

# CCT

Columbia  
College  
Today 

Spring 2016

## COLLEGE ENTREPRENEURS

STUDENTS TURN  
THEIR BUSINESS  
IDEAS INTO REALITY

## OLYMPIC HOPEFUL

KATIE MEILI '13 AIMS  
TO SWIM IN RIO

## PAINTING CENTRAL PARK

ROGER PASQUIER '69's  
BOOK SEES THE PARK  
THROUGH ARTISTS' EYES

# TRUTH SEEKER

CNN anchor and  
correspondent  
**Poppy Harlow '05**  
delves into the  
stories that matter



# A Wellspring of Support

For decades, the Columbia College Fund has supported the fundamental priorities of Columbia College. Now, as part of **CORE TO COMMENCEMENT**, we're making it possible to sustain excellence in a competitive world.

Every gift to the College Fund makes an immediate difference on campus. From mentoring initiatives and the Core Curriculum, to global internships and scholarships, your gifts to the College Fund support the greatest undergraduate experience there is.

To make your gift, visit [college.columbia.edu/giveonline](https://college.columbia.edu/giveonline)



**CORE TO  
COMMENCEMENT**  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

# features

20

## A Voice with Heart

CNN anchor and correspondent  
Poppy Harlow '05 is driven by  
the search for truth.

*By Lauren Steussy*



26

## A Culture of Creation

Launching businesses and joining  
startups are tantalizing career paths  
for Columbia College students.

*By Nathalie Alonso '08*

30

## Trials and Tribulations

Swimmer Katie Meili '13 sets her  
sights on Rio's Summer Olympics.

*By Charlotte Murtishaw BC'15*



## departments



# 36

### 3 Within the Family by Editor Alex Sachare '71

The Core teaches critical thinking and questioning, skills that serve whether in journalism or entrepreneurship.

### 4 Letters to the Editor

### 7 Message from Dean James J. Valentini

The College is supporting its many budding entrepreneurs in myriad ways.

### 8 Around the Quads

Wanda Holland Greene '89, TC'91 named a University trustee.

### 18 Roar, Lion, Roar

Fencing retains the top spot in the Ivies; baseball seeks a fourth consecutive crown.

### 36 Columbia Forum:

#### *Painting Central Park*

Exploring a beloved landmark through artists' eyes.

By Roger S. Pasquier '69

## alumni news

### 42 Message from CCAA President

Douglas R. Wolf '88

Reunions are a chance to look back on who you were.

### 43 Alumni in the News

### 44 Lions

Ashley Kahn '83, Bob Cottingham Jr. '88, Kerry Constable '01, SIPA'06

### 48 Bookshelf

*Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* by Shana Knizhnik '10 and Irin Carmon

### 50 Class Notes

### 92 Obituaries

### 96 Alumni Corner

Keith O'Shaughnessy '94's leonine connections helped him to become a published poet.

## CCT Web Extras



- John Jay Awards Dinner album
- More from the Mini-Mini-Core
- Dean's Scholarship Reception album
- Reporting by Poppy Harlow '05
- Ashley Kahn '83 Q&A post-Grammy win
- Poetry by Keith O'Shaughnessy '94

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



Like Columbia College Alumni:  
[facebook.com/alumnicc](https://facebook.com/alumnicc)



Follow [@Columbia\\_CCAA](https://twitter.com/Columbia_CCAA)



Join the Columbia College alumni network:  
[college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin)



## Within the Family

# The Importance of Thinking Critically

When I was a writer/editor at *Spectator* thinking about going into journalism and more specifically sports writing, two of the people whose work I most admired were Robert Lipsyte '57, JRN'59 and Leonard Koppett '44. Lipsyte was then a sports columnist for *The New York Times* whose forte was placing sports in the context of the larger world, and Koppett, also writing at the *Times*, was known for his analytical approach to sports writing and his deft use of statistics to support his theses.

I was reminded of them because of our cover story on Poppy Harlow '05, a news correspondent and weekend anchor at CNN. It's no surprise that all are Columbians, and that all benefited from the cornerstone of the College classroom experience, the Core Curriculum.

What does the Core have to do with journalism? If there is a commonality that binds all branches of the Core, it is that it seeks to teach students how to think critically. As the Core website notes, "The habits of mind developed in the Core cultivate a critical and creative intellectual capacity that students employ long after college, in the pursuit and the fulfillment of meaningful lives."

