The Jazz Education of Armen Donelian '72

By JAMIE KATZ '72, '80 BUSINESS

It stands to reason that an artist as self-aware as pianist and composer **Armen Donelian** '72 would be generous in acknowledging the mentors who pointed him toward a place of excellence. And indeed, he is: "Because I've been fortunate to have good teachers in my life, I feel a responsibility," Donelian says, seated in a tiny practice room at New Jersey's William Paterson University, where he has taught for many years. He also teaches at The New School in Manhattan and is frequently called upon to give master classes in conservatories overseas.

Donelian has performed with such jazz luminaries as Sonny Rollins, Mongo Santamaria, Chet Baker, Lionel Hampton, Paquito D'Rivera and Billy Harper. He has recorded 12 albums as a leader, most recently *Leapfrog*, on Sunnyside Records. He has been awarded numerous grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, and is a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Switzerland, Scandinavia and his ancestral Armenia. He leads the Hudson Jazz Workshop, a summer program in upstate New York, where he lives with his wife, Rose Caldwell, a travel consultant and part-time chef. Yet for all his individual accomplishment and the years of solitary dedication it required, Donelian always speaks of those who showed him the way.

The story begins in the 1950s in Armonk, N.Y., where his parents surrounded the four Donelian children with Armenian, Turkish and Greek music as well as classical and jazz. By 5, Donelian was playing a beat-up upright in the basement. At 7, he

began weekly lessons at the Music Conservatory of Westchester, studying classical piano with Austrian émigré Michael Pollon for 12 years. Donelian's older brother played clarinet in a Dixieland-swing band led by Arthur Ryerson, who had worked with Louis Armstrong. When Donelian was 12, he heard the Ryerson band at a Methodist church bazaar, and was smitten. "That's it!" he thought. "I've got to play *this* music." Before long he was in the band himself. His first gig, for \$5 and all the ice cream he could eat, was at the 1964 World's Fair in Queens.

In 1968, Donelian came to Columbia, where he majored in music and studied with composers Charles Wuorinen '61, '63 GSAS and Harvey Sollberger '64 GSAS, among other leading lights. "I took 16th-century counterpoint with Vladimir Ussachevsky, who was one of the higher-ups in the electronic

music world, so that was kind of ironic," Donelian says.

Jazz education was not something Columbia offered for credit back then. Still, he could learn plenty by transcribing John Coltrane solos or listening to Bill Evans from the steps of the Village Vanguard. Donelian also played in a talented lab band in the basement of Dodge Hall, led by the brilliant alto saxophonist and pianist Marc Copland '70. Sam Morrison '73 also played in the group; a few years later he was with Miles Davis. Meanwhile, Donelian worked evenings at The King's Table, a restaurant nestled within John Jay Hall, playing solo piano while the young gentlemen of the College dined in style. Unlike the student cafeteria just steps away, The King's Table even had tablecloths.

"Armen is a great player and he's a sweetheart — absolutely one of the good guys in the business," Copland says today. As students, he remembers,

they would improvise sophisticated duets in a two-piano practice room in Dodge. "Once we monkeyed around and played a mock classical duet in the style of Beethoven. We went on for five or 10 minutes and then fell off the piano benches, laughing."

After graduation, Donelian played with a country rock band and, on Copland's recommendation, began studying privately with renowned pianist Richie Beirach. "He opened the door to me, combining the harmony of contemporary music — Schoenberg, Bartók, Stravinsky and Berg — with jazz,"

Donelian says. In 1975, legendary Latin jazz percussionist and bandleader Mongo Santamaria auditioned

Donelian to fill the piano chair once occupied by such world-class players as Herbie Hancock and Chick Corea. Though he did not have experience playing Afro-Cuban jazz, Donelian got the gig and was on his way.

Donelian has distilled much of the wisdom gleaned from four decades of professional experience into his latest instructional book: *Whole Notes: A Piano Masterclass*, which takes up such basic matters as posture, practice routines, mental health, body awareness and the physics of playing piano. "The book is about how to practice as well as what to practice," Donelian says. The holistic approach extends to personal revelation; he discusses such painful episodes as the loss of his parents, a bitter divorce and a nearly career-ending hand injury he suffered when he lost his temper during an argument in 1991. "Ultimately, it's all about expressing what's inside through the instrument, so that there's a kind of a conduit, an effortless conduit for these ideas and feelings to proceed from conception to realization."

Asked for the advice he might give a talented student who worries about pursuing jazz as a career, Donelian says, "I remember when I was studying with Richie Beirach, he said, 'Do what you love and you'll make a living from it.' There are a lot of people out there making lots of money, but they don't love what they do. And ultimately in life, if you want to be happy, if that's something of value to you, then you should give that your first priority."

Go to armenjazz.com for Donelian's performance dates, sound clips and more.

Former CCT editor **Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business**, previously jazz director of WKCR radio, writes for Smithsonian Magazine and other publications.



Armen Donelian '72 at sunset, facing west, in his music studio in Hudson, N.Y., where he also hosts the annual Hudson Jazz Workshop.

PHOTO: DAVID LEE

chael Handler (chief of pediatric neurosurgery at the University of Colorado). Ends up our class is quite a brainy bunch. Who would have thunk?!

With all the talk about the IPO of Facebook, I decided it was time to check my neglected “wall.” The result was amazing: during a single week I had received numerous postings. There was a picture posted by **Ed Berliner** (director of science management at Yeshiva University in upper Manhattan) of his two grandchildren. **Barry Klayman** (law partner at Cozen O’Connor in Wilmington, Del.) told of his daughter, Alison, receiving an award at the Sundance Film Festival for her documentary on the contemporary artist and dissident Ai Weiwei. **Peter Boody** (retired) shared that his most recent novel, *Thomas Jefferson, Rachel and Me*, got four out of five stars on Goodreads.com; the book speculates what would happen if Jefferson returned to life in 2011, but was “penniless, powerless and without a single slave.” **Ken Krug**

Steven Simon ’74 is the senior director for the Middle East and North Africa at the National Security Council.

(COO of The Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles) shared, “I am so thrilled that our daughter, Simone, started full-time as an employee at MoMA in NYC.” There was also a memorable review of *Lulu*, a collaborative album between the rock group Metallica and Lou Reed, by rabbi/professor **Pinchas Giller** (you knew him as Paul).

More than 10 percent of our classmates are on Facebook (many just to get the pictures posted by their children). During this one week of postings, I also saw news and commentary from **Bob Adler**, **Raouf Abdulla**, **Darryl Chin**, **Daryl Downing**, **Mark Goldfield**, **Barry Gruber**, **Chris Hansen**, **Roger Kahn**, **Bruce Malamut**, **James Russell**, **Arthur Schwartz** and **Carl Yirka**. If any of these guys — or the many others who didn’t post that week — are your buddies from more than 400 moons ago, give Facebook a try. As geeky as it sounds, “friend” them and see if you like following what is happening in their lives.

While you might find it hard to believe, I am not a regular viewer of *The Martha Stewart Show* on the Hallmark Channel. However, when I got a call from **Scott Kunst** out in Ann Arbor, Mich., that he was doing the show’s “garden spot,” I set the DVR to capture his advice on spring bulb planting

techniques. Even though Scott has owned Old House Gardens (a purveyor of heirloom bulbs) for many years, Martha was able to stump him. Referring to the dahlias that they were planting, Martha asked, “Are these bulbs girls or boys?” Scott responded with the memorable, “I like talking about sex, but that’s a question I don’t know the answer to, Martha.” (Only a member of the Class of ’74 could find a way to work sex into Martha Stewart’s show!)

I held until the end news of two classmates who passed away. It is with great sadness that I report that **David Wolff**, an attorney in NYC, died on April 9, 2009, and **Mark Tessier**, who worked in public finance in New Orleans, died on August 21, 2011. We have not received details, so please let me know if you have anything to add. Our thoughts go out to those lucky enough to have had them as friends during the past four decades.

There you have it. A class that goes back to before *Saturday Night Live*, yet has embraced Facebook.

A class whose members are selling municipal bonds and heirloom bulbs, who head up some of the top neurology departments around the country and who influence the nation’s Middle East policy. Plus reports of the kids of our classmates doing amazing things. Can’t wait to see what we do next!

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Those of you who read the heading of this column might note a new email for me. What a hassle! My previous account got hacked (hard and viciously) in the spring. Some of you know details, including painful ones. Also, if you’ve sent me items for Class Notes, I haven’t gotten them. My apologies to all, and I also apologize for a short set of Notes this time. Now that you have a good email for me, please use it.

Jim Dolan is experiencing empty-nest syndrome, but at least he admits it. Daughter Zoe is now in Manhattan, working for a fashion web start-up. Jim admits that he sometimes goes up to her room and “adjusts the shades or plumps the pillows.”

Elliot Pisem and **Joseph Lipari** continue to publish, and both have had recent articles in the *New York*

Law Journal.

Steve Jacobs and **Ira Malin** represented our class at the annual John Jay Awards Dinner on March 7. Ira said it “was another amazing evening that showcased our outstanding students and, as Interim Dean Jim Valentini would call them, our outstanding ‘former students’ — all of whom made mention of how the Core was so important to their personal and professional development.”

Now at Easton & Van Winkle, **Robert D. Katz** also is a member of both the American and New York Intellectual Property Law Associations. Befitting a chemistry major, Bob’s practice involves biotech, nanotech, advanced materials, chemicals and pharmaceuticals. He recently was inducted into the prestigious Conner Inn of Court in New York City.

After Rick Santorum won a few early primaries (I’m writing this in March), I wrote to Fr. **C.J. McCloskey** and asked for comments about Santorum’s candidacy. The former senator and C.J. are friends from C.J.’s time in Washington, D.C. But, since it was Lent, I wasn’t expecting a quick reply. Maybe C.J. will share some thoughts in time for the next issue.

An outstanding alum to all of his alma maters, **Robert Schneider** has been reelected to another year on the board of the University of Pennsylvania Club of Long Island. Bob also is class correspondent for his 1979 class for *Wharton Magazine* and was among the attendees at a Regis H.S. alumni event. He and his wife, Regina Mulahy ’75 Barnard, traveled a lot this year, including to D.C. and Texas to visit sons John ’07 and James and to Canada with daughter Meg.

My sister Robyn and I recently helped a neighbor clean out his parents’ home; there was an incredible collection of Judaica that Robyn was collecting for a friend. While unloading the bookshelves, I found many books that I remembered from my college days — from Lit Hum, CC and religion courses. After the boxes get moved and unpacked, I’ll be visiting to borrow a few, then returning and going back for more. As reported in previous columns, I’ve been re-reading lots of things that I first read at Columbia. Thanks again, Columbia, and thanks especially for the Core.

Classmates have recommended the following good reads: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot, *Lamb* by Christopher Moore (that’s my pick; a hilarious complement to the above), *Dark of the Moon* by John Sandford and Roger Crowley’s *Constantinople: The Last Great Siege*.

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First, please note my new email address at the top of the column. Write me there, and write me often.

Dr. **John Markowitz** has co-edited with Myrna Weissman Ph.D., a new book, *Casebook of Interpersonal Psychotherapy*, which offers clinicians clinical illustrations of interpersonal psychotherapy, a time-limited, empirically validated psychotherapy for depression, bulimia and other psychiatric disorders. He continues to conduct research at Columbia on psychotherapies for posttraumatic stress disorder.

Dr. **Patrick Griffin** ’80 P&S has been named chief medical officer and s.v.p. of development at ImmusanT, a privately held biotechnology company focused on restoring tolerance to gluten in celiac disease sufferers, to help return patients to a less constrained diet and improved quality of life. His previous position was head of external innovation for the immuno-inflammation therapeutic strategy unit at Sanofi, a French pharmaceutical company. There, Patrick had focused on therapeutic approaches to autoimmunity through immune system modulation.

He did his internship and residency in internal medicine at New York Presbyterian Hospital, had a fellowship in gastroenterology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and joined the medical faculty of P&S. He then spent several years in the private practice of internal medicine and gastroenterology in New York City before he moved to industry.

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The only news this issue is personal. I attended Alumni Reunion Weekend five years ago, and swore a mighty oath I’d attend our 35th. No dice: my daughter Caitlin graduated from high school on the weekend in question. For some reason, she wasn’t enthusiastic about celebrating it on South Lawn — too far from DeKalb, Ill., or some similar lame excuse. Three years ago, I had to turn down an invitation to speak at a conference in England when my son Colin graduated. I can’t recall whether I mentioned this (I really should read my own columns), but Colin attends Northern Illinois Univer-

sity and will be a senior next year — yikes — while Caitlin is off to the University of Illinois.

In any event, I’m counting on all of you to be my deputies and send in reports from the weekend. I look forward to hearing about it and writing a full report for the Fall issue.

Something that I’ve never been sure how to handle is classmate deaths. These have not been numerous so far, thank goodness; but I always have been reluctant to make remarks about the notices that have appeared, from time to time, in the Obituaries section. If it’s someone I knew, I feel that whatever I might say would be unfair to deceased classmates I didn’t know, or know well. And a standing request for tributes or memories would involve other problems. Your advice or suggestions on this topic are welcome.

I am going to try breaking my rule this time, however, and pay respects to **Damien Bona**, with whom I worked on *Spectator* back in the day. He was one of those serious, self-effacing people who did great work without needing to be noticed for it. He also was one of those happy few who not only, as the cliché has it, pursued his passion (for film and especially for the Academy Awards) but did so successfully. I was glad to hear that he made it to the red carpet, only feet from Liz Taylor.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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Is it really possible that reunion time is coming around again? We’re a year away from our 35th. I remember when just being 35 seemed impressive, but this is a bit harder to get my arms around. On the other hand, I have probably never felt better: Life is good, family is healthy, parents are still calling me every day or two and my children are growing into independent people.

Our very own anti-plutocrat plutocrat, **Rick MacArthur**, president and publisher of *Harper’s Magazine*, was this year’s Class Day speaker, thus becoming the third member of the tribe of ’78 to grace that august podium. Rick follows Federal Judge **Joe Greenaway** and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright **Tony Kushner**. Are three speakers in 35 years a

record for any class? We will see if any of the WKCR sports alumni can come up with the relevant stats by next issue. (By the way, can anyone remember who spoke at our Class Day?)

Exciting news from our Pulitzer-Prize winner and former WKCR program chief, **Tim Weiner**: “My new book, *Enemies: A History of the FBI*, came out February 14. It’s a sequel to *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*, which in 2007 won the National Book Award for nonfiction. Advance word on *Enemies* from reviewers: ‘A riveting inside account of the FBI’s secret machinations that goes so deep into the agency’s skullduggery, readers will feel they are tapping the phones along with J. Edgar Hoover,’ says Jane Mayer, author of *The Dark Side*. ‘Fast-paced, fair-minded and fascinating,’ says Jeffrey Toobin, author of *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*. The next book in the works is a history of the American military since WWII.”

I have heard Tim on NPR’s *Fresh Air* and other radio shows and was blown away (as with the last book) by his command of the subject and explorations of the nature of power and truth. Great stuff and already on my iPad.

Paul Phillips, director of orchestras and chamber music at Brown, also has been busy writing. “In 2010, Manchester University Press published my book, *A Clockwork Counterpoint: The Music and Literature of Anthony Burgess*, which one reviewer praised as ‘sumptuous, prodigiously researched, elegantly written ... a necessary and splendid book.’

“An essay drawn from that book appeared in the new Norton Critical Edition of *A Clockwork Orange*. Boosey & Hawkes published my reduced orchestration of Igor Stravinsky’s opera, *Mavra*, which was performed at Glyndebourne Festival in England.

“Last year brought the release of the Naxos CD *Music for Great Films of the Silent Era*, on which I conduct the RTÉ National Symphony of Ireland in music by American composer William Perry and the premiere of ‘Battle-Pieces,’ my latest composition. It’s a cycle of six songs for baritone and orchestra [based on] Civil War poems by Herman Melville. During 2010–11, I guest-conducted in France, in New York at the Manhattan School of Music and in Rhode Island, where I conducted a production of Mozart’s opera *Così fan tutte* for Opera Providence.”

As of when Paul wrote, he was looking forward to attending his daughter Joanna ’12’s graduation in May.

I’m tired just thinking of all this output.

Aaron Saul Greenberg says, “As a practicing cardiologist and internist in private practice, I am feeling more and more like a dinosaur. However, as a break I am giving a lecture at my local synagogue on the topic of how to live to 100. I also will be getting together soon with my ex-Columbia roommate, **Jonny Aranoff**, whom I haven’t seen in more than a year.”

Joseph S. Tarella reports, “I have lived at the same location on the Upper West Side since my days at Columbia. This would make me ‘campus furniture,’ I believe. I have been with my wife, Lee Shain Ph.D. ’92 TC, for more than 30 years. She has her own psychology practice in Manhattan.

Henry Aronson ’78 is music director at Rock of Ages on Broadway, playing keyboards, conducting and headbanging.

“I’ve run my architectural practice, Sawicki Tarella Architecture+Design, for more than 25 years, and we recently moved into our own building on West 13th Street at the edge of the West Village and the Meatpacking District. We specialize in luxury retail and we help foreign clients from all over enter the U.S. market, both in New York and across the country. I recently completed a Japanese church in Brooklyn. I also make and sell artistic maps as a hobby (coastalart maps.com), which I’ve been doing for more than 10 years.

“Lee and I are creditable ballroom dancers, working on getting better about twice a week for almost 15 years. We enjoy the beach, where we have a summer home, and we travel as much as we can.”

From **Henry Aronson** we hear: “I’m music director at *Rock of Ages* on Broadway, playing keyboards, conducting and headbanging in my ’80s big-hair wig and motor-cycle jacket. I’m raising money for *Loveless Texas*, the original musical written by me and my wife, Cailin Heffernan. It’s based loosely on *Love’s Labour’s Lost* and is set in Texas oil country during the Great Depression; the music is good trad-Americana stuff. Columbians who are aspiring or experienced producers, or who just enjoy good times and good tunes, are invited to check out lovelesstexas.com.”

