

# Columbia College

Fall 2013

TODAY 

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Sheena Wright '90, '94L Breaks Ground as  
First Woman CEO of United Way of New York City





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PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR

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Joel I. Klein '67

PHOTO: JAEGERSLON



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Boris Kachka '97, '98J

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## WEB EXTRAS

Thank you to our Fiscal Year 2013 donors.

View a photo album from Convocation.

Watch a concert by the ensemble L'Arpeggiata featuring music by Claudio Monteverdi and his contemporaries.

[college.columbia.edu/cct](https://college.columbia.edu/cct)



# Celebrating the Achievements Of Current and Former Students

**L**ast year, I traveled around the world to meet alumni, parents, students and friends of Columbia College and to introduce myself formally as dean. I attended College alumni receptions in London, Los Angeles and San Francisco; met newly admitted early decision students in Boston; visited current students studying at Reid Hall in Paris; and attended "Columbia 101" summer advising events in Beijing, Hong Kong and Seoul. And during my travels, I became more and more impressed by the passion, intelligence and achievements of our current and former students — all 51,803 of you.

I met two alumni in Beijing who were so inspired by their study abroad experience in Asia that they returned to China to start a college advising company. I spoke to one in Paris who started out as a waiter and now owns a film company. And I visited another in San Francisco who began his career as an assistant football coach and has been the CEO of several major software companies.

That's what this issue of *Columbia College Today* is about: the amazing accomplishments of our outstanding former students. This issue includes three features about College alumni: Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary '41, '53 GSAS, an East Asian studies pioneer, longtime professor and all-around distinguished Columbian; Sheena Wright '90, '94L, the first female CEO of United Way of New York City; and Scott Aiges '86, director of programs, communications and marketing for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.

This issue also features an article about how we are preparing our current students to become the alumni that a future issue of *CCT* may highlight — through one of our ongoing internship programs, Columbia Experience Overseas. Sixty-four students worked abroad in eight cities this past summer, including 11 in CEO's new destinations of Mumbai and Bangalore, India. With support from Citi and the State Department's Passport to India program, students were provided internships at Apne



PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

Aap Women's Collective, AZB & Partners, Infosys Limited, Kotak Mahindra Bank, the Marg Foundation, Mumbai Mobile Creches and Spencer Stuart. Several of these students had the opportunity to attend a U.S. State Department event with Secretary of State John Kerry in June and one of these students, Doreen Mohammed '15, a human rights major and pre-med student, was featured on a segment about the Passport to India effort on BBC Hindi in early August ([bbc.co.uk/hindi/multimedia/2013/08/130802\\_passport\\_sr\\_ak.shtml](http://bbc.co.uk/hindi/multimedia/2013/08/130802_passport_sr_ak.shtml)).

My goal for the College this year, starting with this issue of *CCT*, is for us to celebrate the outstanding achievements of all our students, current and former. We are building a new feature on the College website that will be populated with stories, photos and videos by students that showcase the creativity, talents and accomplishments of our student body, and we are enhancing the alumni section

of our website to better feature and connect College alumni. (Stay tuned for details on both.) We are also busy updating our Columbia College and Columbia College Alumni Facebook pages and Twitter feeds with photos, news items and posts related to members of our unique and distinctive community, so please "Like" and follow us if you have not done so already (see box at left), and continue to share news about your own successes with us via email at [ccalumni@columbia.edu](mailto:ccalumni@columbia.edu).

You may have heard me say that Columbia College is the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world. I want us all to celebrate what makes us the best — the best students, current and former, in the world.

Roar, Lion(s), Roar!

## Find the College on Social Media

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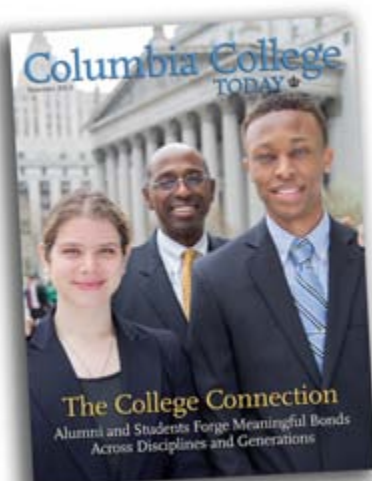
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# Letters to the Editor



## The Pony Ballet

What a pleasant surprise to turn to page 57 [Summer 2013] and come face to face with that bunch of bums from the 1940 *Varsity Show!* We look better than I remember — I am second from the left.

The Pony Ballet ruled in those days ... nobody bigger than we were. And when we threw them a bump, the whole audience would cave in.

Thank you for the reminder, and for your great magazine!

C. Ogden Beresford '43  
ALLENDALE, N.J.

## Remembering Peter Darrow '72

I recently had a flashback to Columbia, circa 1970, when a young alumna recently recalled how Peter Darrow '72 had addressed the Alpha Delta Phi house while she was in charge.

Darrow, who died last spring after a distinguished law career, "came to us very much as the steadying hand," recalled Caylei Vogelzang '03. The former AD president told the undergraduates they owed a legacy to future generations at Columbia.

That's the kind of Darrow pep talk that once drew jeers from those of us college buddies who were too cool to wash the windows or sweep the front stoop.

But Darrow defeated our cynicism with his relentless generosity. He kept up with the retired cook at our fraternity until the old man died. He campaigned for the admission of women to AD in the 1990s. He helped transform the faded brownstone into "the jewel of 114th Street."

Seven years ago, Darrow reunited his college crew at rowing's answer to the Boston Marathon. Younger rowing alum-

ni have followed, including, by happenstance, Vogelzang. "My heart leapt" at the chance to race again at the Head of the Charles Regatta, she said.

Thanks in part to Darrow's inspiration, the Columbia women's varsity has a new boat to race in Boston this year — another fruit of Darrow's knack for inducing others to give back to the sport and the school they love. As many as four alumni boats will be used by Columbia crews.

The moment will be joyful but bitter-sweet, laden with the memory of our friend.

John E. Mulligan III '72  
McLEAN, VA.

## Help Out the Band

The Columbia University Band Alumni Association has launched a drive to help the CU Marching Band beef up its store of instruments for student musicians.

If you're ready to admit that you won't be playing the old horn any more, or if you have a spare, CUBAA would love to have it for the band. We're also hoping to fund repairs for some of the band's limping instrument inventory and buy some needed instruments as well as band supplies such as drumsticks, reeds, mouthpieces and music folders. CUBAA recently received its 501(c)(3) charitable organization status and can provide a tax letter for all donations.

For more information or to donate, go to [columbiabandalumni.org](http://columbiabandalumni.org).

Samantha Rowan '96 Barnard  
NEW YORK CITY

## WWII & NYC

With interest, I read "Columbia Forum: WWII & NYC" [Summer 2013] by Professor Kenneth T. Jackson. It mentions "Todd Shipyards in Brooklyn's Erie Basin had 19,617 employees in 1943 ..."

My grandfather, Charles Gilbride, worked at Todd's through the Depression; most of his sons also worked at Todd's. In the 1970s, the chairman of the board of

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

# Recalling a Member of the CCT Family

**W**hen I was younger, the phrase “untimely death” always struck me as off-kilter. Are not all deaths untimely, I thought? Wouldn’t everyone want to wake up to another remarkable sunrise, listen to a favorite piece of music one more time or celebrate another family milestone?

As I grew older, I realized that as sad as it seems and as painful as the loss might be in the moment, some deaths are timely. My mother lived to be 99, but by the end she had outlived all her friends, was in constant pain and could no longer get out of bed and to her wheelchair without assistance. She couldn’t even read the pages of her son’s magazine, and had reached the point where every night she prayed for God to take her. When I got the call that she had died, I was saddened, of course, but somehow relieved that she was at peace.

In August I read of a colleague/mentor who at 90 had to be moved to a nursing home by his loving wife, having been robbed by Alzheimer’s of any memory of the myriad books he edited/published or the countless lives he touched. I can only wonder about the so-called quality of his life at this stage.

The passing of Jean-Claude Suarès on July 30, after a brief illness at 71, was a most untimely death. JC, as everyone called him, was the design consultant for this magazine for nearly two decades. More than that, he was a force of nature, a man who changed the air pressure in a room upon entering. “What have you got?” he would ask when I’d call to discuss the cover of an upcoming issue, but whether I had something good for him to work with or not, he invariably came up with a strong cover and continually “tweaked” it until it was just what he envisioned.

Suarès was a designer and illustrator who seemed to know everyone in the publishing world, and worked everywhere. He was the first art director of *The New York Times*’ Op-Ed page, bringing

illustrations to the editorial pages of *The Gray Lady*, and his work “helped guide the paper into a new visual era and influenced other newspapers and magazines,” according to his *Times* obituary. He was the design director for *New York Magazine*, founder and creative director of *7 Days* and *POZ* magazines, and oversaw redesigns for *Variety*, *Publisher’s Weekly*, *Broadcasting & Cable* and *Military History*. His drawings appeared on the covers of *The New Yorker* and *The Atlantic Monthly*, and he designed countless illustrated books, including many about cats and dogs. He worked with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis at Doubleday, designing Michael Jackson’s autobiography, *Moonwalk*, and later writing (with J. Spencer Beck) *Uncommon Grace: Reminiscences and Photographs of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis*.

Suarès was introduced to this magazine, according to former editor Jamie Katz ’72, ’80 Business, after photographer Arnold Browne ’78 convinced Katz that it was time to bring in a pro to give CCT a better look. Another photographer, Leslie Jean-Bart ’76, ’77J, recommended Suarès, and his first cover for CCT appeared in Winter 1992–93 and marked the 10th anniversary of coeducation at the College. Suarès became CCT’s design consultant with the Winter 1994–95 issue and, working with our art director, Gates Sisters Studio, had been responsible

for the look and design of the magazine ever since.

Suarès’ sudden death came as a shock; at the time, he already was working on several of the stories that appear in this issue. The CCT family extends its condolences to Nina Duran, his wife of 33 years, and to all who were affected by his passing. We hope he is riding one of his beloved polo ponies right now in a better place, and thinking about his next design project.

*Alex Sachare*



Jean-Claude “JC” Suarès, 1942–2013  
PHOTO: NINA DURAN

Todd’s, John T. Gilbride ’39 Penn, handed me a history of Todd Shipyards. Like the Gilbride family, Todd Shipyards had its roots in Brooklyn. While Todd’s also had yards in Charleston, Mobile, New Orleans, Houston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, the main yards in Brooklyn traced its history to John Ericsson’s creation of the *Monitor* at the Delameter iron works.

The Brooklyn yards are now history. I still live in Brooklyn but will never forget how when I returned from Columbia, peo-

ple in Brooklyn knew my name because they had been employed at Todd Shipyards during WWII. It’s good to recall the tremendous work ethic of that generation, with hope that leaders in Washington realize the contributions work and jobs have on society.

John T. Gilbride wrote in *Todd Shipyards In Peace and War*: “We subscribe to the American dream of a contented and prosperous family of nations.”

*Michael Gilbride ’76*  
BROOKLYN, N.Y.

I read Kenneth T. Jackson’s book excerpt, “Columbia Forum: WWII & NYC” [Summer 2013], with interest.

Dr. John Dunning (pictured, page 45), associate dean of physics at Columbia, recruited my father, Khatchik O. Donelian ’36E, ’37E, to join the scientific staff in 1941 in what became known as the Manhattan Project.

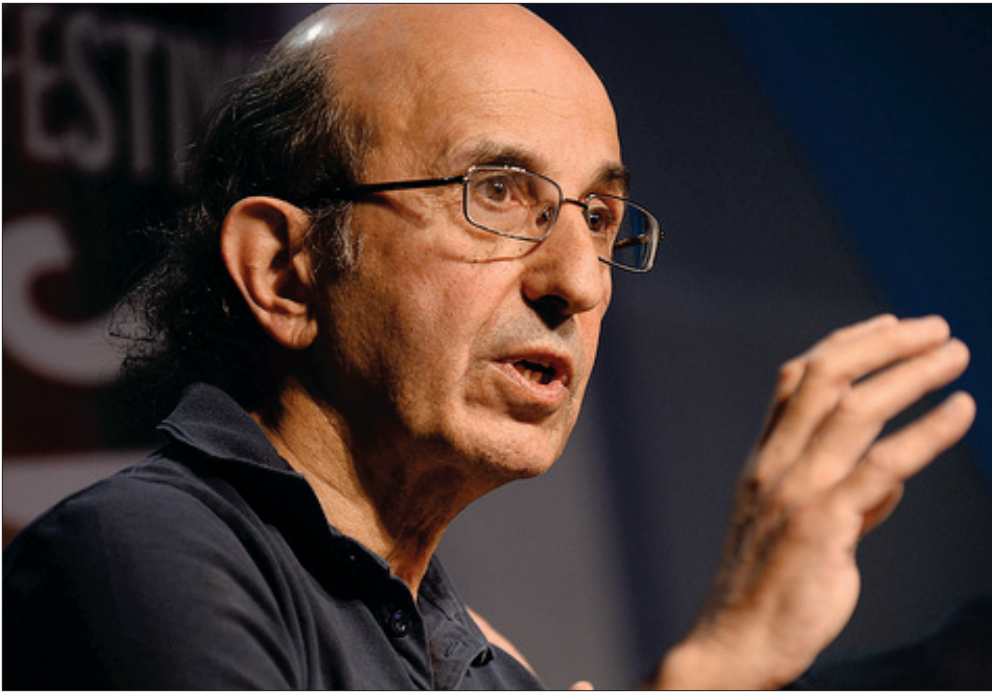
My father worked on an early version of Dunning’s cyclotron and, later, as the chief project engineer on the development of the gaseous diffusion process that was

(Continued on page 103)



# AROUND THE QUADS

## 2013 Alexander Hamilton Medal To Be Presented to Klein



Joel I. Klein '67 is CEO of the Education Division (now called Amplify) and EVP at News Corp.  
PHOTO: MICHAEL BRANDS

Joel I. Klein '67 will be presented the 2013 Alexander Hamilton Medal on Thursday, November 14, at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, an annual black-tie event in Low Rotunda. The medal, the highest honor paid to a member of the Columbia College community, is awarded by the Columbia College Alumni Association to an alumnus/a or faculty member for distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

Klein, CEO of the Education Division (now called Amplify) and EVP at News Corp., as well as a member of News Corp.'s Board of Directors, received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2002.

Klein became Amplify's CEO and News Corp.'s EVP in January 2011. Prior to that, he was chancellor of the New York City Department of Education, where he oversaw a system of more than 1,600 schools with 1.1 million students, 136,000 employees and a \$22 billion budget. In 2002, as chancellor, Klein launched Children First, a comprehensive reform strategy that has brought coherence and capacity to the system and resulted in significant increases in student performance.

A former chairman and CEO of the U.S. arm of Bertelsmann, a global media company, Klein was Assistant U.S. Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice from October 1996–September 2000 and was Deputy White House Counsel to President

Clinton from 1993–95. He entered the Clinton administration after 20 years of public and private legal work in Washington, D.C. (See feature, Fall 2012 CCT.)

Klein graduated magna cum laude from the College and earned a J.D. from Harvard Law in 1971, also magna cum laude. He has received honorary degrees from Amherst, Columbia, Dartmouth, Duke, Fordham Law, Georgetown Law Center, Macaulay Honors College at CUNY, Manhattanville, New York Law, Pace and St. John's School of Education. He was selected by *Time Magazine* as one of "Ten People Who Mattered" in 1999, by *U.S. News & World Report* as "One of America's 20 Best Leaders" in 2006, and was given the prestigious NYU Lewis Rudin Award in 2009 and the Manhattan Institute's Alexander Hamilton Award in 2011.

Klein has been and remains active in Columbia University affairs. While chancellor of NYC's public schools, working with President Lee C. Bollinger, he opened a new secondary school in Harlem that Columbia is supporting. He also served on the University's Manhattanville Ad-Hoc Planning Committee and is currently helping to develop the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute.

He is married to Nicole Seligman, EVP/GC of Sony Corp. and president of Sony Corp. of America, and has a daughter, Julia, who is pursuing her doctorate in philosophy.

For more information on the dinner, contact Robin V. Del Giorno, associate director, College events and programs: robinv@columbia.edu or 212-851-7399.



## Columbia College Fund Exceeds FY13 Goal, Raises \$17.2 Million

**T**he Columbia College Fund exceeded its \$16.8 million goal for Fiscal Year 2013 and set a record for giving to the College, raising more than \$17.2 million. A total of 11,908 alumni, parents, students and friends of the College contributed to the fund, which raises money for financial aid, the Core Curriculum, student services and summer internship stipends. The FY13 total includes donations received from July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013.

The College community participated enthusiastically in Columbia's first Giving Day on October 24, with more than 900 donors raising \$1.28 million, the most of any school at Columbia. This helped the College win the Giving Day Trustee Challenge, earning an additional \$98,000 in matching funds.

The reunion Class of 1988 gave the largest reunion gift ever: \$2.7 million in unrestricted support and \$19.88 million in total gifts to Columbia. The reunion Class of 1963 presented a \$1.98 million Class Gift to the fund — the largest reunion Class Gift ever given by a 50th anniversary

class. The reunion Class of 1993 set a reunion record as well, for most funds raised by any 20th reunion class.

The Class of 2013 Senior Fund raised more than \$25,700, the most of any senior class in Columbia College history. More than 750 students donated to the Senior Fund and 293 signed up for the Dean's 3-2-1 Challenge, pledging to give for three years, to ask two friends to do the same

and to have their gifts matched 1:1 by an alumnus/a.

*To make a gift to the Columbia College Fund in FY14, give by credit card at college.columbia.edu/giveonline or by calling the Alumni Office at 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.*



PHOTO: SYDNEY SCHWARTZ GROSS '05J

### Convocation 2013

**C**olumbia College welcomed 1,098 new students and their families to the Columbia community at Convocation on August 26. The ceremony featured remarks by President Lee C. Bollinger and Dean James J. Valentini, among others. The ceremony began with a parade of students carrying the nearly 200 flags of the home states and countries of the entire College and Engineering undergraduate student body, including the 48 states and 51 countries represented in the Class of 2017. It was followed by the Alumni Procession at Convocation, in which alumni marched with banners representing the decades of their graduation.

1944 · 1949 · 1954 · 1959 · 1964 · 1969 · 1974 · 1979 · 1984 · 1989 · 1994 · 1999 · 2004 · 2009



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**Giuseppe Gerbino is an associate professor of music, specializing in Renaissance music, and also chairs the Department of Music. Born and raised near Brescia, Italy, Gerbino earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Pavia, and both his master's in music and Ph.D. in musicology at Duke. He has worked at Columbia since 2001 and was honored this year with a Lenfest Distinguished Faculty Award.**

#### How did you become interested in music?

I began to study piano when I was pretty young but my training in high school was in classics, Greek and Latin. Partly because of that, I developed an interest in the legacy of classical antiquity and therefore the Renaissance as a historical period during which classical antiquity provided the foundation of a body of knowledge and philosophy that affected the way European thought developed from that point on. I began to study musicology in college, which allowed me to combine these two passions, music and classical antiquity, in their historical convergence in the Italian Renaissance.

#### What characterizes music of the Renaissance?

My work focuses on the century and a half from 1500 to 1650. Probably the most important type of music that was in fashion at the time was a rather complex form of polyphony — which is to say, music for multiple independent voices, both secular and sacred. Later, as you reach the end of the Renaissance and the beginning of the 17th century, a renewed interest in the expressive power of the human voice led to the emergence of a new style of solo singing and vocal virtuosity. This is also the

time when opera emerged as a form of musical theatre.

#### What do you enjoy about teaching Music Humanities?

First of all, the fact that you have students from so many different backgrounds. It's very satisfying to discuss music with them in a way that doesn't necessarily require knowledge of music theory and instead explores music as a fundamental aspect of the human experience. The sheer

variety of the music we study in Music Humanities, from the Middle Ages to the 21st century, is a great tribute to the human imagination.

The other thing I love is the interdisciplinary spirit underlying the Core Curriculum. As I see it, the four components of the Western Core are not four independent courses: literature, philosophy, art history and music. Rather, they are inextricably intertwined points of entry into the intellectual life of the West through four fundamental manifestations of human behavior: the linguistic, the abstract thinking, the visual and the auditory. It's fascinating to observe the same object from these four points of view — almost as a “quadridimensional” object — and it's the synergy among the four components of the Core that makes teaching any one of them such a stimulating and rewarding experience.

#### Do you find that students from nonmusical backgrounds are intimidated by Music Humanities?

Sometimes, yes. Music is an ephemeral object; it unfolds in time, and it is never present in front of you in its entirety in any tangible way. It's not so easy to grasp the nature of an

object that cannot be observed the way a painting can, or whose temporal directionality cannot be controlled the way we do with a book when we flip back and forth between pages.

One advantage, though, is that the emotional response to music allows you to get into contact or in touch with it in an instinctive and profound single act of perception. At that point you can begin to ask yourself: “Why am I reacting

to this piece this way?” The music may sound alien at first but what is important is that it was meaningful to the people who created it, shared it and performed it. And that's when the discussion takes off.

#### What other undergraduate courses do you teach?

One that I love — which is open to all undergraduates regardless of their musical background — is called “Music and Myth.” It is a study of the musical adaptation of classical mythology in Western culture. I usually choose five myths to study in detail, for example, Stravinsky's post-WWI, neoclassical oratorio “Oedipus rex” or Prometheus and Beethoven's third symphony. I also teach the first semester of the music history survey for the major and a course on Bach's vocal music, one of my favorite composers.

#### What music on your iPod would students be surprised to know you have?

Perhaps the most unusual item on my playlist is a collection of songs from the former Soviet Union,

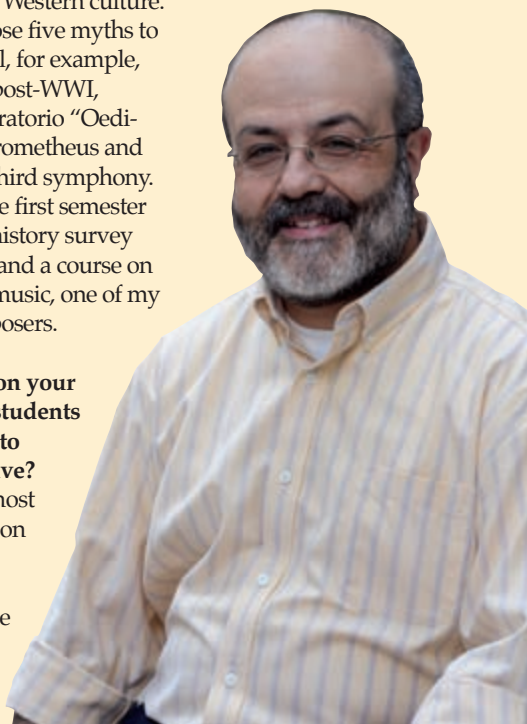
especially by the Red Army Choir and Band. Their performance style and repertoire can be hauntingly evocative and terrifying at the same time.

#### What's your favorite place to be?

I've always had a bit of an attraction for the mountains. But if I were to pick a city I would say New York. I find the synergy between Columbia and the city to be unique. The experience of living in a city like New York changes you deeply — the same way a great piece of music or a great book can change you forever. I fell in love with the city and the institution from day one and, after 12 years, I think it's still the honeymoon.

*To watch a concert Gerbino recommends, by the ensemble L'Arpeggiata and featuring music by Claudio Monteverdi (1567–1643) and his contemporaries, go to Web Extras at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).*

*Interview: Alexis Tonti '11 Arts  
Photo: Eileen Barroso*



## Five Minutes with ... Giuseppe Gerbino



## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

■ **Peter Zimroth '63** was chosen in August as the court-appointed monitor for the New York Police Department's controversial stop-and-frisk policies, charged with ensuring they are conducted in accordance with Fourth Amendment rights barring illegal searches. Zimroth, a former chief deputy prosecutor with extensive experience in both the public and private sectors, will develop and oversee near-term reforms, including changes to the NYPD's policies and training.

Zimroth was quoted in *The New York Times* as saying his work as the city's top lawyer gave him "tremendous respect for the Police Department, not just the department in the abstract but for the people who serve the city and protect us." But, he added, "at the same time, I have always believed that effective law enforcement is very important — it's crucial — but so is the need for law enforcement officials to act within the law and the Constitution. And I don't think they are in conflict."



Milagros "Milly" Silva '96

PHOTO: BUONO FOR GOVERNOR CAMPAIGN

■ New Jersey Democratic gubernatorial candidate Barbara Buono has named labor leader **Milagros "Milly" Silva '96** as her running mate for lieutenant governor, forming just the third all-female gubernatorial ticket in U.S. history. Silva is the e.v.p. in charge of New Jersey for Service Employees International Union Local 1199, the largest health-care local in the country, with nearly 20,000 members who live or work in the state. In that role she represents mostly nursing home workers who are negotiating contracts, lobbying the Legislature for health-care funding and directing political donations.

The previous all-female gubernatorial tickets were of Illinois Democrats in 1994 and Kentucky Republicans in 1999. Neither was successful.

■ **Tom Kitt '96** (music) and **Brian Yorkey '93** (book and lyrics), who wrote the Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning 2009 musical *Next to Normal*, are scheduled to be back on Broadway in Spring 2014 with *If/Then*, a romantic musical about "how choice and chance collide and how we learn to love the fallout," according to its website, [ifthenmusical.com](http://ifthenmusical.com). The show also will mark the Broadway return of Idina Menzel, who won a Tony Award for *Wicked*.

*If/Then* focuses on a woman about to turn 40 who moves to New York intent on making a fresh start, and how even small decisions and random occurrences have an impact on her world in ways she never dreamt possible. It is slated to begin pre-view performances in Washington, D.C., in November.

■ **Andrew J. Ceresney '93** has been named co-head of the enforcement division of the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC chair Mary Jo White announced. Ceresney previously worked with White as both a corporate defense lawyer at Debevoise &

Plimpton and earlier as a federal prosecutor in Manhattan. He will share the SEC enforcement role with George S. Canellos, who had been acting as interim enforcement chief.

■ **Victor Cahn '69** has written a new play, *A Dish for the Gods*, which will be presented Off-Broadway at The Lion Theatre on Theatre Row, 410 W. 42nd St., from Saturday, September 14–Saturday, October 5. Produced by Rachel Reiner Productions, the play, which is about a celebrated writer and the challenges she faced, the painful choices she made and the tumultuous relationship she shared with the man she loved, is directed by Adam Fitzgerald and features Margot White and Kevin Cristaldi.

■ **Carly Hugo '06**, an independent film producer and the co-founder of the film production company Loveless, recently produced Andrew Dosunmu's acclaimed film, *Mother of George*. The film portrays the struggles of a West African immigrant living in Brooklyn and won the Cinema-



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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

# Zahra Bhaiwala '14 Combines Interests In Health and the Middle East

BY NATHALIE ALONSO '08

**L**ike so many who discover new callings as undergraduates, **Zahra Bhaiwala '14** enrolled in the College looking to prepare for medical school but now has a new dream of addressing conflict-related public health issues in the Middle East.

Bhaiwala took a transitional step in that direction this past summer as a paid analyst in Pfizer's Global Outcomes Research department, where she reviewed existing literature on the worldwide incidence and financial burden of bone demineralization and renal problems in HIV patients. Using economic modeling, she projected the cost of such complications. Ahmed Shelbaya '01 PH, director of global outcomes research at Pfizer and a lecturer at the Mailman School of Public Health, was impressed with the approach Bhaiwala brought to her assignment. "Zahra is passionate about global health," he says. "She is concerned about the underserved and vulnerable of the world. She is engaged with what is happening politically, economically and culturally around the world, and she is culturally fluent."

After three years of scientific research as an intern at P&S and Harvard Medical School, Bhaiwala sought more macro level analysis at Pfizer. "I realized my interest in healthcare is not the scientific aspect," she says. "The questions I was asking had to do with structural problems. How does poverty contribute to a healthcare system? What problems do vaccine campaigns run into?"

While with P&S during her first three years in the College, Bhaiwala investigated noninvasive diagnostics techniques for glioblastoma, the most common and aggressive type of malignant brain tumor, and researched the role that T cells and their receptors play in the cancer's development. In 2012, she received a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship from the department of biological sciences to support that research. Bhaiwala, now

editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Undergraduate Science Journal*, also spent summers 2010 and 2011 as a paid intern at Harvard, where she searched for correlations between genetic mutations and birth defects in mice.

The Andover, Mass., native, who majors in biological sciences and Middle Eastern, South Asian and African studies, chose the College largely due to her regard for those departments. "My interests in politics, international policy and culture, combined with my interest in health care, have grown," says Bhaiwala, citing the recent prevalence of birth defects in Iraq, which some believe is the result of war pollutants, as an example of an issue she hopes to delve into. "I've realized that the health of a population is not just heart rate or blood pressure; you have to look at the whole person, the whole society."

Bhaiwala, the daughter of a Pakistani mother and an Indian father, has been fascinated by the Middle East since high school, when she, her parents and younger brother embarked on a leisure tour of Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Israel. During her freshman year in the College, while on winter break, she accompanied her family on a pilgrimage to the Imam Ali Mosque and the Shrine of Imam Hussein ibn Ali in Iraq. "I managed to sneak out when we weren't doing anything and talk to people, which was fun," recalls Bhaiwala, who attended an Islamic grade school where she achieved proficiency in Arabic. "I felt really at home in a lot of those countries. That sparked an interest for me and I started following politics and international affairs in that region."

Bhaiwala, who grew up speaking Urdu and Hindi and is fluent in Spanish, also spent her freshman and sophomore spring breaks taking patient information and performing triage at free medical clinics in La Antigua, Guatemala and



**Zahra Bhaiwala '14 is interested in health challenges in the Middle East.**

PHOTO: MUSTAFA HAMEED '11, '13J

Cusco, Peru, respectively. Both volunteer trips were organized by the Columbia University American Medical Students Association–Premedical Chapter.

As co-chair of the chapter's global health committee, a position she has held since her junior year, Bhaiwala helped create a global health curriculum that chapter members teach to middle school students at the Double Discovery Center of Columbia College once a week during the school year. She also is active with the Columbia University Muslim Students Association and, since June 2012, has tutored recently incarcerated young men for the GED exam through Getting Out and Staying Out, an NYC nonprofit.

Several times a semester, Bhaiwala performs at campus events with CU Sur, a South Asian student a cappella group. During her free time, she enjoys exploring the city's ethnic neighborhoods. "I love that you can step on the subway and every few stops you are in a different demographic," she says.

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



**Carly Hugo '06**

PHOTO: KRISTIN GLADNEY

tography Award in the U.S. Dramatic Competition of the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. Hugo also co-produced Academy Award nominee Vera Farmiga's 2011 directorial debut, *Higher Ground*, and is currently in production on HBO Documentary Films' documentary about the late Nora Ephron, *Everything is Copy*.

■ **Robert Reffkin '00, '03 Business** has been named to *Fast Company* magazine's "100 Most Creative People in Business" list for 2013. Reffkin is the founder and CEO of Urban Compass, an online real estate search startup, after previously working at Goldman Sachs, Lazard Frères and McKinsey & Co. He helped found a charter school in the Bronx and launched a not-for-profit, New York Needs You, which finds mentors for students who are the first in their families to go to college.

■ A company founded by two alumni was named winner of the TechCrunch

Disrupt NY 2013 competition. **Marc DaCosta '06** and **Hicham Oudghiri '06** founded Enigma in 2012 along with Jeremy Bronfmann and Raphaël Guillemot. The web service allows users to search data from more than 100,000 publicly available but hard-to-obtain sources. TechCrunch, a news website focused on information technology companies, has hosted TechCrunch Disrupt annually since 2011 in San Francisco and Beijing as well as New York. In this year's New York competition, 30 technology startups competed before a panel of venture capital investors and media.

■ **Eli Lehrer '99**, former development v.p. at Bravo, is now heading Lifetime's nonfiction development in the newly created position of s.v.p. and head of non-scripted development. Lehrer, who assumed the position on July 8, was responsible for developing the Bravo series *Flipping Out*, *The Real Housewives of New York City*, *The Rachel Zoe Project* and *The Real Housewives of D.C.* and was

**Eli Lehrer '99**

PHOTO: JORDAN STRAUSS, COURTESY OF LIFETIME

executive producer of *Watch What Happens: Live*, *The Millionaire Matchmaker* and *Tabatha's Salon Takeover*. Prior to joining Bravo, Lehrer managed East Coast development for VH1, was executive assistant to Michael Ovitz at Artists Management Group and was executive assistant to George Stephanopoulos '82 at ABC News. In 2008, Lehrer was named as one of *Multichannel News*' top executives in its 40 Under 40 issue.

■ **John Martin Cochran '09** won the CBS reality show competition *Survivor: Caramoan*, defeating Dawn Meehan and Sherri Biethman in a unanimous 8-0-0 vote in the season finale on May 12 to become the Sole Survivor. Cochran, who previously competed on *Survivor: South Pacific* and is a self-described superfan of the series, was only the second player in *Survivor*'s 26 seasons to play a "perfect game," receiving no votes against him at Tribal Council and winning the jury vote unanimously.

■ **Nicholas Fox Weber '69**, executive director of the Josef & Anni Albers Foundation since 1979, has been named a chevalier in France's Order of Arts and Letters and will receive the honor in a ceremony in Paris on Wednesday, October 16.

In 2005, Fox Weber and the Josef & Anni Albers Foundation established the American Friends of Le Korsa to further the work by Dr. Gilles Degois, a Paris-based physician, to improve the quality of life in Senegal, one of the world's poorest countries. Since 2011, AFLK has expanded the scope of its activities to help construct medical centers and educational facilities that provide health services and learning opportunities to villages deep in the African bush where such facilities and programs were previously nonexistent.

Alex Sachare '71

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# Roar, Lion, Roar

## Football Unveils New Look

**T**he 2013 Columbia football season brings with it something old and something new. As the revitalized Baker Athletics Complex celebrates its 90th anniversary, the 2013 Lions will be sporting a mix of veterans and new players under second-year coach Pete Mangurian — and unveiling new uniforms as well.

“History tells you that your second season is when you make your biggest jump in a new program,” said Mangurian during the Ivy League Media Day teleconference in August. “Your players understand what you’re looking for and develop a work ethic. I think we’ve created competition at every position. ... I also think we’re bigger, faster and more explosive than a year ago.”

Columbia opens its season at Fordham on September 21, followed by the home opener against Monmouth on September 28. The Lions begin their Ivy schedule at Princeton on October 5, with Homecoming as a highlight on October 19 against pre-season Ivy favorite Penn.

Seeing as the Lions seek to improve on last year’s 3–7 record (2–5 in Ivy competition) and will be doing so in new uniforms, we thought it would be a good time to take a look at Columbia uniforms through the years.



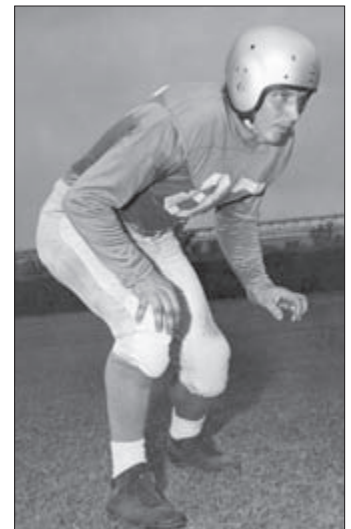
The new look of the Lions: (left to right) Zach Olinger '14, Seyi Adebayo '14 and Hamilton Garner '14



1905



1933



1947

### CAMPBELL SPORTS CENTER SCOREBOARD

**10** Columbia student-athletes in spring sports who earned Academic All-Ivy honors

**17** Ivy League individual titles won by Columbians in 2012–13

**90** Ivy League individual titles won by Columbians since 2008–09 — the most in any five-year span in Columbia history





1948



1978



1995



2011

Lionswear through the years: Opposite, lower left to right: 1905 team picture; Cliff Montgomery '34; George Kisiday '48 TC. Above, clockwise from upper left: Lou Kusserow '49; Bruce Stephens '78; Brian East '14; Wes Root '01.

PHOTOS: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

## Homecoming 2013

Saturday, October 19,  
Columbia vs. Penn

### PICNIC, 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Enjoy a barbecue buffet under the Big Tent before cheering the Lions on to victory. Picnic tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children under 12 if purchased online at [college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/homecoming) by Thursday, October 17. Tickets also may be purchased on Saturday at the Big Tent (\$22 for adults, \$12 for children under 12). Each ticket includes an all-you-can-eat buffet, soft drinks and admission to the Columbia Homecoming Carnival. Beer, wine and cocktails will be available at an additional cost. There will also be limited cash-and-carry items.

### CARNIVAL, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

All members of the Columbia community, young, old and in between, are invited to participate in face painting, balloon-making, magic shows, games and interactive activities.

### FOOTBALL, 1:30 p.m.

To purchase tickets to the game, call 888-LIONS-11 or visit [gocolumbialions.com/tickets](http://gocolumbialions.com/tickets). Premium chairback seats are \$25; reserved bench seats are \$15. Tickets also may be purchased at the Athletics Ticket Office on the fourth floor (campus level) of the Dodge Fitness Center or on game day at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium ticket windows 1, 2, 3 and 4. Tickets can be held at will call and picked up on game day at the stadium.

### GETTING THERE

Baker Athletics Complex is located at 533 W. 218th St. (west of Broadway). Neighborhood parking is limited and preferred parking is available only to those making qualifying gifts to Columbia Football. By subway, take the No. 1 train to 215th Street or the A train to Inwood – 207th St. (Note: Due to occasional service interruptions, we suggest you check the MTA website prior to travel: [mta.info](http://mta.info).) Complimentary shuttle buses from the Morningside campus will depart from the main gate at West 116th Street and Broadway starting 90 minutes prior to kickoff and will return to campus immediately following the game.

## Save the Date!

**SEPTEMBER 21**  
Football opener  
at Fordham

**SEPTEMBER 28**  
Football home  
opener vs.  
Monmouth

**OCTOBER 3**  
Women's  
Leadership  
Council Fall Event

**OCTOBER 19**  
Homecoming,  
football vs. Penn

**NOVEMBER 8**  
Women's basket-  
ball opener at LIU

**NOVEMBER 9**  
Men's basketball  
opener vs.  
Maryland-Eastern  
Shore

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

90

Years since the  
opening of the  
Baker Athletics  
Complex

123

Football  
teams in  
school  
history

142

Columbia senior  
student-athletes  
who graduated  
in May





Sheena Wright '90, '94L reads *The Hungry Caterpillar* during a United Way program at the Mott Haven Public Library in the Bronx.

PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR





# TRAIL BLAZER

Sheena Wright '90, '94L  
is first female CEO  
of United Way  
of New York City

BY YELENA SHUSTER '09

**A**s a 7-year-old, Sheena Wright '90, '94L watched on TV as her mother was arrested for protesting what she saw as racist tenure policies at Hunter College. A decade later, Wright followed in her mother's marching footsteps and chained herself to Hamilton Hall to protest perceived racial inequality at Columbia.

Now, at 43, Wright is still fighting to make a difference, except she's traded in placards and chants for fundraising goals and board meetings. She no longer protests for social justice; instead, she executes it every day as the recently appointed CEO and president of United Way of New York City. Wright is the first female to hold the title in the charity's more than 70-year history.

"The great thing about United Way is that it's citywide. We touch about a million New Yorkers," Wright says from her midtown office, which is decorated both with printouts of new mission statements and her 5-year-old son's crayon drawings. "We are able to not only identify, fund and co-create significant programs but we're also able to change policy that has an impact on systems and really can cause huge, wide-scale social change."

Wright knows the importance of such relief programs. She grew up in the impoverished South Bronx during the height of the '70s

*“My mom’s trajectory was just inspiring. Most people would think that’s it, your own life and your own success are over. Through her own striving, she demonstrated that no matter what your obstacles, you can persevere and reach your goals.”*

crack epidemic with a single teen mom, who stood guard on their stoop so that Sheena and her older sister, Tanya, could play outside. Undeterred by hardship, their mother, Debra Fraser-Howze, not only finished high school but also earned a bachelor’s from Hunter and a master’s from Baruch.

Fraser-Howze recalls asking herself, “Are you going to wind up a statistic or are you going to get up and make things happen for you and your family?”

She chose the latter.

“My mom’s trajectory was just inspiring,” Wright says. “Most people would think that’s it, your own life and your own success are over. Through her own striving, she demonstrated to us that no matter what your obstacles, you can persevere and reach your goals.”

Fraser-Howze devoted herself to activism, working first at the New York Urban League and then founding the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS. “My mom took the issue head-on and said, ‘This will not be a death sentence for these members of our community.’ That’s just who she is,” Wright says. “And to me, that’s an example of what I was supposed to do: to stand up for those who have obstacles put in their path.”

**A**s early as 3 years old, Wright stood out. The precocious toddler sat in the back of her mother’s Hunter College lecture, fitting right in at the “big people school” and even raising her hand to participate. “I remember touching her hair and saying ‘No, baby, you can’t answer the questions,’” says Fraser-Howze, laughing. “She

loved it. She was always excited to be there. She was very wide-eyed and ready to learn.”

So much so that Wright woke up every morning grabbing books to read. “I had to make her stop reading so she would get dressed,” recalls Fraser-Howze, who herself cooked with a pasta ladle in one hand and a book in the other. “We all knew she was particularly gifted. She could breeze through something and go in and ace the test. It was really remarkable.”

Fraser-Howze didn’t intend to let her daughter’s gifts go to waste. Wright was a student in the worst-performing school district in the city until her mother intervened. Both sisters had outpaced their peers in reading scores and Fraser-Howze petitioned another school district to let them attend a high-performing middle school in the North Bronx. The sisters commuted three hours a day for the privilege of experiencing quality education for the first time. Both also signed up for a free after-school tennis program sponsored by Pepsi. Wright turned out to be as skilled with a racquet as she was with her No. 2 pencil.

The Pepsi executive leading the program, John Hoffman ’79 GS, also happened to be recruiting a more diverse student body for George School, a Pennsylvania Quaker boarding school he had attended. He met Wright, who was already a year ahead of her peers in school, and was immediately impressed. “She was this pint-sized little girl. She must have been 4-ft.-10, if that, brimming with energy, bright-eyed, bushy-tailed,” he says. “It was extraordinary how vibrant and mature she was for an 11-year-old, so I was sold.” The director of admissions hesitated because of Wright’s age, but changed his mind after interviewing her. At 12,

Wright enrolled in the high school with a full scholarship and quickly found her footing. In addition to her strong academic performance, she became the best runner on the girls’ varsity cross country team two weeks into her first year despite no prior experience.

**W**right enrolled at Columbia before she was old enough to get a driver’s license. “She started at 16 and nobody would have guessed it from the way she behaved. She’s quite something,” recalls Roger Lehecka ’67, ’74 GSAS, who worked at the College for more than 30 years, the majority of the time as dean of students. “My main memory of Sheena is as a student leader. She brought people together because she was so charismatic. The ball of energy she is now, she always was.”

In addition to lettering in varsity track and field and cross country, the history and sociology major was president of Delta Sigma Theta and head of the Cultural Affairs Committee of the Black Students Organization. Wright also co-founded the Pan-African House, a special



**Class Day:** Left to right, Hollee Freeman '90; Dr. Michael Jones '90, '94 P&S; Wright; Gregory Gittens '90; and Michelle Byrd '91.

PHOTO COURTESY SHEENA WRIGHT '90, '94L





Wright led the United Way of New York City's relief efforts on Coney Island in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

PHOTO COURTESY UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY

interest housing community devoted to raising awareness of diversity across the globe, especially apartheid in South Africa. "It was a great way to learn about organization and leadership — how do you organize a collective around an issue and achieve results?" Wright says.

The specific results she was after included more diversity in the Core Curriculum and pushing Columbia to divest from companies that conducted business in South Africa. "We believed economic sanctions were a big driver in social change," Wright says. After a brawl outside student center Ferris Booth Hall in 1987, she and fellow activists chained themselves to the entrance of Hamilton Hall — a hallowed Columbia protest tradition. Their efforts spotlighted the need for greater multiculturalism, and Columbia announced an African-American studies major in 1987, a policy of complete divestment from business in South Africa in 1988 and the Major Cultures (now Global Core) requirement in 1990.

Maurice Coleman '91, a fellow protester and student-athlete, remembers Wright's influence. "Sheena was an important part of pushing the University in thinking about how it could become better and how it could leverage its own backyard — the cultural richness of Harlem — to enhance its offerings while also enhancing the relationship with the community." Coleman, an SVP at Bank of America, adds, "I just thought she was a leader, and she proved herself to be exactly that."

Despite her prep school and Ivy League bona fides, Wright never forgot her roots, volunteering at Community Impact and the Double Discovery Center to support underprivileged teens in Harlem. "She was an immediate personification of what youth

who are walking around the greater Columbia community could aspire to," Coleman says. "Those of us who were behind her saw her as a role model that we would strive to emulate. She was strong and fiercely competitive on the track field, and she was equally competitive and equally strong academically, and just as socially conscious."

Wright's Columbia education didn't end at the College. She returned to the Law School after a stint at *The New York Times* as an editorial assistant. Despite enrolling with a 1-year-old son in tow, she graduated as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar for outstanding academic achievement. "Most people would have been defeated by that set of circumstances and she was not, which makes me think nothing will ever defeat Sheena," says Lehecka. "If I ever needed a lawyer and she was practicing law, I'd want her."

His was not a minority opinion. In 1994, Wright landed a coveted position at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, a prestigious firm famed for handling high-stakes transactions of Fortune 500 companies. There, she was the second black female lawyer in the firm's history. Even in the corporate world, the value of social justice never left her. "I started thinking about how business is connected to inequity and how economic empowerment and access to capital can really level the playing field," she says.

In 1999, Wright became a senior associate at Reboul, MacMurray, Hewitt, Maynard & Kristol, where she negotiated, structured and executed financial deals for clients such as Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe. A year later, she became general counsel and EVP of business development at Crave Technologies, focusing on



product patents and negotiating investment partnerships. But after nearly a decade of mergers and acquisitions, Wright yearned for more fulfillment. "I needed to be doing work that was more closely connected to the community that I came from and helping people who started out with more similar circumstances to mine," she says.

Wright pursued her higher calling at the 205-year-old Abyssinian Baptist Church's nonprofit arm, the Abyssinian Development Corp. (ADC), one of Harlem's largest affordable housing developers focusing on community and economic enrichment. In 2002, she was tapped to be COO and later that year was promoted to president and CEO. As a member of the church and a long-time Harlem resident, she brought new life to the role. During her 10-year leadership, ADC built 785 units of residential housing in 78 buildings and nearly a half-million square feet of community, commercial and retail space, including the first new high school building in Harlem in 50 years, the Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change, creating more than 1,000 jobs in the process.

Additionally, Wright spearheaded the creation of the Abyssinian Schools division, which manages five educational institutions

that annually serve 2,100 school children and their families. Wright developed an award-winning workforce development program that has helped 200 high school dropouts obtain their GED or high school diploma. She also developed a neighborhood-based Naturally Occurring Retirement Community that annually serves more than 1,000 seniors.

"It was wonderful to be working on the ground in the neighborhood I came of age in," the mother of three says. "Looking at the young people we served in our schools or through our youth programs was like looking at me and my friends and my neighbors growing up and being able to give them what I was able to get. It was very, very fulfilling."

During Wright's tenure at ADC, then-chairman Larry Dais '76 Business — who had been Columbia's assistant v.p. and director of the Office of Government and Community Affairs for 37 years — witnessed firsthand the impact she had on the community. "ADC provided the vehicle for her to bring about meaningful and measurable changes in the Harlem community," Dais says. "Sheena's commitment to community and public service has been the core of her professional life. I think she'll be focused on doing that for the rest of her life."

**"Expect that people will underestimate you as a woman, and use that to propel you forward," advises Wright.**

PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR





*"It was wonderful to be working on the ground in the neighborhood I came of age in. Looking at the young people we served in our schools or through our youth programs was like looking at me and my friends and my neighbors growing up and being able to give them what I was able to get. It was very, very fulfilling."*

**O**n her first day at United Way of New York City, Wright hit the ground running — literally — as the Northeast was struck by Hurricane Sandy. Without access to electricity or the office, she led relief efforts by mobilizing hundreds of volunteers to check on the elderly and disabled living in Coney Island's high-rise apartments. She also created and managed the United Way Hurricane Sandy Recovery Fund, which has raised more than \$10 million.

Since then, her days have been spent on strategic planning sessions, fundraising and managing the execution and operations of the organization. Thus far, she has already revised its mission and vision statements, and looks forward to helping the national United Way campaign double the number of kids reading proficiently by 2020 in some of the toughest neighborhoods. "Right now in New York City, only 30 percent of kids are reading at grade level by the end of third grade," she says, explaining that such a deficiency at a young age leads to higher drop-out rates. "It puts us in a scary place as a city without having a well-educated population that is going to innovate and drive the economy and be successful citizens."

Wright's fierce work ethic is what impressed Robert J. Kueppers, chairman of the Board of Directors and chief volunteer officer of United Way of New York City. "Her vision and her intensity were clearly very appealing, which is impressive particularly given that she's 10-15 years younger than your typical CEO," he says. "Her track record is impressive. She is the next-generation woman to move us forward in our 75th year."

Kueppers is not alone in singing Wright's praises. Everyone from Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) to Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz has lauded the nonprofit star. Hoffman, who recruited Wright for prep school years ago, believes she can end up like another illustrious College alum with a background in community service. "I wouldn't be surprised if you told me she was running for President of the United States," he says. "She's as brilliant as they come. She's a phenomenal people person. She's very energetic, very driven. She's got all her ducks in a row."

Wright is open to the general idea of political office: "It is extremely important who holds political power and how policies are made and resources allocated. The dearth of women in political office is astonishing, and I would not rule out an opportunity to serve."

To wit, Wright is passionate about helping women in any office shatter the glass ceiling. "Expect that people will underestimate you because you're a woman and use that to propel you for-



Wright with Ted Mousi (left) and Joseph Cabrera '82 at the kickoff to the annual Gridiron Gala, which benefits United Way-led initiatives in NYC.

PHOTO: COURTESY UNITED WAY OF NEW YORK CITY

ward," she advises. "Don't be surprised by that, because unfortunately in 2013 in the United States of America, there's still a lot of disparity and sexism in the workplace that you have to contend with and it's real." From her corporate days, Wright remembers meetings with mostly white men, where she would be asked to get coffee or take notes. The words "I'm a lawyer just like you; I'm not the assistant" became routine. "There are always going to be assumptions about who you are and why you're in the room and what you know and what you don't know," she says.

Yet she's been overcoming that type of prejudice since her days at the mostly white George School, when a classmate said she had three strikes against her for being black, female and poor. That made no sense to Wright: three strikes means you're out, and even back then, she was very much in the game.

"Other people look at you and say those are strikes against you. I say maybe those are things that make me better. Maybe they make me stronger, more resilient, more focused," Wright says. "Those experiences of being a person of color in a country that has a lot of racism and being a woman where there are a lot of gender stereotypes — maybe those things make me stronger, maybe better, but they definitely don't strike me out."

**Yelena Shuster '09** is a freelance writer living in Brooklyn. Her work has appeared in *Cosmopolitan*, *Us Weekly* and *New York* magazines. Follow her on Twitter @YelenaShuster.

"For more than half  
a century, Ted de Bary  
has been the soul of  
Columbia College."  
— Andrew Delbanco  
PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR





# Loyal to His Core

As a Columbia teacher, scholar, academic statesman and alumnus, Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS has long exemplified the highest standards of character and service. The private man might come as a surprise.

BY JAMIE KATZ '72, '80 BUSINESS

A large, bold, red letter 'W' graphic that serves as a drop cap for the first word of the paragraph below.

m. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS has trod the herringbone brick walkways of the Morningside campus for as long as anyone can remember. One of the towering figures of modern Columbia history, he has always stood out, always risen above the crowd. He has done so mainly by force of character, taking on challenges at every stage with discipline and purpose, loyal to his people and his principles alike. Still teaching at 94, Ted de Bary, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus, may be the most genuinely respected person in the University community.

Those who knew de Bary, say, 25 or 30 years ago, could easily have pictured him in a position of national prominence. Secretary of State, perhaps. Wise and steady, unruffled in crisis, with the bow-tied elegance and comportment of a seasoned ambassador, he certainly fits the part. As one of the world's leading scholars of Asian thought, de Bary would have added a welcome dimension to the councils of foreign policy. Indeed, he did consider a career in the diplomatic corps when the opportunity arose in 1946.

Returning from duty as a naval intelligence officer in the Pacific during WWII, he was assigned to the Office of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D.C., as head of the Far East desk. "At the end of the war," he says, "I could have transferred from the Navy to the State Department at a roughly equivalent rank to lieutenant commander, so it would have been a good deal."

Instead, he chose to return to the academic world, where he had interrupted his graduate studies at Harvard by enlisting in the service in January



De Bary has been a presence on the Columbia campus for more than a half-century and has fought to preserve the University's commitments to undergraduate teaching and curricular integrity.

PHOTO: PHILIPPE CHENG/CCT

ing on in both Asia and the West about the values that could sustain a human community, but there has been only limited exchange between the two conversations. Today, the challenges of the contemporary world are such that the civilizing process can only be sustained through an education that includes (at least in part) sharing in the traditional curricula developed on both sides, based on classics now recognized as not only enduring, but world class."

To understand the full arc of de Bary's Columbia career, the clock must be turned back to September 1937, when as an 18-year-old freshman out of Leonia (N.J.) H.S., he arrived in Hamilton Hall for the first meeting of his required course in Contemporary Civilization. His CC instructor was the American historian Harry J. Carman (Class of 1919 GSAS), who would be named Dean of the College six years later. "Of course, you know that the title 'Contemporary Civilization' so far has only applied to Western civilization," Carman told his students

## De Bary led Columbia to the forefront of Asian studies while embodying

1942, soon after Pearl Harbor. After his discharge, however, de Bary switched to Columbia at the urging of his fellow Naval officer and close friend Donald Keene '42, '49 GSAS, who felt they would both benefit from advanced study with Ryūsaku Tsunoda, a pioneer of Japanese studies at Columbia. "With the GI Bill and a fellowship, I was able to manage it," says de Bary, adding, "I have never regretted the choice."

Columbia hasn't regretted it either. In the years to come, de Bary — along with distinguished scholars such as Keene [see "Sensei and Sensibility," Winter 2011–12] — would lead Columbia to the forefront of Asian studies while embodying the ideal of the virtuous citizen in every sphere of university life — as a teacher, scholar, academic leader, parent and alumnus.

There are voluminous records of de Bary's scholarly and public life — 31 books written or edited, extensive correspondence, the minutes and reports of innumerable conferences and committees, and interviews for Columbia's Center for Oral History conducted by historian John T. Mason Jr. in 1986 and longtime Associate College Dean Michael Rosenthal '67 GSAS in 2010 (which have furnished some of the material for this article). For years, de Bary says, people urged him to write his autobiography. Instead, he recently published *The Great Civilized Conversation: Education for a World Community*, which, he says, "amounts to an intellectual biography." In it, he shares a central idea that touches on a good part of his career.

"For centuries," de Bary writes, "a conversation has been go-

that morning. "I hope some of you will prepare yourselves to learn what is needed to bring Asia into the picture."

Seldom has a professorial suggestion been taken more to heart, starting with de Bary's enrollment in Chinese classes as a sophomore. He added Japanese in graduate school and at the Navy's Japanese/Oriental Language School.

De Bary's erudition and leadership potential must have been evident to his CC teacher early on, because in 1949, with de Bary still four years away from a Ph.D., Carman charged him with developing a core program in what was then called Oriental Civilizations and Oriental Humanities.

A key element was the creation of a series of sourcebooks — texts, in translation, of Chinese, Japanese and South Asian classics. De Bary set about recruiting brilliant translators and editors such as Keene for the Japanese texts and historian (and future CC and Asian Civilizations director) Ainslie Embree '60 GSAS for the multiple volumes of *Sources of Indian Tradition*, an anthology that includes works from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. The first of them was published by Columbia University Press in 1958, and the series has since expanded to include volumes of Korean, Vietnamese and Tibetan classics, with others in development. They are in perennial demand, says Jennifer Crewe, editorial director of Columbia University Press. "Asian Studies is one of the press' largest and most prestigious lists, and it couldn't have been without Ted de Bary," she says.

De Bary chaired the Department of East Asian Languages and



Cultures from 1960–66, when he was named the Carpentier Professor of Oriental Studies. The department grew substantially in those years and moved to Kent Hall, former home of the Law School. In the aftermath of the 1968 student uprising, de Bary chaired the Executive Committee of the newly formed Columbia University Senate. He was appointed Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost — the University's highest academic office — in 1971, serving until 1978. At the same time, he was producing groundbreaking scholarship on East Asian religious and intellectual traditions, especially Confucianism in China, Japan and Korea. De Bary crossed over to emeritus status in 1990 but has remained an active citizen of the academic community in every way, and, increasingly, acted as gadfly, prodding the administration and faculty to hold true to the University's historic commitments to undergraduate teaching and the Core.

There was a moment, however, when de Bary wavered in his otherwise unshakable loyalty to Co-



De Bary chaired the late-1980s Commission on the Core Curriculum. Left to right, Professors Paul Anderer, Jacob W. Smit, de Bary and Steven Marcus '48, '61 GSAS.

PHOTO: JESSICA RAIMI/CCT

De Bary has emerged through time as a preeminent champion of the Core. That mission is supported by the Heyman Center for the Humanities, which de Bary established in 1976, and the Society of Senior Scholars, also founded by de Bary — a group of distinguished retired faculty who add their instructional firepower to the Core's multi-departmental teaching staff. There is a long list of other de Bary initiatives that have added texture and substance to Columbia's intellectual community, among them the Lionel Trilling Seminars, the University Lectures, the Society of Fellows in the Humanities and the Alumni Colloquia in the Humanities. For all this and more, he has earned the gratitude of students, colleagues and alumni. He has received numerous honors from alma mater, including the College's Alexander Hamilton Medal, the Society of Columbia Graduates' Great Teacher Award and an honorary doctorate, as well as major recognition beyond the campus gates, such as membership in the prestigious Japan Academy in Tokyo.

## the ideal of the virtuous citizen in every sphere of university life.

lumbia. In 1960, Stanford approached him about developing its East Asian program. It was an attractive offer from a first-class institution on the rise. "They had a lot to offer in the way of inducements, monetary and otherwise," he recalls. "So I considered it. I went out there, I visited and I saw what the situation was and what would be the situation for my kids."

In part, his decision depended on Keene. De Bary had gone to great lengths to bring about Keene's return to Columbia from the University of Cambridge in 1955, and felt he could not accept Stanford's offer unless Keene was also brought on board. So Stanford upped the ante to include Keene. When de Bary still hesitated, Stanford sweetened the pot some more, offering the possibility of a top-level faculty appointment with no expectation of teaching. For de Bary, that settled the matter — and not the way Stanford had hoped. "No self-respecting college or university would offer that," de Bary concluded.

In the decades since, it has become commonplace for universities to lure academic stars by offering reduced teaching loads. But de Bary is having none of it, nor is he happy about the unification of the Arts and Sciences faculties in 1991, a move he feels deprived the College of a faculty body dedicated to its unique curricular issues. As a student, he benefited from a Core Curriculum that was taught, and constantly reviewed and refined, by some of the leading lights of American education — Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS; Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS; and Moses Hadas '30 GSAS, among many others. Their examples guide him to this day.

Tao Tan '07, '11 Business took five courses with de Bary at the College while majoring in economics and history. "The experience of studying with someone who is a living link to the time when senior faculty involvement in the Core was commonplace, and who wholeheartedly embraces the Core's educational philosophy, is extraordinary," says Tan, a former University senator who is now an international business consultant. "The fact that Professor de Bary takes it so seriously is an inspiration to the rest of us, both as students and as alumni of Columbia College."

Says Andrew Delbanco, director of Columbia's Center for American Studies and the Julian Clarence Levi Professor in the Humanities, "Through his tireless teaching he has taught — and exemplified — what it means to be civilized. For more than half a century, Ted de Bary has been the soul of Columbia College."

Reducing matters to their simplest terms, Peter Nosco '71, '78 GSAS, professor of Asian studies at the University of British Columbia, wrote on the Columbia250 website in 2004: "Ted is Mr. Columbia."

**W**hen de Bary spotted a beautiful freshman, Fanny Brett '43 Barnard, at a Sunday afternoon tea dance in Barnard's Brooks Hall during his junior year, "I fell in love at first sight," he says. "I subsequently learned that just about everybody fell in love with her at first sight." They were married in 1942.

Housing was scarce when they returned to the New York area

after the war, and they already had two kids; two more were to come. They spent four years in renovated army barracks at Camp Shanks, in Orangeburg, N.Y., with de Bary away in China for part of the time conducting his graduate research. In 1950, a group of 32 families formed a cooperative and purchased a former pig farm on a wooded hillside in Tappan, N.Y., in Rockland County. They divided the property into one-acre plots and assisted each other in building California ranch-style homes, roads and eventually, common facilities for get-togethers and recreation. It all took a lot of effort, and the de Bary plot, in particular, presented serious challenges. It was basically a swamp. "Nobody wanted to contend with it," he says now, chuckling at the memory.

Hydrology may have been one of the core disciplines of Chinese education during the Sui and Tang dynasties more than a thousand years ago, but it was never part of the liberal arts curriculum at Columbia. So de Bary had to puzzle out the swamp problem for himself. It was not so different, at heart, from many of the tasks he has taken on in life.

He first cut trenches with a backhoe to drain down to an artificial pond. The next part was tougher, he says. "I had to lay the pipe at the bottom of the trench, at a bad time of the year, in December. The trench would freeze up and then thaw, so the sides of the trench would collapse. I had to shovel out a lot of mud to lay the pipe. You have to put a bed of gravel down. It took some doing."

Yet he didn't give in to any of the obstacles, and his family soon had a comfortable place to live — three bedrooms, a living room, kitchen and basement. De Bary still calls it home. The provostial, bow-tied dignitary people saw on campus was, in private, a man of great modesty and simplicity. At home on a Sunday afternoon,

he greets visitors at his screen door in an untucked work shirt. He was, and remains, a dedicated vegetable gardener, growing lettuce, cabbages, kale, collards, string beans, tomatoes and squash. "We didn't have a lot of money, and there were four kids in the family," says his son, Paul '68, '71L, '71 Business, a retired Wall Street lawyer and oenophile who lives in Cos Cob, Conn. "There were times when it was even difficult to put food on the table, so the garden was a big deal for my father."

The de Barys also had three daughters: Brett '65 Barnard, a professor of Japanese literature and film at Cornell; Catherine de Bary Sleight '73 Barnard, '77J, who succumbed to breast cancer three years ago; and Beatrice de Bary-Heinrichs '84 GSAS, who graduated from Williams and is a junior high school teacher in Springfield, Mass. So far, there are 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

There are many things people are surprised to learn about de Bary. All of his teaching in retirement has been on a pro bono basis. He donates his publishing royalties to an endowment fund supporting Asian Studies, and hopes to steer the funds more specifically to instructional support for Asian Humanities. He was born in the Bronx to a German-born father and an American mother, who divorced while he was a child, and his first name was abbreviated to "Wm." because his father was also William. One of his great-uncles, Heinrich Anton de Bary, was a celebrated botanist who discovered symbiosis.

As a teenager in the 1930s, de Bary was active in the Young People's Socialist League. He jitterbugged in Harlem and Greenwich Village to Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Louis Armstrong and Bud Freeman. After Britain came under German attack, de Bary

"I have thought of myself as engaged in a continuing conversation



De Bary in his Kent Hall office, a virtual library of Asian philosophy and literature.

PHOTO: NATALIE KEYSSAR



was one of a group of student leaders invited to visit with Eleanor Roosevelt in the White House to discuss ways of supporting the Allies. As a Fulbright Scholar in Beijing in fall 1948, he was among the Americans airlifted out by the U.S. ambassador when the city was surrounded by Mao's revolutionary troops.

Raised as a Protestant, de Bary converted to Roman Catholicism in the late 1940s. He is a registered Democrat. He cared about the civil rights movement and took part in the 1963 March on Washington. He saw his first Columbia football game in 1927, rooted for Hall of Fame quarterback Sid Luckman '39 at Baker Field, and, as an alumnus, attended every home game for more than 50 years (with the exception of sabbatical leaves). He has never learned to type. "I don't think Ted approves of any modern device," says Keene.

"Sometimes Ted is very forbidding," Keene adds. "He comes to the point very quickly and he doesn't have the charm of some people. But when I first knew him, he was crazy



De Bary met Fanny Brett '43 Barnard at a tea dance in Brooks Hall. They were married for 67 years.

PHOTO: JOE PINIERO/COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

wanted one," Keene says. "Instead, they sang songs of every kind together. I can't imagine a happier, closer-knit family." Fanny and Ted "were the perfect married couple," he says. "Her death [in 2009] was, I think, the worst thing that ever happened to him."