This certainly is true for the young entrepreneurs described in one of this issue's feature stories, "A Culture of Creation" (page 26). It is equally true for journalists like Harlow, Lipsyte and Koppett, and the many others who studied at the College.

The ability to think critically, to not take everything at face value and not be afraid to question what you are being told, is a vital skill for journalists. Virtually anyone can conduct an interview, preparing questions, jotting them down on a notepad for easy recital at the appropriate time and then recording the subject's responses. But the best answers, the ones that reveal and enlighten and make an interview come alive, rarely come in response to those kinds of questions. They come in response to the follow-ups, the questions good reporters ask when they hear something in a response that doesn't quite ring true. Good follow-up questions are the ones that make headlines.

I don't usually watch the cable news channels, but on a recent Saturday afternoon the temperature north of NYC was about 2 degrees and none of the 47 college basketball games littering my TV caught my fancy. So I turned to *CNN Newsroom Weekend*, with Harlow as anchor. Since I had never seen our cover subject on-air, I figured I'd check her out — and I was pleased that I did.

Harlow adroitly handled the anchoring duties, smoothly setting up stories and bantering with reporters to create a pleasant viewing experience. However, there are dozens of

pretty faces with good hair (men and women) all around the dial who can do that. What grabbed my attention was an interview she conducted with an economist who was on tour plugging his latest book. She asked all the expected questions and he gave all the carefully rehearsed answers, sounding strikingly similar to what I had heard him say when he was interviewed elsewhere the day before. But every once in a while the interview went off the beaten path; Harlow asked a follow-up question that made it zig instead of zag, and the economist seemed surprised and somewhat unsettled. His answers became more genuine; Harlow had pushed him off script, and he was left to answer the questions directly, as one would in a normal conversation.

A good reporter has to be able to think on his or her feet, to react to what is heard and be able to take an interview in an unplanned direction. The "critical and creative intellectual capacity" developed in the Core Curriculum enables one to do just that. And even in this age of the 24-hour news cycle and the rush to "break" news without regard for context or confirmation, when everything is sound bites and snippets, there is still some good journalism to be found if you are willing to invest the time and effort to find and enjoy it.

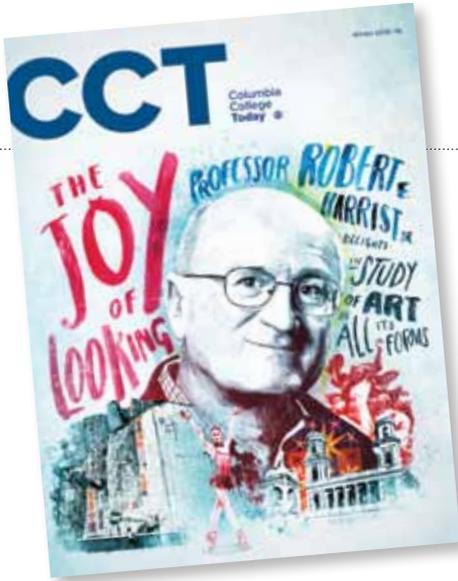
Alexis Tonti SOA'11, our managing editor for the past four years, left *CCT* in January to learn what it's like to work in the commercial magazine field, becoming special projects editor at *The Week*. If you pick up a copy or go to its website ([theweek.com](http://theweek.com)), you'll note that she is using her new married name, Alexis Boncy.

To say we miss Alexis is an understatement. Her imprint can be seen throughout *CCT*, from the quality of the articles (and the writers she brought on board to write them) to the recent redesign/reimagining of the magazine, for which she was a driving force. She helped plan this issue, assigning several of the articles and writing two of them. We hope she will continue to contribute as her time permits.

Alexis was a diligent editor who worked well with our writers to shape and polish their articles. She brought a creative vision to *CCT*, its content, its look and its feel. She was a tremendously hard worker who was a pleasure to work with, and she became a friend and very much a member of our family. We wish her all the best.

*Alex Sachare*

Alex Sachare '71  
Editor in Chief



## The Joy of Looking

Wonderful portrait of Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS'81 (Winter 2015–16). He seems to embody the ideal College graduate, despite not having attended Columbia as an undergrad. Not only does his enthusiasm cross boundaries among art forms but he moves easily between Western and Eastern traditions.