John Nastuk says, “I’m in my 31st year with GE Aviation in Lynn, Mass., and am a senior engineer. My oldest son graduated as a mechanical engineer from Maine in 2010; his younger brother is a senior at Connecticut studying biomedical engineering. Their mother,

the artist, doesn’t know what to do with three engineers in the house. Home stretch on the tuition bills, but not ready to retire quite yet.”

Eric M. Bates writes, “Bless us all and deliver us from these times. A course at Columbia preparing us for this would have been helpful. On a different note, I am curious if anyone knows whether there is any video available of professor Jim Shenton ’49, ’54 GSAS giving one of his infamous lectures?”

Professor Shenton was my adviser; I think of him often and can still hear his voice thundering in my ear late at night. According to my research, he taught a 76-hour survey course on public television called *The Rise of the American Nation*. Does

anyone know how we can get it? I couldn’t find it on the Internet.

While on the Shenton theme, **Bennett Caplan** writes, “As **Tony Dellicarri** reported some years back, a number of us ’78-ers, including **Gary Becker**, **Cal Parker**, **Joe Vidulich** and sometimes **Rob Chametzky**, have gathered, along with our families, each Fourth of July for nearly 25 years, catching up, watching our children grow up and retelling stories. It’s been a terrific tradition.

“Through my daughter, Allie ’11, I was able to relive my college experiences to no small degree in recent years, beginning during her freshman year when we helped her move into her ninth-floor room in Furnald, which faced the campus. About a year ago, Allie received the Dean Hawkes Memorial Prize at an awards ceremony at Faculty House, where I found that professors James Shenton’s and Wallace Gray’s names were now attached to awards. I felt it incumbent to tell the two recipients how Professor Shenton was the best lecturer I ever had at any school on any topic, and how having Professor Gray (who modeled himself after Tennessee Williams) critique our attempts at playwrighting made us feel as if we were Owen Wilson’s character in *Midnight in Paris*.

“Then I joined the ranks of proud parents when, at the end of Allie’s four years at Columbia, I marched in the rain with others [in the Alumni Parade of Classes with] the Class of 1978 at her graduation ceremony.”

Michael Glanzer writes, “At one of our reunions the College provided light blue Columbia T-shirts. My daughter Rebecca, who

was there, asked to wear the shirt, and a photograph of her appeared in *CCT* as part of its coverage of the event. I confess that while I found the photo touching, I did not consider it a harbinger of future events. And yet now she has been admitted to the Class of 2016! Our family is very excited for her."

From **Conrad Kiechel**: "In September, my wife, Nancy, and I moved from the East Coast to Los Angeles, when I started as director of communications for the Milken Institute in Santa Monica. Nancy is a native Angeleno and is thrilled to be back in her hometown, though it's changed a bit in the 30 years since she left. I'm enjoying working at a think tank three blocks from the Pacific though our kids remain firmly entrenched on the East Coast. Daughter Claire is a playwright in Manhattan and Charlotte graduated from Williams in the spring."

Don Endrizzi reports, "After 24 years in private practice as an orthopedic surgeon, I recently transitioned to a more academic practice at Maine

Joseph Mysak Jr. '79, of Bloomberg news, marked 30 years covering the municipal bond market.

Medical Center in Portland. I will continue to do primarily shoulder surgery but will have increased teaching and research responsibilities. My wife, Peggy Pennoyer '82 P&S, is in private practice as an allergist. Our daughter, Julie, continues the Columbia tradition as a third-year medical student at P&S while her brother Doug completes a two-year, Yale-China teaching fellowship. Mark, our youngest, is a freshman at Bowdoin."

Bill Schuster writes, "I am approaching my 20th year as executive director of the Black Rock Forest Consortium field station in Cornwall, N.Y. The 4,000 acres are a great place to get immersed in nature, just an hour north of the George Washington Bridge. And, after a much-needed sabbatical last year, I am at my office in the forest ready for visits from classmates!"

Gary Pickholz has been appointed Chazen Visiting Scholar at the Business School for the coming academic year. He notes, "I would like to include some of life's other passages, which have been far less kind but are as endemic to our lives, but those sort of life cycle realities seem most unwelcome on our class pages. I contend we are poorer for it."

Keep those cards and letters coming and, if you don't see your update here, please send it again; I lost a few when my home system crashed.

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Last January, **Joseph Mysak Jr.** of Bloomberg news marked 30 years covering the municipal bond market. He writes, "This January, the Bloomberg Press imprint at Wiley published my distillation of that experience, *Encyclopedia of Municipal Bonds*, whose format was inspired by, believe it or not, *The Lincoln Assassination Encyclopedia*, by Edward Steers Jr. I didn't think it would work out this way back when I was arts editor in my *Spectator* days (1978-79), so go figure."

I can't help but laugh at what may be the most-sleep inducing title in the history of literature. Not only does reading an encyclopedia put me to sleep, but pretty much any of the small print related to municipal bonds will solve a case of insomnia! ... All kidding aside, Joe, you were amazing at *Spectator* and you still have that fire burning.

Jeffrey Frieden lives in Brookline, Mass., with his wife, Anabela, and their 15-year-old son, Alexander. Jeffrey is a professor in the Department of Government at Harvard. "My research focuses on the politics of international monetary and financial relations, which makes these particularly interesting times for me," he writes. "In fact, I have a new book (with Menzie Chinn) called *Lost Decades: The Making of America's Debt Crisis and the Long Recovery*."

What a coincidence; I just read about this in the *Encyclopedia of Municipal Bonds*!

Robert C. Klapper: "My thoughts for this column are about the unsung heroes in our journey through the College more than 30 years ago: our family support system. Just think about how our four years away from home impacted them. Some of my greatest memories are not of the classroom, the crew team or drawing cartoons for *Spectator*, or even the occasional romp with a Barnard girl, but of meeting visiting family members in the elevator, in the hallway and so on.

"One such memory I have kept all these years was of my mother and I meeting a most impressive father. In our class were a set of twins, football players, **John Kelly** and **Michael Kelly**. I never could tell who was who, but I'm convinced they would alternate going to each other's classes since conversations could never be

remembered from one day to the next.

"On my first day checking into Carman Hall with my parents, the elevator door opened and my mother, 5-foot-1, who was born in a faraway country in Eastern Europe, found herself staring at the largest man she had ever seen. He was wearing cowboy boots, a giant silver belt buckle and a cowboy hat, and was holding not one but two gigantic cases, one in each hand, of Kellogg's Corn Flakes. This man was the father of the Kelly brothers. For my mother, it was like finding the Lincoln Memorial in the elevator. Here was the most American figure and largest representation, in every which way, of this fantastic country. My mother, never ashamed to speak to anyone, said to this marble sculpture of a man, 'Who is going to eat all of that cereal?'"

"And in this booming baritone voice with a twang, he replied, 'Ma'am, my boys can eat a lot.' "She then said, 'Your sons and my son are in the same class.' He replied, 'Yes, ma'am, they are and you should be very proud.' The smile on my mother's face is burned in my memory.

"God bless you, Mr. Kelly, wherever you are.

"Roar, lion, roar!"

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"Well, woke up this morning with a wine glass in my hand. Whose wine? What wine? Where the hell did I dine? Must have been a dream, I don't believe where I've been. Come on, let's do it again."

—Peter Frampton

I saw Frampton at the Beacon Theatre earlier this year, and he was amazing. Brings back lots of good memories from 1976 and our high school graduation.

I trust that you all had a healthy and productive spring and that you are preparing for some summer fun. My spring was dominated by baseball, golf and travel.

Speaking of baseball, the Columbia team traveled to the West Coast for a grueling schedule against some of the top teams. **Eric Blattman** came out for opening weekend and saw a win against Lehigh. His early assessment was that we had excellent pitching but our bats had not woken up. After a pep talk with Bill Campbell '62 at The Old Pro in Palo Alto, Calif., coach Brett Boretti righted the ship and we had another quality season in league play. We continue to have

success in recruiting quality players, which can only lead us to more Ivy League championships. **Ray Commisso** and I spoke at the pre-season party about the development of the baseball stadium and how far we have come during the past few years.

I am excited to report that our new football coach, Pete Mangurian, has assembled a top-quality staff and is pleased with his incoming class of student-athletes. **Shawn FitzGerald**, Eric and I had the opportunity to spend some time with him, and we walked away impressed with his football knowledge and understanding of the league's recruiting process. We also mixed some golf with our football at the annual golf outing, sponsored by the athletics department and football team. Our team of Shawn, Eric, **Scott Ahern**, **Joe Ciulla** and myself represented well, and our match versus the Class of '81 ended in a draw. Joe, who was back from Thailand, sank a monster putt to push the match. **AJ Sabatelle** joined us for dinner as we honored Hal Robertson '81E for his commitment to athletics.

I ran into **Kevin Matthews** at the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 7. Kevin is the executive director of Columbia's Double Discovery Center, which helps children and young adults build academic skills and focus on high school graduation, college entrance and completion and becoming responsible adults. It is a much-needed program and deserves our support.

Jim Gerkis and I met up at a Class Agent meeting in late March, and we remind you that the Columbia College Fund needs your support. The fiscal year ends on Saturday, June 30, so there is still time to get your gift in. Give online (college.columbia.edu/giveonline), call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488) or mail a check payable to Columbia College Fund to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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I received a nice update from **Tim Landry**, who resides in Hopkinton, N.H., and is busy raising three young children. Tim met up with Sam Ward '82 in Foxborough to watch the Patriots-Giants game (Tim is a Patriots fan, Sam an erstwhile Giants fan). They hooked up

about five years ago on Martha's Vineyard and, from the message Tim sent, enjoyed taunting each other mightily about the matchup.

Tim says his son, Theo (10), is an amazing video game player and "damned good" snowboarder but unlikely to follow him to Morning-side Heights. (Tim, have him apply to Colorado — great access to the Rockies!) His daughter, Kyanna (6), is "Ivy League" material, but he thinks she may head to archrival Brown instead of Columbia. Youngest son Lucas (3) plans to become a monster truck (or monster truck driver).

Tim spends as much time as he can in Oak Bluffs on the Vineyard, and reaches out to our class to say hello, especially to the "ruggers."

William C. Skurla has been named the archbishop of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. He was formally enthroned on April 18 at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. Previously, he was the bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Passaic, N.J. The Pittsburgh Archeparchy is the only self-governing Eastern Catholic church in the United States, and its territory stretches from Pennsylvania to Texas. "The Byzantine Catholic Church follows the practices and spiritual tradition of the Eastern churches, but in union with Rome like several other Byzantine and Maronite churches," William says. He is interested in drawing people back to the church and is an admirer of Archbishop Fulton Sheen, a prolific writer and 1950s radio and television personality. William attended Mary Immaculate Center in Northampton, where he earned a master's in divinity in 1986 and a master's in theology in 1987.

Congratulations on the appointment.

On February 10, **Mark Hansen**, **Brian Krisberg** and **Daniel Tamkin** attended the Burgers and Basketball event at Havana Central at The West End. I'm not sure who won or who even played against Columbia, but I hope they had a good time regardless.

It is with sadness that I announce the passing of **Raymond E. Morrison** on November 26. Raymond was a financial planner who resided in Detroit Lakes, Minn. If you would like to share a memory or reflection of Ray, please drop me a note and I will include it in my next *CCT* column.

Finally, for those proud parents who have graduating children, enjoy this season! I have two daughters graduating this spring, Courtney (earning an M.A. in education from Virginia) and Lindsey (earning a B.A. in Spanish from James Madison). The load is getting lighter.

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Greetings, gentlemen. I trust all is well. By the time this note is published our 30th reunion will have occurred. But, as of this writing, I was looking forward to seeing many of you at the event and reporting on it in the Fall issue.

Writing in this period was the esteemed and talented cellist/composer **Erik Friedlander**, who has collaborated on a new limited edition LP, *American Power*, with photographer Mitch Epstein. According to the press materials, "The 500 hand-numbered albums are signed by both artists and feature six new solo cello compositions and gatefold artwork by Epstein, as well as a two-sided, 24x36 inch poster of Epstein's photographs and Friedlander's handwritten score. Purchase of the 180-gram, audiophile LP is accompanied by a free digital download of the music." For more information, go to americanpowermusic.com.

I did a little digging around on Erik and visited erikfriedlander.com. There is some very cool stuff there! Not only are various recordings available but also news updates, podcast interviews and even entire online cello technique classes. Really worth a look and a listen. [Editor's note: See March/April 2011.]

Please write in your updates and your favorite moments from Alumni Reunion Weekend. It will be much appreciated.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013**
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Greetings, classmates! My family attended the Columbia/Princeton basketball game in January. We had dinner at V&T with Mark Simon '84 and his family, David Lebowitz '86 and his family and Paul Maddon '81. Also dining at V&T before the game were **Ed Joyce** and **Michael McCarthy** with their families. Ed is a partner at Jones Dow specializing in insurance recovery. He has been recognized as a leading lawyer for insurance coverage disputes by Chambers

USA. His also is a tireless Columbia supporter, former Columbia star athlete and all-around terrific guy. Michael looks great and lives with his family in NYC.

I also had the pleasure of catching up with **Neal Smolar** at the game. Neal is associate general counsel and v.p. at UBS Paine Webber. He is in touch with **Lenny Rosen**, CEO at Barclays Capital Israel, and **Steve Arenson**. Steve is managing partner at Arenson Dittmar & Karban, a firm that specializes in fighting discrimination and harassment in the marketplace. Steve previously was a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Reena Raggi, taught constitutional law at Yale and Miami and was an associate in the litigation department of Paul, Weiss. Neal also is friendly with **Jeff Walker** and recently ran into **Adam Bayroff** at a real estate dinner.

My family also attended the Columbia/Brown basketball game in February. We sat next to Rick Wolf '86 and spoke with **Andy Gershon**. I am sad to report that Andy's father, Richard Gershon '53, passed away. I had mentioned in the Spring 2012 Class Notes how important legacy families, such as the Gershons, are to Columbia. Andy's daughter is a star goalie at Stuyvesant H.S. and his son excels at basketball. I also conversed with **Steve Greenfield**, a regular at Columbia basketball games. I had the pleasure of seeing Ken Howitt '76, whose daughter, Katey '13, loves Columbia. Ken helped organize WKCR's 70th anniversary celebration.

Through the support of friends and colleagues (and a good marketing department), **Kenny Chin** says, he was voted to the list of Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in the area of financing. Ken has been sought for speaking on financing topics through the City Bar and the Practicing Law Institute. He continues his volunteer work with the Charles B. Wang Community Health Center. His wife, Lisa, works for the Empire State Development Corp., which focuses on economic development and job creation for New York state.

Wayne Allyn Root writes of his daughter, "Dakota is in Israel for three weeks during holiday break, her Birthright trip." She is a student at Harvard.

Michael M. Epstein is a professor of law and supervising editor for the *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law* at Southwestern Law School.

My wife, Deborah, and I attended the John Jay Awards Dinner on March 7, where **Daniel S. Loeb** was an honoree. Dan is CEO of Third Point, an employee-owned

hedge fund that he founded in 1995 and that has grown from \$3 million to more than \$9 billion in assets under management today. Also an activist, Dan is known for his public letters to government leaders and other financial executives denouncing their financial misconduct. As his awards citation says, he has "fought tirelessly for better corporate governance, shareholder rights and principles of accountability and high standards." Dan also is behind The Daniel S. Loeb Scholarship Fund, which was created in 2010 to provide current-use financial aid to Columbia students.

Excerpts of Dan's acceptance speech are as follows:

"When I was in college I liked this Elvis Costello song, 'What's So Funny (Bout) Peace, Love and Understanding?'"

"I think today we need a new song, 'What's So Funny About Individual Freedom, Free Enterprise and Accountability?'"

"In fact, I might add, what's so funny about celebrating the entrepreneurial spirit that made this country great? This entrepreneurial spirit is applicable not only to business but also to the arts and to humanitarian efforts, as is evident by my fellow awardees tonight.

"I think this is still an aspirational country but there are some people who think it is fashionable to denigrate success, while others try to stir up class warfare. I was surprised last fall to see an economics professor ensconced in an Occupy Wall Street mob decrying the 1 percent, attributing all the country's problems to an issue of poor distribution of wealth and accusing the so-called 1 percent of being lazy. [Dan directs us to youtube.com/watch?v=0UxtjTWahWM and watch at the 6:30 mark.

"Certainly he did not speak for the university where he is tenured, but for an economics professor to carry on like this — really? We have a problem when young people are taught that our country is fundamentally unfair and encouraged

What's Your Story?

Letting classmates know what's going on in your life is easier than ever. Send in your Class Notes!

ONLINE by clicking college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

EMAIL to the address at the top of your column.

MAIL to the address at the top of your column.

to see themselves as victims. It is even more upsetting when our leaders tell us that it is their role to make amends for these wrongs via increased and capricious regulation, excessive entitlements, ill-conceived subsidies and punitive prosecutions.

“So, I am delighted to stand here tonight to celebrate not my own success but to cheer the idea of professional accomplishment and the role Columbia has had in so many people’s lives in achieving their dreams through the John Jay scholarships and the College generally. Columbia’s ability to attract and cultivate some of the nation’s greatest leaders goes back a few years. My fellow classmate President Barack Obama and I may not agree on everything, but I congratulate him on his phenomenal political career. ...

“For me, Columbia was transformative. I don’t remember much about the specifics of the economics courses that I majored in — I apparently internalized the key concepts — but I still remember vividly the thrill of reading *Don Quixote*, *Epictetus*, *The Aeneid*, *King Lear* and *Candide*, and how contemporary the stories and ideas of these old and ancient texts struck me. ...

“But Columbia was not just professors and books; it was the friendships and the conversations, often at Tom’s or the College Inn, sometimes about girls or dreams or aspirations but often about those very great books or art, which we all internalized and which helped form the fabric of who we are today. ...

“Perhaps I was always intensely curious, but my Columbia education gave me a framework and a perspective to investigate new things — things that could be put into a historical and philosophical lineage. As I have grown older, the statues on Columbia’s campus of Rodin’s *The Thinker* and Founding Fathers like Hamilton and Jefferson, and the values they represent, have come to life and resonate within me.”