De Bary has suffered other painful losses — among them his close faculty colleague Irene T. Bloom '76 GSAS, who chaired Barnard's Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures for many years; classmates such as Joe Coffee '41, who founded the Columbia College Fund, CCT and many other staples of alumni life; and of course, his daughter Catherine. But losing Fanny meant losing the great love of his life.

Dawn Ho Delbanco (who is married to Andrew Delbanco) has taught Asian Art Humanities for 20 years, and her late father, Wai-kam Ho, knew de Bary in Canton (now Guangzhou) 65 years ago. She was among the many who were moved when de Bary sang "When It's Springtime in the Rockies" at Fanny's memorial service in St. Paul's Chapel.

that started long ago and will, I hope, go on long after me."

about jazz. It was I who made him listen to classical music. His first book was a translation of a book by [Ihara] Saikaku, *Five Women Who Loved Love: Amorous Tales From 17th-Century Japan*. He is not stuffy, not cold, although sometimes he might give that impression."

**K**eene met de Bary in the Navy's Japanese/Oriental Language School. In college de Bary had been manager of the Debate Council and chairman of the student governing board. "He was a year ahead of me, and he was a big man on campus — everyone knew what he was doing," Keene says. "I was a very little man on campus. Nobody knew about me."

De Bary says they bonded almost immediately in the Navy because of their shared experience in the Core. They roomed together in Hawaii when both were assigned to the headquarters of Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet. De Bary landed on Okinawa and served in the Aleutian Islands and elsewhere. All the while, he and Keene maintained a correspondence, later published as a book, *War-Wasted Asia: Letters, 1945-46*. De Bary describes Keene as his "Columbia soul brother."

The feeling is mutual. "I knew I could always talk to him," Keene says. "At times when I was depressed or something, I would turn to him for help. It wasn't that I needed him to say everything is OK, but just being with him, I felt better and stronger." He adds, "I know my own faults, but I don't know Ted's, because I don't think he has them."

Keene was a frequent guest of the de Barys — "like an uncle in our family," Paul de Bary says — and he was delighted by the warmth of their home. "They never had a television set, and never

In her course, Delbanco explains some of the differences in the aesthetics of traditional Asian cultures.

"Whereas Chinese artists often present things in the ideal, the way they should be," she says, "Japanese artists are more likely to find beauty in the seemingly unimportant, the broken, the aged, the imperfect. For them, true beauty lies not in perfection but in the sensing of its evanescence. It's when something is almost gone that you most treasure it: so, beauty and melancholy are closely intertwined."

As a student of Asian culture and a man who has lived a long and full life, de Bary understands the transience of beauty and the melancholy of loss. There is an inner grace to him, a sense that he has experienced and considered many things and must act on his beliefs. Though his age and health no longer permit him to move about the campus with the spryness of years past, he is still teaching two College courses this fall: his colloquium in Asian Humanities and his seminar in Eastern and Western classics, "Nobility and Civility" — words that many feel describe de Bary personally. He demurs at the characterization. "I don't think of that necessarily in connection with myself. Nobility and civility represent two aspects of the human ideal: personal virtue — intellectual and moral — and social conduct, especially in the form of dialogue and civil discourse."

More simply, he says, "I have thought of myself as engaged in a continuing conversation that started long ago and will, I hope, go on long after me."



Former CCT Editor **Jamie Katz '72, '80 Business** has held senior editorial positions at *People and Vibe*, and now writes for *Smithsonian magazine* and other publications.

# New Orleans' Music Man

After 25 years in NOLA, Scott Aiges '86 is dedicated to preserving and promoting its musical traditions

BY ALEXIS TONTI '11 ARTS



Scott Aiges '86 is director of programs, marketing and communications for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.

PHOTO: KELLI BINNINGS/SCENE MAGAZINE



There is a small hill to the east of Congo Square, on the border of the Tremé and French Quarter neighborhoods in New Orleans, which approached from a certain angle obscures what lies beyond.

And so it was, after drifting through the quiet Quarter streets one Sunday afternoon in March, that an intermittent blast of horn and roll of snare drum was hardly preparation for the sight, upon cresting the hill, of roughly 150 students — members of 13 middle and high school brass bands — milling about under a cloudless sky. All wore the standard brass band uniform of white button-down shirt and black pants; some had added bowties or neckties and white, black-brimmed caps. Between them they carried bass and snare drums, trumpets, trombones and tubas, saxophones, a few clarinets and at least one banjo.

The occasion was the Class Got Brass competition, part of the two-day Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival. The day before had been rain-threatened and lightly attended, which made the contrast in audience all the more stark. By the time festival workers laid out metal barricades to create an alley for the bands to parade through, more than 600 people had gathered. Each band performed a five-minute program that opened with a dirge before shifting to a medley of up-tempo numbers. The energy was infectious, uplifting. The audience clapped and bounced and stomped and sung.

Microphone in hand, offering color commentary from his on-stage spot next to the judges' panel, was Scott Aiges '86. The competition is his brainchild, designed to promote both music education in Louisiana schools and the New Orleans-style brass band tradition, and is one of many events he oversees as director of programs, marketing and communications for The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation. The foundation is one of the city's central nonprofits and guardian of its cultural traditions, best known for producing the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival — Jazz Fest to the more than 400,000 attendees who come to the city's Fair Grounds Race Course over two weekends each spring. The multi-stage music and food extravaganza pumps about \$300 million a year into the local economy, and though Aiges' focus during Jazz Fest is on managing a complementary business conference, his overall work relies on its success. Referring to producer Quint Davis, Aiges says, "Quint's job is to make the money and my job is to spend it."

Aiges is well suited for his position. He has lived in New Orleans since the late '80s and was a longtime music writer for *The Times-Picayune*, the city's daily newspaper, as well as the director of music business development under Mayor C. Ray Nagin from 2002–05. He also has been a band manager, a booking agent and an independent events producer, through it all making himself into one of the most versed, and versatile, people on the local music scene. In the crucible of the Crescent City, known for

jazz in all its many forms as well as for soul, R&B, Cajun, zydeco, bounce and hip-hop, that's saying a lot.

Watching Aiges backstage while the Class Got Brass votes were tallied, it was clear he wears his role comfortably. A self-described Type A personality, he seemed in constant motion — attending to details, phone pressed to his ear more often than not. When the closing act arrived, he pointed them toward barrels of ice water and Abita beer. Next came his production manager, wielding a decibel meter and concerns about noise levels. A stranger wandered over to suggest an act for Jazz Fest. A text message arrived and he tapped out an answer. For his wife, Lianne Brown '86 Barnard, he stopped and shared a dance.

On the Thursday before the Congo Square festival, Aiges is driving along Chartres Street through the Bywater neighborhood, where he has lived for 15 years. To the right are industrial lots and the broad expanse of the Mississippi River. To the left, houses, retailers and restaurants in pastel shades and various states of renovation speak to the neighborhood boom of the past five years. Aiges keeps up a tour guide patter, in between talking about his background: He was raised in Fort Lee, N.J., graduated from Deerfield Academy, a boarding school in Massachusetts, and chose Columbia so he could be closer to home. He met Brown while studying at Butler Library in December of his senior year. He'd been noticing her for weeks and one afternoon, when they were at the same table, she posed the open question of whether anyone wanted coffee. Aiges offered to go with her. "My one smooth move," he says with a laugh.

After graduation, the political science major spent time as a freelance journalist in Nicaragua

before moving to Washington, D.C., to write for the States News Service. "Their shtick was they hired these really young reporters who were willing to work for no money, and we acted as the Washington bureau for regional papers in different states." (His was Pennsylvania.) It was solid training, but after nearly two years he craved a livelier milieu. He and Brown, then still his girlfriend, pulled out a map and drew up lists of towns with decent newspapers where he might be interested in trying to get a job.

Not on the list was New Orleans, although Aiges, a guitar player since childhood, had lately found his way to the city's music through a friend with whom he played in a band, The Wires. "He's the one who turned me on to The Meters and Dr. John, The Neville Brothers, zydeco — all that. I'd known nothing. I hadn't even known about Mardi Gras." During lunch one day with a different bandmate who also was a journalist, Aiges started agitating about his need for a change. The friend mentioned that the *Picayune* was hiring.

"It was like I was hit with a bolt of lightning. And what I said to him was, 'You mean, people actually live there?' New Orleans was just a fantasy place to me."

The city also appealed to Brown, for whom Tulane offered a fit for her public health interests. (She earned an M.P.H. and a Ph.D.



**Middle and high school students carry on the New Orleans-style brass band tradition in the Class Got Brass competition.**

PHOTO: KIM WELSH







## Aiges learned some hard lessons about trying to be an objective journalist while being part of the community.

in epidemiology.) Aiges applied and landed an interview. With the meeting scheduled on a Monday, the couple flew down on Friday for a long weekend: "The Neville Brothers were at Tipitina's on Saturday night, and we were hooked. That was it," Aiges says.

The *Picayune* assigned him to St. John the Baptist Parish, part of the River Parishes Bureau. Because the paper required reporters to live in the area covered by their bureau, he rented an apartment in Destrehan, often driving the 40 minutes into the city to go out at night; Brown stayed a while longer in D.C. "I had no idea that I was in the most obscure bureau in the most obscure place in the world and that nobody really cared what I was doing," says Aiges. "I was taking it seriously. And I was having a great, great time."

"This was the industrial corridor along the Mississippi River, upriver from New Orleans," says then-bureau chief Ron Thibodeaux, an editor with the newspaper for 25 years. "Not the most scenic place you've ever been, but a great place to be a journalist. The politics are nasty and the dynamics of power — the way the industries influence everyday life and the day-to-day operations out there — are interesting to sink your teeth into."

He recalls Aiges as "talented but not at all a prima donna" and recounts the time when Aiges and a photographer staked out a public official's vacation home, on the southwest corner of Lake Pontchartrain, on a tip that the official was using public equipment to make improvements to private property. The official spotted and confronted them, and "the next thing we knew, Scott and the photographer are being hauled off to jail for misdemeanor trespass on this guy's property — they hadn't [trespassed], of course, but it was happening." Thibodeaux posted bail, the article documenting it all was published and caught the attention of the EPA, and the public official eventually was indicted. "He ended up going to prison for violating the federal clean water act based on the story that Scott wrote, which he had to work pretty hard for; that's a pretty good indication of his determination to get the story and to go full throttle at anything he did."

Thibodeaux adds that Louisiana is different from any other place in the country — "with a rich and exotic history and peculiar ways about a lot of things" — and that it can be a challenge to adapt. "But Scott was excited about landing here and he did great work. He was very open to my direction and guidance about not only the professional stuff and how to do his work better but also getting attuned to the rhythms of what makes Louisiana different and special. He certainly embraced it and never let go."

After about a year, a posting went up for the position of music reporter — the first in the *Picayune's* history. "It was incredible that a daily newspaper in New Orleans up until the late 1980s didn't have its own full-time music writer," says Thibodeaux, who often spoke with Aiges about their shared interest in rock music. "Scott sheepishly came to me and said 'I'd like to apply' and I said I thought he'd be perfect for it."

Aiges imagined he'd be competing against established music writers from outlets like *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Billboard*, and thought his chances slight; the *Picayune's* editor viewed the beat differently. "He told me to come down to the main office and we went for coffee and he said — I'll never forget this — 'You have a perfectly promising career as a newspaper reporter, what are you doing? Music? Seriously?'" Aiges made the case that music coverage could encompass more than show previews and reviews; he wanted to treat it as a cultural phenomenon as well as explore the business side, addressing, among other things, why the local industry wasn't prospering the way everybody thought it should. "And he bought it," Aiges says.

Aiges' first byline as a music writer was in October 1989 — about a series of surprise shows by Harry Connick Jr. at the jazz club Snug Harbor — and for

the next six years he attended almost every major concert and club show, going out on the local scene six nights a week. Along the way he met musicians, club owners, producers, record label owners and just about everyone involved in the industry. He wrote album criticism and show reviews, features, musician profiles and industry news; his articles appeared in the news, living and business sections as well as *Lagniappe*, the Friday entertainment section. In 1993 Aiges garnered a Louisiana Press Association award for a series he co-wrote about the passing of the last generation of jazz musicians who were old enough to have seen Buddy Bolden, the "king" cornet player and progenitor of jazz, firsthand.

"It was my graduate school and the place where I learned about everything that goes into the music and culture of New Orleans. I gained tremendous respect for it, and I enjoyed it tremendously," Aiges says.

When Jazz Fest rolled around each April, he filed daily reviews from the fairgrounds, connecting to a dial-up modem from an early portable word processor in the press trailer. "I was dumb enough to think I was reporting for *The New York Times*, so I would try to see every act. I would carry my schedule around with checkmarks on the ones I'd seen and the ones I'd missed,



Aiges and his wife, Lisanne Brown '86 Barnard, celebrate the Saints' Super Bowl victory in 2010; opposite, scenes from the Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival.

PHOTOS: COURTESY SCOTT AIGES '86; OPPOSITE, ALL COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT) ERIC SIMON, ERIC SIMON, KIM WELSH, KIM WELSH



and then at 5 p.m. I'd go into the trailer and say, 'Of all this stuff, how do I put together one piece?'"

Aiges also learned some hard lessons about trying to be an objective journalist while being part of the community.

"I was meeting all of these people — some of them I really admired; some of them were actually my heroes," he says. He relates a story about The Meters, the legendary funk band including two of The Neville Brothers, vocalist Art and drummer Cyril, bassist George Porter Jr. and others. The group had reunited in 1989 after more than a decade apart, and through the year Aiges had interviewed band members individually, and in December reviewed their reunion concert, and in between he joined them for Thanksgiving.

Come January 1990, Aiges dropped by Ultrasonic Recording Studios one aimless afternoon. A group was working on the track for Aaron Neville's *Star Spangled Banner*, recorded ahead of time per CBS so he could lip-synch for the Super Bowl. In the process of layering in orchestral music, the engineers had discovered a lyrical slip-up: Neville sang "gave proof to the night" rather than "gave proof through the night."

"I walked in right when they finished fixing his mistake," Aiges says. "This was before digital editing technology, and basically someone had to go 'thr' into the mic. They told me this whole story, none of us thinking it was going to be in the paper. But after I left I realized what I had and wrote it up, not thinking anything of it." After the article ran, Aiges received a phone call from Art Neville. "He said, 'Aren't you the same man who came over and ate gumbo with us at Thanksgiving? Who do you think you are?'"

Aiges was speechless, crushed at the thought of having angered the entire Neville family, New Orleans' music royalty.

"In the end, it's probably things like that that contributed to my feeling that I didn't want to write anymore. I didn't want to be that guy with the notepad in the corner and have to maintain this distant relationship; I wanted to be in the mix and to have real relationships with people."

Other factors were at play. Aiges felt wrung out by the demands of his reporting schedule. Also, after years of 360-degree exposure to the music scene, "I thought that I was a lot smarter than I actually am; I just thought this whole thing was not that difficult, so I had this genius idea to quit a perfectly well-paying job to be a band manager and get into the music business and see if I could do it for real."

Aiges left the paper in October 1995, and the reality check followed quickly. From the challenges of getting club owners to return a phone call, to lining up gigs for a tour, to working with studios and recording budgets, to advocating for support from a music label, "It was not as easy or obvious as it seemed," he says. Still, he persisted for six years. Notably, he worked with the Continental Drifters, named in a 1994 *Rolling Stone* critics' poll as one of the two best unsigned bands in the country ("They made this incredibly cool, rootsy, pop-rock sound that was a cross between The Band and The Mamas & the Papas"). Later clients included Royal Fingerbowl, the New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars and a contemporary jazz band, Astral Project.

Looking back, he speaks with a weary wistfulness: "Managing a band is the best education about how to find your way around the business because you are literally involved with every single aspect of a professional career. I learned a lot. ... All the bands that I worked with, none of them got rich and famous and it wasn't for lack of trying. It's an extremely competitive business and everything has to line up in the right way."

The experience also crystallized a question that has driven



## "How can we help musicians learn to work smarter, to take advantage of technology, to help them access the global market?"



Above, audience members join Diblo Dibala on stage during a Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival. Opposite, a dancer with N'Fungola Sibó.

PHOTOS: COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/ERIC SIMON

him in one form or another ever since: "How does one go about earning a living as a musician, not becoming rich and famous but just being sustainable, being able to make a career out of your chosen craft? How can one do that?"

One afternoon in early 2002, a friend of a friend was looking for someone to prep a mayoral candidate, C. Ray Nagin, on the music industry for an upcoming debate. Today the mention of Nagin's name to New Orleans residents is enough to elicit a sour reaction (he was indicted in January on 21 corruption charges); then he was just a businessman, an executive with Cox Communications, president of the New Orleans Brass hockey team and one of 15 candidates in what the *Picayune* billed early on as "the most unpredictable mayor's race in more than 20 years." Aiges frankly didn't even know the name, but he put some notes together and went to meet him. "I really liked him. I thought he was cool. He was young, he was funny. It was the first time I had ever seen a BlackBerry."

At the debate the next night, Aiges recalls, the moderator asked a music question and most of the candidates' flubbed their responses; then he saw Nagin reach into his pocket, pull out his notes and study them. "He took three things that I had told him and put them together in his own way that was very funny and very clever and got a standing ovation, and I was like — this is the guy!"

The next day, Aiges volunteered for the campaign. ("I didn't have a job and I used to watch *The West Wing* — I figured that was how these guys get their gigs.") Folding tables and plugging in telephones turned into writing email blasts to voters and, after Nagin was elected in March 2002, writing press releases and responding to constituent mail in the press office. In August, Aiges

was hired to the newly created position of director of music business development in the Mayor's Office of Economic Development. The following summer, *New Orleans Magazine* cited him among its "People to Watch," part of the city's arts and entertainment dream team "dedicated to elevating the visibility of New Orleans as a viable place for artists, musicians and filmmakers to live and work."

"What I liked was his perspective," says Beth James, who ran the economic development office. "Typically you're either an artist or a business guy in the music industry, but Scott had a unique understanding of both sides. Because of that, and because of his personality, he was able to bring people together who had never even been in the same room, much less working toward a common goal." She adds that his moral compass is unshakable. "He tells people the truth; they can take his word for it."

Aiges advocated a trickle-up theory founded on the premise that the key to developing the local music business lay in putting more money into the hands of the musicians, who would then spend it on entertainment lawyers, booking agents and management companies. Then there were the nightclub owners, radio stations, record producers, recording studios and others in the industry who stood to benefit from a core of strong musicians.

The idea, says Aiges, was, "How can we help musicians learn to work smarter, to take advantage of technology, to help them access the global market? If they can develop more revenue streams by licensing their music to film and TV, by getting more gigs in Europe, by getting more teaching jobs or whatever else it may be, then hopefully little by little it will start to snowball." Among the initiatives that came under this umbrella was a deal to supply XM Satellite Radio with CDs from the city's up-and-coming,

## "It's been pretty miraculous getting to do all the things I love to do most. I've been very lucky."

and unsigned, artists, and the New Orleans Music Business Co-Op facility, developed in partnership with Tipitina's Foundation, which provided artists with computer access, training and other promotional resources.

Most significantly, Aiges led the statewide effort to enact legislation creating tax incentives for the sound recording industry. He based his plan on Louisiana's film tax credit program, which had been passed in 2002. "Basically, I took a copy of the law, dropped it in a Word document, and everywhere it said film production I substituted 'sound recording.'"

The work grew more challenging from there, and in 2005 Aiges began lobbying in the state Legislature. As Aiges recalls, the mayor's office was indifferent to the bill while the governor's office opposed it, largely because of some financial wrinkles that had turned up in the film program with which it shared DNA. In the course of making daily trips to Baton Rouge he met Sherri McConnell, a lobbyist who had been tracking the progress of the first entertainment tax credits in the United States, and in particular the film law in Louisiana. She "became my crying shoulder," Aiges says.

McConnell remembers seeing Aiges in committee, struggling with the legislative process. She offered to provide guidance pro bono. "He was really by himself in the effort, working for the city but truly out there and not being helped by whatever resources the city had to offer," she says. "We became fast friends and have been close ever since."

Recalling the backdrop of the state's budget crisis, McConnell points out that it wasn't easy to suggest "we're going to spend millions of dollars in providing tax breaks to people who are recording music, or anything for that matter. But Scott is passionate, articulate, convincing. I gave my guidance in terms of who he needed to talk to. But he does his research, and his ability to articulate the potential impact of the legislation and systematically move it through the process, he did that himself."

Passage remained dicey until the end, with Aiges and one of the governor's policy directors hammering out details on the last day of the legislative session in late June. In its final form, the Sound Recording Investment Act created refundable tax credits ranging from 10–20 percent for recording projects or infrastructure. Nagin finally gave his support, and Gov. Kathleen Babineaux Blanco touted it as one in a three-part package of entertainment industry bills (the others focused on expanded film incentives and digital media). Music industry professionals dreamed of siphoning business off from the city's "big three" competitors, Los Angeles, Nashville and New York. Aiges celebrated with a family trip to his parents' vacation home in East Hampton, returning to attend

the governor's August 15 ceremonial bill-signing.

Two weeks later, on August 29, Hurricane Katrina hit.

Aiges recalls the surreality of the time; on Saturday morning prior to landfall, he was at a kids' birthday party, sitting under sunny skies and chatting with the other parents about what was then the earliest specter of evacuation and whether the storm would amount to anything. Arriving home, he found Brown standing in front of the television. "There was this enormous purple blob over the Gulf of Mexico and we looked at each other and went, 'Ummmm ...'" They spent the next 12 hours packing and battering down the hatches.

The couple and their children, Ella and Ben, then 6 and 3,

bounced from New Orleans to Birmingham and Huntsville, Ala., to Nashville and finally back to East Hampton to stay at his parents' place. Aiges worked remotely as best he could: "I'm trying to stay in touch with what's going on in my office at the city and everybody's dispersed, cell phones aren't working, nobody is replying to emails, nothing is happening — and I was the music guy, right? Everybody's calling. Bonnie Raitt wants to know what she can do for New Orleans, and I can't get anybody on the phone."

In October, he returned to find his immediate neighborhood had been spared the worst of the damage. The water on his property had filled the trunk of the car they left behind, and rose to about a foot-and-a-half in the backyard

shed he used as an office. Their house, at three feet off the ground, was largely OK.

About the same time, the state hired Aiges as a short-term consultant, working through the nonprofit Louisiana Music Export Office that he created. His main charge: "to make sure everybody knows that Louisiana is still in business." (This included executing a major concert at South by Southwest (SXSW) Music Conference and Festival in Austin, Texas, in March 2006.) As for his job with the mayor's office, he organized a free Thanksgiving weekend rallying event with Kermit Ruffins and the Barbecue Swingers and other bands. Not long after, the work sputtered out altogether, part of the city's vast cutbacks.

**T**he offices of The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation are on North Rampart Street in the Tremé, in a converted house full of hallways and small rooms — rumored to have been a brothel, Aiges says. His office is large and light-filled, with an L-shaped desk covered in papers and with awards clustered in one corner. Tacked onto a bulletin board are concert passes and crayon drawings by his children. The other available surfaces — walls, table and shelves,



Aiges with the late blues musician David "Honeyboy" Edwards in 2008.

PHOTO: COURTESY SCOTT AIGES '86





The backstage view of Rebirth Brass Band; says Aiges, "When I look out and see Congo Square like that, that to me feels like a win."

PHOTO: COURTESY NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION/ERIC SIMON

fireplace mantel — are covered with music-related photos and paraphernalia from his years with the foundation. He indicates a photo above his desk from last year's Congo Square New World Rhythms Festival, taken from the band's point of view and showing the shoulder-to-shoulder audience: "When I look out and see Congo Square like that, that to me feels like a win."

Aiges was hired at the foundation in November 2006. "Scott had done something very dynamic and visionary in helping the state establish the tax incentives for the recording industry," executive director Don Marshall says. "And he's always been a strong, passionate voice in the community for the music industry and the arts. After Katrina we really wanted to do more for the community, with a focus on helping rebuild the music and arts community. I was interested in creating new events and festivals to employ our musicians, helping them to get back here and survive, and Scott had had a lot of experience in that."

"It was the first time in my life where I got to a place where I wasn't the one music guy in the corner of the building. Everybody around me was focused on the same thing, and it was all about music," Aiges says.

His first task was planning and executing the Crescent City Blues Festival, one in a new series of smaller festivals (including Congo Square) designed to spotlight different niches in the city's musical culture. The production of these and other festivals and concerts, like the rest of Aiges' responsibilities, comes under the umbrella of education, economic development and cultural enrichment. He also coordinates lecture series, workshops and conferences, including Sync Up, the entertainment industry conference that takes place during Jazz Fest; oversees a grants program that distributes more than \$300,000 annually to educational and

cultural programs throughout Louisiana; and is the spokesman and marketer for the foundation.

"I never saw someone who could handle five projects simultaneously as he does and with the professionalism and creative vision that he does," Marshall says.

Aiges also oversees administration and curriculum development at the Don "Moose" Jamison Heritage School of Music, a free after-school program that teaches technique and theory of jazz to kids ages 11–17. Leaving the foundation office, Aiges points out the building next door — a former funeral home, paint-cracked and Gothic-columned — that is being refurbished as the first permanent home for the school. Plans call for seven state-of-the-art classrooms including drum and piano labs and technology for capturing audio and video for distance learning. The building is also to serve as a community center, with a 200-seat auditorium for concerts, lectures and other events, and a recording studio for local musicians. Aiges estimates it's two years from opening.

Reflecting on his work with the foundation, Aiges says, "It's been pretty miraculous getting to do all the things I love to do most. I get to throw these incredible parties and hire all of these musicians who are talented and inspiring, and we get to teach all these young people how to play, and to try to help people in the community figure out how to deal with issues, whether it's zoning and noise ordinances or accessing computer technology for the arts — it's an incredible platform. And we've got money to do all of this.

"All the time people say to me, you have the best job in the world, don't you? And I'm like, yeah, kind of. I don't want to gloat but yeah, I kind of do. I've been very lucky."

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



# Passport to India

*College students intern in Mumbai via Columbia Experience Overseas*

By SHIRA BOSS '93, '97J, '98 SIPA



Gathering at the Columbia Global Center in Mumbai were (left to right) Ben Harris '14, David Kang '15, Hannah Sotnick '15, Allison Kammert '15, Meghna Mukherjee '15, Srilekha Jayanthi (former CGC personnel), Anjali Chowfla (former CGC personnel), Doreen Mohammed '15 and Shrey Chandra '15.

PHOTO: COURTESY CCE

**H**annah Sotnick '15 is interested in foreign languages and cultures and says she has always wanted to work abroad after graduation. Last year, as a sophomore, she started looking for a way to work or intern abroad for the upcoming summer. "I was having difficulty finding a way to do so that would allow me a source of income to pay for housing and so forth," she says. Then a career counselor told her about Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO), a Center for Career Education (CCE) program that sends students to foreign cities to live together and work in eight-week internships. Sotnick applied for a position in Mumbai, was interviewed by her would-be supervisor over Skype and was offered the job.

"I was extremely excited after learning more about the Marg Foundation — a nonprofit art publisher that promotes Indian art and culture — and the internship," Sotnick says. She was a marketing intern and shared a corporate apartment, provided by Columbia, with the seven other Columbia interns in Mumbai. With some others in the group, she extended her stay to travel for nine days in the northwest state of Rajasthan. She returned to the Unit-

ed States with valuable international work experience and says she has clarified her career vision: "The experience affirmed my interest in writing and publishing and working abroad as well as expanded my interest in working in a nonprofit."

**S**ince 2007, CCE has been connecting with employers and alumni in international locations to secure summer internships for rising juniors and seniors. CCE's role includes internship development, arranging for housing and connecting with local alumni in cities including Amman, Beijing, Hong Kong, London, Shanghai, Singapore and, new in 2013, Mumbai and Bangalore. This year 64 students worked abroad through CEO.

"The CEO program was designed to provide students with accessible international internship opportunities that leverage Columbia's growing global presence," says Kavita Sharma, dean of CCE. "Employers are looking for candidates who are adaptable and can relate to people from all walks of life. Interning abroad contributes significantly not only to students' professional development but also to their personal and social development. They become cross-culturally savvy and aware, skills that they leverage when they return to campus and in their future professional lives."



The CEO program was extended to Bangalore and Mumbai as part of the U.S. Department of State's Passport to India initiative, which seeks to increase the number of American students going to India for study and work. President Barack Obama '83 has declared India a defining partner of the 21st century yet, as the State Department website notes, "The pool of Americans ready to manage the growing political, economic and cultural ties between the U.S. and India is small. This is in part due to limited opportunities for American students in India." In 2009–10, 2,690 Americans studied abroad in India, while 104,879 Indians studied in the U.S., according to the State Department. Citi provided start-up funding for the CEO Mumbai and Bangalore program.

After CCE's outreach specialists develop relationships with employers that yield internship opportunities, students are recruited to the CEO internships through listings in the campus' online jobs database, LionSHARE, and through a marketing campaign that includes email, in-person information sessions and one-on-one counseling meetings. The information sessions help students understand the available opportunities and the realities of working abroad, and feature a panel of past CEO participants. "Students love to hear firsthand accounts from their peers," says Heather Perceval, CCE's associate dean for experiential education. "Knowing that their peers have navigated international internships and listening to their successes and challenges makes others feel that they, too, can take up a CEO internship."

Students apply directly to employers and are interviewed by telephone or Skype. CCE arranges and pays for housing for all interns, and covers visa and travel costs according to financial need. Before departure, CCE holds an all-day orientation that reviews health and safety, offers tips on having a successful internship and discusses cross-cultural communication skills. Breakout sessions are city specific.

Among the 11 students who interned in India through CEO this summer were one from GS, two from Engineering and eight from the College. The College students were all in Mumbai, including Doreen Mohammad '15 from Jamaica, Queens, who had never left the United States; Shrey Chandra '15, who was born in Mumbai and hadn't been back since his family emigrated when he was 8; and David Kang '15, a Korean-American who envisions someday running for Congress. "If the stipend were not available or housing not provided, I certainly would not have been able to have my experiences in India," says Kang, who interned at a law firm. "I'm infinitely grateful."

CCE arranges an on-site orientation and alumni event upon arrival in cities that have a Columbia Global Center — this year, that meant Amman, Beijing and Mumbai. "That was really helpful and made us all feel very welcomed and aware of the Columbia community in Mumbai," Sotnick says.

The interns also are connected with Columbia alumni living locally who serve as mentors. "All of the mentors were extremely



**CEO intern Ben Harris '14 (far right) met with Secretary of State John Kerry and others at the India-U.S. Higher Education Dialogue in June in New Delhi.**

PHOTO: COURTESY CCE

helpful in pointing us to the right people and places in India," Kang says. "Moreover, Jill [Burya, associate director of experiential education] and the dean of CCE herself [Sharma] came to India to see how we were. At every moment, they did the hard work of providing chances for networking at least twice a month."

"I had a chance to meet some truly amazing people: one of India's biggest economic advisers, several alumni — from bank CEOs to restaurant pioneers — and the bosses of my fellow CEO interns as well," Chandra says.

Leeza Mangaldas '11 was a CEO intern in Hong Kong in 2010 and says that the alumni mentors there formed a community for all the interns "that exposed us to some of the best social, cultural and intellectual experiences the city had to offer." She stays in touch with several of them, and now that she lives in Mumbai and is exploring a career as an actress, she was inspired to become a CEO mentor herself. "I'm thrilled, as I had benefited greatly from the mentorship equation," Mangaldas says. "What a privilege to be able to carry it forward."

She says of her mentee, Mohammad, "She seemed to really make the most of her summer in India and to make a meaningful contribution to the organization she interned with. It was a pleasure being her mentor and I look forward to hearing what she does next."

Rahul Jain '08 never had an overseas experience as a student but credits the Columbia community in Mumbai with getting him settled in India, where he works in private equity, within two weeks of arrival. Part of his giving back was to mentor Sotnick this past summer, when he also connected with the other mentors and interns. He says of the latter, "I'm very impressed by their independence, their enthusiasm to absorb every part of work and tackle their internships, and their openness to India. They were fearless and took full advantage of exploring Mumbai and adapted easily to life. They also walked away with a fresh perspective of what it means to live and work in an emerging market — a first for many."

Upon their return to the U.S., students participate in a follow-up reflection session, run by CCE, where they discuss their expe-

# Reflecting on CEO Mumbai

**Allison Kammert '15** majors in economics and political science. This past summer, through the Center for Career Education's Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) program, she was a communications intern at Mumbai Mobile Creches, a nonprofit that provides daycare for children of migrant construction workers. While still in India, she took time out to write about her experience.

I applied to CEO positions that interested me in several cities and ultimately accepted my position in Mumbai because I wanted to go somewhere very different. And it worked! Mumbai is really, really different, in a great way.

Everyone I talked to about India, from my future supervisors at MMC to my friends from India, kept telling me that Mumbai is a "city of contradictions." I didn't fully understand what they meant until my first days here.

There are the more obvious contradictions, like the fact that one of the most expensive malls in India is built approximately 50 ft. from the edge of Asia's biggest slum. But there are also the less apparent contradictions. For example, in an office setting here, people will rarely give a definitive no to a request you've made. They might avoid the request, or say maybe, or talk around the point they're trying to make until you finally realize you're being denied. Similarly, people can answer questions very indirectly here. You'll rarely get a succinct answer to a question you've asked, and it usually takes a while to get the information you really want.

These sort of subtler, indirect behaviors contrast sharply with the not-so-subtle ways people will push you out of the way if you're not getting onto the train fast enough, or the bright colors of saris or super-spicy foods.

Life here is completely different from life in the United States, from the food, clothing and weather to the way people drive, interact on the train and view life in general. When you live in the same place for a long time, you develop a strong sense of what you think "normal" is. Being here has made me realize that there is no normal, and that maybe I should more often question why I do things the way I do at home.

For example, when I first got here, Mumbai's inefficiencies

drove me insane. When I'm in New York City and need to go to an event or meeting somewhere I've never been, I'll look up the address and use street signs and smartphone maps to find my way there. It's entirely possible to get to a location you've never been without talking to anyone about it.

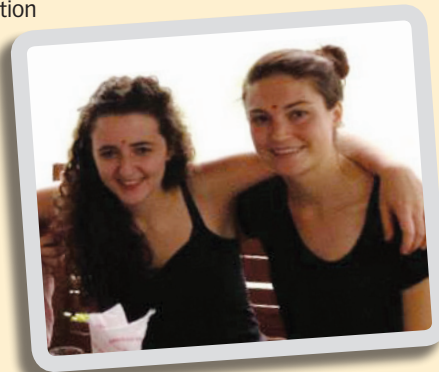
Here, there are few visible street signs, and people navigate the city via well-known landmarks. In order to get somewhere you've never been, you need to ask at least six people on the street to point you in the right direction, and eventually you'll get there. As I've spent more time here, I've realized that while it can, in many ways, be easier to just put an address into your iPhone, I've loved navigating Mumbai and seeing how everyone here works almost like an 18-million-person team to get one another to where they're going.

Outside of work, the other interns and I have traveled to and explored various destinations in and around Mumbai. Outside of Mumbai, people in our group have traveled to New Delhi, Goa and Agra, and people will be traveling after their internships end as well. Within the city, we've visited the Gateway of India, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Elephanta Island, the *Dhobi Ghat* and many other places. Socially, we've met a lot of

young ex-pats and people originally from India through co-workers and some of the younger mentors to whom we've been assigned.

We've met a number of truly amazing Columbians through this alumni mentor program. All the CEO mentors live in Mumbai; our group consists of the owner of several world-famous restaurants, several high-level business executives, a Bollywood actress, a research studio owner and many others who have gone far, far out of their way to welcome us to Mumbai and to make our stay here as enriching as possible.

Networking this summer has benefited us in ways far beyond just meeting potential business connections — we've made great friends with and through these alums, picked up advice that made life in Mumbai so much easier and met people with extraordinary life experiences that have been inspiring to hear about. Meeting our group of mentors made me realize how willing to help a fellow Columbian so many alums are, which has definitely motivated me to find other ways to engage with the alumni network upon graduation and even before that.



Allison Kammert '15 (right) and Hannah Sotnick '15.

PHOTO: COURTESY ALLISON KAMMERT '15

and how they will be useful in the future. They also submit a project in the format of their choosing — such as a journal, photo essay or blog — presenting their experience.

Meghna Mukherjee '15, who is from India but grew up in the Middle East and Singapore, applied to several internships in the U.S. as well as to CEO internships in India, Jordan and Hong Kong but chose Mumbai. "This was the first time I'd been to India without the comfort of my family and my own house," she says. "It's really the simple things that took getting used to, like the work environments, figuring out my own meals and getting around by myself on public transportation, not to mention being extremely careful about food and water." Mukherjee says that the Columbia Global Center support network, her fellow interns and her mentor were all instrumental in getting her settled. She had never been to Mumbai before her internship at Apne Aap Women's Collective (AAWC), a nonprofit that works with women and children of the

red light district, and had never had to use her Hindi. Inspired by her internship experience, Mukherjee says she's now considering learning how to read and write Hindi.

Mohammed looked at all the CEO cities for any internship in human rights or public health before choosing to work at AAWC as a marketing intern. "This was my first time outside of the U.S. and it was quite a transformative, as well as eye-opening, experience," says Mohammed, who speaks Bengali and has a working knowledge of Hindi. "Living through and experiencing the injustices, inequalities and realities that I grew up hearing about, reading about and learning about, in India and across the globe, only continues to put things in perspective for me. Not a day goes by without my realizing my privilege and what it means to be an American."

Kang says his internship at the law firm was "a crash course in econ, Indian law, corporate networking and market analysis — all





Sightseeing at the Taj Mahal and Gateway of India (left to right) were Meghna Mukherjee '15, David Kang '15 and Doreen Mohammed '15.

PHOTO: LEFT, COURTESY DAVID KANG '15; RIGHT, COURTESY MEGHNA MUKHERJEE '15

at the same time," and says that after working in Mumbai and observing the local work ethic, he understands why India is poised for rapid growth. "The hunger and the desire that I saw every day at the office is something I'll always remember," he says.

Ben Harris '14 was a fundraising intern for Mumbai Mobile Creches, a nonprofit that runs daycare centers for children of migrant construction workers who live on the construction sites (a common practice in India). "The staff was incredible," he says. "From day one, they treated us like co-workers instead of foreign interns." He adds that meeting Columbia alumni living in Mumbai showed him a possible new path: "It hadn't really occurred to me that picking up and moving to India after graduation is a real option."

Harris also was one of three CEO Mumbai interns selected to go to New Delhi at the end of June to attend a U.S.-India higher education summit, where Secretary of State John Kerry was a key-note speaker. Harris, along with Kang and Mohammed, met three interns from Honeywell, who subsequently visited the Columbia enclave in Mumbai. Kang and Mohammed reciprocated with a return trip to New Delhi, where they were shown the Taj Mahal and introduced to local restaurants.

**E**xperiencing the local culture and sampling its cuisine is a mainstay of the CEO experience. Living together gives the interns a community and support network from which to navigate the foreign city, and they typically eat out and sightsee together as well as attend Columbia-organized events.

The Mumbai interns commuted by train, which several noted was a harrowing experience, with cars overflowing with people jostling for scarce space. Mukherjee notes that everything in Mumbai was unpredictable, including the weather, the people and the animals. About the last she says, "Cows, bulls, oxen, goats, dogs, cats, chickens, ducks ... it's like a little farmyard on the streets.

They get in your way, stop traffic and wander around on pedestrian streets and congested roads — and no one seems to mind."

Sotnick noted in her blog that local women's habits of wearing Western dress does not extend to shoes, hair or makeup: "It's refreshing to go to work without worrying about makeup or frizzy hair, and wearing harem pants that would be considered pajamas in the U.S.," she wrote.

Another entry describes being at a restaurant and ordering *Dahi Pakoda Chaat*, following Mohammed's observation that the dishes with the longest names usually turned out to be the best. "When I ordered, the waiter, who spoke very little English and didn't even know the word water, whipped this phrase out of his back pocket unexpectedly: 'It's *very* spicy. Order another dish!'" Nonetheless, Sotnick wrote in the blog, "I didn't, though ... and I was fine!"

Kang describes walking through "the slums of Santacruz that are right beside the five-star accommodations Columbia has provided for me" and every day walking past a family using a tarp hung next to a wall as a home. "The poverty is jarring, and the skyscrapers built next to it even more so," he says. "It has definitely been an eye-opening experience."

All of the interns return from overseas enriched by their experiences, and many cite new career goals, including returning to the countries they worked in, which in the case of the Passport to India program is a main objective. "That's not something I considered before this," Mukherjee says. "Even being Indian, I had no idea what this country had to offer. If I were to come back here after graduation to work, it would be to Bombay, which I only figured out after living and working here through the CEO Mumbai program."



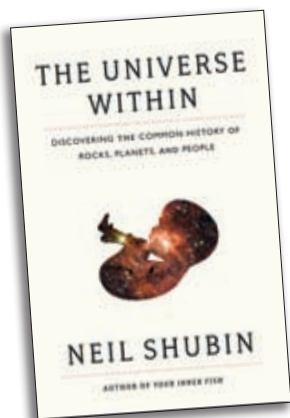
**Shira Boss '93, '97J, '98 SIPA** is contributing writer for CCT. Her most recent feature, in the Summer 2013 issue, was about the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program.

# The Universe Within

*Neil Shubin '82 explores the common history  
of rocks, planets and people*



PHOTO: ©JOHN WEINSTEIN/THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



Neil Shubin '82 is the Robert R. Bensley Professor, organismal biology and anatomy, and associate dean for academic strategy at the University of Chicago. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2011.

A distinguished paleontologist, Shubin has developed expeditionary research programs in realms as far afield as Asia, Africa and Greenland. In his first book, the best-selling *Your Inner Fish: A Journey into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body* [see cover story, March/April 2011], he traced the links between human anatomy and that of the fish that first came onto land hundreds of millions of years ago. His latest volume, *The Universe Within: Discovering the Common History of Rocks, Planets, and People*, provides an even broader map of our vast existence. Shubin, as *The Wall Street Journal* points out, “tracks the very atoms in our bodies back to the Big Bang ... What is special about the book is its sweep, its scope, its panorama.”

In the following excerpt from *The Universe Within*, Shubin describes the high drama of a scientific expedition in the frozen ridges of Greenland.

Rose Kernochan '82 Barnard

Journeying to Greenland to prospect for fossils were (clockwise from top left) Professor Farish A. Jenkins Jr., professor of biology and zoology at Harvard and curator of vertebrate paleontology at the university's Museum of Comparative Zoology (Jenkins died in November 2012); laboratory colleagues Chuck Schaff and Bill Amaral; and Shubin.

PHOTOS: COURTESY BILL AMARAL; BACKGROUND PHOTO: KORHAN OZKAN





**V**iewed from the sky, my companion and I must have looked like two black specks perched high on a vast plain of rock, snow, and ice. It was the end of a long trek, and we were slogging our way back to camp on a ridge sandwiched between two of the greatest ice sheets on the planet. The clear northern sky opened a panorama that swept from the pack ice of the Arctic Ocean in the east to the seemingly boundless Greenland ice cap to our west. After a productive day prospecting for fossils and an exhilarating hike, and with the majestic vista around us, we felt as if we were walking on top of the world.

Our reverie was abruptly cut short by a change in the rocks beneath our feet. As we traversed the bedrock, brown sandstones gave way to ledges of pink limestone that, from our earlier discoveries, became an auspicious sign that fossils were in the neighborhood. After we spent a few minutes peering at boulders, alarm bells went off; my attention was pulled to an unusual glimmer flashing from a corner of a melon-sized rock. Experience in the field taught me to respect the sensation triggered by these moments. We had traveled to Greenland to hunt for small fossils, so I hunched over my magnifying lens to scan the rock closely. The sparkle that arrested me sprang from a little white spot, no bigger than a sesame seed. I spent the better part of five minutes curled up with the rock close to my eyes before passing it to my colleague Farish for his expert opinion.

Concentrating attention on the fleck with his lens, Farish froze solid. His eyes shot back to me with a look of pent-up emotion, disbelief, and surprise. Rising from his crouch, he took off his gloves and launched them about twenty feet in the air. Then he nearly crushed me with one of the most titanic bear hugs I have ever received.

Farish's exuberance made me forget the near absurdity of feeling excitement at finding a tooth not much bigger than a grain of sand. We found what we had spent three years, countless dollars, and many sprained ligaments looking for: a 200-million-year-old link between reptiles and mammals. But this project was no miniature trophy hunt. The little tooth represents one of our own links to worlds long gone. Hidden inside these Greenlandic rocks lie our deep ties to the forces that shaped our bodies, the planet, even the entire universe.

Seeing our connections to the natural world is like detecting the pattern hidden inside an optical illusion. We encounter bodies, rocks, and stars every day of our lives. Train the eye, and these familiar entities give way to deeper realities. When you learn to view the world through this lens, bodies and stars become windows to a past that was vast almost beyond comprehension, occasionally catastrophic, and always shared among living things and the universe that fostered them.

How does such a big world lie inside this tiny tooth, let alone inside our bodies? The story starts with how we ended up on that frozen Greenlandic ridge in the first place.

**I**magine arriving at a vista that extends as far as the eye can see, knowing you are looking inside it for a fossil the size of the period that ends this sentence. If fossil bones can be small, so too are whole vistas relative to the surface area of Earth. Knowing how to find past life means learning to see rocks not as static objects but as entities with a dynamic and often violent history. It also means understanding that our bodies, as well as our entire world, represent just moments in time.

The playbook that fossil hunters use to develop new places to look has been pretty much unchanged for the past 150 years. Intellectually, it is as simple as it gets: find places on the planet that have rocks of the right age to answer whatever question interests you, rocks of the type likely to hold fossils, and rocks exposed on the surface. The less you have to dig, the better. This approach, which I described in *Your Inner Fish*, led me and my colleagues, in 2004, to find a fish at the cusp of the transition to life on land.

As a student in the early 1980s, I gravitated to a team that had developed tools to make headway finding new places to hunt fossils. Their goal was to uncover the earliest relatives of mammals in the fossil record. The group had found small shrewlike fossils and their reptilian cousins in a number of places in the American West, but by the mid-1980s their success had brought them to an impasse. The problem is best captured by the jest, "Each newly discovered missing link creates two new gaps in the fossil record." They had done their share of creating gaps and were now left with one in rocks about 200 million years old.

The search for fossil sites is aided by economics and politics. With the potential for significant oil, gas, and mineral discoveries, there are incentives for countries to catalog and map the geology exposed inside their borders. Consequently, virtually any geological library holds journal articles, reports, and, one hopes, maps detailing the age, structure, and mineral content of the rocks exposed on the surface of different regions. The challenge is to find the right maps.

Professor Farish A. Jenkins Jr. led the team at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology. Fossil discovery was the coin of the realm for him and his crew, and it started in the library. Farish's laboratory colleagues Chuck Schaff and Bill Amaral were key in this effort; they had honed their understanding of geology to predict likely places to make discoveries, and, importantly, they trained their eyes to find really small fossils. Their relationship often took the form of a long, friendly argument: one would propose a new idea while the other would relentlessly try to quash it. If the idea held up under their largely amiable tit for tat, then they would both line up behind the proposal and take it to Farish, with his keen logistic and scientific sense, for vetting.

One day in 1986, while chewing the fat with Chuck, Bill found a copy of the *Shell Oil Guide to the Permian and Triassic of the World* on Chuck's desk. Paging through the volume, Bill spotted a map of Greenland, with a little hatched area of Triassic rocks on the eastern coast at a latitude of about 72 degrees north, roughly that of the northernmost tip of Alaska. Bill kicked things off by proclaiming that this could be a prime next area to work. The usual argument ensued, with Chuck denying that the rocks were the right type, Bill responding, and Chuck countering.

By dumb luck, Chuck had the means to end the debate right on his bookshelf. A few weeks earlier, he was trolling through the library discards and pulled out a paper titled "Revision of Triassic Stratigraphy of the Scoresby Land and Jameson Land Region, East Greenland," authored by a team of Danish geologists in the 1970s. Little did anyone know at the time, but this freebie, saved from the trash heap, was to loom large in our lives for the next ten years. Virtually from the minute Bill and Chuck looked at the maps in the reprint, the debate was over.

My graduate student office was down the hall, and as was typical for that time in the late afternoon, I swung by Chuck's office to see what was what. Bill was hovering about, and it was clear that some residue from one of their debates remained in the air. Bill didn't say much; he just slapped Chuck's geological reprint down in front of me. In it was a map that showed exactly what we had hoped for. Exposed on the eastern coast of Greenland, across







The search for fossils, such as this fish gathered from a muddy area near the southwestern coast of Greenland in the 1980s, has taken Shubin to remote locations around the world.

PHOTO: KEITH DOTSON

the ocean from Iceland, were the perfect kinds of rocks in which to find early mammals, dinosaurs, and other scientific goodies.

The maps looked exotic, even ominous. The east coast of Greenland is remote and mountainous. And the names evoke explorers of the past: Jameson Land, Scoresby Land, and Wegener Halvø. It didn't help matters that I knew that a number of explorers had perished during their trips there.

Fortunately, the expeditions that transpired ultimately rested on Farish's, Bill's, and Chuck's shoulders. With about sixty years of fieldwork between them, they had developed a deep reservoir of hard-earned knowledge about working in different kinds of field conditions. Of course, few experiences could have prepared us for this one. As a famed expedition leader once told me, "There is nothing like your first trip to the Arctic."

I learned plenty of lessons that first year in Greenland, ones that were to become useful when I began running my own Arctic expeditions eleven years later. By bringing leaky leather boots, a small used tent, and a huge flashlight to the land of mud, ice, and the midnight sun, I made so many bad choices that first year that I remained smiling only by reciting my own motto, "Never do anything for the first time."

The most nerve-racking moment of that inaugural trip came when selecting the initial base camp, a decision made in a fleeting moment while flying in a helicopter. As the rotors turn, money flies out the window, because the costs of Arctic helicopters can be as high as three thousand dollars per hour. On a paleontology budget, geared more to beat-up pickups than to Bell 212 Twin Hueys, that means wasting no time. Once over a promising site revealed by the maps back in the laboratory, we rapidly check off a number of important properties before setting down. We need to find a patch of ground that is dry and flat yet still close to water for our daily camp needs, far enough inland so that polar bears aren't a problem, shielded from the wind, and near exposures of rock to study.

We had a good idea of the general area from the maps and aerial photographs, and ended up setting down on a beautiful little patch of tundra in the middle of a wide valley. There were creeks from which we could draw water. The place was flat and dry, so we could pitch our tents securely. It even had a gorgeous view of a snowy mountain range and glacier on the eastern end of the valley. But we would soon discover a major shortcoming. There were no decent rocks within easy walking distance.

Once camp was established to our satisfaction, we set off each day with one goal in mind: to find the rocks. We'd climb the highest

elevations near camp and scan the distance with binoculars for any of the exposures that figured so prominently in the paper Bill and Chuck had found. Our search was eased by the fact that the rock layers were collectively known as red beds for their characteristic hue.

With red rock on our minds, we went off in teams, Chuck and Farish climbing hills to give them views of the southern rocks, Bill and I setting off for places that would reveal those to the north. Three days into the hunt, both teams returned with the same news. Out in the distance, about six miles away to the northeast, was a sliver of red. We'd argue about this little outcrop of rock, scoping it with our binoculars at every opportunity for the remainder of the week. Some days, when the light was right, it seemed to be a series of ridges ideal for fossil work.

It was decided that Bill and I would scout a trail to get to the rocks. Since I didn't know how to walk in the Arctic, and had made an unfortunate boot selection, the trek turned out to be an ordeal — first through boulder fields, then across small glaciers, and pretty much through mud for the rest of the way. The mud formed from wet clay that made an indelicate *glurp* as we extricated our feet from each step. No footprint remained, only a jiggling viscous mass.

In three days of testing routes, we plotted a viable course to the promising rocks. After a four-hour hike, the red sliver in our binocular view from camp turned out to be a series of cliffs, ridges, and hillocks of the exact kind of rock we needed. With any luck, bones would be weathering out of the rock's surface.

The goal now became to return with Farish and Chuck, doing the hike as fast as possible to leave enough time to hunt for bones before having to turn back home. Arriving with the whole crew, Bill and I felt like proud homeowners showing off our property. Farish and Chuck, tired from the hike but excited about the prospect of finding fossils, were in no mood to chat. They swiftly got into the paleontological rhythm of walking the rocks at a slow pace, eyes on the ground, methodically scanning for bone at the surface.

Bill and I set off for a ridge about half a mile away that would give us a view of what awaited us even farther north. After a small break, Bill started to scan the landscape for anything of interest: our colleagues, polar bears, other wildlife. He stopped scanning and said, "Chuck's down." Training my binoculars on his object, I could see Chuck was indeed on his hands and knees methodically crawling on the rock. To a paleontologist this meant one thing: Chuck was picking up fossil bones.

Our short amble to Chuck confirmed the promise of the binocu-



lar scan; he had indeed found a small piece of bone. But our hike to this little spot had taken four hours, and we now had to head back. We set off, with Farish, Bill, Chuck, and me in a line about thirty feet apart. After about a quarter of a mile something on the ground caught my eye. It had a sheen that I'd seen before. Dropping to my knees like Chuck an hour earlier, I saw it in its full glory, a hunk of bone the size of my fist. To the left was more bone, to the right even more. I called to Farish, Bill, and Chuck. No response. Looking up, I knew why. They were also on their hands and knees. We were all crawling in the same colossal field of broken bones.

At summer's end, we returned boxes of these fossil bones to the lab, where Bill put them together like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. The creature was about twenty feet long, with a series of flat leaf-shaped teeth, a long neck, and a small head. The beast had the diagnostic limb anatomy of a dinosaur, albeit a relatively small one.

This kind of dinosaur, known as a prosauropod, holds an important place in North American paleontology. Dinosaurs in eastern North America were originally discovered along streams, railroad lines, and roads, the only places with decent exposures of rocks. The eminent Yale paleontologist Richard Swann Lull (1867–1957) found a prosauropod in a rock quarry in Manchester, Connecticut. The only problem was that it was the back end. The block containing the front end, he was chagrined to learn, had earlier been incorporated into the abutment of a bridge in the town of South Manchester. Undeterred, Lull described the dinosaur from its rear

From the top of the ridge, the tents of camp looked like tiny white dots just below the horizon. The crest was wind-swept, but the bluff of pink limestone on which we were seated formed a quiet shield for Farish and me to assess the discovery. Farish's jubilation confirmed my hunch that the white spot in the rock was indeed a mammal tooth. With the characteristic pattern of three cusps and two roots, it was a dead ringer for one of these beasts.

Armed with confidence that came from this first discovery, the team looked widely across east Greenland, eventually finding better mammal fossils in subsequent years. The fossils came from a small shrewlike animal about half the size of a house mouse. Although it lacks the sort of awe-inspiring skeleton that would grace a museum rotunda, its beauty lies elsewhere.

This is one of the first creatures in the fossil record with our kind of teeth: those with cutting surfaces defined by cusps that occlude on upper and lower teeth with a tooth row subdivided into incisors, canines, and molars. It has an ear that is like ours also, containing little bones that connect the eardrum to the inner ear. Its skull pattern, shoulder, and limb are also decidedly mammalian. We don't know for sure, but it likely had hair and other mammalian features such as milk-producing glands. Every time we chew, hear high pitches, or rotate our hands, we use parts of our anatomy that can be traced through primates and other mammals to the structures in these little creatures from 200 million years ago.

## *Who knows what fossil dinosaurs remain to be discovered deep inside Manhattan? The island's famous brownstone town houses are made of this same kind of sandstone.*

end only. When the bridge was demolished in 1969, the other fragments came to light. Who knows what fossil dinosaurs remain to be discovered deep inside Manhattan? The island's famous brownstone town houses are made of this same kind of sandstone.

The hills in Greenland form large staircases of rock that not only break boots but also tell the story of the stones' origins. Hard layers of sandstones, almost as resistant as concrete, poke out from softer ones that weather away more quickly. Virtually identical staircases lie farther south; matching sandstones, siltstones, and shales extend from North Carolina to Connecticut all the way to Greenland. These layers have a distinctive signature of faults and sediment. They speak of places where lakes sat inside steep valleys that formed as the earth fractured apart. The pattern of ancient faults, volcanoes, and lake beds in these rocks is almost identical to the great rift lakes in Africa today — Lake Victoria and Lake Malawi — where movements inside Earth cause the surface to split and separate, leaving a gaping basin filled by the water of lakes and streams. In the past, rifts like these extended all the way up the coast of North America.

From the beginning, our whole plan was to follow the trail of the rifts. Knowing that the rocks in eastern North America contained dinosaurs and small mammal-like creatures gave us the aha moment with Chuck's geological reprint. That, in turn, led us north to Greenland. Then, once in Greenland, we pursued the discoveries on the ground like pigeons following a trail of bread crumbs. It took three years, but clues in the red beds ultimately led us to that frozen ridge I trekked with Farish.

The rocks also tie us to the past; rifts in Earth, like those that led us to find fossil mammals in Greenland, have left their traces in our bodies as much as they have in the crust of the planet. The Greenlandic rocks are like one page in a vast library of volumes that contain the story of our world. Billions of years of history preceded that little tooth, and 200 million years have followed it. Through eons on Earth, seas have opened and closed, mountains have risen and eroded, and asteroids have come crashing down as the planet has coursed its way through the solar system. The layers of rock record era after era of changes to the climate, atmosphere, and crust of the planet itself. Transformation is the order of the day for the world: bodies grow and die, species emerge and go extinct, while every feature of our planetary and celestial home undergoes gradual change or episodes of catastrophic revolution.


Rocks and bodies are kinds of time capsules that carry the signature of great events that shaped them. The molecules that compose our bodies arose in stellar events in the distant origin of the solar system. Changes to Earth's atmosphere sculpted our cells and entire metabolic machinery. Pulses of mountain building, changes in orbits of the planet, and revolutions within Earth itself have had an impact on our bodies, minds, and the way we perceive the world around us.



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# Alumni News

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Freshmen line up in 1955, their heads adorned by the infamous freshman beanie.

PHOTO: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



## MESSAGE FROM CCAA PRESIDENT KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87

# Fund Volunteers Link Alumni to the College

**A**t the Columbia College Alumni Association Board, we've spent the better part of the last year examining alumni engagement and building connections between students and alumni. We're thrilled with the progress we've made, yet it wouldn't have been possible without another part of the CCAA's mandate — our leadership of the Columbia College Fund. Together, these complementary roles contribute to students' experiences and Columbia's ability to achieve excellence.

The College Fund's extraordinary growth during the past 15 years has paralleled all external markers of the College's ascent. This year was no exception. Thanks to several hundred alumni fund volunteers — including Class Agents, members of the Fund Development Council, Reunion Committees and young alumni committees — we are able to report remarkable results this year:

- More than 11,000 College alumni (including the Class of 2013) made a financial gift to the College.
- The College won the Trustee Challenge on Columbia Giving Day 2012, held last October, when alumni across the University showed their support for their school by giving on one day. This year it will be held on Wednesday, October 23.
- The College earned the full matching gift in the University's April fundraising drive, A Million Reasons to Give.
- After years of surpassing all participation levels for Senior Fund participation among its Ivy League peers, the Class of 2013 Senior Fund broke records for commitments to Dean James J. Valentini's 3-2-1 Challenge: Make a gift for three years, ask two friends to join in and have your gift matched 1:1 by an alumnus/a.

While the dollar figures are important, just as central is the fund's role in connecting alumni to the College and to students. Speak with fund volunteers and you realize that their passion for Columbia, for their classmates and the College's students drives their involvement. Each contact with an alumnus/a is an opportunity to renew Columbia connections or make new ones. Most importantly, it's an opportunity to find ways to better students' experiences in the same way that alumni before us enriched ours.

Fund volunteers provide a critical link between the College and its alumni. They stay up to date on what is happening on campus and with students and frequently return to Morningside Heights for special events. Their feedback helps the CCAA shape its agenda and advise the dean on College priorities. Fund volunteers are a diverse group of alumni who have given back to Columbia in a variety of ways. Here are but a few examples:



Kyra Tirana Barry '87  
PHOTO: EILEEN BARROSO

**Zila Acosta '11** provides a unique perspective as a recent graduate. She sees the College's dedication to its students and the difference every dollar can make in enhancing the Columbia experience.

Former CCAA board member **Don Margolis '63, '65 Business** always has been passionate about financial aid, giving as generously as he could. Until five years ago he was not involved in asking for money but for his recent 50th reunion he pursued first gifts from classmates. Not only did he reconnect with his fencing teammates and peers, bringing some back to campus, but by reaching out he also helped classmates reconnect to alma mater.

**Chuck Callan '78** hosted a pre-reunion party, bringing together classmates and building excitement for reunion, and he also re-engaged with his fraternity, ZBT. He says he has had more

contact with Columbia and Columbians in the last five years than in the previous 30 years since graduation.

**G**erald Sherwin '55 has connected more students and alumni through volunteering at Columbia than anyone, which is why Columbia College Young Alumni created an award in his honor. The Gerald Sherwin '55 Young Alumni Service Award is bestowed upon an individual who has demonstrated exceptional service and has enhanced the community, well-being or engagement of the College's young alumni. The inaugural awardees are:

**Nathania Nisonson '03:** A champion of the fund, Nat is a consistent leadership donor, a Class Agent and a CCAA board member, and she has been co-chair of the Young Alumni Fund Spring Benefit since its inception seven years ago. She also was a member of her 10th Reunion Committee.

**Michael Novielli '03:** Known as the "grandfather" of CCYA, Novi is credited with reenergizing the group 10 years ago. His classmates call him "Mr. Columbia." He is an Alumni Representative Committee member, a Class Agent, a CCT class correspondent and a CAA board member; and he was a member of his 10th Reunion Committee.

The next time an alumnus/a reaches out to you, turn the tables. Ask why he or she makes calls on behalf of the College. Ask what's happening on campus and how you can make a difference for a student. Whether it's joining ARC, making calls for the fund, mentoring a student or providing an internship, *you* can make a difference. Consider joining the team; this is Our Columbia. Together as alumni, *we* make the difference.

*Kyra Barry*

## CCAA Columbia College Fund Leaders

**Michael Behringer '89**  
**Ira Malin '75**

CO-CHAIRS  
Columbia College Fund

**James Gerkis '80, '83L**  
**Ted Schweitzer '91, '94L**

CO-CHAIRS  
Fund Development Council

**Francis Phillip '90**  
**Dan Tamkin '81**

CO-CHAIRS  
Class Agent Program

**Randy Berkowitz '04**  
**Julia Feldberg '10**

CO-CHAIRS  
Young Alumni Fund  
Advisory Board

# Bookshelf

**The Great Civilized Conversation: Education for a World Community** by *Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus*. De Bary advocates for incorporating classics from both Eastern and Western traditions into modern core curricula, bringing the philosophies and moral values of Asian civilizations to American students and vice versa (Columbia University Press, \$35).

**Arthur H. Westing: Pioneer on the Environmental Impact of War** by *Arthur H. Westing '50*. This collection addresses the environmental consequences of warfare in Vietnam and Kuwait, the environmental impact of nuclear war and more (Springer, \$49.95).

**Holding the Center: In Defense of Political Trimmings** by *Eugene Goodheart '53*. Goodheart argues that non-parliamentary democracy requires compromise and humility to address crisis in a time of divided government (Transaction Publishers, \$44.95).

**Heart of Wisdom** by Alan N. Clifford, pen name of Dr. *Peter F. Cohn '58*. The author illustrates the conflicts and moral complexities of medical research in this novel about a cardiologist and the professor he meets through a prestigious fellowship (Lion Publishers, \$8.95).

**To Sing Away the Darkest Days: Poems Re-imagined from Yiddish Folksongs** by *Norbert Hirschhorn '58*.

This collection, a poetic account of Jewish life in the Diaspora, is the culmination of a five-year project in which Hirschhorn drew on more than 1,000 Yiddish songs (Holland Park Press, \$14).

**The Little Champ: A Different Kind of Novel** by *Arthur M. Louis '59*. Immigrant boxer Abe Washington seeks redemption for his role in fixing the 1919 World Series. Recounting his life as he is close to death, he provides a rough picture of Jazz Age America and early 20th-century prizefighting (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, \$16.95).

**What's Going on at UAardvark?** By *Lawrence S. Wittner '62*. A university becomes the site of rebellion in Wittner's satiric novel addressing the corporate takeover of higher education in contemporary America (Solidarity Press, \$14.95).

**The Race for What's Left: The Global Scramble for the World's Last Resources** by *Michael T. Klare '63*. As resource extraction methods become more complex and dangerous, Klare warns of the disputes and environmental risks made inevitable by the rush to secure oil, gas and other resources (Picador, \$17).

**Of Time and Place** by B.R. Freemont, pen name of *Ben Freiburger '64*. Set during the 21st-century global energy crisis, the novel follows the career and love life of

James Lendeman, whose experiences call into question the future of maintaining a viable U.S. economy (Two Harbors Press, \$16.95).