When I was majoring in art history more than 30 years ago, I took a strong interest in traditional Chinese landscape painting. With no other options, I was forced to create my own independent study project on the topic under the tutelage of Richard Vinograd, Columbia's Chinese art expert at the time. There was little dialogue between the Asian studies scholars and their Western counterparts.

I don't know if it reflects a more open approach to cultural studies on the part of the University as a whole, or if it's only Harrist's idiosyncratic tastes, but this dual interest in our familiar Western canon with that of other cultures, particularly the Chinese, is timely and refreshing.

**Mark Brennan '82**  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

### Feeling Adrift

In your Winter 2015–16 issue, Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 states that she nearly abandoned Morningside Heights altogether, feeling adrift on a campus with few other Puerto Ricans and, she felt, with little support from the administration.

I was only one of two Ukrainian-Americans in my class, yet I did not feel “adrift.” There is more than one dimension to a human being. I enjoyed companionship and support from my fellow members in the Newman (Catholic) Club. Furthermore, I felt my primary goal at Columbia was to get a good education and to study hard —

and not to dwell on my ethnic background or that of my fellow students. Most of my interactions with fellow Columbia students were positive and educational. I avoided the ones that were prejudiced.

**Dr. Roman Kernitsky '62**  
Colts Neck, N.J.

### Postscript

Many sweet memories came to mind in reading that the Postscript in St. Paul's Chapel is still going strong (“Around the Quads,” Winter 2015–16). Becoming quite the regular only a couple years after the Postscript opened, I vividly recall sitting by candlelight beside a classical guitarist playing Bach's *Bourrée in E-Minor* and thinking, gosh, I wish I could do that! At the time, however, I was learning a somewhat different Bach on the Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ upstairs, which, amazingly, became my practice instrument after lessons. The Postscript below and its chapel above instilled a lifelong love of both coffeehouses and music, not to mention a passable rendition of that perky piece. I am truly glad that old storeroom still serves a cup and a note to the Columbia students of today.

**Kurt J. Meyers '70**  
Tucson, Ariz.

### For Who/Whom the Bell Tolls

I enjoyed your article on my former WKCR colleague Michael Oren '77, SIPA'78 (Winter 2015–16). But what's this I see? A reference to “Oren's children, whom he says are not right-wingers”? Whether this blunder was committed by author or editor or proofreader I know not, but whoever (whomever?) was responsible should be required to retake Freshman Seminar, or whatever they're calling it these days.

**Fred Kameny '76**  
Chapel Hill, N.C.

*Editor's note: After a time as “Logic and Rhetoric,” that course is now called “University Writing.”*

### All That Jazz

It was great to read the profile of Associate Professor of Music Chris Washburne GSAS'99 (“Around the Quads,” Winter 2015–16) and to hear about the dedication and enthusiasm he brings to the Department of Music and to the jazz program in particular. One of his comments, however, could bear a slight correction. He discusses founding the Louis Armstrong

### Contact Us

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, clarity and CCT style. Please direct letters for publication “to the editor” via mail or online: [college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus).

Jazz Performance Program because “having a university that abuts one of the most important neighborhoods in jazz history — Harlem — and not having an official jazz program was ridiculous.”

In fact, the College has had an official jazz program for more than 20 years. When I began my undergraduate studies in 1989, the College’s big band had only the status of a student activity; it was not formally associated with the Department of Music. I played in the big band for three years. During that period, I and several other band members, all College students, worked with the Department of Music in 1992 to secure official recognition for the big band, which became known as the Columbia University Jazz Orchestra. Most notably, from that point forward, big band members earned academic credit for their participation, at the same level as student classical musicians in the Columbia University Orchestra. Throughout that time, the big band was led by Don Sickler, a prominent jazz instrumentalist, arranger, publisher and educator. We played concerts with some of the world’s best jazz musicians as our guest artists. Some of the student musicians went on to highly successful music careers, including bassists Gary Wang ’95 and Michael Bitz ’94. The impressive and diverse jazz performance program that Columbia offers today, under Washburne’s direction, is a direct descendant of the groundwork we laid in the 1990s.