Dan, the Class of ’83 congratulates you for having received this special honor.

Significantly, Dan also was in the news, as Third Point has amassed a 6 percent stake in Yahoo! In the front page article from *The New York Times* Business Section (March 9), it states, “After a series of perceived missteps by the board ... Mr. Loeb decided to take a more aggressive posture. He now owns more than \$1 billion worth of Yahoo stock.

“His campaign comes as his personal interest in technology grows. The hedge fund manager — a technology neophyte who bought his first iPhone last year — has adopted up-and-coming mobile

applications, like Instagram, the photo-sharing service.

“Last summer, Mr. Loeb was surprised to discover that someone had adopted his persona on Twitter under the handle ‘danloeb.’ Disappointed that the fake Mr. Loeb’s postings were not witty, he reported the incident to Twitter, according to people close to him. The person switched the handle to ‘notdanloeb.’

“Over the last few months, Mr. Loeb has been devising a strategy for Yahoo. He believes it should focus on its core media and advertising business, according to the people close to him.”

Gary Brown ’85, former head of the U.S. attorney’s office on Long Island, was sworn in as a federal magistrate.

Marcus Brauchli, executive editor of *The Washington Post*, also was featured in a front page article in *The New York Times* Business Section (February 12). It states, “Mr. Brauchli is acutely aware of the tension that lies at the heart of his mission — a tension being faced not just by newspapers but by media companies in music, film, books, magazines and television. He is charged with maintaining the standards and legacy of a great institution — in this case, the newspaper of Katharine Graham, Ben Bradlee and [Robert] Woodward and Carl Bernstein — while confronting the harsh reality that in the digital age, the grandeur is gone.

“Mr. Brauchli has reacted to the upheaval by overseeing one of the most sweeping and closely watched reorientations of any newsroom in the country. The editors now stress online metrics and freely borrow from the playbooks of more nimble online competitors like Politico and The Huffington Post.

“Though Mr. Brauchli always understood his job would entail how to put out a daily newspaper and run a 24/7 website with shrinking resources, some of his editors have noticed that his relationship with the publisher has cooled.

“One veteran newsroom manager said Mr. Brauchli has described ‘a constant fight’ with the publisher over making further cuts. In an act that went largely unmentioned at the paper, Mr. Brauchli refused to accept a bonus one year, this person added.”

Our 30th reunion is fast approaching. You can save the date for Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. Please let me know if you would like to be on the Reunion Committee, or contact the appropriate Alumni

Office staff member listed at the top of the column.

84 **Dennis Klainberg**
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Peter Lunenfeld checking in — and how! “Had drinks and dinner with **Phil Donahue** when he was in Los Angeles shooting a commercial. Good to catch up as always. I started sculling again last fall and surf occasionally, so I get down to the water as much as I can. I enjoy

teaching at UCLA; recent books include *The Secret War Between Downloading and Uploading* and *Digital Humanities*, which comes out this fall. My wife Susan’s last novel was *Dial H for Hitchcock*, and she was aiming to finish a new one this spring. My daughter, Maud, is an eighth-grader at the Windward School. The big news is that my older daughter, Kyra, got into Columbia early decision and will be a member of the Class of 2016. With a new Lion in the family, I hope to find an excuse to come east for Homecoming [Saturday, October 20].”

Ed Mangiarotti writes, “After 17 years in the financial industry, eight years ago I shifted my career path to my passion, which is helping underserved children become successfully educated. The company, Lookout Learning, has developed a K–12 teaching software platform and content services that are designed to integrate with interactive whiteboards (Smart Boards). In effect, teachers are able to have superior classroom teaching capabilities to address the different learning levels and needs of their K–12 students. I would love to hear from anyone interested in changing the outcomes for high-poverty children — 516-241-5772. My wife, Carolyn, and I live in Locust Valley, N.Y., and our oldest, Meredith, attends Villanova and plays varsity lacrosse. Margot is a high school junior, Rose a sophomore and Teddy brings up the rear in fourth grade. ‘Roar, Lion, Roar.’”

At this year’s Alumni Office-sponsored Burgers and Basketball event, held February 10, **Angel Roman** was in attendance.

Marc Friedman, who lives in Jerusalem, is “saber rattling” once

again! And this columnist will gladly play the role of his “foil.” Marc writes, *en garde*: “Recently attended **Viktor Altschul**’s son’s bar mitzvah in Modi’in.” (Viktor, who is married to Amy Saffer Ariel ’89, is now known as Viktor Ariel; he is founder and CEO of Tekoia, a semiconductor manufacturer in Israel.)

Marc continues, *attaque*: “We both have gained a few pounds (and kids) since our fencing days but are enjoying life.” *Conversation*: “Viktor also has a daughter who said that her brother, Dan, the bar mitzvah boy, was the best brother a 10-year-old sister could have!” *Coulé*: “My wife, Batya, and I are still running around at home after an adorable 4-year-old, Shalom Simcha, in addition to his siblings: Chana Tzipora (7), Talia (13), Alexander (15) and Ashira (16).”

Coup passé: “Our eldest, Zalman (20), is studying to be a religious judge; he was married in January 2011 to Rivi. He also finished the Babylonian Talmud a couple of months after his wedding; it was a multi-year project.”

Seconde intention: During a trip to New York, “I had a nice lunch in Manhattan with **Randy Elfenbein** and reconnected with **Nat Polish**, whom I have not seen since 1984!”

Nat writes, *riposte*: “It’s true, Marc and I had not seen each other since graduation. Marc was manager of the fencing team during some of the years that I was on the sabre squad. He had seen the news coverage of the retirement of the space shuttles and remembered that I had made a habit of attending shuttle launches. He was moved to contact me and, through the magic of Facebook, we reconnected. Marc was visiting New York and we got together. We spent a very enjoyable couple of hours at breakfast exchanging family photos and catching up on 25 years of marriage, kids and careers. It turns out that a lot does happen in 25 years!”

And finally, a second update from Marc, *contre-riposte*: “I am happy to announce that Batya and I can now be referred to as Zieda and Nana. In March, Rivi gave birth to a beautiful girl, our first grandchild. All are healthy. May we share many happy occasions together.”

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Gary Brown, the former head of the U.S. attorney’s office on Long Island and more recently chief litigator for CA Technologies in Islandia, N.Y., recently was sworn in as a federal magistrate on Long Island. Gary, a Yale Law gradu-

ate, worked initially as a clerk for the late U.S. District Judge Jacob Mishler and then spent 16 years as a federal prosecutor, rising to head the Long Island office.

Gary’s former colleague in the U.S. attorney’s office, Mark Lesko (now the town of Brookhaven supervisor), recalled how Gary was instrumental in starting the Long Island Gang Task Force, a joint effort of federal and local law enforcement. He added that Gary trained prosecutors who convicted hundreds of gang members, and said: “Long Island is a safer place because of those prosecutions, and Gary is owed a huge debt of gratitude.”

In his own remarks, Gary noted his grandparents were the children of Italian immigrants: “Today I am being sworn in as a federal magistrate judge — just think of how unimaginable this would have been for my grandparents. My family has lived the American dream.”

I was pleased this winter to attend the *Columbia Daily Spectator* Annual Awards Dinner, where the speaker was none other than **Julius Genachowski**, FCC chairman. [See feature in this issue.] In a discussion moderated by Steve Waldman ’84, Julius commented on a wide range of topical issues (such as limited wireless bandwidth and net neutrality) that may come under the oversight of the FCC. Also in attendance were **Rich Froehlich** and **Tom Vinciguerra**. Because of my son’s membership on the managing board, every Saturday at home we receive every edition of *Spectator*, which keeps us up to date on campus issues in a great way.

Also this past winter, the highlight of my annual business trip to San Francisco was dinner with the always entertaining **Michael Cho** and his wife, Julie ’95 Business. Michael continues to head DRX, which — since its inception in 1999 as DestinationRx — has grown from a pioneer in consumer drug comparison and purchasing to a recognized drug and health plan comparison industry leader. DRX data and tools are licensed by the government, America’s largest health plans, pharmacy benefit managers, field marketing organizations, brokers, pharmacies and other consumer advocates including AARP and Consumers Union.

John Keller was named a director at Deloitte Services.

John Casanova emailed with one of my most memorable responses to a request for news: “I guess ‘sitting in the Old Red Cow pub drinking ale’ is not much of an update.”

In point of fact, John works with Sidley Austin in London, where he has practiced since 1999 and is head of its London Financial Services Regulatory Group. He ad-



Jon Dwyer ’89 (standing) visited Ed Cespedes ’88 at his Fort Lauderdale, Fla., home in March. They are pictured with (clockwise from top right) Ed’s son, Michael; Jon’s children, Calum, Quinn, Penelope, Lillian and Colette; and Ed’s daughter, Caroline.

vises clients on a variety of English, E.U. and U.S. financial services regulatory and transactional matters. He also advises on data protection and privacy matters. He is an editor of *E-Finance & Payments Law & Policy*, a contributor to *The Review of Banking & Financial Services* and the *Journal of International Banking Law*, and a contributing editor for *Electronic Money and Payment Systems* to Butterworths Financial Regulation Service.

Paul Stevelman is co-general counsel of RBS Securities in Stamford, Conn. His wife, Peri, is a fashion designer in NYC. He notes, “We recently sponsored an interactive website for Arc of Westchester, through which teenagers with developmental disabilities and their families can learn about New York state and federal community and educational supports. Arc of Westchester is Westchester County’s largest service provider to people with developmental disabilities.”

Paul recently toured campus with his college-age son and would like to reconnect with old friends.

Kevin Townley left in May for a six-month tour of duty in the United Arab Emirates as part of the 103rd Air Control Squadron of the Connecticut Air National Guard: “I deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 2003. I am an RF (radio frequency) transmissions specialist and I will be maintaining ground to air radios as well as satellite links. It will be the first time for me to be away from my daughter,

Olivia Kate (2½). My wife, Teresa, will spend more time visiting with her mom and dad in Commack, N.Y., while I’m away. I will have to miss the Homecoming game [Saturday, October 20], but the tradition of having a 125-lb. roasted pig at Wien Stadium will be carried on by Dave Ortiz ’86, Bill Flick ’87, Dan Botich ’87, Jason Pitkin ’87 and many other football alumni. Go Lions, with the new head football coach Pete Mangurian.”

In 2010, **Jerry Wheeler** founded del Rey Global Investors — an international and global equity manager based in Los Angeles — with his friend and CIO Paul J. Hechmer (former head of International Equity strategies at Nuveen Investments). Del Rey currently has about \$2.8 billion in assets under management, and its clients include mutual funds, separately managed accounts and institutional separate accounts. Jerry is the COO, responsible for the firm’s business affairs (except investments). He lives in Pacific Palisades, Calif., with his wife of 18 years, Lynn, and their children, Megan (16), Will (16) and Ben (15). According to Jerry, the kids “enjoy crash-testing our cars.”

I also heard from my fellow Glee Clubber, and reunion moderator extraordinaire, **Leslie Smartt**. Leslie is working full-time on the Obama campaign. In a pursuit I fully endorse, Leslie also has been interviewing College applicants [Alumni Representative Committee; studentaffairs.columbia.edu/

admissions/ alumni/ volunteers.php] these past few months. She says, “I always enjoy it, but man, the competition!” Her second daughter, Clare, has been accepted at Lowell H.S. in San Francisco (regarded as the Stuyvesant H.S. of the West). She follows her sister, Kate, who finished her freshman year (and loved it, according to Leslie). Leslie concludes: “My son JJ won’t be far behind. Time marches on!”

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Lauren Rosen Herman writes, “I’m happy living in Modi’in, Israel, where I am a pediatrician with the Clalit Health Services HMO. Love my work, love the kids, love the continuity of seeing the same families for years. My four kids are growing. The triplets, Eden, Gabriel and Noa, are in ninth grade and we are helping them choose their ‘majors’ for high school, which officially starts in 10th grade here. At the end of March, we celebrated the bar mitzvah of our younger son, Nadav. And now, no big parties until the weddings!”

Addison Armstrong reports: “I recently was in California to visit colleges with my son, Angus, a junior in high school. While there we caught up with **John Murphy**, **Pat McGarrigle**, **Adam Pergament** and Matt Loera ’88. If Angus ends

up going to college there, it's good to know that he'll have a group of Columbia 'uncles' to help guide him (or at least, feed him a warm meal every now and then)."

John Featherman is running for Congress in the First Congressional District in Pennsylvania. Read all about it at featherman.com. "We can't let Barack Obama '83 have all the fun, can we?" John says.

You'll recall that John sought the Republican nomination for Philadelphia mayor in 2011. In the current race, he is running against incumbent Rep. Bob Brady, who has held the seat since 1998 and is chairman of the Philadelphia Democratic Party. When asked in an interview with WHY? News-Works if his run against Brady was a "potential suicide mission," John replied: "Everything I've attained was something that some people thought was unattainable."

After 30 years in NYC (dating back to our freshman year), **David Lebowitz** moved to the suburbs, to Armonk, N.Y., with his wife, Amy, and son, Aidan. David is assistant general counsel at Pitney Bowes.

Mark Goldstein is a patent and intellectual property attorney in Westlake Village, Calif. His firm, SoCal IP Law Group, recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Bill Fink recently joined the Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp. as assistant executive director for external affairs. He previously was director of development at Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service.

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For those of you expecting to read about the rip-roaring amazing time we modestly called our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, you will have to wait patiently for the next issue. I know you can do that. Yes, you can. If you try. One day at a time, as they say.

In the meantime ...

Two job changes to report, in no particular order: **Shelly Friedland** is now senior counsel at Grant & Eisenhofer, a plaintiffs' class action firm in New York City. And **David Goldiner** was promoted to the new position of deputy director of digital media at *The Jewish Daily Forward*.

Several members of the Class of '87 were spotted at February's Burgers and Basketball, an evening of Columbia-Brown basketball with a pre-game reception at Havana Central at The West End. **Marie Donoghue**, **Christine Jamgochian-Koobatian**, **Michael Liebowitz** and **Suzy Upton** were all in attendance

for the food, hoops and fun.

Dr. **Laura Brumberg** had the distinct privilege of attending an event I organized and hosted — the inaugural meeting of the Existential-Humanistic Institute's New York City Learning Community. EHI is a San Francisco-based organization designed to promote the education and training of existential-humanistic psychology; it sponsors conferences and trainings, including a new certificate program in existential-humanistic psychology at Saybrook University in San Francisco, where I am earning a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. For several years, EHI has been holding informal "learning communities" in the San Francisco area for psychologists and others who are interested in talking about existential-humanistic ideas and their relationship to psychology and life.

David Goldiner '87 was promoted to deputy director of digital media at *The Jewish Daily Forward*.

I thought, "Why should the West Coast have all the fun?" So I assembled a group here on the East Coast, and we had our first get-together in March: a free screening of the film *Finding Joe*, about the life and work of Joseph Campbell, and a post-screening discussion. People stayed for almost 90 minutes in intense conversation about philosophy and culture. We could have been back at Columbia! I am hoping to hold events every six to eight weeks, and welcome new members. Any classmates would be more than welcome, and you do not have to join EHI to join our little "salon." Just email me for information.

And as always, I cannot write this column without your support. Please send me all your news, stories, updates and tales of the absurd. I am sitting by my computer waiting for my message light to flash.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30-JUNE 2, 2013**
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Jacqueline Shire writes, "I recently started participating in a mentoring program through Columbia College Women (college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488). Also,

edu/alumni/committees/ccw), which is most rewarding (and I recommend it to other alumnae in the area). It has been wonderful to get to know such engaged and energized people who are so ready to take on the world.

"Work is busy. I was appointed last year to a United Nations 'Panel of Experts,' where I am the U.S. member of an eight-person group. The panel's mandate is to advise the Security Council on the effective implementation of sanctions targeting Iran's nuclear program, among other activities. As one might expect, this is an especially challenging time for such work. My husband, **Andrew Bazarko '88E**, '94 GSAS and I live in Princeton, N.J., with our children, Vivien, Clara and Nicholas."

Nicholas Birns has edited a volume on novelist Willa Cather,

Critical Insights: Willa Cather. He adds, "This year will see the publication of my article examining a postulated link between Chaucer and Shakespeare in *Exemplaria*. I also teach at Eugene Lang College, the New School for Liberal Arts."

Ed Cespedes is an Internet entrepreneur in Fort Lauderdale. As CEO of MMAX Media, a publicly traded company, he launched the PayMeOn Merchant Profit Center in February. The new product "enabled us to construct a product that addresses all merchants' needs and allows them to participate in the daily deal space in a very effective and profitable manner," according to Ed. He hosted Jon Dwyer '89 and his five kids during Jon's recent visit to Fort Lauderdale. (See nearby photo.)

This has been an interesting year for me in my advocacy work at B'nai B'rith International, as I testified on Capitol Hill about global anti-Semitism and anti-Israel hatred. I also have been invited to serve on the federal government's Faith-Based Homeland Security and Communications Advisory Committee.

Keep the updates coming. If you haven't written in the past year or two, your classmates will want to hear from you. And remember, our 25th reunion is less than a year away! The dates are Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. In the meantime, to ensure that Columbia can get in touch with you about it, please update your contact information online (reunion.college.columbia.edu/alumniupdate) or call the Alumni Office (212-851-7488). Also,

if you're interested in joining the Reunion Committee to help plan the weekend's events, contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member noted at the top of the column. You need not be in the New York area and can participate in meetings via conference call.

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Erica Etelson writes, "I've been shape-shifting since graduation, from human rights lawyer to freelance journalist to solar marketing strategist. I'm married to David Melly, an acupuncturist, have an awesome 9-year-old son and am launching a startup, Sharemore, which will facilitate buying and renting second-hand products." Erica writes that she is happy to get LinkedIn with Columbia alumni who have an interest in investing in or managing green businesses; just look her up on the site. Erica lives in Berkeley, Calif., where she went to law school.