**Growth and Turbulence in the Container/Contained: Bion's Continuing Legacy** edited by *Howard B. Levine '64 and Lawrence J. Brown*. This book surveys current trends in Bionian psychoanalytic scholarship, covering topics from the historical/biographical to the clinical, theoretical, cultural and more (Routledge, \$49.95).

**Thomas Hauser on Sports: Remembering the Journey** by *Thomas Hauser '67*. The author, best known as a boxing journalist, brings together an array of his articles on other sports. Subjects include tennis pioneer Arthur Ashe, the NFL overtime rule, the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show and more (University of Arkansas Press, \$24.95).

**The Holocaust, the Church, and the Law of Unintended Consequences: How Christian Anti-Judaism Spawned Nazi Anti-Semitism** by *Anthony Sciolino '67*. Sciolino holds the Catholic Church accountable for bigotry and authoritarianism, highlighting its marginalization of Jews as the precursor to the Holocaust (iUniverse, \$20.95).

**CEO Psychology: Who Rises, Who Falls and Why** by Dr. *Kenneth M. Settel '67* with *Joseph Cardillo*. This book offers guidance

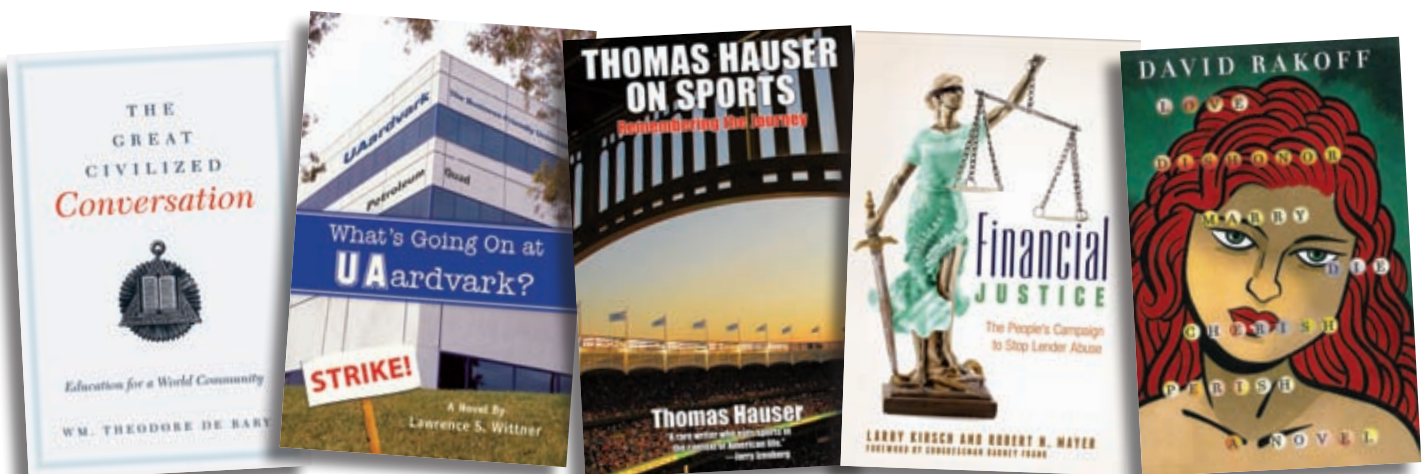
to leaders who need help navigating a course to success through the uncertainty and challenges of the business world (RosettaBooks, e-book \$5.99).

**100 Years of Soccer in America: The Official Book of the US Soccer Federation** edited by *Neil Bueth, Jim Trecker '67 and Jacob Lehman*, with an introduction by *Sunil Gulati*, senior lecturer in economics and president of the U.S. Soccer Federation. Illustrated with striking photography, this official USSF publication is a centennial history of soccer in the United States (Rizzoli/Universe, \$45).

**Endless Empire: Spain's Retreat, Europe's Eclipse, America's Decline** edited by *Alfred W. McCoy '68, Josep M. Fradera and Stephan Jacobson*. These essays discuss the history of empire that has dominated the globe for the past four millennia (University of Wisconsin Press, \$29.95).

**The Persistent Observer's Guide to Wine: How to Enjoy the Best and Skip the Rest** by J.P. Bary, pen name of *Paul de Bary '68*. Informed by extensive interviews with wine consumers of all levels, de Bary uses his vast knowledge of wine to write this comprehensive guide (Neon Press, \$19.99).

**After Tocqueville: The Promise and Failure of Democracy** by *Chilton Williamson Jr. '69*. Challenging the assertion that democracy





# Behind the Farrar Straus & Giroux Imprint

BY JUSTIN DEFREITAS

**B**oris Kachka '97, '98J touched a nerve when "The End," his *New York* magazine story about the state of the publishing industry, hit the stands in September 2008. It was a time of great financial uncertainty. Banks were crashing, unemployment was rising, the foreclosure crisis was in full force — and the publishing world didn't look much better. With independent publishing houses and retail bookshops flirting with extinction and e-books and online retailing upending the traditional business model, pessimism was rampant.

The story received a lot of attention, and to Kachka's eye it was a topic worthy of further consideration. Now, five years later, his first book, *Hothouse: The Art of Survival and the Survival of Art at America's Most Celebrated Publishing House, Farrar Straus & Giroux* (Simon & Schuster, \$27), takes a deeper look at the industry by focusing on one of the country's greatest and most idiosyncratic purveyors of the written word.

The book traces Farrar Straus & Giroux (FSG) from its founding by John Farrar and Roger Straus Jr. in 1946 and provides compelling portraits of the people who made it an inimitable success. Together, publisher Straus and editor Robert Giroux '36 set the standard for literary publishers, bucking the trends set by increasingly corporate houses by publishing, in Kachka's words, "what they loved, and little else." In the process they helped define post-WWII literary and intellectual America with a roster that included T.S. Eliot, Flannery O'Connor, Joan Didion, Philip Roth and Tom Wolfe.

Kachka's original *New York* article was spurred in part by Wolfe's decision, earlier that year, to leave FSG after four decades for Little, Brown and Co. — and a \$7 million advance. "It seemed to signal the end for FSG's kind of publishing," says Kachka. Coupled with the death of Giroux that same September (Straus died in 2004), the time seemed ripe to take stock.

Kachka's friend Lorin Stein, editor of *The Paris Review*, helped him get started by pointing him toward the FSG archives at the New York Public Library. "He didn't know where the bodies were buried," Kachka says, "but he knew there were bodies." FSG's current president and publisher, Jonathan Galassi, put him in touch with the Straus family, notably Roger Straus Jr.'s son, Roger III '67, the onetime heir apparent whose working relationship with his father was often strained. The younger Straus, in addition to agreeing to be interviewed, gave Kachka access to his father's unpublished reminiscences, held in the Columbia Center for Oral History. "There was plenty of untouched material," says Kachka.

Though a behind-the-scenes tale of a literary publishing house ran the risk of drawing a small readership, Kachka believed the story amounted to more than literary shop talk. "It's a family story, about generations and about how mores change, and it's a family business story. And it's a story about the rise of corporate



PHOTO: MIA TRAN '97

culture, and about how you make culture, as opposed to commerce."

The book centers on Straus and Giroux, whose differing skills, methods and temperaments served the publishing house well yet made for a sometimes precarious balance. Straus was larger than life, a wealthy and gregarious man-about-town in a Mercedes convertible, his ascot trailing in the wind. He was charismatic, brash, arrogant and profane, yet he radiated warmth and earned his writers' trust by demonstrating the courage of his convictions; he was more than willing to lose money for the honor of publishing great literature. Not that he read much of it. Straus flattered and coddled authors, but he read quickly and selectively in order to get a feel for a manuscript: I didn't read your book, he'd say, "I read *in* it."

Giroux, too, inspired faith in his writers — several named him executor of their estates — and he did more than his part

to care for them, stroking their egos and acting as confidante, adviser and nursemaid. And though some said Giroux's own ego was just as formidable as Straus', his demeanor, personality and talents couldn't have been more different. At his funeral, friends eulogized him for his humility, "for his turkey-sandwich-and-Jell-O lunches at his desk" and for "a dearth of personal photos that could be used at the service." He was studious and erudite (he was mentored at the College by Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS), a thorough and sensitive editor who immersed himself in his authors' manuscripts. Occasionally, though, he was troubled by the notion that the old adage was true: that every editor was a failed writer.

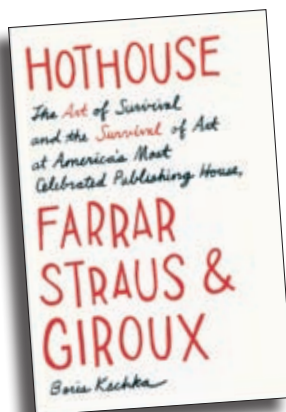
Both men had lives outside the office — Straus was married and Giroux had a longtime partner — but neither maintained a clear boundary between the personal and the professional. They socialized with authors, vacationed with them and spent much of their personal time nurturing them and bailing them out of jams. They lived and breathed FSG, and for Kachka this was part of the appeal of the story. Essentially it's a portrait of "people who are at their best while working," he says.

It was fitting that Kachka should be the one to write this book, and not simply by virtue of the Columbia connection. His first job was as a fact checker at *New York*, and soon he took over the magazine's culture listings. Then, in 2004, Adam

Moss came in as editor-in-chief and expanded the culture coverage, giving Kachka a shot at writing. He's now been writing about literature, publishing and theatre for the magazine for about a decade.

Kachka spent five years researching and writing *Hothouse* in his spare time — "a marathon," he says, compared with magazine writing. But his experience and his contacts made him well qualified to tell the story of FSG. "It's a good marriage of subject, access and me."

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



was globally inevitable following the fall of communism, Williamson looks at the post-de Tocqueville world of socio-political organization and questions the future of democracy (ISI Books, \$27.95).

**I Invented the Modern Age: The Rise of Henry Ford** by *Richard Snow* '70. Historian Snow delivers a fresh account of Michigan's Ford and the way he revolutionized American industry through the invention of the Model T (Scribner, \$30).

**Financial Justice: The People's Campaign to Stop Lender Abuse** by *Robert N. Mayer* '71 and *Larry Kirsch*. The authors recount how an alliance of consumer, civil rights, labor, fair lending and other progressive groups emerged to challenge Wall Street and its official protectors and effect substantial legislative reforms (Praeger, \$48).

**A Map of the Winds** by *Mark Statman* '80. In his latest book of poems, the author investigates what it means to look at the world, to live in the world and to wonder about it in ways that are at once speculative and specific (Lavender Ink, \$15).

**Manhattan Equinox** by *Lou Orfanella* '82. Orfanella's novel introduces the reader to the denizens of a Manhattan bar, The Golden Grotto, and reflects on what it means to feel fulfilled when looking back on one's life (Fine Tooth Press, \$12.95).

**The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream** by *Thomas Dyja* '84. Windy City native Dyja re-creates the story of Chicago

in its postwar prime and explains its profound impact on modern America (The Penguin Press, \$29.95).

**Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish: A Novel** by *David Rakoff* '86. The late humorist, essayist and actor's final work, written in verse, surveys characters whose lives are linked by acts of generosity or cruelty (Doubleday, \$26.95).

**Bodies in Formation: An Ethnography of Anatomy and Surgery Education** by *Rachel Prentice* '87. The author shows how medical students become physicians through interactions with colleagues and patients (Duke University Press, \$24.95).

**Take Up Your Pen: Unilateral Presidential Directives in American Politics** by *Graham G. Dodds* '88. The author explores the constitutional and historical development of this executive prerogative and questions how it fits the conception of democracy and the needs of U.S. citizens (University of Pennsylvania Press, \$69.95).

**The Heavy: A Mother, A Daughter, A Diet — A Memoir** by *Dara-Lynn Weiss* '92. Against the backdrop of current debates on childhood obesity and parenting, Weiss recounts her efforts to help her 7-year-old lose weight and become healthier (Random House Publishing Group, \$26).

**Half-Life: Reflections from Jerusalem on a Broken Neck** by *Joshua Prager* '94. In this story of mental growth and indomitable will, journalist Prager reflects on the bus accident that left him paralyzed

and describes the struggles of the second half of his life (Byliner, e-book \$3.99).

**Dancing the New World: Aztecs, Spaniards, and the Choreography of Conquest** by *Paul A. Scolieri* '95. The author, a Barnard professor, examines the transformation of the Aztec empire into a Spanish colony through the visual and written representations of dance in colonial discourse (University of Texas Press, \$55).

**The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance** by *David Epstein* '02. The author, a *Sports Illustrated* senior writer, asks why top athletes excel and examines how individual biology combines with external factors to influence ability (Current Hardcover, \$26.95).

**The Secrets of Top Students: Tips, Tools, and Techniques for Acing High School and College** by *Stefanie Weisman* '03. Taking a holistic approach that covers subjects from diet and exercise to test-taking strategies, the author advises students on how to achieve academic success (Sourcebooks, \$14.99).

**Our Naked Lives: Essays from Gay Italian-American Men** edited by *Joseph Anthony LoGiudice* '04 and *Michael Carosone*. This collection of essays addresses history, religion, childhood and more, tied together by the authors' shared cultural background and sexual identity (Bordighera Press, \$15).

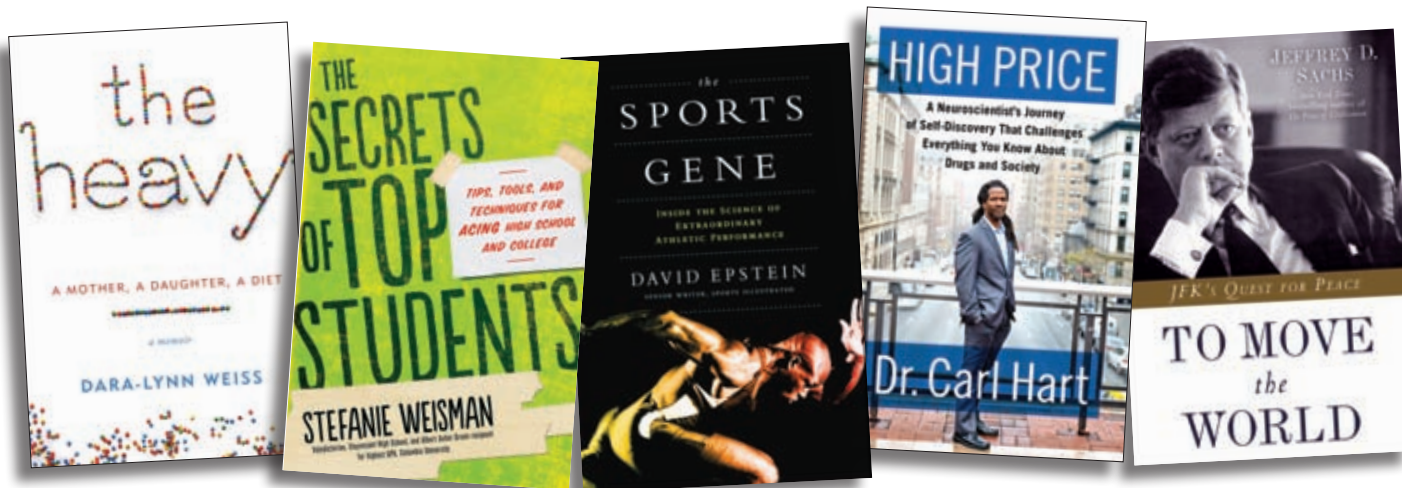
**High Price: A Neuroscientist's Journey of Self-Discovery That Challenges Everything You Know**

**About Drugs and Society** by *Carl Hart Ph.D.*, associate professor of psychology. Hart recounts growing up in one of Miami's toughest neighborhoods and how it led to his research on the effects of drugs on the brain and human behavior (HarperCollins Publishers, \$26.99).

**China's Search for Security** by *Andrew J. Nathan*, the *Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science*, and *Andrew Scobell*. The authors explain China's international security concerns regarding countries such as Japan, North Korea, Taiwan, Iran, Sudan and the United States as well as internal security concerns and the communist party's future (Columbia University Press, \$32.95).

**To Move the World: JFK's Quest for Peace** by *Jeffrey D. Sachs*, the *Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development* and director of the *Earth Institute*. Sachs recalls the year between October 1962 and September 1963 when Kennedy worked to establish more peaceful relations with the Soviet Union and slow down the proliferation of nuclear arms (Random House Publishing Group, \$26).

**Rewiring the Real: In Conversation with William Gaddis, Richard Powers, Mark Danielewski, and Don DeLillo** by *Mark C. Taylor*, professor of religion and chair, *Department of Religion*. Taylor discusses the title authors' perspectives on new media, communications, information and virtual technologies, their transformative effects on the self and society, and their spiritual influences (Columbia University Press, \$27.50).





# Obituaries

1937

**George W. Hoyns Jr.**, retired real estate broker, Sugar Land, Texas, on September 29, 2012. Hoyns was born in New York City in 1916. In 1945 he moved to Montvale, N.J., where he served on the Board of Education. Hoyns worked at Ford Instrument Co. and then in real estate. After founding George Hoyns Realty he was manager for Lewis & Haring Realtors in Newton, N.J. Hoyns moved to Texas in 2011. He loved science and was a member of the Audubon Society. He was preceded in death by his brother, Alfred; twin sisters, Harriet C. Bogert and Elsa R. Reilly; wife, Gloria; and former wife, Muriel. Surviving family includes Lawrence S. and Barbara Hoyns, George W. III, Jonathan C., Elsbeth M., Andrew H., James J. Dwyer and Lindsey W. Dwyer; and eight grandchildren.

**Donald W. O'Connell**, emeritus professor of economics, Pennington, N.J., on October 10, 2012. O'Connell was born in Queens, New York, on October 10, 1938 and a doctorate in 1953, both in economics, from GSAS. Columbia was his home from 1933–59, when he left his post as associate professor of banking at the Business School. O'Connell was a member of the senior society of NACOMS,

a Kellett Fellow in Economics at Cambridge University (1938–39) and a trustee of the Columbia University Press (1975–81). During WWII, he served with the Navy in the Pacific. O'Connell was an economics editorial writer for the *New York Herald Tribune* from 1949–57. He joined the U-Md. faculty in 1962 and spent 11 years as dean of the former College of Business and Public Administration, then was v.p. of general administration from 1973–79, when he returned to teaching. He was named emeritus professor in 1986. At 74, O'Connell won a Fulbright grant to teach economics in Mexico. His wife of 56 years, the former Jeanne Austin, predeceased him in 2009. Survivors include his children, Ellen Lewis, Stephen, Lauren and Marcia, and their spouses; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Oxfam.

1940

**Albert S. Benoist**, artist, author and futurist, retired architect, Monmouth Beach, N.J., on September 20, 2012. Born in Long Branch, N.J., to a family whose patriarch was a world-renowned pianist, Benoist traveled in Europe during his youth and attended the Lycée Carnot in Paris. In 1929, the family returned to Monmouth Beach. Benoist attended Columbia for electrical engineering. During summers, he was an electronics draftsman in the signal laboratories at Sandy Hook and then in the radar section of Camp Evans. The war interrupted his studies and he joined the Army 100th Infantry and later its Signal Corps. He attended Harvard Advanced Engineering School and then Navy Radar Training in Point Loma, Calif. He returned to New Jersey to train Navy cadets on radar and was radar chief on a Seatrail destined for Marseille. Benoist returned to Columbia and graduated from the Architecture School in 1948. He joined the Pratt faculty and in 1959 opened the architectural/engineering firm of Benoist, Goldberg and Shapiro. Benoist was an accomplished photographer, sculptor, painter and illustrator. He was predeceased by his sisters, Louise Phillips and Barnetta Keuper, and daughter Krisha Benoist-Allen. He is survived by his wife; daughters, Andrée Benoist and her husband, Joseph Colquhoun, Alicia and her husband, Russell Dian; and four grandchildren.

1942

**Warren C. Baum**, retired economist, Bethesda, Md., on August 22, 2012. Baum was born in New York City on January 1, 1922, and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the College. During WWII, he served in the Office of Strategic Services, where he was based in London and worked with intelligence gathered from the "Ultra" project. He earned a Ph.D. in economics at Harvard and then worked for the Marshall Plan and the RAND Corp., where he authored the book *The French Economy and the State*. In 1959, Baum joined the World Bank, where he rose from staff economist to v.p. for projects, policies and research. In addition to writing two books for the bank, he chaired the award-winning Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. After his 1987 retirement from the World Bank, Baum was active in several public and private organizations in the Washington, D.C., area and on Martha's Vineyard. He was an avid tennis player, photographer, bridge player, gardener, Redskins fan and reader. Baum is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jessie Scullen Baum; daughters, Kathryn Meyer Yaverbaum and Nancy Lohman; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

**Anthony E. Ventriglia**, retired professor of mathematics, Bronxville, N.Y., on August 28, 2012. Ventriglia was born in New York City on June 20, 1922. He earned a master's in applied mathematics from Brown in 1943 and continued his studies at Cornell until 1944. Ventriglia served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in Langley Field, Va., employed by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, from 1944 until the end of the war. He was an associate professor of mathematics at Manhattan College for 45 years and retired in 1995. Ventriglia was a member of the Mathematical Association of America, American Society for the Advancement of Science, American Mathematical Society and Reformed Church of Bronxville. He enjoyed travel, golf and baking. Ventriglia is survived by his wife, Lois; daughters, Patti Maguire and Linda Carella; five grandchildren; and two nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

1943

**David Norr**, financial analyst, investment adviser, CPA, Scars-

dale, N.Y., on August 19, 2012. Norr graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia, from which he also earned an M.B.A. from the Business School (1948). He served in the Army in WWII. Norr intertwined careers as a financial analyst, investment adviser and CPA. He was the only analyst to serve on the Accounting Principles Board and was active on several SEC committees on reporting problems; he appeared before a Senate subcommittee on stock options. Norr devoted much effort to improving disclosure for investors and was a frequent speaker and the author of several articles and pamphlets on financial matters. He fought for expensing unsuccessful wells in the oil industry and for expensing the cost of stock options, and was early to advocate stock buybacks. As an activist, he ridiculed meager stock holdings of outside directors prior to their being given generous stock options. Norr established eight scholarships in honor of family members at their respective universities. He is survived by his wife, Carol; daughter, Amy Norr; and her husband, Jeff Metz; daughter, Susan; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Americans United for the Separation of Church and State or the New York Public Library.

1953



**Francis P. King '53**

**Francis P. King**, retired attorney, Denver, on July 19, 2013. King was born in Pocatello, Idaho, where he and his brother were raised by their mother, a native of Pretoria, South Africa. Growing up in Idaho, he found a spiritual connection to the mountains that lasted throughout his life. King developed a lifelong love of skiing and during high school he swept the floors at his uncle's printing shop to earn money

## 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, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

## 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.

- 1939** George A. Delatush, Tequesta, Fla., on October 14, 2012.
- 1941** Edward E. Fischel, physician, East Setauket, N.Y., on June 24, 2013.
- 1942** Edwin W. Bright, banking executive, Scarborough, N.Y., on June 14, 2013.  
Harold Gabel, physician, Oakhurst, N.J., on August 12, 2013.  
Arthur S. Graham Jr., Scarsdale, N.Y., on July 24, 2013.  
Michael G. Kovach, priest, Millersville, Pa., on July 12, 2013.
- 1944** Joseph G. Barata, retired journalist and advertising and public relations executive, Southport, Conn., October 28, 2012.  
Gordon Cotler, author and producer, New York City, on December 20, 2012.
- 1946** A. Joseph Foa, retired insurance agent and real estate salesperson, Montgomery, Texas, on January 13, 2013.
- 1948** Carl Gersuny, retired sociology professor, Peace Dale, R.I., on August 14, 2013.  
Gerald T. Hurley, professor, antiquarian book dealer, Berkeley, Calif., on May 25, 2013.  
Kennett Love, reporter, Sag Harbor, N.Y., on May 13, 2013.  
Leonard Ornstein, cell biologist and professor emeritus, White Plains, N.Y., on May 7, 2013.
- 1949** William K. Coltman, advertising executive, Cathedral City, Calif., on June 15, 2013.  
Herbert F. "Smokey" Stover Jr., retired pilot, Laconia, N.H., on May 26, 2013.
- 1950** John Hollander, poet, retired professor, Woodbridge, Conn., on August 17, 2013.  
Donald R. Lawrence, attorney, New York City, on June 5, 2013.
- 1951** Martin L. Katz, professor, Carolina, P.R., on October 29, 2012.
- 1955** Ronald M. Corn, Denville, N.J., on June 26, 2013.  
Ludwig Dosch, Northport, N.Y., February 23, 2013.
- 1956** Seymour J. Mandelbaum, professor, Philadelphia, on January 23, 2013.  
Jehiel Orenstein, rabbi, South Orange, N.J., on May 5, 2013.
- 1964** Edward N. Leavy, attorney, Washington, D.C., on July 23, 2013.
- 1986** Kevin A. Hall, attorney, San Francisco, on November 12, 2012.
- 1992** Meredith A. Norton, author, Oakland, Calif., on August 2, 2013.
- 2003** Shannon K. Smith, grant management specialist, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on June 5, 2013.

to go skiing. In 1949, he accepted a Columbia College National Scholarship and attended until he followed the professional option program into the Law School in 1952. Returning to New York City after his 1957 honorable discharge from the military, King completed his final years of law school, graduating in 1959. He was an editor of the *Columbia Law Review* and was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. King was an expert in corporations, corporate tax and business law and represented many prominent Colorado businesses. He was often described as a "lawyer's lawyer." An experienced mountaineer, he climbed peaks on four continents and reached the summit of 51 of Colorado's Fourteeners as well as many other peaks. Read more online at <http://bit.ly/16oZZLt>.

1954

**John W. Brackett Jr.**, retired pulmonologist, Oxford, Conn., on December 8, 2012. Brackett was born on December 20, 1932, in Concord, N.H. He earned an M.D. from P&S in 1958 and in June that same year

was commissioned a lieutenant in the Navy. After his residency and fellowship training, he joined Bethesda NH as director of the pulmonary and infectious disease branch. Brackett rose to commander before resigning. He moved to Southbury, Conn., in 1970, when he became chief of pulmonary medicine at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury. He directed the intensive care unit for more than 20 years and was on the faculty of the Yale School of Medicine. Brackett retired from Saint Mary's in 1996. He coached Little League and girls' softball, served on the town parks and recreation committee and helped found the Pop Warner football program. Brackett was on the varsity crew at Columbia and returned to the sport in 1981 with the New Haven Rowing Club. He married Nancy Bogel in 1959. She survives him, as do his children and their spouses: Charles and his wife, Joanne Hayes, Robert and his wife, Kathy, Deborah Gracy and her husband, Bernard, and Jennifer and her husband, Stuart Lathers; nine grandchildren; and a niece.

**Richard A. Koerner**, attorney and judge, Toms River, N.J., on August 10, 2012. Koerner was born in Elizabeth, N.J., and raised in Union. He served in the Army, 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He and his wife, Elizabeth Torrance Koerner, were married in Hawaii and returned to New Jersey, where Koerner graduated from Rutgers Law, Class of 1959. They lived in Hillsborough Township for 35 years before retiring and moving to the Lake Ridge community, Toms River, in 1997. Koerner was deputy attorney general during the Richard Hughes administration and practiced law in Hillsborough for 35 years; he was of counsel to Koerner & Crane at the time of his death. He was an attorney for the Hillsborough Township and East Amwell Township Boards of Education. He later became the municipal court judge for Hillsborough Township and the Borough of Rocky Hill. He leaves his wife of 56 years; children, Allison and her husband, Mark Neary, Andrew and his wife, Josianne, and Gretchen and her husband, Michael; brother, Joseph,

and his wife, Julie; and four grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Van Dyke Hospice & Palliative Care Center, 99 Rte 37 W, Toms River, NJ 08755.

1960



David S. David '60

**David S. David**, nephrologist, Beverly Hills, Calif., on April 9, 2013. Born in Baghdad in 1938, David immigrated with his family to New York City, arriving in 1950. He was placekicker for the Lions and served in the Army Reserves, from which he was honorably discharged following a brief call to active duty. After graduating from P&S in 1964, he was attending physician and professor of medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and the Rogosin Institute in the departments of medicine, surgery and biochemistry. David published more than 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and was a member of the team of professionals who cared for the first dialysis and kidney transplant patients in New York. After moving to Los Angeles, he was a nephrologist and internist in private practice and professor of clinical medicine at UCLA. David is survived by his wife of 45 years, Vera; daughter, Lisa; son, Dr. Eric '96L, '98 GS, '02 P&S; three grandchildren; brother, Dr. Sami '67, '71 P&S; sister, Karen Chilowicz '72 Barnard; and a number of nieces and nephews.

**Norman E. Hildes-Heim**, architect and international hotel developer, Fairfield, Conn., on March 20, 2013. Hildes-Heim was born in Fairfield on February 20, 1938. He was educated at Andover and earned an A.B. in history from the College, where he rowed crew. He spent a year at Cambridge University and earned a master's in architecture from Harvard. Hildes-Heim designed and developed hotels at John Carl Warnecke & Associates for InterContinental Hotels Group and Bechtel's International Division and later as a partner with Hotel Development Associates. He covered rowing around the world



as a freelance writer for *The New York Times*. He also coached the Columbia lightweight rowing team while shuttling between New York and Boston during the time when he taught at Harvard. He was a "teaching visitor" at the University of British Columbia School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture and was awarded the UBC Honorary Alumnus Award for his significant contribution to UBC. He was a lifeguard in Fairfield each summer for the past 54 years, loved gardening and raised long-haired Highland Cattle. Hildesheim is survived by his adopted son, David Kardos. Memorial contributions may be sent to Robert J. Berta, Hildesheim Foundation, c/o McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, Attorneys at Law, 30 Jelliff Ln., Southport, CT 06890.

1 9 6 1

**David M. Blicher**, attorney, Sacramento, Calif., on October 26, 2012. After earning a J.D. at Boalt Hall, Berkeley Law, Blicher practiced for 34 years, specializing in nonprofits. In summer 1963, he worked for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) in Montgomery, Ala. From 1967–70, he was executive director for the Legal Aid Society of Sacramento. He also was special counsel to Planned Parenthood for 15 years and taught part time at the Division of Social Work at Cal State-Sacramento. In 1967, Blicher created Child Action, Inc., a nonprofit that links poor families seeking childcare with the state of California. He also was a hearing officer for the Sacramento County Employees' Retirement System. In 1999, Blicher closed his practice, sold his home and joined the Peace Corps, a lifelong dream, going to Kenya. He formed a company owned by seven women's groups that sold bags, baskets and carvings internationally, bypassing the middleman. He also raised more than \$16,000 to train Kenyan electrical engineers to install solar energy systems. Blicher also was executive director of Opening Doors, a nonprofit helping survivors of human trafficking and refugees from Iraq, Afghanistan and war zones in Africa and Latin America. Among his survivors is his wife, Terrie Lind.

**Edward R. Hotelling**, retired pilot, Somis, Calif., on May 21, 2012. Hotelling was born on July 28, 1939, and grew up in Chapel Hill, N.C. He was educated at Phillips Academy prior to matriculating at the College. Hotelling served in the Vietnam War as a Navy fighter pilot from 1961–66, with tours of duty on the carriers *U.S.S. Constellation* and *U.S.S. Ticonderoga*. After the Navy, he briefly worked at Hughes Aircraft Co. and then

joined American Airlines. He flew for the company, rising to the rank of captain, until his retirement in 1999. Hotelling was a lifelong aviation fan. From his first models as a child, to the radio-controlled airplanes he built and raced, to DC-10 jets, he loved to fly. After retirement, he owned a powerful T-28 airplane in which he toured and performed formation flying with friends. Hotelling also loved music, supporting the Los Angeles Symphony and LA Opera, and loved to travel. He is survived by his brothers, William and James; children, Joan and Steve; five grandchildren; a number of nephews and nieces; and his companion, Laura Divine.

1 9 6 2

**George M. Abodeely Jr.**, insurance executive, West Boylston, Mass., on June 30, 2012. Abodeely was born on October 11, 1939, in Worcester. He graduated from Worcester Academy, where he was active in sports, and earned a degree in economics from the College, where he was in the Glee Club. Abodeely remained active with the University, his CC classmates and fraternity, Beta Theta Pi. Abodeely served in the Army Reserve after college and joined the insurance company established in 1940 by his parents, G.M. Abodeely Insurance Agency; he was its president for 46 years. Abodeely was known throughout New England for his knowledge of surety. He enjoyed fly-fishing, hunting, reading, cooking and travel; was a licensed pilot; and was active in his church, St. George Orthodox Cathedral, as a board member, choir member and president of the Parish Council. He is survived by his daughter, Jacqueline; sister, Elaine Saliba, and her husband, Najib, brother, William, and his wife, MaryAnn; and several nephews and nieces. Memorial contributions may be made to The St. George Orthodox Cathedral Endowment Fund, 30 Anna St., Worcester MA 01604; the YMCA of Central Massachusetts, 766 Main St., Worcester, MA 01610; The 200 Foundation, Box 3449, Framingham, MA 01705; or the Sally Abodeely Fund at St. George Orthodox Cathedral.

**Robert B. Glassman**, professor, Lake Forest, Ill., on April 27, 2013. Glassman was a professor of psychology at Lake Forest College. He joined Lake Forest in 1969 after earning his Ph.D. at Penn and completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Glassman's intellectual curiosity was part of every aspect of his life: his scholarly work in physiological psychology, neuroscience, religion and science, psychology in business, and vari-



Robert B. Glassman '62

ous intersections of these and other areas; his friendships; his fatherhood and grandfatherhood; and his long marriage. In summer 2012, he and his wife of 51 years, Harriet Newman Glassman, attended his 50th College reunion. His wife survives him, as do his children, Jill R. Glassman Mendivil, Mark and Dan, and five grandchildren.

1 9 6 4

**Peter K. Shack**, attorney and singer, Davis, Calif., on July 3, 2012. Shack was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 14, 1943. He graduated from Georgetown Law in 1967 and then was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, working with small credit cooperatives in rural Maya Indian areas. There he met Kathryn Wetherell; they were married in 1970. Shack worked for several years in southern New Jersey as a rural legal assistance lawyer. He moved in 1972 to California and worked for 10 years in the antitrust section of the California Office of the Attorney General in Los Angeles. In 1982, he moved to Davis, Calif., and transferred to the Office of the Attorney General in Sacramento, where he worked in the charitable trusts section. Shack retired from the state in 2003 and was of counsel to Manatt, Phelps & Phillips until his death. In addition to playing the piano, harpsichord and recorder, he sang in productions of the Santa Monica Civic Light Opera, the Davis Comic Opera, the Sacramento Opera and the UC Davis Choir. Shack is survived by his wife; son, Steven; niece, Lori; and a grandniece and grandnephew. Memorial contributions may be made to Citizens Who Care, 1017 Main St., Woodland, CA 95695.

1 9 6 8

**Barry Deutsch**, attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on December 29, 2012. Deutsch grew up in Liberty, N.Y., and earned a degree from the College in political science. Fluent in Spanish, he began his career teaching at a public bilingual school in Manhattan for two years. He graduated from NYU Law and be-

came the staff attorney for the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs for four years; next, he was an immigration lawyer for one year. In 1979 he published a handbook, *How to Avoid TV Repair Rip-Offs*. In 1981, Deutsch moved to Brooklyn and started a broad law practice that he continued to some degree until a few years before his death. For the last 23 years Deutsch was engaged in a variety of ventures unrelated to his law practice. He ran in the Democratic Presidential New Hampshire primaries in 1992 and in the guise of a persona called "Dr. Sherlock Litter" argued against "the evils of globalization," campaigned for economic patriotism, especially for the U.S. auto industry, and was a proponent of environmental cleanup. He was married twice but was not married at the time of his death. He is survived by three older siblings: Ronald, Dale and Elaine Maibaum.

1 9 9 2

**Andrew Littell**, banker, Boston, on December 17, 2012. Born in New York City, Littell was a graduate of Middlesex School and Chicago (M.B.A.). A managing director of CVC Credit Partners in London, he was responsible for European loan and bond trading. He is survived by his wife, Brooke Russell; daughters, Grace and Catherine; father, Walter; stepmother, Leli Sudler; sister, Frances Littell, and her husband, Adam Heath; brother, Matthew, and his wife, Sheila Gallagher; stepsister, Isabel Black; and two nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to two Maine organizations: North Haven Arts & Enrichment or North Haven Conservation Partners.

1 9 9 3

**Tania E. Gregory**, homemaker, Berkeley, Calif., on December 11, 2012. Gregory was born in Boston and grew up in Aiken. She earned an M.S. in public policy and administration from the Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon. While at CMU, she DJ'd a popular jazz show on the university's radio station. With her wry sense of humor, she titled her show "The Blind Pedestrian" — she was beginning to lose much of her vision at that point. Gregory moved to the San Francisco Bay Area to work as the director of a home-sharing program for senior citizens. When her son, Michael, arrived, she became a stay-at-home mother. Gregory is survived by her husband, Henri Mannik; son; parents, Lois and Michael; brother, Alex; uncles, Serge and Paul; aunt, Karen Goch; and grandparents, Tatiana and Walter Gregory, and Olga Orishyn.

Lisa Palladino



# Class Notes

25  
40

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Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! Please send news about yourself or your family, or a favorite Columbia College memory, to CCT at either the email or postal address above, or you can send news online via CCT's easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

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**Robert Zucker**  
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No news from classmates to report for this issue. If you have updates to share, please send them to me at either the postal or email address at the top of the column, or submit them to CCT via the easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. We all would love to hear from you!

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I begin with memorial tributes to several deceased classmates:  
**Anthony Ventriglia, William J. Scharffenberger** and **Dr. Maurice Goodgold**.

**Anthony Ventriglia** died on August 28, 2012, in Bronxville, N.Y., where he had lived for 59 years. He was a retired associate professor of mathematics at Manhattan College. Anthony earned a master's in applied mathematics from Brown in 1943, with additional studies at Cornell in 1943-44. Anthony then served in the Army Air Corps, sta-

tioned at Langley Field in Virginia, as a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics until the end of the war. He was a member of the American Mathematical Society and the Reformed Church of Bronxville, N.Y., and enjoyed golf and travel. At Columbia, Anthony was manager of the freshman baseball team and was later a loyal alumnus, coming to many of our reunions. He is survived by his wife, Lois; daughters, Linda and Patricia; and five grandchildren. We send condolences to Mrs. Ventriglia and her daughters.

**William J. Scharffenberger** died on December 12, 2012, at 91. Bill was born in Queens and came to Columbia from Jamaica H.S. He was a member of the International Honor Society Beta Gamma Sigma and, immediately after graduating, enlisted in the Army. As a member of the 81st "Wildcat" Infantry Division, Bill received numerous decorations, including a Bronze Star for heroism in combat. After WWII, Bill began his career as a CPA with PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he worked from 1946-51, and later joined West Virginia Pulp and Paper, where he worked from 1951-55. He became a specialist in corporate reorganizations, working with Wheeling Steel (1955-63), Riegel Paper (1963-66), Penn-Dixie Industries, Saxon Industries and Avnet. He finished his career in Pittsburgh as chairman and CEO of Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel and as Chapter 11 Trustee for the Allegheny Health, Education & Research Foundation. Bill was one of the most prominent business executives in our class and remained active until April 2012, eight months before his death. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a son, F.F. (Dallas); a daughter, Elizabeth Watson Scharffenberger; and several nieces and nephews. Our sympathy and condolences go out to Bill's family.

*The New York Times* of March 17, 2013, published a memorial tribute to Dr. **Maurice Goodgold** that was written by his daughter, Iris. Maurice, who died in 1996, was one of my dissecting partners in the anatomy lab at the NYU School of Medicine, so we were more than casual friends. He was ethical and serious, and often expressed his concerns when I took frequent breaks in the smoking room at the back of the lab rather than work at the dissecting table with my three partners. In those years I smoked Camel cigarettes, and I did not stop

until 1949. I credit Maurice with helping me become healthier and more devoted to my studies. At Columbia, Maurice won Silver and Gold Crowns as associate business manager of both *Jester* and *Spectator*, and was a member of the Columbia Theater Associates. He also was president of the Pre-Medical Society and was co-editor of *Sawbones*. How he accomplished all this while completing his pre-medical studies is still a mystery to me. I thank his daughter for arousing some fond memories of my old friend.

**Arthur E. Smith** died in Venice, Fla., on April 10, 2013, at 92. Art's son, Arthur E. Smith Jr. '71, sent me a memorial tribute to his father, describing him as a member of a proud lineage of several generations of Scottish blacksmiths, blessed with a unique blend of intellect, physical strength and moral fiber.

Art grew up in Queens and in rural Southold on Long Island before coming to Columbia, where he majored in history and was captain of the varsity crew, which won major cup races in 1940 and 1941. Art earned his Varsity C, was a member of Crewsters and was awarded the Bangs Cup Medal. In WWII, Art served in the Coast Guard in Alaska and then commanded the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Agassiz* in the Atlantic campaign. After the war, Art took graduate courses at the Business School, then earned an M.B.A. in 1948 at NYU's business school. He owned and managed A.F. Smith Iron Works in New York City and on Long Island for 33 years and was a dedicated Mason in both Nassau County and New York State, where he was grand treasurer and president of the trustees of the Masonic Home in Utica, N.Y. In 1994, Art and his wife, Audre, moved to Venice, Fla., where he was a board member of the Venice hospital, president of the Country Club Estates Homeowners Association and enjoyed delivering Meals On Wheels with Audre. Art and Audre attended eight, semi-annual family reunions and enjoyed yearly cruises and international travel.

Art had struggled with leukemia for eight years and remained physically active until a few weeks before his death. He is survived by Audre; son, Arthur E. Jr. '71, of La Grange, Ill.; daughter Lorraine Dietz of East Hampstead, N.H.; daughter Elizabeth Klein of Pittsford, N.Y.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Art was predeceased by daughter

Nancy and by his sister, Dorothy. He maintained a lifelong friendship with **Bob Kaufman**, who was coxswain of the crews on which Art rowed as captain. As I write this, Bob is doing well at 92 in Scarsdale, N.Y., and maintains an active interest in Columbia crew and other sports.

On May 15, Dr. **William Robbins** reported that he and his wife, Dagny, moved from Grand Island, Fla., to Waterman Village, a retirement, assisted living and skilled nursing facility in Mount Dora, Fla. Bill described the move as stressful, and he relaxed by reading the autobiography of Columbia professor Mark Van Doren '21 GSAS. Bill said it was an interesting account of Van Doren's life and career, to which he added, "I don't care much for his poetry."

This news aroused memories of a course I took with Professor Van Doren in 1940-41 on "The Poetry of Hardy and Yeats," in which we had to read the very long Hardy classic *The Dynasts*. The class was full of my friends, and at the end of the term everyone received grades of A or A-, except me, who received a B+. I never learned why Professor Van Doren gave me that grade but after the last class he shook my hand and thanked me warmly for my participation in the discussions.

Classmates and friends can reach Bill and Dagny at 2831 Mapleton Ln., Mount Dora, FL 32757; 352-729-6455 or send email to willdag@wmconnect.com. Best wishes to them for comfort and happiness in their new home.

As I write these notes in Northampton, Mass., there is a lot of discussion among football fans about the signing of controversial quarterback Tim Tebow by the New England Patriots, a team owned by Robert Kraft '63. Six Columbia quarterbacks have played on various professional football teams since the 1930s, a remarkable record for an Ivy League school and surely more than most other colleges or universities, though I have not done exhaustive research on this fact. Columbia's great quarterbacks who played professional football were Cliff Montgomery '34, Brooklyn Dodgers (Columbia 7, Stanford 0 in the Rose Bowl on January 1, 1934); Sid Luckman '39, Chicago Bears (Hall of Fame); Paul Governali '43, Boston Yanks, New York Giants (Maxwell Trophy); Archie Roberts '65, Cleveland Browns, later a car-

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diac surgeon; Martin Domres '69, Chargers, Colts, 49ers, Jets, author of *Bump and Run: The Days and Nights of a Rookie Quarterback*, later a financial consultant; and John Witkowski '84, Detroit Lions, later a banking executive.

I am also pleased to report that I have heard from Dr. **Gerald Klingon**, Dr. **Arthur Wellington**, **Bob Kaufman** and **Don Mankiewicz** via telephone, email and old-fashioned snail mail. All of us are dealing with various physical ailments, so ubiquitous in our over-90 age group, but all are also cognitively intact and loyal to our beloved alma mater. Long may Columbia stand!

Your news and comments are always welcome at my addresses listed at the top of the column.

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June 1 was bright, sunny and hot in Morningside Heights — a great day for the 70th reunion luncheon of the Class of '43. It was held in the Core Conference Room in Hamilton Hall, a fitting venue for the three of us old-timers: **Immanuel (Manny) Lichtenstein** '43E and also CC '42; **Bernard Weisberger** and me. We shared the long table with men of the Class of '48 and their family members, so we numbered about 35 in all. The tasty main dish was a variant of chicken Florentine. All three '43ers spoke briefly about the 70 years since graduation, and all extolled the Core Curriculum. A '48er quite properly rose to point out that the courses were memorable because of the guidance and stimulus provided by the section instructors and professors. Without them, the mass of information crammed into such short bursts would have been more confusing than instructive. Amen to that valued observation.

We three then broke up to attend different Dean's Day lectures; I went to one by famed volcanologist Terry Plank '93 GSAS. She gave a most informative talk on the what, where, why, when and how of volcanic activity.

All told the experience was most gratifying, and I urge everyone who can to come to the next Columbia event.

**Bernard Weisberger** sent the following note after reunion: "I'll quickly sum up the past 12 months, which have been relatively active and decidedly pleasant. In July 2012, I took an eight-day trip to France with my mid-20ish, oldest granddaughter. We were guests of longtime French friends of mine at their summer home in Provence



**Take your marks:** The Class of '44 freshman track team assembles for its group photo in 1941. See the **Class of 1944 Class Notes** column by **Bill Friedman** '44 (pictured first row, second from left) for some reminiscences about those pictured. If you recognize yourself, write to Bill at either of the addresses listed at the top of his column.

PHOTO: COURTESY BILL FRIEDMAN '44

and topped off a four-day visit to sunshiny cities with a long weekend in Paris, which has no equal for museum-going, boulevard-strolling, cafe-lolling and eating.

"I came home in time to enjoy a bang-up party given me by my family for my 90th birthday in August. Thereafter, I got involved marginally in the presidential campaign. I was lucky enough to share authorship of an online article in *The Huffington Post* with Bill Moyers during the Republican National Convention as well as a subsequent joint publication of a short piece in *The Nation*. Then, a website for historians, History News Network, invited me to be one of several panelists posting articles on the presidential and vice-presidential debates. It gave me a chance to pose as a journalist, my original life's ambition, and even to sit up until the wee hours following each debate, posting my piece to make a morning deadline.

"Things got anticlimactically quiet after that, and so far there's no major news to share with CCT readers in 2013; truthfully, the reunion (and a family wedding in New York the same weekend) has been the highlight. But as we Chicago Cubs fans have sadly learned to say, 'Wait till next year!' at this time when I'll speak up again."

The son of Dr. **A.L. Peterson** reports that his father is well at 93-plus. A retired radiologist, he previously was on the staff at Penn's hospital.

In sad news, **Harold C. Vaughan**, a retired history teacher from Fort Lee, N.J., died on September 22, 2012.

Dr. **Cleomenes A.D. Generales** died on December 31, 2012, in La Jolla, Calif. This news was particularly sad for me, as we were close friends during our college years and had corresponded by yearly Christmas cards ever since. His two brothers, and sister, Helle, became my friends, too; each had a colorful life. Constantine, a physician like Cleo and their father, had been a classmate of Wernher von Braun in Zurich, for example. His other brother I recall as Eugene, and he was recruited by the OSS during WWII (I surmise this from the few snippets of those times that he recounted); Eugene eventually became a faculty member at UC San Diego.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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I dedicate this report to that segment of the Columbia College student

body identified collectively as "The Commuters." They are those unsung, usually exhausted scholars who arose at an early hour, traveled endlessly to reach campus, often were late for classes, were pressed for time to squeeze in homework and couldn't retire until late at night. I commuted daily from Yonkers, first boarding a trolley, then taking the subway at 242nd Street and Broadway, finally arriving at 116th Street more than an hour after leaving home. I was a glutton for punishment. After Columbia and the war, I commuted to Fordham Law for my J.D. and then again to NYU Law for my LL.M.

When we all enrolled in Columbia in 1940, the percentage of freshmen who commuted was far higher than that of the Class of 2017, as the Great Depression established the doctrine that it was more economical to live at home than to enjoy the luxury of dormitory living.

There was an item in the CC '45 Class Notes in the Summer 2013 issue noting that Dr. Samuel Hemley '45 recalled coming in second as a freshman at a cross country race in Princeton and that he later won a gold at a cross country race in Annapolis, Md., in which all Ivy League schools took part. I communicated my chagrin to Sam that he failed to mention a memorable JV dual cross country meet with NYU in 1941. Our coach, Bob Pitkin '34, announced before the race that the Alumni Association

would award medals to the first three Columbians to finish. Sam took the gold, I took the silver and **Robert Roman '44E**, '45 took the bronze. Sam may have forgotten that race but I didn't, as it was my only medal that year.

I heard from **Paul Sandhaus**, now retired. He and his wife, Helen, divide their time between Santa Fe, N.M., and Manhattan. They have two children, son Richard, born in 1949, and daughter Ellen, born in 1952. During WWII, Paul served in the Army as a lieutenant in a Bomb Disposal Unit in the Pacific, a rather precarious assignment, and he also did Postwar Occupation Duty in Japan. In the "small world" department, I recently discovered that Paul's wife is my cousin's cousin's cousin. (Lack of space precludes me from reciting the endless details.) Never an idle one, Paul earned his pilot's license at 70. He recalls his childhood contact with **Oscar Harkavy** with this comment: "Oddly enough, I met Oscar when we were toddlers. His father owned a neighborhood pharmacy/drug store and I have a dim memory that my parents were friendly with his. The store had a ladder on wheels that rolled from side to side to access high shelves and I used to play on it between admonishments not to. I wonder if Oscar has any memory of that."

Coincidentally, I enjoyed a lengthy conversation with Oscar, better known as Bud, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday at a party in which **Alan Hoffman** and **Ted Jackson** were among the invited guests. Bud and his wife have been busy preparing for the sale of their home in Boynton Beach, Fla. They still have their home in New Rochelle, N.Y.

After Columbia, Bud earned both his master's and Ph.D. from Syracuse and served on the faculty of its business school. One of his main claims to fame, which is well documented on the Internet, is his 35 years as an expert on population programs with the Ford Foundation. Bud was the author of *Curbing Population Growth: An Insider's Perspective on the Population Movement*, and also wrote a widely read article in *The Journal of Finance* titled: "The Relation Between Retained Earnings and Common Stock Prices For Large, Listed Corporations."

I also was in touch with **Bruce Mazlish**, Professor of History Emeritus at M.I.T., whose numerous books include one on Richard Nixon and another on Henry Kissinger. He says, "My book *Reflections on the Modern and the Global* is scheduled to be published in September, along with reprints of two of my other books. On the more personal front, my wife, Neva Goodwin, and I are

celebrating 32 years of a wonderful marriage. From previous marriages I have one daughter and three sons. Between my last two sons, one in Maryland, the other in Colorado, I have four grandsons and one granddaughter. My cup runneth over. Next week I am scheduled to have heart surgery. Whatever happens, it's been a great run."

Since that message, we learned that all went well with the surgery. As Bruce put it, "Now my task is to recover."

Like all 90-year-olds, I frequently gaze at old photographs, recalling "the good old days," including one of the Class of 1944 freshman track team. In that picture, shown nearby, was my good friend **Griffith Hartwell**, first row, second from the right, who ran the 440. If my eyes do not deceive me, you can also see **John Brereton**, **George Floros**, **William Norcott**, **John Spitznagel**, **Roy Kallop '46**, **George Miller**, coach **Bob Pitkin '34** and me. Sadly, **Griff** died in action on April 26,

as being in Purdy's Station, N.Y. The way this was done showed ingenuity. We tore a telephone book apart, passed sections around and learned the address. Next we rounded up two autos and set off for Purdy's. We surprised the kidnappers — shocked them really — and freed our classmate. I have always remembered most fondly that fall.

"Sunday, December 7, was a shock, but not a surprise. Most college-bound teens knew for years it was coming!"

**Martin Kurtz**, who calls himself the "Class of '44 ½-'45" and lives in Great Neck, N.Y., writes: "A prime motivation for this correspondence is to bring to mind that the Class of '45 includes a small group labeled as such but really weren't/aren't. I suspect it is not very well remembered that in fact, I and 75–100 others (the exact number escapes me) of the Class of '45 started at Columbia, as freshman, in a precedent-setting mid-year class, i.e., '44 ½.' The

**Dr. William Robbins '42 and his wife, Dagny, moved from Grand Island, Fla., to Waterman Village, a retirement, assisted living and skilled nursing facility in Mount Dora, Fla.**

1945, toward the end of the war. He was a friendly, soft-spoken, kind teammate who never enjoyed the blessing of a full life span. According to the Columbia University Roll of Honor, at least 16 of our '44 classmates suffered a similar fate.

Looking again at that photo, if you recognize yourself or any of our other classmates not identified by me, please contact me and bring me up to date on yourself, your family, classmates and so on. I welcome all news about CC '44, and I know our classmates and other readers would, too.

Finally, we regrettably note the passing of **Howard W. Wilson**.

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**Charles Gilman** shared a memory: "The September 1941 freshman class was the largest ever to that point — I believe 681! We had an experience that fall that I shall never forget: The sophomore class kidnapped one of our class officers. A group of 10 or 12 of us met at the Delta Phi House for a 'What do we do?' meeting. One frosh had uncovered an out-of-town phone number. We identified the number

College formed the class following Pearl Harbor and the nation's entry into the war. Later, we were folded into the '45s. There never was, as far as I know, another mid-year class.

"It was a hectic time for all of us and most, including myself, ended up in the armed services before being able to earn a degree. Those who could returned to their studies, and those happy evenings in the Lion's Den, after the war.

"I was a pre-med and got into medical school (NYU) early in the summer of '42 (because of the war, acceptances were accelerated, to say the least) and very shortly after that volunteered for the Army, the Infantry. I remained in the States, on maneuvers, everywhere and anywhere until suddenly I was discharged to join my medical school class ('48). In retrospect, it was planned this way by the powers in order to keep a supply of physicians (and dentists) in the pipeline for the duration of the war.

"After medical school, my residency training awaited, then, several years teaching at NYU Medical School and finally into practice on Long Island. I maintained a teaching position at NYU Med throughout my working years. Sadly (I really do regret it), I never did get a chance to return to Columbia to complete my college education.

"I married, after medical school

graduation, a rather wonderful medical school classmate who very sadly passed away about 2½ years ago. We have three good kids and they have their own happy families, which of course are great fun. I retired about 14 years ago and remain on Long Island. I have been quite lucky, healthwise, and am busy visiting the kids, traveling, playing tennis and learning how to cook."

We also heard from **Dr. Arnold Ritterband '50 P&S**: "Served 1½ years as an electronic technician in the USNR after leaving the College in December '44. Still friendly with Ira Shein '46, '48 GSAS and was a lifelong friend of **Bob Lipsey '61 GSAS**, who died a year ago. Graduated from P&S and served internship, residencies in medicine, fellowship in pathology at Mount Sinai and assistant residency in neurology at the Neurologic Institute.

"Introduced to Phyllis Rosenthal of Schenectady by P&S classmate **Dr. Jason Tepper '50 P&S** and his brother **Dr. Cliff 'Chuch' Tepper '46 P&S** and **Babies & Children Hospital** pediatric residency. They were (Jason) and are (Cliff/'Chuch') my best friends, family pediatricians and colleagues. Fortunate enough to marry Phyllis, to whom I have been happily married for 56 years. I practiced internal medicine in Schenectady from 1959 until retirement in 2004. And yes, I would go into medicine again, in a heartbeat.

"Have three great children, Alan, Vicki and David; and eight magnificent grandchildren. Oldest three are at Villanova, Tufts and the entering freshman class at Yale. Lauren, our Tufts girl, is interested in medicine.

"Phyllis was a trustee at her alma mater, Russell Sage College. I am a clinical professor of medicine at Albany Medical College, and helped develop (Chuch Tepper and I were medical directors) the Schenectady Free Health Clinic. Sadly, at the end of July, after 10 years of providing excellent primary care services to uninsured Schenectadians, the clinic shut down for financial reasons.

"I thought that my 2½ years at Columbia College provided an excellent education, and [I had] accomplished, impressive and likeable classmates (one of them whom I remember particularly, **Dr. Irwin Nydick '46, '48 GSAS**, I learned is still teaching bedside medicine as a volunteer), but I did not love the College, which I attended as an underage, immature subway commuter during the war. However I did and do love and am grateful to P&S."

"I offer a brief story of the changing times," writes **John M. Khoury**. "Recently, my grandson, who is a college freshman, visited me and I thought he might be interested in



looking at the Columbia College yearbook of 1942. It was given to me by a friend who was graduating and was going into the military service. He saw pictures of a freshman wearing a beanie; every student wore a sports jacket, shirt and tie; *The Varsity Show* had male students dressed as girls and so forth. My grandson found that time very interesting. I find his world interesting, too."

Thank you to these classmates for getting in touch!

CCT needs 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 share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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#### Bernard Sunshine

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**Richard Heffner** is creator and host of the weekly Public TV series *Richard Heffner's Open Mind*. I asked Dick to reflect on some of the incidents and personalities he interviewed that stand out in his 57-year radio and TV broadcasting career. He wrote:

"*Open Mind* went on the air live — without benefit of film or videotape — on May 12, 1956, and surely seemed then very much a Morningside venture, for its very first guests were Columbia College Dean Lawrence H. Chamberlain as well as Columbia professors David Donald, Richard Neustadt, William Leuchtenberg and Allan Nevins (the Pulitzer Prize-winning historian hidden much of the time behind a screen of cigarette smoke unwittingly blown by this comparatively green producer/host still addicted to the filthy weed).

"Many others associated one way or another with Columbia have joined me for conversations on the air during the 57 years since then, including Margaret Mead, Ernest Nagel, Fred W. Friendly, Arthur Levine, Marvin Frankel, Jack Greenberg '45, Norman Podhoretz '50, Lionel Trilling '25, David Denby '65, Charles Frankel '37, Max Frankel '52, Nicholas Lemann, James Wechsler, Herbert Wechsler, Herbert Pardes, Harry W. Jones, Donald Barr '41, Lawrence Cremin,

Millicent McIntosh, Henry Wriston, University President William McGill, coach Aldo "Buff" Donelli, Robert Merton, Jason Epstein '49, Eric Foner '63 and the lovely Michele Moody-Adams, dean of the College when we celebrated our 60th class reunion. And as I told the dean at the time, when asked by guests or viewers how I manage to engage in conversation on *Open Mind* subjects spanning so many different disciplines, I make very clear that 'Columbia did it' ... thanks to the College's devotion to the mind-broadening liberal arts!

"These now near-six decades of weekly public television conversations have been great good fun ... and I look forward to at least some more years at them, just as I hope to spend more years at my more formal educational role as University Professor of Communications and Public Policy at Rutgers. For except for time spent at ABC, CBS and NBC — and then as the founding general manager of New York's Channel 13 — all of my years have been spent in the service of teaching ... on campus and off, on air and off! And I have myself been taught so much by my encounters with so many wonderful *Open Mind* guests.

"Mario Cuomo instructed me so well in the difference between an abiding interest in governance, such as his own, and one in politics alone. When asked who my 'best guest' was over the years, incidentally, Mario always comes to mind ... as does Ed Koch ... for a New York political duo. So do Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem ... and Elie Wiesel, with whom I wrote *Conversations With Elie Wiesel*, based on the dozens of *Open Minds* we have done together — our most recent on 'FDR and The Jews.' And, of course, Floyd Abrams, the famed free speech, free press, First Amendment attorney (three dozen more *Open Minds* over the years) who rejects my criticism of his Citizens United victory in the Supreme Court and my description of him as a free speech 'absolutist,' but keeps reminding me on the air that the First Amendment does insist that 'Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.'

"During a break between taping programs with Lewis Thomas, the great physician and prize-winning author (*The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher*), this eminently wise and always-friendly president of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center lit up a cigarette, and when I chastised him, joking that I was of a mind to comment on his dangerous, nasty habit when the beady red eye of the camera went on again, he warned me that if I did so, he would just get up and walk away from *Open Mind's*

trademark round table and out of the studio. And I believe he would have done just that! Happily, when our own **Paul Marks** '49 P&S succeeded Lew Thomas as president at Memorial and joined me on the program, he didn't light up!

"Indeed, long after my own cigarette smoke nearly obliterated Allan Nevins from the screen during our first *Open Mind*, I was so tense in taping a special program on 'Civil Rights In America' with Malcolm X, Jim Farmer and others the June 1963 morning after the night John F. Kennedy made his first and quite memorable televised civil rights speech and the NAACP's Medgar Evers was assassinated in Mississippi, I lit up and unwittingly did the same damn thing to Malcolm. I suspect that if the several quite scary armed guards he had brought to the studio that morning realized that clouds of my smoke were again nearly wiping out a guest, I would have heard more about the incident. As it was, Jim more than held his own that day with Malcolm X, who was still in his hugely anti-USA stage, and we immediately received a State Department request for multiple copies of the program for distribution overseas. State obviously thought that Malcolm had been bested by Jim ... and not just because my smoke had gotten in his eyes.

"Very early on, *The New York Times* had reviewed as 'Breaking Trail' the first (August 4, 1956) of a three-program *Open Mind* series I had scheduled on the subject of homosexuality, something not much talked about on the air those days. Interestingly, it occasioned one of only two attempts at what

I would call censorship during all the years I have been a broadcaster ... it came from the church, and was rejected out of hand by the industry, despite all the talk those days about how 'chicken' its leaders were. Indeed, New York's Cardinal Francis Spellman had immediately protested to the Sarnoffs at RCA/NBC that if I went ahead as planned and produced and hosted my second and third programs on homosexuality (the last with Margaret Mead '28 GSAS and Max Lerner, a beauty!), the church would sue for the revocation of its local station's license. The result was that top network brass called, asked who I was and what my credentials were (they surely had never heard of this strictly local 'kid' producer), what I had planned for the rest of my series and who were and what was the stature of my future guests. And within the course of just one day's back and forth the network told me to go ahead as scheduled and to forget the whole incident!

"More on would-be censorship at another early point in my broadcasting career: I was responsible then for an educational special called 'Faces of War,' a survey of the faces men have put upon war, from the ancients to Dwight D. Eisenhower, for which CBS had generously given us Sunday afternoon time live on its television network. We needed to raise some dollars to make the production work, unfortunately, and a highly regarded public institution, the New York Public Library, generously provided all of the \$5,000 we sought. The Saturday afternoon before our program, however, the library's chairman chose, lately, to

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read our script, and in mid-Cold War decided it was too 'radical' and 'pacifist' a document. Immediately, a call went to his friend Bill Paley, the chairman of CBS, demanding that the program be scrubbed. As in the RCA/NBC incident, however, when questions were asked, my answers were accepted, and the show went on as planned. But what an afternoon and evening of tension ... this time with the State, not the church, playing would-be censor, and the industry standing tall again!

"Many of these and other programs with which I have been associated over the years (more than 1,500) can be seen now at thirteen.org/openmind — at least those produced once the technology and the dollars were available to make kinescopes off the air or videotapes during recording sessions. Generous individuals and foundations made the funds available to create this increasingly valuable historical electronic archive, which I have gifted to PBS and to Channel Thirteen in New York, where each Saturday at noon *Richard Heffner's Open Mind* programs still make their public television debut, rebroadcast several times the following Sundays and Mondays on CUNY-TV, and all freely available at all times to everyone, everywhere on our website." [See also feature on Heffner in the Fall 2012 CCT.]

Mark your calendar: A class luncheon has been set for Thursday,

on that same page. Sure to bring back memories. [Editor's note: Or go to college.columbia.edu/cct/category/image\_galleries/wwii\_columbia.]

With regret I report the passing of **Irving Sherr**. Irv and his wife, Anne, have been strong supporters of the College through these many years.

I also am sorry to advise of the passing of **Leon J. Quinto** '52 GSAS on July 25. Leon also earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Columbia. He was an economist with IBM.

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**Columbia College Today**  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
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**Howard Stein** writes: "Since summer 2000 I have been retired from a professorship in the Department of Philosophy and the Committee on the Conceptual Foundations of Science at Chicago. I live in Hyde Park, Chicago. I have two children — a daughter who lives in the Bay Area (of California, that is — not to be confused with the Bay State), and a son who lives in Chicago. My previous career was rather winding, from a B.A. at Columbia to Chicago, where I earned a Ph.D. in philosophy in 1958 while teaching natural sciences in the undergraduate college; to a year at the University of Michigan, where

with the great scholar Salo Baron (a course which, and a teacher who, opened my eyes to what scholarly research in a humanistic discipline can be); six courses in philosophy (counting J.H. Randall (Class of 1918)'s yearlong course in the history of philosophy as two semester courses), ranging from Erwin Edman [Class of 1916, Class of 1920 GSAS] 'Introduction to Philosophy,' through the year course I have just mentioned (which I came, I fear irreverently, to call 'Randology'), to another course that proved revelatory, Ernest Nagel '31 GSAS' 'Theory of Knowledge,'; and seven courses in mathematics, culminating in yet another revelation, Edgar R. Lorch's yearlong graduate course (open to undergraduates) in the theory of functions of a complex variable.