**Jeremy Matz ’93**  
*Los Angeles*

## Spring ’68

Readers interested in the Columbia events of Spring ’68 should be alerted to the fact that available on the *CCT* website is the illustrated, book-length essay “Six Weeks That Shook Morningside” by then-*CCT* editor George Keller ’51, GSAS’54, which filled the entire 96-page Spring 1968 issue ([college.columbia.edu/cct/sites/cct/files/cct\\_spring\\_1968.pdf](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/sites/cct/files/cct_spring_1968.pdf)). Having read many accounts of the campus protests of nearly 50 years ago, it’s worth pointing out that Keller’s essay is a vital piece of literature for anyone seeking to understand those complex times.

Since 2007 I have been working on *A Time to Stir*, a documentary film about those campus protests. Thus far more than 500 interviews have been filmed. Many boxes of documents and photographs have

also been located and deposited into the Columbia University Archives, and I am working on a book for Columbia University Press on the subject. Both book and film will be ready for the 50th anniversary in 2018. Readers with memories or reminiscences of those days, and/or with material relating to the protests (including the years leading up to those heady days), please get in touch: [pauljcronin@gmail.com](mailto:pauljcronin@gmail.com) or 646-757-0793.

**Paul J. Cronin JRN’14**  
*New York City*

## Double Discovery

As a counselor who served during the first summer of Double Discovery Center in 1965, I was pleased that this remarkable organization’s 50th anniversary was commemorated in the Fall 2015 issue (“Around the Quads”). The DDC is now reaching out to all of its past participants and asking students, counselors and administrators with a prior affiliation to register with DDC Executive Director Joseph Ayala ’94 at 212-854-3897 or [ja48@columbia.edu](mailto:ja48@columbia.edu). Thank you very much.

**Jim Siegel ’65, BUS’68**  
*New York City*

## Coach Bill Stowe

It was with great sadness that I learned of the passing of Bill Stowe, who died on February 8, 2016, after a fall at his home in Lake Placid, NY.

Stowe was the stroke oar of the legendary Vesper Boat Club eight that won the gold medal for the United States in rowing’s premier event in the 1964 Tokyo Olympics — a feat, incidentally, that would not be repeated for 40 years!

In fall 1967, Stowe was hired as head coach of Columbia rowing. He assembled a stellar staff, including Stan Bergman as freshman heavyweight coach (who became Penn’s head coach for 22 years) and Larry Gluckman, who succeeded Stowe as head coach when Stowe moved on to found the Coast Guard Academy’s rowing program in 1971.

Stowe was an inspiration to his Columbia oarsmen to the day he died. Not long

CONTINUED ON PAGE 95

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
Alex Sachare ’71

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR**  
Lisa Palladino

**MANAGING EDITOR**  
Alexis Tonti SOA’11

**CLASS NOTES EDITOR**  
Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN’09

**FORUM EDITOR**  
Rose Kernochan BC’82

**CONTRIBUTING WRITER**  
Shira Boss ’93, JRN’97, SIPA’98

**EDITORIAL INTERN**  
Aiyana K. White ’18

**ART DIRECTOR**  
Eson Chan

Published quarterly by the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development for alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends of Columbia College.

**ASSOCIATE DEAN,  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE  
ALUMNI RELATIONS  
AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
Bernice Tsai ’96

**ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**  
Columbia College Today  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl.  
New York, NY 10025  
212-851-7852

**EDITORIAL**  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)

**ADVERTISING**  
[cctadvertising@columbia.edu](mailto:cctadvertising@columbia.edu)

**WEB**  
[college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct)

ISSN 0572-7820

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect official positions of Columbia College or Columbia University.

© 2016 Columbia College Today  
All rights reserved.



Come back  
to something  
new this  
summer.

More than 50  
areas of study  
to explore  
and endless  
opportunities  
to rediscover.



# COLUMBIA SUMMER 2016

[SPS.COLUMBIA.EDU/SUMMER16](http://SPS.COLUMBIA.EDU/SUMMER16)

 **COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**  
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## Message from the Dean

# Helping Columbia's Entrepreneurs Succeed

In February, Bernice Tsai '96, associate dean, alumni relations and communications, and I visited the Columbia Startup Lab, the co-working space at WeWork Soho West that provides spots for 71 Columbia alumni entrepreneurs, including 10 College alumni.