Jody Collens Fidler and her husband, Dr. Philip Fidler, attended the Columbia alumni party at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, in January with **Donna MacPhee**. **Dan Futterman** was at the festival (albeit on-screen only) in *Hello I Must Be Going*, starring Melanie Lynskey.

The 2012 John Jay Awards Dinner was held March 7. **Michael Behringer**, **Donna MacPhee**, **John MacPhee**, **Robert Rooney**, **Lisa Carnoy** and **Peter Schnur** were all in attendance to honor Dede Gardner '90, Ellen Gustafson '02, Ben Horowitz '88, Daniel Loeb '83 and Li Lu '96, '96L, '96 Business. The dinner benefits the John Jay National Scholars Program, an award program designed to honor the most outstanding first-year students entering the College each year. John Jay scholars distinguish themselves through "the originality and independence of their thinking and their rich and varied record of accomplishments."

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the graduation of the Class of 1987, an important class in Columbia's history, as it was the College's first fully coeducational one. As part of the celebration this historic year, you can add your memories to the section of Columbia's website celebrating coeducation; just go to college.columbia.edu/coeducation. A number of interesting spotlights and articles can be found there, too.

And speaking of 25th anniversaries, our celebration will take place two years from now during

Frank Seminara '89 Now Makes His Pitch in Finance

By Joshua Robinson '08

Frank Seminara '89 keeps two cards in his office. Which one he gives out depends on the visitor.

Most people who show up at his midtown brokerage practice at Morgan Stanley get the standard business card — name, title, phone and email. But for a visitor looking to talk about Seminara's previous life, he pulls out a different one. This one lists his height, weight and, among other things, his earned run average.

Across the top, it reads: "Frank Seminara. P. San Diego Padres."

It is his 2½-by-3½-inch badge of honor from a pitching career that took him through every echelon of professional baseball in the time between his junior year at Columbia and his move to the world of finance. And even though his taste of the major leagues was relatively brief — 47 games spread over parts of three seasons — Seminara is certain that the lessons of baseball have shaped him as an investor. He knows as well as anyone "Even when you're on top of the world, something can go wrong."

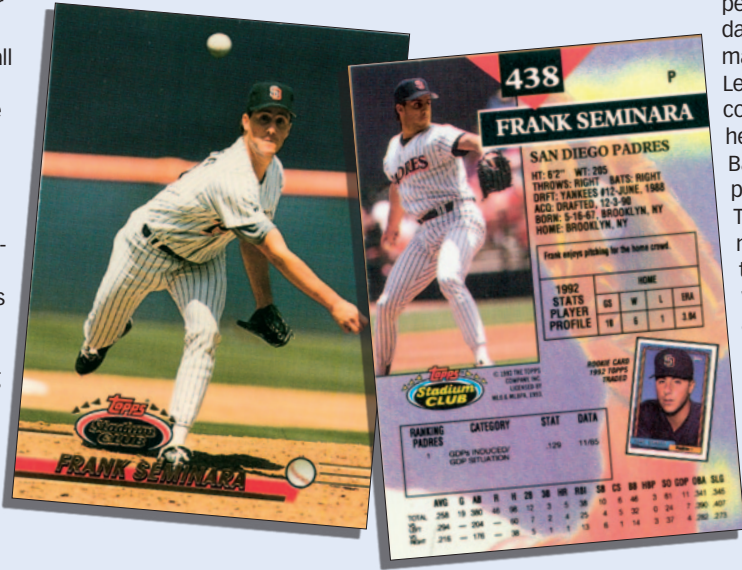
That, he says, "has translated into my being very cautious on behalf of my clients."

Seminara arrived at Columbia in 1985 as a late-blooming pitcher from Brooklyn with a fastball that touched 90 mph with movement, and the confidence to go with it. "He had this competitive, positive cockiness, like he wasn't going to let anybody beat him. That's a dream for a coach," says Paul Fernandes, who coached the Columbia baseball team for more than two decades (1977–98 and 2004–05).

But that attitude was nearly his undoing. Looking back, Seminara compares himself to "a bull in a china shop" and "a little bit of a cancer on the team" during his first year. Still immature, his self-confidence outweighed his work ethic and he played poorly,

giving up 20 runs in 19 innings in the 1986 season. By the end of spring, Fernandes had grown tired of the attitude he had once admired and informed Seminara that he was no longer on the squad.

It proved to be a wake-up call. That fall, Seminara adjusted his approach and refocused on his mechanics, realizing that the pitches he had thrown right by batters in high school looked like batting practice to college players. Four months later, more humble and ready to put the team first, Seminara went back to Fernandes and asked to rejoin the squad.



Frank Seminara '89's Topps baseball card from 1992. After eight years in the major and minor leagues, Seminara now is a Wall Street broker.

Despite struggling with injury, Seminara went 4–0 in six appearances with a sparkling ERA of 0.29. It was enough to make him — and a few scouts — think he might have had what it takes to turn pro. A year later, Seminara's transformation from cocky teenager to elite prospect was complete, and in 1988, the Yankees selected him in the 12th round of the amateur draft, 313th overall. Seminara was elated (despite being a Mets fan), and

got his father's permission to turn pro by committing to complete his Columbia degree by attending two more fall semesters, in 1988 and 1989.

Seminara moved from the Yankees' farm system to that of the San Diego Padres before his break came in June 1992, when the Padres called him up for a trip to Chicago. He made his big league debut in iconic Wrigley Field on a warm afternoon, with a pack of Columbia buddies in the stands. Seminara took on a Cubs lineup that included the likes of Sammy Sosa and current Yankees manager Joe Girardi and pitched a shutout

Mets' organization in 1994 only got him another 17 innings in the big leagues. After another year in the minors, Seminara sensed that his time might be up. He knew for sure once the Cubs cut him on the final day of spring training in 1996. Finally, at 29, he told his agent to hang up the phone. "It was very, very tough to do," Seminara admits. "But I'd had a terrible year in 1995, I was now removed from the major leagues 1½, two years and I had no job. I was in limbo."

Seminara realized that with an Ivy League degree and the personal skills he had picked up in baseball, meeting new people in new cities on a near-daily basis, Wall Street might make sense as his next stop. Leaning on every Columbia connection he could think of, he landed a position at Smith Barney. And that's when the phone rang one more time: The Yankees wanted Seminara for their Columbus farm team. After working out for a week, however, Seminara realized that his heart was no longer in baseball. He called the Yankees and told them thanks, but no thanks.

Now 45, Seminara is a managing director at Morgan Stanley Private Wealth Management and can describe a dozen similarities between baseball and investing, the stuff of motivational talks and sales brochures. What it all boils down to is realizing how quickly things can change, on or off the field, and knowing how to adjust.

"It seems like my baseball career was just a totally different segment of my life," Seminara says. "I like to tell people that I'm a lot better at this than I was at baseball."

Joshua Robinson '08 is a freelance writer based in Manhattan. He mainly covers sports for *The Wall Street Journal*. His work can be found at joshuasethrobinson.com.

Alumni Reunion Weekend, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014. I know the number is a bit depressing but the event will be outstanding. Mark your e-calendars now.

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Spring has sprung; the grass has riz. I wonder where my classmates is.

Eric Horwitz is a life coach in Manhattan. His daughter attends Maryland and his son will matriculate at the University of Colorado in the fall. My, how fast time flies.

Robert Gross and Abigail Hepner '92 Barnard have been married since 1994, live in Englewood, N.J., and have three children: Max (13) and twins Judah and Darius (10).

At Max's February bar mitzvah, many Columbia alumni were there to say mazel tov, including fellow architect **Isaac-Daniel Astrachan**. Rob is a senior associate/manager at Lee H. Skolnick Architecture + Design Partnership in Manhattan, where he has worked for six years. Prior to his life as an architect, Rob was a construction manager.

It's always great to hear from the West Coast and **Dave Hunt**. He says, "I'm finishing my 10th year serving in the Oregon House of Representatives (including time as Majority Leader and House Speaker) and now am running for chairman of the Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners in Oregon's third-largest county (which includes majestic Mount Hood!). FYI, **Tom Weaver** is running for the Court of Appeals in Washington state."

People, have a great summer and send me some news!

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Greetings to all! I was fortunate to attend **Julie Levy's** daughter's bat mitzvah in New York recently, where **Elise Scheck**, **Annmari Giarratano Della Pietra** and Rema Serafi '91 Barnard also were in attendance. A few months later, Julie and I traveled to Miami to help celebrate Elise's oldest son's bar mitzvah. While there, we also spent some quality time with Pam Solomon Srebnik '91 Barnard. These were my first bat and bar mitzvahs, and I was thrilled to be a part of them.

Noah Elkin sent in this update: "For the past six months, I've been enjoying a 'junior year abroad' in Austin, Texas, while my wife, Barbara, has a sabbatical year as a

research fellow at UT's Institute for Historical Studies. I've continued to telecommute to my job at eMarketer in NYC (along with a monthly trip back to the office) and have recently started writing a guide to mobile marketing under contract with Wiley. The temporary move to Texas has been a big change (especially the heat: we arrived at the end of August in the midst of an otherworldly heat wave), but our children, Max (almost 5) and Zora (almost 3) have more than risen to the challenge of a new environment and new school. With our time in Austin complete (we headed back East to the New York area at the end of May), we were looking forward to moving home, but I think it's fair to say we'll all miss elements of our Texas experience."

Jon L. Swergold was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Museum

Marianna Wright '91 helped found an acute medical forensic unit, serving adult and pediatric victims of rape and sexual assault.

of Discovery and Science in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Jon formerly was a lieutenant commander in the United States Naval Reserve and a member of the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps. He earned a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School and, as a commercial litigator, has represented local, national and international clients in numerous jury and non-jury trials. He routinely litigates partnership and shareholder disputes, business fraud, banking disputes, bankruptcy matters, business torts, creditor rights and contract-related issues.

Marianna Wright is the executive director of the nonprofit hospital in Mission, Texas (part of the Metropolitan Statistical Area that includes McAllen, the city making all the headlines for fraud and corruption in healthcare). She helped found the county's only acute medical forensic unit, serving adult and pediatric victims of rape and sexual assault. They're seeing hundreds of local residents each year, plus victims of human trafficking, gang and cartel violence and the drug trade. Marianna is engaged to Matt Crocker; their wedding is planned for next summer. Matt has two children; the oldest, Olivia, will begin college at Texas State in the fall.

Laney Kuhn lives in Evergreen, Colo., with her husband, dog and cat. They hike and ski a lot and have learned to consider work something of a pastime. Laney reports that it's nice to get a little older and gain some perspective that way!

Dr. **David Kaufman** wrote: "I

was at the wedding of **Evan Schultz** in Washington, D.C. He married a lovely woman named Jennifer Rubin, whose only detectable fault is not having anything to do with Columbia. Evan recently started his own law firm in Washington, D.C., Evan Schultz Law, which focuses on appellate briefs and legal writing.

"Also at the wedding were Fred Schultz '90, **Susie Wood** and **Jennifer Kirby**. Susie lives with her family (husband and two daughters) in Tbilisi, Georgia, but not for long. She recently won a position in the Foreign Service, and her first station (July) will be Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Yes, you read that correctly: Kyrgyzstan. I bet not many of us knew that such a place existed when we graduated in 1991. Jen is a lawyer in private practice based in Paris.

"As for me, well, nothing as exciting as France or Central Asian

taken — and pre-kids we had visited quite a few places. Disney is truly magical. Expensive, but magical. One of the highlights of the trip was my oldest son getting a kiss from Cinderella. We are still blessed to have Lori at home with the boys, although Tyler started preschool right after the trip.

"I recently hired Alvin Saran '04 for a fraud strategy analyst III role on my team; it's nice to have some Columbia blue on the team, to talk about the College. I recently started taking a 'Body Pump' class at the local Y and I highly recommend it for anyone looking for some new exercise."

Justin Kerber writes, "I'm the rabbi of Temple Emanuel in St. Louis, where I'm in touch with **Chris Front** and **Jeff Ordower**. I've been at this pulpit since July 2009. My wife, Hope, and I are delighted to mention the newest member of our family: Daniel Abraham, born September 23. He's pretty good at sleeping, eating baby food and rolling over. Danny's brother, Eli (7), is happy to be in first grade."

I hope everyone is doing well. Until next time, cheers!

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It's certainly understandable, with reunion so close to this column's deadline, that people are saving their updates and news for when we all see each other in person. Still, I have a pair of tidbits to share now, and — as of this writing — was looking forward to seeing all of you on campus and at the surrounding events.

First, a milestone for **Thatcher Montgomery '92E**, who marked his 20-year anniversary with Alcoa. His tenure has included roles in environmental engineering, internal audit, financial analysis and planning, financial controller, procurement strategy and planning, and business excellence and corporate strategy (his current role). Thatcher, who lives in Pittsburgh, enjoys spending time with family and is active in Cub Scouts and his church.

Congratulations on the 20-year mark; I'd be curious to hear from others who have spent as long in one job since graduation. Lionsgate Motion Picture Group named **Erik Feig** as its president of production. Erik most recently was president of worldwide production and acquisitions at Summit, where he oversaw all of Summit's in-house productions, co-productions and acquisitions as well as the company's involvement with films of its client

companies. He's been involved in a few films you may have heard of (to say the least): the *I Know What You Did Last Summer* series, *Slackers* and *Mr. & Mrs. Smith*, to name a few.

Well done, Erik. That will do it for this column. Obviously a lot more will appear next time after we've all gotten together for reunion. Send me your updates, especially news about who you saw and what you did during that weekend. Till then!

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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We begin with a correction: Neither I nor the CCT editors know how the mistake was made (especially since we simply copied the last edition's guest column straight from the email **Neil Turitz** and **Kevin Connolly** sent), but Neil's incredibly funny and clever debut movie, *Two Ninas*, was incorrectly named in the last edition of CCT. We apologize for the error, and if your curiosity is now piqued, I strongly encourage you to see the movie (starring **Cara Buono Thum** and Amanda Peet '94 as well as Ron Livingston).

Oliver Staley writes, "I've moved to London, where I cover higher education in the United Kingdom and Europe as a reporter for Bloomberg News. I've been at Bloomberg News for six years, all of it previously in New York. Joining me in London are my wife, Effie, and children, Owen (5) and Marisol (2). If there are Columbia alums in London who want to get in touch, they can reach me at os13@columbia.edu."

Thad Sheely also has some news: After 11 seasons with the New York Jets, he has moved on to start a real estate company, GridWorks Development. Thad said that "building a new stadium for two NFL teams in New York/New Jersey really has been a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. With our second year of operations on the books, I am ready for that next opportunity. GridWorks will focus on development in transitional districts throughout the region but as a start-up, we also will provide advisory services for specialty uses, including sports and public-private projects."

Congratulations and good luck, Thad!

Alan Freeman writes, "I enjoy life in the Maryland suburbs of D.C., where my wife, Remy, and I seem to be in perpetual motion heading to Little League, soccer, Tae Kwon Do and then back to Little League. I doubt there's much original in that, though. **Alan Cohn** lives around the corner with his wife and kids, so I guess some things (happily) never change. I was looking forward to a spring break visit from **Dan Donshik** and his family, and then heading to Connecticut this summer to visit **Joel Lusman** and his family.

"I'm at Blank Rome, where I am a commercial litigation partner typically doing what I describe as 'corporate divorce work' with a Beltway twist. The best part of the job is the travel, which recently took me to San Francisco, where I had dinner with **Ian Carroll**, **Bonnie Dwyer** and their beautiful daughter."

Rebecca Boston reached out to say that she started a new job in January, her first full-time one since moving back to Texas in July 2010. Rebecca works for Lhoist North America, a limestone mining company, where she supports their technical manufacturing department. Her son, Endashaw, is 11.

It is hard to believe we are already halfway through 2012 and that by this time next year we will be celebrating our 20th reunion. In the coming months you will receive communications from both our Reunion Committee (about class-specific events) and our Gift Committee (regarding a Class Gift and fundraising goals). We hope to see you at reunion and have a strong participation rate for the Class Gift.

As always, please keep the updates coming in!

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Greg Langmead '01 GSAS lives in Pittsburgh with his wife, Alison (Crane) Langmead '95, '03 GSAS, and kids, Greer (4) and Blake (1). Greg works on iBooks textbook software for Apple. Before moving to Pittsburgh in 2009, the Langmeads spent seven years in Los Angeles after Greg earned a Ph.D. in math and Alison earned a Ph.D. in art history, both from Columbia. He writes, "We pal around in Pittsburgh with **David Baisley '94E** and his wife, Amelia (Kambic) Baisley '95. Living in Pittsburgh puts me closer to my family, such as my brother, Ben Langmead '03, and his wife, Sara (Goldfarb) Langmead '02E."

Tom Lecky is at Christie's in New York as the head of rare books and manuscripts. His sons are 11 and 8, and both are thriving. In 2011, Tom released two albums of instrumental guitar music under the name Hallock Hill, and he has more music on the way this year.

From out west, **Melissa Lawton** writes that she lives in Sherman Oaks, Calif., with her husband, Michael; son, Mick (5); and daughter, Eliza (3); who is semi-named after Melissa's Wien roommate, **Eliza Lowen McGraw**. Melissa earned a law degree from Fordham in 1999 and works full-time for a friend from her days at Davis Polk & Wardwell's New York office who started her own firm in Venice, Calif. "I'm lucky enough to see my Carman 12 friends, **Jean-nie Kelly** and David Divita '95, frequently here in Los Angeles," Melissa writes. "I fortunately get to New York all the time because my husband is from there. I can't believe how much the area around Columbia has changed." Melissa also interviews Columbia applicants from L.A.

Tom Lecky '94 is at Christie's in New York as the head of rare books and manuscripts.

Elise Horvath sent a lovely update about living in the Chicago area with her husband and 8-year-old son, whom she calls "the most wonderful person I have ever met." Elise continues: "He has autism and has made me see the world and people in a whole new light, bringing meaning to getting up in the morning and every moment of my day. The innocence, and the difference in the way the world looks for someone with autism, is an amazing thing to experience. It has made me understand that my purpose in life is to make him as happy as possible."