"In the end, merely following my inclination and taking as full a program of courses as was allowed, without having planned to, I satisfied the requirements for the B.A. in three years (without any summer courses) and graduated with the equivalent of a double major, with honors, in mathematics and philosophy. This combination of rigorous courses, extremely good teachers (at least a few such!), with a small degree of useful constraint but great liberty to follow one's bent, has ever since seemed to me pretty close to the ideal of what a college education should offer a student."

Thank you to Howard for writing in! CCT still needs 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 share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. This column is a wonderful way for the class to stay connected, and we, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

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**George Woolfe** got in touch: "I am constantly amazed at how active Class of '48 [members are] in their professions or communities despite our advanced years. Some of us are still teaching or lecturing or practicing. Others are traveling to exotic places, or maybe just to see

our offspring.

"My wife, Elaine '47 GS, and I recently returned from Mexico and are planning a cruise in September. Bill Farren '49 spent all of April touring Germany by bus and river cruises. Golf is still an alternative for me and, when I can find a partner, duplicate bridge.

"Along that line, if anyone has an address for Andy Gabrilovitch '49, please pass it on to our editor."

**Bob Silbert** wrote in with some thoughts on Alumni Reunion Week-end, which took place in early June: "About 10 of our classmates made the 65th reunion of our graduation. It was a grand affair. [Attorney General] Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L was one of the speakers [at Dean's Day on June 1]. We shared our luncheon with the graduates of the Class of 1943. Our impression was that everybody seemed to be having a great time. It was very enjoyable and people seemed genuinely happy to be back on campus. Everybody extolled their Columbia experience, particularly the Core Humanities courses in the first and second years. Everybody we met seemed very happy to be back on Morningside Heights, especially some 90-year-old alumni. It was impressive to see so many fairly elderly graduates appear so happy to be back at Columbia, and the genuine appreciation all of them had about the Humanities courses."

**Heywood Shelley** '50L, of Brooklyn, writes, "As I am retired with time on my hands, I've written a history of my family at Columbia University.

"My father, Robert Shelley Class of 1919, attended Columbia College in the WWI era. His friends included Irwin Edman (Class of 1916, '20 GSAS), who went on to become a philosophy professor of note at the College. My brother, Edwin '40, '41E, may have been named after him. My father was a successful real estate developer. He built several apartment buildings including the Holland House in Forest Hills which, at the time, was the tallest building in Queens

"I recall my father's excitement when the College won the Rose Bowl, the then-equivalent of today's Super Bowl, in 1934 by a score of 7-0, won with the Statue of Liberty play. My whole family attended the rematch at Baker Field in 1936, which Columbia again won 7-0. My mother was unusually quiet during the game; when I asked her afterward why, she said she wondered why the clock ran backward.

"After service in the Army during WWII, I entered the Law School. I graduated from the College in 1948 and from the Law School in 1950, the two-year interval being by virtue of 'professional

## Howard Stein '47 lives in Hyde Park, Chicago, and has been retired from a professorship in the Department of Philosophy at Chicago since summer 2000.

October 24, in New York. Details may have reached you already. As before, wives and friends are invited and we have also asked members of the Class of '45 to join us. The war years at Columbia disrupted the make-up of those classes (ours included) and many '45ers are well known to us. The idea had positive responses from both classes in the small survey I made.

**John McConnell's** recent request for **Gene Rogers'** address prompts my welcoming contact information inquiries for classmates you would like to catch up with.

*Columbia College Today's* Summer 2013 issue caused me surprise and smiles. When I turned to page 42 I thought I recognized the two photos taken in 1942 as mine and, sure enough, the photo credits carried my name. Photographers, like elephants, usually remember pictures they have taken. If you have the issue, see the photo essay "WWII & Columbia," which begins

I earned an M.S. in mathematics; to three years at Brandeis, where I taught mathematics; to five years in the computer industry; to a professorship of philosophy at Case Institute of Technology (then about to merge with Western Reserve University) from 1967-73; to a professorship of philosophy at Columbia from 1973-80; then back to Chicago in 1980.

"As I look back on my undergraduate years at Columbia (1944-47), what I treasure most is the combination of the wonderful required courses — Humanities and Contemporary Civilization (two years each in those days). Above all, for me, was the revelatory Humanities A, on literature, and the freedom to explore a wide range of interests. As to the latter, I was able, in three years, to take a yearlong course in art history; a marvelous two-year sequence (a graduate course open to undergraduates) in Jewish history



option,' which allowed for my first year of law school to count as the last year of college. During the academic year following my law school graduation, I held the paying position of 'associate,' a teaching position meeting with the freshman class in groups of 20 (the class was about 300). I went on to practice law for more than 50 years with a Wall Street firm and my clients included George H.W. Bush (the first President Bush) and the New York Mets. The law firm is Carter, Ledyard & Milburn, and one of its alumni was Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"On December 8, 1941 (the day after Pearl Harbor), Ed was working for Curtis Wright, a manufacturer of airplanes for the military. His job was testing propellers and he was on a test flight when an Army plane flew alongside and motioned for him to land. At that time the U.S. Army — there was no separate Air Force then — was using WWI airplanes for test flights and these had markings not unlike those of the Japanese Air Force.

"When Ed got home, his wife said, 'We had an air raid alert today.'

"Ed said, 'I was it.'

"Ed's wife, Florence Dubroff Shelley '40 Barnard, '41J, was editor-in-chief of the *Barnard Bulletin*.

"My sister, Phyllis Jaffe '49L, served in the Women's Army Corps (the WACs) during WWII and upon her return from service entered the Law School as one of three women in a class of 103, all of whom were WWII veterans.

She had a distinguished career as a lawyer specializing in school law, ultimately representing many of the school boards in Westchester County and points north.

"My niece, Carolyn LeBel '69 Barnard, had a long career with the New York school system that included teaching English as a Second Language.

"My daughter, Alexandra Shelley '96 Arts, broke family tradition by going to Yale as an undergraduate but redeemed herself by getting an M.F.A. at the School of the Arts. For two years she taught logic and rhetoric at the College. She now teaches fiction workshops and edits books, among those the best-selling novel *The Help*.

"My 9-year-old granddaughter shows all the signs of following the family tradition."

Leonard Ornstein's daughter, Cindy, wrote to *CCT* with the news of his death at 87 on May 7, 2013. Leonard, who resided in Westchester County, was a renowned cell biologist and a professor emeritus at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He earned an M.A. in 1949 and a Ph.D. in 1957, both from GSAS and in biological sciences. In addition to his daughter, Leonard

is survived by his wife of 68 years, Theresa Roller Ornstein; sister, Norma O. Goldstein; sons, Avi and Tad; son-in-law, Charles Johnson; daughters-in-law, Bernice Nowak-Ornstein and Lyanne LaBelle Ornstein; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by another daughter, Rani Simoff. A full obituary will be published in a future issue in the *Obituaries* column.

Thanks to George, Bob and Heywood for writing in!

*CCT* needs 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 share your thoughts and stories with us by sending a letter or email to the postal or email address at the top of the column or through *CCT*'s easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. We, and your classmates, want to hear from you!

#### REUNION WEEKEND

MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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Summer heat and humidity are upon us at this writing, but the Class of '49 can be proud of the spirit and vitality it exhibits as an example for all!

This correspondent experienced a number of problems along with a computer crash that delayed the writing of this column two weeks beyond deadline. There is an upside to this: an outburst of excitement and multiple group emails regarding the appearance of a video featuring the "Big C." It came to us courtesy of Bill Lubic's niece and is a documentary short of guys jumping off the rocks and into the Harlem River: vimeo.com/35261042.

Writing in response to the video, Joe Russell '52L has once again enhanced our knowledge and understanding of the city we live in. He says, "Extraordinary! If anyone had told me of this I would not have believed it — those damn fools are jumping off into the Harlem River Ship Canal, dug in about 1913 to connect the Harlem River with the outlet of Spuyten Duyvil Creek (the latter coming down from the north, roughly along the bed of

what is now Kingsbridge Avenue in the Bronx), resulting in the physical separation of the northernmost part of Manhattan — Marble Hill — from the island itself, but the political boundaries unchanged. [My wife] Charlotte and I lived in an apartment of the then quite new Marble Hill Houses during my second and third years at the Law School, and I learned the local history then."

Marv Lipman in turn wrote to thank Joe for the history lesson, though my favorite response came from Marv's wife, Naomi: "Didn't we lose an undergraduate (crew member) in those waters some years ago? Not funny, not courageous, just plain stupid!"

I also heard from Joe Levie. Once upon a time, he was known to be a stellar light of the law profession. He has now succeeded himself and, I would say, elevated himself to that of author. His book is *True Successor: A Novel of the New Roman Empire*. It would be an accomplishment at any age but to do so during the golden years, when others have chosen to rest on their laurels, is something else again. Joe is to be admired, and read, for this effort.

As for the news from my corner, my wife Karen's and my trip to Maui to celebrate my brother Bert Sussman '47's 90th birthday was wonderful and left us wanting more. Hawaii is both a continent away and a very different part of our nation — kinder, gentler, warmer, and I'm not just referring to the weather.

I hope all had a great summer.

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Bud Kassel took a tumble on the final day of the ski season at Stowe, Vt., last spring, and suffered a fractured pelvis. He managed to ski to the bottom of the slope, and after weeks of hospitalization, rehab and wheelchairs, was ready for the tennis courts and looking ahead to the next ski season.

Al Schmitt says he can't stand being retired. All he does is mow the lawn, find something to paint or think of something to complain about. He does figure, though, that it beats the alternative.

Arthur Thomas values his experience as an oarsman at Columbia and recalls the 1947 Intercollegiate Rowing Association Regatta at Poughkeepsie, N.Y., memorable as the first post-WWII IRA regatta. Art rowed bow on the JV crew; regrettably, none of the three Columbia shells placed among the leaders, but

it was a great event with 11 colleges and universities participating.

In the Winter 2012-13 issue of *CCT*, we reported the publication of a book devoted to the career of Arthur Westing. The title is *Arthur H. Westing: Pioneer on the Environmental Impact of War*. A companion volume now has been published, *From Environmental to Comprehensive Security*. Both books are published by Springer as part of its series *Springer Briefs on Pioneers in Science and Practice*. For information online, go to [springer.com](http://springer.com).

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WWI ended on November 11, 1918, and our country eventually began honoring its veterans on that day. Our class' WWII veterans swapped khaki uniforms and sailor hats for blue beanies as they began their freshman year in the College in 1947 alongside bright-eyed recent high school graduates. How many members of our class surrendered their light blue cap and gown after graduation for the appropriate attire of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines? Your class correspondent does not have a list of all those who served our country during the Korean War and later in Vietnam. It would certainly be appropriate if class members would volunteer to share this information from their own records or known archives; you can send it to me at either address at the top of the column.

Our class yearbook, *The Columbian of 1951*, points out the significance of having an Ivy League school like Columbia involved in military training. During WWII, more than 23,000 officers trained on our campus. During the time we received our education on Morningside Heights, about 10 percent of the College enrollment was midshipmen. Classmates such as Don Beattie, Richard Boyle, Len Stoehr, and Jim Lowe, and the late Jay Battenberg, Ken Birdsall and Paul Coogan, to name a few, were among that distinguished group. Although the list of survivors is thinning, the cadre of veterans who remain is tight-knit and tries to meet annually. Plans are under way for a meeting in Jacksonville, Fla. NROTC members should keep in touch with Jim and Don. By the way, Don's father served in the Navy in WWI. Don was with the USAF during Korea; his son, Tom, became an Air Force fighter pilot; and now grandson Travis is a Marine who recently completed his third deployment and is getting married to celebrate.

If you are aware of classmates, or anyone from other classes, who deserve to be in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, please get in touch with **Tom Powers**. He is anxious to submit the names of deserving Lions; selections are made every two years. Tom can be reached at 937-497-1929.

Finally, I'd welcome help from a classmate who wants to be my associate Class Notes writer, and who has some fresh ideas for this column. Don't be bashful! Volunteer! Again, you can write me at the addresses at the top of the column.

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**Sidney Prager**

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Your reporter says "hello." I am writing this in the month that is busting out all over, as I like to think of June. This month is great because of all the weddings and graduations and, of course, the beginning of summer.

My wife, Maxine, and I had three of our grandchildren graduate, fortunately not at the same time, so we were able to attend all three graduations in different locations.

First up was our grandson Andrew (our daughter's son), from Cornell. We spent four days in Ithaca on Cayuga Lake, where my daughter had rented a house so we all could stay together for the weekend. Andrew majored in computer science and was recruited by Facebook for a good job in California even before he graduated.

One week later, our grand-

daughter Natalie (our younger son's daughter) graduated from Notre Dame H.S. in Bethlehem, Pa. She was in the "top 10" in her class and received a number of special graduation awards. Natalie wants to pursue a career in industrial design and was accepted into a number of colleges where she was offered scholarships; she chose the University of Cincinnati.

Two weeks later, our granddaughter Abigail (our older son's daughter) graduated from Scarsdale (N.Y.) H.S. Abigail is interested in the culinary arts and event planning. She has been accepted into Johnson & Wales in Providence, R.I., which specializes in these fields.

It was special for Maxine and I to see these grandchildren, one from each of our three children, achieve these milestones as they progress to fulfill the goals and passions they have set for themselves.

**Henry H. Kramer '53 GSAS** writes, "Lately I've noticed that many of the entries for our class relate classmates' experiences after leaving Columbia. Now that I have finally retired, I would like to tell you about mine.

"I stayed out of the draft for a year by enrolling in the graduate chemistry program at Columbia and receiving my M.A. in chemistry in 1953. Then I was drafted into the Army and served most of my two years in Germany as a medic, which was great duty. I continued my education, supported by the GI Bill, and received a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Indiana University in 1960. In the meantime, I married in 1959 — we recently celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary.

"My first employment, which began in June 1960, was with Union Carbide at its nuclear reactor in Sterling Forest, N.Y., where I did exploratory research using the reactor to create new businesses opportunities. These studies resulted in the production and sales of medical radioisotopes primarily for medical use and, aided by my nine-month sabbatical at the Johns Hopkins medical institutions to study nuclear medicine, in the production and sales of radiopharmaceuticals. The experiences at Union Carbide led to numerous peer-reviewed publications and a handful of patents. In the meantime, with the dedicated help of my wife, we raised three children who now have successful careers.

"During my tenure at Union Carbide I worked my way up the R&D management ladder, and I left in August 1978 to become the corporate v.p. of R&D at Medi+Physics, a subsidiary of Hoffmann-La Roche, in Emeryville, Calif. In September 1989, I was elected a fellow of the American College of Nuclear Physicians. In December 1989, Medi+Physics was sold to Amersham International, and I decided to stay in California and seek consulting opportunities. While consulting for more than a handful of companies, I saw a need for the radiopharmaceutical industry to have a credible voice in Washington, D.C., to the government regulatory agencies and to Congress. The radiopharmaceutical industry is the most regulated industry in the United States. In March 1993, I incorporated a 501(c)6 trade lobbying organization with the name Council on Radionuclides and Radiopharmaceuticals (CORAR), of which I became the executive director. I resigned from my position in August 2011 with a one-year tapering consultancy, finally retiring at 82.

"While performing my duties for CORAR I was asked to create a teaching trade organization, a 501(c)3 organization with a focus on making family physicians aware of the benefits of nuclear medicine in the diagnosis and treatment of patients. This incorporation was accomplished in January 2000 with the name Nuclear Medicine Industry Association and, again, I was employed in the position of executive director. NMIA-NA was discontinued in June 2004.

"Now, what am I doing in my early retirement? I have written more than 500 pages of my memoirs. I am finalizing a draft of *Management Nuggets*, finalizing a memoir of my Army experience and finalizing a draft of a to-do list of actions that need to be addressed when someone in the family dies."

**Tom Whitley** says, "My wife,

Carol, and I have lived in Washington, D.C., since 1992, when she was promoted and transferred at Associated Universities, which manages radio astronomy facilities for the National Science Foundation. She has now retired after 40 years. (We met in 1989; two children for each, boy and girl.)

"Your column and those of prior reporters confirms what we all have known: that Columbia produces many men and women of professional distinction but also many who realized that a life of learning, experience and interests can be very fulfilling.

"I graduated from Cornell Law and followed that by a brief practice with Milbank Tweed, followed by 22 years in the law department of Bethlehem Steel. Paper pushing became arduous; I went back to New York to real estate management, where I felt rewarded. The year 1987 was difficult. My third career was 14 rewarding years of tour guiding in D.C. This has been followed by six years in learning and advocacy involving climate change and water and energy conservation for ourselves and our posterity.

"Carol and I have found living in D.C. to be pleasant and rewarding. I think Columbia prepared me well to bring many issues, values and ideas together. In addition, the arts and especially jazz have kept me good company for more than 70 years, and photography has joined other passions. A life of civic service is a firm foundation."

Your reporter wishes all the members of the Class of 1952 good luck and good health!

53

**Lew Robins**

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Our 60th reunion was a wonderful success! This was the first reunion attended by **Gordon Henderson** and **Harry Rice**, and both were ecstatic about every event. The following is a portion of an email that Gordon sent several weeks afterward:

"I just need to write to let you know what a fantastic reunion you, the Reunion Committee and the College put together. I did not know what to expect, but from my first step into the Rare Book & Manuscript Library [in Butler Library], I knew it was probably going to be a fine weekend and I would be ever so glad I came. It was and I was.

"A friend had said it would likely be no more than an assembly of old men. Nothing could be wider of the mark! 'Just a gathering of old men' can hardly describe the lun-

## Columbia School Designations

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

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



cheons and receptions and dinners where the food was outstanding and a bar was always present offering first-rate wines and spirits. Nor can it cover talks by faculty (Henry Graff '49 GSAS in particular); tours of the library and the new campus north of 125th Street; a choice of attending a Broadway show, a ballet performance or an evening at Lincoln Center with excellent seats at reduced prices; or [the experience of having] reunion staff on hand to bring a chair to someone needing to sit down, to produce a new identification badge to replace one left behind in a hotel room or to tell one how to get to one of the many buildings built or renamed since we were there.

"And as for the old men who came, I have to say I found them interesting, both to talk with and to listen to. I wanted to know what they had done since graduation and I was most impressed with their rich and varied lives. To describe our 60th reunion as no more than 'a bunch of old men' would be just plain wrong because it does not begin to describe the esprit found at the gathering and the skill with which it was organized. I attended and returned home to Atlanta raving about the good time I had. I could not be more pleased that I went."

Thanks to **George Lowry's** persuasive efforts, Michael Ryan, director of Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library, spoke to our classmates Thursday evening in a fascinating reception in Butler Library. He talked about some of the library's rare manuscripts, including a copy of James Joyce's *Ulysses* that was used in the original trial to ban the book in the United States. Also at the reception, Dean James J. Valentini spoke about the importance of the Core Curriculum in the lives of Columbia College graduates.

On Friday we gathered under a tent on South Lawn for a sumptuous dinner and to hear **Mike Sovern's** anecdotes of some of the difficult moments he faced as president of the University, a post he held from 1980-1993.

Our special guest at Saturday's luncheon in the library of Casa Italiana was Professor Emeritus of History **Henry Graff '49 GSAS**, the renowned scholar who has known and advised every president since Harry Truman. Many of us remember the story about one of our classmates that Professor Graff shared at our 30th reunion. The professor's recollection went something like this: "One day, I was walking up Amsterdam Avenue when I saw General Eisenhower [then president of the University] waiting for the light to change

from red to green so that he could walk across the street. At the time, I couldn't see a single car up or down Amsterdam Avenue. Standing behind General Eisenhower was a freshman member of the Class of 1953 wearing a traditional blue beanie. After the light changed and the general successfully crossed the street, your classmate turned to me and exclaimed, 'It makes you wonder how he ever crossed the English Channel.'"

Our Saturday class dinner was another special occasion in Butler. After we finished dinner, our toastmaster, **Jay Kane**, introduced the evening's speakers. **Ken Heyman**, the renowned photographer who collaborated with Margaret Mead on a number of books, was enthralling. **Larry Harte**, who has written a number of humorous autobiographical books, was delightful, and we all appreciated his bringing free copies of one of his books to distribute. **Allan Jackman** talked about the unfortunate life of his fraternity brother **Jack Molinas**. Lastly, **Bill Frosch** announced that, thanks to the generosity of our classmates, we had exceeded our goal of \$70,000 and donated more than \$173,000 to the Columbia College Fund.

The following is a list of classmates and their guests who attended one or more of our reunion events: **Joseph Aaron** and his wife, Jane; **Stanley Alt** and his wife, Susan; **Richard Auwarter**; **George Barth** and his wife, Claire; Ann Belknap; **Peter Carbonara** and his wife, Jean; **Edward Clark**; **John Condem**; **Joel Danziger** and his wife, Joan; **John Huneke** and his wife, Claire Feger-Huneke; **Morton Freilicher** and his wife, Yseult; **William Frosch** and his wife, Paula; **Larry Harte**; **Eliot Hearst**; **Seymour Hendel** and his wife, Patricia; **Gordon Henderson**; **Arthur Hessinger** and his wife, Helen; **Ken Heyman**; **Mohammad Hussan**; **Allan Jackman** and Evelyn Topper; **Jay Kane**; **Richard Kleid** and his wife, Rhoda; **George Lowry** and his wife, Judith; **Pete Pellett**; **Kathy Phillips**; **Gerald**

It was a spectacular reunion and I hope we'll all be around in five years to celebrate the next memorable occasion.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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Looking at the Summer 2013 CCT, I was happy to see the list of all alumni classes who will be celebrating Alumni Reunion Weekend from Thursday, May 29-Sunday, June 1. Lo and behold, there we were. Both **Brian Tansey** and **Jerry Gordon** have said they are planning to attend, which makes me feel great, as I intend to go, too, along with my wife. I hope that we will get a great turnout.

Speaking of events, I had the pleasure of attending **Larry Gartner's** birthday gathering. It was beautifully done with family and friends. The evening was lovely. Some of the children put together a great group of slides that included Larry's wife, Carol, and their children. There also were a couple of slides that included several of our classmates on campus.

I received a nice note from **Jim Niver**, who was a member of our wrestling team. I asked Jim via email whether all was well with and for him. I really enjoyed his answer. He quoted *True Grit's* Rooster Cogburn: "I'm RE-tired; RE-laxing; and RE-joicing." I hope he can come to our next reunion.

**Bob Viarengo** stays in good health with his wife, Delores, in Massachusetts. Travel remains a source of pleasure.

I had the pleasure of spending time with **Herb Wittow** and his

haft. Peter was an outstanding member of our class and he will be missed by many classmates. His background and achievements were listed in the Summer 2013 CCT Obituaries (college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/obituaries).

I hope that our class members stay well and look forward to our 60th reunion. Thank heavens for our class president, **Bernd Brecher**, who is working on the planning and could use help. If you want to be involved, contact him (brecher.services@aol.com or 914-961-4101) or one of the Alumni Office staff members listed at the top of the column. Otherwise, be sure to save the date!

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As you might have guessed by now, Columbia is an institution that takes the lead in many areas, ranging from dealing with its alumni to getting involved in new ventures. The school is still exploring the Online Learning Initiative plus it is building up its Global Centers. Columbia is definitely a force in international education. All this became evident in a special panel discussion in early June, when deans and faculty spoke at the Columbia Alumni Center to an overflow crowd.

The tours through the Alumni Travel Study Program, which have been second to none, continue into the late fall. In early October will be "Undiscovered Greek Islands," a cruise through the Aegean Sea; "China, Tibet & the Yangtze River"; and "Where Legends Were Born: An Exploration of Crete, Santorini & the Peloponnese." This is good stuff.

Closer to home base, the Admissions Office is prepared for the onslaught of applications to the College and Engineering. One key element of this process is the Alumni Representative Committee, for which alumni like our own **Larry Balfus** interview applicants. Larry is chair of the Nassau County ARC. All alumni should take advantage of this opportunity to meet prospective students and see firsthand the quality of the applicants.

From near and not so near, many '55ers attended the last supper of the season before we broke for summer recess in June. **Don Laufer** made the usual arrangements with **Alfred Gollomp**, who came into Manhattan from the borough that houses the Barclays Center (this is where the men's basketball team will play St. John's in late December). **Dick Kuhn** was there (without

#### **Jim Niver '54** quoted *True Grit's* Rooster Cogburn: "I'm RE-tired; RE-laxing; and RE-joicing."

**Pinsky**; **Martin Rabinowitz** and his wife, Anna; **Steven Reich** and his wife, Shyla; **Harry Rice**; **Lewis Robins** and his wife, Saralee; **Jules Ross**; **Elaine Rousseau**; **Nicholas Samios** and his wife, Mary; **Stanley Sklar** and his wife, Margot; **Michael Sovern** and his wife, Pat; **James Steiner**; **Robert Walzer** and his wife, Anne; and **William Won** and his wife, Margaret Lai.

wife, Sandra, in Denver several times. Sandra, a wonderful artist, wrote a book, *Thicker Than Paint*, about her life. Herb decided to have it printed and the result is beautiful. I found it to be a beautiful story. If you are interested, contact Herb: herbwittow@aol.com.

We are living in an era when we lose some wonderful classmates. A recent case in point is **Peter Ehren-**

the Vagabonds and **Nick Tavuchis**, who lives in Canada, and **Tony Palladino**, who's in Florida). Others who made an appearance were **Bob Brown**; **Jeff Broido**, in from San Diego (without the rest of the Pony Ballet and **Dave Stevens**, who resides in Philadelphia); **Bill Epstein**, who has moved to another abode in Manhattan; **Al Martz** and **Alan Hoffman**, both from New Jersey; **Herb Cohen**, from Westchester; and **Ron Spitz** and **Allen Hyman** (who is starting to think about the 60th). **Anthony Viscusi**, **Peter Pressman**, **Stanley Zimberg** and **Aaron Hamburger** sent regrets.

It should be noted that **Lew Banci's** photo was placed strategically in the *History of the Varsity Show*, a terrific book that goes way, way back. The tradition goes on.

**Jim Berick**, who has been doing a lot of exercising lately, recently met with the dean (Valentini, that is) in Florida. It looks like one of the road trips coming up for the dean will be a visit to Cleveland. Sounds like a plan. Jim rotates between Florida and Cleveland, among other places throughout the year.

We heard from **Harold Kushner** and exchanged some thoughts about the late Peter Kenen '54. As (almost) everyone knows, the baseball team won the Ivy League title this past year and scared some big-name schools in the NCAA tournament. **Jack Freeman**, **Ron McPhee**, **John Naley**, **Jud Maze** and **Beryl Nusbaum** should all be proud of the boys in blue.

Things are going well with **Chuck Garrison**, who makes Valley Cottage, N.Y., his home. We are waiting for the latest installment in **Jack Stuppin's** paintings collection. Jack, as some may recall, rummages on the West Coast. With so many people running for the mayorship of New York City, it is surprising that some of the candidates haven't asked **Richard Ravitch** for advice. Who knows?

Another West Coast classmate is **Stanley Lubman**, who still gives lectures, talks and other things. Stanley is terrific at what he does. **Berish Strauch**, in Westchester, is still plying his trade, as is **Steve Rabin** in Manhattan. (Different trade, however.) We hope to see them at our reunion in less than two years. No excuses. [Editor's note: Save the date — Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015.]

**Lew Mendelson** plans to be there. He's still in Washington, D.C., doing good for all.

A sad note to report — **Gerry Pomper** let us know that his wife, Marlene "Mickey" Pomper, an integral part of our class, passed away recently.

Stalwart members of the wondrous class of 1955.

It's less than two years until we reach another milestone — our 60th.

Great things are happening. Get set for 2015.

It's going to be a reunion better than ever.

Love to all! Everywhere!

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The 2012–13 College year ended with two events that Class of 1956 members participate in with regularity. The first was Class Day on May 21. In attendance and marching in the 10th annual Alumni Parade of Classes were **Danny Link**, **Len Wolfe**, **Ron Kapon** and myself. This is both a privilege and an experience that I recommend to all class members. **Ron Kapon**, who had an unfortunate fall last year before the march, was in good form as he joined in carrying our Class of 1956 banner. We all enjoyed the good weather (a little hot but definitely better than what the weather bureau had predicted). When you march down College Walk to the cheers of almost 1,200 graduating seniors, it makes you feel young again as well as inspired by the enthusiasm and diversity of the graduates. The Class Day keynote speaker was Terrence McNally '60, the well-known playwright. In his talk, McNally relived his days at Columbia, from the time he moved in to the dorms and the surprise of sharing a room with an engineering major ("What the hell was that all about? I thought young men went to college to become great writers") to relating how the experiences of attending

for Columbia students as well as graduate research facilities that will enhance undergraduate education through availability of graduate study courses to College undergraduates. [Editor's note: Also, when graduate schools relocate to Manhattanville, it is expected to free up space on Morningside Heights for the Arts & Sciences and thus benefit undergraduates.]

The lectures included one given by Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L. Interestingly, when asked by Dean Valentini about his more memorable experiences in the College, he said that one of his most satisfying occurred as a lightweight football player, when he caught a pass and ran into the end zone against Penn. As a member of our lightweight football team, I can attest to the positive experience that I had with teammates including **Jordan Bonfonte**; **Larry Cohn**; **Bob Lauterborn**; my brother, **Maurice Easton**; and many others. That experience, as Holder also related, turned many "city kids" into teammates and solidified our bond at Columbia.

As always, the other topics at Dean's Day were interesting and demonstrated the talent of the Columbia faculty. Stan and Ruth reported that the morning lecture by biology professor Stuart Firestein was most brilliant and funny; he addressed how ignorance and uncertainty in the sciences, in particular, can lead to increased scientific discovery and illumination. Professor Firestein was a recipient of a 2013 Great Teacher Award at the Society of Columbia Graduates luncheon that followed at Low Library and which, as Stan noted, was well deserved. There were actually two lunches, one at Low

by the fact that notice of Dean's Day to non-reunion classes was never sent by snail mail. Note to the Alumni Office: Some of us are too "old" to rely strictly on email. And we still like to open letters. As I have said, the food at all recent Columbia events has greatly improved. We can only look forward to more of the same as we plan for our 60th reunion.

Now for the class news: In line with the sentiment that "It's a time in our lives to move or downsize, and the retirement home is looking better," **Bob Sirotky** and his wife, Margo, have sold their Randolph, N.J., residence of 40-plus years.

"I couldn't believe it was on the market for only a week," Bob said. They are moving into a retirement community in Somerset, N.J., in a townhouse community where all ground and structural matters are provided for. Of course, the master bedroom will be on the ground level in case of any decreased mobility in the next 20 years. Now for the fun part: In getting their possessions (junk) sold, they discovered Margo's grandfather's diploma, dated June 12, 1901, from Columbia College, granting the degree of bachelor of laws. This diploma on parchment will be donated to the Law School archives by Bob's grandson. As Bob tells it, aside from his son likening the move to killing their longtime family dog, the transition went rather smoothly.

**Mark Novick**, one of our class' practicing psychiatrists, is busy planning his older daughter's fall wedding. His experience should help us in planning our 60th reunion.

**John Censor** is repositioning his company of 23 years, PCI Global, based in New Jersey and a provider of management training to Global 500 Companies using business games he developed. This method, according to John, both accelerates and gives participants a more complete learning experience.

Good luck to John.

On the travel front, **Alan Press**, who has traveled to more unusual places than any other classmate (write to me if I am wrong) recently returned from two weeks in North Korea. You may ask, "Who wants to visit North Korea?" Well, Alan has written a lengthy article on his trip, which I plan to have presented with pictures at one of our fall class lunches. Hope many of you will be able to attend.

Also, as you may know, my wife, Elke, and I are "Mexican-files," having invested enough of our retirement savings in resort Mexican timeshares that we work hard to use every week available to us. At this point, we own units equal to the space we have in our

### Alan Press '56 recently returned from two weeks in North Korea and has written a lengthy article on his trip.

a college in the City of New York affected and shaped his adult life.

The second event was Dean's Day, held during Alumni Reunion Weekend on June 1 and attended by **Jordan Bonfonte**; **Bob Sirotky**; **Peter Klein**; **Stan Soren** and his wife, Ruth; **John Censor** and myself. In addition to listening to lectures by some of the most illustrious of Columbia professors and alumni, it gave us a chance to visit and exchange news with classmates over breakfast and lunch. Dean James J. Valentini spoke at Saturday's breakfast and shared an outline on Manhattanville and how it relates to the College. Presumably, there will be more housing

in connection with the society's awards and the other on College Walk (a barbecue) that most of our classmates attended. I guess Columbia wanted to make sure its graduates had enough lunch locations.

The afternoon lecture I attended was given by comparative literature professor Julie Crawford, who was equally brilliant in discussing the dramatic historical and political implications of Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Her lecture was a trip into the world of 17th-century Shakespeare and how theatre interacted with politics at that time.

It should be added that our attendance this year was reduced



residence in New Jersey, so we have enough leisure space to live in whether the grandkids want to come or not. We do enjoy the sun, golf and good weather of our Mexican vacations (approximately four per year). This January, we will host **Danny Link** and his wife, Elinor, in Puerto Vallarta.

Our first summer class luncheon was held at **Danny Link's** country club, Bonnie Briar, on June 20. Attendees were the usual suspects. **Al Broadwin** and **Bob Sirotky** were the luncheon attendees and **Jack Katz**, **Mark Novick** and **Jerry Fine** were the tennis-playing attendees. I'll say that the tennis was at a high level (for our age group, that is; forget Wimbledon and the U.S. Open). But most of all, it's a lot of fun. Summer lunches are held at Danny's club in Larchmont (what better way to get out of the city?) and fall lunches will start in October at Faculty House and the Columbia University Club of New York. Please contact me via email if you are not on my class notification list and would like to join us.

A quick report on class fundraising for the fiscal 2013 year, which ended June 20: We met all of our class fundraising goals, so thanks to all classmates who contributed. As a Class Agent, together with **Danny Link**, **Stanley Soren** and **Al Franco '56E**, I can only encourage you all to continue your generosity. I am also class representative for Planned Giving. If this type of giving, which includes your will, investment, tax situation and financial planning, is something you would like to explore, please email me and I will put you in touch with the proper representative in the Alumni Office who can provide additional information. Think "a legacy to Columbia will be a good thing."

Again, please let me or **Lou Hemmerdinger** (lhemmer@aol.com) know of any news that you would like to share in Class Notes. Also if you have changed your email address, postal address or phone number, please inform the CCT staff at college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus; this is part of our mission to connect all class members with our activities.

I trust that as Columbia students begin their academic year, you had an enjoyable summer and that you stay healthy and wise.

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**Edward Alexander** writes from Seattle: "Because decades ago I failed in the parental duty to hire skywriters to inscribe our kids' SAT

scores in the heavens, I'd like now to make amends. Our daughter Rebecca has been all of the following: Hebrew teacher, Judaica librarian, artist, botanist and poet. Her artwork has appeared in the journals *Bridges* and *Judaism*. Her best-known publication is *Alef is Silent: A Hebrew Alphabet*. It was praised by writer Cynthia Ozick for 'bringing to mind those traditional Victorian alphabet books, with their lovely tone of entering the child's world.' Rebecca also has published several botanical articles in the *Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin*. Her most recent publication is *Raising Gladioli in Peshawar*, a poem occasioned by the barbaric Woolwich murder in London. It appears in the July 2013 issue of the British monthly *Standpoint*.

"My wife, Leah, and I have not escaped the wounds inflicted upon those who pass their allotted biblical threescore and ten, but we soldier on."

**Bob Alter** gave a presentation of his latest book, *Ancient Israel, The Former Prophets, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, and Kings*, at the 92nd Street Y on May 13. Irish poet Seamus Heaney, a member of the Belfast Group at Queen's University and a recipient of a Nobel Prize in literature (1995), has called Bob's work "a godsend — immediately readable, immensely learned, an education and a restitution."

Bob is professor emeritus of Hebrew and comparative literature at UC Berkeley and also a professor in the graduate school there; he still teaches and works with graduate students. He has been teaching at UC Berkeley since 1967 and is working on translating a large volume of Yehuda Amichai's poetry.

Bob earned master's (1958) and doctoral (1962) degrees from Harvard in comparative literature. His career began as a writer at *Commentary Magazine*, where for many years he was a contributing editor. He has written 23 books and most recently has been noted for his translation of sections of the Bible. His Wikipedia page lists six of his translations of the Hebrew Bible as well as selections from his other works, references and external links. See also his professor web page at nes.berkeley.edu/Web\_Alter/Alter.html. Bob lectures on topics ranging from biblical episodes to Kafka's modernism and Hebrew literature. The subjects of his writing are varied, including European novels from the 18th century to the present, contemporary American fiction and modern Hebrew literature.

Bob's honors and awards include the Kluge Scholars Council at the Library of Congress; president, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics and Writers; Guggenheim

fellow, 1966 and 1978; fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected 1986); senior fellow of the National Endowment of the Humanities; fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies of Jerusalem; Old Dominion Fellow at Princeton; editorial board, *Jewish Review of Books*; National Jewish Book Award for Jewish Thought; Robert Kirsch Award (*Los Angeles Times*) for lifetime contribution to American letters; and doctor of humanities, Yale (2010).

**Ward Armstrong** received the Utah Sports Hall of Fame Foundation Distinguished Service Award on March 19 in recognition and honor of a lifetime of "outstanding leadership and service in school, community, recreation and sports activities." The presentation was at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy, Utah.

Ward has been involved with sports for much of his life. His family had a sporting goods business in Utah. At Ogden H.S., Ward was captain of the swimming team and co-captain of the football team.

At Columbia he was a member of the varsity swimming team and captain of the freshman swimming team. After stints with Kaiser Aluminum in St. Louis and Denver, he returned to Utah to enter the family business. He later was a school supply salesman for Wolves, Stevens & Brown and Universal Athletic, retiring in 1998.

Ward had a distinguished career as a volunteer in local and regional activities. He says, "I always felt that as a volunteer I could pay back to the various sports that had been so good to me. Virtually all of my work in athletics and shooting sports has been unpaid except for the great pleasure I obtained from working with coaches, athletes and gun enthusiasts in the Utah area."

"None of my volunteer work was as enjoyable as that with the Board of Directors of the Utah Sports Hall of Fame. It is a great organization with a great future." Ward served 14 years on that board, including two years as president.

Ward also was a volunteer official in the following sports: track and field (certified and worked as finish judge and clerk of course for 50 years; received the Utah High School Activities Association track coaches' award for volunteer service); cross country (served as finish chute judge at high school and college meets for more than 40 years); swimming (served more than 30 years as starter and finish judge for high school meets at the regional and state levels); wrestling (was head scorer for several state meets as well as three Big Sky championship meets); football (was certified high school official for

Utah and Wyoming for five years); and baseball (served 40 years on the Utah High School All-Star Game Committee, including six years as chairman; received special recognition awards in 1994 and 2007).

In addition to sports activities, Ward served on the Salvation Army Board of Directors (1962–70, chairman 1966–68) and on the Board of Directors of the Utah Gun Collectors Association (1967–71). Upon retirement, Ward commenced being a volunteer docent at the Browning Firearms Museum, where he has logged more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service.

**Marty Fisher** writes, "We had a record (or near-record; no one keeps score) at our class luncheon on May 29. **Ed Weinstein** hosted us at the Columbia University Club of New York. The last luncheon had been scheduled for late October and was canceled on account of Hurricane Sandy. This might have engendered some pent-up demand for the informal good fellowship that these events encourage. Ed and I were joined by **Pete Anker**, **Stan Barnett**, **Art Bernstein**, **Larry Boes**, **Joe Diamond**, **Ted Dwyer**, **Joe Feldschuh**, **Jerry Finkel**, **Bob Fleischer**, **Sal Franchino**, **Dave Kinne**, **Neil McLellan**, **Art Meyerson**, **Mark Stanton** and **Paul Zola**."

"Following are some random tidbits picked up between courses:

"Paul has moved to Stamford, Conn., where he practices mediation and arbitration. Stan made the longest trip to the lunch, from Rhode Island, where he is emeritus professor at the University of Rhode Island. Art Bernstein, who retired as a professor of computer science at Stony Brook, has developed the art and skill of a professional sculptor in Setauket on Long Island, where he resides."

"Dave enjoys his volunteer work as a docent at the Met. He and his wife, Kathleen, have retained their country home in Vermont. Ed and his wife, Sandra, divide their 'baby-sitting' time between their local son's children and their daughter's family in San Francisco."

## 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.

"There were no medical emergencies at the luncheon but if one had occurred, we had no fewer than a half-dozen qualified medics to take the call: Dwyer, Feldschuh, Finkel, Flescher, Kinne and Meyerson. This gave us a cozy sense of safety and security at our extremely sociable lunch."

Yours truly attended a special advance screening of the film *Joachim Prinz: I Shall Not Be Silent* at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., on May 22. It was followed by a panel discussion. The event was especially meaningful for me, as I well remember Rabbi Prinz's stirring declaration at the civil rights March on Washington on August 28, 1963, where I was on duty with the National Guard.

Rabbi Prinz, spiritual leader of the Jewish community of Berlin, was expelled from Nazi Germany for "speaking out against the systematic erosion of the civil rights of Jews by the Nazis." On arriving in the United States, where two years later he became rabbi of Temple B'nai Abraham in Livingston, N.J., "the struggles of disenfranchised African-Americans in the segregated South reminded him of his experiences in Germany." An organizer of the 1963 march, he stood with its other leaders, including Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Whitney Young Jr., A. Philip Randolph, Roy Wilkins, Floyd McKissick and John Lewis. Just before King's "I Have a Dream" speech, Rabbi Prinz declared: "Bigotry and hatred are not the most urgent problem. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence."

Earlier in May, I was in Nashville for American Bar Association meetings and my older grand-nephew's graduation from Vanderbilt. Among other things I also visited the full-size reproduction of the Parthenon in Centennial Park. It was built as a temporary structure for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition of 1897; the city rebuilt it in 1931 as a permanent one. Inside is a 42-ft. replica of Phidias' statue of Athena. I found the effect of the statue's staring eyes eerie, to say the least; it reminded me of Gilbert & Sullivan's Princess Ida's invocation to Minerva: "Oh, goddess wise."

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What an excellent reunion! Our 55th spanned the warm, sunny, long weekend of May 30–June 2 and was attended by almost 60 classmates

and, including their guests, more than 100 total participants. Our class activities began Friday night with a cocktail party and dinner in the Kellogg Center of the School of International and Public Affairs Building. The speaker, Peter Awn, dean of the School of General Studies, professor of religion and director of the Middle East Institute, talked about the Arab Spring, with particular attention to Syria, provoking a lively Q&A afterward.

On Saturday morning many classmates attended an all-class Dean's Day talk by Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L, who shared fond reminiscences of his undergraduate days, offered advice on the value of public service and participated in another spirited Q&A.

After lunch, a packed room heard a panel discussion moderated by **Carl Stern** '59J, former Supreme Court reporter for NBC and now Emeritus Professor of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University. The panel members and their topics were as follows:

**Mort Halperin**, now a senior adviser to the Open Society Foundations on "North Korea: Should People in Seoul, South Korea, Be Worried?" (he thought probably not); **Bernie Nussbaum** on "Hillary: Will She or Won't She?" (we shall see ...); **Larry Harris**, a lobbyist with the law firm of Patton Boggs, on "Congress: Is it Worth Than It Looks?" (yes, he says); **Morrie Amittay**, another longtime Washington insider and old Middle East hand, on "Where is the Middle East Headed?" (probably more chaos); and **Ernie Brod**, who leads the Business Intelligence Practice at Alvarez & Marsal, on "Can Financial Markets Be Trusted?" (no).

The afternoon's activities continued with affinity group receptions. Of particular interest was the NROTC reception, organized by **Stuart Huntington** and **Bob Jesspersen** in recognition of NROTC's return to campus. Stuart won the (virtual) multi-generational prize; he was accompanied by his younger brother, Lee, daughter Meredith and granddaughter Samantha.

The class events concluded with our Saturday dinner in Low Library, at which **Bernie Nussbaum** announced that our Class Gift, far surpassing our original goal, had topped \$400,000.

I am sorry to report the recent deaths of three classmates. **Myron Bander** '61 GSAS, a professor of physics and astronomy at UC Irvine, died on December 19, 2012, in Newport Beach, Calif. Myron was an NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at CERN (the European Laboratory for Nuclear Research), the Univer-

sity of Copenhagen and the University of Paris. He went to UC Irvine in 1966 and served two terms as physics department chair, was dean of the School of Physical Sciences and was on the American committee for the Board of Directors of the Weizmann Institute of Science. He is survived by his wife, Carol.

**Leon Mir** '59E died in Brookline, Mass., on February 23, 2013. He was a member of Phi Beta Kappa and earned his master's and doctoral degrees at MIT. At his death he had retired as v.p. for research at IONICS. He is survived by his wife, Judith; his children, Jonathan '98 Business and Lisa; and two grandchildren.

**Warren Smith** died in his hometown, Hampton Bays, N.Y., on January 20, 2013. After 30 years teaching in the East Meadow, N.Y., school district, he retired and became the owner of Lawnsmith's Landscaping and the Springville House, an operator of apartment buildings. As an undergraduate, he pitched on the Lion varsity baseball team and was president of Alpha Sigma Phi. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; his children, Karen, Joanne, Thomas and Susan; and eight grandchildren.

Also, if we may pay tribute to a non-classmate, sadly, Allan Gardner '59 died earlier this year. Allan was one of the key organizers of the annual Homecoming evening gathering, which began as a '58 *Spectator* event but grew gradually to include non-'58 and non-*Spectator* participants, making it a festive and always interesting event. Our ties with Allen go all the way back to when '58's *Spectator* managing board named him to our successor board. He was a good friend who faced down a lot of adversity in his last few years. We'll miss him, at Homecoming and always.

Back to happier news. **Ernie Brod**'s 75th birthday party, given by his wife, Ruthie, and his children, was quite a bash. Held at The Glasshouses in Chelsea, it featured a touching speech by his son, Jon; a song written and performed by his daughter Joanna; and a film created by his daughter Mara (a professional photographer), featuring Ernie's old Brighton Beach neighborhood. A dozen Columbians were in attendance, in addition to Ernie: **Arnie Abrams** '61 and his wife, Phyllis; **Peter Cohn** and his wife, Joan; **Barry Dickman** and his wife, Carol; **Joe Dorinson** and his wife, Eileen; **Peter Gruenberger** and his wife, Carin Lamm; **Linda Lynn**, widow of **Ted Lynn**; **Bernie Nussbaum** and his wife, Nancy Kuhn; **Howard Orlin** and his wife, Anita; **Shelly Raab** and his wife, Judy; **Bob Waldbaum** and his wife, Ruth; and **Mark Weiss** and his wife, Joan.

**John Giorno** was one of many poets who appeared at the New York Public Library's gathering to discuss the Spanish poet Federico García Lorca and to read from García Lorca's works. García Lorca, who wrote about his 1929–30 visit to NYC in his book, *Poet in New York*, was murdered by Franco's troops during the Spanish Civil War. García Lorca studied at GS, and his brother taught at Columbia during our school years.

**Rick Brous**, who along with **Paul Gomperz** founded the Columbia University Club of Northern New Jersey, now is a v.p. of the Columbia University Alumni Association of Southern California, proving, as Rick says, that his love for Columbia stretches from sea to shining sea. He adds that his daughter, Sharon Brous '95, '01 GSAS (whose husband, David J. Light '95, '02 Arts, has appeared in this column) was named by The Daily Beast as No. 1 among America's top 50 rabbis; she is the first woman so honored. [See CCT profile of Sharon, May 2005.]

Another '58 doctor has become an author. **Peter Cohn**, under the *nom de plume* of Alan N. Clifford, has recently produced his second novel. His first was *The Fatherland Files*. The newly published book, *Heart of Wisdom*, is about a survivor of the WWII Bataan Death March who becomes a renowned medical researcher only to run into scientific fraud in his department. Peter says the books were reviewed favorably, not only by *Publishers Weekly* but also by two noted literary critics: **Bob Levine** and **Bob Waldbaum**! [See Bookshelf.] Like so many '58 "retirees," Peter has kept his day job as a cardiologist at Stony Brook University Hospital, although only on a part-time basis. Incidentally, his pen name was borrowed from the names of his two sons. He and his wife, Joan, have four grandchildren and live in New York City.

**Ed Feige**, professor emeritus of economics at the University of Wisconsin, was featured in James Surowiecki's recent *The New Yorker* column "The Underground Recovery." Ed, a longtime maven on the underground economy, conducted a study showing that \$2 trillion of income goes unreported annually. Ed and other experts point to the transition from regular paychecks to increasing part-time and casual work which, coupled with distrust of government, has pushed more people to work off the books. Ed's solution is a novel system: a single, minuscule tax on all transactions (purchases, sales, bank withdrawals, etc.) to replace the income, payroll, estate and all other taxes. Will it fly? We'll see ...

Speaking of **Carl Stern**, his TV report — which aired on NBC in



1973 and uncovered the FBI's secret counterintelligence programs to harass and neutralize organizations and individuals whose political activities it deemed unwelcome — was selected by the Journalism School as one of "100 Great Stories" produced by its graduates during the past century. An exhibit about the story is on display at the Newseum in Washington, D.C. The Newseum recently placed Carl's 1965–1993 scripts in its permanent archives.

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. The cost is \$31 per person. Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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We begin with a reminder that our 55th reunion is next spring, so be sure to save the date for Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014.

**Morton Kleven** is already thinking about the big weekend. He writes, "With our 55th reunion and my 75th birthday on the horizon, I felt the need to reflect on what Columbia has meant to me, the College's role in my subsequent career path, and the twists, turns and personal highlights of my professional life. Kierkegaard said that life is lived forward but understood backward. When I think back to my years at Columbia, I remember, of course, the fantastic courses and teachers, particularly Jim Shenton '49, '54 GSAS' seminar on Reconstruction and the seminar in Oriental Humanities taught by professors Arthur Danto '53 and Wm. Theodore 'Ted' de Bary '41, '53 GSAS. As much as I value the critical thinking skills that Columbia instilled in me and believe that Columbia in great part made me who I am today, I also value the friendships I formed there. Fifty-five years later, I am still in touch with **Bennet Silverman**, **Isser Woloch**, **Harvey Leifert**, **Ken Scheffel** and **Jerry Wacks**, even though Harvey is the only one who lives nearby in the Washington, D.C., area, my home

for the past 40 years.

"As for my professional life, I am a bit bemused as to how it turned out. While in college I intended to become a professor of American history; however, a class with Robert V. Rimini at Columbia Graduate Faculties [now GSAS] showed me that I would have difficulty getting a position at a first-rate university. I received a B+ in the class, which is roughly equivalent to a D in an undergraduate course. So, the next semester, I tried my hand at constitutional law with Gerald Gunther '50 GSAS at the Law School, receiving an A-. Well, I thought this was great; I'd become a lawyer. Being the son of an immigrant plumber from the far reaches of Brooklyn, I was one of the few Jews in NYC who didn't know what lawyers actually did. I didn't know that constitutional law was to the practice of law what filet mignon was to a McDonald's hamburger.

"Looking back on my career, I think the law was a good fit for me and suited to my talents, later on even giving me a chance to fulfill my interest in teaching. After graduating from law school, I bounced around from a Wall Street law firm to a general counsel position at a large privately held firm, to a specialty securities law firm, and then to a real estate developer in the D.C. area, where, as general counsel, I took the firm public. In 1974, with the passage of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), I landed in the Office of the Solicitor at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), as counsel for fiduciary responsibility; I personally drafted or supervised the drafting of the seminal fiduciary regulations to implement the new law, with a staff that first year of three attorneys straight out of law school. Those regulations have stood the test of time, and have remained virtually unchanged for nearly 40 years.

"I expected to remain just a few years in government service and then return to private practice. But fate intervened in the form of a major illness for my daughter. There was no Obamacare, so I continued at DOL because our family needed the government's health benefits, unavailable in a private firm because of my daughter's pre-existing condition. In the Office of the Solicitor, in addition to the fiduciary regulations, I worked on the agreements that transferred management of the [then-named] Central States Teamsters Pension, Health and Welfare Funds to independent investment managers. Later, in a promotion to senior policy adviser to the assistant secretary, I was given the task of leading the department's investigation into the investments made by the trustees of those funds

before their removal as managers. A prior investigation, which had failed, had been subject to intense criticism from Congress. But my investigation recovered \$21.5 million for the plan participants, though it took many years, without any congressional oversight hearings.

"My job in government also gave me the opportunity to teach ERISA law. I lectured extensively for the American Bar Association on the department's regulations and created the first course in the country on the labor aspects of ERISA at Georgetown Law, where I was an adjunct professor for many years. My years in government were the

titled *Beethoven: The Relentless Revolutionary*." By now, he should have returned from a month in Germany doing Beethoven work.

**Allen D. Klein** writes, "After 35 years as a v.p. of Schlumberger, I am now engaged in international tax consulting. My wife, Carol, and I divide our time among Stamford, Conn., Delray Beach, Fla., and Washington, D.C., where our three grandchildren live with their parents — Todd Stern, who is a special envoy for climate change with the Department of State, and Jennifer Klein, who works for Hillary Clinton."

**Michael J. Tannenbaum** reports, "My book, *High p<sub>r</sub> Physics in the*

#### Frank Wilson '59 was the Senior Goldman Sachs Fellow at the Jerome and Dorothy Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation of the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.

most fulfilling and intellectually stimulating of my career. Upon my retirement in 2008, the editor of *Pensions & Investments* wrote the article 'The Man Who Was ERISA,' describing the impact I had on the interpretation of the law.

"When I retired, I went back to my first passions: politics and civil rights. Living in Manhattan in the 1960s I had been active in local democratic politics in Greenwich Village, where I was a member of Community Planning Board No. 2 and where I revived a defunct insurgent Reform Democratic Club, the Downtown Independent Democrats. I also ran parts of a successful State Assembly campaign and an unsuccessful State Senate campaign. I was most proud of being an attorney when I volunteered for several weeks in Mississippi during the Freedom Summer of 1964 under the auspices of JFK's Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Later, as a civil servant, I was barred from participating in these activities. But retirement in 2008 gave me an opportunity to go back to those loves. I volunteered in the Obama campaigns in 2008 and 2012 in Richmond, Va., registering voters on college campuses, which I enjoyed tremendously.

"By the time this is published, my wife, Carla, and I will have returned from a trip to Italy, where we rented a villa outside Siena with our children, Miriam and David, their spouses and our three grandchildren, all in celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary."

**John Clubbe** writes, "Norton is giving me a contract for my Beethoven study, provisionally

*Heavy Ion Era*, co-authored with Jan Rak, was published in June. In conjunction, I gave a new book presentation at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, on June 13. I work full-time and remain productive, including several talks per year at international meetings."

**Ray LaRaja** writes, "This year has been quite significant for me. I reached 75 years on this earth and recently helped my bride enjoy her 75th as well! She has been a sustaining joy and succor for me and our three children and grandchildren.

"It has been four years since I entered the world of retirement and, to be honest, I don't miss my 40 years in surgery and teaching students and surgical residents at all — enough is enough! I did several years of volunteer work in a Meals on Wheels program and as a tutor in an English as a Second Language program before my hip and knee arthritis became severe enough that it precluded my continuing these activities (couldn't get in and out of cars).

"In early June I attended a reunion of the Vietnam 312th Evacuation Hospital, where I was stationed in 1968–69 at a place called Chu Lai, as a busy trauma surgeon operating on our wounded GIs. The reunion was held in Greensboro/Winston Salem, N.C.

"I have been asked to serve on the committee for our 55th College reunion, and I have gladly accepted. Speaking of reunions, I also recently attended the 50th for my NYU medical school class."

**Frank Wilson** was in Washing-

ton, D.C., as the Senior Goldman Sachs Fellow at the Jerome and Dorothy Melson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation of the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution. He says he had a ball, including at a gathering with **Dan Ein, Ben Huberman** and **Sam Tindall**.

**David B. Smith** reports, "[At this writing, my wife,] Helen, and I are soon to leave Turkey, where we have spent a delightful six weeks, and head for the Outer Hebrides. We'll spend three weeks there in a tiny village, Tolsta Chaloais, visiting friends and enjoying the elemental landscape. Then, we're off to the Orkney Islands until mid-September.

"During August, Helen once again will work on a fascinating archaeological site, the Ness of Brodgar. Situated between two large stone circles, the Ness has revealed a walled ceremonial compound with more than 12 stone structures, all older than Stonehenge. While Helen is digging, I'll be writing. I recently published an article on the Stromness Museum in the *Journal of Museum Ethnography*.

"Last winter, we brought Nick Card, the archaeologist in charge of the Ness, to Washington, D.C., where, speaking at several venues, he introduced Americans to new finds, including before an audience of 500 at the Smithsonian.

"After the Orkney Islands, we'll spend a month in Cabrerets, in the Midi-Pyrénées, in a small house set along the Célé River. There, there is a splendid paleolithic cave with wonderful paintings called *Peche Merle*. ... We'll finish our wanderings in Venice and return to Washington in early November. I hope all our classmates had as wonderful a summer as we did."

**Richard Engelman** shares this story: "My wife, Jane, and I were on a three-week cruise from Buenos Aires to Rio with two couples from our community of Longmeadow in Western Massachusetts, and the cruise was nearing its end. We went to the dining room and were asked if we would sit at a table for eight with another couple who had been seated a short while before. We naturally agreed and found ourselves with a gentleman who had grown up in Brooklyn and attended Midwood H.S. two years ahead of my wife. When asked where he had gone to college, he said Columbia. My wife realized that he would be in my class and, after exchanging last names, we realized we had been roommates during senior year. This was **Ira Silberman**, and we suddenly were hugging, not having seen or spoken to each other in 54 years. He is in Philadelphia and I am in Springfield. We were both at our 50th reunion and did not see

one another at that time. One immediately recognizes how small a world we live in."

**Allen Rosenshine** writes, "Having been forbidden by my wife from playing tennis due to my second (thankfully successful) back surgery, she permits me to continue skiing, if not as aggressively as in years past (maybe she's trying to get rid of me!). We spend the winters in Park City, Utah, where we have a condo in Deer Valley; most of the summer months in Lyme, Conn.; and the rest of the time traveling or in our downsized apartment in Manhattan. My daughter graduated from Fordham School of Law in May, which hopefully ends the stream of tuition checks associated with my four children, but

spoke rhapsodically of the educational opportunity he felt privileged to receive at Columbia. "Contemporary Civilization: The most perfect curriculum ever devised. The Humanities: Core courses taught by brilliant professors. I'm not smarter than everyone I know but I do think I got a superior education to everyone I know. My Harvard and Yale friends would agree."

And he spoke with more than equal enthusiasm of the cultural wonders of New York to which he was then exposed. His first night as a freshman was spent sitting on the sidewalk outside the darkened Mark Hellinger Theatre, waiting for the line to form the next morning to purchase a standing-room-only ticket to see *My Fair Lady*. "It

### **Bill Tanenbaum '60** returned in May from a visit to Jerusalem, Bucharest, the Normandy beaches and Paris, a trip where he often walked 4-6 miles a day.

not those for my grandchildren in private school, which now costs an order of significant magnitude more than what we paid at Columbia.

"I keep my mind from atrophy in retirement by doing marketing consulting for a variety of organizations, primary among them an anti-drug effort I helped found in 1986 and The Nature Conservancy, for which I am a Connecticut trustee. Beyond that, I look forward to seeing our classmates next year. Having served as chairman of herding cats for our 50th reunion, however, I will pass on any responsibility other than attending our 55th. Hope to see you there."

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**Terrence McNally**, winner of four Tony Awards and an Emmy Award, among a plethora of honors and recognition as one of America's great playwrights, was the keynote speaker at Class Day on May 21. Addressing the Class of 2013 on South Lawn, Terrence allowed as how he was in "an unfamiliar situation." He continued, "Hav[ing] spent a lifetime putting words into the mouths of characters I have created ... standing here this morning, the words and voice are my own and the character is me. ... I'm used to standing in the dark at the back of a theatre listening to actors tell you what's on my mind."

Then, crying "curtain up," Terrence brilliantly delivered his reminiscences, his observations and his advice to the graduating class. He

would be like that for the next four years. If it was Columbia versus the city, the city and what it had to offer frequently won."

He spoke poignantly about his experiences as a gay man in the '50s. "It was an easy time to be a middle-class, white male at a prestigious university. What wasn't easy was to be gay at one. This was more than a decade before Stonewall. I was out but I felt alone."

He spoke with introspection. "I got through my four years despite the distractions, in large measure and thanks to Mrs. McElroy, my public high school teacher, who taught us how to organize our thoughts and put them down on paper in a cohesive essay. If you can write, you can get away with murder. The difficulty comes when you get good at being glib instead of telling the truth, which is the goal of any artist. Columbia taught me to respect the truth but it didn't teach me how to write the truth. That's where the writer's blocks and the demons arise to confront us. It will always be hard to be truthful in our work but it's the only thing that ultimately matters in the arts and, finally, our lives. Is it honest?"

As for advice, Terrence's remarks were blissfully brief: "Be nicer to people" and "wash your hands more frequently" are fairly representative of the *bons mots* he imparted to the graduates to satisfy the obligation that befalls the honor of being selected as the Class Day keynoter.

[Editor's note: Read McNally's full speech here: [college.columbia.edu/terrencemcnally](http://college.columbia.edu/terrencemcnally).]

**Joe Giacalone** writes that 2012 was a golden year, with four 50th milestones for him and his wife,

Marianne: "In May, the occasion was the 50th year of earning my M.B.A. from St. John's University. In August, St. John's recognized my 50 years as a member of its full-time faculty. Late September marked the 50-year celebration of my wife's graduation from nursing school at Queens Hospital Center. Twenty-six of her classmates (out of a class of about 52) came to Queens from 13 states for the event. Finally, on December 29, we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with 80 family members and friends. Marianne decorated this year's Christmas tree with gold ornaments and a big '50' tree-topper.

"I am now in my 51st year of teaching economics at St. John's; I write one or two papers a year. Most recently, I published an article on the rare earth minerals market and delivered a paper on the private spaceflight industry. I lean toward microeconomic industry studies and have written articles on robotics, health care, medical tourism, viatical settlements and the market for luxury goods and casino gaming in Macao as well as a book on the nursing home industry. As is evident, my research tastes are eclectic.

"We are not world travelers like some of our classmates. However, with two children and three grandchildren in Las Vegas, we venture there a few times each year. As gamblers, however, we are pitiful. We never win but we don't lose much either. Two years ago, we took a 20-person family contingent on a Disney cruise to the Bahamas. Marianne and I were to cruise to Bermuda in June. Our two Long Island children and several grandchildren keep us active close to our home in Flushing, Queens. A vacation cottage in Sussex County, N.J., gives us another regular getaway option.

"I have a little email contact with my Alpha Chi Rho fraternity brothers **Andy Kubishen** in Virginia and **Frank Zmorzenski** in Florida. Both were career naval officers out of Columbia's ROTC program. Andy and Frank are close friends and visit each other on a regular basis. Andy has become a prolific cyclist and kayaker and participates in events up and down the eastern seaboard."

The peripatetic **Bill Tanenbaum** returned in May from a visit to Jerusalem, Bucharest, the Normandy beaches and Paris, a trip where he often walked 4-6 miles a day. While in Jerusalem he went sightseeing with **Joel Levine** and Joel's wife, Zehaviv, who live in Samara, Israel. The Normandy beaches were visited on V-E Day, May 8. Bill took note of the 9,378 graves at the



Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer; most of those buried there were killed on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

There are 185 known moons of the planets and dwarf planets in our solar system. In his third astronomy book in as many years, *Moons of the Solar System*, **Tom Hamilton** covers them all. To give you a taste, here is one piece of information: As the moon travels around Earth, we can observe its several phases, which take an average of 29.53 days to complete. The phases include the new moon, the waxing crescent, the first quarter, the waxing gibbous, the full moon, the third or last quarter moon, and the waning crescent. So when do we see the half moon? "The only Half Moon," Tom informs us, "was Henry Hudson's ship; there is no lunar phase with that name." The names of the moons and their meanings, discoverers, discovery dates, orbits, sizes, geology and much else can be found in Tom's book.

**Peter Phillipps** sends greetings from retirement in Florida: "My wife, Suzy, and I have lived in Venice, Fla., for more than seven years and have never questioned our decision to leave the cold weather behind. We also have become active in the community, enjoying a remarkable range of cultural activities (the Sarasota area offers opera, two symphony orchestras, five theatre companies and a variety of individual performers and touring Broadway shows, as well as the Ringling Museum Complex) and working with several local civic organizations. I am co-president of the Jewish Congregation of Venice, program chair for the Columbia University Club of Sarasota, parliamentarian of the board of directors of the Sarasota Opera Guild and secretary/treasurer of the Venetian Golf & River Club Property Owners Association.