There we met with Carolyn Yim '11, an English major whose company, Plyknits, gives shoppers direct access to her family's knit-wear line ([plyknits.com](http://plyknits.com)); Cooper Pickett '10, a philosophy major whose company, Longeck & Thunderfoot, optimizes digital content ([landt.co](http://landt.co)); and John Mascari '08, a political science major whose company, Bundle Organics, offers nutritional beverages for new and expectant mothers ([bundleorganics.com](http://bundleorganics.com)).

Carolyn, Cooper and John are building upon the skills honed through their majors and the Core. They are tapping into networks formed at Columbia to get the resources and support they need and turning their passions into successful startups.

Entrepreneurship, in the broadest sense, results when an idea meets an opportunity and is built into a successful enterprise. The enterprise does not have to be "tech" and it does not need to be profit- or revenue-seeking. To be successful it only needs to create something of value.

I have experienced this in my own life. When I was a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory I attended a seminar where someone described a measurement challenge. I had an idea of how to solve it, and I was so excited that I stayed up for 36 straight hours working out a proposal for a solution. I secured funding to carry out experiments and developed the idea. No literal business was developed, but it did provide something of value. And although we didn't hear the word "entrepreneur" much then, that is what I was, without thinking about it.

Columbia College students have no shortage of ideas, and the world offers no shortage of opportunities for those ideas to be developed. I want College students to recognize that entrepreneurship is something that any of them can do, so I am working closely with Columbia Entrepreneurship, the University's entrepreneurship initiative headed by Richard Witten '75, and the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), a popular student group, to create more opportunities and resources for our undergraduate entrepreneurs.

This year, in collaboration with Columbia Entrepreneurship and in response to student interest, the College is offering a new entrepreneurship course, "Venturing to Change the World," taught by Damon Phillips, the Lambert Family Professor of Social Enterprise at the Business School, which you can read more about in this issue (see "A Culture of Creation," page 26). We are now working to develop a second course to extend the entrepreneurship curriculum.

These courses build upon several other efforts that the College has undertaken in recent years, including launching the Startup



Internship Program through the Center for Career Education, in collaboration with CORE, and establishing a Startup Internship Fund, also through CCE.

Last year, the College began sponsoring and funding the Undergraduate Challenge as part of Columbia Entrepreneurship's Columbia Venture Competition (CVC; [startupcolumbia.org/challenge](http://startupcolumbia.org/challenge)). Three undergraduate student teams won a total of \$50,000 to propel innovative and promising business proposals. Shriya Samavai '15, an art history major with a concentration in business management, and Lauren Field BC'16, an English major and art history minor, won the overall competition with their endeavor Academy Of (now Studio Lucien), a company that makes apparel inspired by works of art.

The Undergraduate Challenge was exciting for me because it shows what entrepreneurship is all about, especially entrepreneurship at the College. It's not only technology that allows students to build their futures and their success, but it's also their creative ideas and the fact that, thanks to so much support at the College and in today's world in general, they can use their creative thinking and analytical skills to turn an idea into reality. They can make a real difference in the world using that creativity, the interdisciplinary approaches offered by the College and their own problem-solving skills. I look forward to seeing what comes out of this spring's CVC.

We are still thinking a lot about what entrepreneurship means to us as a college and we hope to continue building and expanding our programs to meet students' interests and help them prepare for the future. Enthusiasm for entrepreneurship is very high right now — CORE has more than 4,000 people on its email list, including many College students. And the College is here to help facilitate their success, to help them drive their ideas, to help them take advantage of opportunities to grow their enterprises and to help them make their mark and become leaders of society.

**James J. Valentini**  
Dean

In February, Dean James J. Valentini (second from left) met with Columbia Startup Lab alumni success stories (left to right), Cooper Pickett '10, John Mascari '08 and Carolyn Yim '11.

## Holland Greene Elected University Trustee



SIDNEY ERTHAL

**W**anda M. Holland Greene '89, TC'91, a nationally recognized leader in education and the head of The Hamlin School of San Francisco, has been elected to the University's Board of Trustees. Holland Greene succeeds William V. Campbell '62, TC'64, chair emeritus, who was on the board from 2003 to 2015.