At the time of her note, Elise was on leave from work, recuperating from back surgery; she is an oncologist, with a primary interest in sarcomas and female cancers. "I love my work, mainly because I love my patients and find the research very interesting," she says, noting that while she has worked at universities, she is now in private practice, which is a very different experience. She keeps up with some classmates through Facebook.

From across the Atlantic, **Tom Lloyd** writes that after living in New York, Scotland and Houston, he and his family have settled in London. He and his wife, Alicia Segado — they met at Ferris Booth Hall and were engaged on the Low Steps in 1999 — have three children: Pablo (10), Alexander

(8) and Sophia (3). Pablo sings in the school choir, Alexander plays piano and Sophia asks to do homework with her brothers!

Tom writes, "I have been with Hess Corp. working on oil and gas commercialization, transportation, marketing and trading since 2000. I am rowing very little and still singing (mostly in the shower), but am playing more and more tennis."

Tom would love to be in touch with CC classmates in London or anywhere at tlloyd@hess.com.

Traveling the other direction is **Meghan Heather Ford**, who writes that after living in Bristol, England, for eight years — where she studied and practiced acupuncture, married her British husband, Miles Ford, and had two children (Ethan, 5, and Austin, 2) — she and her family have returned to her native San Francisco. Meghan has focused her work on being a holistic birth doula, supporting women and their families as they navigate their way through the journey of childbirth. She is also delving more deeply into her personal practice of yoga and mindfulness meditation.

Miles is busy combining his practical handyman skills with his professional expertise in sustainable building design and property/project management. Ethan is an enthusiastic kindergartener and thriving at San Francisco Public Montessori, where they hope to have Austin begin this fall.

And finally, congratulations to **Mary Killackey**, who writes with the happy news that daughter Charlotte Lucy DeCell was born on January 24. Charlotte joins brother Will (2). Mary and her growing family enjoy life in New Orleans. She also is happy to announce that she was promoted to associate professor of surgery and pediatrics and made director of the kidney/pancreas program at Tulane and the children's hospital. She's certainly keeping busy and writes that "what I miss most about college is being able to sleep for 12 hours uninterrupted!"

Thanks to everyone for the wonderful updates! Until next time.

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Allyson Baker, our Student Council president, is back in her hometown of Washington, D.C., where



Dr. Jennifer Capla '99, Dr. Oren Lerman '97 and Dr. Stephanie Falcone Bernik '89 (left to right) recently performed surgery together at the new Lenox Hill Hospital Institute for Comprehensive Breast Care.

she moved after graduating from NYU's School of Law in 2000. She and her husband, David, live in the Cleveland Park neighborhood. Since May 2010, Allyson has been working for the Office of Enforcement at the recently formed Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). "It is a really exciting time to be working at the bureau and a true honor to be part of the team starting up an agency designed to improve the marketplace for all consumers," she writes.

Before joining CFPB, Allyson was a trial attorney at the Department of Justice. "My case docket took me to numerous cities throughout the Midwest, where I tried tax fraud cases — a fantastic job that was also fun and very busy," she adds.

Back in New York (and living on the next block from my apartment on West 96th Street), **Jenn Goldstone** is enjoying her job at SeaChange Capital Partners, which helps pull together capital for nonprofits that are looking to expand. In February, the group announced it would help provide a new

Street Journal story about the effort.

Jenn switched industries after a career with ABC News in New York. It's nice to run into her in the neighborhood with her husband, Tom, and sons, Charlie and Max.

Jenn also recently caught up with Jon Bonne '94, who is wine editor for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. At a lunch in NYC at Jean-Georges, they tried to order a bottle of Annia, from **Dan Petroski's** Massican Winery, but it was sold out!

Keep the news coming.

96

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Greetings, classmates. Just a bit of news to report.

I'll begin by highlighting the impressive release of **Jodi Kantor's** book *The Obamas*. Published in January and favorably reviewed in *The New York Times*, the book provides readers with an intimate portrait of the Obamas as they take on their new White House roles, raise

ing the 2008 presidential campaign, and is a Washington correspondent for the paper. She already has had a lot of speaking engagements about the book in cities across the country, but it never hurts to have more exposure (including the cover story in this issue of *CCT*) — so support our classmate and help spread the word.

Congratulations, Jodi!

Barbara Antonucci reports **Cecilia Cabello** is a v.p. of Mercury, a public strategy firm; Cecilia works in its Los Angeles office and specializes in public affairs and government relations strategies. She previously was senior legislative deputy to Los Angeles City Council president Eric Garcetti '92, and prior to that she was chief political adviser to the Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles and a special projects manager for then-Rep. Hilda L. Solis (now Secretary of Labor). Barbara also reports that **Charlie Gaul** works in the marketing unit for Campari America, headquartered in San Francisco.

Ai-jen Poo, director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, has been named to *Time* magazine's 2012 "The 100 Most Influential People in the World" list, announced on April 18.

According to *Time*, "Poo has been working for more than a decade to give domestic workers — nannies, housekeepers, home-care nurses — basic workers' rights like overtime pay, paid vacation and protection against discrimination. She helped get the Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights passed in New York and is working on a similar effort in California. Her next big project: empowering the thousands of domestic workers now being hired to care for the aging baby-boomer generation." Go to time.com and search for Ai-jen's name for more.

Congratulations, Ai-jen!

Desperate plea for more notes, people — send me your news! For now, in honor of Bruce Springsteen's new album, *Wrecking Ball*, I leave you with this quote from him:

"The best music is essentially there to provide you something to face the world with."

97

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Looks like everyone is saving up their updates for our 15th reunion. And by the time this column appears, we'll have already celebrated! But as of this writing, I was looking forward to seeing everyone there and getting lots of updates to fill the next column.

Dr. **Oren Lerman** performs plastic and reconstructive surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan. He and his wife, Sandy Schwartzberg Lerman '97 Barnard, live in Englewood, N.J., with their 8-year-old twins, Solomon and Michael. Oren works with Dr. Stephanie Falcone Bernik '89 at the new Lenox Hill Hospital Institute for Comprehensive Breast Care. Stephanie is the chief of surgical oncology, and they recently had the pleasure of operating together, along with Dr. Jennifer Capla '99 and Dr. Wojciech Dec '03, plastic surgeons in Manhattan. While performing a complex eight-hour procedure, one of the many topics of conversation that came up was undergraduate school, and they quickly realized they all were Columbia alumni. Also assisting in the operating room was Dr. Sarah Hobart, who was assistant coach of the Columbia women's soccer team 2006–07. (See nearby photo.)

Since last June, **Aba Yankah Rogers** has been global marketing counsel at Coca-Cola. She lives in Decatur, Ga.

Rushika Conroy moved to Massachusetts and is a pediatric endocrinologist practicing at a hospital in Springfield. She welcomed a son, Rowan, last June. So that makes three: Nevin (4), Amalia (2) and Rowan (1!).

Karen Lee and her husband, Jean-Marc Grolier, welcomed triplets, Alex, Devin and Charlotte, on November 30. The babies were in the NICU for three months, but are now home and thriving.

Jennifer Feldsher and her husband, Vadim Daynovsky, proudly welcomed a son, Micah Kyle Daynovsky, on February 1. Micah joins sister Jacklyn (6). Jennifer is a partner at Bracewell & Giuliani in NYC, working on corporate restructurings.

REUNION WEEKEND MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013

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Happy summer, Class of '98. We're just a year away from our 15th reunion, and I hope many of you are saving the date for next year's celebration (see above).

The weekend of March 23–25, I had the pleasure of attending the wedding of my dear friend and

Dylan Voorhees '98 Clears the Air in Maine

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

As clean energy project director for the non-profit Natural Resources Council of Maine (nrcm.org), **Dylan Voorhees '98** spends most of his working hours advocating for — and often, against — government policies that could impact the state's air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. Occasionally, though, he takes on other assignments, such as doing skits in a polar bear costume to encourage NRCM supporters to jump into a frigid Atlantic Ocean.

Funded largely by private foundation grants, Augusta-based NRCM is the largest and one of the most influential environmental advocacy organization in Maine, with a combined 12,000 dues-paying members and supporters. To raise money and awareness about climate change, the nonprofit organizes an annual polar bear plunge; since 2009 it has been held on December 31. Voorhees appeared in a promotional video for the event in a polar bear costume which, according to the storyline, he refused to take off until NRCM met its pledge goal for the fundraiser. While he did not actually wear the costume until the goal was met, Voorhees, who has himself taken the icy dip several times, acknowledges, "We know we can't engage people without a bit of humor. We protect the environment but we work by engaging real people."

For Voorhees, such activities represent "rare but needed departures" from his more serious regular work of combating global warming pollution in Maine and clearing a path for renewable energy sources such as wind power. On any given day, you can find Voorhees in his office writing analyses of state bills or, when Maine's part-time legislature is in session, nearby at the State House lobbying lawmakers. He also participates in NRCM's media campaigns. "It's a really diverse and dynamic job

that I love because it involves working directly with laws and the legislators who make them, but also organizing a whole apparatus of advocacy to support that over time," Voorhees says.

NRCM's advocacy director, Pete Didisheim, lauds Voorhees' enthusiasm for all aspects of his job. "That's what I look for in a staffer — a willingness to do whatever it takes to advance our mission, and to have fun in the process," Didisheim says. "Whether in a polar bear suit or his lobbying suit, Dylan will play the part needed to help promote a clean energy agenda for Maine."

Voorhees is especially proud of the key role he and NRCM played in having Maine join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative in 2007. RGGI is an agreement among the New England and several Mid-Atlantic states to collectively reduce carbon dioxide emissions from their power plants through a cap-and-trade system. With support from other environmental groups, Voorhees negotiated with local industries to produce the bill that determined how Maine would implement the program. "Anytime you have

environmental groups and big industrial business groups coming to an agreement, it's very helpful, and legislators love it," says Voorhees, who joined NRCM in 2006 upon completing a master's of public policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

When it comes to clean energy practices, Voorhees walks the walk, too — literally. After several years of going to work via bicycle he now commutes by foot, having purchased a home blocks away from NRCM's office. He lives with Annie, his wife of 10 years, and their daughters, ages 3 and 5.

Maine was not always on Voorhees' radar, however. As a teenager he aspired to become an archaeologist and was drawn by the University's anthropology department as well as an overall "flavor and pace of life" that was different from his rural Vermont upbringing. His fondest memories of the College include rowing with the lightweight crew team three out of his four years and the primatology courses he took with professor Marina Cords, which, in retrospect, he cites as evidence of an ingrained inter-

est in the natural world.

"Growing up in Vermont and being outdoors hiking and skiing, I certainly have a love of the natural world," says Voorhees. "I think there's a sense in places like Vermont and Maine that our environment is not just a pretty thing around us to visit but is actually part of who we are and part of our economy."

Hesitant to start graduate school right away, Voorhees took a job teaching eighth grade at The Gailer School, an independent institution where he attended high school. That experience changed his trajectory. "Teaching led me to public affairs and being interested in our civilization today more than our civilizations of 3,000 years ago," he says.

Voorhees nonetheless continues to find his College education, especially the Core, relevant to his mission. "A lot of the work I do is about climate change, which is a long-term issue and relates to some fundamentals of how civilization will operate. And so, on top of the direct politics of it, appreciating the sweep of Western civilization, how we fit in and where we are headed are themes that are relevant to me still," he says.

In that vein, Voorhees, who considers climate change "the defining issue of our time," sees himself as making a small contribution to a much broader vision of "being able to have an economy and a culture and a civilization that can survive over the long term by behaving sustainably."

To watch the video of Voorhees in polar bear garb, go to Web Extras at 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. She also writes Student Spotlight for CCT.



Dylan Voorhees '98, shown here at the Kibby Wind Farm in Maine, advocates for sustainable energy sources.

PHOTO: NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL OF MAINE



Joann Um '99, here with her twin and maid of honor, Lynn Um '99, married Chi Kim on January 7 at the Village Church in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

PHOTO: SARA ALLEN, ONELOVE PHOTOGRAPHY

fellow *Spectator* board member **Julie Yufe** to the dashing Michael Dreyer. Julie and Michael had a whirlwind romance that began last May. A native Londoner, Michael flew around the globe for memorable dates with Julie before proposing to her five months later while on safari in South Africa. Five months after the proposal, the couple married in Calistoga, Calif., on March 24. The newlyweds are finally living on the same continent, on the Upper East Side.

Best wishes to Julie and Michael! Julie's bridesmaids included **Melissa (Epstein) Pianko** and **Reena Russell Maltudis**. Melissa and I met Julie during pre-orientation (COÖP) and have been friends ever since. Reena and Julie were in the same sorority. Other guests in attendance included Melissa's husband, **Daniel Pianko**; Reena's husband, Lex Maltudis '91; my husband, Hans Chen '97; **Jeremy Kamras**; and **Jerome Jontry '98E**.

Jeremy, now a partner at Arnold & Porter in San Francisco, announced that he had married Dr. Samantha Goldstein, a pediatrician, in August 2010. He and Samantha welcomed their first child, son Milo Adlai, on August 9, 2011. Milo weighed 7 lbs., 5 oz. The Kamrases live in San Francisco and are enjoying their first year of parenthood.

Jerome, who many classmates might remember as a heavyweight on Columbia's wrestling team, is a civil engineer who oversees housing development at UCLA. Jerome should look into working for the Los Angeles tourism board, because he was waxing poetic about the city — "as long as you don't have to commute."

Melissa, meanwhile, had the distinction of being named in *Crain's New York Business'* annual "40 Under 40" feature for 2012. An e.v.p. at the real estate development firm Gotham Organization, Melissa was heralded for being a "force of nature" and for shepherding a \$520 million residential project to fruition.

Congratulations, Melissa!

99

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Greetings, Class of '99! We have several updates for this edition.

Elizabeth Robilotti and her husband, Rit Aggarwala '93, have welcomed a new addition to the family: Maya Catherine Aggarwala. Maya is making her parents very happy in California. When they are not busy with diapers and bottles, Rit is an environmental policy adviser for Bloomberg Philanthropies and teaches at Stanford, while Elizabeth is finishing her fellowship in infectious diseases.

Danielle Zanzarov lives on Long Island with her husband and children, Marianna (6), Giovanni (3) and Evan (1½). Danielle is the owner of Get Naturally Healthy, and she is a consultant helping people understand nutrition. She also makes an annual pilgrimage to Morningside Heights with her family to have dinner at Symposium.

For the past four years, **Carmen (Van Kerckhove) Sognonvi** and her husband have been running a martial arts studio that they own

together in the Ditmas Park section of Brooklyn. If anyone is interested in attending a workout, the studio's website is urbandojo.com. Carmen also recently started a video blog about local businesses and marketing events: carmensognonvi.com.

Additional wonderful news to share: **Joann Um** and Chi Kim were married in January (see nearby photo). Joanne's twin, **Lynn Um**, who lives in New York City and works at Barclays, was maid of honor. Erin Song Duncan '97 and Ester Ra Park '00 Barnard also were in attendance. Joann and Chi live in San Diego, where Joann teaches chemistry at two local colleges.

I have good news to share from the Alumni Office. As of March 12, donations from our class to the Columbia College Fund were significantly up versus last year and prior years. Our class has contributed \$27,000, as compared to \$15,000 around the same time in 2011. If you're interested in giving to the College this year, you have until Saturday, June 30, for it to be counted in Fiscal Year 2012.

You can give online (college.columbia.edu/giveonline); by phone (212-851-7488); or mail a check, payable to Columbia College Fund, to Columbia College Fund, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 3rd Fl., New York, NY 10025.

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Leslie Bahn '01 married Scott Steen on a balmy late September day at the Springhill Pavilion in Bozeman, Mont. Columbians in attendance included Christine Boyle '99, Francisco Reinking '01, **Michelle Wang, Ryan Rosenfeld** and **Sean Hewens**. Leslie and Scott reside in Jackson Hole, Wyo., where Leslie is communications manager for the Jackson Hole Land Trust and Scott is outdoor and sustainability program director for Camp Dudley YMCA. Although Leslie is technically CC '01, her spirit is with her matriculating Class of '00.

After nearly 10 years at Lifetime Television in NYC, **Eugene Myers** left his job in February 2011 and began working as a development writer at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Foundation (and is now in Philadelphia!). He and his wife, Carrie Wright '04 Barnard, were married last July. **Sean Boggs** was a groomsman, and guests included **Lucy Chen** and **Jackie Hidalgo**. Carrie is a second-year at Temple University School of Medicine and the reason for his move, Eugene notes. Eugene's first young

adult novel, *Fair Coin*, was published in March. He hopes there will be several readings and events in NYC and Philly and encourages anyone who wants to catch up to contact him on Facebook or Twitter, or to find him at his blog, ecmyers.net.

Theodore (T.J.) Perlick-Molinari married Kelsey Erdahl in October 2010 in Milwaukee. **David Hensel** and Peter Lewin '01 were among the guests. Named a Super Lawyers Rising Star two years running in the criminal defense field in Wisconsin, T.J. chairs the Alumni Representative Committee in Wisconsin for all Columbia applicants (studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/alumni/volunteers.php).

After 10 years in Rome, **Jasmine Hyman** moved back to the United States to do a Ph.D. in environmental politics at Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. She helped found a certification scheme for renewable energy projects in the carbon market, Gold Standard, and is trying to figure out what sort of impact this work has on the rural poor in least developed countries. She also reports, "My girlfriend, Flavia, moved from Rome with me as well, along with Maude, the Kate Moss of dachshunds. It's good to be back in New York — so good, in fact, that we moved near Columbia, much to the horror and disdain of members of the Class of 2000 who are in Brooklyn."

Liz Paw is a music attorney at Carroll, Guido & Groffman and married to Tyley Ross, a singer/musician. They met as actors on stage on Broadway years ago and now live happily in Brooklyn Heights. Tyley's band, East Village Opera Company, is on hiatus and he is teaching voice at NYU. Liz adds, "No kids yet, but we picked up our dog, Couver, on one of our trips to Vancouver."