"We also have engaged in some exciting foreign travel, including trips to South America and the Antarctic in 2009, the Far East in 2010, Israel and Jordan in 2011, the Caribbean in 2012 and the British Isles this year. In 2014, we will sail on the new *Regal Princess* for a month in the Mediterranean and across the Atlantic back to Florida.

"Our family is spread across the country. Daughter Debra and her family live in Irvington, N.Y., with one son away at college in California. Son David and his family live in Emmaus, Pa., with one son a junior at Temple and another entering Widener in the fall. Son Larry and his family live in Marin County, Calif. With three grandsons turning 20 this year, two turning 18 and our only granddaughter 14, we are accepting the

fact that we are getting older and look forward to meeting the next generation when it arrives.

"In June, we celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary and 53 years since the Class of 1960 graduated from the College. We continue to be amazed at how long it has been and how much we have seen along the way."

Two sad notes: **Norman Hildesheim** died peacefully in his home in Fairfield, Conn., on March 20. His obituaries acknowledge his accomplishments as an architect and international hotel developer. He earned his degree in architecture at Harvard. He designed and developed hotels for InterContinental Hotels Group and Bechtel Corp.'s International Division, and he was a partner with Hotel Development Associates. He rowed lightweight crew at Columbia and later coached the Columbia lightweight, a position he balanced with an assignment teaching a course in architecture at Harvard; he also was the freelance crew correspondent for *The New York Times*, and a lifeguard at Jennings Beach in Fairfield each summer for some 54 years. But that is only a beginning in describing Norman. He was an original; or perhaps he was a gentleman from an earlier era. He lived his life with an easy grace and a driving abundance of energy. If those qualities seem in conflict, Norman managed them in splendid harmony. He carried himself with an elegant self-confidence that was disarming. The legacy of stories he leaves behind are legendary.

There was, for example, the evening when Norman, on 42nd Street, spotted a familiar chauffeured limousine with a recognizable license plate. When a red light stopped traffic Norman strode to the vehicle and inquired whether the occupant was headed for Morningside Heights. Though he did not know Norman at all, the occupant acknowledged that to be his destination, and so Norman got himself invited to return to campus in style, riding beside a somewhat bewildered Grayson Kirk (president of the University from 1953-68).

When we were undergraduates, *The New York Times* reported crew races with greater interest than it covered basketball or professional football, so much so that for each race that the newspaper followed, it listed the names of the oarsmen in each competing shell. Eventually that ended, much to Norman's consternation. Norman, so the story goes, walked into publisher Arthur Sulzberger '51's office and expressed his displeasure with the inadequacy of coverage, whereupon Sulzberger offered Norman a byline as an unpaid correspon-

dent. Norman seized the offer and reported on crew races worldwide, including the Henley Royal Regatta.

Then there is the story of his revival of *The Varsity Show* musical starring athletes in drag, *Nothing Sacred*, which he wrote with **Frank Decker** (now deceased). Richard Rodgers '23 and Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916) were in the audience on opening night and wanted to bring the show to Broadway. Alas, that did not come to pass. And the stories go on. But our space is too limited.

Norman was delightful company, dedicated to a legion of friends who returned his warmth and friendship and will remember him fondly. Condolences to the vast circle of those he befriended and to his adopted son, David Kardos.

We received late word that **David S. David** '64 P&S died at his home in Beverly Hills on April 19. He was a nephrologist and an attending physician at New York Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center. He moved to Los Angeles, where he was a nephrologist and internist in private practice and a clinical professor of medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. We send our condolences to David's wife, Vera; daughter, Lisa; son, Eric; and three grandchildren.

Keep writing and be well.

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#### Michael Hausig

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**Barry McCallion** and Joanne Canary were in southern Africa with the Alumni Travel Study Program in May and early June. Their previous plans to visit the Galápagos Islands and Machu Picchu were somehow sidetracked but with luck those destinations await them.

Barry continues to work on the series of unique, so-called artist's books he began several years ago. The books are represented by Priscilla Juvelis, Inc., and several examples were on view at The New York Antiquarian Book Fair at the Park Avenue Armory Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America last spring.

**Dr. Ted Stanley** accepted an invitation to join the Board of Directors of a public company called INSYS Therapeutics, which sells pain relief products. Ted now is on the board of directors of seven private and two public companies. In addition, this past spring he was awarded The Utah Governor's Medal for Science and Technology for his innovations.

**Richard Zamoff** writes that the staff at The George Washing-

ton University's Jackie Robinson Project has completed a children's book. Titled *Jackie Robinson: More Than a Baseball Player, A Hero*, the book includes important information on Robinson's life after baseball and the impact he made as an informal civil rights leader (and is quite topical in light of the recent release of the Robinson biopic 42). The book has been translated into Spanish. The Jackie Robinson Project staff is seeking publication options and would be interested in suggestions. Richard, an associate professor of sociology at GW, can be reached at 202-994-6345 or rbzamoff@gwu.edu.

**Jeff Rudell** updated his website, scubadivechamber.com, and added a link to a copy of his book *Bends Explained: How to Plan a Safe Dive*. He also hosted a video on Twitter (@effr) explaining the Air France flight 447 crash.

**Bob Salman** was one of six inaugural inductees on June 13 into the Monmouth County Democrats Hall of Fame. Former Gov. James Florio was the evening's guest speaker. Bob's plaque was presented to him by the mayor of his town, Jonathan Hornik. Three days later, on June 16, Bob and his wife, Reva, celebrated their 50th anniversary. Bob continues to be active in the practice of law with the Wall Street/New Jersey law firm of LaRocca Hornik Rosen Greenberg & Blaha (where I am special counsel).

**Gene Milone's** term as president of Division B Commission 25 on Astronomical Photometry and Polarimetry of the International Astronomical Union has ended, and he was pleased that a resolution on guidelines for optical and infrared passbands was passed by the IAU at its General Assembly in Beijing at the end of August 2012. The commission had been trying to get such a resolution passed for 60 years, so he regarded this as a feather in the old cap!

Gene also noted the imminent availability of the second edition of his two-volume work *Solar System Astrophysics: Planetary Atmospheres and the Outer Solar System*, co-authored with William J.F. Wilson and for which he uses the formal name Eugene F. Milone. Gene noted it was quite a challenge to keep up with the burgeoning research on both the solar and extra-solar systems, the latter now occupying a significant portion of the second volume, but he believes they were successful.

I noted a number of inoperable email addresses in my recent request for updates. If you have changed your email address or are not receiving requests for Class Notes from me, please provide me with your current information. My

email address is listed at the top of the column. Thank you in advance.

[Editor's note: Please also send your new information to CCT so we may update the College's records: college.columbia.edu/cct/update\_contact\_info, cct@columbia.edu or 212-851-7852.]

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From Fethiye, Turkey, a seacoast town on the Mediterranean, **Hilmi Toros '63J** writes that he spends his time "sailing and writing, if not traveling." Hilmi retired early, twice. First, from the Associated Press, where he was a reporter, editor and correspondent in its Miami, New York, United Nations and Rome bureaus, and then as chief of press operations with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. He enjoys being in contact with classmates through email (wordsmithsailor@hotmail.com) or Facebook.

From Durham, N.C., former class president **John Garman** recently traveled for a month to Venice, Florence and Rome and "actually saw what we only read about in Art Humanities. Four thousand photos later, I'm still trying to understand and absorb it!" John keeps in contact with **Dick McKenna**, **Richard Harbison** and **Joe Leska**, who, he reports, "are all healthy and living life to its fullest." John and his wife have five grandchildren between 2 and 14 who "are growing up fast. What more could one ask for?"

**Andrew Jampoler's** fifth book, *Congo: The Miserable Expeditions and Dreadful Death of Lt. Emory Taunt, USN*, has been published. He says, "It is the sad story of the United States and the Congo during the last decades of the 19th century. I tell the story as a biography of the first resident American diplomat in Equatorial West Africa, Emory Taunt. He died on the river in January 1891."

I know Andrew would be especially pleased if his classmates would help him tell readers about his book. Publishers increasingly leave the marketing of their publications to their authors. You may reach Andrew at jampoler@earthlink.net.

Meanwhile, Andrew continues to research and write history and to travel: "My wife and I are preparing for a cruise into the North and Baltic Seas that will require something over a dozen maritime history lectures."

**Michael Stone** and his wife, Shelley, moved from a condominium into a lovely house in Boynton

Beach, Fla. — three bedrooms, family room and a large lanai, plus a beautiful swimming pool. He adds, "The community is Venetian Isles. We are blessed." Their new address is 8848 Via Tuscany Drive, Boynton Beach, FL 33472, and phone is 561-736-6907. Michael may regret it but he says, "There is plenty of room, so come visit."

**Barry Leeds**, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English at Central Connecticut State University, has continued to teach his Mailer and Hemingway courses for the 10 years since his nominal retirement. This May marked 50 years of university teaching for Barry. He and his college roommate, **Howard Felperin**, who reunited in New York at our 50th reunion, have discovered that the friendship between two guys in their 72nd years is as rewarding as that between two 21-year-olds.

**Larry Wittner**, professor of history emeritus at SUNY Albany, has retired from 43 years of teaching and has used his newly found leisure to write a novel, *What's Going On at UAardvark?* He describes the book as "an over-the-top satire about corporatization and rebellion on a modern university campus."

### Larry Wittner '62 has retired from 43 years of teaching and has written a novel, *What's Going On at UAardvark?*

Larry is the author or editor of another dozen books but this is his first work of fiction. When he entered Columbia in 1958, he reports, he was planning to become a novelist, but was sidetracked by his interest in history. Now he has returned to his first love.

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Well, our wonderful 50th reunion is gone but not forgotten. The events leading up to it and the many stories told and heard will fill these notes and probably spill over into the next issue. Many of us on the Reunion Committee worked on this for more than 1½ years, and I have included a salute to all 25 of them on our website, cc63ers.com. We owe every one of them our thanks.

A few weeks before reunion there was Class Day, and several of us took part in the Alumni Parade of Classes. **Bruce Kaplan** and **Doron Gopstein** held our '63 banner proudly, and **Henry Black**,

**Don Margolis**, **Phil Satow** and I had the pleasure of wearing full academic regalia and handing out class pins to the nearly 1,200 graduating seniors in the Class of 2013. It was an honor and a lot of fun to congratulate each of them.

The next day, Henry and Don marched in the academic procession at Commencement and witnessed me acting as the Honorary Hood Marshall through the ceremonies. If you have never come to a Columbia Commencement, you really should try to find an excuse to attend. It is an extraordinarily happy occasion.

Leading up to reunion, we each received a Class of 1963 50th reunion pin in the mail from Dean James J. Valentini and were able to purchase our own Columbia blue 50th anniversary tie thanks to **Robert Prenner** of the Ben Silver Collection. To complete our spiffy outfits, we were each handed an official Class of '63 baseball hat when we arrived for Alumni Reunion Weekend. With so much branding it was a cinch to recognize classmates throughout the weekend.

Our schedule for the weekend was a full one, and each event has been called "the best" by at

in a non-air conditioned room, we managed to stay awake through the usual speeches as well as greetings from the dean. And of course, we also had great conversations with many of our long-lost friends.

Sunday morning brought the final chance to gather, with our class brunch in Low Library's Faculty Room. And then we said goodbye, until we meet again.

The verdict on the reunion? "Wonderful," "Bravo," "Terrific," "What a great time," "I had a blast" and "Truly memorable" were among the flood of comments I received.

**Ben Tua** says, "Apart from meeting up with friends and their spouses, one of the things I like about our reunions is speaking with classmates whom I did not know while at the College. I have met 'new' classmates at each of the three reunions I have attended, and this one was especially rewarding in this regard."

"I especially enjoyed learning about the really interesting, creative, courageous and sometimes idiosyncratic things that both new acquaintances and classmates whom I have known for years have done. It was tremendously impressive. As an indication of the quality of the event for our class, my wife told me, without prompting, that it was terrific — and I am quite sure she meant it."

**Doron Gopstein** writes, "Our reunion was about far more than memories. It was truly memorable. Thanks to everyone who was there for being there, for your friendships and for sharing parts of your life stories and who you are now."

Sadly, many classmates were unable to attend. **Larry Kettner** wrote in ahead of time: "I had been looking forward to getting together with classmates at the reunion. Unfortunately for me, I'm in the middle of a series of every-other-week chemo sessions that pretty much knock me out for a couple of days. The reunion coincides with one of those bad periods."

"I was especially looking forward to seeing one of my best friends from Columbia, **Ed Collier**, who I notice is on the Reunion Committee. I'd love to get together with him in one of my good weeks to catch up on the last 50 years."

**Dov Grunschlag** wrote, "I was making plans to attend and then my wife broke her ankle (in a very unexciting slip and fall). She had surgery and will have limited mobility for a couple of months, which eliminated all travel plans. I am very sorry to miss the reunion."

**Elliott Greher** wrote, "I am deeply sorry to decide not to come to the 50th. For various reasons I missed all the earlier ones but I was



not going to do so this time around. Health, however, has done me in. I walk poorly even with a cane. I see poorly because of limited vision in one eye and none in the other. When I retired 13 years ago, I did not realize how health would do me in even though I finally had the time to travel and, to a certain degree, the funds to travel where I wished. Now the reunion takes its turn."

**Richard Goldwater** (né Goldwasser) writes, "I left Columbia in 1963 feeling like a miserable failure academically and intellectually, and feeling deeply the loss of the friendships for which there was no longer a supportive context."

"LSD use during the 1970s helped me to recover or perhaps discover my wits, the downside of which was the sense that I had a Columbia education lying dormant within me. Not that I understood anything while I was at Columbia; I knew I was just accumulating impressions and collecting data that I might get back to later. The LSD galvanized all that, obligating me to reanimate the investment in my brain that medical school had mummified. A kind of intellectual rebirth occurred during my psychiatry residency (what else could I do, go into show business?) when I realized that I could think about Hamlet and King Lear as if they were patients of mine. Suddenly, I was no longer an intimidated dolt but a wise counselor to the severely miffed. I loved practicing what is now the lost art of psychotherapy (done in by Big Pharma and the Profit Motive), but in my spare time when not busy being divorced, I have struggled to accomplish what anybody at Columbia in those days might want to do over a lifetime: come out with a Theory of Everything. After all, if one thinks that one has figured out Hamlet's mystery, then figuring out the entire universe is the logical next step..."

So starts a long and fascinating note from Richard. Visit [cc63ers.com](http://cc63ers.com) for the full text and visit his websites, [rolesandrules.com](http://rolesandrules.com) and [profitandentropy.com](http://profitandentropy.com), to learn more.

**David Hitlin** '68 GSAS writes, "I was at the Saturday lunch at Casa Italiana but had to leave while the microphone was being passed around, as I had matinee theatre tickets, so I'm taking this opportunity to say a few words here instead."

"I, along with quite a number of physics majors in our year, stayed on at Columbia for grad school. The department had, at that time, seven current or future Nobel Prize winners; what better place to be? I got my degree in 1968 and stayed on for a year. I then spent 10 years at Stanford before going to Caltech in 1979, where I have been

ever since. I am an experimental elementary particle physicist and have led several large international collaborations. I remain active and hope to be at it for some time to come. I am married to Martha Mann Slagerman, a psychoanalyst with a practice in Santa Monica."

**Charles E. Miller** joined the law firm of Sills Cummis & Gross as senior counsel and co-chair of the Intellectual Property Law Group in the firm's midtown Manhattan office, where he continues his practice of counseling, licensing, litigation and dispute resolution, mainly in the fields of chemical and pharmaceutical patents.

**Frank Sypher** responded to my list of the top 10 moments of 1963, emailed to classmates before reunion. He says, "And yes, there was that strange man who whenever I passed him on the southwest corner of Broadway and 116th, outside of Chock Full o' Nuts, would shout at me: 'Youooooo ... YUMKEE!' Once I stopped and asked him what that meant, and he said it was all in the leaflet he had. So I asked him if I could have a leaflet, and he said, 'No! You YUMKEE!'"

**Mark Dintenfuss** added, "I knew the guy's performance well, and I wrote him into my first novel, which partially takes place on Morningside Heights, but I hadn't thought about him in a couple of decades or more. Now I'm back there in my mind. Can it really be half a century?"

"For the record, I've never attended reunions because they inconveniently come just when the spring term at Lawrence University (where I've spent my career teaching) is reaching its paper-grading, exam-preparing, student-needy climax. I really would have liked to come to this one but couldn't manage it. My regards to my old friends from *Spectator* who are on the Reunion Committee — **Dave Alpern, Doron Gopstein and Larry Apple** — and give a special hello to **Gary Rachelefsky**. He and I grew up on the same block in Brooklyn."

**Bill Goebel** wrote ahead of time, "[My wife] Barbara and I are looking forward to seeing my fellow alums at Sparks, a restaurant where I entertained and was entertained many times during my career at TIAA. In fact, I had lunch there the day after Paul Castellano's murder, which Pat Cetta, the owner, liked to call 'the incident.' I retired as an associate general counsel and team leader in September 2000 after a career of 28 years. Although it was stressful work, it was intellectually stimulating and rewarding, and I worked on and closed more than \$3 billion worth of commercial real estate transactions throughout the United States (the most memorable

of which is the famous Mall of America in Bloomington, Minn.). I was also fortunate to travel all over the world. We live in Syosset, N.Y., and have two children (Jason, an attorney and clearance officer with First American, and Pamela, who is a director at American Express). We also have two grandchildren who are aspiring athletes."

It is my sad duty to report the death of **Byron C. Cohen**, in Kansas City, Mo., on May 10, 2013. He had run an art gallery there and you can still visit his website at [byroncohengallery.com](http://byroncohengallery.com).

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the next ones, scheduled for October 10, November 14 and December 12 — it's always the second Thursday of the month. Check [cc63ers.com](http://cc63ers.com) for details.

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

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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The big news lies ahead: our 50th anniversary Alumni Reunion Weekend is next year and runs for five days: Wednesday, May 28–Sunday, June 1, 2014, one day longer than all the other classes' celebration.

**Steve Case** has agreed to chair the Reunion Committee. In the past **Nick Rudd** took charge, but with his passing someone had to step up to take the reins. We are grateful Steve did but are mindful he cannot do it alone.

During the summer, a preliminary organizational meeting was held by some classmates who live in the New York City area. We need broader participation and input, however. We want to fill those five days with programs that are not only fun but also are meaningful to everyone.

If you are unable to participate in NYC planning sessions, please send me your ideas and suggestions. (You can also get in touch with either of the Alumni Office contacts at the top of the column for ways to get involved.) And perhaps most importantly, start speaking to classmates in your area to generate inter-

est in coming so that attendance next year is as high as possible.

Obviously, a 50th reunion is significant for many reasons. Let's make it memorable.

**Ivan Weissman** reports that at Class Day in May, he, **Howard Jacobson, Peter Thall and Fred Kantor** carried our class banner during the Alumni Parade of Classes. The speech by playwright Terrence McNally '60 received a standing ovation. You can find it at [college.columbia.edu/TerrenceMcNally](http://college.columbia.edu/TerrenceMcNally). It is inspiring and, although intended for the Class of 2013, well suited for a class approaching its 50th reunion. I highly recommend it.

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**Bob Gunn** sent a great report on "what's been happening in my life." He writes, "After 40 years, I retired from my last full-time church job as a United Church of Christ pastor. I moved to my own apartment in Astoria, Queens, and continued my private practice of psychotherapy in Manhattan (which has been going for about 35 years). Having published one book, *Journeys Into Emptiness: Dogen, Merton, Jung and the Quest for Transformation*, my plan was to finish putting onto my computer several other books that had lain dormant in my mind, to polish my piano playing, to begin doing some chamber music and to focus on my practice of Zen Buddhism."

"So far, I have almost finished the first draft of my memoir, received ordination as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest and am just beginning to do some chamber music. In addition, I am teaching several courses: 'The Depth Psychological Dimensions of Inter-religious Dialogue and Double Belonging' at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, 'Transference and Countertransference' at the Metropolitan Institute for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy and a senior thesis seminar at New York Theological Seminary. This is what retirement looks like to me."

"A couple of years ago, I was delighted to join with fellow Columbia alums who had been members of the Glee Club at Alumni Reunion Weekend. It was a great rendezvous, organized largely through the extraordinary efforts of Nick Rudd '64, '67 Business, who unfortunately passed away last year. May the music continue! Greetings to all!"

Piqued by this, I asked Bob, "Can one be, and are you, simultaneously a Christian and a Buddhist? Are

# Frank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA Chases the Truth From Saigon to Los Angeles

BY TED RABINOWITZ '87

**F**rank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA stood on the roof of the U.S. embassy in Saigon. It was April 30, 1975. In a few minutes, the last CIA chopper would evacuate him to the U.S.S. *Denver*. The North Vietnamese were shelling the city. The air was filled with smoke as hundreds of South Vietnamese struggled in vain to enter the embassy and board a flight. Bowing to the inevitable, Snepp boarded the helicopter, knowing that he was abandoning friends and colleagues to the North Vietnamese.

The Fall of Saigon would be a decisive moment for Snepp. Angered by how the CIA and State Department had handled the

evacuation, he would become one of the CIA's first whistleblowers, and his legal battle to publish his exposé would go all the way to the Supreme Court. Afterward, he would become an award-winning investigative journalist, exposing corruption on the national and local levels. Snepp could not have predicted the path his career would take, but he knows that it started at Columbia.

Born in Kinston, N.C., Snepp came to Columbia as a self-described conservative Southerner with a taste for "drunken saber duels" with Princeton students. Columbia offered him unique opportunities: He attended lectures by Henry

Kissinger and Zbigniew Brzezinski, and was a publicity secretary for Jacques Barzun '27, '32 GSAS, I.I. Rabi '27 GSAS and Lionel Trilling '25, '38 GSAS when they went on lecture tours. Most importantly, the Morningside Heights campus exposed Snepp to people with backgrounds he had never encountered. "Columbia is such a terrific institution for anyone who wants to go into government or journalism, because you're always rubbing against the rough edge of reality," he says. "It teaches you to be tolerant, it teaches you to be watchful, it teaches you to understand the values of people who don't look like you ... a willingness to keep your eyes open for other people's truths."

After studying Elizabethan literature, Snepp spent a year at CBS News as a desk assistant for Walter Cronkite and Mike Wallace. He then returned to Columbia to study at the School of International Affairs (SIA, now SIPA).

Snepp's politics and academic specialization made him a strong candidate for the CIA. He was recruited by SIA's Associate Dean Philip Mosely, who had helped shape America's post-WWII foreign policy and was one of the world's leading authorities on Soviet affairs. "[Mosely] said, 'Frank, I don't think you're sophisticated enough to be in the State Department. How would you like to be a spy?'" Snepp agreed.

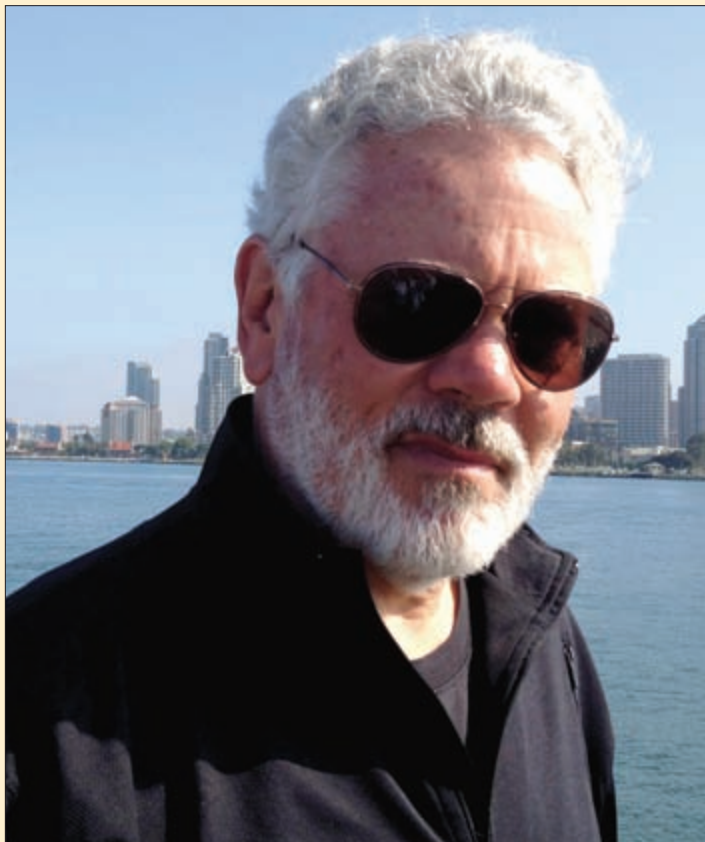
After a year in Europe, the CIA detailed Snepp to Vietnam in 1969. Turning down the traditional two-year assignment rotation, he remained in-country, becoming one of the Saigon station's top experts in North Vietnamese strategy and psychology. Unusually for the agency, he was both

a desk analyst and a field operative, running a key network of informants. It was difficult, dangerous work that exposed him to the underside of the war and placed him in morally ambiguous situations. He helped South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu flee Saigon in the middle of the night with suitcases full of gold; he was almost killed by an American soldier for providing medicine to a wounded prisoner; and he interrogated high-ranking prisoners, including Colonel Nguyen Van Tai, a top Communist operative who had come south to coordinate North Vietnam's counterintelligence and terror network in Saigon.

As he spent more and more time in-country, Snepp's views on the war and America's involvement began to change. "I loved the people, but I loathed the [South Vietnamese] government," he says. He saw fellow staffers at the U.S. Embassy who "threw up their hands" and descended into booze and drugs, and he encountered spectacular corruption among the South Vietnamese elite.

Snepp's disenchantment was made complete by the evacuation of American forces from Vietnam. The evacuation removed American personnel and some Vietnamese safely, but it left behind hundreds, perhaps thousands, of Vietnamese "assets" who had worked for the United States, often at great risk. Snepp believed that mismanagement, arrogance and political pressure at the CIA and State Department had abandoned these men and women to the harsh treatment of the invading North Vietnamese. For him, the loss was personal. "Some dear friends didn't get out, and killed themselves."

Once stateside, Snepp was awarded the CIA's Medal of Merit for his analyses during the last



Frank Snepp '65, '68 SIPA, seen in this recent photo from San Diego, had a career with the CIA and now is an investigative journalist in Los Angeles.

PHOTO: COURTESY FRANK SNEPP '65, '68 SIPA



months of the war. He pushed the CIA to investigate and report on the failures of the evacuation and to organize a rescue of its Vietnamese partners. After being rebuffed for a year, he quit the agency and wrote *Decent Interval*, a book documenting the evacuation and his time in Saigon. A.J. "Jack" Langguth, chief of *The New York Times'* Saigon bureau during the war, is unequivocal about *Decent Interval's* impact. "I'm not particularly sympathetic to Frank's former employer [the CIA]," he says, "but I think Frank's book is the single finest record of that shameful episode."

Published in 1977, *Decent Interval* provided one of the earliest of several revelations about the agency, and the CIA sued Snapp to prevent publication. In 1980, the case reached the Supreme Court; Snapp lost. The consequences were devastating. *Decent Interval* had already been published but the agency seized the book's royalties. "One day [he] had \$300,000 in the bank, the next day [he] had nothing," says Langguth.

That year, Snapp became an investigative journalist. For the next two decades, he contributed to periodicals such as *The New York Times*, *Granta*, *McCall's*, *Village Voice*, *The Washington Post*, *Playboy* and *Newsday*. With Wallace's help he returned to broadcast news, working with local news stations in Southern California and nationally with ABC's *World News Tonight* (1987–92), CBS (2003–05) and NBC, beginning in 2005. Working for *World News Tonight* in 1987, he confirmed that the Iran/Contra conspiracy was backed by the Reagan administration by getting Eugene Hasenfus, the surviving crew member of a downed Sandinista cargo transport, to confirm that he had signed a government secrecy agreement. Snapp won an Emmy in 1997 for his investigation of Mexican drug trafficking; and in 2006, he won a Peabody award for "Burning Questions," an exposé of Los Angeles' Playa Vista housing development, which had been sited over a toxic landfill. Now living in Southern California,



**Above, a BBC TV crew member films Snapp in 1991 on the roof of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon for a documentary. At right, Snapp receives the CIA Medal of Merit in 1975 from CIA Director William E. Colby.**

PHOTOS: COURTESY FRANK SNEPP '65, '68 SIPA

Snapp focuses on new journalism projects and on raising his young daughter. ("My hope is that she'll go to Columbia, and that she won't become an actress.")

As a journalist and an intelligence analyst, Snapp says that he sees "information as an instrument of change"; his heroes are Wallace and national security journalist Seymour "Sy" Hersh. He credits Columbia with his belief in the power of knowledge: "Columbia teaches you that seeking the truth is the responsibility of every thinking person. During the worst days of Vietnam, it made me realize that if I could get the truth out, it would make a difference."

When asked about modern-day whistleblowers such as Julian Assange and Bradley Manning, Snapp is careful to draw distinctions. "You can walk into a newspaper office and blow everything you know and mow down



everyone, and I'm not sure that's worthwhile. The WikiLeaks people and Manning seem to be nihilists, and I don't understand that."

Nevertheless, Snapp is unwavering in his belief that it is vital to expose the truth, no matter what the personal cost. "If we don't have genuine whistleblowers who are willing to stand up, we're in real trouble. But you'll get trashed. No one loves a whistleblower."

Langguth sees things a little

differently. For him, *Decent Interval* is on par with the leaking of the Pentagon Papers by Daniel Ellsberg in 1971. Ultimately, he says, "people will give Frank the kind of acclaim that Ellsberg gets now."

**Ted Rabinowitz '87** is a copywriter and author. His first novel, *The Wrong Sword*, was published last year by Musa Books under the pen name Ted Mendelssohn.

they fully complementary, or do you have to shave off some edges to get them to coexist?"

Bob replied: "There are two levels to your question: One has to do with whether one can practice as both a Buddhist and a Christian with integrity. The other has to do with whether institutions of Buddhism and Christianity allow what we often call 'double belonging,' and that has to be answered by specific institutions. In my case, as a minister in the United Church of Christ (think Pilgrims), I have not found any problem. Generally, there is no problem with Buddhists having a Christian affiliation; the Christians are more likely to take exception. My answer in both cases is there is no problem being/doing both. That is the gist of the course I am teaching at Union Seminary."

Bob's website is [deepjourneys.net](http://deepjourneys.net), and his email address is [drwgunn@gmail.com](mailto:drwgunn@gmail.com).

I crossed professional paths with **Bob Henn** recently and coaxed him into sharing. He writes, "At the same age as most of us in the Class of 1965 (I hesitate to mention it in print — it seems so old!), I'm still working more than full-time at my chosen vocation as a business/real estate transactional lawyer in Northern California while I and my wife, Rebecca, put our four

Brigham and Women's Hospital, and I continue my career-long study of the molecular basis of Alzheimer's disease (with a laboratory of about 15 fellows and grad students). The field has moved steadily forward, and a company I helped to start in 1986, Athena Neurosciences (then called Elan), designed monoclonal antibodies, the best of which is now in advanced (phase 3) clinical trials and has shown some real promise in slowing down the progression of Alzheimer's. I also do basic research on the mechanism of Parkinson's disease.

"Polly and I have two married children, a son in Boston's Back Bay and a daughter in Santa Barbara, Calif., who have collectively given us three grandchildren thus far. We do some traveling and grandchild care but both of us are very much working full time and have no plans to retire. Polly is an urban planner and is the chief planner of the town of Brookline (and my life!).

"Best regards to our classmates." **John McDougall** ([johnmcdougall@earthlink.net](mailto:johnmcdougall@earthlink.net)) writes, "I practice criminal law and plan to continue for at least a couple of more years. All things considered I'm in great health, and my marriage is doing fine as well. My two grown sons are pursuing careers successfully at this point. Thankfully, the economy in

alchemical writings.

"The influence of the Core Curriculum at Columbia, which washed over me, was instrumental in causing me to circle back, after forays into investment banking and the nonprofit world, to reengage the basic questions about existence that we addressed as undergraduates. I would be glad to hear from classmates. My email is [jimsiegel77@yahoo.com](mailto:jimsiegel77@yahoo.com)."

I'll bet ours is the only class in this issue of CCT that has two references to Carl Jung in its Class Notes!

**Gene Spiegel** ([genespiegel@gmail.com](mailto:genespiegel@gmail.com)) shares, "After graduation I wandered around California for several years before becoming a teacher of transcendental meditation (TM) in 1971. I traveled throughout the United States, lecturing and teaching, for seven years. In '77, I became a stockbroker and did that for 25 years, with some occasional extended vacations. I retired in 2004.

"I have lived in Atlanta since '74. In 2004, I remarried and have two children, Alexander (8) and Clara (4). My wife, Katrin Kohl, is a deputy director at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and I am a full-time dad. The only persons I am in touch with from my college days are Margo Brewer Harrison '65 Barnard and **Bruce Zimmer**. I have tried to get in touch with friend **Dodge Ely**, to no avail. Because my wife is German, we spend a month every summer in Europe, usually in Majorca, Spain. It's a good life. As I write, my 70th birthday is coming up in a week, and it does give one pause. It sounds so old, although I am in pretty good health for an old codger.

"Well, that's the last 48 years in a nutshell. Hope it helps."

If anyone has any information about Dodge, do let us know.

Also, I asked Gene whether he has continued with his TM practice, and whether it fit in with his commercial and family life. Gene responded, "I became a TM teacher simply because I wanted to be able to teach people whom I met. I had no intention of making it a full-time gig. But one thing led to another and there you have it. I was actually the Southeast area coordinator, in charge of the whole Southeast minus Florida. I do still practice TM, not so much out of habit but because I continue to experience the benefits I noticed when I first started: clearer thinking, greater energy and heightened sense of calm and happiness. All those things certainly made being a stockbroker a lot easier, and definitely make me a better husband and father. I didn't mean to turn this into an advertisement, but

since you asked ..."

**Steve Steinig** ([sms24@optonline.net](mailto:sms24@optonline.net)) responded to **Dan Waitzman's** question in our Spring 2013 column. Speaking both of our Freshman Week and of our eventual mortality, Dan had mused, "Will we have to wear beanies once again, after we graduate?"

Steve's response: "Dan's question about whether we'll have to wear beanies once again after we graduate was chilling. It made me aware that I don't know if a *kippah* is worn by the deceased in a traditional Jewish funeral. (I remember being asked to provide a *tallit* to the funeral home for my father's burial but don't remember being asked for a *kippah*.) So the answer to your question is, yes, I may well have to wear a beanie at the end."

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**Rich Forzani**

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**James Larson** writes, "My wife, Judy, and I [going on 44 years together] retired to Delaware in 2009 after law practice and kid-raising in western Colorado, my home venue. She is from New Jersey and liked the idea of coming to her home area. Sometimes the weather sort of sucks, but there is a longer growing season for gardening, plus more frequent golfing and water sports. Son Taylor and family are in Denver, with two kids; daughter Barbara, with boyfriend of several years, is in Maryland. We enjoy our still-rural lifestyle but now with the advantages of big city fixes closer to home. We see **Ken Rollston**, **El Schaefer** and **Tom McMahan** on occasion. Does anyone have contact info for **Gary Foulks**?"

**Reg Maton** '67E, '70E is principal partner of Think Strategic Technology Partners, an IT consulting firm in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He played varsity baseball and football at Columbia and was an assistant varsity football coach for Aldo "Buff" Donelli. Upon graduation he worked for AT&T, then CBS in New York from 1970–1982, where he was director, planning and business development and director, human resources. He also was director of information technology for CBS.

Reg joined Tiffany & Co. in New York as v.p. and CIO. He worked at Tiffany from 1983–93, when he joined Olympus America on Long Island as its CIO. He went on to be s.v.p. and CIO of Standard Microsystems Corp., Symbol Technologies and Scholastic. Reg retired in 2008 and moved to Florida.

He and his wife, Cynthia, have been married for 24 years. They

### Reg Maton '66, '67E, '70E is principal partner of Think Strategic Technology Partners, an IT consulting firm in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

kids through college — none, alas, at Columbia. At least I still have my health. One of my principal pleasures is getting out on my road bike along the California coast and in its surrounding hills with my friends, an experience that's all the sweeter for still being able to do it at this age.

"All four kids, Christopher (17), Andrew (19), Laura (21) and Matthew (22), are doing well and may actually earn an independent living for themselves one of these days. My best to everyone."

Bob's email address is [rhenn@hennetzel.com](mailto:rhenn@hennetzel.com).

I emailed **Dennis Selkoe** ([dselkoe@kwppartners.org](mailto:dselkoe@kwppartners.org)), who responded: "Life is very good for my wife, Polly, and me here in Boston; we've been married more than 45 years, and together since my freshman year at the College. We met at a Delta Phi fraternity party, which I had actually arranged (as a new recruit) with the Dalton School, where she was a junior. Love at first sight (for me).

"I am a professor of neurology at Harvard Medical School and

the Bay Area is doing better."

I recently visited with **Jim Siegel**, who is nearly finished writing his new (second) book. He followed up with this description: "Called *The Inner Divinity: A New Work-View Based on Jungian Psychology*, it's an attempt to render accessible the full range of Carl Jung's visionary thinking to an audience outside the Jungian community, a challenge that remains unaccomplished. Without exaggeration, Jung's work, if properly understood, can usher in a new stage of the Judeo-Christian tradition while transforming our understanding of human nature. Since his ideas are compatible with many key aspects of Eastern philosophy, it's possible for the first time to glimpse the outline of a single, unified belief system. This prospect should not be surprising because the world's major religions and perennial philosophies are different facets of the same something. Jung's ideas have an empirical foundation because they're based on his interpretation of symbols issuing spontaneously from the psyche that are found in myth, dreams, religion and



have lived in Greenwich, Conn., and Vero Beach, Fla. They have six children and 10 grandchildren. Reg and Cynthia reside in Frenchman's Landing in Palm Beach Gardens, where they are active members of Jupiter First Church.

**Paul Kastin** writes, "Entered with the Class of '66 but graduated with the Class of '65, not because I'm smart but because I went to summer school two summers. Played tennis and swam, enjoyed fraternity life immensely (Beta house: 'nuf said!), went to Chicago's graduate school of business. Honestly, absent help from the dean of students, I'd still be there!"

"Thought all the while in college and grad school that I was going to take over my family business, teach art history, live semi-rural and life would be good. A month prior to finishing at Chicago, I learned the family business was history. So I worked for a huge company in Chicago for a bit, then a smaller one for four years. In '74, I relocated to Atlanta to run a still smaller firm. A slump left that company with a Lear jet and a Mitsubishi turbo prop, and I could use the planes anytime the owner didn't! I ran that company until he sold it four years later, at which time I started my own firm in the perishable protein (meat, poultry, seafood) business. It's never wonderful, but never awful, either."

"Shortly after moving to Atlanta, I met and married a Romanian girl, educated in Paris and an art history major at Emory. We have three terrific children and four terrific grandsons. One of my sons, Avery '01, attended Columbia, where he ran the largest on-campus student organization, Ferris Reel, was a member of the Ivy championship golf team, received the Eisenhower watch as the scholar-athlete of his class and graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. I tell him that between the two of us, we had an average academic career there. He works with me now."

"My wife and I have made foreign travel a priority, going abroad a minimum of 30 days annually irrespective of our ability to afford it or our kids or our businesses. Lots of countries, some earlier than most travelers — e.g., Burma and Cambodia in the late '80s. It's a lifestyle choice that we're glad we made. The only difference as the years went on is where we sat in the plane and some improvement in the quality of lodgings."

"I loved the College and proudly support it, sometimes the Columbia College Fund, sometimes Athletics. The Betas from our era get together somewhere different almost every year. You know what I learned? You can't

be full of it with people who knew you when you were 18!"

**George Appelbaum** writes, "Living in rural Northern California, married 29 years, no children, retired in 1999 from 23 years as a Legal Aid attorney; still practicing law part-time out of my home, gardening, playing music, traveling and learning languages (currently up to eight). Best wishes to all classmates."

An illustration of the late **B. Michael Noone** was included in Marjorie Haun's recent book, *Saving the Vietnamese Orphans: The Heroes of the Vietnam War, Book Two: Operation Babylift*. Michael will be further recognized at the 2013 Operation Babylift Reunion event in Dana Point, Calif., by his widow, Lana, who is honored by his inclusion in the book. The illustration shows Michael and Lana, greeting their daughter, Jennie '99 SW, at JFK on the occasion of her arrival as an infant from Vietnam in 1975.

**Marvin Pilo** '83L writes, "After years teaching political science at Clemson, I switched careers and returned to Columbia for law school. Upon graduation, my wife, Jackie; children, Elissa and Michael; and I moved to West Hartford, Conn., where I practiced law for 27 years, specializing in commercial real estate finance, acquisitions, dispositions and leasing. I joined Jackie in retirement in 2010 and we love the freedom and flexibility we now have to do the things we could not find time for when we were working and raising a family. This includes traveling, taking courses for pleasure and reading voraciously. Of course, we spend a lot of time in Brooklyn, satisfying our greatest passion: visiting our children and five grandchildren."

**Michael Harrison** writes, "My wife, JoAnn '66 Barnard, and I welcomed our third granddaughter in July. Our son and daughter-in-law live nearby, so we see quite a bit of one another."

"I am completing my 10th year at the Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality, which is part of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, and have no retirement plans. After more than 30 years in academia, my job at AHRQ remains a fresh and welcome second career. I help plan and oversee research and pilot studies aimed at improving the delivery of health care and effective implementation of administrative and technical innovations (including health information technology)."

"In my limited spare time, I continue choral singing with the American University Chorus and help facilitate a weekly Torah study group at our local synagogue. In the past few years I have heard from

a few classmates including **Geoff Dutton** and Peter Burmeister '70."

**Paul Hirsch** lives in Pacific Palisades, Calif., with his wife, Jane. He writes, "We moved here from New York in 1983. I have been a feature film editor for the last 43 years. I won an Oscar in 1978 for *Star Wars*. I was nominated again in 2006 for *Ray*. My credits are on IMDb.com. After attending Brown and Columbia, respectively, our daughter, Gina, and son, Eric '03, have followed me into the movie business, she as an editor and he as a post-production sound mixer. Eric and his wife, Katherine, a music editor, are the parents of Joseph Hirsch, born January 18, and live in Brooklyn. Gina lives here in Los Angeles. I hope to work for a while longer. My ambition is to choose the date of my retirement rather than let the market make that choice for me. We'll see how that goes."

**Ken Benoit** writes, "I retired from my surgery career in 2007 and settled on Cedar Lake in Bristol, Conn., for my retirement years with my wonderful Irish wife of 37 years, Mary. Most mornings, I spend my time watching magnificent sunrises and catching largemouth bass from my boat with my Golden Retriever, Maggie, and most afternoons I play golf with my geezer friends. Life is good."

"I married off my two beautiful daughters in 2011 and now have a wonderful new grandson; another is due in June. The joys of being a grandparent are unmatched and make the old age process a lot more fun."

**Geoff Dutton** writes, "In January I got a pretty good job offer after having decided to retire last summer. I accepted, and now work full-time documenting insanely complex software that's used to effect high-frequency trading of financial instruments and other more or less dubious exploits of big data. Although I'm a tech guy, this is by no means an ideal gig for me given its implications for society. But I have a kid in middle school and a wife who's been in the job market for a while, so my toils pay our bills, bankroll my girl's future schooling and provide us with affordable health insurance."

"In 1995, I moved to Europe for three years to tie up some loose ends of my geospatial research from the 1980s and pick up a Ph.D. During that time I married for the second time, and then came back to settle down in Belmont, Mass., where our daughter was born. Then, with no regrets, I exited the geospatial world to work as a writer because that's where the money seemed to be."

"In spare moments, I write stories, memoirs and essays that I publish at the wonderful cowbird.com. For now, though, I simply do what makes sense to keep us going, and on the side create stuff that more or less gratifies me."

**Jonathan Sunshine** writes, "For many years, I was the director of research at a physician specialty society, doing research studies and publishing papers. (By the time this ended, I was an author on more than 200 papers.) However, two years ago, the society made the research department part of its advocacy/lobbying unit. I felt this didn't augur well for the opportunity to continue to pursue objective research and, in any case, I'd been interested in getting back into a broader whirl of health policy work. So I left for a project that was ongoing at the Urban Institute, a liberal Washington, D.C., think tank with a large health policy group. That was interesting and enjoyable. But the funding for the project ran out about a year ago, and I found myself involuntarily and unhappily retired."

"Intellectually, however, I knew there were lots of things out there to do, and it took only about three months until I was busy. At this point, I've found enough worthwhile and interesting activities to keep triplets busy. A partial list: I volunteer at the National Museum of Natural History, as a tutor for immigrants learning English, and in a program that does tax returns for free for elderly and low-income people. I'm taking a fistful of courses in Osher programs, a loose network of minimal-tuition courses specifically for retirees. There's also a Columbia alumni book club here in the D.C. area that's working its way through the classics that are read in CC and Lit Hum. Another book club I'm involved in is composed of alumni of my high school and 'meets' by email chat."

"We have five grandchildren, ranging in age from 4–9. We get together about every four to six weeks. We much enjoy time with them and wish more frequent visits were feasible."

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My wife, Diane, and I recently returned from a memorable trip to Israel. We visited with my 96-year-old uncle and my two cousins, whom I had not seen for 57 years.

I am sad to report that **Joel A. Linsider**, who was retired, passed away in Jerusalem on June 28, 2012, and **John L. Dent** passed

away in Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada, on May 7, 2013.

No other news this time. Please do write. You can send updates to me at the 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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Summer in New York City — sweltering hot as I write this.

Our reunion was a success on many fronts though I wish I had more time to spend with classmates. The turnout was very good though the Reunion Committee, headed by **Mas Taketomo** (salute to Mas), received a number of notes from classmates who wanted to come but had conflicts. I have no doubt that our 50th reunion will result in the best turnout ever.

I hope everyone received **Paul de Bary's** wine book, *The Persistent Observer's Guide to Wine*, sent out by the committee. Thanks to Paul for the reduction in cost; the book is great. Go buy it for your friends.

And before I forget, the Reunion Committee included (I bet I miss someone so I am sorry in advance): **Pete Janovsky**, who led the effort with regard to the class bios and remembrances (thanks to him for focusing on this); **John Roy** and **Nigel Paneth**, who worked on the programming; and **Greg Winn**, **Jeff Kurnit**, **Ira Goldberg**, **Jim Shorter** and **Buzz Zucker**. **Ross Ain** made the effort to raise funds for the Class Gift.

On behalf of the class, I also thank the Alumni Office for its efforts.

So — onto the weekend itself! The weather was great and the campus activities and lectures were rewarding. (If you want to see the class photo from our Saturday dinner and the list of all registrants, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4.)

The Thursday cocktail party at **John Slattery's** home was a pleasure and many made it (thanks to John and his wife, Kathy). The cocktail party on Friday, at Faculty House, also was fun. My wife and I enjoyed spending some time afterward with **Greg Winn** and his wife, Vera. They are such fun, full of good cheer and good thoughts, and Greg is just the same, full of infectious laughter as always (and with a book about to be published, too).

Our Saturday luncheon in Kent Hall was perfect: the elegance of the room, the comments by **Nigel, Larry Susskind, Jon Bauman, Jim Shorter, John Roy, Greg Winn**,

Mas and me were brief enough, and impressive. In addition, **Andy Herz** talked about spending time outside of work doing good deeds, and **Paul de Bary** spoke about the value of the Core Curriculum as the College's unique academic program from which we all benefited.

That night, our cocktail party and dinner with keynote speaker **Robert Siegel** of NPR was fabulous. Everyone seemed to be in grand humor, looking alert and cheerful and engaging and enjoying themselves. Especially fun was a rendition, before we ate, of *Roar, Lion, Roar*, enhanced by members of the cello ensemble String Theory, including Nathan Chan '15, a nationally renowned musician and Columbia College/Juilliard student. They were stunningly good and charming and played short

**Mark Rosenzweig '69, the Frank Altschul Professor of International Economics and director of the Economic Growth Center at Yale, has been elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.**

pieces before dinner. (My nephew, Ben Spector (12), performed with Nathan for two pieces; thanks, Nathan, and thank you, Ben — this uncle was happy, indeed.)

Robert was a pleasure to listen to — enlightening, enthralling with that grand voice, and a true journalist. This renowned citizen of the airwaves had much to say about media, media objectivity, newspapers, NPR and so on. (Hamilton, Jay and Columbia's founders would be proud of him for his dedication to this essential national goal of being informative and objective, and reporting the national and international news.)

My wife and I were pleased to sit with **Bill McDavid** and his wife at the Saturday dinner. The former rock-and-roll band man from Columbia is still active and has a 10-year-old — so it's clear he is staying in good health. (Last time I played squash with him I was injured for a couple of years; I am healed now and ready again with a request for two minutes rest between points.)

After dinner, my wife and I danced for a while at the Starlight Reception, held on Low Plaza. The band's lead singer, a female vocalist, was sensational; she did "I Gotta Feeling" by the Black Eyed Peas and the like.

If I may, a brief thought from *Henry V*:

"He that outlives this day, and comes safe home, / Will stand a tip-toe when the day is named, / And rouse him at the name of Crispian

... And gentlemen in England now a-bed / Shall think themselves accursed they were not here ... That fought with us upon Saint Crispin's day."

So, to the gentlemen who couldn't come: We assembled, spirited and vibrant, laughing and clearly curious, surely grateful for the energy and vitality that we brought to the reunion. I hope that you are having a good 2013, and maybe I will see you later this year, perhaps at a football game — Homecoming could be the place (Saturday, October 19; see "Roar, Lion, Roar" in this issue).

And by the way, to **Paul Brosnan** and the former Lions baseball players: congratulations to the Ivy League Baseball Champs of 2013. The Columbia Lions whipped the Big Green for first place in the play-

grand tradition, and I encourage classmates to join the parade the next time around.

In fact, next year's Class Day would be an especially meaningful time to participate as it is but a short time before Alumni Reunion Weekend (Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1). This is our ninth reunion, a kinder way of saying that we commemorate our graduation every five years and it will be 45 years from our graduation next spring. Some of us are already engaged with the Alumni Office staff in planning the event. Soon you will begin to receive teasers and other materials encouraging you to attend, for it is the level of attendance that makes or breaks a reunion. If you are interested in helping in the planning or if you would like to share thoughts on what might lead you to join us (or what might turn you off), let me know or contact one of the staff members listed at the top of the column. We had a rousing turnout for our eighth reunion, with a good mix of those who are regulars and those who were first-time attendees. At the very least, save the dates on your calendar and stay tuned for details.

**Bob Papper** reported in May, "I retired from full-time work on May 19 and moved west to Las Vegas. I am now distinguished emeritus professor of journalism at Hofstra and I'll continue my research on the radio and television news industry, but I'll do it poolside from Sin City. Visitors with return passage are welcome."

**Jonathan Schiffer** writes, "I have spent 50 percent of my career teaching in universities (in the United States, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Netherlands, Russian Federation) and 50 percent working on Wall Street (for a major credit rating agency, where I analyzed sovereign risk in the former Soviet Union, China and Israel). I am now semi-retired — I have a small financial-economic consultancy — and will move to southeast Florida this year. I am divorced with a daughter (16). I have visited Columbia many times in recent years, using the library system and the Alumni Center and engaging in ad hoc discussions with a variety of people. The quality of facilities is excellent, as is the quality of undergraduates, which convinces me that if I were so unfortunate as to have to apply for admission to the College nowadays, I could never hope to get in."

From **Bob Brookshire**: "I am alive and well and living in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. My wife, Jodie, is from Palos Verdes. Our daughter, Devon, is a freshman at Northwestern. She is on the basketball team. Her declared major is cognitive science with a minor in business.

off and had success at the NCAA national baseball tournament, too. I continue to expect much from the Lions this year in football, basketball and soccer. And the women's sports are just fabulous; the tennis team was the Ivy League champ!

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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To my eye, South Field on a sunny spring morning bedecked for Class Day is as pretty a sight as I know. And, on May 21, we had such a sight for Class Day 2013. For the ninth consecutive year, I held up one end of the Class of 1969 banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes; **Irv Ruderman**, now a regular at the event, anchored the other end. We were joined by **Arnold Rady '69E**, whose son, Michael, was among the graduates. As always, our class banner generated excitement and applause on the part of the newest alumni. It is a



Current grade point average is 3.62. Great college; great experience; great scholarship. I am in reinsurance with THB Intermediaries. THB is now part of AmWINS Group, which is one of the largest wholesale insurance brokers in the U.S. See you at the reunion."

**Johan Andersen** writes, "I live in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire and am semi-retired. I may be the only member of the class who is a grocery clerk. Looking back at Columbia, my biggest regret is that I took to heart Dean David B. Truman's advice that Columbia isn't a trade school. I never did find the perfect career. My biggest happiness is that the theatre experiences I had (mostly at Barnard) led to a lifelong involvement in community theatre that has allowed me to play some of the great parts and to make wonderful friends. Other news: I am single with two wonderful children and two perfect grandchildren. Son Johan IV has son Johan V."

From **Jeffrey Klein**, who lives in California: "Late last year, Columbia flew me in to kick off its first Media Day. The former, longtime editor of *The Wall Street Journal* and I keynoted a panel on investigative reporting. Here is a link to a short report by the moderator, the head of the J-School's Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism: [watch-dog-watcher.com/2012/11/21/biodiversity-in-the-investigative-ecosystem/#more-842](http://watch-dog-watcher.com/2012/11/21/biodiversity-in-the-investigative-ecosystem/#more-842). She accurately characterizes me as the panel's flame/bomb thrower — and why not at our age?"

"This second link is to *Spectator's* live-tweet-recap: [alumni.columbia-spectator.com/2012/11/columbia-media-conference-live-tweet-recap](http://alumni.columbia-spectator.com/2012/11/columbia-media-conference-live-tweet-recap). Based on the dozens of students with whom I spoke afterward, today's undergraduates seem very intrigued by the values forged during our era."

**Judd Gregg** is now CEO of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, a leading trade association for the capital markets business.

**Hilton Obenzinger** has retired from his full-time position directing honors writing at Stanford and now teaches a few courses, including one in American Studies on standup comedy (Lenny Bruce, Richard Pryor, Sarah Silverman and more). He's working on several books and also is associate director of Stanford's "Chinese Railroad Workers in North America Project." The work of the Chinese building the transcontinental railroad is almost legendary in the U.S. and China but hardly anything is known of the individual workers who labored under very difficult conditions.

Hilton adds, "We're planning for a conference in 2015 for the

150th anniversary of the start of the Chinese working on the transcontinental railroad; [there will be] scholars, performers and major public figures from both countries, an online multi-lingual digital archive of historic materials, and U.S. and Canadian archives and oral histories of descendants of railroad workers. Stanford was built with Leland Stanford's wealth and much of that resulted from the railroad, so the project is a long-overdue acknowledgement of the contribution of Chinese labor to establishing the university and the U.S. as a whole. To the university's credit, the administration is enthusiastically supporting the effort, and we hope eventually to build a monument to those workers on campus." You can check out *Chinese Railroad Workers*.stanford.edu.

**Woody Lewis** writes, "After a successful 2012 as an independent Web architect, I joined EMC in Janu-

lege. Adam and Amanda have two boys: Leo (5) and Sal (3).

"Patty is very involved with grandchildren, friends and cultural activities, so, after having a large show displaying her collected works, created during the last several years, she has decided to take a sabbatical from her work as an artist.

"It is now three years since I returned to Merck after an 18-year hiatus, this time as the company's chief medical officer. There seems to be a pattern of my leaving and returning to organizations! I am finding the mission of inventing new drugs and vaccines, and getting them to the people who need them, to be fulfilling. The activities and mindset this time around are truly global — a real contrast from my first 'tour of duty.' My travel schedule now includes China, India, Brazil and Africa; these are all places that simply weren't on the

**Mark Rosenzweig**, the Frank Altschul Professor of International Economics and director of the Economic Growth Center at Yale, has been elected as a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Mark is a development economist who pioneered the use of microeconomic methods for studying the causes and consequences of economic development.

Good columns require input from classmates, and I'd appreciate hearing from you with personal or professional news, or your views on our College years. Hearing from you now would be a big help.

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I am writing these notes as I look out to the sea on Paros, a Greek island in the Aegean Sea. My wife and three grown children are here and we are enjoying what may be one of our last "only immediate family" vacations together. The weather, food and company are glorious!

**Lew Lane** reported the following summer news: "While other classmates are toying with the idea of slowing down or retiring all together, I have actually signed on for something new and more to do.

"Starting in 1980, after I finished orthopedic surgery and hand surgery training, I was a hand surgeon in private practice in an academic setting at North Shore and LIJ on Long Island. That changed dramatically in October 2011, when I signed on to the new joint venture medical school opened by the North Shore-LIJ Health System and Hofstra. I joined the newly renovated and expanded full-time orthopedic department. The key attraction for me was

## John Borek '71 is writing a college memoir called *Collegiate*.

ary as advisory solutions architect, Digital Strategy Practice, EMC Consulting. My expertise in social publishing and content management is being put to good use and I'm writing an e-book on those topics as we speak. I'm also putting my Bennington College M.F.A. to use, writing short stories and personal essays and continuing the draft of a novel. My son, Woody (III), completed his junior year as a film and video major at the School of Visual Arts in Manhattan. My wife, Cathryn, and I recently moved from Brooklyn back into 'the city.' When we first came back East in mid-2010, we lived on 110th and Morning-side. I was in the Butler and Uris libraries far more than I had been as an undergrad or M.B.A. student, a place to get away from the home office. Recently saw **Bob Merlis** — who was in from L.A. for a show by his client Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top/Moving Sidewalks) — and **Gregg Geller** at a performance by The Nighthawks, the blues band fronted by Mark Wenner '71."

**Michael Rosenblatt** writes, "My wife, Patty, and I have five grandchildren. We are fortunate to have all of them living in New England. Rose (8), Gregory (6) and Arianna (10 months) are the children of our daughter, Mia, and her husband, Kevork. Mia works part-time as a lawyer in a local firm. They live nearby in Newton, Mass. My son, Adam, and his family moved from Palo Alto, Calif., to Burlington, Vt., 1½ years ago when Adam took his first faculty job at Champlain Col-

lege. Adam and Amanda have two boys: Leo (5) and Sal (3).

radar the last time I was at Merck. I commute between Boston and New Jersey and have offices in both locations.

"There are aspects of academia and academic life that I miss. But I find that the work I do now takes advantage of all my past experiences in medicine. There is the opportunity to have real impact on human health. My responsibilities include representing the interests of patients and medicine inside the company, providing counsel to the CEO and board on medical issues, patient safety and providing advice with regard to initiatives in the emerging medical regions of the world and to the corporate social responsibility programs. And there are several trips per year to Washington on matters of policy."

**Joe Chasnoff** writes, "I've had a satisfying and financially successful life making cabinets, furniture, gifts and art out of wood. I spend a lot of time on human rights issues and presently I'm involved in promoting home rule for Monroe County, W.Va., in order to ban hydraulic fracturing here. My two daughters live and work in New York State."

In a May 16 article on databases used by pharmaceutical companies to track prescribing practices of individual doctors, *The New York Times* included a quote from **Jerry Avorn**, who is described as "a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School and a pioneer of programs for doctors aimed at counteracting the marketing efforts of drug makers."

## Submit Your Photo

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being appointed program director of the orthopedic surgery residency and the orthopedic faculty member overseeing orthopedic education of students in the new medical school. In this position I do research, oversee hand surgery for the hospitals and residency, mentor residents in many aspects of their training, help put together curricula for the new medical school and, of course, still take care of patients in my job as hand surgeon (got to pay for it somehow).

"Because of this, I've also gotten even more involved in the national hand surgery and orthopedic surgery worlds. Technically this means more hours of 'work' for me but, honestly, much of this is not work at all. Rather, I am doing many new things that I find exciting and stimulating. I liked what I was doing before I took this position, but I love what I'm doing now. When others our age are thinking about slowing down, that's the furthest thing from my mind.

"I've been blessed on the home front, too. My wife, Nancy, and I have been married 34 years and are wonderfully happy. Nancy is in her fourth salaried career (in addition to the unpaid motherhood career), currently as a toy buyer at a local independent bookstore. Our daughter is a fourth-year ADA in Manhattan and married to, of all people, an orthopedic surgery resident; our son is a business consultant for PWC in its capital market division. We enjoy family time at home, on the golf course, on our little sailboat and by going to 'hot' new restaurants that the kids find in Manhattan. Life has been good to us. I am humbled by and so grateful for the good fortune that we have had."

**Len Levine** reported that he attended Dean's Day in June and particularly enjoyed the informal gathering of alumni on hand.

Semi-retired, having semi-completed a career as an independent, investigative journalist

(*Rolling Stone*, *The Nation*, *Mother Jones* and so forth) and author, **Bob Dreyfuss** lives at the beach in Cape May, N.J., with his wife, Barbara. He writes, "Visitors looking for a weekend at the beach, especially classmates, are welcome. We bounce back and forth between Cape May and New York City. Our son, Justin, lives in Chicago, and our daughter attends Montclair State University."

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**Arvin Levine** writes, "I have joined Teradata, a leading data warehouse company, after three years on the other side at Credit Suisse. I took advantage of some 'enforced' down time to march with other '71 alumni at Class Day in May. We were a random sampling, I think, mostly sharing our gray hair and memories of CC and John Jay Hall."

**John Borek** says, "I'm writing a college memoir called *Collegiate*. Here's an excerpt:

"When I was 11, my parents sent me to a Boy Scout camp in the North Country of New York State. Neither they nor I knew what summer camp was. To my father, camp was the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s, where he was uprooted to the Blue Mountains for nine months because his mother could no longer feed him. To my mother, who never went to high school, it was an opportunity to display her domestic skills to the scoutmasters. Mom packed my duffel bag with 1) a folding stool; 2) a well-gowned and bejeweled Infant of Prague to watch over me in the woods; 3) a canister set — coffee, tea, sugar and salt in descending sizes; and 4) a cookbook — the kind you give to brides. I quickly fell into a marginal existence.

"Preparations for college were along these lines. The canister set and infant had been replaced by objects with greater functionality — a portable television set, a hernia-inducing IBM Selectric typewriter, three floor lamps, a driftwood-framed portrait of my mother and me that longed for the sea, a calendar and pen set made of marble and brass, a travel alarm, a mantel clock, a cookie jar masquerading as a drum majorette, a black vase with black fabric flowers and several suitcases full of underwear. I was a hick. I was a hick in an Ivy League School. I was a hick in an Ivy League School in the most sophisticated city in the world.

"I was assigned to Carman Hall, the 'new' dormitory. The old

Columbia dormitories looked like orphanages. You could see the ghosts of desperate abandoned sophomores floating behind their windows. The new dormitory, however, was more closely and more aptly modeled after a state prison. A concrete block structure with a brick façade and interiors painted in an institutional sea foam, it was brutalist in a way that [Ludwig] Mies van der Rohe would never have imagined.

"My shared room was part of a suite, but it was a suite in name only. The suite had a bathroom, a useless hallway and two rooms. The rooms each contained two student prisoners. The prisoners slept on metal cots that were as far away from each other as a lack of desire for intimacy would dictate. In the fronts of the rooms were built-in plywood armoires that were intended to hold our intimates. And there were two plywood closets. The plywood was not a design element. It was just the cheapest material available in an era before Mr. Seconds. We were not worthy of fine-grained veneer. We were temporary immigrants to this great world of the intellect. We lived in student steerage."

**Duncan Darrow's** brother, Peter Darrow '72, was well known to many in our class. Duncan writes, "Peter died on May 19, 2013, of complications related to his four-year battle with multiple myeloma. He died surrounded by his entire family, including me; his daughter, Meredith '04; his wife, Denise; son, Peter Jr.; and two friends with whom he rowed 40 years before, Paul DeMartini '72 and John Mulligan '72.

"After graduating from the College, Peter obtained an advanced degree at Trinity College, Oxford, and then graduated from the University of Michigan Law School, where he was elected to its *Law Review*. Peter then returned to New York City, where he embarked on a successful career as a corporate lawyer, including a partnership at Mayer, Brown & Platt and, toward the end of his career, at DLA Piper.

"While at Columbia, Peter lived for three years in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, his beloved 'AD.' Peter was elected president of AD and in his mid-30s became active in the AD alumni group, spearheading its reacquisition of the fraternity house from the Columbia housing authority. With its independence assured, AD had a renaissance and Peter was actively involved in guiding the house's renovation.

"Peter also was chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Cambodia Trust, which for some 30 years has treated victims of land mines that continue to explode, unexpectedly, across the Cambodian countryside.

"In 2001, the Darrow brothers, following our mother's death from cancer, started Fighting Chance, a free-of-charge counseling center on the eastern end of Long Island for those diagnosed with cancer. Those wishing to do so may send a donation in Peter's memory to Fighting Chance, PO Box 1358, Sag Harbor, NY 11963 (fightingchance.org)."

If you are not receiving the '71C eNews and would like to, please email me.