A Brooklyn native, Holland Greene graduated from The Chapin School, then earned a B.A. in English literature with a concentration in psychology and an M.A. in curriculum design and instruction. She holds a permanent teaching license in New York State and has completed extensive coursework in private school leadership at The Klingenstein Center at Columbia.

"I'm delighted to welcome Wanda Holland Greene to our ranks," said Trustees Chairman Jonathan D. Schiller '69, LAW'73. "It seems especially appropriate that, like our good friend Bill Campbell, whom she succeeds, she is a graduate of both Columbia College

and Teachers College. We know that her work as an educational leader will enhance our ability as a group to serve Columbia in the years ahead."

Prior to her leadership at Hamlin, Holland Greene was for 11 years a senior administrator and ex-officio trustee at The Park School in Brookline, Mass. She began her career in education at the Columbia Greenhouse Nursery School and continued at Chapin, where she was a teacher, adviser and the school's first director of student life. She is a former trustee of Concord Academy, Chapin, Cornerstone Literacy, Hamilton Family Center and Lick-Wilmerding H.S., and a past member of the College's Board of Visitors and the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors. Holland Greene currently is a trustee at Head-Royce School and the National Association of Independent Schools, and is an adviser to Common Sense Media and Carney Sandoe & Associates.

Holland Greene has focused on academic and ethical excellence, gender equity, perfor-

## Five Alumni Honored at John Jay Awards Dinner

The College presented John Jay Awards for distinguished professional achievement to five accomplished alumni on March 10 at the 38th annual John Jay Awards Dinner. The awards have been presented to 200 honorees since 1978, and the dinner, held at Cipriani 42nd Street, raises money for the John Jay National Scholars Program. The 2016 honorees were:

**Jonathan C. Abbott '84**, president and CEO, WGBH, public media for New England. Abbott has expanded the station's media services, impact and reach locally and nationally and has championed its early adoption of digital technologies, new content creation models, best practices and new media that are furthering the station's

capacity to produce programming and content in the public interest.

**Julius Genachowski '85**, managing director, The Carlyle Group, and former chairman, Federal Communications Commission. At Carlyle, Genachowski focuses on acquisitions and investments in global technology, media and telecom. While FCC chairman (2009–13), he was credited with transforming the agency to focus on 21st-century opportunities and challenges, pursuing initiatives to free up spectrum for wireless communication, extend broadband connectivity, preserve an open Internet and promote competition.

**Jeffrey L. Kessler '75, LAW'77**, co-chairman, Winston & Strawn; chair, antitrust

and sports law practices; and member, Executive Committee. Kessler focuses on all aspects of antitrust/competition, sports law, intellectual property, complex litigation, and government criminal and civil investigations. He has been lead counsel in some of the country's most complex antitrust, sports law and intellectual property law cases. He also is a lecturer at the Law School.

**John Vaske '88**, co-chairman, global mergers and acquisitions, Goldman Sachs & Co. Vaske's responsibilities include full-time client coverage and execution of significant strategic transactions globally. Previously, he was co-chair of the Global Natural Resources Group. Vaske sits on the boards

# Heard on Campus

NOV. 19 | EARL HALL

Think about that phrase for a second: “mobile phone.” Back in the ’70s, when some of us were growing up, “mobile phone” was an oxymoron. ... For my kids, “mobile telephone” is redundant. They’ve never met a phone that isn’t mobile. What we’ve all been through together is this journey from oxymoron to redundancy. And I think about that for today’s discussion around “digital diplomacy.”

— **Matthew W. Barzun**, U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom, on how technology can be used in diplomatic outreach



NOV. 20 | LOW ROTUNDA

I began writing here at Columbia. I took a course with Kenneth Koch that was a study of 19th- and 20th-century poetry, but we wrote — Koch’s teaching method was to ask students to write imitations of poets, and he liked my imitations a lot. That was the first time that anybody whom I respected as a writer had responded enthusiastically to my writing.

— **Tony Kushner ’78**, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and screenwriter, at the launch of the College’s Core to Commencement campaign

mance evaluation, diversity and inclusion, health and wellness, and global citizenship. As a faculty member of the National Association of Independent Schools’ Fellowship for Aspiring School Heads, she is an advocate and sponsor for women and people of color in educational leadership. In 2014 she was named one of San Francisco’s Most Influential Women and in 2015 was named a Women’s History Month honoree by the City & County of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women.