Jeremiah Marble started work for Windows Phone at Microsoft, focusing on competitive intelligence and strategy. In May, he graduated from the Lauder Institute program at the Wharton School, with an M.B.A. and an M.A. in international studies (in French). Prior to Wharton, Jeremiah worked for the United Nations in Africa and Asia, was a Fulbright Scholar to Costa Rica, was director of operations for a social enterprise in Cambodia and Laos, and worked in the Dominican Republic with the Peace Corps. He loves Seattle and is trying to swim, bike, run and ski as much as possible. The surfing will have to wait until he gets back to Costa Rica or the Dominican Republic.

James A. Schmid III '05 Business and his wife, Amy '12 TC, have settled in Orlando after several years of moving around. James now is an executive with CNL Financial



Adelaide Scardino Lopez '00 married Carlos Lopez last summer at her family's country house in Suffolk, England. Guests included (left to right) Alexandra Conway '00; the bride's father, Albert Scardino '70; Natalia Mehlman Petrzela '00; Alexander Howard '09; the groom; the bride; Olivia Howard Sabine '01 and her husband, Ernest Sabine '01; Michal Saad '00; Annable Schnitzer Noth '00 Barnard; Andrew Miara '00; and the bride's brother, Hal Scardino '08. Not pictured but also in attendance were Jenna Klatel Miara '00 and Paul Getto '01.

PHOTO: ALEXANDER HENDERSON

Group, where he is responsible for new acquisition, development and portfolio management initiatives across U.S. and international healthcare and commercial real estate investments. Amy recently finished a Ph.D. in psychology and is completing a post-doc in clinical neuropsychology at Florida Hospital. James and Amy have enjoyed the quieter life of Central Florida and adopted two rescue dogs, a Cockapoo named Charlie and a Schnoodle named Jack. James enjoys the occasional trip back to New York City to visit friends and alma mater, particularly the chapter house of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Brian Andrews and Cynthia Lynn Singerman were married on June 4, 2011, at the Dawn Ranch Lodge, a resort in Guerneville, Calif. Benjamin D. Singerman, the brother of the bride, who was temporarily named a deputy marriage commissioner by San Francisco County, officiated. Brian is the assistant treasurer and director of capital markets at The Cooper Companies, a contact lens and medical device manufacturer, in Pleasanton, Calif. His wife, Cynthia, is a staff lawyer, working primarily on homeowner foreclosure prevention, at Housing and Economic Rights Advocates, a nonprofit legal services and advocacy organization in Oakland. She graduated summa cum laude from Florida, from which she also earned a law degree. Among those in attendance at the wedding were **Ilya Levtoy, Michael Shields** and **Brian Legum**.

Maciej Paluch lives in San Francisco and works at Genentech. Also in the Bay Area is **Alison Forrestel**, who works for the National Park Service in San Francisco.

Rhonda Henderson is completing an M.B.A. at Darden School of Business at Virginia. She writes, "Though they're trying hard to turn me into a Wahoo, I'm definitely still a Lion. After B-School, I'll return to the D.C. area to work in education strategy."

Last summer, **Bram Raphael** and his family moved back to Boston. He recently became director of the Home Parenteral Nutrition Program at Children's Hospital Boston, which is the country's largest such program. Bram recently saw **Charlie Nightingale**, his wife, Alison, and their son, Nathan, while visiting New York. He also recently saw **Ruth Altchek**, who is an editor of the Off Duty section at *The Wall Street Journal*.

Speaking of Charlie, he and the family moved to Newport Beach, Calif., in March 2009 when he joined Pacific Alternative Asset Management Co., a fund of funds, as legal and regulatory counsel. He writes, "It's been a great almost three years. Nathan is almost 27 months old. Maybe he'll start the Columbia surfing club in 16 years!"

Daniel J. Weix is an assistant professor of chemistry at Rochester, where he lives with his wife, Stella Wu, and their children, Elliott, Madeleine and Amalia.

Congrats to all the new parents in the class, including **Nicole Ozelge** (née Carter) and Dr. Sadi Ozelge. They welcomed a daugh-

ter, Leyla Joan, into the world on December 15. Mom and Dad are doing great and look forward to having a great year.

Carolyn Ortiz Valladares '01, welcomed daughter Sofia on December 20.

Alex Conway reports, "Last summer, I had the pleasure of attending the wedding of **Adelaide Scardino** to Carlos Lopez at her family's country house in Suffolk, England. Columbia certainly was represented: **Natalia Mehlman Petrzela**, Olivia Howard '01, Alexander Howard '09, **Jenna Klatel Miara, Andy Miara**, Ernie Sabine '01, Michal Sadd '00, Albert Scardino '70, Hal Scardino '08 and Annable Schnitzer Noth '00 Barnard. (See nearby photo.)

"In November, I ran the ING NYC Marathon, my first marathon. I had an incredible experience training with Fred's Team, whose members raise funds for research at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. It was wonderful to be out there. I got a high five from **Vicky Spodek** (née Vinarsky) early on in Brooklyn. Her cheers helped me make it through the 26.2-mile race!

"I live in NYC and work in public relations representing wine and spirits brands. My brother, Chris Conway '96, lives around the corner with his wife, Cindy, and their daughter, Olivia (1½), future Class of 2021. Chris started an IT company, GreenT Digital, for small businesses and individuals who want to be environmentally responsible with their tech.

"I still hear from a lot of Columbia peeps. Most recently I caught up with **Manelle Nunez Martino**, who has become quite the entrepreneur with a booming tea business in the Washington, D.C., area. Capital Teas is one to check out!"

Q Beck lives in Austin, Texas, and has founded a venture-backed startup company, Famigo (famigo.com), which is like a family channel for your smartphone or tablet. Famigo's vision is simple: mobile technology should simply "work" for families. Famigo provides a platform for families to safely discover, manage and enjoy content and apps on smartphones and tablets.

Q also reports that Matthew Robinson '99E and Chris Clough '99 live in Austin, Texas, and that there is an active Columbia University Club of Central Texas. Q caught up with several Columbia alumni during SXSW, an annual music, film and interactive conference and festival held in Austin, this year.

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Michelle Braun Nayfack and her husband, Aaron Nayfack, announce the birth of Annette Jane on February 11 near San Francisco. Annette weighed 8 lbs., 4 oz., and joins brother Isaac (3).

Congratulations to the Nayfacks. My wife, Jamie Rubin '01 Barnard, and I cannot wait to meet Annette!



Pooja Agarwal '02 married Matthew Jenkins in Philadelphia on February 25. Guests included (back row, left to right), Shane Jones '00, Ramin Hedayati '02, Alexander Belenky '02, Manuel Rosemberg '02E, Joshua Krafchin '02, Ilan Wapinski '02, Christopher Allen '02, Justin Wall '02 and Whitney Duncan '02; (middle row, left to right) Sofia Santana, Amber Baylor '02, Tania de la Cruz '02, Jennifer Kidwell '00, Sheethal Rao '02, Shraddha Jani '03, Chiara Gelardin '03 Barnard, the bride, Aisha Jafri '02, Yakira Teitel '03, Miriam Stone '03 and Melissa Donner '02; and (front row, left to right) Benjamin Wheeler '01 and his daughter Carmen, Evans Richardson '02, Katharine Cortesi '01, Rupal Patel '02, Nathan Berger '04, Sofia Berger '01, '02E, Linyee Yuan '02 and Anjuli Kolb '03.

PHOTO: LOVE ME DO PHOTOGRAPHY

Ellen Volpe announced that Grant Anthony was born on February 16. He was 8 lbs., 8 oz. Congratulations to Ellen and her family!

Jasper Cooper and Josiejing Weng were married on December 29 in Northern California. Congratulations to them both!

Big thanks to **Tsvi Aranoff** for making an effort to connect with our classmates. Tsvi set up a group on Facebook for us, and he encourages all of us to “meet” there: [facebook.com/groups/CC2001/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CC2001/). Tsvi also promised to provide me with an update of his own soon.

It was “winter” in Los Angeles, which means the same thing for us every year — time to visit Florida with our friends **Alex Eule** and his wife, Michelle '01 Barnard. Jamie and I had a great time in Naples with the Eules and their delightful daughter Madeline (2, by the time you read this). Perhaps the funniest coincidence of the entire trip occurred when we literally stumbled upon a Mitt Romney rally in downtown Naples, two blocks from our hotel. The coincidence was not running into the rally; it was finding ace reporter **Jonathan Lemire** there on assignment for the *New York Daily News*. It was great to see a familiar face in Naples.

Jon covers national politics for the paper and is anchoring its coverage of the 2012 presidential campaign from New York — which means he is frequently on the road. He has already been to Iowa and Florida for those states’ Republican primaries and will be back on the campaign trail before long.

On the topic of newspapers, my *Spectator* pal, **Demetra Kasimis**, is headed to the West Coast, and I couldn’t be more thrilled. Deme reports, “I’m finishing a Mellon postdoc in the humanities at Yale and then moving to L.A. in the fall to start a tenure-track job at California State University, Long Beach, in the political science department. I’ll be teaching classes in political theory.”

Dan Laidman and I are looking forward to reconvening with Deme (and perhaps reliving *Spec* memories) when she gets here.

As always, please keep in touch!

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I hope everyone enjoyed Alumni Reunion Weekend! It’s still hard

to believe it has been 10 years since we graduated. A full report of the events from the weekend will follow in the Fall issue. If you didn’t give me your updates in person, please send them to me at soniah57@gmail.com. It will be so interesting to hear what everyone is doing.

The John Jay Awards Dinner honoring members of the Columbia College family for distinguished professional achievement was held at Cipriani 42nd Street on March 7. In the illustrious group was **Ellen Gustafson**, who is the founder and executive director of 30 Project. Ellen is dedicated to fighting hunger and malnutrition, and her organization aims to address the current crisis in the global food system that has led to both hunger and obesity. She also is co-founder and a board member of FEED Projects and the FEED Foundation, a nonprofit that raises money to benefit the United Nations’ World Food Programme’s School Feeding Program through the sale of its now iconic “FEED” burlap bag and other products. Classmates in attendance were **Scott Koonin**, **Ken Lantigua**, **Leslie (Baden) Papa**, **Tina Fernandez**, **Jaclyn Chu**, **Grace Lee**, **Azhar Quader** and **Everett Miles**, along with

Manon DeFelice '02 Barnard.

Sara Velasquez has moved to Islamabad to continue her humanitarian career. She continues to work in film and theatre and has a (currently untitled) film for release, directed by Jason Stutter.

In April, **Ian R. Rapoport** began work as a national TV reporter for NFL Network, based in Dallas. He also will contribute to NFL.com on a regular basis. He writes: “There will be an emphasis on Cowboys coverage, but I’ll be spending plenty of time focusing on all of the 32 teams in the league. It’s quite a change of scenery after covering the Patriots for the *Boston Herald* for the past three seasons. But my wife, Leah, and I are looking forward to the move, and she’s excited about moving back to the South (she’s from Mississippi). I’m looking forward to the challenge.”

Pooja Agarwal married Matthew Jenkins, a surgery resident at Temple University Hospital, in Philadelphia on February 25. Pooja is an attorney with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. More than 30 Columbia alumni attended the wedding. (See nearby photo.)

And more baby news! **Jacqueline (Cockerell) Karp** and David Karp '99 announced the



Alexander Farrill '03 and Abby Walthausen '06 Barnard were married in Brooklyn, N.Y., last June. Among the Lions in attendance were (back row, left to right) Sam West '08, Tim Bean '04, Trevor Haav '04, Jeff Bobula '04, Brian House '02 and Ned Milligan '04; (middle row, left to right) Ruth Reyes '06 Barnard, Merran Swartwood '03, Sarah Robinson '03, Ben Howell '02, Julia Haav '04, Daniel Greenwald '02, Judd Schoenholtz '04 and John Atkinson '03; and (front row, left to right) Alexis Stephens '05 Barnard, Talya Cooper '05 Barnard, Veronica Liu '03 Barnard, the bride, the groom, Cynthia Cabral '05 Barnard and Sarah Dziedzic '04.

PHOTO: CHRISTINA SANTUCCI

birth of their son, Ethan Zachary Karp, on May 6, 2011. He was 8 lbs. and 21 inches long.

Richard Mammanna and Mary Christian Winthrop Brownrigg '04 welcomed Emilia Ruth Winthrop Mammanna into the world on October 17, in New Haven, Conn. Emilia weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz. and was 20 inches long.

Saurabh Jain and his wife, Seema, welcomed a son, Aarav, on November 11.

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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While New York and many parts of the United States had a record

warm winter, the arrival of spring in Beijing was a welcome change. Fred Van Sickle, Columbia’s e.v.p. for development and alumni relations, recently visited Beijing and locations throughout Asia to network with alumni living in the region. Speaking of whom, let’s start with a few updates on alumni who are spending time in Asia.

Stephanie (Baker-Baum) Battani lives in Hong Kong with her husband, Matt, and is teaching at the Canadian International School of Hong Kong.

Steve Ling shares, “After many years of exam-taking, I recently became a credentialed property and casualty actuary. I also completed all five levels of improvisational comedy training at the Peoples Improv Theater in New York City. I was scheduled for late March to go to Taiwan to participate in **Jon Chow**’s wedding and to visit numerous relatives whom I have not seen in years. During my trip, I also planned to visit Tokyo for the first time and to eat plenty of sushi!”

Back to the United States, **Alejandro Berthe-Suarez** writes, “I finished my master’s in social work at the Catholic University of America last May (2011). I’m the director of boys’ programs at the Youth Leadership Foundation in Southeast

Washington, D.C., providing local youth with the academic, character and leadership skills needed to be well-rounded and responsible adults in the community. I have a blog that I update every Wednesday highlighting my experiences there: virtuetalk.org. My wife and I live in Northern Virginia, just outside of D.C.”

Simma (Asher) Kupchan writes, “My husband, Charlie, and I are delighted to report the birth of our daughter, Maia Asher Kupchan, on March 8. We three are thankfully happy and healthy in Washington, D.C.”

Emily Broad (now Emily Broad Leib) has been teaching since September 2010 in the Harvard Law School Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation, where she directs the center’s new Food Law and Policy Clinical Program. Emily was married in October 2010 to Jonathon Leib and was excited to have many College and Engineering '03 classmates in attendance.

Justin Assad writes, “I’m the co-head sailing coach at Dartmouth. I began here in September 2010; we finished this fall ranked second nationally in coed and third in women’s, which was pretty exciting. During winters I ski and play plenty of hockey, and during sum-

mers I run Nantucket Yacht Club’s Junior Sailing Program, where I’ve been since 2005.”

In May, **Monica Conley** married Eric Newman in New York City at Temple Emanu-El; the ceremony was followed by a reception at the Yale Club. Many Columbians were in attendance, including **Anya Brodsky**, **Rachel Ganiere** '03E, **Rachel Gershman**, Robert Reyes '04, Melinda Mellman '01 Business and Tamara Acoba '01 Business. The couple resides in New York City, where Monica works in digital advertising at Starworks Group.

Jillian Kasow writes, “I’m assistant counsel in the New York State Senate Office of the Majority Counsel, working on the energy, environmental conservation and agriculture committees. I also was engaged last summer to Ali Chaudhry, whom I met while in law school. We are planning our wedding for this October in Lenox, Mass.”

Colleen Cusick writes, “I’m working on my dissertation at CUNY Graduate Center on 19th-century courtship plot novels and teaching Victorian lit at Queens College. My husband, Dan Endick, and I had a son in October. Simon Kelly Endick is 3 months now and quite adorable and also quite bril-

Jennifer Medbery '06's Data-Driven Software Empowers Teachers

BY KAREN IORIO

For those who know **Jennifer Medbery '06** (née Schnidman), founder and CEO of Kickboard, an educational software company whose namesake program tracks and analyzes student performance data, she seems to possess superhuman strengths.

"She has the ability to walk through walls," says David Whittemore '06, a friend and fellow entrepreneur. Or as Ed Zimmerman, Kickboard's attorney and an adjunct professor at the Business School, puts it: "It's not clear to me that she understands what the word 'no' means."

Both describe a tenacious woman who views obstacles, such as the vast achievement gap that divides our nation's students along socioeconomic lines and the charge of finding investors for a new company based in disaster-ravaged New Orleans, as opportunities.

As a high school student in Ridgefield, Conn., Medbery became interested in Columbia when she attended non-credit weekend classes on campus through the Science Honors Program. Once at the College, she majored in computer science. During her senior year, a class on social entrepreneurship at Barnard "opened my eyes to what you can do as an entrepreneur for social enterprise," she says.

With a new interest in social reform, she joined Teach for America upon graduation and taught eighth-grade math for two years in the Mississippi Delta. For her third year of teaching, in 2008, Medbery moved to New Orleans to work as a founding teacher at New Orleans Math and Science Academy, a charter school known as Sci Academy. (She now lives in the Crescent City with her husband, Trey.)

"New Orleans is a mecca of opportunity," Medbery says. "After Hurricane Katrina, the old schooling system was literally washed away and now new



Jennifer Medbery '06 provides teachers with an innovative tool to track students' progress.

PHOTO: ROBERT X. FOGARTY, DEAR WORLD

charter schools and school governing systems are flourishing.

"[Teaching at Sci Academy] was my 'aha' moment as an entrepreneur. I had a dynamite school leader and a hardworking group of teachers all on the mission of closing the achievement gap. We had a strong school culture and our students were engaged in learning. Still, it felt cumbersome to track student progress." She recalls juggling dozens of files, stacks of paper and desks full of Post-it notes, struggling to organize information ranging from test scores to parent phone numbers.

With her data-driven computer science background, Medbery knew there had to be a way to use technology to help teachers track students. After a year spent developing Kickboard, she introduced a prototype to Sci Academy at the start of the 2009–2010 academic year.

"The response was overwhelmingly positive," she says. "Teachers loved going from an old-fashioned gradebook

to a new, streamlined web 2.0 tool. They loved being able to visualize student progress with charts and graphs. It opened up teachers' minds on how to use data to help move students along faster."