Remember back 46 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

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Several classmates have proud news to report regarding their children. **Steve Fleet** notes that his daughter Julia graduated as a D.O. (osteopathic physician) from the University of New England and plans to start a family practice residency at UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester. Steve's daughter Jessica is a registered echocardiography technician recently graduated from Bunker Hill Community College in Boston and still looking for a job. So if you know of an opening...

**John Miller** is taking his youngest daughter, Becca, to Johns Hopkins this fall, where she will start her freshman year with plans to major in biomedical engineering. His other daughter, Sarah, also is interested in the sciences; she recently earned her doctoral degree in physical therapy at Ohio State, which is where his son, Adam, earned an M.B.A. Notes John, "I can actually understand what he does — ha!"

In June, I spotted **Josef Stern** around the neighborhood; it was great to see him again. With Josef was his son, Rafi, who was looking forward to his wedding the following week. Josef teaches philosophy at Chicago and for several years has lived in Jerusalem (and you think you have a long commute). He works in two main areas: contemporary philosophy of language and medieval philosophy, especially Jewish and Arabic philosophy. Last year, Josef visited Shandong University in China, where he spoke on Maimonides and medieval Jewish thought.

**Jeffrey Laurence** plays a prominent role in a documentary on the early days of AIDS, *The Battle of AmfAR*, which was selected for Robert Redford's Sundance Film Festival last December. HBO bought it and will air it early in December this year. It also was selected for the

## 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.



Tribeca Film Festival, where it was given a red carpet opening. (Its co-directors already have won two Oscars and had a feature film come out this summer, *Lovelace*, about the *Deep Throat* star Linda Lovelace.)

**Gregory Doane**, a psychiatrist in California's San Fernando Valley, was at Columbia this spring, joining alumni of the Columbia University Singers "in living through music our own Columbia fun and nostalgia, including concerts in Puerto Rico, with members from the 1960s on. I was looking for roommates Steve O'Connor '74, noted poet and author who teaches writing in Columbia's M.F.A. program, and David DiJohn '74, who paralleled my path and became a pediatrician. Saw **Tom Bonczar**."

In addition, Greg recalls, "I was a waiter at College Inn, a campus guide and a taxi driver for spare money. Life then was terrific, and revisiting Columbia is enriching as hell."

Jazz pianist **Armen Done-lian** and his wife, Rose, recently returned from their second visit to St. Lucia, "where the snorkeling (our favorite mutual pastime) is great." In addition, he reports, "I'm working on an album for release later in 2013 that will feature my solo piano arrangements of songs by Sayat-Nova, an 18th-century troubadour. I recently finished my 25th year of adjunct teaching in The New School for Jazz and Contemporary Music program and my 20th year in the William Paterson University Jazz Studies Program in its music department. When I reflect on my time at Columbia, I'm humbled with gratitude for the pivotal opportunities it afforded me to study, network and grow in a first-class school and city, and to develop lifelong friendships with several classmates and professors." You can view Armen's performance clips at youtube.com (search for his name) and find more information at armenjazz.com. [Editor's Note: See profile in Summer 2012 CCT.]

Finally, some sad news: **Peter Darrow** passed away on May 19. According to his obituary in *The East Hampton Star*, Peter, who rowed competitively while at Columbia, could often be seen in his shell in Sag Harbor Cove. A graduate of University of Michigan Law, Peter was a partner in the firm of DLA Piper, with special expertise in foreign debt financing. Those of you who have been back for reunion know that Peter was active in planning the event and was a regular presence. His ashes will be spread in Sag Harbor, where his family has a compound. Memorial donations have been suggested for Fighting Chance, a Sag Harbor-based program that

Peter started with his brothers and friends and that offers free counseling for people with cancer (PO Box 1358, Sag Harbor, NY 11963).

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Those who missed our 40th reunion (I, unfortunately, among them) missed a great time. We had 50 '73ers in attendance, purportedly the most ever. Highlights included a College/Barnard/Engineering '73 reception at the Columbia University Club of New York, in Midtown; a tour of the High Line Public Park led by landscape architect **Steven Cantor** (see the May/June 2010 CCT); an evening reception at Cellini in Midtown; an address (to all classes) by **Eric Holder** '76L; a luncheon with guest speaker Alan Brinkley, the Allan Nevins Professor of American History and Provost Emeritus, on the presidency of JFK; and a dinner with guest speaker **Ronnie Heifetz**, who founded the leadership center at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard.

Many thanks to **Mike Byowitz** for reporting in my stead! Kudos especially to the Reunion Committee — Mike, **Steven Cantor**, **Rich Canzonetti**, **Steve Flanagan**, **Greg Gall**, **Marc Jaffe**, **Don Jensen**, **Bob Pruznick**, **Steve Sims**, **Jim Thom-ashower**, **Ray Vastola** and **Lou Venech**. For a photo of those who attended our Saturday dinner and a list of registrants, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4.

### Joe Seldner '73 climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with his brother.

In non-reunion news, **Joe Seldner** climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with his brother. Joe has shifted from movie production into TV but is occupied mostly with writing, speaking and executive communication.

**Mike Byowitz's** daughter, Suzanne '13, joined the ranks of alumni progeny from '73. This also includes the sons of **Bob Pruznick** and **Howard Gould**, who both graduated in 2012.

**Sam Radin** married Sara Nelson in May. Sam is the president of an insurance advisory service in Manhattan and is a founding board member of the Norman Mailer Writers Colony in New York City.

I was in Washington, D.C., in June and had lunch with Nat Heiner '72, a founder of the music group Sha Na Na, former head

resident of Fumald and all-around good guy. Nat has been married to Liz Kingma for 19 years, and by the time this is published his youngest will be (gulp) 11. Nat is the CTO of Northrop Grumman. So for those of you who didn't know, he is alive and teching.

Start making plans for our 45th! Hasta.

### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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74

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By the time you read this, a momentous occasion in Columbia's nearly 260-year history will be taking place: The external structure of the nine-story Jerome L. Greene Science Center will be virtually completed. What makes this most significant is that it is the first major building in Columbia's new, 17-acre Manhattanville campus, which stretches from 125th Street to 133rd Street, Broadway to 12th Avenue.

Soon to follow as part of the first phase of the project (which will keep morphing until 2030) are the construction of buildings for the Business School, the Engineering School, the School of the Arts and SIPA. I hear talk of new dorms, restaurants, jazz clubs and the like that will create a robust extension

tee. We need volunteers to make a small time commitment to contact a handful of classmates, either in your area, your profession or from some group you were involved with while on campus. A short phone call is often all it takes to get a classmate to show up — and higher attendance makes reunion better for everyone. Send me an email or contact one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column if you can spare a few moments to help.

Here is a father-son Class Note where both have remarkable recent achievements. As age has its privileges, it is only proper to start with the father, Dr. **Mark Lebwohl**. Mark is the chairman of the Department of Dermatology at Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC. He also is chairman of the Medical Board of the National Psoriasis Foundation and was recently elected president of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Mark needs to wear all these hats to be able to make endless tuition payments for his son, Andy Lebwohl '04, '07L. Andy's four years at the College didn't come cheap, but then neither did his three years at the Law School. All must have seemed worth it when Andy joined the law firm of Dewey & LeBoeuf in NYC. Andy discovered, however, that the life of an associate had a "crushing workload" and "there was more I wanted to be doing," so he left to earn his M.B.A. at Yale — and thus two more years of Ivy tuition. (As an aside, ironically, Andy did corporate bankruptcy and insurance regulatory law at Dewey & LeBoeuf — ironic because the firm itself went bankrupt in 2012, well after Andy had left.)

While a fellow at the Yale Entrepreneurial Institute in 2011, Andy developed a business plan that combined two of his interests: karaoke and comic book superheroes. Thus was born, in 2012, Karaoke Heroes, a karaoke bar with a superhero theme in downtown New Haven, Conn. Reviews have been great, and Andy plans to expand as a chain of karaoke bars in other college towns. Sounds like those nine or so years of tuition might actually pay off!

As one of the kids of our classmates leaves the law, at least one other is diving into the pond. Andrew Blumenthal, son of Dr. **Steve Blumenthal** (pediatrician in Portland, Maine), spent the summer as an intern at Latham & Watkins, the NYC mega-law firm. We'll have to wait to see how this other Andrew, who is another son of a doctor, likes the law. (I do seem to recall that Andrew is an accomplished concert pianist, so you never know!)

An update came in from Dr. **Alan Rosenberg** in Chicago. He

of the Morningside Heights campus we all knew. The 40th Reunion Committee is looking into arranging tours of the area and perhaps even holding an event at the site.

Speaking of our 40th reunion, I hope you have blocked out Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, 2014 (and perhaps a few days on either side) to be back on Morningside Heights with the guys with whom you shared so much. Have you shown your family the dorms and classrooms where you spent your "wonder years"? Where you protested against/for the Vietnam War? The route you used during the "streaking" craze? Tom's Restaurant is still there, waiting to serve you a delicious cup of "creamo"!

The Class of '74 also could use your help on the Reunion Commit-

says, "I'm alive, well and recently celebrated my 35th wedding anniversary. I very much enjoy my work in clinical and pharmacy policy for Wellpoint (the parent company of many health insurance firms around the country)."

I hope to get more info from Alan for a future column.

As some of you guys are too busy or too lazy or too modest (you can choose) to send updates, I've taken to checking for leads on my Facebook page. This has proven especially fruitful of late. Here is this edition of "Facebook Factoids" (mostly fact-checked by getting in touch with the classmate involved):

After seeing a picture of **Tim Marcovy**, who lives in University Heights, Ohio, at the Western Reserve Rowing Association, I contacted Tim and found he is an active crew member and coach for the group. He remains a law partner with Willacy, LoPresti & Marcovy in Cleveland. Tim adds, "Thanks for checking in. Don't have to troll the obits yet."

I also saw a picture of **Ed Berliner**, who lives in West Orange, N.J., with his granddaughter, and found out she is his fourth grandchild (can anyone beat this?). Ed retired from Bell Labs 10 years ago and has since joined Yeshiva University as director of science management and a clinical professor of physics. He emailed, "Any hope of very early retirement ended after this last Passover, when our daughters-in-law said I needed more bedrooms if I wanted the families of all three sons to join me during the holidays. So I just added onto the house. Now it looks like retirement is still a few years away."

I thank Ed for his 30 years of interviewing applicants to the College.

Some Facebook postings didn't require any fact-checking. **Ken Krug** (CFO of The Asia Foundation in San Francisco) added a picture taken at his son Joshua's graduation from Harvard Divinity School. Dr. **Peter Zegarelli** (dentist in Tarrytown, N.Y.) had a photo from his daughter Clare's graduation from the Taylor Institute for Global Enterprise in Switzerland (she earned an M.S. in international management). Dr. **Burt Rochelson** (chief of obstetrics at the North Shore University Hospital on Long Island) shared a picture of his son, Ellis, with his new fiancée. **Mark Mogul** (president of Mogul Technology in Port Washington, N.Y.) posted shots from when he walked his daughter, Perri, down the aisle at an outdoor wedding on Long Island in June.

**Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** (portrait photographer and videographer in NYC) added to his series of HBO documentaries on the lives of minority groups when *The*

*OUT List* aired on June 27, the 44th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in NYC, which many say marks the start of the gay liberation movement in the United States. Timothy, who began the series in 2008, combines portrait photographs and video interviews to give greater understanding of the world; in making the films, he has spoken with prominent members of the black, Latino and, now, gay segments of our society.

Another classmate involved in the arts, but at the local level, is **Darryl Downing**. As proprietor of the marketing company I-AM-HARLEM, he promotes small businesses and cultural institutions in Harlem. Darryl landed publicity for events from "Silicon Harlem Presents Gigabit Harlem" (produced by the Harlem Business Alliance) to those sponsored by the Harlem Arts Alliance.

From the Northwest, in the shadows of Microsoft, comes news from **Jim Pleasants**. Our Bellevue, Wash., classmate (who runs his own law practice) says, "I'm busier than usual because I am president of the United States Curling Association, important to the roughly 16,000 curlers in the U.S." Who knew there were so many devoted to pushing massive granite stones across ice rinks?

Since 1998 curling has been an official Olympic sport, which means Jim will be off to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, in February. He added that his elder son, Chris, is a programmer for Amazon in Seattle and his younger son, Nick, recently finished his first year of law school at the University of Washington, also in Seattle.

**Albie Hecht**, who lives in Montclair, N.J., began at WKCR his freshman year. Little did he know that this would lead him to a media career that includes founding SPIKE TV ("the network for men"),

ing to Wikipedia, is "dedicated to ending the abuse and exploitation of children worldwide through the production of documentary films and other media that raise social awareness and effect political change."

Shine Global's first film, *War/Dance*, tells of the plight of children growing up in a war zone in northern Uganda. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2008. Its second feature-length documentary, *Harvest Zone*, highlighted the 400,000 migrant worker children in America. Profits from the productions are funneled back to organizations that are dedicated to helping the children featured in the Shine documentaries.

There you have it. Stories of our kids leaving the law while others are just entering. Classmates celebrating the engagement, marriage and graduation of their offspring. And we witness the vibrancy of a class that continues to be creative and to contribute to our society. Make sure to block off time in your schedules to come back for reunion. You'll get to hear a lot more stories than I can squeeze into these columns and also see the start of the new Manhattanville campus!

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**Randy Nichols**

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Commencements, reunions and Dean's Day all have passed, locally or more broadly, depending on your friends, families and others. If you follow Columbia, you see lots about them in the Columbia media. And if you are one of those readers, you already know that **Ira Malin** was one of the 10 recipients of the Alumni Medal at this year's

### Paul Argenti '75 was recently quoted in the *New York Post* on NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's advisory choices.

being president of Nickelodeon Entertainment and producing some of Paramount's biggest films (such as *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* and *The Rugrats Movie*). His works have received numerous Academy Award nominations.

These days Albie splits his time between being CEO of Worldwide Biggies, a digital entertainment studio that creates original multimedia projects, and his work with a nonprofit film production company called Shine Global. Founded in 2005 by Albie and his wife, Susan MacLaury, the company, accord-

ing to Wikipedia, is "dedicated to ending the abuse and exploitation of children worldwide through the production of documentary films and other media that raise social awareness and effect political change."

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attended the Society of Columbia Graduates luncheon on Dean's Day.

Various news media turn to **Paul Argenti**, professor of management and corporate communication at Dartmouth Tuck School of Business, for insight. He was recently quoted in the *New York Post* on NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg's advisory choices. Though he describes himself as a lifelong New Yorker, Paul also has taught as a visiting professor at the International University of Japan, the Helsinki School of Economics, Erasmus University, Ray University and Singapore Management University. Paul is an English mastiff owner, Yankees fan, and food and wine expert.

In a *New York Post* article on unions and the mayoral race, former MTA labor negotiator **Gary Dellaverson** pointed out the "unsustainability of costs" of current union retiree benefits. Regarding pensions, he said, although there is \$9 billion budgeted for the next year, the cost will far overreach that amount. "It wasn't sustainable at 4½ [billion]," he notes.

Now working for Greater Media (owners of WMMR, WMGK, WPEN and WBEN-FM), **Jim Dolan** lives in Philadelphia, across the street from The Franklin Institute and The Barnes Foundation (the new one), in the old Board of Public Education building — a deco delight with 12-ft. ceilings and other original features. Jim and his wife, Yasmin, recently returned from a trip to Italy. They started on the Amalfi Coast, then moved on to Positano, where Jim said he channeled his "inner goat-ness." (Did you ever get to the cans, Jim?) Next was Capri, then on to Pompeii, where they were amazed by its expanse, and finally to Rome, where they saw the new *Gatsby* (in English with Italian subtitles). Jim said, "Just had to do it, *vecchio mio* [old sport]!"

If you don't follow Jim on Facebook, you should — some of the pictures he posts are a riot!

A founding partner of the law firm Falcon & Singer, **Raymond Falcon** advises clients in matters of estate planning, probate and administration of decedents' estates, concentrating in planning for families with special-needs members. He recently was a co-presenter of the seminar "Trusts 101" at a National Business Institute seminar in White Plains, N.Y.

In addition to traveling to Columbia, S.C., for work most weeks, I (**Randy Nichols**) have managed to fit in several personal trips. In April, I went to Wisconsin, where most of my family lives. During Easter weekend, I attended a powerful presentation of *The Hammer*, presented by my brother's Assemblies of God church. We had a big family



reunion on Easter Sunday, and then later in the week my mom and I went to LaCrosse, Wis., where we attended the Collie Club of America National Specialty. While there, I also drove up the Great River Road to Winona, Minn., where I found the gravesite of Norman Nicolais '76E, one of my Columbia roommates. (Sophomore and junior years we lived on 9 Jay, right next to **Terry Mulry**.) On that trip I also saw hundreds of bald eagles (check out the National Eagle Center at [nationaleaglecenter.org](http://nationaleaglecenter.org)), sand hill cranes, ice on the Mississippi and much, much more.

Several weeks later, I was in Philadelphia for a Columbia reception at the new Barnes Foundation, along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. After touring the galleries, President Lee C. Bollinger and others gave remarks and took questions. My question: "Will any of the iconic Morningside campus sculptures be moved to the new Manhattanville campus?" The complete answer: "No."

In June, I attended the conference "From Enemies to Allies: An International Conference on the War of 1812 and its Aftermath," at the U.S. Naval Academy. A scholarly conference with more than 150 participants from the United States, United Kingdom and Canada, it included various lectures and field trips covering many of my current passions: the War of 1812 and the growth of U.S. sea power, both in the nascent U.S. Navy and the fleet of privateers that harassed the mighty British Navy in many battles, on the high seas and our Great Lakes. (The War of 1812 was "the war no one wanted, no one won and that changed nothing," according to many historians.) If you recall from last year, I'm also passionate about sailing vessels — from the Class A Tall Ships (the U.S. *Eagle*, Brazil's *Cisne Branco* and Germany's *Gorch Folk II*), through the Class Bs (like the *Pride of Baltimore II* and the privateer *Lynx*) and the small (like the schooner *Lady Maryland*, the skipjack *Sigsbee*, the classic yacht *Elk* or the Chesapeake Bay log canoe *Daisy Bell*) to the tiny things (sailfish, Bermuda dinghy or Thistle) that I sailed on the Chesapeake Bay when I was growing up. If any of these magnificent vessels come your way, please visit (and support!) them.

**Ed Pagani** is CEO of LGC North America, which focuses on customers in forensic science; pharmaceutical and biotechnology research; development and quality control; food chain and environmental surveillance and safety; and life science, genomics, proteomics and basic research.

This spring, the American Bankruptcy Institute gave **Robert Reilly** its publication of the year award for his book, *A Practical Guide to Bankruptcy Valuation*. He received the award in April at the 31st annual meeting of the ABI at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Md. Robert has been married to Dr. Janet Steiner Reilly '75 Barnard for 38 years. They have three children: Ashley '06 Barnard, Brandon and Cameron. Robert and Janet live in Barrington Hills, a suburb of Chicago.

### After what he characterizes as "a staggering 28-plus years of covering culture" at *The Village Voice*, **Michael Musto** '76 has moved on.

**Samuel M. Shafner** is a partner at the Boston law firm of Burns & Levinson and chairs its International Practice Group. In February he was the sole American speaker in Brussels at the European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association's kickoff to its new corporate venture capital subgroup. In April he led a panel of "funds of funds" at a Montreal venture capital conference. He hasn't spoken in the U.S. since June 2012, when he chaired a life sciences venture capital conference in Boston, but he has more speaking events scheduled for this fall. Wife Rosalyn Weiss Shafner '74 Barnard works for Northrop Grumman. Two of their four children are married (one in Baltimore, one in Israel), and they have five grandchildren.

This was a big spring for **Bob Schneider** and his wife, Regina Mullahy '75 Barnard. First, they were in Philadelphia for the wedding of son James to Claudia Patane. Eugene Rice '76 and wife Jeanne Kolva and Dr. Steven A. Fiamengo '76 and wife Teri Murdock attended and were seated with Bob and Regina. (Geno, Dr. Steve and Bob all lived at Schryler Hall in their freshman year.)

I couldn't make the wedding but joined Bob and Regina in Philly during Penn's Commencement and reunion weekend. Their daughter, Margaret Veronica (always just Meg to me!), was one of the graduates and also won numerous awards. James and Claudia, just returned from their honeymoon in Italy, joined us for dinner. We had an enjoyable day together — and probably the "easiest" day of the weekend for the Schneiders! On Friday, they also attended several of Meg's events and some of Bob's reunion events. On Saturday, in between meals and visits, Bob had a short business engagement, and so Meg took Regina

and I to the Institute of Contemporary Art. On Sunday and Monday, they were all over, culminating in the Penn Commencement at Franklin Field with Vice President Joseph Biden giving the commencement address. On a pure business note, Bob's firm, Cuddy & Feder, was recently named one of the New York area's top-ranked law firms in 2013, based on overall ratings with Martindale-Hubbell.

**Joseph Tato** is the U.S. head of DLA Piper's Projects and Infrastructure Practice Group and is a partner in the New York office.

**Robert Bressman** has become a director at the law firm of Goulston & Storrs in New York. He previously was a partner at the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

**Patrick H. Griffin** '80 P&S has been appointed chief medical officer at Synergy Pharmaceuticals, a developer of drugs to treat gastrointestinal disorders and diseases. He did a residency in internal medicine at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, then a fellowship in gastroenterology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. Before joining Synergy, he was on the faculty of P&S.

**Tony Anemone** writes that after 10 years of mostly administrative work (chair of foreign languages and literatures; associate dean for faculty affairs) at The College of William and Mary and The New School, "I am happy to report that I have returned to full-time teaching and writing. The high point of this past year was the publication of *I am a Phenomenon Quite out of the Ordinary: The Notebooks, Diaries and Letters of Daniil Kharmis*, edited and translated with Peter Scotto '75."

After what he characterizes as "a staggering 28-plus years of covering culture" at *The Village Voice*, **Michael Musto** has moved on. He writes, "I assure you my future will still be filled with writing about movies, theatre, nightlife and everything else that I've always immersed myself in. I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to run free and explore topics I cared about so passionately."

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Once again, it's been quiet out there. I hope to have things to report soon. Remember, we keep track of such life passages as publications, awards and recognitions; promotions and retirements; kids' college admissions and graduations; and sightings, memories and reflections. Or, even better: Ask yourself what you would be interested to learn about your classmates, then send me that sort of info about yourself! You can use either address at the top of the column, or CCT's webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). Peace out.

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Kudos to everyone who worked on the 35th reunion; it was better

Joe represents independent power producers, equity investors, project sponsors, financial institutions and governments in developing and financing of power, oil and gas, LNG, water and wastewater, telecommunications, waste management and other infrastructure projects in the U.S., Africa, Latin America and Europe. He also represents sponsors and financial institutions in mergers and acquisitions, restructurings and workouts in the energy and infrastructure areas. In April, Joe moderated the panel "Project Finance for a Changing Power Supply" at the Platts 28th annual Global Power Markets Conference in Las Vegas.

In addition to all that he does for Columbia, **Richard Witten** serves on the board of Harlem Children's Zone. President Barack Obama '83 called it "an all-encompassing, all-hands-on-deck, anti-poverty effort that is literally saving a generation of children."

Keep the cards and letters coming so I can continue to love writing these Class Notes! We can and do make a difference. Go Lions!

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I'll open this installment with a plea for news. Please take five minutes to let the rest of us know what's happening with you: job, family, your kids' accomplishments, travel, visits with other '76ers, shout-outs to classmates and reminiscences about our time on the campus. Email is best, though you can use either address above or CCT's webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

than ever to see folks and to see the campus shine.

I received many comments on the weekend's activities. Dr. **Alex Demac** writes, "The reunion was absolutely delightful. The best part was simply connecting with classmates, old friends and new, at the various events. I am grateful to the Columbia staff and Reunion Committee for putting together a fantastic program, from the walking tour with Professor Kenneth Jackson to dancing on Low Plaza. Thanks, too, to **Ric Burns** for his fascinating presentation at the class dinner."

**Paul Phillips** writes, "I pulled an Ivy League hat trick during reunion. That Friday afternoon I left work at Brown, drove down with my family to attend the reunion dinner, then continued on to Princeton where, the following afternoon, we, including my wife, Kathryn Jennings, attended a wonderful production of *Into the Woods* at the McCarter Theatre Center; many cast members were former students of hers, mine or both of us."

**James "Huck" Hill** says, "My wife, Kristi Pfister Hill '78 Barnard, and I arrived on campus Friday night; Kristi attended her class dinner high up in the Sulzberger building and I joined the 1978 dinner crew in Low Library. The CC '78 faithful at Low had a fun-sized group, and at dinner music man **Steve Bargonetti** gave us a stellar, solo performance on his gorgeous Martin guitar. Steve delivered one killer set after another of jazz, rock and funk anthems, and we just chilled. Steve ended the night with an epic version of *The Star-Spangled Banner* that electrified and tapped into everybody's inner Hendrix. As his guitar echoed off the walls of Low, I mused, has anyone else ever rocked this anthem in here before? Perhaps a brush with history, and definitely a great night. Hope to see you all at our four-o in '18."

**Tom Bisdale**, who is still working at Hearst after 30 years, writes, "I spend a lot of time on several nonprofit projects and playing in our community concert band as well as in Ragtime, Dixieland, sax and big band ensembles. The recent reunion was the best in memory, perhaps because I attended more events than before. The coordination of several events with Barnard was welcome after years of trying to do so. During the three nights I participated, I talked at length with classmates, often several times, unlike past years, when everything was rushed on Saturday night. Perhaps most memorable was talking to some recent alumni at the beverage table who, while being most pleasant, seemed to regard me as an ancient historical figure. I guess we

are those guys now."

**Mark Axinn** says, "I was re-elected chair of the New York State Libertarian Party at our annual convention this past spring, and I am pleased that my small party continues to promote peace and individual rights in this age of statism and tyranny from state, national and local governments. Otherwise, for my day gig, I am a partner in a mid-Manhattan law firm, specializing in real estate development and commercial litigation."

### Peter Samis '78 spent the summer in Williamstown, Mass., as a Kress Summer Fellow in Museum Education at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute.

**Robert Lewton** writes, "I will soon celebrate 30 years as a financial adviser with Merrill Lynch. Feels like yesterday. Live in Millburn, N.J., with my wife and two daughters."

**Tom Mariam** writes, "Happy 5th of July from Amsterdam, where this morning, in front of our hotel, aptly named Pulitzer, I literally ran into an old friend, David Friend '77; he and his wife, Wendy, are staying at the same hotel and also will be on my and my wife, Alyce's, flight back to NYC. And that was just a few hours after Alyce and I were hosted at a Fourth of July party at the U.S. Embassy in Brussels by Ambassador Howard Gutman '77 and his wife, Michelle. We also had a private visit with him earlier in the week."

"Regarding reunion, my thoughts are how seamlessly we mesh even after 35 years of mostly being apart. The '78 bond is strong. I was honored to give the introductory remarks at our class dinner. It meant a lot to me to be chosen, and I thank those who made that decision. ... I was impressed by the participation of our class in a variety of events. The High Line was a highlight with the walk and commentary by Professor Kenneth Jackson. It was a perfect reunion event, giving us an opportunity to explore, learn and socialize at the same time. The reception with Barnard that night was also nice. We should make sure this happens every reunion (and with Engineering, too), as we all went to school together. Perhaps such an event should be the focal point of an evening rather than a complementary function, as it was this year."

"On a more personal note, I broadcast a lot of live updates for Knicks and Ranger playoff games this spring for WFAN and CBS Sports Radio. I always think of my WKCR roots when I do them. It was nice to be on the Rangers beat with *The New York Times* ace

hockey reporter Jeff Klein '79."

**Donald Simone** writes, "I joined Hunton & Williams with three of my former real estate partners from Thacher Proffitt & Wood a year ago. We have been incredibly successful and have added eight real estate associates in the last year."

"I attended the first two nights of reunion and then much of the day on Saturday. The High Line tour with Professor Kenneth Jackson was amazing. He related the changes from NYC in 1978

to now in an incredible way. The one drawback: It was difficult to hear him on the walking tour (the bus ride over when we got stuck in traffic was terrific). The Friday dinner with our classmate serenading us was cool. Saturday was wonderful. I attended one of the [Dean's Day] lectures, the varsity athletics Affinity Reception and the wine tasting — all great. Our class dinner worked, too. Just wished we had more time to hang out with classmates."

**Chris Dell** writes from Germany, "My life at U.S. AFRICOM is a lot less stressful than anything else I've done for the last decade or more, and I'm trying — with mixed results so far — to join in the culture of fitness that pervades our nation's warriors. Stuttgart itself isn't a terribly exciting town, but it's two hours from everywhere. It's nice to be able to go to Alsace for lunch at a fine *auberge*, or pop down to Munich to catch the Springsteen concert."

"As for reunion, I only attended the class dinner and the party. ... I really enjoyed **Ric Burns'** after-dinner talk. And, as I said that evening, I think it's pretty remarkable that between Ric and **Tony Kushner**, the Class of '78 has significantly shaped the perceptions of an entire generation of Americans about the meaning and significance of the Civil War. I'm sorry Jim Shenton '49, '54 GSAS isn't alive to see this part of his legacy. Of course, the real purpose of a reunion is to compare yourself to everyone else and I'm pleased to report that from this perspective it was a smash success. Despite **Teddy Faraone's** hair, I'd still rather be living my life than anyone else's! I hope everyone else felt exactly the same way."

**Edward Ferguson** writes, "I attended the reunion dinner on Saturday but couldn't stay for the Starlight Reception. The cocktail hour was good for seeing and talking with people but the sit-down

dinner was not; a buffet would have kept people moving better. All that said, it was a really good time."

**Chuck Meltzer** writes, "Attended reunion with some trepidation but am glad I went. ... It was nice to see my roommates, **Fred Rosenstein** and **David Freinberg**; friends from 11 John Jay; **Ken Rose**; **Dean Margolis**; and **Tom Bisdale**. And not to forget good friends Claire Tse '78 Barnard and Amy Gerwitz '78 Barnard. While time and distance may separate us, the bonds made during our College days are strong, and for that I was happy to reconnect with them all."

**Peter Samis**, "SFMOMA just closed its doors for 2½ years to more than double in size. I spent the summer in Williamstown, Mass., as a Kress Summer Fellow in Museum Education at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute. Have got a book to write on visitor-centered museum interpretation."

**Michael F. Forlenza** has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Houston Geological Society for 2013–14. HGS is the world's largest local geological society and was established in 1923. Michael will be the editor for the *HGS Bulletin*.

**Gary Pickholz** writes, "I became a grandfather! Impossible, as we are only 29, correct? I attended the July 4 barbecue of the American ambassador in Tel Aviv, which is always fun and a chance to meet up with many Columbians. Israeli Ambassador to the U.S. Michael Oren '77 announced at the barbecue he will not seek a second term, and I hope will be down the hall from me at Columbia writing his next book. Recently returned Special Ambassador to the Silicon Valley Akiva Tor, Interim Chairman of the Bank of Israel Karnit Flug '86 GSAS and former (and soon-to-be ambassador) Dore Gold '75, '79 SIPA, '84 GSAS were among those slurping down chili dogs and enjoying the fireworks."

**Rob Blank** says, "It was great to see all who attended reunion. I am settling into my new job at the Medical College of Wisconsin. Month one was given over almost entirely to meeting and greeting. Among the faculty I found Jack Kleinman '64. Month two promised more of the same."

"As for reunion, the best events were the Professor Kenneth Jackson High Line walk and the pre-tour reception at **Jonathan Freedman's** home. Thanks much to the Freedmans and to Professor Jackson for their generosity in making these possible. Friday dinner was also great, with thanks due to **Steve Bargonetti** for a fantastic performance. Saturday dinner's highlight was the fact that it was the best-attended



# Alumni Sons and Daughters

*Sixty-two members of the College Class of 2017 and six members of the Engineering Class of 2017 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.*

STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT	STUDENT	PARENT
Jemma Armi Santa Barbara, Calif. • Cate School	Clement Armi '67	Madison Jones Wayland, Mass. • Wayland H.S.	Clayton Jones '81	Garrett Ryan Scottsdale, Ariz. • Wyoming Seminary College Preparatory School	Denis Ryan '87
Jason Avigan Sharon, Mass. • Maimonides School	David Avigan '85	Nathan Kim Mamaroneck, N.Y. • Scarsdale H.S.	Angela Kim '89	Solomon Seckler Boca Raton, Fla. • Pine Crest School	Jonathan Seckler '87
Samuel Balzac Jay, N.Y. • Keene Central School	Frederick Balzac Jr. '80	Stephen Koh * New York City • NEST+m	Alexander Koh '86	Jesse Silbert Weston, Conn. • The Harvey School	Richard Silbert '81
Olivia Barry Hoboken, N.J. • Riverdale Country School	David Barry '87 and Kyra Tirana Barry '87	Margot Krisberg New York City • Professional Children's School	Brian Krisberg '81	Gabriel Raab East Brunswick, N.J. • Rae Kushner Yeshiva H.S.	Eric Raab '82
Daniel Bergerson Wayzata, Minn. • Breck School	Shawn Bergerson '87	Justin Kung Chevy Chase, Md. • Montgomery Blair H.S.	David Kung '84	Ravi Sinha Bethesda, Md. • Georgetown Day School	Abha Sinha '88 and Pankaj Sinha '86
Rachel Blumenthal New Rochelle, N.Y. • The Frisch School	David S. Blumenthal '81	Matt Landes New York City • SAR H.S.	David Landes '77	Brian Solender Scarsdale, N.Y. • Scarsdale H.S.	Michael Solender '86
Henry Bram Bronx, N.Y. • Ethical Culture Fieldston School	Jonathan Bram '87	Emily Lang Seattle • Lakeside School	Joseph Lang '85	Jeremy Staub Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. • Ethical Culture Fieldston School	Arthur Staub '82
Samir Canning Wellesley, Mass. • Wellesley H.S.	Robert Canning '81	Kyle Lee * Madison, N.J. • Madison H.S.	Chester Lee '79	Kyle Dartnell-Steinberg London, England • The American School in London	Bruce Steinberg '78
Noah Zweben * Potomac, Md. • Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School	Lynn Charytan '87	Jonathan Lesser East Hampton, N.Y. • Ross School	Stephen Lesser '66	Amber Sun Irvine, Calif. • University H.S.	Lazarus Sun '81
Dylan Cooper Memphis • Margolin Hebrew Academy - Feinstein	Pace Cooper '85	Simon Levinson Larchmont, N.Y. • Mamaroneck H.S.	Felicia Levinson '88	Maeve Tobin Potomac, Md. • Winston Churchill H.S.	Daniel Tobin '82
Ethan Cooper Memphis • Margolin Hebrew Academy - Feinstein	Pace Cooper '85	Winston Lin Poquott, N.Y. • Ward Melville H.S.	Richard Lin '84	Nia Hollister-Bernier Asheville, N.C. • Asheville H.S.	Christie Tongier '88
William Cornacchia Darien, Conn. • Darien H.S.	Thomas Cornacchia '85	Sally Lindsay Palm Beach, Fla. • Choate Rosemary Hall	Charles Lindsay '75	George Van Amson New York City • Trevor Day School	George Van Amson '74
Bradley Davison Skillman, N.J. • Peddie School	Henry Davison Jr. '83 °	Miranda Litwak Chappaqua, N.Y. • Horace Greeley H.S.	Nathaniel Litwak '86	Nathan Werner * Long Valley, N.J. • West Morris Central H.S.	Robert Werner '77
Jonathan Deluty Englewood, N.J. • Ramaz Upper School	Sheldon Deluty '77	Larissa MacPhee New York City • Ethical Culture Fieldston School	Donna MacPhee '89 and John MacPhee '89	Aaron Yodaiken Austin • Westlake H.S.	Victor Yodaiken '78
Eliza Feinberg Manhattan Beach, Calif. • Mira Costa H.S.	Jack Feinberg '72	Allison Malin New York City • Horace Mann School	Ira Malin '75	Jennifer Yu Glen Head, N.Y. • Jericho Senior H.S.	Song Yong Yu '87
Megan Felder Ridgewood, N.J. • Ridgewood H.S.	Frank Felder '87	David Maloof II Darien, Conn. • Fairfield College Preparatory School	David Maloof '80	Lucas Zabotin Larchmont, N.Y. • French-American School of New York	Mischa Zabotin '85
Rebecca Fisher Cherry Hill, N.J. • Cherry Hill H.S. East	Frederick Fisher '84	Brandon Mazzeo * Gulf Stream, Fla. • St. Andrew's School	Vincent Mazzeo '76	* Member of the Engineering Class of 2017 ° Deceased	
J. Christian FitzGerald Plandome Manor, N.Y. • Friends Academy	Shawn FitzGerald '80	Nicholas Mehmel New York City • Bronx H.S. of Science	Robert Mehmel '76	<i>Nine incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.</i>	
Jordana Fremed Teaneck, N.J. • The Frisch School	Eric Fremed '79	Hayley Mendelson Miami Beach • Ransom Everglades School	Eric Mendelson '87		
Mira Frenkel Tucson • Catalina Foothills H.S.	David Frenkel '83	Gregory Momjian Radnor, Pa. • Radnor H.S.	Mark Momjian '83		
Lauren Haberman New York City • Ma'ayanot Yeshiva H.S.	Sinclair Haberman '78	Christine Nelson Rye, N.Y. • Rye H.S.	Frank Nelson '85		
Yoon Ji Han Hong Kong • Chinese International School	Jinduk Han '85	Annie Ninivaggi Salt Lake City • Olympus H.S.	Angelo Ninivaggi '89 and Anne-Marie Wright '89		
Brynn Harris Houston • Kinkaid School	Edward Harris '82	Emma O'Hanlon Los Angeles • Brentwood School	Neil O'Hanlon '72		
Olivia Harrison Bronx, N.Y. • Riverdale Country School	David Harrison '83	Alia Padilla Manhasset, N.Y. • St. Paul's School	Rafael Padilla '80		
Carolyn Ho Princeton, N.J. • Lawrenceville School	Geoffrey Ho '83	Isabel Rothberg Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. • Croton-Harmon H.S.	Adam Rothberg '81		
Danielle Jacobs New York City • The Hotchkiss School	Gary Jacobs '85	Eitan Rothman * Los Angeles • Shalhevet H.S.	Mark Rothman '85		
				OURANIA YANCOPoulos	George Yancopoulos '80

*Nine incoming College transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.*

STUDENT	PARENT
Elizabeth Boylan	Nicholas Boylan '86
Scott Fischbein	Peter Fischbein '60
Suzie Kim	Jong Bum Kim '86
Hannah Lynch	Ralph Lynch '86
Makaylo Van Peebles	Mario Van Peebles '78
Victoria Saia	Vincent Saia '79
James Tenrai	Kevin Wakayama '72
Hannah Weinstock	Peter Weinstock '89 and Lisa Weinstock '89
Ourania Yancopoulos	George Yancopoulos '80

event; it was great to see everyone. Low point was campus housing. Carman still sucks and the price was high for Spartan accommodations. Alumni Office staff was terrific; thanks to everyone!"

**Don Guttenplan** is "just ending a three-year gig writing about education in Europe for the *International Herald Tribune*. Still writing for *The Nation* and planning to use my newfound free time for writing that feels more like my own and for other projects."

**Richard Schloss** is "working full-time in my private psychiatry practice in Huntington, (L.I.), N.Y. My wife, Meredith Jaffe '82 Nursing, has a dental practice in Huntington as well. My older son, Bradley, completed his first year at Touro Law in Central Islip, N.Y., and my younger son, Jason, graduated in May from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn with a B.F.A. in communications art."

**Ian Silverman** writes, "I've been a rabbi at E. Northport Jewish Center on Long Island for 10 years. I recently negotiated a long-term contract with the congregation. Sons Marc and Alan are in or aiming for grad school."

**Michael Wilhite** '07 Arch. writes, "I returned to Columbia for graduate school in 2006-07 and worked in NYC for the first time afterward. Prior to that I worked with Bill Campbell '62, '64 TC at Intuit and was on the Oakland, Calif., Jack London Aquatic Center board with Robert Kidd '70. My relationship with Columbia during the last 39 years has been wonderful. I continue to be supportive of Columbia activities, events and sports programs, and Columbia alums have been supportive of me. Thank you, Columbia!"

**Robert Muirhead** of Resources Global Professionals writes, "My wife, Susan, and I enjoyed the

candidate for mayor of my hometown, New Haven, Conn., but decided a few months ago that victory was not possible and subsequently pulled out and endorsed another candidate, joining her campaign as co-chair. The stars were just not aligning with many folks in the race and there are no runoff provisions if one candidate is far ahead out of six or seven.

It was great to catch up with everyone at reunion. As many of you said, it was great to see so many classmates and I hope we can manage to find ways to be together before five years slip by. Think about a larger '78 contingent at Homecoming on Saturday, October 19, for starters — we can try to organize a group along with stalwarts **Tom Mariam** and **Fred Rosenberg** in a few weeks.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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First things first: Our 35th Alumni Reunion Weekend will be held Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1, on campus and throughout New York City. It's never too early to save the date; we want as many classmates there as possible. Also, if you'd like to be involved in planning the weekend's events or with fundraising for our Class Gift, get in touch with the appropriate

### Andres Alonso '79 ended his tenure as CEO of the Baltimore City Public Schools and accepted a five-year term as a professor of practice at Harvard Graduate School of Education.

ultimate in summer fun with an extended second honeymoon to Hawaii in July. Fabulous sights, wonderful food, lots of sun and sand. Perfect way to celebrate 34 years of wedded bliss with the woman of my dreams."

**Henry Aronson** says, "Looking forward to beginning pet therapy training with Luna, my 11-year-old Italian greyhound. As a commuter, I didn't have many close friends among my fellow students, so there was no one to see at the reunion so I didn't attend."

As some of you know, I was a

Alumni Office staff member listed at the top of the column. Volunteers are needed!

**Andres Alonso** ended his six-year tenure as CEO of the Baltimore City Public Schools on June 30 and accepted a five-year term as professor of practice at Harvard Graduate School of Education; he started in July.

**John A. Don** practices workers' compensation law in San Diego. He manages his own firm and lectures to consumer groups throughout the state.

**Howard Green** '80 GSAS moved

to California in 1989 and is v.p. of marketing at Azul Systems in Sunnyvale. From time to time each year he passes through NYC, either for tech events or to change planes. He has been found by a few classmates from the CU Marching Band and the GSAS history program as well as the Classes of '76, '78 and '79, mostly via LinkedIn. Howard remains amazed by how time flies and how technology helps people get back in touch after 30-plus years. He was married from 1986–06 and his sons, Mark (23) and Chris (20) have busy lives: Mark is an aspiring bassist and songwriter on the East Coast and Chris is a goalie for his college's soccer team in Saratoga, Calif.

**Robert Darnell** is a professor at The Rockefeller University, an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and a neuro-oncologist, and now has the additional role of president, CEO and scientific director of the New York Genome Center. At the time of this writing, he was also busy training for the NYC Triathlon in July and hoping to beat his time from last year. Let's hope the run went well for him!

**David Hachey** writes, "I recently married off my oldest daughter, Lindsay, and it caused me to reflect on many things, including how quickly time passes (it is hard to believe that we graduated nearly 35 years ago). I'm also proud to report that my younger daughter, Carly, began the nurse practitioner program at Columbia after graduating from Hamilton College last year. She's carrying on the Columbia tradition and I couldn't be happier."

"I also recently celebrated my 35th anniversary as a wealth adviser at Northwestern Mutual, so it has been an eventful year."

**Dr. Mark Eberle** is a clinical associate professor of medicine in the Division of Rheumatology at NYU Langone Medical Center.

**Robert Davis**, president of Davis Design & Development, updates us with exciting news of his marriage in June "to the lovely Alisa Garrett '87 UCLA. Alisa is a talented painter, phenomenal mother of two great children and just crazy enough to spend the rest of her life with me. My son, Louis, who is a film student at the Academy of Art University in San Francisco, was best man."

"My great friends **David Braham** and **Tor Braham** attended. I met the Braham brothers on my first day at Columbia. I flew alone from my native Los Angeles in August 1975 to NYC, found my way to campus and finally the second floor of Carman. There I met my roommate, Tor, and his brother, David. We did not immediately like one another. At all. That changed quickly. Some 38 years

later we remain great friends."

**Thomas Costigan** lives in Falls Church, Va., with his wife of more than 32 years, Lucy Buchness. Their son, Nolan, is a senior at Radford University. Tom is a database analyst for Promontory Interfinancial Network in Arlington, Va.

**Allan Hoving** sends regards to fellow '79ers. Allan, who fondly recalls attending classes in Hamilton Hall and reading the news on WKCR during Phil Schaap '73's Saturday night jazz program, entered book and magazine publishing upon graduation. Now "out of print," Allan earned a master's in online media in 2010 at Quinnipiac University. He has been married for 20 years, has two children (one starting college), lives in Westport, Conn., and works in Old Saybrook.

**David Friedman** writes that the "only new thing to report is that our son, Daniel '16, completed his freshman year at Columbia and loved every minute of it. He's officially a full-fledged New Yorker as well."

**Dr. Larry DiFabrizio** and his bride, Claudia '80 Barnard (née Martin), recently celebrated their 27th anniversary. In 2012, after close to two decades in a successful private practice in pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine, Larry was appointed director of the Pulmonary Faculty Practice at Mount Sinai Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine Faculty Practice Associates Hospital, where he continues to care for his patients and conduct research. Larry's wife, together with her sister, are principals of Hays Worthington, a wholesale jewelry business engaged in the buying and selling of estate and fine jewelry, with headquarters in New York City. Larry and Claudia are the proud parents of Baxter, who is a junior at Brown. They welcome old and new friends and can be reached at 646-861-1422.

**Frank Aquila's** daughter, Jillian, will continue the Columbia tradition this fall when she starts her master's at Teachers College. Frank heads the global corporate practice at Sullivan & Cromwell in New York.

**Robert C. Klapper:** "As of this writing, I have plans this summer to lecture at The Florence Academy of Art. My lecture will be the same one that I gave at The J. Paul Getty Museum to an audience of 1,000 here in Los Angeles and at orthopedic meetings in Boston, Colorado and New York. The talk, 'Michelangelo's Sculptures: How he Manipulated Anatomy,' explains with detailed photographs how the master conveyed complex human emotions by gently manipulating the anatomy."

"The presentation, including the surprise ending where I discover



something no one has described before, is part of my strong desire to connect my vocation and avocation of surgery and sculpting in marble. The sixth sense we all have developed through the years in our chosen professions is truly the beauty of growing older. Every time I begin an explanation of where this love of art and its connection to science comes from, there is always one answer — it is the shared experience that we all have because Columbia College insisted we study Art Humanities.

"The world is such a different place today than it was during the four years we spent on Morningside Heights, but in many respects nothing has changed at all. I hope each of you reading this column gets to reflect on your own transcendent lessons imparted by the Core Curriculum. Roar, lion, roar!"

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**Michael C. Brown**  
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Congratulations to our baseball team on a historic season that gave us an Ivy League Championship and our first NCAA tournament victory. Coach Brett Boretti has built a program that we can all be proud of, and with a win over New Mexico, our players have proven that we can play with the best of them. **Eric Blattman** traveled to California to watch the games and reported that position-to-position, our team matched up equal or better than our opponents. In fact, two of our guys signed pro contracts, Tim Giel '13 with the New York Yankees and Alex Black '13 with the Kansas City Royals, and our honor roll was extensive. Good job!

I received a nice note from **John Metaxas**, who can be heard in the New York area on WCBS Newsradio 880, where he delivers coverage on finance and other subjects on the weekends. In addition, he practices immigration law at the Sandberg Law Group in Mt. Kisco, N.Y.

**Bruce Paulsen** and I caught up over a porterhouse steak at STK in the Meatpacking District. Bruce was recently recognized by Chambers USA for his excellence in litigation as part of Seward & Kissel. Always the avid sailor, he and his daughter spent much of the summer on Long Island Sound.

**Dave Maloof**, long recognized as a "Super Lawyer" in his field of international shipping law, has recently been traveling for another reason: He and his family have been developing recreational facilities for the children at a refugee camp in Lebanon. As a result of

his work, he has been consulted by both the State Department and the White House. Most recently, Pax Christi Metro New York honored Dave by creating an annual Maloof Family Young Peacemaker Award for Catholic high school students in the New York metropolitan area.

**Joe Ciulla's** daughter, Brittany, has relocated to San Diego. **Jay Kutlow** and **Mike Manuche** — be on the lookout!

Finally, congratulations to my daughter, Kate, who was married to Alexander Greeley (a Harvard man) this summer. The Harvard Club has never seen so many Columbia alums in the room, with three decades represented. I thank all my classmates and friends who attended.

Write at one of the addresses at the top of the column, or feel free to call me at the office: 212-373-1007.

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**Kevin Fay**  
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We have three updates.

**Michael Strauss** reported in from Port Jefferson, N.Y., where he runs his law practice and where he lives with his wife, Marianne, and their three children. Their oldest, Elizabeth, graduated from URI this past May with a B.F.A. in theatre. Their middle child, Matthew '16, is grinding through Contemporary Civilization and thinking of becoming a history major like his father. Their youngest, Caroline, is a high school sophomore and has become a recognized photographer and poet, all the while working at a local restaurant (note: in the world according to Fay, "Children should be employed").

Michael stays in touch with **Joe Sbiroli**, who lives in Locust Valley, N.Y., and whom he sees at his Midtown club.

Michael's law practice is on Main Street in Port Jefferson, in an office building that includes his largest client, who is the area's busiest home builder. For recreation, he can be spotted on the golf course during the warm weather months.

Last winter, Michael attempted to attend the Columbia-Harvard basketball game only to have his plans ruined by a blizzard. As a result of power loss for days, he says he would gladly support any politician in favor of burying the power lines and thus moving into the 21st century.

I had several emails from **Henry Berumen**, hilarious in content, which I doubt CCT will permit me to include without some editing. Henry began by scolding me for my

support of the losing presidential candidate (as someone who supported Columbia athletics during my years on Morningside Heights, you grow accustomed to losing). The next few emails focused on his encounter with President Barack Obama '83 when they were students. Here is the edited version:

"I was hanging with **Sandy Roberts** (from Antigua) in front of Fernald Hall in spring 1981 ... The buzz around the minority students was there was a black kid coming from a college in California who was thinking of transferring to the College as a junior. So Sandy Man (his nickname) and I went to see the guy from Occidental College, who was at the MLK Lounge. ... After greetings, he asked a few questions that guys from California ask. My response? 'It's a culture shock, man. No cars, forget about women.' (In spring 1981, relations between Columbia and Barnard were at a nadir.) 'No sunshine in January and February. And if you want to succeed, bury yourself in the stacks at Butler Library. Don't drink on Thursdays at The Pub. And don't eat at Takome deli unless you have no money.' It looks like he took my advice; the rest is history."

I'm re-reading the entire account and still chuckling. You did such a great job selling Columbia, I'm surprised he attended!

**Michael Horowitz** and his wife, Jeannie Gutierrez, "emptied the nest" and, in the process, moved from Skokie to Bucktown (a neighborhood in Chicago most similar to NYC). His daughter, Maya, is a sophomore studying dance at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle. Their son, Eli, completed his first year with Teach For America in Oxon Hill, Md., where he teaches Spanish and coaches the girls' basketball team at Potomac H.S. Jeannie is a clinical psychologist specializing in helping families with autistic children.

Michael is ending his third year as the founding president of the TCS Education System, one of only two nonprofit higher education system; it includes three professional colleges (The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, Pacific Oaks College and Children's School, and the Santa Barbara & Ventura Colleges of Law). He would love to hear from others interested in higher education in the United States and internationally, and looks to grow the system in terms of disciplines and locations (mhorowitz@tcsedsystem.edu).

Finally, as I write, I am going to meet up with Steve Wadyka '83 tomorrow night at a bar in Georgetown. Steve is a patent lawyer at Greenberg Traurig. We hope to stimulate the local economy by purchasing a couple micro-brews

and reminiscing about our days on Morningside Heights.

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**Andrew Weisman**  
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Gents, didn't hear from anyone this period. Given it was summer, I will extend a dispensation but do not vex me again. (A little *Caligula* reference.) I look forward to hearing from you. You can use either address at the top of the column, or CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

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**Roy Pomerantz**  
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Our 30th reunion was a resounding success and we set a 30th reunion gift record, raising \$620,000. You can see the photo of all who attended the Saturday dinner and the list of everyone who registered at college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features4 (go to the class photos). More than 30 Barnard '83 grads attended several of our reunion events.

The following is a collection of news items from conversations throughout the weekend:

**Paul Lerner** and his partner, Steve, are frequent reunion attendees. They live in Los Angeles and Steve is a music teacher.

**Chris Wood** wore a handsome Columbia tie. He is a high school Spanish teacher and lives in Massachusetts. His favorite Columbia professor was Wallace Gray '58 GSAS.

**Nicholas Paone's** daughter, Abigail (16), is a future Broadway star. She has been pursuing musical theatre since preschool. Nick lives in West New Jersey and is a lawyer

## Columbia College Alumni on Facebook



Check out the new Columbia College Alumni page!

**facebook.com/alumnicc**

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

representing insurance companies.

**David Hershey-Webb** and his wife, Amy '84 Tufts, live in Manhattan. Their daughter, Lilly (12), is in the seventh grade at the Salk School of Science. David is a partner at the law firm Himmelstein, McConnell, specializing in DHCR litigation, and is a professional musician. He has been supporting and hosting events for Manhattan borough president candidate Gale Brewer (D-N.Y.). (**Dan Jaffe** says David wrote and posted a song about Anthony Weiner, 'Dumb Guy, Smart Phone,' on YouTube that is a tour de force. He strongly recommends you check it out. My kids and I love it!)

**David Einhorn** and his wife have two daughters (4 and 6). David is an intellectual property lawyer and wine connoisseur.

**Myles Hansen**, my 14 Jay floormate, is a talented wrestler. He has an M.B.A. from Washington University and is an antitrust lawyer with Monsanto. Myles is in contact with 14 Jay floormate **Mark Licht**.

Another 14 Jay floormate, **Peter Simonson**, and his wife, Jane, live in New Jersey. They have a daughter, Melanie '17 Barnard. Peter is an ob/gyn.

**Kevin Chapman** and his wife, Sharon '83 Barnard, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary by going to a Mets game. Kevin is assistant general counsel at Dow Jones & Company.

**Geoffrey Mintz** continues to grow his hat company, That Way Hat. His mother (a former professor of education at Teachers College) and father, Norman Mintz (a Columbia executive v.p. when we were students), are both well. Geoffrey's brother, Doug '84, is a physician at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan.

**Gary McCready** and his wife, Jane, have a son, Ben, who is a philosophy major at Rutgers. Gary is manager, storage and open VMS at Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp.

**Rob Kahn** lives on the Upper West Side.

**Carl Faller** lives in Columbus, Ohio, and specializes in affordable housing.

**Miles Ladenheim** is a psychiatrist.

**Larry Lester** lives in Queens and teaches at the Hunter College Elementary School for gifted children in Manhattan.

**Stephen Holtje** lives in Brooklyn and writes about sports and jazz. He is also a talented jazz musician.

**P.J. Pesce's** son, Paolo, took incredible photos of the entire reunion. Please contact me if you would like me to forward them to you. P.J. recently sold a pilot to

HBO. He also co-wrote the finale for *Friends*.

**David Klein** is a psychiatrist to the medical and surgical ward at Jacobi Medical Center. This was the first CC reunion he attended. He is a numismatist.

**Seth Farber** works in the Justice Department under New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman. Seth was a trombone player in the CU Marching Band.

**Eric Wertzer** is the senior director, international and comparative law programs, at Columbia. Eric comments that with the increase in size of the College and with the College's enhanced selectivity/prestige, some of the character of CC has been lost. Eric has particularly fond memories of the faculty members' accessibility and their emphasis on teaching when we were students.

**Othon Prounis** is a partner at Ropes & Gray specializing in mergers and acquisitions. He is also a member of the firm's Policy Committee. He has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America from 2005-13. I had not seen him in 30 years but recognized him instantly; he looks the same as he did when he represented our class in the Senate. Othon was a campus leader and tireless Columbia supporter during his tenure at the College. I was thrilled to see him at the cocktail reception and look forward to working with him on class events.

### Anthony Marcus '83 is the Paris Club representative for the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

**Jonathan Green** is senior counsel for the Department of Law for the City of Chicago. He had a terrific time at the Friday dinner at V&T. He particularly enjoyed reconnecting with **Rich Pressman**. Jonathan is in touch with President **Barack Obama** and spoke with him after our 25th reunion. Jonathan reports that Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, '76L and the President have discussed the comparative strengths of CC basketball in the '70s and '80s.

**Matt Stedman** has been married for 11 years. He and his wife live on the East Side of Manhattan. Their son, Ben, attends The British International School of New York. Matt is in the Wall Street bond business and is the managing director at Seaport Group.

**Thomas Johns** is e.v.p. and general counsel for The Hampshire Management Group.

**George Wilson** reports that **Ben Heimsath** recently celebrated his 30th wedding anniversary. Ben

lives with his family in Austin, Texas, and has one grandchild. Ben is the principal and managing partner at Heimsath Architects. George also noted that **Stephen Huntley-Robertson**, **Dion Macellari** and **Michael Cataldo** send their best wishes to the class.

**Anthony Marcus** is the Paris Club representative for the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

**Peter Ripin** is a litigation partner at the law firm Davidoff Hatcher & Citron in midtown Manhattan. He lives with his wife, Marianne, and his daughters, Abigail (14) and Isabella (12), in Ardsley, N.Y. Peter's cousin is **Peter Simonson**. **Peter Ripin** also attended Stuyvesant with **Andy Barth**.

Speaking of Andy, his son, Andy Jr. '16, has been named a team leader for the 2013 U.S. men's free-style World Team by USA Wrestling, the national governing body for the sport in the United States. Our Andy was the team captain for Columbia's varsity wrestling team as a senior in 1982-83 and endowed the Andrew F. Barth Head Coach of Wrestling.

**Elliot Sloane** sent this update: "Personal: Married to Polly Leider '84 Barnard, a producer at CBS News. About to celebrate 24 years of marriage. Three kids: Jack (21), a senior at Johns Hopkins; Charlie (17), a high school senior at Fieldston; Juliet (15), a sophomore at Fieldston. Professional: Run Sloane & Co., a financial and crisis

communications firm (sloanepr.com). Work for a great group of clients: New York Life, AT&T, American Express, Walgreens, Cablevision, Boone Pickens, Elliott Management. Sold the business in April 2010 to publicly traded MDC Partners. Retain a significant minority stake."

**John Kiernan** is the director of asset management at Invesco Real Estate in Manhattan. He has been married for six years to Catherine Ruvolo '86 Dartmouth. They have two 21-month-old boys and live in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

I almost didn't recognize **Jay Lippman** without the propellers on his head.

**Andy Gershon** and **Eric Epstein** both generously hosted pre-reunion events at their homes.

**Dan Loeb** was the keynote speaker at the Saturday class dinner. He reminisced about being a college student at a time when papers were written by hand and the only way to contact your par-

ents was by calling them on the dorm telephone or writing letters. Dan's father recently passed away; he said he found some of the handwritten notes he had sent to his father 30 years ago. Dan also spoke movingly about the friendships he made at Columbia.

**Dan Jaffe** is a professor at Case Western Reserve University Law School. His sons, Jacob (19) and Micah (17), are both figure skaters and are competing in the U.S. National Championships.

**Dr. Ramon Parsons** and his wife, Constance Vasilas Parsons '83 Barnard, met sophomore year and look forward to celebrating their 27th anniversary. Constance works in property management. Ramon has been a professor at P&S for 17 years. He is also the chairman of the Department of Oncological Sciences at Mt. Sinai. He lives in Manhasset. His son, Richard (23), is a graduate student in Sheffield, England. Daughter Antonia (19) is studying at Johns Hopkins and daughter Paulina is 17.

**Robert Drew** teaches communications and media studies at Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan. He is married to Amy Keogh '84 Barnard. They have two boys (15 and 17). Robert wrote a book on karaoke.

**Atul Khanna** '83E completed the 3-2 Engineering/College program. He is single and in the hedge fund business. He lives in Manhattan.

**Paul Saputo** is director of tennis at The River Club. He is single and lives on the Upper West Side.

**Bert Alexis** is the senior director, M&A legal group for Ooredoo in Qatar. He interviews prospective Columbia students in Qatar. His children, Kimia (12) and Lucas (6), attend the American school in Qatar.

**Wayne Root's** daughter, Dakota, recently won the John Harvard award. He also shares: "My book, *The Ultimate Obama Survival Guide: How to Survive, Thrive, and Prosper During Obamageddon*, hit the No. 1 bestseller list in three categories on Amazon: Finance, Economics and Politics. And it hit No. 1 political hardcover bestseller at bookstores across America (according to BookScan). It remained in the Top 5 for 11 weeks.

"I'm also proud to report I was a featured speaker at the business conference Mega Partnering in Los Angeles in June. Other speakers included fashion guru Donna Karan, former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and NFL Hall of Famer Michael Irvin of the Dallas Cowboys. Quite a crowd!"

**Steve Coleman's** daughter, Sarah '16, is a sophomore at Columbia this fall.



My 8-year-old son David's Manhattan travel baseball team, The Spartans, finished its season 16-0 and won the championship game 12-0. His coach is a former professional (Chicago White Sox) and this was his first undefeated team. The team will compete in national tournaments this fall with David playing third base.

Being involved with the 30th reunion was a 2013 highlight for me. I encourage all of you to participate in our 35th.

# REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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Several months ago, yours truly had the privilege of celebrating my 50th birthday with neighbors and friends, including Columbia College alums and quasi-family members Stanley Lupkin '62; Jonathan Lupkin '89, '92L; **Michael B. Ackerman** (flying in all the way from Los Angeles!); Manhasset neighbors Dr. **David Godfried** and Dr. Joe Halio '74; and dear friend Roy Pomerantz '83. Unable to attend but generous with their well wishes were Eddy Friedfeld '83 (who honored me by telling Mel Brooks about my love of his work!), **El Gray** (the right honorable class senator!) and **Jim Weinstein** (who honored me with the responsibility of shipping the lightweight crew's oars to Henley Royal Regatta, held annually on the River Thames near London).

One striking gift presented by Dr. Halio was a 1975 essay by Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig that was published in the *Columbian*. So moved was I by this gesture, and by this remarkable writing (in which he presents his views on the superiority of a Columbia education), that I made a similar gift to Mr. Pomerantz at the class dinner during his 30th reunion ... and was it a hit! Hundreds of alums spent a few moments reading, remarking and demanding a copy for their own. (A copy has been scanned and emailed to them, and to you, my classmates — if you didn't get it, please advise.)

Speaking of this event, kudos to the Pomerantz family for hosting one of the best-attended Thursday night events of Alumni Reunion

Weekend ever. I hope to emulate this great success next year. Speaking of which, the dates for our 30th reunion are Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. If you'd like to be involved with planning, you can get in touch with one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column. Otherwise I encourage you all to block off that portion of your calendar with a big "X" and starting planning your return trip to Morningside Heights.

So now that I'm an *alte kocker* (old fart), you'll excuse me as I sprinkle the following observations with adjectives from my *mamaloshn* (mother tongue) — especially since this year's National Spelling Bee was decided on the spelling of *knaidel/kneydl*, and Class Day speaker and playwright Terrence McNally '60 harkened back to "Columbia's reputation as the Jewish commuter college in the Ivy League."

Indeed, this year for what I believe was the 10th time [Editor's note: Correct!], Class Day featured the Alumni Parade of Classes, at which I was once again honored to represent our class. It's a thrilling experience, with the graduates cheering us as we pass through their ranks with class banner in hand, giving us the rush of a rock star (or something similar: must consult Vampire Weekend). It's immensely rewarding when a classmate such as the aforementioned Dr. Godfried agrees to join and share in what is best described as a *mechiah* (pleasure). It's even more divine when a gaggle of classmates is on hand to represent the class, and undoubtedly the highest degree of *naches* (joy) is experienced by those whose children are attending and/or graduating.

*Mazel tov* and thanks to **Fred Fisher** (daughters Talia '13 and Rebecca '17), **Kevin Liss** (sons Jeremy '13 and Daniel '16), **Arthur Kohn** (son Samuel '13) and **John Travis** (daughter Cosima '13) for making this year's participation the best ever. Arthur, it should be noted, plays a leadership role in our class fundraising and has done a stellar job in making our class look good!

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At this point in our careers, many of us have, or are about to, switch jobs or careers. And we have several such stories to share this column.

**Kevin Kelly** has worked in the Bloomberg administration for the last 10 of its 12 years — "lucky enough to be introduced

to agency commissioners and other city government senior staff in fall 2003 and, never expecting to stay in government more than two years, I figured it would be an interesting, worthwhile local endeavor that would bring me back to NYC after years of living abroad and give me an opportunity to deploy my operational skills in a new context, the public sector. I was right about all of that, but I underestimated the degree to which I would find a niche in city government as an operations professional, and the extent to which the Bloomberg administration would strive to transform local government, not just through innovative policy or strategy, but through thorough and thoughtful restructuring of the people, processes and technology that comprise service delivery. I came because I was curious and optimistic but I stayed because the work was big, impactful, challenging and, most of the time, without precedent or blueprint.