“As a proud Columbian, I’m honored to return to Morningside Heights to serve the University that gave me so much as a student,” said Holland Greene. “This is an important moment for all levels of education in our country and I’m looking forward to the opportunity to bring my experience in primary and secondary education to the conversation on issues and opportunities facing higher education at my alma mater.”

[Polled Latino voters] do pay close attention to tone and what they infer from that. If [a candidate’s] rhetoric on immigration — even if this voter doesn’t feel that it has a direct implication on their life or the lives of the people who live in their home — if [voters] perceive that there’s an anti-Latino undercurrent to the comments made by a candidate, that will present a red flag and be a reason for them to be against that candidate.

— **Elizabeth Llorente**, political and immigration editor at Fox News Latino, speaking at the panel “The Latino Vote: Myth vs. Reality”

JAN. 29 | PULITZER HALL



We could get very quickly to the place where healthcare regimes are the last vestige of the nation-state in Europe ... We could end up — I think very shortly — in a place where the only thing that distinguishes The Netherlands from Belgium from France is the fact that they have radically disparate healthcare systems.

— **Sasha Issenberg**, journalist and author of *Outpatients: The Astonishing New World of Medical Tourism*, responding to questions at Columbia Global Reports’ “Planes, Trains, and Root Canals: The New World of Medical Tourism” discussion

FEB. 10 | JEROME GREENE HALL

of the nonprofits PeacePlayers International and Bottom Line New York and chairs Columbia’s Basketball Alumni Committee.

**Sheena Wright ’90, LAW’94**, president and CEO, United Way of New York City. Wright is the first woman to lead UWNYP in its 75-year history. Prior, she was president and CEO of the Abyssinian Development Corp., responsible for leading and managing one of the nation’s premier community and economic development organizations and overseeing its extensive development projects in Harlem, including residential housing and community and commercial spaces.

View the event album: [facebook.com/alumnicc](https://facebook.com/alumnicc).

SCOTT RUDD

# Rosalind Morris



YVETTE CHRISTIANSE

**Professor of Anthropology Rosalind Morris** has spent years studying communities in South Africa and mainland Southeast Asia, especially Thailand, but her interests extend far beyond fieldwork. She is also a filmmaker, a poet and a writer of essays, ethnographies and experimental works. Her latest book, *Accounts and Drawings from Underground*, is an unconventional collaboration with artist William Kentridge in which she conjures the world of a South African mining company's laborers and leaders through a narrative based on its 1906 accounts ledger. A Columbia faculty member since 1994, Morris was director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender and associate director of the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society. She is on sabbatical for the spring semester but returned to campus one afternoon in January to talk about her career and projects.

**SHE GREW UP** in Canada, spending her early childhood in Kimberley, a small mining town in the Rockies, and Vancouver.

**SHE DROPPED OUT** of college during her third year. "I bought a one-way ticket to the furthest place that I could find, and that happened to be Sri Lanka. Off and on — then and after I'd gone back to school and graduated — I spent a few years roaming the world. I stayed in Nepal for quite some time but also India and Thailand."

**SHE EARNED** a B.A. in anthropology and English from the University of British Columbia, Canada, in 1986; an M.A. in anthropology from York University, Canada, in 1989; and a Ph.D. in anthropology from Chicago in 1994: "Anthropology as I practice it is a discipline in which you can satisfy almost every intellectual curiosity."

**SHE DESCRIBES** anthropology as learning to learn with other people. "The great thing about it is that it teaches you that everybody everywhere does things differently, which means that nobody gets to claim that they are absolutely right. I find that hugely liberating and exciting. But to learn from that, you have to be with people for a long time."

**HER FIELDWORK** in South Africa has been ongoing for 18 years. "I've gone back

every year to the same community for several months, and I've watched it change from an apartheid modernist fantasy town — which is to say a white town surrounded by a black township — to a very different place in which land ownership is largely now in the hands of black South Africans, although there is still great inequality. Gold prices go up and down, as do the fortunes of the town. I've seen it through a terrible AIDS epidemic, economic disasters and political change, which is how you learn to learn with people."

**SHE SAYS PATIENCE** is a useful skill to be cultivated but so is a sense of when to move on. "Worlds don't stop changing. You can never be finished; you can say 'I don't want to do it anymore,' or 'I'm no longer able to,' but it won't be because an object — the world — has been exhausted or finally known. You may be exhausted, but the object won't be."