Kickboard (kickboardforteachers.com) is a highly customizable program that can be just as useful for a high school physics teacher as it is for a kindergarten reading instructor. Teachers can choose what they'd like to track, including test scores and specific skills as varied as subtracting fractions and understanding similes and metaphors. Teachers who see the same students in different classes can share data to analyze behavior and performance patterns. Kickboard also allows for teachers to maintain call and meeting logs indicating when they speak with each student's family and what is covered in the conversation.

After its resounding success in Sci Academy, Kickboard launched in 11 New Orleans schools the following year and

now is in 70 schools across 12 states. Each school signs up starting at a cost of \$15 per staff member, which includes training.

"Our No. 1 objective is growth — getting more teachers on Kickboard and making teachers more analytical and data-driven," says Medbery. "For many teachers, 'data-driven instruction' is a theoretical buzzword; Kickboard is the tool teachers can use to turn theory into practice."

Although the company has expanded nationally, Medbery says, "Our headquarters is still, and will always be, in New Orleans. The city is an intersection of entrepreneurship and educational reform."

Despite a poor economic climate, investors have seen the value of Medbery's mission.

Last spring, her company was accepted into the highly competitive First Growth Venture Network, founded by Zimmerman, which enables entrepreneurs to work with advisers on

business strategy. Zimmerman says he was impressed by Medbery's conviction through "a dark time in the market and a terrible time for venture funding."

"If you asked a venture investor what they would *not* like to fund, they'd say a first-time entrepreneur who's a teacher, has no financial training, isn't a deep technologist and doesn't live in Silicon Valley or another major city."

However, once Zimmerman met Medbery during the application process he realized, "She was one of the most impressive people in an impressive room. She's going to stick with it."

In addition to First Growth Venture Network, Medbery also has found business support from the Columbia Venture Community, a group of Columbia students, employees and alumni interested in entrepreneurship. Among the classmates she works through problems with are Whittemore, a co-founder of Clothes Horse, and Mike Brown Jr. '06, a founding partner of AOL Ventures.

"She's so passionate about education," Brown says. "She has a sincere interest in changing how the business is operated. When a problem arises, she doesn't waver. She adapts to solve it."

Medbery's resilience is getting noticed outside the education sphere. Last June, *Inc.* magazine included her in its list of "30 Under 30" young entrepreneurs to watch. And in August she was honored by President Barack Obama '83 as one of the White House's Champions of Change Young Entrepreneurs.

All this recognition is not a signal for Medbery to rest on her laurels; instead, she says, "Press and awards are validation that what we're doing is important and motivate me to spread the message wider."

liant, so basically the perfect baby."

Reina Hardy is a Michener Fellow in playwriting at UT Austin, and she recently signed with the theatrical division of the Gersh Agency.

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Hello, fellow CC'04 alumni!

I hope this fresh batch of updates finds you well. As usual, here's your reminder to send in your news — don't be shy! You can email me at aeg90@columbia.edu or via *Columbia College Today's* web submission form: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Congratulations to **Lindsay Wilner**, who recently completed a dual M.B.A./M.A. at the Tuck School of Business and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. She spent several months last fall working in horticulture development in Tanzania before starting a full-time job as a consultant with Bain & Co. in Boston.

Congratulations also to **Jonathan Sabatini**, who graduated from the Ross School of Business at Michigan this spring. He plans to spend the summer traveling the world before joining Accenture as a management consultant, also based out of Boston.

Jessica Leber '08 GSAS, '08J recently moved from Washington, D.C., to San Francisco and started a job as business editor for the magazine *Technology Review*. Her graduate degrees came as part of Columbia's dual master's program in earth and environmental science journalism. As Jessica writes, "Go Columbia!"

Jason Burwen reports, "I finished a double master's in public policy and energy and resources at UC Berkeley last spring. Since then, I've been working in San Francisco at an economic and statistical consultancy that deals with demand-side management in electricity, specifically looking at demand response programs, electric vehicle charging and time-of-use pricing. I recently connected with **Jake Porway** '04E and have begun volunteering with his new nonprofit, Data Without Borders, because I just can't get enough data in my life. Any other data geeks in San Francisco should look me up; we need a happy hour here."

Lindsay Shortliffe writes, "Last year I completed my post-doctoral fellowship at UC Berkeley and became licensed as a clinical psychologist. I have a private practice in Palo Alto, Calif." Lindsay was planning to see **Medha Goyal Barbhaiya**, **Chirag Barbhaiya**,

Ross Leff, **Gerald Brant**, **Ashish Shetty**, Sanjit Tewari '05E and **Steven Branco** at Youngmie Han's wedding in Chicago in May.

Speaking of Chicago, **Elodi Dielubanza** lives there and is wrapping up her third of six years of urology residency at Northwestern.

In 2010, **Rachel Neugarten** completed a master's in the Department of Natural Resources at Cornell, researching the socioeconomic implications of forest conservation in the Adirondacks. She spent 2011 traveling, starting with a month of volunteer work with Global Medical Brigades in Honduras, followed by studying hummingbirds in Trinidad and five months studying forest ecology in the White Mountains of New Hampshire. She now is employed at Conservation International, helping it incorporate ecosystem services and human well-being into its environmental conservation work.

Rachel adds, "I recently moved to Washington, D.C., and plan to stay here for the foreseeable future, so I'd love to connect with other Columbia alumni in the area."

Amy Burge Moynihan is writing her dissertation toward a Ph.D. in higher education at Virginia and works full-time for a research firm in Charlottesville, Va. She loves living in Charlottesville and says she's looking forward to finishing school and beginning the next chapter in her life; her husband is completing his J.D. at Washington and Lee.

Elena Stein lives on the West Side with her husband, Yonah, and infant son, Azzan (Ozzie). She serves as clergy at Lincoln Square Synagogue and is pursuing her doctorate in religion at Columbia.

In the fashion world, **Tess Vigil**'s clothing line 50 Dresses is now in its third season and is featured in Fred Segal in Santa Monica, Calif., as well as at modcloth.com.

The literary world is represented by **Adam Gidwitz**, who married Lauren Mancia '05 last June. His second book for children 8–12, *In A Glass Gimmly*, will be published in August. His first book, *A Tale Dark And Grimm*, has been translated into 10 languages. [See March/April 2011.]

Finally (but certainly not least), we have an update from **Andrea E. Channing Kung Starrett**: "I got married in 2010 — very happy. I'm deployed to Afghanistan as an enlisted service member in the Army. Mostly sitting in an office, and I'm in a relatively safe zone, so I'm not really worried. As for why I enlisted (and not as an officer), I get to do more actual work rather than paper pushing ... now for my job specialty, it's all paperwork anyhow, but it's of a different type than an officer ... plus, the

experience is vastly different and honestly priceless. I still don't know if I'll eventually go to the officer side, but I will likely leave the active duty service when my contract ends soon.

"And a message to those students and alumni opposing ROTC on campus — if we're not the officers and service members directing the course of the military and its actions, guess who's going to do it? Someone not as smart or as dedicated as us. We oppose based on ideals and principles, which means that those ideals and principles don't make it into the military. The only way to change the military is to be the military. Policy isn't made by students; it's made by military people. And with the ROTC, that gap can be bridged."

05 Peter Kang
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The long list of accomplishments keeps on growing for our classmates. Here are some updates:

Daniella Ross completed her second year at Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She is eagerly awaiting the start of the clinical phase of her program and plans to apply to residency programs in small animal internal medicine. Daniella lives with her longtime partner, Eric, and their two dogs and two cats.

Bindu Suresh graduated from medical school at McGill.

Christine Jelinek graduated in April with a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins School of Medicine's Department of Pharmacology and Molecular Science. Her dissertation is titled "Characterizing the Post-Translational Modifications of Human Serum Albumin as correlated with Cardiac Ischemia." Next, she will take a fellowship with Dr. Robert J. Cotter, also at Johns Hopkins, where she will be developing novel Parkinson's disease diagnostics using mass spectrometry and other proteomic tools.

Italome Ohikhuare is pursuing an M.F.A. in screenwriting at Miami and is set to graduate next May. She is spending the summer in Los Angeles taking film courses at UCLA and networking with both Miami and Columbia alums.

Brendon Jobs writes: "Loving home ownership in Philly. Can't believe it has nearly been a year. I have entered a domestic partnership with Bob McKee, although we're praying that Pennsylvania follows Maryland's example and enacts a marriage equality act soon. This whole year, I've been preparing a lengthy portfolio of my

work in the classroom for National Board teaching certification. In combination with the constitutional seminar that I did at Georgetown last summer, it’s helped me grow so much as a teacher. ...

“I’m again working for the summer in Washington, D.C., but this time as an Education Pioneers’ fellow. I’ve also been talking to **Mahesh Somashekar**, who has nearly completed his Ph.D. at Princeton and is happily married, as is **Andrea Woodley**, who is loving life in NYC. I’ve also seen **Charlotte Jacobs** a couple of times since she has moved to Philly to get an Ed.D. in teaching, learning and teacher education at Penn’s Graduate School of Education, my alma mater.”

Speaking of Charlotte, her pilot study, titled “Where My Girls At?: The Experiences of African-American Adolescent Girls in a Predominately White Independent School,” was accepted to the Diversity in Research and Practice Conference at Teachers College and presented in late March. This summer, she will go on a three-week trip to Botswana with the Somerela and Sustained Dialogue Campus Network organizations. She will lead conflict resolution dialogues about issues of difference as well as participate in service projects.

Ife Babatunde loves living in Brooklyn and enjoys her job as a brand strategist at Ogilvy & Mather. **Eileen Lee**, COO at Venture for America, writes: “Venture for America launched its first fellowship class in June! The program kicked off with a summer celebration in NYC with board members, supporters and friends, and then the fellows moved up to Providence for a five-week training camp at Brown. Fellows will then move to Cincinnati, Detroit, Las Vegas, New Orleans and Providence to work at a start-up for two years with the hopes that they will work at the company long-term or start their own companies.”

Sandra Seal Gildersleeve ’12 P&S and **John Gildersleeve** ’04, ’08L were married in September 2009 and welcomed their first child, Julia Madeleine, last November.

Rachel Feinmark writes: “In September, Benjamin Kalinkowitz and I were married on a farm in Luray, Va., surrounded by the beautiful Shenandoah mountains, goats and good friends. **Lizet Lopez**; **Steve Melzer**; **Marc Tobak**; **Matthew Mandelberg**; **Evan Deutsch**; **Charlotte Jacobs**; **Joel Chudow** ’06; **Lizzie Berkowitz** ’06, ’10 GSAS; **Tunie Deutsch** ’04 Barnard; **Shira Danan** ’07; **Tracy Massel** ’06 Barnard; and **Michal Shinnar** ’06 Barnard all made the long trip to celebrate with us for

the weekend! Now, we’re living in Chicago where I am finishing my Ph.D. in American history at Chicago. We’re all looking forward to heading to Dallas in September for Lize’s wedding to Usman Shuja.”

Congrats to all of our classmates and their wonderful news. Please don’t hesitate to share your updates!

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This has been a big year thus far for **Brian Wagner**. In January he launched LendVets, a nonprofit that helps military veterans who are entrepreneurs. In March he spent two weeks on Reserve duty at the Pentagon, supporting the Navy’s community outreach efforts. As of this writing, he was looking forward to his May 26 wedding to Afton Yurkon (Pharm.D., Northeastern ’07) in Charlottesville, Va., in front of a crowd to include best man **Sean Wilkes** and groomsman **Dave Whittemore**.

Daniella Ross ’05 completed her second year of veterinary school at Michigan State.

Nearly a year ago, in August 2011, **Tara Wedin** married Nicolas Bamat. Tara writes, “Nick and I met in medical school and we are now both pediatric residents at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. I loved having so many of my best friends from Columbia join us for our wedding celebration! We boogied down with **Carly Hugo**, **Jessica Bobula Foster**, **Lauren Baranco**, **Kelly Gavin Zuckerman**, **Seth Zuckerman**, **Katie Fernandez**, the soon-to-be married **Danielle Joset**, **Dana Gold**, **Deepa Danan**, **Sunita Kurra**, **Porter Leslie** and **Emily Berkman**. I love Philadelphia and even got to see Carly’s movie *Higher Ground* come out in theaters here and can’t wait to see her latest movie, *Bachelorette*. I’m so proud of my Carman 703 roommate and her amazing film production career! I also grabbed dinner with another Carly from Columbia, **Carly Ross**, who is applying for a residency in ob/gyn and will match in March.”

Congratulations, Tara, as you approach your one-year anniversary! **Isaac Stone Fish** recently joined the staff of *Foreign Policy* as an associate editor in Washington, D.C. This marks his return to the United States after spending six years in China, several as a reporter for *Newsweek*.

Seth Wainer recently joined the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, working on public education for the new health care law.

Jeremy Kotin is excited to have spent the past six months working with director Baz Luhrmann in creating projections for the exhibition *Schiaparelli and Prada: Impossible Conversations* at The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Jeremy also had the privilege of collaborating with Philip Glass in the creation of a promotional film for the composer’s new arts center being built in Big Sur.

After spending most of the last five years in China, Latin America and the Middle East, working on a set of book projects about travels in those regions, **Jonathan Ward** is at Oxford, reading for a master’s in global and imperial history. He writes, “I was living in Damascus most recently, until hearing of my Oxford acceptance and making my way to the United Kingdom. My thesis focus is on Russian and Chinese diplomatic history during the Cold War (studied both languages at Columbia, now using primary

sources in the original languages to put the thesis together, very enjoyable indeed!). I’ve just applied for the doctorate here and will hopefully stay on after the master’s finishes in June.”

Ganesh Betanabhatla recently returned to New York after a year in Houston. Ganesh is an investment professional in the energy practice at Pine Brook Road Partners.

Finally, I will close with a note to you all from **Victoria Baranetsky**:

“Dear Class of 2006: Exciting times, as friends’ careers flourish. This is measured by the reality of getting older. I have therefore decided to dedicate this year to see health! I wish all of you much of it. And now for my haiku:

“Gray hairs growing in.
“‘06 careers taking off.
“Stop, smell the roses.”

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It is hard to believe that it has been five years since Class Day and our Columbia College graduation. A full report from our first Alumni Reunion Weekend will appear in the Fall issue. In the meantime, keep

reading for news and some exciting updates from our classmates.

For starters, our class was out in full force at the annual John Jay Awards Dinner on March 7. Attendees included **David Ali**, **David Chait**, **Allison Turza Bajger** and her husband, **Dan Bajger**.

Sonya Thomas will begin her residency in ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins next summer after completing an internship in internal medicine.

Nishant Dixit has returned from a year abroad working with the Tibetan Government in Exile through TechnoServe India, and is happy to report that his team’s work led to \$2 million in additional funding for entrepreneurship and agriculture development initiatives from USAID. He is founding a start-up business to assist small retailers with processing their transactions and managing their customers and suppliers through mobile phones. Nishant recently spent a month in New York catching up with friends and working to find developers for his start-up. He “hopes that, like Jeremy Lin, his couch surfing on the LES will lead to greatness.”

Margaret Bryer shares, “I am very excited to do more primate behavior and nutrition field work in Uganda this summer and to be entering a Ph.D. program this fall in physical anthropology at CUNY/The New York Consortium in evolutionary primatology.”

David Chait returned to the Business School in January following a two-year leave of absence for an appointment to the Obama administration. He served as the senior policy adviser to the administrator at U.S. Small Business Administration, among other roles, and is “thankful for the experience of a lifetime.”

Kat Vorotova also is back at Columbia; she’ll be starting her executive M.B.A. at the Business School this fall.

Max Talbot-Minkin writes, “[As of this writing] I’m graduating from the IIT Institute of Design in Chicago with a master of design and M.B.A. this May and moving back to NYC to work at ReD Associates, a strategy consulting firm in the Financial District.”

Isaac Schwartz was sorry to miss reunion, but “doesn’t feel too bad, as I [planned to] be backpacking in Peru before meeting up with a group of doctors, nurses and medical students from Cleveland to carry out a large medical project in the Sacred Valley region.” He hopes everyone had a blast.

Samantha Feingold shares, “Excited to say I was recently admitted to the New York State Bar Association and am practicing civil litigation in New York City.” As of



Elizabeth (Liz) Reeve ’08 and Craig Hormann ’08E were married on September 30 at Orfila Vineyards and Winery in San Diego. Guests included many former members of the CU football and field hockey teams on which Liz and Craig played. Left to right: Ramie Merrill ’07, Jen Cruz ’07, Court Flannery ’08E, Mary Rutledge ’07, Andrea Derricks ’07, Cody Steele ’09, Lauren Hanna ’08, Kristina George ’07, Kris Jensen ’10, the bride, the groom, Kristen Teatom ’08, Thomas Weldon ’08, Marissa Doyle ’07, Nicole Amerian ’08, Scott Hughes ’08, Eric Maskwa ’08E, Vishal Kumar ’08E, Jessica Lee ’08, Bryce Marshall ’08, Ashley Mehl ’08, Heather Lockhart ’08E, Ben Hansen ’08, Nik Trikha ’08, Danny Zuffante ’08E and Michael Testa ’08.

this writing. Samantha was looking forward to seeing the Class of 2007 at reunion.

Simeon Siegel and his wife welcomed a son, Liam Morrie, on February 21. Congratulations!

Alexandra Cerutti sent regrets about missing reunion, adding: “I will be busy that weekend graduating from UMass Medical School! Looking forward to heading back to New York in July to start general surgery residency at North Shore-LIJ.”

Monique Alves ’09 recently was promoted to associate level at Morgan Stanley in the (Credit) Derivatives Clearing Project Group. She’s enjoying the fast growing world of clearing and global project implementations.

John Shekitka shares, “I’ll be returning to fair Morningside Heights in the fall to pursue a Ph.D. in social studies education at Teachers College. I’m so excited.”

James Williams is excited to announce that he will represent the United States at the 2012 Olympics this summer for fencing. (This is where I boast for James, who took home a silver medal in the 2008 Beijing Olympics with the U.S. saber team; see the November/December 2008 issue.)