"My first eight years in city government were spent at the Department of Small Business Services, where I held five different positions leading programmatic units and divisions, strategic planning, and agency operations and technology. My last two years in city government have been with the Mayor's Office — helping to institutionalize (across city government) many of the innovations and programs that we created and implemented during the last decade. Still lots to do and not much more time to do it in! I have worked with some of the most amazing, smart, talented and dedicated people you could imagine. Never in my wildest dreams did I think that in government I would have the longest stretch of time (in my career) with the same employer. Ten years! Never say never, folks.

"I have taught at SIPA for the last five years as an adjunct professor, so while I look forward to returning to the private sector in 2014, I will continue to teach courses at SIPA on public management and fostering innovation in the public and nonprofit sectors. If and when you are in NYC please say hello: kgk13@columbia.edu. It would be great to catch up."

**Harold Ullman** announced that he joined the Wall Street-based law firm of Wuersch & Gering as a tax partner and will continue to advise foreign and domestic businesses and private clients. WG is a general practice firm with an international focus. It provides a broad range of legal services to foreign enterprises and individuals investing in the United States or transacting business with U.S. companies and to

U.S. companies and individuals on domestic and international matters. You can find out more at wg-law.com. Harold resides in Livingston, N.J., with his wife, Stacey, and their three children.

Federal Communications Commission chairman **Julius Genachowski** stepped down from his post on May 17. Julius led the FCC during a time of rapid growth and transformative change in the technology, media and telecommunications sector, particularly around broadband — high-speed Internet. In his remarks announcing his decision, he said, "Over the past four years, we've focused the FCC on broadband, wired and wireless, working to drive economic growth and improve the lives of all Americans. We've taken big steps to build a future where broadband is ubiquitous and bandwidth is abundant, where innovation and investment are flourishing ...

"We adopted a landmark overhaul of multi-billion dollar universal service programs, modernizing them from telephone to broadband and creating the Connect America Fund and the Mobility Fund, an unprecedented commitment to broadband infrastructure. To unleash the enormous opportunities of mobile, we pioneered incentive auctions and other cutting-edge spectrum policies. To fuel America's innovation economy, we put in place the first rules to preserve Internet freedom and openness. To drive competition and empower consumers, we opposed and modified transactions where necessary, deployed technology to drive transparency, and took unprecedented enforcement actions. We helped harness the power of digital technologies to give students a better chance, people better health care, and make Americans safer in their homes and communities while also guarding against digital threats and strengthening cybersecurity. Today, America's broadband economy is thriving, with record-setting private investment; unparalleled innovation in networks, devices and apps; and renewed U.S. leadership around the world." [Editor's note: See feature on Genachowski in Summer 2012 CCT.]

President Barack Obama '83 concurred and added, "Thanks to his hard work and his leadership, the FCC has made extraordinary progress on both fronts."

Julius has moved to The Aspen Institute, a non-partisan organization based in Washington, D.C., as a senior fellow.

**Larry Slaughter** joined Lazard as managing director and vice chairman, investment banking, effective

June 3. Larry was at JP Morgan for 26 years, where he was co-head of North American Investment Banking, having previously been head of European Investment Banking Corporates in London. During his tenure at JP Morgan, Larry led many transformative M&A and capital markets transactions in aerospace, automotive, capital goods, chemicals, healthcare and other industries. He spent two decades in London, where he was co-head of European M&A and head of the European financial sponsors business. From 2008 until his return to New York in 2011, he was head of European Investment Banking Corporates.

**Todd Hughes** has produced a documentary, *Dear Mom, Love Cher*, which premiered on Lifetime in May and honored the remarkable life story and perseverance of Cher's mother, Georgia Holt. **Cary Berger** wrote the original score for the film (Todd and Cary have been collaborating for 30 years, including on the 1986 cult short *The Horror and Mystery of the Succubus*, which starred Karl-Ludwig Selig); John Tanzer '87 was the director of photography. Todd produced the documentary *Hit So Hard* about Courtney Love's band, Hole, (also with John) and executive produced *Room 237* about obsession with Stanley Kubrick's *The Shining*.

Kudos to **John Phelan** for representing our class at the Glee Club alumni concert that took place during Alumni Reunion Weekend. I sang in a similar concert at our 25th reunion, and it brought back some great memories (aside from getting to see so many Glee Club "legends").

Speaking of Glee Clubbers, I met in New York this spring with several when they came for family campus visits. **David Zapolsky** and his son, Ian '15, joined me and my son, Isaac '14, for an adventure with the Mets at Citi Field. (The company was certainly superior to the play by the home team on the field.) David is settling into his role as general counsel of Amazon. Ian and Isaac, unbeknownst to each other, were in the same computer science class last semester. Small world indeed.

**Tom Scotti**, his wife, Karen, and their daughter, Anne '17, joined us for brunch this spring near campus as well. Tom works for Consensus Advisors in Boston, where he has been a managing director since July 2011.

Finally, as I invited you all to share highlights from your half-century birthday celebration year, let me share a few of my own. I have chosen to spread out the celebration (punctuated by sporting events) throughout the year. And it

has truly been a year of highlights. In April I checked off a lifetime "bucket list" item when I attended the first round of The Masters with my youngest son, Josh. Everything I had read about how TV doesn't do it justice is an understatement. Absolutely incredible. For all you golfers out there, do whatever you have to do to make an early April trip there.

In June, my wife, Allison '86 Barnard, and I were honored to receive our synagogue's Holy Community Award. In July, I attended the Major League Baseball All-Star Game at Citi Field. In August, our entire family made our first trip together to Israel (I have a large number of family members there, but had never been). Truly unforgettable. And finally, this September, Allison and I look forward to celebrating our 25th anniversary. A truly special year. We are very blessed.

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Thanks to all those who responded to my email appeal for news! Many emails bounced back, so if you hear from me in late June, please write me at everett6@gmail.com and I'll make sure that Columbia updates its database. [Editor's note: You can also contact Columbia directly with any contact information updates: college.columbia.edu/cct/update\_contact\_info.]

**Todd Hughes '85** has produced a documentary, *Dear Mom, Love Cher*, which premiered on Lifetime in May and honored the life story and perseverance of Cher's mother, Georgia Holt.

**John Yeh** wrote that the robotics team Landroids, which he has coached for the past six years, won the 2012 world championship and was invited to the 2013 White House Science Fair. John's son, Karlin Yeh (17), is on the team. John started the team for Karlin and his friends when they were in kindergarten. It began as a weekly LEGO play group and grew from there. "Once they had a taste of winning, there was no stopping them!" says John. You can see a photo of the winning team and a very impressive list of their awards at landroids.org/awards.

**Joshua Wirtschafter** wrote from Berkeley, Calif., to *kwell* about his son, Eli, who recently graduated from UC Berkeley with a double major in theatre and American studies. As the Departmental Cita-

tion Winner (i.e., No. 1 student) in both departments, he spoke at both of his departmental graduations. His awards were based largely on his success in researching an American studies honor's thesis on the Astor Place Riot in NYC in 1849, and writing and directing a play produced by the theatre department on the same subject. So Professor Kenneth Jackson's course on the history of the City of New York has reverberated down a generation!

Josh was recently named by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as the Superfund Legal Enforcer of the Year in recognition of his negotiation of a multi-party agreement for the cleanup of a defunct copper mine in Nevada near the Duck Valley Indian Reservation of the Shoshone Paiute Tribes. This is the second time in Josh's 15-year legal career at the EPA that he has won this award.

Josh's daughter, Marnina, is studying communications and theatre at UCLA. Josh's wife, Diane Schon Wirtschafter '86 Barnard, teaches at the Black Pine Circle School in Berkeley, where their youngest child, Rafael, is thriving in middle school. Josh and Diane are musicians as well, most recently playing violin and singing (respectively) in a klezmer Purim Spiel.

**Dave Nachmanoff** writes, "I'll be playing at the Royal Albert Hall in October, when I'll be accompanying my longtime favorite singer-songwriter, Al Stewart ('The Year of the Cat'). We've toured as an

acoustic duo for more than 10 years. The first place I saw him play was the Royal Albert Hall in London while I was on a junior year abroad at Oxford (part of a program that Columbia had just introduced) in 1985. I appeared there with him in 2006, and never guessed I'd get to come back for another show there. For a lot more information about my music and what I've been doing since my Columbia days, visit davenach.com.

**Joel Berg** says, "I have two bits of exciting professional news. I am appearing, along with Academy Award-winner Jeff Bridges and others, in a documentary on hunger in America called *A Place at the Table*. It is still in some theaters but is also available online and on DVD (magpictures.com/aplaceatthetable/). Also, the organization I head, the

New York City Coalition Against Hunger, has launched a national initiative to revolutionize the way people volunteer to fight hunger, to make such efforts far more effective (hungervolunteer.org)."

**Jon Rutchik**, his wife, Beth, and son, Rex (6), returned home to California from a trip to Iceland and Greenland in June. He writes, "South Greenland was unique and fantastic! We ventured around Eskimo villages where icebergs hover in coves out one's window, and we looked for rare earth minerals, seals, and minke, fin and humpback whales as well as Norse ruins. We handled narwhal tusks and ate narwhal (no actual sighting, though). I sketched, painted and visited with local artists. The weather was great — in the mid-60s! Visiting the polar ice cap was amazing considering it reaches north to the pole. I am already planning our next adventure to the east or northwest of that country.

"Iceland was more European but the nature was staggering and my favorite part was that very few tourists were anywhere except at the gas station stops around the ring road. Waterfalls and sharp jagged mountain tops everywhere you turn. We did get to fly-fish for arctic char and drive a bit off-road. Hotels were small but charming and of course the cod and char were delicious. My son now speaks fluent Icelandic (kidding), but he can pronounce the names of many towns in the north and east fjords: Akureyri, Húsavík, Seyðisfjörður, Borgarfjörður and Djúpivogur! This country also has lots to offer and is highly recommended.

"As for work, I continue to enjoy treating and evaluating patients with neurological problems and occupational issues and/or environmental exposures to solvents or metals; I also teach and do medical legal work. In 2012, I was promoted to associate clinical professor at UCSF. We very much enjoy Marin County and the nature here. My tennis game is solid as well, and I have been successful in singles in my USTA leagues. Connect with me at jsrutch@neoma.com or on Facebook."

Congrats to **Derrick Harris**, in Atlanta, for having his company, StandBy Talent, nominated to the 2013 Inc. 5000, a list of the fastest growing companies in America, sponsored by *Inc.* magazine. The company made the list based on its 1,100 percent growth during the last three years. StandBy Talent places IT contractors in the Atlanta market but has clients across the country. Derrick's prior entrepreneurial venture, from 2004-07, was an HR consulting and staffing firm called the Human Resources Department.



He writes, "We are always seeking new clients and would love to help fellow alums with their company's talent acquisition needs. We also fill accounting, financial, HR and office support roles on a contract, contract-to-perm or direct hire basis." You can find out more at [standbytalent.com](http://standbytalent.com).

A film and video editor for more than 22 years, **Eric Pomert** (in Berkeley) is making good on a wish he has long kept at bay. Several of his friends encouraged him to jump into the breach, so this fall he will teach a class at the adult school in Piedmont, Calif.; it's called "Editor's Eye: Cinema Appreciation from the Cutting Room Perspective." To find out more, visit [ericpomert.com](http://ericpomert.com).

**Joe Rio** was the first invited speaker in June at the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, where he addressed the impact of federal legislation on the LGBT community and on the banking and financial sectors' diversity policies. Joe adds, "Too big to fail and now too big not to care!"

A few months ago, **Ben Field** started a job as executive officer of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, which represents 89 unions and about 100,000 working families in Silicon Valley. He writes, "We are doing our best to reverse the trend of income inequality in one of the richest parts of the country. Last fall we led the campaign to raise the minimum wage to \$10 in San Jose, and there's more in store."

**Adam Pergament**, in Laguna Beach, Calif., is a real estate broker with Sotheby's International Realty. Adam previously had founded a design and marketing studio, Swiftpictures, and photographed many prestigious homes in Los Angeles, which led him to join Sotheby's. He moved to L.A. 26 years ago when he attended Loyola Law.

**Theo Le Guin** writes, "Having left my policy and market research career of 25 years last year, I am returning to my original interests (and CC major) in the visual arts and am opening a gallery, Upfor. It will open in early September in Portland, Ore., and will feature contemporary art with an emphasis on digital and new media."

Congrats to **Mitch Earleywine** for being named director of clinical training at the Clinical Psychology Program at SUNY Albany. He also was elected to the executive board of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. He writes, "I had a blast recently with **Phil Birnbaum** and his family at a museum in Albany when they were visiting from Chicago."

Congrats to **Ted Kenney** and his wife, Yim, on the birth of their twins, Karen and Lena, last October

30, joining their brother, George (3).

**Dave Romine** lives in Narberth, Pa. (close to Philadelphia), with his wife, Kathryn, and their sons, John (16) and Alex (10). Dave says, "I have been to every Columbia football game played at Penn for the last 12 years (happens every other year) and have yet to see the Lions win."

**George Warren** and his wife, Sarah Thomas, took their son Benjamin (16) to visit Columbia in June. They have three other children keeping them busy in Austin: George (21), Andrew (19) and Hilleary (12).

Unfortunately, I have to report that **Kevin Hall** passed away in late 2012. Thank you, **Tom Marrinson**, for bringing this to my attention. Tom is a partner at Reed Smith in Chicago and briefly worked with Kevin at that firm.

From the legacy.com memorial for Kevin, I learned he passed away suddenly on November 2, 2012, while in L.A. on business. He is survived by his spouse, Mark Khoury; parents, Anthony and Gillian Hall; and siblings, Melissa and Ian.

Kevin was born in Nairobi, Kenya, and earned a J.D. at Cornell in 1991. He had a successful law career and became partner at Linklaters in New York, then in 2006 joined Reed Smith as partner and moved to San Francisco. In 2009, Kevin joined LiveDeal, initially as general counsel and then was president and CEO before he left in early 2012. That year he completed an executive M.B.A. at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He was a member of the board of directors of the San Francisco YMCA and the AIDS Legal Referral Panel.

There was a memorial in San Francisco for Kevin, which Tom attended. Tom writes, "I was honored to offer a memory from his days at Columbia to the many loving friends and family members who attended Kevin's remembrance service in San Francisco. His larger-than-life personality will be missed."

On July 7, there was an article on the front page of *The New York Times* Sunday Arts & Leisure section on **David Rakoff**. It was a heartbreaking piece because David passed away from cancer about a year ago in August [Editor's note: See Fall 2012 Obituaries]. David no doubt would have appreciated the rich irony that his final work, *Love, Dishonor, Marry, Die, Cherish, Perish: A Novel*, was published posthumously and is garnering positive press. The article detailed how David wrote the novel in rhyming iambic pentameter in between surgeries and chemotherapy, and how friends such as NPR's Ira Glass helped him get it published

and record the audiobook in his final days.

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Work life is the focus of this column, with lots of promotions, job changes and new career directions!

**Rima Jolivet** has taken a position as director of professional and business development at the Centering Healthcare Institute, a nonprofit that developed and promotes an innovative, evidence-based model of group care for maternal and child health. With the new position, Rima said, also came a move to Boston.

In the last issue, we reported on **Irene Tucker**'s new book, *The Moment of Racial Sight: A History*. Just weeks later came her promotion to full professor at UC Irvine.

In more news from the academic world, **Steve Bloom** was promoted

network for sharing medical imaging information. I enjoy early-stage companies and am passionate about innovative technologies, especially in healthcare.

"Personally, I'm happily married with a daughter and three sons between the ages of 3 and 8. Their ages currently limit the amount of volunteer activities I can do, but I still try to be as involved as I can."

Ara, who is from Washington, D.C., has lived in Boston since 1999. He is in touch with several Columbians, including Martha Colan-Ho '88E; Steve Bezirgian '86, '87 GSAS; and several members of the Columbia Armenian Club including Ed Tekeian '90 GS; Tom Momjian '89; Mark Momjian '83, '86L; Souren Ouzounian '89; and Claire Kedeshian '86 Barnard. He added, "I'm connected with many alums on LinkedIn, which makes it easier to keep up to date."

**Eli Kavon**, a rabbi at Beth Ami Congregation in Boca Raton, Fla., reported that he is at work "at-

### Joe Rio '86 was the first invited speaker in June at the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

to professor of physics and astronomy at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia. His area of research is high-energy astrophysics.

When **Eric Rubenstein** heard about Steve's news, he wrote, "Steve and I were astro majors back in the day. We've gone different routes. In 2002, I left .edu and went to .com and .mil — that is, I took a position as an R&D scientist and also joined the Navy Reserve. I'm now president of a small software company, ImageInsightInc.com, that puts out 'GammaPix' software, which uses smartphones and video cameras to detect gamma ray radiation.

"On the military side," Eric added, "I was promoted to lieutenant commander in the Navy Reserve about 1½ years ago. As things have turned out, I use astronomy in both my civilian and military capacities." Eric and his wife, Debbie Farbman Rubenstein, have been married for nearly 25 years and have three sons.

**Madeleine Villanueva** has re-joined the academic world, beginning a master's program in public administration at Baruch College via the National Urban Fellows program. She said (with a chuckle), "One week in, and it's very evident I should have paid more attention in statistics while at Columbia!"

We welcome to the column **Ara Kouchakdjian**, who sent in his first update. He said, "Professionally, I'm the v.p. of product management at LifeImage, the nation's largest and most utilized

tempting to break new ground in the formulation of a prayer service and liturgy for Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah)."

He said, "My hope is to implement this liturgy at my synagogue for next year's commemoration. I try to tap into Jewish sources that provide a meaningful and relevant post-Shoah theology that redefines our approach to God in the wake of the seminal events in Jewish history in the last century. My hope is that my liturgy will take root in other synagogues across the country and throughout the world."

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I'll dispense with rhetorical questions like "Has it really been a quarter-century since we graduated?" because I've already achieved Zen-like acceptance of the passage of time, and skip right to the 25th reunion, which was an event worthy of the august anniversary.

Reunion co-chairs **Stefanie Katz-Rothman**, **Jon Sobel** and **Doug Wolf** reported: "Our 25th reunion was a huge success. Despite brutal heat, more than 195 classmates and guests made the trip to campus from as close as the Upper West Side and as far away as Beijing and Zurich — thanks to **Frank**

**Marinaro and Yuri Lustenberger-Kim** for making the long trip! For some it was their first time back to campus since graduation. The highlight of the weekend for many was our class dinner at Casa Italiana. Class v.p. **Corney Gallo** gave remarks and honored the memory of classmates who passed away. Dean James J. Valentini presented University Trustee **Jonathan Lavine** one of the three inaugural Dean's Leadership Awards for his extraordinary class leadership during a reunion. Jim McMenamin, the man responsible for admitting all of us to the College, emceed an animated and highly competitive interactive trivia contest (one of the questions was "What was our admission rate?"; answer, 28.63 percent). The winning team is now proudly sporting Columbia 'C' hats.

"Thanks so much to the amazing Reunion Committee for its hard work and dedication to raising money, creating the program and encouraging friends to attend. Shout-outs go to **Stephanie Schwartz** for suggesting we do a trivia game, to **Carl Schaerf** for helping with the trivia questions and providing other wit and wisdom, and to **Regina Noch** for creating a 'Top Songs of 1988' playlist. CC '88 set records for donations and participation for our Class Gift. More than 200 classmates donated, exceeding our goal of 185. We raised \$2.7 million in unrestricted gifts and a total of close to \$19.88 million in gifts to the College and the University."

According to **Sharon Levin**, "The reunion combined two of my favorite things about going to Columbia: the great people and the fun neighborhood places to eat and drink. (Although there were fewer jelly bracelets and parachute pants than I remember from the '80s.) Saturday started with an early eggplant pizza lunch at V&T with friends, including **Ellen Pluta** and **Abe Glazer**, who both look amazing and are doing great things in NYC and Rochester. After a stop by the 'lunch under the tent,' a group of us spent the afternoon at the former West End (now Havana Central) drinking and eating chips — just like we did in 1988 (except for the chips).

"In addition to Ellen and Abe, **Cornelia Gallo** and her husband, Peter, were there (Corney counseling me about life just like she did in college), as were **Jake Goldberg** (who was excited about his oldest getting ready to graduate from high school), **Sean Wright** and his wife (who are having a lovely time in Houston), **Elisa Pollack '88** Barnard (living on the Upper West Side with her family) and others. As happened so many times in college after an afternoon at The West

End, I needed to take a short nap before going to my next social engagement, our class dinner, which was packed with people I hadn't seen in years. I sat with **Carlos Cruz** and **Mónica Byrne-Jiménez** (and others) and we got clobbered at trivia but had a great time. After spending a few hours with folks on The Steps, the evening ended as so many did at Columbia: in the wee hours of the morning with good friends getting a Broadway shake at Tom's."

In non-reunion news, **Eve Newhart** dropped a note saying, "I am a physician and I work at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles in hospitalist and palliative care medicine. I have three kids (8, 10 and 12)."

**Laura Prendergast** wrote, "My biotech startup, VectorGen, is seeking a senior researcher in HIV biology and/or gene therapy to form a mentoring relationship for help with our next grant application. We are targeting a September deadline for STTR and R03 applications to the National Institutes of Health, NIAIDS division. I also am seeking assistance with a grant application to secure funding for a pilot program, 'StreetCard,' to use information technology to streamline the process of getting benefits to homeless persons.

"I have completed a full-length screenplay, which was scheduled to be read at the July and August meetings of an Albany (N.Y.) area screenwriters' meet-up group.

"Also, I am advocating for a homeless person whom I met while a student at Columbia, and who is now incarcerated in Auburn Correctional Facility, doing 25-to-life for a murder I am certain he did not do. I have submitted requested documents to the Innocence Project for consideration of his case under the auspices of the Bloodworth grant, which was awarded to the NYPD in conjunction with the Innocence Project, to locate and categorize missing evidence."

Congratulations to **Thomas Love** on a recent professional honor. According to a press release, he "has been named a fellow of the American Statistical Association, the nation's preeminent professional statistical society." ASA president Marie Davidian said, "His accomplishments have contributed greatly to the advancement of statistical science and have rightfully earned him the respect and admiration of his ASA peers."

Tom is professor of medicine, epidemiology and biostatistics at Case Western Reserve and the Center for Health Care Research & Policy at Case Western Reserve University MetroHealth Medical

Center as well as data director for Better Health Greater Cleveland. He holds two master's, in mathematics education, from Teachers College and a Ph.D. in statistics from Penn. He is a 20-year resident of Shaker Heights, Ohio, with his wife, **Sheryl Hoke Love**, an intellectual property attorney at Jones Day, and their sons, Kevin (13) and Brian (11).

My former *Spectator* co-sports editor, **Shep Long**, wrote, "I did not attend the reunion but I did get to enjoy a mini-reunion in March at the NCAA basketball tournament in Austin. I met up with **Brad Mitchell**, **Steve Silverstein**, **Scott Marantz** and **Geoff Hoffman**, plus Tom Leder '89, for a great weekend of eating barbecue, watching basketball, drinking beer and generally acting like college students. This is becoming a biannual tradition for us, with prior reunions in Houston (2009) and Scottsdale (2011).

"I live in Massachusetts," Shep continued, "and am broker and co-owner of a residential real estate brokerage by day and aspiring baseball umpire (mostly high school level) in my spare time. I've also taken up running to combat middle age and completed my second half-marathon during Memorial Day weekend. I've vowed to run 50 races before I turn 50 in 2016 and am even blogging about it at 50races.blogspot.com."

Finally, one of the most important updates I'm likely to submit about myself: My wife, Hedieh, gave birth to our second child, and first daughter, on July 8 in Washington, D.C. Esther Bessie Fusfield arrived a crisp 13 minutes after hospital check-in, weighing 8 lbs., 7 oz. Like her 2-year-old brother, Manny, she has a chance to graduate from college before her dad attends his 50th reunion.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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Organizers are already planning our 25th Alumni Reunion Weekend, which is coming at us next spring, Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. If anyone would like to get involved in planning or fundraising, please contact one of the Alumni Office staffers listed at the top of the column. The more the merrier, so mark your calendars now!

**Elizabeth Gabre-Sellassie**, ever busy with her Midtown bridal salon, Designer Loft, which she opened in 2002, wrote in earlier this year. Her salon features top and emerging bridal couture designers, including a number of designers whose work is shown at the salon exclusively. Elizabeth has run into several alumni at work; she created a gown for Tamara Straus '91's sister, Rachel, and attended the wedding in Salamanca, Spain, this summer. Accompanying her to the wedding was Becca Moss '90. **Paige Stevenson**, when she is not working as an artist or belly dancing, occasionally helps Elizabeth with bookkeeping. **Rebecca Fine** was a recent bridal client. Elizabeth also mentioned that she saw **Angelo Ragaza**, Jasmine Rodriguez '89 Barnard and **Desi Del Valle** in June and celebrated the Supreme Court's historic decision on marriage rights.

**Patrick Nolan**, who has been a rising star in my industry for many years, most lately as a v.p., the editor-in-chief and an associate publisher of Penguin Books, married Clément Louis Georges Marie Gaujal in June at the Wythe Hotel in Brooklyn. After graduating, Patrick earned a master's in peace studies from the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland. His husband is an independent translator in Paris and resides there and in Manhattan; he graduated from EMLYON Business School in Écully, France.

I heard from **Anthony Fusco**, who lives in Hamilton, Mass., with his wife and children (18, 16 and 13): "These are busy and exciting times for us. I am a partner in the law firm of Glovsky & Glovsky in nearby Beverly, Mass. My practice consists of estate planning and elder law."

Though Anthony has not been in touch with the Columbia gang in a long time, he still plays basketball and is looking forward to our big reunion in 2014. I'll spell it out: 25 years!

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It was my and **Sharon Rogers'** great honor in June to have surprised **Laura Shaw-Frank** at her school's end-of-year awards ceremony. We took time from work to head up to Beth Tfiloh Dahan Community School in Baltimore to applaud her when she won Teacher of the Year. The awardees (one from each division of the K–12 school) are selected by the head of school and the divisional principals. Even though Laura's husband, Aaron, is the high



school principal (when she was hired in 2004 to teach Jewish history, he was lower school principal, so no nepotism there), he recused himself from the selection process. Laura has been teaching there for nine years, and from what I know and have observed of her in this role, this award was long overdue! The most fun part was magically appearing in the room (along with her mother and children) when her name was announced. Sharon and I felt like we were on the "Jerry Springer/Ricki Lake/whoever-does-this-type-of-talk-show-now Show."

But wait, there's more to celebrate. Laura successfully defended her dissertation prospectus on "Jewish Marriage in America, 1820–1920" in April, which makes her officially A.B.D. (All But Dissertation) for her Ph.D. in Jewish history from the University of Maryland. Mazel tov!

It's always great to hear from **Marian Wright**. She reports, "My family and I — husband Greg Boester and boys Cole (11), Wyatt (9) and Rhodes (7) — live in Rye, N.Y., where we have been for about 10 years. The boys, especially Cole, are huge into soccer (go Chelsea!) but also enjoy reading and just being outside. Two years ago, we finally found a great cottage on Lake Caspian in Greensboro, Vt. We have spent time as a family in Greensboro each summer since Cole was small and, in fact, my mother's extended family has been summering there since the 1940s. The cottage is right down the lane from my grandfather's house, where I spent summers growing up, and nearby are lots of other cousins and old friends. In 2012, after I led an extensive rebuild of the house, we spent a glorious, very relaxed and very outdoorsy summer there. Our plan is to spend all summer every summer there going forward. To be able to give our kids the types of summers I had as a kid — simple, and focused on nature, sport and family — is a fantastic feeling."

"Other than that, I spend my time running the household and raising the kids. This type of life is most certainly not what I imagined I would be doing when I was a CC student, but I find that my education has played a big role in our parenting. We have managed to raise boys who love to learn and who question the world around them and enjoy and appreciate what the world has to offer (at least most of the time!). Our youngest tells us he is going to go to Columbia, and I have taken the boys to campus quite a few times. They are very impressed by it, and it's fun to see it through their eyes. In addition, now that Rhodes is in school full-time and once my current (Rye) renovation project is



Several alumni and their families caught up at the NCAA Super Regional baseball game between Columbia and Arizona State, held at Cal State Fullerton in June (the Lions lost). At far left, Don Chiesa '88 stands with his son, Jonas; Jon Dwyer '89 and his wife, Yvette, are in the middle with their clan; and Matt Sodt '88 is at far right.

done this fall, I am going to focus on writing, something I haven't been able to do for years. Very excited for that.

"I am in touch with **Gabe Kra**, who lives in the Bay Area with his wife, Julie, and four kids; **Ted Acworth** '90E, '92E, who recently had his second son and lives with the boys and his wife, Maddie, in Boston; **Jenny Harvey** (née Thompson), who lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, Steve, and their three kids; and Susie Marples '88, who lives downtown with hubby Nelson Young and their two boys."

I'm going to close out this column with an epic (in a good way) tale from **Rachelle Selmon**. She begins, "I'm finally facing the music and writing in for the first time. I've been in touch with quite a few people through Facebook, which has been a wonderful way to stay in touch and know what people are up to. If I wrote about all of the people I've been in contact with, I could fill the entire magazine, so I will stick to those I've seen in my travels over the last year."

"In March 2012, I lost my human resources position in New York, so decided it was time to sell the apartment and move to Los Angeles. However, while waiting to sell my apartment, I got an offer I couldn't refuse to go to London and discuss opening an office for

a U.K. recruitment firm. That fell through while I was there, but I loved London and so stayed a few months and traveled — made it to Spain, Israel, Germany, Morocco and South Africa. While in London, I had dinner with **Chris Alexander**, who was visiting from Los Angeles with his partner, Michael. Chris is doing well (and looks great) as an s.v.p. of corporate communications and publicity at 20th Century Fox Television.

"Once I got back to New York, I spent a few weeks working and seeing friends. Made sure to spend time with Susie Wu Dare '90 Barnard, who lives in Manhattan with her husband, Hunter, and daughter, Savannah. Bina Kalola '91 Barnard also is in the city, looking fabulous and doing well as a managing director at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. **Anette Kreipke** lives in New Jersey, has a place I envy in Asbury Park with her husband, Djidja, and is taking some time to stay home with her daughter, Mia. She was recently on the TV show *Chopped* for a Mother's Day special, so check that out online to see what she's up to and how culinary school honed her skills! Also saw **Eric Prager**, my favorite sushi buddy, who is married to art history professor Karen and is a partner at the law firm K&L Gates.

"Then I started my three-week

road trip to Los Angeles. First stop was **Eric Haxthausen**, who's excelling in Washington, D.C. He also took some time off (with a cool trip to Costa Rica) but now works for the U.S. Agency for International Development in its climate change office — something about connecting climate work to The World Bank and other investments. I may not know what that means but he seems to love it.

"Next stop was Charlotte, N.C., for a visit with Juhayna Kassem Davis '90 Barnard; her husband, Ashley; and their sons, Laith and Kais. Juhayna has a private medical practice and moved to North Carolina a few years ago from NYC. From there I headed to Tennessee, where I made friends listening to country bands. I was falling in love with the United States again.

"Next I headed to Arkansas, where I spent two nights hanging and having fun with **Sally Graham** and **Warigia Bowman**. Sally moved back to be closer to family after a long run at CNN. She's now a company spokeswoman with Entergy Arkansas and is active in community theatre, most recently in a production of the comedy *Dearly Beloved*. She'd love to reconnect with folks and can be reached at ssg39@columbia.edu. Warigia helps to make the world a better place; she is a professor at the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Pub-

lic Service and recently monitored the Kenyan elections. Warigia and her husband, Hamadi, have three children — Mariamu, Ali and David — and own a successful taxi and safari business. She welcomes anyone who wants to go on safari to contact her at African Wildcats Adventure Safaris (wildcatsafaris.com).

"After exploring Texas (and making more friends in Austin thanks to Warigia), I headed to Tucson, where I spent a few days with **Lisa Robinson**; her husband, Ken; and daughter, Harper. Lisa is a well-regarded photographer who already has published a book of photography, whose work is in museum collections and who has shown in NYC. If you haven't seen her work, it's amazing, and can be found at lisamrobinson.com.

"As I headed into southern California, I met up with the stunning **Jennifer Lee** (go Carman 11!), who is a sociology professor at UC Irvine and an avid surfer, having learned from her beau, Mike. I had actually seen her and Mike the year before in NYC while she was on sabbatical as a Russell Sage Foundation Visiting Scholar.

"Since arriving in L.A. in April, I have had drinks with **Rich Yaker** (go Carman 11!) and **Balan Venugopal**. Rich married Jennifer Gaynor in May in Marina del Rey, Calif. Rich is an engineering manager at Herbalife and also helps others through his company, Conscious Life Coaching, and as CTO at One-Giving. Balan hasn't aged a bit and is a v.p. at Morgan Stanley. As of this writing, he owes me a tennis match! Saw Vicki Curry '90 Barnard, who looks fantastic and was senior press secretary for L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; now she's serving as

associate director of communications for Mayor Eric Garcetti '92, '93 SIPA (she was very involved with his campaign). Lastly, I met Joel Barron '91, who surfs with Rich and is a doctor at Cedars-Sinai.

"Have seen just one more Columbia person — took a quick trip up to San Francisco to take a prep course to get my California HR certification (I passed!) and met up with **Jeannine DeLoche** and her daughter, Margot, for sushi. Jeannine looks great, is doing well and is an s.v.p. in marketing at Wells Fargo. She recently visited NYC (her home since Columbia, until she moved to San Francisco a few years ago) and caught up with **Lisa Quirindongo**, who lives in Fairfield, Conn., with her husband and two kids, and **Steve Naidich** and his wife, Rachel, who also have two little ones.

"Am loving L.A. and so glad I moved here. It's hard not to be happy when the sun always shines. As of this writing still job hunting but don't mind unemployment so much when I can be hiking in the hills and bike riding along the beach.

"Looking forward to seeing more Columbians here (shout-out to **Chris Heck**, **Liane Weintraub** (née Manshel), **Hyun Bae** '90E, **Jeff Rake** and **Paulette Light**) and wherever I travel. And definitely let me know if you're visiting L.A."

If this column is not enough for you, you can celebrate that our class finally has its own Facebook group (Columbia College Class of '90). This is a great place to catch up with classmates professionally and socially and to plan for our 25th reunion (Thursday, May 28–Sunday, May 31, 2015). To join, please message administrator **Emily Glickman** on FB and she will add you to the group. See you at reunion!

**91** **Margie Kim**  
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Greetings, all!

**Stephen Fealy** shares this update: "I'm an orthopedic surgeon specializing in sports medicine and shoulder surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery in NYC. I'm married to Kristen Gesswein Fealy '90 Barnard. I am happy to report that this year I was chosen to become the orthopedic consultant for the Major League Baseball Players Association. This is a particularly fun honor, as my three small children continually ask when we will get autographs and tickets for games. Also, as a former Columbia baseball player who never made it 'big time,' I have been having a ton

of fun being around the athletes and working with the teams.

"We live in NYC, where I frequently see **Andrew Fink** on the squash courts and **Stefan Reyniak** in the neighborhood. I also was honored last year to help **John Poner** after he had a sports injury.

"Kristen and I recently took our children to the Columbia campus and were pleasantly surprised when my daughter, Campbell, declared that we were no longer in NYC and clearly had gone to Connecticut! It is a wonderful campus in a great city. Best to all!"

**Jack Hidary** announced his candidacy for New York City mayor. According to a press release, he has more than 15 years of active participation in public service. In 2005, Jack and David Yassky, then a City Council member, advocated for energy-efficient taxicabs; the two worked with drivers to save thousands of dollars per cab each year in fuel costs, and today the majority of the 13,500 taxis in New York are energy-efficient vehicles.

Jack has been involved in numerous civic groups, including as a partner at Partnership for New York City, as a trustee of the Citizens Budget Commission and as a member of the Association for a Better New York. He is on several advisory boards, including those of National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Google X. He also is on the board of XPRIZE Foundation. Jack is a founding member of the Clinton Global Initiative and was named by the World Economic Forum as a "Global Leader of Tomorrow." The campaign made its official announcement through a video posted on its website, jackformayor.com. Best of luck, Jack!

I would love to hear from more of you. Send in those updates to me by email or submit them using CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. Until next time ... cheers!

**92** **Jeremy Feinberg**  
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Although the mailbag was pretty light this time, that won't stop me from reporting a few encounters with classmates.

First, congratulations to **Michael Fisher** and his wife, Lynn, on the bat mitzvah of their daughter, Zoe Rachel, this past May in Forest Hills, N.Y. I had the pleasure of attending the ceremony and luncheon and can truly say that Zoe (and her parents) did a tremendous job.

Second, a business trip to Chicago gave me my first chance

in a while to see **Donna Myers** and **Aaron Lebovitz** at their home in Oak Park, Ill. It was great to catch up over the balance of an afternoon and see their two eldest children, Madi and Bram (I missed out on a chance to see their youngest, Ava).

Third, and perhaps most unexpectedly, I saw **Rob Carey** and his girlfriend, Janet, in — of all places — Las Vegas, at the World Series of Poker. While playing in a tournament in June, I provided live updates on social media. Imagine my surprise when between updates I got a message from Rob, explaining that he was in the area and asking whether it would be OK if he and Janet came to watch. The two had been driving across the United States and were in nearby Laughlin, Nev., at the time that he saw my update. The three of us caught up over the all-too-short dinner break and, thanks to Rob, I had my first experience of having a fan club rooting for me at an event.

Rob wasn't the only alumnus of our vintage at the World Series of Poker this year. I also caught up with David Hantman '91 and Lucy Ruwitch Langer '93, each of whom was in town at the same time I was.

That's all for now. I hope to hear from as many of you as possible for the next issue — it's always more fun that way. Please send notes to me using the email at the top of the column or through CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

**93** **Betsy Gomperz**  
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What a great reunion we had! It was fantastic to see so many classmates attend our 20th — our strongest showing yet! Many thanks to our Reunion Committee for putting together a terrific weekend and to those who sent me follow-up notes to include in this column.

On Thursday night, our class organized a screening of **Neil Turitz's** new movie, *That Thing With The Cat*. About 15 classmates attended including **Joe Laszlo**, **Addison Golladay**, **Alan Freeman**, **Rachel Mintz**, **Adrian Bordon** and **Stephen Morfesis**. According to Neil, folks seemed to like it, and his "general rule of thumb is, as long as they don't hate it, I consider it a success. Anything north of that is just a bonus, and I'm pretty sure no one hated it. Therefore, victory!" According to one anonymous source who is not related to Neil, he remains the greatest filmmaker of this or any time!

Friday night had not one but

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two parties. There was the class cocktail party that about 75 classmates attended and that I heard was a great event. A group of us, however, arrived in town too late to make it, so we started the night at V&T. The group included **Ali Towle**, **Sandra Johnson**, **Robyn Tuerk**, **Julie Davidson Hassan**, **George Hassan**, **Patti Lee** and **Drew Stevens '93E** to start. It had been a few years since I'd seen Drew, who lives in San Francisco with his wife, works in technology and launched a men's shirt company called Drew Shanklin (Shirts) ([drewshanklin.com](http://drewshanklin.com)). We were then joined by a group that had been at the cocktail party, including **Thad Sheely**, **Shiva Sooudi Farouki**, **Sandra Fahy**, **Jennifer Larrabee** and **Lerya Goitia Smith**.

After a delicious dinner served by none other than Aldo himself, a bunch of us headed down to the class "after-party" at O'Flaherty's Ale House and Restaurant on Restaurant Row. It was fun to see so many familiar faces and I wish I had a chance to speak with everyone in the room! Fortunately, I was able to catch up with or hear about **Isabel Barbosa Kallman**, who lives in NYC with her husband and son and runs a parenting blog called Alpha Mom ([alphamom.com](http://alphamom.com)); **Ben Besley**, who lives in Southern California with his wife and is doing well in real estate; **Chad Moore**, who lives in Los Angeles and is a video game writer/designer; **Matt Streem**, who lives in Cleveland and is an entrepreneur; **Lorenzo Wyatt**, who lives in Connecticut and is a general contractor; **Joel Cramer**, who lives in Chicago with his wife and kids and runs the Chicago office of Conning; **John Trbovich '93E**, who lives in Winter Park, Fla., with his wife and three kids and works in private equity; **Matt DeFilippis**, who lives on Long Island with his family and is in charge of music licensing for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; **Rebecca Polyakovsky**, who lives in Seattle with her family; **Seth Pinsky**, who works for the City of New York and recently became a father; and **Chris Collins '93E**, who lives in San Francisco and is a real estate developer.

Then, there were those whom I saw across the crowded room but did not have a chance to talk to: **Aileen Torres Martin**, **Micky Iriarte**, **Addison Golladay**, **Yumi Koh**, **Karla Lema**, **Rachel Mintz** and **Mar Wolf**, among others. On our way home, **Patti Lee** and I along with our husbands walked past Tom's Restaurant, and standing there in the window was Pete (of the Broadway Shake fame)! We had déjà vu and were thrilled that

he recognized us!

Saturday had a full schedule of events, including the alumni barbecue and the class dinner. At the barbecue, I caught up with **Ezra Kenigsberg**, who recently relocated to Austin, Texas, where he works for Dell, as well as **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt**, who recently had a third baby and was joined by her kids and husband, Tom Kitt '96. I also saw or briefly caught up with **Axuve Espinosa '93E**, a Carman 11 floormate, whom I learned recently got married in a ceremony officiated by **Frank Ballabio '93E** and attended by **Neil Turitz** (all Carman 11!); **Nina Lieberman** (née Abraham) and her family; **Rohit Aggarwala**, **Risa Arbolino**, **Adam Fels** and **Sean Doherty**.

### Kay Bailey '94 recently started a job as a grant writer for the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA.org).

Our class dinner on Saturday was held on the 15th floor of SIPA. We did not have a professor speak and instead had a brief visit from Dean James J. Valentini. During the cocktail party and dinner I caught up with **Andrew Ceresney**, who recently was named co-director of the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement (congratulations, Andrew!); **Joel Lusman**, who runs a New York-based hedge fund and lives in Greenwich, Conn., with his wife and son; **Amy Ahn**, who lives in NYC with her family; **Alyson Berliner** (the first person I met at Columbia in 1989!), an ophthalmologist who works at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals; **Andrew Borrok**, who leads our class fundraising efforts, lives in NYC and works in real estate; **Richard Carrick**, a musician who taught at Columbia this year; **Christine Coster**, who works in insurance; **Catherine Hong**, who lives with her family near Columbia but is about to move to the suburbs; **Michele Smith** and her husband; **Amanda Schachter**, who is an architect in NYC; **Rhanda Moussa**, who is an in-house attorney at Barclays; **Jennie Kim Harman**, who lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Jason, and their son and is an in-house attorney for CME Group; and **Andy Schmeltz**, **Miriam Friedlander** and **Linda Appel Lipsius**. I also spent time with **Sara Niego**, who grew up with my husband and now lives with her husband, Petr, and three children in Avon, Conn., where she is a psychiatrist, as well as **Liz Hale '93** Barnard and **Jeanne Marie Liggio '93** Barnard.

As our dinner came to a close,

**Alan Cohn**, who lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and kids and serves as the assistant secretary for strategy, planning, analysis and risk in the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Policy, and **Alan Freeman**, who also lives in D.C. with his wife and two boys and is a partner at Blank Rome, came to get me to visit our fathers — Peter Cohn '58, Arthur Freeman '58 and Paul Gomperz '58 — who were celebrating their 55th reunion. We took a great picture with all of our parents outside of Low Library and discussed later in the evening how particularly special that moment was for each of us. After dancing under the stars on Low Plaza until after midnight, the Class of '93 continued the

fun at a bar near Koronet Pizza (allowing for everyone to sneak out at different times to get a slice and refuel). When the bar closed around 3 a.m., yet another group of us went to the market next door, grabbed some beer and finished the evening sitting out on The Steps, not wanting the weekend to end.

Finally, we were sad to miss classmates who had long distances to travel (e.g., other continents) and those who were prevented from making it due to personal circumstances. Fortunately we get to do it all again in five years!

### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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It's hard to believe, but we are coming up on the two-decade mark since our graduation. How is that even possible, when none of us has aged a bit? But 20 years is an impressive marker — let's be sure to celebrate together! Alumni Reunion Weekend is Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Please save the date, and if you'd like to get involved with planning events or with fundraising, contact the appropriate staff member listed at the top of the column.

It's been a slow news quarter, but I do have a lovely update from **Kay Bailey**, who recently started a job as a grant writer for the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA.org). WOLA is a nonprofit that promotes human rights, social justice and democracy in Latin America.

Kay is responsible for WOLA's relationships with charitable foundations, writing grant proposals, working with funders during a project and reporting back when it's done. She says, "Since a lot of that interaction happens in writing, I write a lot, which I love. And I write about an organization whose work I am very proud of and whose staff and history I have tremendous respect for. This lets me be involved in helping out my favorite region, speaking Spanish and Portuguese, and being peripherally involved in legal/policy reform, which is the closest I want to come to practicing law again. The job is just a dream come true. I walk around wanting to pinch myself."

In other news, Kay writes, daughters Amanda and Elisa are 4½ and "like to wear fake tattoos on their faces, draw on their legs and decorate cardboard boxes. Like their mother."

That's it for now. More updates, please! We're all eager for your news. Send them to me at the email address at the top of the column or use CCT's webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

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Congratulations to three Ph.D. holders who wrote with updates about their careers.

**Paul Scolieri** is a tenured professor at Barnard and holds the title of associate professor of dance. His book *Dancing the New World: Aztecs, Spaniards, and the Choreography of Conquest* was the inaugural publication in the Latin American and Caribbean Arts and Culture series, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. He's also at work on a second book, a biography of Ted Shawn, who is known as "the father of American dance."

Between graduation at Columbia and being granted tenure at Barnard, Paul earned a Ph.D. in performance studies at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and completed two fellowships at Harvard. He lives with his partner, Lavinell Savu '94, assistant managing editor at *InStyle* magazine.

**Ben Michaelis**, a clinical psychologist, writes that he, too, has pub-

# Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98 Helps Create Movie Magic

BY LAURA BUTCHY '04 ARTS

**W**atching James Bond motorcycle across rooftops, moviegoers rarely stop to think about the hundreds of people who make those moments possible. If all goes well, what is real and what was created through effects blends together into movie magic, created by film experts such as visual effects producer **Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98**.

The work of a visual effects producer changes day to day, which is one reason Thompson-Godoy loves what she does.

At her desk at Double Negative Visual Effects in London, she juggles budgets and spreadsheets to ensure effects are finished on time and to the satisfaction of the client and her company. She is a liaison between Double

Negative's visual effects artists and a film's director as well as the visual effects and production teams. On location, Thompson-Godoy often interacts with the visual effects team and many other artists, including the director, editors, special effects department and art department.

"Melinka worked with her team of artists to deliver on schedule 403 stunning visual effects shots," says Leslie Lerman, who was VFX producer and Thompson-Godoy's client on the 2012 blockbuster *Skyfall*. "In the film world, the edit and/or the artistic design can change overnight. Sometimes a shot you've been working on for months can end up on the cutting room floor. Melinka always handled those pressure situations with poise."

Thompson-Godoy's experience with *Skyfall* marks part of what she describes as her "favorite year." In 2012, she moved to London to accept a position at Double Negative just in time for the Olympics and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Her resume already included memorable projects all over the United States, from her first gig in Los Angeles on the Kevin Costner vehicle *For Love of the Game* (1999) to assisting on the first season of the hit television series *Lost* (2004) on location in Hawaii.

Travel is natural for Thompson-Godoy, who was born in Colombia and, starting at 4, lived in many locations throughout the U.S. as her family moved to follow her parents' education and work.

She also has been fascinated with film from an early age. "As

a teenager, and even before, I loved to watch *HBO Behind the Scenes*," she says. "You would see it all come together. I always wanted to do that."

After researching New York schools that offered film majors, Thompson-Godoy decided she wanted to study more than film and chose the College. "The idea of having a Core Curriculum and learning about every discipline was very cool to me," she says.

She majored in film studies and earned a spot on the Dean's List all four years; off-campus, she took as much film work as she could find. As an intern on the George Clooney and Michelle Pfeiffer romance *One Fine Day* (1996), Thompson-Godoy observed everything in the production. "I'm detail-oriented, and producers had a hand from beginning to end," she says about her choice to become a producer. "I learned what I wanted to be as well as what not to do."

After graduation, Thompson-Godoy was senior assistant to Ted Hope, a producer and then-co-owner of the independent film company Good Machine. She later was a production executive on the unconventional biopic *American Splendor* (2003) and the film adaptation of the play *The Laramie Project* (2002) before reuniting with a friend from Carman 8, Chris Perkel '98, to produce *The Town That Was* (2007), a documentary about a town in Pennsylvania destroyed by an underground mine fire; Perkel also directed.

"Melinka's greatest strength, in my opinion, is her commitment," Perkel says. "She works harder and cares more than anyone and that's why everyone loves working with her. She loves films, she loves her work and she's completely dedicated to the tasks at hand and the welfare of the project."



Melinka Thompson-Godoy '98 in the lobby of her office at Double Negative Visual Effects.

PHOTO: EMILY PEARCE



Though she had never worked in the field, visual effects company Amoeba Proteus hired and trained her as a visual effects coordinator in 2003. "Being that I was always so fascinated with what happens behind the scenes, visual effects is almost like working with a magician who shows you how the trick you always liked was done," Thompson-Godoy explains. "It was really cool, and each year the technology advances."

For the next few years she worked for several companies and productions, including *Lost*. She became visual effects producer at Look Effects in 2007. During her four years at the company, she worked on films as diverse as the fantasy sequel *Underworld: Awakening* (2012), psychological thriller *Black Swan* (2010), comic book adaptation *Captain America: The First Avenger* (2011) and historical drama *The King's Speech* (2010). The variety in content is one of the aspects of her work that stimulates Thompson-Godoy.

Her efforts haven't gone unnoticed. In 2008, she was nominated for a Primetime Emmy for her contributions to the History Channel film *Life After People*, and she was nominated for a Visual Effects Society Award for her work on the sixth season of *Lost* in 2011.

Thompson-Godoy's current project is *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire*. The much-anticipated second film in the series, set to release in November, is sure to be filled with incredible visual effects created in part by her. Although, she points out, "If we do our job properly, then no one notices. It's a curse and praise that no one knows how much work you put into something."

To view a clip of the official Skyfall trailer, which showcases Thompson-Godoy's work, go to [YouTube.com](http://YouTube.com).

**Laura Butchy '04 Arts** is a professor, dramaturg and writer based in Brooklyn.

lished his first book, *Your Next Big Thing: 10 Small Steps to Get Moving and Get Happy*. It's aimed at helping people make good decisions when they are feeling stuck. Ben, who earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from NYU in 2004, worked as an expert for the court system in New York for a few years and ran the psychological assessment service at St. Luke's Hospital before opening a private office in 2005.

In his clinical practice, Ben works with people from diverse backgrounds with an emphasis on helping those who feel stuck in their creative process, often writers and performers. His practice is downtown and he lives with his wife and two kids in Brooklyn. Ben writes for The Huffington Post and *Psychology Today*. Check out his website: [drbenmichaelis.com](http://drbenmichaelis.com).

**Svetlana Bochman**, formerly Brook, has been appointed director of the City College Writing Center. She oversees 40 tutors and staff with the goal of providing one-on-one tutoring for City College students, helping with their course papers and any other writing.

She continues, "I also serve on committees to help promote better writing among students and am part of several college-wide initiatives. I'm excited because I'm working on bringing online synchronous tutoring to City College so that students can get tutored in real time from home."

Svetlana has earned a Ph.D. in English and taught as an adjunct assistant professor of English for more than 10 years, mostly at CUNY. Her specialty is 19th-century British literature and she has published and spoken at conferences on Jane Austen, Oscar Wilde and Sherlock Holmes.

Svetlana married Alon Bochman '02 Business and they have two daughters, Rachel Alice (8) and Emma Sharon (5). "Since I love 19th-century British literature, I named my daughters after Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and Jane Austen's *Emma*," she writes.

She also had a company, Bochman Tutoring, with five tutors offering graduate school admissions consulting and test prep for the GMAT, GRE, LSAT and MCAT. She spoke several times at Columbia about graduate school admissions.

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Greetings, classmates! I hope you had a fun and relaxing summer.

**Chris Glaros** recently left a job working with Marian Wright

Edelman as managing director and general counsel with the Children's Defense Fund and started at Ohio State University as a v.p. of compliance operations and investigations. Chris is still enjoying Columbus with his wife, Lauren, and their children, Lincoln and Grace.

**Pete Freeman** is a partner in the real estate and finance group at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman in Washington, D.C., and lives in Bethesda, Md., with his wife, Jill Fine '96 Barnard, and children, Lily (9) and Max (6).

**Aun Koh** is in Singapore running his integrated communications agency, The Ate Group. Aun writes that his company has carved out a great niche as the best local agency for public relations, events and social media for lifestyle industries, with a strong focus on food and beverage, luxury and hospitality.

Aun and his wife recently celebrated their son's second birthday. In addition, last year he relaunched his website, Chubby Hubby ([chubbyhubby.net](http://chubbyhubby.net)), after taking a year off to focus on work and parenting. Now, Chubby Hubby has more than a dozen writers spread around the world and a full-time editor based in Hong Kong. The website is getting a lot of attention; Aun was in the Tohoku region of Japan in early February at the invitation of the Japanese government, and the Japanese government published a booklet covering Aun's experience and observations.

Aun also spends time pursuing his culinary interests. In May, he took part in the Noosa International Food & Wine Festival, where he spoke and cooked. He also participated as one of the judges in the Australian heat of Diageo's World's Finest Cocktail contest, as well as the Asian heat of Diplomato Rum's World Cocktail Competition.

**Constantine Dimas** was promoted earlier this year to s.v.p., asset management, at Loews Hotels. In this role, he is responsible for conceiving and implementing key brand-defining initiatives, cultivating revenue-generating strategic partnerships and repositioning hotels through real estate programming. Constantine began his career with Loews as the director of food and beverage for the company's flagship property, the Loews Regency Hotel. He became v.p. of food and beverage for the brand in 2010 and took on the role of v.p. of asset management in early 2012. Under his leadership the company already has established partnerships with well-known names in the industry including Lure Fishbar, Exhale spa and INK Entertainment.

In addition to having owned several hospitality-related businesses, Constantine served as

deputy chief of staff to Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-N.Y.). In this role he worked on a range of issues including power deregulation and economic development for upstate New York, and he aided in launching several New York State-based businesses. Constantine lives with his wife and son in Bronxville, N.Y.

**Kate Villa** has spent the years since graduation as a fundraiser for nonprofit companies in NYC and New England. She now is a fundraising consultant with CCS and spent a large portion of the last year in Bangor, Maine, working with local authors Stephen and Tabitha King to raise \$9 million for the Bangor Public Library.

**Maurice (Mo) Toueg** recently finished celebrating his 15-year anniversary with Capstone Partners, an executive search firm. He writes that, as a creature of habit, he still lives on the Upper East Side, a block away from where he grew up.

**Wendy Lefko Messeloff** and her husband live in Wendy's hometown of Cleveland with their kids, Alex (6) and twins Dahlia and Ariel (4). Wendy recently began as a grant writer at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. She writes that she recently had the privilege of hearing one of her favorite Columbia professors, Andrew Delbanco, deliver a guest lecture at a local university, and that it was such a pleasure to hear him again after all this time and to find that he remains not only the passionate and thoughtful scholar and lecturer she remembered but also a genuinely gracious human being and just a nice guy. Wendy stays in touch with **Ed Rosenfeld** and his wife, Jen Rosenfeld '96 Barnard. Ed and Jen live in Stamford, Conn., and have had their hands full since the birth of their fifth child, a girl named Yael, in July 2012.

**Jeremy Craig** is coming up on 13 years in Singapore and writes that he is still doing a great job at avoiding the real world by running an SAT preparation company ([testtakers-sg.com](http://testtakers-sg.com)), which helps finance his numerous golf trips.

**Elizabeth Yuan** moved to New York in March from Hong Kong, where she had been a digital producer for CNN.com International since 2007. She now works for WSJ.com and writes that she is excited to be back in the United States and in NYC after having left 14 years ago. She also would be happy to hear from classmates: [eyuaninhk@gmail.com](mailto:eyuaninhk@gmail.com).

That's it for this time. If you have sent notes and they have not yet appeared, bear with me; they will be featured in the next column. For now, I leave you with this nugget from one of my favorite musicians: "If you don't know the blues ...

there's no point in picking up the guitar and playing rock and roll or any other form of popular music."

— Keith Richards

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Thanks, CC '97, for writing with all your news! Please continue to send word of our classmates' exciting endeavors.

First off, we have some published authors in our midst! **Boris Kachka's** first book, *Hothouse: The Art of Survival and the Survival of Art at America's Most Celebrated Publishing House*, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, came out in August (see Bookshelf in this issue). Boris explains, "It's the unauthorized cultural history of the prestigious FSG, and I'll defer to the blurb from Junot Díaz, who calls it '*Mad Men* for the literary world.' Toni Morrison said nice things about it, too. There's much more about it on my website (to spare me any more embarrassing shilling): boriskachka.com." Meanwhile, **Susanna Daniel's** second novel, *Sea Creatures*, came out in hardcover in July. Abraham Verghese, a physician and three-time bestselling author, called it "a captivating, haunting novel" and *Library Journal* called it "substantive domestic drama."

A number of you wrote in to share that you live abroad. **Jenny Vendetti Fernandez** is a writer/editor living in Hong Kong since 2011 with her husband, Juan, and their daughters, ages 6 and 4. They are having a blast and traveling around Asia. She would love to connect with anyone who is in the area. **Daniel Anderson** has been teaching English at the Hiram Bingham School (a British model secondary school) in Lima, Peru, and, as of this writing, was deciding whether he wants to continue

living south of the equator or move back to his adopted home of sunny Los Angeles in August. He has been playing his own brand of country/folk/rock in clubs and cafés, which, he writes, "definitely sticks out and is unique here in Latin America."

**Petra Lappalainen** is proud to announce the birth of her second child, Saga Lucia Annika Lappalainen, on June 8 in Melbourne, Australia. Saga is sister to Magnus Brenchley (8½). The family planned to spend time with relatives in Finland from July '13 to January '14. Petra would love to catch up with CC alumni visiting Helsinki.

**Rebekah Gee** married David Patron in October 2010. Their twins, Elizabeth and Eva, were born on November 5, 2012.

Many of you wrote in with exciting professional news. **Erich Anderer** is a neurosurgeon at Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn. **Henry Grosman** '05 Arch. officially launched his own architecture practice, BanG studio, with a classmate from the Architecture School. He writes: "It's been a little more than a year and it's going well. We're doing a lot of residential work including two apartment renovations in NYC, and we're designing the interiors for the largest residential development in downtown Brooklyn. Our website is b-an-g.com." **Christopher Johnston** lives with his wife, Rachel Reinhard '96 Barnard, in Oakland, Calif., and teaches English at Oakland H.S. He spent the summer in Chengdu, China, training a new batch of Peace Corps members.

**Shana Kusin** writes, "In July I joined the faculty at Oregon Health and Sciences University as an assistant professor of emergency medicine and toxicology and also as the clinical informatics director for the emergency department. I've been at OHSU doing a fellowship in medical toxicology for the last two years (graduation is in two weeks!). Other news: This month I also completed a yearlong creative writing fellowship at The Attic Institute and am trying to wrap up the first draft of my novel (aka, 'The Great American Medical Rock Novel' — must ... finish ...)."

**Dr. Wei Angela Liu** has been named head of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Phelps Memorial Hospital Center in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., where she will oversee inpatient and outpatient rehabilitative care. She is a faculty member at the NYU School of Medicine and a practicing doctor at the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine.

**Mark Bunin Benor** and **Sarah Bunin Benor** live in Los Angeles with their daughters, Aliza (10), Dalia (8) and Ariella (5). Mark is a family doctor and worked for

several years at the Los Angeles Free Clinic. Now he is at T.H.E. (To Help Everyone) Clinic in South Los Angeles and is helping to start a clinic for adults and children with developmental disabilities, The Achievable Clinic. Sarah received tenure at Hebrew Union College, where she teaches contemporary Jewish studies and linguistics to HUC master's students and undergraduates at the USC. She published a book based on her dissertation, *Becoming Frum: How Newcomers Learn the Language and Culture of Orthodox Judaism*, and she is founding editor of the *Journal of Jewish Languages* and the *Jewish English Lexicon*.

I look forward to hearing from more of you soon!

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Hello, Class of 1998! Usually our post-reunion Class Notes column is huge and filled with names but unfortunately I was unable to attend. A few classmates, however, came to the rescue.

**Andy Topkins** was sweet enough to send a reunion update via Facebook. He mentioned that **Brooks Herman** and his wife, **Joanna Herman** (née Erman), came in from San Diego, Calif. (they have two kids, Jacob and Sophie). **Kate Olivier** came in from Spain. **Matt Ahn** was there, having recently taken a new job in-house at Oracle. **Alejandra Montenegro Almonte** was there with her husband, Jorge. She's general counsel of a big airline services company, gategroup, in the Washington, D.C., area. **Hilton Marcus** attended as well. After years in D.C., he recently moved back to NYC and lives in Brooklyn.

**Jeannette Jakus** and **Ben Kornfeind** attended the Friday cocktail reception. Jeannette reported that she spoke mostly to people she already knew, including **Justin Garrett** and his wife, Rachel, who live in Brooklyn with their daughters, Jane and Roxanne; Andy, who also has two kids; and Brooks and Joanna. Jeannette adds, "I spoke with **Abigail Lorge**, who is married and lives in Connecticut. She gave birth to her first child, Eliza, on May 1, and still managed to show up to the reunion looking fabulous!"

**Yelena Dudochkin**, who wasn't able to attend, wrote with an exciting update about her career switch: "I'm sorry to have missed the reunion but I was creating the role of Chernyafka in the world premiere of *The Magic Mirror*, an opera by Polina Nazaykinskaya." The production was part of the New

York International Fringe Festival in August. She continues, "Since the last reunion, I have transitioned out of my Wall Street/finance career (Morgan Stanley) to a full-time soprano career in opera and jazz. My productions and concerts have taken me all over the United States and Europe and to some prestigious stages such as Carnegie Hall, Boston Symphony Hall and Jordan Hall. I also married my then-fiancé, David Berry, a partner at Flagship Ventures who focuses on innovating, entrepreneurship and investing in new ventures in life sciences and sustainability. We enjoy our busy lives in Boston!"

**Adria Armbrister** added a status update to our class Facebook page. She "is still single and child-free, living in Colombia and working for the Inter-American Development Bank." She said the hours are long, especially on Fridays and Saturdays, and she is traveling too much for work and not enough for herself.

Mazel tov to **Shira Schnitzer**, who married Graeme Cohen on June 16 in her hometown of Rockville, Md. Shira and Graeme live in Brixton, a super-cool neighborhood in London (very Brooklyn, apparently), and she does high-level fundraising for Imperial College London as well as cooks at every possible opportunity.

Thanks to Shira's June wedding, my husband, Hans Chen '97, and I were able to have dinner with **Julie Yufe** and her husband, Michael Dreyer. Julie was about to start her first day at Anheuser-Busch InBev as a v.p. for global innovations. Julie is a rock star brand manager who spent seven years at Unilever and was selected in May as one of Brand Innovators' (a community of more than 2,000 brand managers) 2013 "40 Under 40" Brand-Marketing Champions. Not only does Julie have a new job but she also has a new address, as she and Michael bought an apartment on the Upper East Side, across the street from her previous one.

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29–JUNE 1, 2014

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Greetings, Class of '99. By the time you receive this issue, plans will be

### Columbia College Alumni on Facebook



Check out the new  
Columbia College  
Alumni page!

**facebook.com/  
alumnicc**

Like the page to get  
alumni news, learn  
about alumni events and  
College happenings,  
view photos and more.



under way for our 15-year reunion. Save the dates now: Thursday, May 29–Sunday, June 1. Hopefully, we will have as great a turnout as we did for our 10th. If you want to partake in planning, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or one of the Alumni Office staff members listed at the top of the column.

In terms of class giving, I'm happy to share that we broke several records last fiscal year. We had the most participation ever for our class, and we raised more than \$90,000, surpassing our initial goal of \$60,000. I want to give a big shout-out to former Alumni Office staff member Harrison Kobb, who was tasked with our class in recent years and was instrumental in our reaching our goals.

Now for some nice updates: **Brad Neuberg** married his love, Abby Volk, on July 27 in a beautiful and historic gold rush town called Nevada City, located in Northern California near the Yuba River. Guests also attended a wedding retreat, which involved swimming and relaxing by the river, for a few days before the big event. They even had a yoga teacher on site to teach poses and share positive karma. **Susan Kassir** was there; unfortunately, I could not make it.