Max Bauer writes, “I am finishing my second year of law school, where I co-wrote a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. I am working at the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office and will be at the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office in Boston this summer.”

**REUNION WEEKEND
MAY 30–JUNE 2, 2013**
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Hi, Class of 2008! We have some great updates from classmates below, including a *Wheel of Fortune* win and run-ins with Gerard Butler. Enjoy!

Ben Teitelbaum, who is studying at the Journalism School, writes, “I love my program, and it’s great

to be back at Columbia. Oh, and it might be worth mentioning that I recently appeared on *Wheel of Fortune*. I didn’t win, but I walked away with \$8,250.”

Ana Taveras recently started her own company, Ana Christina — “basically an education travel company — Anthony Bourdain meets Rosetta Stone. Our first tour was to the Dominican Republic in January.”

James Williams ’07 will represent the United States in fencing at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Calvin Sun recently was invited to speak about his blog, The Monsoon Diaries (monsoondiaries.com), for the Global Youth Leadership Day Summit at Baruch College; other speakers included the former U.S. Ambassador to the Slovak Republic, the president of Baruch College, the managing director of J.P. Morgan, the director of study abroad at the Weissman Center for International Business, the associate director at Standard Chartered Bank and an award-winning journalist of *The New York Times*. The Ticker (Baruch’s news site) reported: “...

Calvin Sun, the youngest panelist, grabbed the audience’s attention with his stories of traveling and the obstacles he had faced during his travels.

“Sun, a Columbia University graduate with a B.A. in biochemistry and v.p. of his class, spoke about how he began traveling and where his ambitions stemmed from. He spoke about his trip to Egypt, where he managed to learn

Arabic overnight and managed to survive in a country and culture he was completely unfamiliar with until that day. ‘We are young, we’re energetic, just go,’ Sun added.

“Sun is the founder of National Undergraduate Film Festival at Columbia University Asian American Alliance. ‘Strive to fail,’ he says. ‘I would rather fail and learn than live in constant fear of failure,’ he added. ‘There are no such things as mistakes, only lessons.’

“When asked what constitutes a successful organization and great leadership, Sun said, ‘Make sure the

people you are working with are your best friends.’ Sun then gave a popular statement amongst investors, ‘Take the A team with a B idea over the B team with an A idea.’”

Sun’s travels to North Korea have been featured on *Rachel Maddow*, *Business Insider*, South Korea’s Yonhap News, Freedom Radio and other blogs. He also ran into actor Gerard Butler three times while traveling through Morocco and reports: “I’m happy to say he’s been an avid follower of my blog ever since. As I write, I have plans to backpack through Iran and Chernobyl in April, take my Step One U.S. Medical Licensing Exam in June, backpack through Pakistan in late June and begin the third year of medical school in July.”

Jeff Silberman graduated from Yale Law last May and in October started work at Skadden, Arps in New York; he’s in the corporate finance department.

Maud Arnold and her sister Chloe ‘02 produced their fourth annual D.C. Tap Festival March 30–April 1. It was an “all-star concert featuring the best tap dancers and musicians from around the world.”

Finally, it’s never too early to plan! In a little less than a year we’ll be celebrating our five-year reunion. The dates are Thursday, May 30–Sunday, June 2, 2013. If you want to get in on the planning, you can join the Reunion Committee; just contact the appropriate Alumni Office staff member noted at the top of the column. You need not be in the New York area and can participate in meetings via conference call. Stay tuned for more as the big weekend approaches.

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Shortly after graduation, **Nora Sturm** moved to Europe, where she had been working with the International Crisis Group, a Brussels-based NGO committed to preventing and resolving deadly conflicts around the world. This past April, she took a consulting position with a new organization that provides support and training to societies undergoing political and post-conflict transitions. Often this involves working with countries that have recently endured a civil war or revolution. This fall, she hopes to start pursuing a master’s in international relations and security. She has yet to finalize her institution but there is a chance that she will be back in the United States.

Last July, **Eric Lukas** completed a master’s in international relations at the University of Oxford and then backpacked for a month across central Europe, visiting Berlin, Prague, Vienna, the Swiss Alps and many places in between. After returning across the pond in August, he spent much of the fall at home in Northern Virginia before accepting a consulting position with Deloitte in November. The new job has taken him to Houston, where he helps develop regulatory risk management strategies for the energy industry. He’s excited to get to know a new city and has been adapting to life in Texas just fine, enjoying the warm winter weather and attending the Houston Rodeo in March. In April

Maud Arnold ‘08 and her sister Chloe Arnold ‘02 produced their fourth annual D.C. Tap Festival, held March 30–April 1 and featuring dancers and musicians from around the world.

he planned to cycle in the BP MS 150, a ride from Houston to Austin that raises money for multiple sclerosis treatment and research.

In his spare time, Eric has been a contributor and outreach director for Sense and Sustainability, a podcast and blog founded by **Jisung Park** that explores diverse perspectives in sustainable development. Eric has contributed a few posts to the blog and invites classmates to check out the project (senseandsustainability.net).

Rachael McMillan spent her first several years after Columbia teaching in Baton Rouge, La., and being a client advocate for the New Orleans Public Defenders. She recently began pursuing a J.D. at Tulane, joining Kiley White ‘04 Barnard, Robyn Gordon ‘11 Barnard and Benjamin Clark ‘11. Rachael is happy in Louisiana and hopes to stay there.

Chimdi Nwosu graduated from Temple’s Beasley School of Law this spring. She will start her legal career in October as an assistant district attorney in Philadelphia.

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Happy summer, Class of 2010! With the two-years-out-of-college milestone comes big changes for some of our classmates.

Daniel Kanak left Goldman Sachs and, in April, moved to Singapore to work for Temasek Holdings, one of the Sovereign

Wealth Funds of Singapore. As of this writing, he had spent a grand total of two days there, and said he is excited but also quite nervous to start a new life in a new city. He added that he’s going to miss New York and his friends from Columbia — don’t forget to drop him a line if you are ever in town (danielkanak@gmail.com)!

Mike Tannenbaum is moving to San Francisco in July to start work at private equity firm Hellman & Friedman. He recently finished two years of investment banking at J.P. Morgan and is looking to reconnect with Columbia graduates in S.F. as well as find a roommate. If you’re also in the market for a roommate, Mike can be reached at

michael.b.tannenbaum@gmail.com.

Brian Dunn writes, “I am living the exciting life of a real estate agent at a great new boutique firm in Manhattan, The Hollingsworth Group. Also, I am working with a small group of young rowing alumni on developing the King’s Crown Rowing Association (KCRA, a Columbia University rowing organization) Alumni Network. It’s been pretty awesome meeting all the influential and accomplished alumni we have all over the world. We’re starting to implement some programs, such as a mentor program in which local alumni are paired with athletes to provide general advice and contacts for internship/job placement. It’s a lot of work but there is so much potential!”

Kevin McKenna earned an M.A. in history from the University of Washington in December and has been promoted to the Ph.D. program.

After orchestrating a move from California to Washington, D.C., last fall, **Pierce Stanley** is adjusting to life inside the Beltway, immersing himself in political journalism at *The New Republic* magazine, where he is a digital media fellow and in charge of the Washington-based magazine’s social media presence. When he is not tweeting, he may be found at an upstart coffee shop in D.C.’s Petworth neighborhood, sampling and serving the capital’s finest hand-poured coffees.

Hieu Pham says, “Hello everyone! I recently got back from doing research in China and am wrapping up my thesis. I will start working

in New York this June, so if you’re around please send me an email (hp2188@gmail.com). Hope everyone is well.”

Samuel Garcia attends University of Texas School of Law and expects to graduate in 2013.

The column would not be complete, of course, without a final word from our most devoted Class Notes writer. **Chris Yim** says, “This time in 2010, I would most likely have been caught skipping class and working on my most prolific tan since summer 2002. ... Most recently, I have been reflecting on this idea that we go through seasons in life (not the ones pertaining to weather or the calendar), but periods of time where we undergo hardship that builds us up and joys/celebrations that define us. I am calling them the ‘work and grind it out’ seasons, because that’s what these days feel like.

“Fortunately, I’ve taken on a side venture called VAASN (Virginia Asian-Americans Single Network) with two fellow Columbia alums residing in New Orleans. The network is designed to unite the fragmented group of Asian-Americans living below the Mason-Dixon line, mainly in my home state. We want to empower people of Asian-American heritage to embrace one another and to date intra-racially as well as inter-racially. This is a message that I’ve been striving to spread amongst my peers since college.

“In the last bit of news, I want to inform everyone that I was indeed the founder and president of the Sevens Society at Columbia. Please keep this hush-hush.”

Thanks for the great updates; keep them coming. I hope to see many of you around New York this summer!

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Hello, Class of 2011! Spring is finally upon us, which means that our undergraduate days at Columbia are already one year behind us — crazy, right? I hope everyone has been enjoying their work or studies or just kicking back and living the good life. A few of our classmates wrote to let us know what they are up to.

Tony Gómez-Lomeli sends his greetings to *Columbia College Today*! He lives in Colonia Condesa in Mexico City and works for a New York-based contemporary art gallery space as an associate director; his responsibilities include managing and organizing the day-to-day



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**Deadline for Fall 2012 issue:
Thursday, July 26, 2012**

operations of the gallery.

Melissa Im writes, “I’m working at Edelman, a PR firm, in its digital practice doing social media for AXE and Dove. I recently met up with Sue Yang ‘10 and a few other Columbians, and have hung out with **Chris Elizondo ‘11E** and **Sara Partridge**. I’m glad to see they are all doing well.”

Ellie Lan is trading Chinese stocks at Morgan Stanley’s sales trading desk and went to India in April. **Kevin Kung** is also at Morgan Stanley, but in the Asia division, working at the fixed income and currencies sales desk. He is also trying out to play on Hong Kong’s Davis Cup tennis team.

Adina Rose Levin writes, “Imagine if Don Draper’s newest client was a Broadway show, and welcome to my life as a junior copywriter at SERINO/COYNE, the leading ad agency for Broadway shows. My days are filled with tag lines, TV spots and all sorts of other cool creative that perhaps you’ve seen throughout

NYC and/or on the Internet. Plus, the Met Opera is one of our clients, too, so my Music Hum experience definitely comes in handy!”

Ryan Gingery is a Teach for China fellow in Guangdong Province, teaching English to third-graders.

Anne Kramer still lives in NYC, though no longer in Morningside Heights, and works at a small healthcare consulting firm. She is in contact with a bunch of Columbia peeps and hopes to remain so! **Caitlyn Malcynsky** writes, “I have been working in Boston at the national headquarters for Mitt Romney’s presidential campaign, where I am a regional finance director. I’ve also gotten to do a lot of travel for finance and political events and primary elections, which has been really interesting. With Super Tuesday mania behind us, everything is starting to ramp up for the general. It’s been pretty much a round-the-clock job, but I love it.”

George Mu writes, “The only person I have consistently seen from CC is **Colin Sullivan**.”

This is rather true since we work together. I’m enjoying my time at Booz & Co. in New York and look forward to traveling to China and Japan in June.

Lastly, residents and friends of EC Suite 805 still haven’t fully entered the post-graduation world and have conjured up farcical updates on their lives in an attempt to continue the “lighthearted and fun-loving” nature of our class, as **Nuriel Moghavem** writes. So here goes: **Ricky Schweitzer** “recently opened an art gallery in Berlin with Nuriel,” who has apparently “moved to San Diego and joined the Marine Corps with **Nora Diamond**.” Interestingly enough, Nora also “was accepted to the University of Miami medical school and will be moving there with **Jan Van Zoelen**.” Jan, in addition, will be “embarking on a year-long sailing trip to circumnavigate the Earth” with **Kurt Kanazawa**. And **Zack Susel** writes that he is “moving to Phoenix with **Diana Greenwald** to open a wind farm.”

ADVENTURES

RUNNING TRIPS NORTHWEST leads all-inclusive trips in WA state. Check us out at runningtripsnorthwest.com!

RENTALS

Historic Jekyll Island, Georgia. 4BR cottage near beach. Weekly. Bingham ‘65 CC. 732-571-0552, jekyllrental.com.

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

ACADIA NATIONAL PARK: 8 bedroom 7.5 bathroom waterfront estate in Northeast Harbor with pier and deep water moorings. Monthly, May through October. neh2012@hmmail.com, (650) 450-8413.



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To ensure that you receive CCT and other College information, please let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name. Click “Contact Us” at college.columbia.edu/cct or call 212-851-7852.

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Congratulations to the newest members of Columbia’s alumni family, the amazing Class of 2012! Now that we’ve made it through four years of the Core, John Jay dining hall and those Hamilton elevators, we have our very own spot in *Columbia College Today* — and I’m excited to be your class correspondent. So whether you’re traveling the world with all your possessions in a backpack, enjoying Mom’s cooking back at home or working endless hours at your new job, CCT is just one way to stay connected. Shoot me a message by email or via CCT’s easy-to-use webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) so I can share updates and news with our classmates. Have a great summer, wherever you may be!

Lou Gehrig '25 in His Own Words

"Fans, for the past two weeks you have been reading about the bad break I got. Yet today I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth."
Gehrig spoke his most famous words on June 4, 1939, at a day of appreciation the Yankees held for him shortly after his retirement due to ALS.

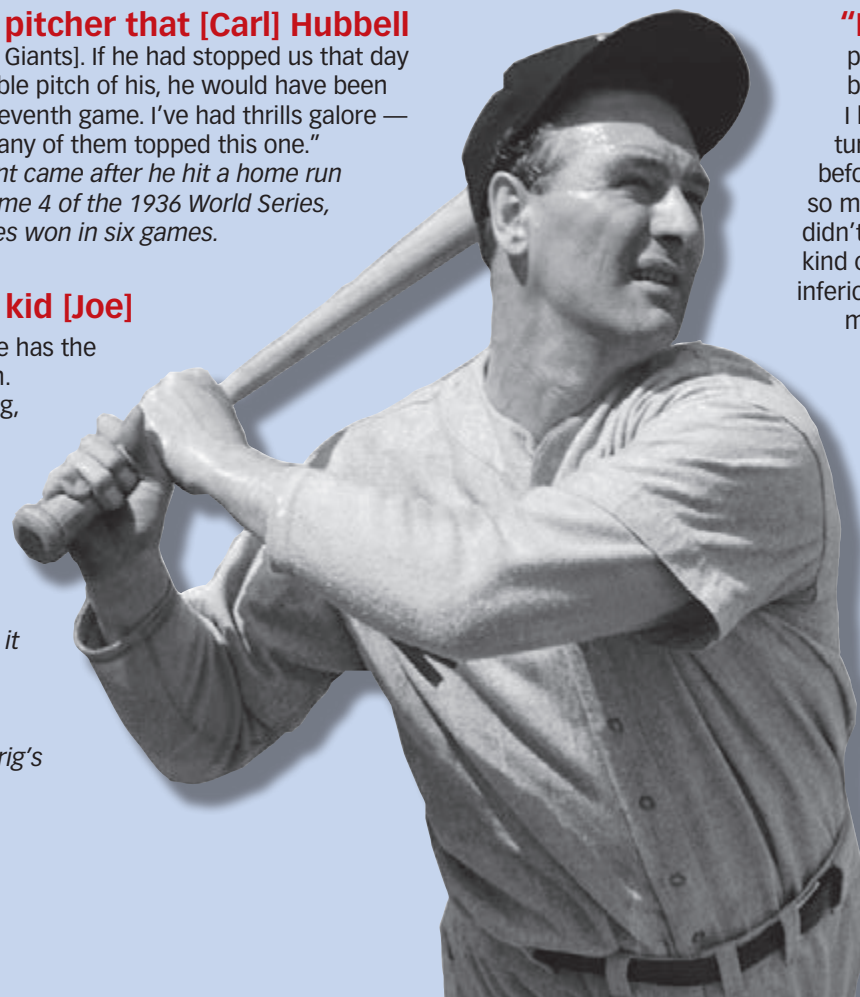
"These people are yelling 'Good luck, Lou,' and they're wishing me well — and I'm dying."

"I have seen many Negro players who belong in the big leagues. I don't believe there's any room in baseball for discrimination. It's our true national pastime and a game for all."
Gehrig played in the major leagues from 1923–39, retiring eight years before baseball became integrated in 1947.

"I believe that Columbia helped me to appreciate good books and classical music."

"He was all pitcher that [Carl] Hubbell [of the New York Giants]. If he had stopped us that day with that incredible pitch of his, he would have been very tough in a seventh game. I've had thrills galore — but I don't think any of them topped this one."
Gehrig's comment came after he hit a home run off Hubbell in Game 4 of the 1936 World Series, which the Yankees won in six games.

"I envy this kid [Joe] DiMaggio. He has the world before him. He has everything, including the mental stability."
Gehrig and DiMaggio were teammates for three full seasons, and it was DiMaggio who became the Yankees' team leader upon Gehrig's retirement.



"I'm not a headline guy. I know that as long as I was following [Babe] Ruth to the plate I could have stood on my head and no one would have known the difference."

"Only a small percentage of men have to go back to prison. It seems to me that many convicted fellows deserve another chance. We don't want anyone in jail who can make good — but we don't want people out there who are a danger to the rest of the community."
Following his retirement, Gehrig served on the New York Parole Commission.

"When these writers would ask me questions, they'd often think I was rude if I didn't answer right away. They didn't know I was so scared I was almost shitting in my pants!"

"I never realized how much I would miss the clubhouse atmosphere. I guess my life is bound up with baseball and this ball club."

"My sweetheart — and please grant that we may ever be such — that thing yesterday I believe and hope was the turning point in my life ... I broke before the game because I thought so much of you. Not because I didn't know you are the bravest kind of partner but because my inferiority grabbed me and made me wonder and ponder if I could possibly prove myself worthy of you."
From a letter to his wife, Eleanor, the day after he announced his retirement.



Selected quotes provided by Ray Robinson '41, a longtime sports writer and the author of Iron Horse: Lou Gehrig in His Time.

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