**Tony Castaneda** lives in Washington, D.C., where he works for a defense-related company. Prior to that he was in media, first as a journalist covering the Iraq War for the Associated Press and later as a producer for *Charlie Rose*. Tony has swung by a couple of alumni events in the D.C. area and vows to be more proactive. (I hope we will see you at our reunion next year, Tony.)

Tony also reports that when he was in New York recently he ran into Mikhail Gorbachev '00. I then reached out to Mikhail, who has had some truly amazing years since graduation. He spent some time backpacking in the Congo, where he discovered a passion for wildlife, and now he works in the primates division at the Bronx Zoo. He recently finished a book about his experiences and it has received some interest from publishers, so maybe we'll see it on the shelves someday soon. The tentative title is *From the Congo to the Bronx: How I Helped Heal a Wounded Gorilla — and Myself*.

That's all the updates we have for this go-round. Again, by all means, if you are interested in getting involved with planning our 15-year reunion, please email me and I will put you in touch with the Reunion Committee, or contact the appropriate staff member listed at the top of the column. I hope to see many of you next May!

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No updates in the inbox this time around. Let's do better for the future. Your friends and classmates want to hear from you! You can write me at the email or postal address above, or submit news via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer! My Facebook feed has been humming with lots of baby news. Keep all the good news coming.

**Courtney Vowels** and her husband, **John Garnevicus**, welcomed their son, **Elijah Forster Garnevicus-Vowels**, on April 29. Elijah weighed 8 lbs., 14 oz. and was 22 inches long.

**Jasper Cooper** and his wife, **Josiejing Weng**, welcomed their daughter, **Vali Weng Cooper**, on May 23.

**Adam Sokol** and **Bingyi Huang** welcomed their son, **Aaro Magnus Sokol**, on December 1. Adam is an architect whose practice is based in Buffalo, N.Y. (with lots of current projects in China as well).

**Katie Campion Land** and **Matthew Land** '05 welcomed their first child, **Nina Jane Land**, on April 2. They happily reside in Tulsa, Okla.

Congratulations to all our new parents!

**Jeff Lee** announced the launch of **Ryan Lee**, a gallery he formed with business partner **Mary Ryan** and which opened to the public in late April. The gallery is located at 527 W. 26th St. in New York (ryanleegallery.com). Congratulations to Jeff! [Editor's note: See alumni profile in this issue.]

Please keep in touch; you can write me at the addresses at the top of the column or submit a note via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. Please send me updates at soniah57@gmail.com or submit a note via CCT's webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. Thank you!

**Tze Chun** and his wife, **Cara McKenney**, had their first baby, **Henry Hazelwood Chun**, on July 14,



**Brad Neuberg '99** married **Abby Volk** on July 27 in **Nevada City, Calif.**, near the **Yuba River**. The couple is pictured with (far right) **Susan Kassir '99**.

2012. In November, Tze wrapped his second feature film, a crime thriller starring **Bryan Cranston**, **Alice Eve** and **Logan Marshall-Green**, green-titled *Cold Comes the Night*. He co-wrote and directed the movie.

**Max Saffian** and his wife, **Randi**, are the proud parents of **Lane Thompson Saffian**, born on June 4.

**Michael Canino '02E** has a private psychiatry practice in Philadelphia.

**James Cain** was recently married in Austin. He and his wife have moved there, as he is starting a job with a commercial real estate private equity firm.

**Lindsay Jurist-Rosner** is a v.p. of marketing at **Simulmedia**, a Union Square Ventures-backed technology start-up.

03

**Michael Novielli**  
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Thank you to the Reunion Committee, and to all who attended Alumni Reunion Weekend, for making our 10th an absolute blast. The festivities began on May 30 with a reception at **Greenwich Village Country Club** at **Bowlmor**. On Friday, those who were able to get away from

work went to a series of lectures and performances on campus and on a **Chelsea Art Gallery Crawl**. Friday night was a ton of fun, as **Dean James J. Valentini** joined us for drinks at a class reception at **Avenue** before we joined the **Young Alumni Party** on the *U.S.S. Intrepid*. It's a shame that this is technically our last year as young alumni, but we'll always be young at heart, right? Something like that.

Saturday was a packed day with more lectures and events on campus, but the highlight was our class reception and dinner on **South Field**, followed by the all-class **Starlight Reception** on **Low Plaza**. And many of us continued the fun at **The Heights** (followed by karaoke) late into the evening. Some of the folks who made it to **The Heights** included **Hector Rivera**, **Michelle Hodara**, **Alex Specht**, **Andy So**, **Jeffrey Hsieh**, **Michael Chee**, **Nimmi Pillalamarri** and **Raheleh Hatami**. And throughout the course of the weekend, former class presidents **Kimberly Grant**, **Lee Goldberg** and **Bryan Berkett** were in attendance.

In other reunion news, our class successfully raised \$67,206 from 174 donors in support of financial aid, student services, summer internship stipends and the **Core Curriculum**. Including dollars raised for **Athletics**, CC '03 raised more than \$98,000 in **Fiscal Year 2013**.

Those who have more news to share from our reunion should

# Art Means Business for Jeffrey Lee '01

BY MARY JEAN BABIC



Jeffrey Lee '01, who co-owns the Ryan Lee Gallery in NYC, credits Art Humanities for his career path.

PHOTO: DEREK PIECH

**T**rim and welcoming in black-rimmed glasses, **Jeffrey Lee '01** is a gracious guide around the new Ryan Lee Gallery, which he co-owns with Mary Ryan, in the Manhattan neighborhood of Chelsea. On this June day, the gallery is exhibiting the work of young artist Bradley Castellanos. Lee draws a visitor's attention to Castellanos' technique of layering paint over large-format photographs, lending an otherworldly feel to the stark landscapes. They hardly look like photos at all. Lee explains that because photography is ubiquitous these days, on social media and elsewhere, young artists are driven

more than ever to break out of existing ideas of what photography can be.

Clearly, this is what Lee loves — championing artists whose work speaks to him — and he has built a career doing just that. For more than a decade, Lee worked at the former Mary Ryan Gallery, which occupied the same ground-floor space on West 26th Street. This spring, he and his former boss became business partners, launching their eponymous joint venture. It all started, Lee says, with the Art Humanities class he took his freshman year. "That was a wonderful, eye-opening experience," says Lee. His initial

intentions of taking up a math or science major vanished as he grew more engrossed, especially once the syllabus hit the 20th century; socialist realism was an early passion.

Lee became smitten with Columbia when, while visiting a friend at The Juilliard School, he strolled across College Walk and took in the campus for the first time. "It was love at first sight," he says. Learning about Columbia's academics, the Core Curriculum excited him as a way to explore subjects he might not otherwise have chosen.

Born in Seoul, Lee was 7 when he moved with his mother and older sister to the suburbs of

Washington, D.C., to be near his mother's family. His father remained in Seoul, visiting the family twice a year. Lee's upbringing, he says, did not include much art appreciation, so Art Humanities marked his first significant encounter with the subject. In his spare time, Lee hopped around museums to view firsthand some of the very art that he was studying in class. "Having the city as an integral part of my college experience was life-altering," he says.

He decided to stay in New York the summer after freshman year. Browsing through job listings at the Center for Career Education he stumbled upon an internship opportunity at the Mary Ryan Gallery, then on West 57th Street.

As Ryan's intern, Lee worked on the estate of Louis Lozowick, a Russian émigré artist who died in 1973. Much of the collection eventually went to the Whitney. The experience gave Lee his first glimpse of art world business and it dawned on him that this was something he could do with his life. When he returned to Columbia his sophomore year there was no question that he'd major in art history. He held internships each summer while in college — at MoMA, at Cooper-Hewitt — and he studied abroad in Paris his junior year. This afforded him the opportunity to travel around European cities, "which is basically like walking around museums," he says. One of his favorite trips was to Istanbul, where he visited the Blue Mosque and Hagia Sophia.

In 2003, Lee bumped into Ryan at an art auction. She offered him the job of assistant director at her gallery. He accepted, and a few years later he rose to gallery director.

Ryan calls Lee "a great art dealer," with a keen eye for identifying exciting art. "It's easy to do it when the names are known," she says. "It's more difficult to do it when people are starting out."



Lee likens his job to that of a literary agent — he sells art he loves to appreciative buyers and also helps new artists navigate the business side of the creative enterprise. He maintains relationships with collectors, curators and other serious buyers while always being on the lookout for compelling artists to represent. Since he started in the business, Lee says, art fairs have become more critical for getting artists, dealers, gallery owners and buyers together. He goes to about five a year, indulging his passion for travel. Everything, however, is done in the interest of artists. "The more visibility the gallery can have, the better it is for the artists," says Lee.

The economics of running a gallery are daunting. Lee provides this example: If a gallery mounts a show with 10 paintings, each priced at \$10,000, and all sell, the gallery will end up with \$50,000 after splitting the proceeds with the artist (standard practice). That's a trifle in pricey Manhattan, and it's rare for a show to sell out. A robust network of collectors behind the scenes is essential. That's why having an experienced partner like Ryan, who started her gallery in 1981, is so valuable, says Lee.

"This allowed us to get a new gallery that can focus on contemporary art from all over the world" — the gallery will feature both emerging and established artists — "and that gives a nice dialogue on how art can look," Lee says.

Ryan Lee Gallery's inaugural exhibition, of art by Korean-born artist Sangbin IM, ran from April 26–May 24.

Like any art dealer, Lee gets a buzz from closing a sale, but says nothing brings him joy like "placing work that you're passionate about from artists you care about very much with institutions and private collectors. It's just so gratifying."

**Mary Jean Babic** is a freelance writer who lives in Brooklyn. Her most recent article for CCT was a profile of Nate Bliss '05.



James Maclean '03 and Sanne Grandt were married on August 25, 2012, in Waitsfield, Vt. Columbians on hand to celebrate included (left to right) Andrew Brill '03, Josh Lebewohl '03, Jonas Mendoza '03, Cezary Podkul '11J, the bride, the groom, Ellen Kettle '93 Business, Graciela Ibanez '08J, Romy Lipkis '03, Charles Williamson '13E and Travis Tatko '03.

PHOTO: BIRKE PHOTOGRAPHY

please send along an update and I'll include it in a future column.

In other news, **Christine Murphy** gave a gift to the Aaron and James Satloff Scholarship Fund. Christine had been the first recipient of this scholarship — which James Satloff '84 established when his father, Aaron Satloff '56, turned 65 — and she said she wanted to give back to the scholarship that had helped her. In response, James matched her donation 100-to-1 with a gift to the scholarship in her honor.

**Christina Wright** writes, "I was bummed to miss reunion but I was actually at **Michael LaVigne's** wedding in Keystone, Colo. In terms of life updates, last June I left my job as an admissions counselor at Marquette University to pursue a graduate certificate in digital storytelling, also at Marquette. This was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I am now writing for a Milwaukee-based arts and entertainment magazine, *thirdcoast-daily.com*, as well as for the popular competitive swimming website *swimswam.com*.

"In April, I spent a week in Germany with one of the oldest members of Facebook, 103-year-old Oma Ella Kastner. You can read much more about the trip at

*passionpassport.com/current-trip* and see a short movie that I made about it at *vimeo.com/70130892*. I was able to take this trip because I won Passion Passport's Bucket List Initiative travel grant contest. Coincidentally, the founder of Passion Passport is Zach Glassman '09. It's funny how things work out when you take a risk to really pursue what you love doing; it seems like the pieces have fallen into place and there are only more and more opportunities for me to be creative! I am realizing that living the freelance life is pretty rewarding."

**Seth Wax** writes, "In June, I graduated from the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College, a pluralistic school in Newton, Mass. Starting in July, I became rabbi at Congregation Mount Sinai, an independent synagogue in Brooklyn Heights, N.Y."

**Janice (Shore) Berg** writes, "In October 2012 I started my own law practice in family law in Houston, and in February of this year I argued a case in front of the Supreme Court of Texas. I'm still waiting on the decision."

**Beth Mickle** reports, "I'm a production designer for film and television, and I designed the sets for *2 GUNS*, the Denzel Washington/Mark Wahlberg film that came

out this summer. I also designed the film *Only God Forgives*, with Ryan Gosling, which was released in art house theatres."

**Afia Owusu-Sekyere** writes, "I recently moved to San Francisco to take a new role in marketing at Genentech. I look forward to reconnecting with the many CU alums living here in the Bay Area."

**Jonas Divine** writes, "I am sorry I missed the 10th reunion. I have been living in Toronto since fall 2011 and am a procurement manager for Vale Canada, the base metals division of a large diversified mining company. I try to get back to New York as often as possible but it is also great to spend time in another one of the most diverse and multicultural cities in North America. Looking forward to connecting with alums in Canada!"

**Alex Farrill** shares, "My wife, Abby Walhausen '06 Barnard, and I live in Brooklyn. I am the chief data scientist at RUN, a mobile ad tech startup in Manhattan. We recently announced a \$1.5 million investment from Verizon."

**Lien de Brouckere** shares, "I recently moved to Washington, D.C., and am excited to be working in a new job with Global Rights, an international NGO, as its director of natural resources and human



Keri Wachter '05 and Brendan Norwood '09 P&S were married on October 20 in Larchmont, N.Y. Columbians in attendance included (left to right) Eva Rosen '05 Barnard, Jackson Shafer '05, Leela Sarathy '05, the groom, the bride, Paul Wright '05, Merry Boak '05 and Justin Ifill '06.

PHOTO: RJ KERN

rights. I get to advise its country of offices in Nigeria, Uganda, Burundi and Afghanistan on programming around natural resource extraction and protecting communities' rights, and also implement projects with additional partners to build capacity of local civil society organizations to support affected communities."

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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It's been quiet — no doubt a sign that everyone had a busy summer. But why not share a little about it with classmates? We want to hear your news, whether family, career

or otherwise. You can write me at the email or postal address above, or submit updates online via CCT's webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Also, don't forget to mark your calendars for our 10th reunion: May 29-June 1, 2014. It'd be great to see as many of you as possible! If you want to be involved with planning, get in touch with either of the Alumni Office contacts at the top of the column.

**05**

**Claire McDonnell**  
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Happy fall! To think that 10 years ago we were recently minted graduates of Contemporary Civilization inching our ways toward legal drinking age ...

My 2013 started with a Columbia College reunion, or a Ruggles reunion to be more precise. Aashti Bhartia '06, **Jenn Legum Weber**, Brian Overland '04 and I — four

of our seven Ruggles 2 suitmates — reunited in Bangalore, India, for Brian's wonderful wedding and related festivities.

**Luis Saucedo** also reports impromptu reunions with erstwhile dormmates: "Last year I started working down the street from a couple of Carman 12ers in Washington, D.C. — **Marika Bertram** (née Butler), who works at HUD, and **Matthew Rotman**, who works at the Department of Energy."

This year has held many a major career move, and actual move, for some classmates:

**Josh Hadro** was appointed deputy director, reference and research services, at the New York Public Library. He previously was executive editor for *Library Journal*, a trade magazine that covers the library profession.

**Merlin Chowkwanyun** was finishing his dissertation and graduating with a joint-degree in history and public health from Penn this past summer. He says, "For the next two years, I'll be a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health & Society Scholar at the University

of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health, continuing a few projects on racial health disparities, environmental health and health care systems. Would love to get in touch with anyone in the area!"

**Carrington Lee** says, "In May, I joined law firm Sullivan & Cromwell as assistant manager of associate development. I'm still in the Financial District and excited for the new opportunity."

**Caitlin Verrilli '13** Business reports, "I graduated in May with an M.B.A. and am a program director at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corp."

**Maggie Gram** was finishing a Ph.D. at Harvard this past summer. She writes, "This fall I'm headed to St. Louis to take a postdoc at Washington University. I'd love visitors; I haven't spent very much time in St. Louis but I hear it's a great town!"

**Saadya Scott Zakheim** says, "My wife, Rebecca; our daughter, Olivia (1); and I moved back to our home state of Maryland in early July. I recently took a job at Shot Tower Capital, a boutique investment bank in Baltimore focused on media and entertainment. I will lead its business development efforts. Rebecca and I were married in April 2011 and spent the last two-plus years on Manhattan's Upper West Side."

**Smith Kidkarndee** reports: "I recently graduated from Pace with a doctorate in school-clinical child psychology. I hope to open a private practice in the fall."

**Elizabeth Saylor** is a doctoral candidate in modern Arabic literature at UC Berkeley's Near Eastern studies department. She is writing her dissertation, "A Bridge Too Soon: The Life and Works of Afifa Karam: The First Arab-American Woman Novelist," with the intention of completing a Ph.D. next year. In addition to thesis writing, Elizabeth is teaching Arabic language and literature at UC Berkeley, work she loves and has done since 2009. Elizabeth spent the past two summers running an Arabic language program in Sidi Bou Said, Tunisia. This past spring she spent two weeks in Morocco as a lecturer with a Cal alumni travel group. And in June, she joined her family in NYC to celebrate the graduation of her best friend, Alisha Lenora Liggett '04, from her medical residency program in social medicine at Montefiore Medical Center Hospital in the Bronx.

Hot off the presses, here are a few classmates who've made the news lately:

**Syga Thomas's** company, Maono, was covered in The Huffington Post: [huffingtonpost.com/laura-dunn/giving-back-through-fashi\\_b\\_3461167.html](http://huffingtonpost.com/laura-dunn/giving-back-through-fashi_b_3461167.html).





Vidya Vasu-Devan '06 and Krishna Rao '06 were married in June in Los Gatos, Calif. Among the guests were (left to right) Emily Lo Gibson '06 and her husband, Marcus Gibson; Sara Rosenberg '06; Randall Li '06E and his wife, Norah Li '06 (née Garry); the groom; the bride; Anthony Bisio '06E, '10 PH; Blair Bodine '06; and Anne Thomas '06.

PHOTO: RUCHIRA CHOPRA

**Ken Harada** has been named managing director at Guggenheim Partners.

**Doug Imbruce's** company, Qwiki, was acquired by Yahoo!

And no Class Notes would be complete without a wedding or two, not least a Carman love story.

**Katie Herman** and **Mike Noble** were married January 4 in Washington, D.C. They met freshman year in the Carman elevator after attending a campus punk show in Lerner Hall. Katie finished an M.F.A. in poetry at Maryland this past spring, and Mike is a program coordinator at the National Foreign Language Center.

**Keri Wachter** married **Brendan Norwood** '09 P&S on October 20 in Larchmont, N.Y., surrounded by family and friends including Columbians **Merry Boak**, **Justin Ifill** '06, **Eva Rosen** '05 Barnard, **Leela Sarathy**, **Jackson Shafer** and **Paul Wright**.

Be sure to keep sending your latest news and stories of the Columbians you're running into out there in the wild world beyond Morning-side Heights.

06

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**Emily Ross** writes, "After working on President Barack Obama '83's reelection, I have joined the Washington, D.C., staff of Sen. Elizabeth

Warren (D-Mass.). It is great to be working for my home state senator and I love being back on Capitol Hill."

**Laura Stedman** (née Schnaidt) graduated from law school in May and starting this fall will be an associate in the New York office of Shearman & Sterling.

After six years at Google and YouTube, **Andrew Stinger** has thrown his hat into the start-up ring. He is now v.p. of marketing at AppStack, a mobile technology start-up funded by Google Ventures and Tomorrow Ventures.

**Sean Wilkes** writes that 2012 was busy. "After finishing grad school at Harvard in the spring, the Army sent me back to Washington, D.C., to attend the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, the military's medical school at Walter Reed Bethesda, for my M.D. I also met up with **Brian Wagner**, **Sam Schon** and **Sydney Jones** '06 Barnard at **Robert Wray's** wedding in December. Good times, great cigars and fantastic whiskey were shared by all."

**Ganesh H. Betanabhatla** recently joined Talara Capital Management, an energy investment firm with offices in New York and Houston, as a managing director. Ganesh will lead the firm's private investments in the oil and gas sector.

**Dan Kessler** is a soon-to-be married man. He also is the new director of eCards for Hallmark. Plus, he's one of the writers behind the hit young adult novel *The Social Code*.

One of these four sentences is a lie.

This past June, **Vidya Vasu-Devan** married **Krishna Rao** under the redwoods in Los Gatos, Calif. They were thrilled to celebrate with great friends from the Class of 2006, including **Anne Thomas**; **Blair Bodine**; **Emily Lo**; **Sara Rosenberg** and her fiancé, **Anthony Bisio** '06E; **Norah Li** (née Garry) and her husband, **Randall Li** '06E; and **Andrew Lichtenberg** and his fiancée, **Michelle Lee**. Vidya and Krishna are excited to be starting their married life in Seattle.

**Aaron Karp** writes, "On May 26, I married the love of my life and the funniest girl I've ever met, **Carla Pasquale**. Three generations of Columbia Karpes were at the wedding, including best man and brother, **Joshua Karp** '04, '07L; bridesmaid and sister, **Rachel Karp** '10; sister-in-law **Rona Behar Karp** '04; father, **Hillel Karp** '71; uncle **David Karp** '72, '79L, aunt **Barbara Illowsky P. Karp** '80 P&S, and grandmother **Deborah Burststein Karp** '43 Barnard, '89 GSAS. Also in attendance from the larger Columbia family were groomsmen **Alexander Crohn**, **Jason Lichtman** '06E and **Jared Hutter** '09 Arch., along with **Sonia Marquez** '04, **Robert Johnson**, **Sy Cabria**, **Amanda Houle** '06 Barnard, **Leora Holzer** (née Rosenblum) '06 Barnard, **Alan Rabinowitz** '06E and **Danaya Mesa** '10. I was lucky to share the day with so many Lions!"

Thanks to all for sharing these meaningful updates with us. We

look forward to hearing from more of you next quarter!

07

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I hope that everyone had a great summer! As usual, members of the Class of 2007 are up to exciting and inspiring things.

**Riddhi Dasgupta** shares, "In April, I published *International Interplay: The Future of Expropriation Across International Dispute Settlement*. Last year, our think tank The Wilberforce Society (at Cambridge University) fulfilled its commission to draft a proposed Constitution of Tunisia, which has been constructive to the post-Arab Spring governance in that country. We were blessed with the featuring of this proposed constitution on BBC and NPR, and our think tank was commended with a Special Mention in *Prospect* magazine's Think Tank Awards 2013. On a personal note, I'll be kicking off a J.D. at UC Berkeley, so all Columbians are welcome to pop into my humble abode on the West Coast! Reinventions and new pastures!"

The American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) has conferred top honors to **Veli N. Yashin** for a presentation made at its 2012 annual meeting, held at Brown. In addition, Veli's essay,



Carolyn Braff '07 and Andrew Herman were married on March 23 in Philadelphia. Columbians in attendance included (left to right) Sonali Phatak '07E, Aditi Sriram '07, Ed Hambleton '07, the bride, Sasha Silver '07, Brendan Shanahan '06E, Emily Kleinman '06, Casey Levine '07 and Rebby Bliss '07.

"Euro(tro)pology: Philology, World Literature, and the Legacy of Erich Auerbach," has been selected as the winner of the 2013 Horst Frenz Prize and will be published in the *Yearbook of Comparative Literature*. Veli was awarded his prize at the 2013 ACLA conference in Toronto in April. He is a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literature (Arabic, German, Turkish) at Columbia.

TurboVote, founded by **Seth Flaxman**, recently secured \$1 million in funding across three years from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. (See alumni profile in Spring 2012 CCT.)

**Colleen Darnall**, an independent music copyist in New York, married Zachary Dietz, a music director and conductor. The two were featured in *The New York Times* on May 19.

**Elyse Oleksak** shares some exciting (and delicious) news: "My husband, Nick Oleksak '06, and I are opening a bagel shop in the West Village called Bantam Bagels. Our mission is to 'change the way you bagel' by providing New Yorkers with fresh, mini-bagel balls filled with cream cheese. We plan to open our doors at 283 Bleecker St. in September." Check them out at bantambagels.com.

**John Shekitka** writes, "I'm pleased to report that I've returned to Morningside Heights full-time to continue my doctoral study at Teachers College."

Parkour, the discipline of treating the world as an obstacle course, has been **Nikkie Zanevsky's** passion since her Columbia days. During the last several years, she's been featured in *The New York Times*, performed in

NYC and China, and taught adults and kids. Last year, along with two friends, she co-founded The Movement Creative, an organization that brings parkour to hundreds of New Yorkers through regular classes and citywide festivals. Nikkie's organization works with adults, children, schools, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, The New School and other organizations. Nikkie says, "We believe everyone deserves a chance to learn parkour, so we give back by hosting donation-based sessions every week. Fellow alums are welcome to drop by and experience our welcoming community. You can learn more at themovementcreative.com."

**Nick Weiler** wrote, "I am nearing the completion of my Ph.D. in neuroscience at Stanford and, much more exciting than that, on June 22, I wed my girlfriend of five years (and fiancée of one year!), Meaghan Pugh. We were high school classmates in Oakland, Calif., and rekindled the relationship after we returned from our out-of-state collegiate tours of duty. The ceremony took place at Meaghan's family home in Calistoga, Calif."

**Erica Borghard Soofian** and **David Soofian** '04E are happy to announce the birth of twins Natalie Fay and Oliver Jack on December 16.

**Earnest Sweat** completed an M.B.A. and graduated from the Kellogg School of Management. He will move to San Francisco to work for The Bridgespan Group in the fall.

**I (David Chait)** also completed my M.B.A., in May, from the Busi-

ness School. My fiancée, Amanda Mullens '13 Arch., and I moved to Lincoln, Neb., in June for Travefy, a travel software platform I founded while at Columbia.

**Carolyn Braff** writes, "I got married on March 23 in Philadelphia! I am still Carolyn Braff (I'm not changing my name), and my husband is Andrew Herman. The Columbians at the wedding did a rousing rendition of *Roar*, *Lion*, *Roar* during the cocktail hour."

"I graduated from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business a week after the wedding, and started a new job in July, working in marketing at Gatorade, which is headquartered here in Chicago. I'm really looking forward to all of the change to come!"

**Mike Gambacorta** is marketing director at WebThriftStore, "a web startup that sells donated items and shares the proceeds with our charity partners. We always need more donated items and more shoppers!"

**Samantha Feingold** writes, "I am excited to announce that I am engaged to Dr. Jonathan Criss ('97 Yale), an ophthalmologist and surgeon. We are getting married in NYC in spring 2014 and are happily living in New York City."

**Jeffrey Feder** '07E, '08E and the newly engaged **Matthew Kondub** trekked to Merion, Pa., for a weekend to visit **Eric Bondarsky** and **Nina Cohen** '09 Barnard in a partial reunion of EC Suite 806. The missing member of that suite, **Daniel Friedman** '08E, had already danced with the rest of them at Matt's engagement party the week before.

Eric shares, "Matt's intended, Dani Pasternak, got a glimpse of what she is getting herself into upon joining what can only be described as the 806 family. At the time of writing this Class Note, they all eagerly await Matt and Dani's union in early August."

**Shafaq Khan** and **Usman Arain** tied the knot on March 30 in Morristown, N.J., with their dynamic, beloved Columbia friends in attendance.

**Tamara Lee** also shares some big news: "I don't frequently have big life updates, but I suppose when I do, I have a lot! On May 19 I graduated from the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, I got married to my medical school classmate, Andrew Lenis, on May 25, and we traveled to Thailand for our honeymoon. I'm literally still in the clouds, writing to you from a plane, as we are moving to Los Angeles to begin our residencies at UCLA, Andrew in urology and I in ophthalmology. I will pursue my clinical residency combined with Ph.D. research at the Jules Stein Eye Institute's EyeSTAR program. Looking forward to reconnecting with Columbia alumni in L.A.!"

08

**Neda Navab**

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Congratulations on our five-year reunion! Seeing 271 of our classmates on campus and throughout New York during Alumni Reunion Weekend was spectacular. The first note I am sharing is from a fellow Columbian who graduated 40 years before our class, Buzz Zucker '68. He wanted to send a personal message after meeting so many of us during the weekend.

He writes, "Some of my most enjoyable moments on Saturday were spent talking with some of your classmates, both at the wine tasting before dinner and outside after dinner. So please tell them that Buzz from '68 enjoyed meeting them all and will be looking for them in five years to make sure that they are still having fun."

**Alisa Brem** is an assistant development manager at Grosvenor's Washington, D.C., office, where she works on urban infill mixed-use real estate developments. She also opened a bar, Thomas Foolery, in July in Dupont Circle; some other CC '08ers have invested. She says, "If you're in D.C. come visit the bar at 2029 P St. N.W. It's a place to be a big kid with tons of games, local kid food like grilled cheese and PB & J (from The Big Cheese), homemade ice cream sandwiches





Maxime Glass '09 and Evan Harnik were married on July 7, 2012, at the Harvard Club in NYC. Top row, left to right: Monica Ierardo '09 Barnard, Katy Marcus '07 Barnard, Dan Gendler '09, Valerie Smith '09, Matt Rowen '09, Arielle Siboni '09 Barnard, Maya Pariser '08 Barnard and Jenny Cohen '06 Barnard; middle row, left to right: Sydney Newman '11 Barnard, Jennifer Zigler '08 Barnard, the groom, the bride, Nicole Scalmandre '10E, Lindsay Braverman '05 Barnard; Bianca Livi '05 Barnard and Shana Attas '09 Barnard; and front row, left to right: Sophie Scharf '07 Barnard and Ava Friedmann '09 Barnard.

PHOTO: SARAH LEHBERGER FOR AFTERGLOW PHOTOS

(from Captain Cookie & the Milkman), soup (from Soupergirl), and quiche and pies (from Whisked!). All of the drinks (beer and alcohol) can be made into floats and you can play Plinko to determine the price of your Smirnoff Ice. It's a really fun and silly place (thomasfoolerydc.com)."

**Anushka Shenoy** is starting medical school at the Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Ore. She says, "Anyone in Portland should look me up!"

Since graduating, **Melody Quintana** has lived in San Francisco and been a content strategist at Facebook. She writes, "It's been nothing short of amazing to be part of the company through such a critical growth phase, and I've truly fallen in love with the Bay Area. That said, I've recently decided to move on to my next adventure, which will bring me back to NYC for grad school. I'll start an M.F.A. in interaction design at the School of Visual Arts this fall. I'm excited to explore a new creative discipline and connect with fellow Columbians back in the city!"

**Rachel Belt** recently finished the coursework for a master's in humanitarian health program management and returned to Haiti to research the issue of child traf-

ficking with the Haitian government's child protection agency.

**Rachel Sales** (née Trager) says, "For the past year, I've been living in Tel Aviv, Israel, with my husband, Ben. I'm the director of recruitment for the Israel Experience, the leading educational tour company here. If anyone has friends, siblings or cousins who are interested in participating in Taglit-Birthright Israel this winter, feel free to get in touch with me at rachmsales@gmail.com. I'd be happy to help them get to the country for free!"

#### REUNION WEEKEND MAY 29-JUNE 1, 2014

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**09**

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More than four years have passed since we all proudly marched

across the stage on Class Day. The Class of 2009 has now spent more time as Columbia College alumni than as Columbia College students. That is a scary thought, as for many of us the memories of Columbia are still so fresh.

Well, it is time to make some new memories with your old college buddies! Please mark your calendars for our five-year reunion, Thursday, May 29-Sunday, June 1, 2014. If you would like to help with planning for the weekend, please touch base with one of the Alumni Office contacts listed above. Reunion is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and relive some of the excitement of the college experience (even if it is just for a couple days). Until then, we will have to make do with catching up the good, old-fashioned way: reading these Class Notes and logging into Facebook.

**Jack Cantrell** became engaged to Constanza Jacobs '10 Barnard on March 14. Jack is pursuing a J.D./M.B.A. at Virginia while Constanza works for The Kinetix Group in New York City.

**Josh Mathew** was commissioned as a 2nd lieutenant in the Army in February. He graduated from the Army's training course for infantry officers and entered Ranger School

soon afterward. This fall, he heads to his first assignment with the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea.

Josh hopes that his fellow alumni will appreciate reading that when a very senior ranking officer spoke to his infantry officer class about the possibility of pursuing graduate degrees through the Army, he highlighted the opportunity to study at Columbia and commented: "I mean, how cool would it be to earn a degree from Columbia University?" There is lots of love for alma mater on the Hudson from that fort on the Chattahoochee.

In August, **Dan Trepanier** moved from the East Village in New York City to Los Angeles, both for a change in lifestyle and to continue growing his brand TSBmen.com (the men's style blog that Dan started at Columbia and that he now manages full-time with a team of four). Comparing West Coast and East Coast men's fashion will make for an interesting dialogue, and he hopes to get more closely involved with Hollywood styling as well as spend a large amount of time on the beach.

After working for three years in government and politics in Washington, D.C., **MaryAlice Parks** decided to make a career shift and, this year, completed a

master's of science in broadcast journalism from the Journalism School. MaryAlice heads back to D.C. this fall for a fellowship with ABC News. You can view her work at [maryaliceparks.com](http://maryaliceparks.com).

**Yitian Liu '13** P&S in June began his work as a general surgery resident at the Cleveland Clinic. Yitian is excited to finally have his first real job, apartment and car. He welcomes all classmates to visit him in Ohio!

Yitian is not the only member of the Class of 2009 to recently finish medical school. **Phil Mitchell** graduated from Emory University School of Medicine in the spring and began a residency in orthopedic surgery at Vanderbilt in July.

As some of our classmates complete their graduate studies, others are returning to school. **Siobhan Gilbert**, for example, recently left her job as a research associate at the New York City affiliate of PBS. She received a full-ride scholarship to pursue an M.F.A. in playwriting at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is beginning graduate studies this fall.

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Hi 2010, thanks for submitting your exciting updates. Let's kick off our Fall notes with a couple of wedding announcements:

**Milan Cox** (née Rodriguez) writes, "I am excited to share that I was married on May 18 to Jordan Cox, the cutest, smartest boy in the world. My bridesmaids included Stephanie (Baker) Summerhays '09, who was my freshman and sophomore year roommate (she entered with us but graduated a year early), and Lauren Ford '09. Happily living the newlywed life while starting my fourth year as a fundraiser at the Smithsonian!"

**Katherine Vance** writes, "I got married on April 6. It was great to see my Columbia suitmates, **Jessica Guo** (who was my maid of honor), **Lisa Kawamoto**, **Claire Zukowski** and **Angela Lu**. We missed **Lien Hoang**, the sixth member of our EC townhouse, who lives in Vietnam. It was great to get together again, and the Houston weather cooperated for a lovely picnic reception at Hermann Park. My husband, Robert, and I are working on Ph.D.s in math at Rice in Houston. My area of research is knot theory. I taught my first class (Calculus II) last semester, which was fun and exhausting and prevented us from going on a honeymoon right away, so Robert and I were planning a

camping honeymoon in southern Utah for July."

Congratulations are in order for a few of our classmates who are either starting or recently graduated from school.

**Gabriella Ripoll** writes, "Graduated from NYU School of Law! In the spring I was again in the law school musical, *NYU Law Revue*, this year joined by 1L (now 2L) **Shana Knizhnik** — small world! Look for me in *NYU Law Revue*'s 'Staff Editor' video! When I pass the bar I'm settling at a general practice firm, Arrufat Gracia, in Times Square in NYC. Exciting times."

**Deisy Ordóñez-Arreola '13** GSAS earned a master's in East Asian languages and cultures. She is part of the faculty at Hunter College, CUNY, and hopes to pursue a Ph.D. in history in the near future.

In September, **Jon Hollander** will be starting an M.B.A. program at the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

**Ben Freeman** graduated from Harvard Law in May and is thrilled to be returning to New York this fall.

After working in investment banking, **Valerie Sapozhnikova** decided to make a career transition. She begins at Harvard Law this fall and is excited about going back to school.

### Chris Yim '10 is founding a company called UClass with two former roommates from Columbia — Zak Ringelstein '08 and Varun Gulati '10E.

**Charlesa Stoglin** relocated to Memphis from Phoenix in December 2012. She will be a 1L at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law this fall.

**Hannah Salomons** writes, "Hello, classmates! This January, I packed my car with all my belongings from the small NYC apartment where I had been living with best friend **Danielle Adelfio '10E** and drove down to live in the Florida Keys! I am an educator at the Dolphin Research Center, where I spend my days playing with dolphins, teaching school groups and visitors of all ages about how amazing dolphins are and writing curriculum for the new College of Marine Mammal Professions, which will run its first academic year in 2013. It has been a huge life change and adjustment from NYC to the Keys, and I certainly miss my friends and family in the tri-state area, but I have aspired to work at the Dolphin Research Center since I came to summer camp here as a 12-year-old, and it feels great to have finally achieved that dream. I welcome visiting Co-

lumbians who would like to come meet the dolphins and learn about our research.

"I visited Columbia for Commencement 2013 because my little sister graduated from Barnard, and I experienced great nostalgia being on campus and watching as the new graduates danced and cheered to Jay-Z's *Empire State of Mind*."

**Hieu Pham** shares, "It's odd to fill out my current city as Chicago. Yup! I've made the move to the Windy City on a four-year contract with *Savoy* magazine as its Chicago correspondent.

"OK, not quite — I hope you weren't fooled because 1) such a title doesn't exist, and 2) only in my dreams would that happen. But I am in Chicago to pursue even more higher education and rack up the debt. So if you find yourself in town, please hit me up. My spacious apartment in Little Italy should be able to squeeze in another person."

**Lekha Menon** is excited to move back to New York to start a new role with Health Leads. She also looks forward to reliving East Campus 1010 days with **Maria Alzuru**, **Nausheen Hakim**, **Sami Ritter** and **Cristina Ciprian-Matthews**!

And last but not least, our quarterly installment from **Chris Yim**:

"A new season means new city, new job and a new start. Yup, I did it. I made the migration westward to find greener pastures in the Bay Area. That's not entirely true: I came west to pursue an opportunity and support a mission that I am entirely passionate about.

"I am founding a company called UClass with two of my former roommates from Columbia — **Zak Ringelstein '08** and **Varun Gulati '10E** — and we are working to connect students and teachers around the world to improve the quality of education. We just wrapped up an accelerator here in San Francisco called Hub Ventures and are continuing to build our company with all that we've learned. I am living the dream here, working with best friends, being part of a social cause that I believe in and rediscovering the importance of adaptability. What's the lesson learned here? Sometimes, you just gotta quit your job, jump in a car, chase that one thing you care about, swallow your pride, dig into your savings, be kind and humble, find free food where you can and thank God for

the opportunity.

"In other news, my son, Jackson Carman, has impressed me with his development. He is an explorer like Columbus (my namesake), and he speaks weird baby languages. Not to be cliché, but it's like witnessing a miracle every day. Unfortunately, I had to leave him behind with my folks, so he'll speak better Korean than I do. Silver linings, people.

"A few last tidbits that I must confess: I have found that a great way to make extra money is to 'airbnb' your room out and sleep in the living room. I am beginning to think Tiger won't win that major. And your life isn't less meaningful just because you don't get Instagram likes on your photo; I remind myself of this often."

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I hope everyone enjoyed the summer. Hard to believe that fall is nearly here! Unfortunately I have no updates, so I'll just use this space to ask for your contribution for next time. Whether you have successes and life changes to share, or just want to say hello, it's important for us to stay connected. You can write me at the email or postal address at the top of the column, or submit updates via CCT's webform: [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

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As of this writing, I will have returned to UC Berkeley for my second year of law school. It was lovely catching up with so many classmates while I worked in New York this past summer.

Congratulations are in order for **Ali Hard** and **Michael Weng '11E**, who got engaged in January and are planning a summer wedding in Connecticut for next year! Ali is also a new board member of the Columbia Club of Boston and is enjoying connecting with alumni in the Boston area.

**Derek Turner** reports from Michigan, "Detroit has been earning unsavory superlatives lately, but the Motown Columbia contingent isn't! **Todd Nelson** and I work and live in the heart of the 'Arsenal of Democracy,' doing our part to create jobs here. I recently started a



new gig at a tech training institute and co-working space called Grand Circus. So for all those Lions wanting to learn coding or start a business, consider Detroit. Curious? Come visit!”

**Dominique Mann** started a job as a producer at MSNBC, where she books guests for segments of various shows. She writes, “On-air guests include political figures, experts, entertainers, activists and everyday people. Working at the White House and for the President’s reelection campaign definitely prepared me well for this job, and I love working in the newsroom. Now that I’m in New York again, I have been able to reconnect with friends and other alumni. They have really been a support system, and I look forward to staying in touch with everyone.”

**Elizabeth Kipp-Giusti** spent a dynamic and intense 10 months serving as a corps member in the Americorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps). Based out of McClellan AFB in Sacramento, Calif., her service included projects in Salt Lake City serving the Utah Food Bank; in Moonachie, N.J., on disaster relief after Hurricane Sandy; and in Portland, Ore., working in a youth development center. The 10 months became a heuristic aid, pushing Elizabeth to learn more about the social and environmental topography of the country as well as to consider multiple career paths in the nonprofit sector. Certifications gained during that same time frame included training in First Aid, Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, Red Cross and First Responder. Though back in NYC, Elizabeth says she has gained a world of experience on the West Coast and is grateful for the adventure!

At the beginning of June, **Evan Miller** took a trip to sunny California with **Ross Morand** and **Anthony Potter**. They ran the 2013 Rock ‘n’ Roll San Diego Marathon with Team in Training, raising more than \$10,000 for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Evan and Anthony ran the half-marathon while Ross ran the full marathon, finishing his first marathon in 3 hours and 23 minutes. Way to go, guys! The three enjoyed an extra day off from working in NYC to go jet skiing in the San Diego marina on the Monday following the race.

**Gillian Rhodes** sent this update from Cambodia: “I recently bought a motorcycle to get around Phnom Penh. Clearly things are getting crazy here. I work for a major television network and am on a mission to up the quality in back-up dancing. Then it’s just raising funds to launch a contemporary dance company in the next year!

And improving my Khmer ...”

**Jenn Leyva**, who lives and works in Yongin in Bundang-gu, South Korea, is putting her chemistry degree to good use as a kindergarten teacher by day and a revolutionary fat activist and writer by evening and weekends.

For **Kelicia Hollis**, summer brought the opportunity to work abroad as an intern at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University in Shanghai, China. “Working as the international programs intern at the UM-SJTU Joint Institute lined up perfectly after completing my first year in my M.A. program, and doing independent research while abroad has taught me a lot. Let the blessings continue!”

As a member of the Puerto Rico national field hockey team, **Leticia Freaney** has been living in San Juan for the past year. She played in her first international field hockey tournament in Panama in late June and celebrated her 23rd birthday shortly before the tournament. At the time, she was a server at Chili’s and practicing with her team. Looking ahead, Leticia hopes to use her visual arts major to have her first solo gallery show before the end of fall. Last but certainly not least, she is the owner of a kitten since January.

**Madeleine Jensen** is excited to be moving to the West Coast this fall to start a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology at UC Berkeley as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow. She looks forward to joining friends and all of the Columbia alumni in the Bay Area.

**Malcolm Culleton**, who writes that he has been “leading a tempestuous life of fortune and adventure,” sent in a creative and detailed account of adventures since graduation:

“Unaware of what the future would hold, Malcolm walked out from the gates of alma mater in search of the untamed frontier across the Hudson. He walked for many days and spent many lonesome nights in the forest, using his spacious sky-blue graduation robes as a tent. Eventually, he found himself in New Orleans, where he got a part-time job painting houses and quickly worked his way up the social ladder. Before long, he received an offer of a high-paying job at a prestigious Fortune 500 company, and was on the verge of signing on, when he befriended an old, one-eyed trumpet player on the banks of the Mississippi River. The man overheard Malcolm playing guitar and said he was impressed by his picking style. They jammed for a bit, earning tens of dollars worth of tourist change, until the man told Malcolm that he was connected to some important people

in the music business who were arranging a tour of Japan. He told Malcolm that the ship for the East would be leaving that night, and asked him to come along and play guitar with the group.

“It was only after boarding the ship that Malcolm realized that he had been hoodwinked by a band of pirates, and that the story about the Japanese music tour was really just a front for the group’s smuggling operation. He found himself conscripted by the pirates to help traffic Cuban contraband through the Mississippi Delta. As he generally disapproves of the Cuban trade embargo, Malcolm was more than happy to work with the group for a while, but when part of his left ear got snipped off in a spontaneous knife fight he decided that a life of crime was not for him. He jumped ship in Veracruz, Mexico, and headed for the hills.

“Malcolm is currently living at an undisclosed location in the Sierra Madre mountains with three loyal pet wolves he has nurtured from puppyhood. He thanks Columbia College for many fond memories, but most of all for supplying such vivid material for his strong and

I fell in love.”

**Paul Hsiao**, **Eric Tang** ‘12E and **Eric Chung** ‘12E welcome **Alex Harstrick** back to New York. Paul writes that he is excited for upcoming adventures with the old EC RA crew, **Sonal Bothra**, **Allie Davitt** and **Chuck Roberts**. Paul also looks forward to seeing **Emily Ahn** and **Lauren Kwok** ‘12E around the city!

Upon finishing her first year at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, **Wen Wen** worked for the summer as an architect at a design office in Beirut, Lebanon. She was involved in the Alumni Representative Committee while in Cambridge, interviewed several applicants to Columbia College and attended the new admits meet-and-greet in April.

**Yin Yin Lu** writes, “A few months ago, I left the corporate publishing world to work at 10 Speed Labs, a boutique media agency based in midtown Manhattan. We create websites and apps (and even print packaging) for a wide range of clients in an equally wide range of industries. No two projects, much less days, have been the same!

“I’ve also been developing a video series for my Lexicography Society titled ‘What’s Your Word?’

### Madeleine Jensen ‘12 is starting a Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology at UC Berkeley as a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow.

still active imagination.”

**Nettra Pan** recently completed the Columbia-Sciences Po five-year B.A./M.A. program in Paris, graduating with a master’s specialized in the management of public and hybrid institutions with concentrations in emerging economies and East and Southeast Asia (where she grew up). Congratulations, Nettra! On June 11, she wrote, “Yesterday evening, I went to a great event with University Professor Joseph Stiglitz, organized by the Columbia Club of Paris, whose president, Maxime Riché ‘05E, has become a friend. Professor Stiglitz’s insights were quite motivating in the sense that our generation has a lot to tackle! I’m excited to see how businesses can meet the growing economic, social and environmental demands and am looking for jobs at forward-thinking companies in business strategy.

“In Europe, I had the chance to get to know inspiring leaders in the fast-growing tech and social enterprise scene through my role as Paris ambassador of the Sandbox network. Our applications for the 2013 class are open: [sandbox-network.com/apply](http://sandbox-network.com/apply).

“Oh, and it’s true what they say about Paris — a very romantic city!

It features students and professionals of different backgrounds speaking about words that resonate with them in either a positive or negative way. It will be launched on YouTube sometime in the next few months — if you are in the NYC area and have a word you’d like to share, please drop a line to [lexisoc@gmail.com](mailto:lexisoc@gmail.com).

“Another update on the lexicography front — my review of Michael Adams’ *From Elvish to Klingon: Exploring Invented Languages* was published in *Dictionaries: Journal of the Dictionary Society of North America* (Volume 33). It’s my first official academic article!”

Lots of love from both new and familiar contributors this time around — keep the updates coming, 2012!

13

**Tala Akhavan**

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I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and celebratory summer. Since graduation in May, members of the Class of 2013 have been busy

adventuring across the country and beginning new academic and professional careers.

**Yoonjin Ha** has been rehearsing at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC for a developing project involving opera, dance and theatre. For this project Yoonjin is proudly working with established figures in the industry, including director Paul Warner, composer Du

Yun and choreographer Stephen Petronio. This fall, she will start at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts to pursue an M.F.A. in acting with the Class of 2016.

In early June, Kevin Zhai '12 hiked Mount Si in Seattle with Daphne Chen '14 and Christine Currie '12E.

**Ryan Cho** recently entered active duty in the Army and will attend the Quartermaster School in Fort Lee, Va., for four months.

**Emmanuel Hiram Arnaud** spent the summer in an internship at the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. He plans to begin his legal education in September at Cornell Law.

**Iman Nanji** kicked off her post-graduate adventures with a road trip across the country, visiting several national parks, monuments and fellow alumni across 11 states. Before moving back to her hometown of Los Angeles in

recommends as a "breathtaking and unforgettable" experience. She looked forward to joining Sanford C. Bernstein in July as an institutional equity research sales associate. She was to be working alongside Tania Harsono '11, her close friend and NSOP orientation leader.

**Aaron Kohn** arrived in Johannesburg in early June. There, he will be the director of a new museum in South Africa, the Museum of African Design. The museum is part of a large regeneration project in Johannesburg's downtown area that uses the arts to stimulate cultural unity and progress.

Environmental science major **Natalia Martinez** spent the summer in Denali National Park Preserve, Alaska, where she works for Aramark. Her work there is focused on projects involving energy management, environmental management system planning, waste reduction and renewable feasibility assessments. In her spare time, when she isn't taking care of her recently adopted sled dog, she enjoys hiking and playing softball.



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**Yoonjin Ha '13** has been rehearsing at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC for a developing project involving opera, dance and theatre.

After completion of his studies, he will take on an assignment as a detachment commander of an Aerial Delivery Unit in Nebraska.

**Isabel Losada** fostered her passion for art history this past summer as an intern at The Frick Collection in New York City. This fall she will attend the Courtauld Institute of Art in London to pursue a master's in art history.

early September, Iman spent the summer in New York City, where she trained for her new job at JPMorgan Chase. At the firm's L.A. office she plans to join the Private Banking Division as an asset management analyst on the ultra-high net worth team.

**Natassia Miller** recently completed a road trip down the California coast, which she highly

## Alumni Corner

(Continued from page 104)

I felt like a foreigner while discovering and understanding how everything worked. In addition, surprisingly, the English language became an obstacle again, as I felt that my proficiency was not enough for me to keep pace with the academics. However, I learned to use support services, such as the Writing Center, which helped me improve my weaknesses. At the same time, I felt welcomed by the Columbia community because of its diversity, and I no longer had to be "careful" with my accent. Ultimately I grew academically, overcame obstacles and made the Dean's List.

I would have never imagined that all these experiences would uniquely prepare me for my role, beginning last November, as a conduit between the East Hampton School District and its growing number of Spanish-speaking families. Based on the New York State Report Card for 2011–12, the percentage of Hispanic or Latino students in the district is 41, while the largest racial/ethnic group is white, at 51. I was hired to improve communication and thus facilitate broader access to district resources that are underused due to the language barrier and to create the opportunity for the meaningful participation of parents in promoting the

academic growth of their children.

To accomplish this, I organized parent meetings throughout the district to help them understand the school system. For example, at the high school level there was a meeting that explained the graduation requirements, Regents exams, report cards and more. Parents also had a chance to meet their kids' guidance counselors. In addition, workshops were created to teach parents how to use online tools to check their kids' grades, attendance and so on. At the elementary level, parents were informed about the importance of reading and learned about common community resources such as library programs and town recreational activities.

Parent participation was an obstacle at the beginning, when only 18 showed up for a meeting I had called of all Spanish-speaking families of high school students. However, these 18 parents helped me better understand their needs and concerns, which helped me to plan meetings and programs for the rest of the academic year. For the second meeting I called all Spanish-speaking parents ahead of time to inform them about the subjects that were going to be explained; I also advertised the meeting with flyers at markets and frequently visited

places around the community, and I contacted the single Spanish radio station in the area. The number of parents who attended meetings grew from there, reaching as many as 170, so that we ultimately had to break down meetings by grade level to allow for more meaningful participation.

Based on my own experiences as a high school and college student, and my mother's experience, I have been able to identify and tackle specific concerns and obstacles that many Spanish-speaking families face in our school district. For example, I encountered one recently arrived student who didn't know whether to take a bilingual social studies class in which she might more easily obtain a high grade or take a regular social studies class taught in English that might be more challenging and put her grade at risk. However, when she learned about the available support such as extra help, she went ahead with the all-English class. For her and for many other recently arrived students, it was all about being aware of the available support services and using them productively.

The response from Spanish-speaking families in East Hampton has been outstanding. I have learned that many families had been seeking to become more

involved in their children's education but were limited because of the language barrier and cultural differences. It brings to mind my mother's experience when she tried to become involved in the school to provide us with the necessary support. I remember she attended PTA meetings and such but was discouraged due to language and cultural differences. Parents like her who seek involvement or are intimidated by the school are now learning about available resources and can comfortably become engaged and take a more active role in the school and their children's education.

I certainly learned a lot in my first year, and throughout this past summer I worked with administrators and school staff to reflect on last year and to develop a road map for this year. We will continue trying to increase communication with parents through meetings and to encourage their participation. With the support of school personnel we have planned school events, such as parent-teacher conferences and college information sessions, to accommodate Spanish-speaking families. I am optimistic that our school community will continue to provide our students with more opportunities to excel regardless of their background.







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**Naples, Fla: Luxury condominium** overlooking Gulf, two-month minimum, 802-524-2108, James Levy '65CC, '68L.

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**Deadline for Winter 2013-14 issue:  
 Friday, October 25, 2013**

## Answers to Quiz on Inside Back Cover

1. Doug Jackson '76 in 1975 and John Witkowski '84 in 1982.
2. Lou Kusserow '49 returned a kickoff 100 yards vs. Dartmouth in 1948.
3. Johnathan Reese '02 rushed for 3,321 yards in 1998-2001 and John Witkowski '84 passed for 7,849 yards in 1981-83.
4. William V. Campbell '62, '64 TC and Robert K. Kraft '63.
5. 93 yards, John Witkowski '84 to Mark Milam '86 vs. Bucknell in 1983.
6. 93 yards by three players: John Nork '49, '53 P&S vs. Lafayette in 1946; Jimmy Henderson '85 vs. Yale in 1984; and J.R. Clearfield '92 vs. Bucknell in 1989.
7. Paul Governali '43.
8. Lou Little, who coached the Lions for 236 games from 1930-56. Little also had more wins (110) and losses (116) than any other Columbia football coach.
9. In 2005, when Prosper Nwo-kocho '06 returned a kickoff 94 yards for a TD vs. Fordham.
10. Michael Quarshie '05 in 2005 and Andrew Kennedy '11 in 2011.

## Letters

(Continued from page 5)

used in refining uranium 235. At Columbia, my father worked alongside Enrico Fermi, Eugene F. Wigner, Edward Teller and Leo Szilard, all major figures in the Manhattan Project.

Everyone at the time knew that the Germans were working on a similar project and that someone was going to build a bomb. Later in his life, my father said he was glad it was the United States, and not Germany or Russia, who did it first. It was for our protection, he said.

However, my father had mixed feelings about the bomb. He was glad the war would soon be over as a result of its use and that it saved many American and Japanese lives that would have been lost in the planned American land invasion of Japan. Yet he was petrified by the reports of the first use of the bomb delivered on Hiroshima. He didn't know the United States was going to explode it. He thought we were two years away from completing the project.

After the war, my father worked

on the design and construction of the Hanford, Wash., atomic plant. He was convinced atomic energy could be developed safely and for good and peaceful purposes.

My father contributed to classified sections of the National Nuclear Energy Series and to program reports for Nuclear Reactor and Process Plant Projects exceeding \$250 million, and he was the author of 22 patents and applications, many of them classified.

My father's early employment included the engineering, construction and supervision of the subways for the NYC Board of Transportation. And, with the American District Telegraph Co., he developed, designed, constructed and implemented the engineering of detection and signaling systems using electronic, thermoelectric, pyrometric, photoelectric and pneumatic sensing elements. He made a demonstration model of a nuclear (radium) powered thermoelectric battery generator. And my father invented the

first ionization smoke and fire detector using a radioactive source resembling the ones in common use today.

Armen Donelian '72  
 HUDSON, N.Y.

## Corrections

The Summer 2013 issue contained several errors. Bookshelf had an incorrect listing for *You're My Dawg, Dog: A Lexicon of Dog Terms for People*; although written by Donald Friedman, the book was not written by Donald Friedman '49. Also, in the listing for Ira Katznelson '66's book *Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*, Walter Lippmann was misidentified; he was, in fact, an author, a founding editor of *The New Republic* and an influential columnist. Finally, in the feature "Scholars in the Storm," profiling Brian O'Connell '89, the Department of Education committed \$200 million to repair schools throughout NYC, not only Scholars' Academy.

CCT regrets the errors.



## ALUMNI CORNER

# Building Bridges Between Cultures In East Hampton Schools

BY ANA NÚÑEZ '11

**Ana Núñez '11** was featured in a June 10 article in *The New York Times* discussing her role as a liaison with the East Hampton (N.Y.) School District, working to facilitate communication between the district's administrators and teachers and Spanish-speaking families. Núñez herself attended schools in East Hampton after moving to the United States from Ecuador as a fifth-grader. Here, she reflects on her own transition, the challenges of being an international student and how her experiences learning to navigate American schools are helping her now.

I was 3 when my mother left my sister and me in Ecuador, in search of better work and opportunities in the United States. We were left with grandparents, aunts and uncles, who played the role of diligent parents. My mother was physically absent for six long years; however, during that time she was financially present, providing us with the best education and fulfilling our needs. Little did I know back then that everything we had was thanks to 20-hour shifts she was working in a cosmetics factory in New Jersey.

In 1999 my mother visited Ecuador for the first time since being away. I remember I was very excited to welcome her in the airport, although the visit turned out not as pleasant as I imagined, as she was essentially a stranger to me. Two months later, my sister and I moved to East Hampton, N.Y., to live with her. The first two years were miserable. I was thrown into an unknown environment where the only person I knew was my sister, who was going through her teenage years; I was in the fifth grade. Classes were taught in English and the majority of the students were American. There were about eight other kids who were learning English, including one who had recently arrived to the country like me. In addition, classes were taught differently than in Ecuador, with students switching classrooms for different classes.

The routine surrounding my schoolwork also changed drastically. In Ecuador, elementary school education is very demanding, and my aunt, who was my school guardian, would not allow me to obtain grades below a 19 (90s in the U.S.). I would get home, switch out of my uniform, have lunch and do homework. My aunt would check it all and if there were no mistakes I was allowed to play with kids from my neighborhood. To prepare for exams, I would study after finishing my homework and my aunt

would verbally test me on the material — then send me back to study more if I made mistakes. Sometimes this process took hours and caused many tears. In addition, my aunt would test me in the morning before school while doing my hair or having breakfast. This was tedious and time-consuming, but it prepared me well.

In East Hampton, my routine was very different. I would arrive home by bus, have something to eat and hang around. It was up to me whether I did my schoolwork properly and on time. At first, my mother tried to check on my homework and mirror my aunt's support, but it was hard for her to be on top of it because of the language barrier, the difference in the educational systems

and time constraints due to her work. That is when I replaced my aunt's academic regimen with my own initiative. I struggled at the beginning but soon became aware of resources at the school such as homework club and extra help, resources not common in Ecuador. After a while, I realized I was most comfortable when I was in school. I learned the language in two years and was able to enroll in advanced classes for the rest of my education.

By the time I got to high school things were smoother. I was lucky to be surrounded by classmates who were on the



**Ana Núñez '11 chats with Teresita Solis, who is from Costa Rica and has a son at East Hampton H.S.**

PHOTO: GORDON M. GRANT/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REDUX

college track and advised by knowledgeable parents. The entire college process was foreign to me: In Ecuador, typically you take an entrance exam for the college you want to attend (there are limited choices) and then if you pass the test, you enroll — that's all. There are no such things as extracurricular activities, community service, SATs and so on. Here, I became aware of what I should be doing and how to prepare thanks to conversations in the classroom. I mirrored my classmates' trajectories, building up a resume and registering for all necessary tests for a competitive school. My mother's role in my education was limited to reviewing my report card and signing checks for standardized tests.

Columbia was the second college I visited, and the minute I got there, I knew I wanted to attend. My mother was hesitant because of the cost, but I wanted to risk it. Luckily Columbia provided me with a generous financial aid package, and I also received a Gates Millennium Scholarship. In addition, I held small jobs throughout the school year and during the summer.

Columbia and the college system were overwhelming at first.

(Continued on page 102)



# Homecoming Football Quiz

*To get in shape for the Homecoming game against Ivy League preseason favorite Penn on Saturday, October 19, try your hand at this quiz about Lions football through the years. (Answers on page 103.)*

**1.**

Name the two Lions who have won Ivy League Player of the Year honors.

**2.**

What was the longest play in Columbia football history?

**3.**

Who are Columbia's all-time leaders in career rushing yardage and passing yardage?

**4.**

Two Lions were listed among the NCAA's 100 Most Influential Student Athletes, as chosen in 2006 in conjunction with the NCAA's centennial. Name them.

**5.**

How long was the longest passing play in Columbia football history?

**6.**

How long was the longest running play in Columbia football history?

**7.**

This Lion won the Maxwell Award as college football's national Player of the Year in 1942. Name him.

**8.**

Here's an easy one: Who was the longest-serving coach in Columbia football history?

**9.**

When was the last time a Columbia player returned a kickoff for a touchdown?

**10.**

Two Lions won the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame Scholar-Athlete award within the past decade. Name them.

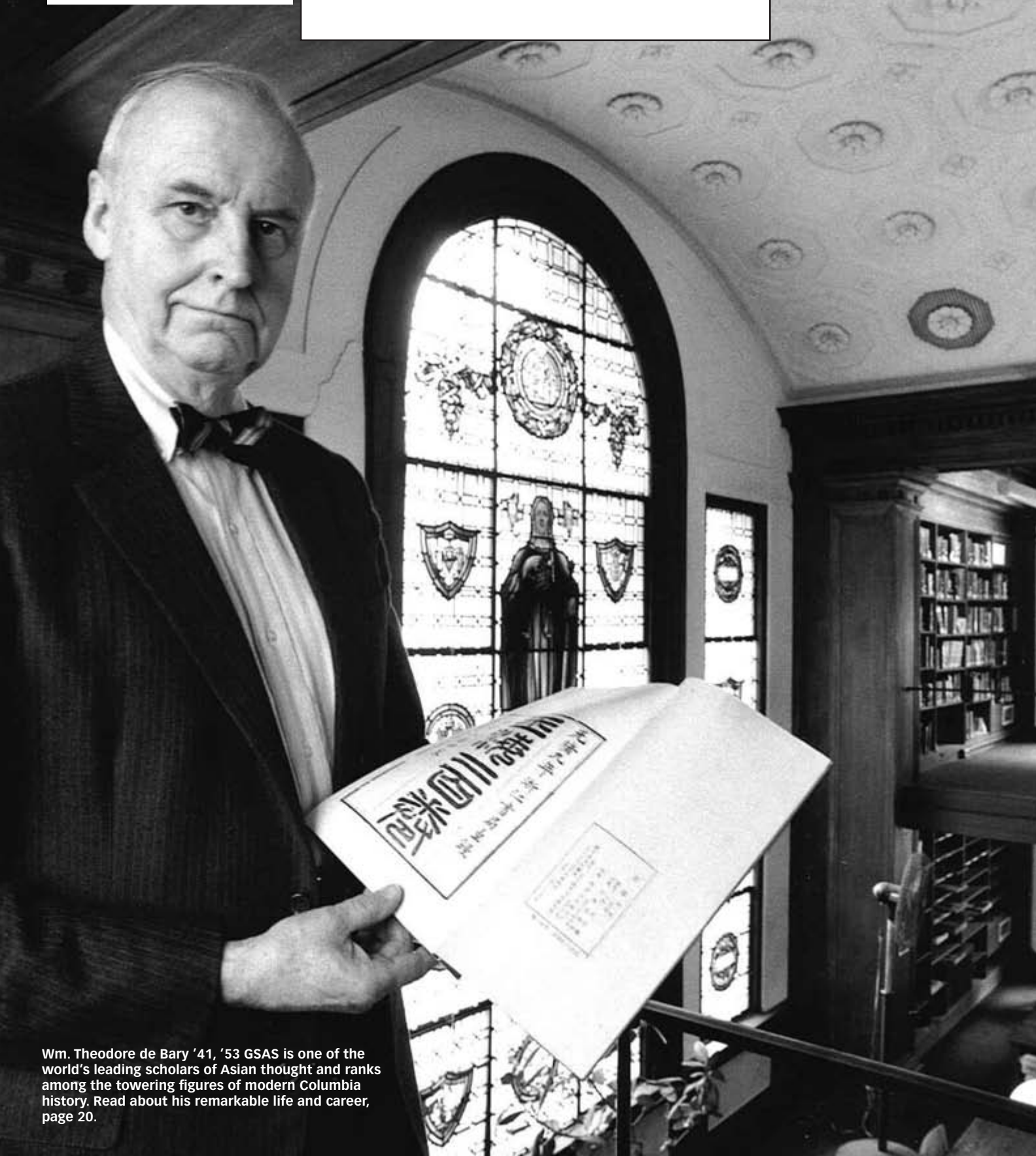
Running back Marcorus Garrett '14 earned All-Ivy League First Team honors a year ago and returns to lead the Lions in 2013.

PHOTO: COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

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Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, '53 GSAS is one of the world's leading scholars of Asian thought and ranks among the towering figures of modern Columbia history. Read about his remarkable life and career, page 20.