**SHE TEACHES** "The Ethnographic Imagination," the last part of the sequence for the undergraduate major, among other courses.

**SHE SAYS** the most valuable thing she can do for her students is to help them "recognize that it's possible to do everything differently and therefore they must decide, always, how they wish to do things. I would hope, too, that I instill in them a

hunger for learning how to be with people who are different from themselves."

**SHE IS ABOUT** to release a collection of essays, *Wars I Have (Not) Seen*; a book on the history of the idea of fetishism; and a film adaptation of Gertrude Stein's last novella, *Brewsie and Willie*. "I believe in writing in different forms in answer to different needs. I don't think one should have one voice across all domains. It's very exciting to be able to move from medium to medium, genre to genre, and to think about the possibilities that are specific to each medium."

**SHE IS ALSO** working on an opera — her first — based on Abdelrahman Munif's novel *Cities of Salt*, set at the time of the discovery of oil in the Gulf states. The opera had its first public workshop at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, last July. The composer, Zaid Jabri, is a Syrian now living in Poland and her co-librettist, Yvette Christiansë, teaches at Barnard. "We had a story we felt was singular and urgent, and that it demanded this form. We reread it together and plotted it in terms of what would be essential to communicate it. Then we drafted the libretto together literally line by line, which is not a recipe that anyone else should follow, probably. But it worked for us."

— Alexis Tonti SOA'11

## Laughing Lion Inspired MGM Lion

**Did you know** that the iconic MGM lion was the brainchild of Howard Dietz (Class of 1917, JRN 1917), who drew inspiration from *The Jester's* Laughing Lion?

Dietz, a noted lyricist and librettist, is a member of the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the American Theatre Hall of Fame. After studying journalism at Columbia, he joined Goldwyn Pictures in 1919 as director of publicity and advertising and continued in that position after a merger created Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1924. But before that, while an undergraduate, Dietz worked part-time for the Philip Goodman advertising agency, and that's where the saga of the lion logo began.

As Dietz explained in his 1974 autobiography, *Dancing in the Dark*, "Goodman met Samuel Goldwyn and he became Goodman's client. Goldwyn needed a trademark for his film company and asked us to design one. He did his producing in Fort Lee, N.J., and his home office was on Fifth Avenue and 40th Street, opposite the library lions. One would think that the Goldwyn trademark stemmed from such an obvious influence, but Leo the Lion, with the Latin *Ars Gratia Artis* (Art for Art's Sake) decorating his proud dome, was my idea, not Andrew Carnegie's. I got the idea from the laughing lion decoration in the college comic, *The Jester*. The lion used in the magazine was a



symbol of Columbia ... which in turn was taken from the lion on the crest of King's College. That's powerful lineage enough for a film company."

Dietz went on to write the words to more than 500 songs, many of them with Arthur Schwartz, and collaborated on musicals with composers such as Jerome Kern and George Gershwin. He became MGM's VP for publicity in 1940 and stayed in that role until his 1957 retirement. According to his 1983 obituary in *The New York Times*, "he was said to have been the man who made Greta Garbo's line 'I want to be alone' world-famous."



## Johnson Honored by Black Alumni Council

Peter V. Johnson, director of enrollment group special projects and special assistant to the dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid, was honored on February 17 as a recipient of the Black Alumni Council's 2016 Heritage Award. The award is given annually to Columbians who have "made significant contributions both to the University and the larger world, and [have] demonstrated a consistent dedication to the Black community." In accepting the award, Johnson said, "My 33 years here have been 'A Love Supreme.' You have challenged me, taught me, supported me, proven to me that this is the best college in the world."



## Mini-Mini-Core:

# Traveling Tales

Stories make sense of the world around us, organize our experience and teach us about worlds and perspectives far different from our own. Patricia Grieve, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor of the Humanities, explored how three stories did this in their time — and how they still resonate today — in her three-part Mini-Core Course “Traveling Tales: *1001 Nights*, Boccaccio’s *Decameron*, and Cervantes’ *Exemplary Tales*.” Among the points of connection between the works is the powerful role of women. Herewith, some examples:

### ***One Thousand and One Nights or Arabian Nights*; author: Anonymous**

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** The collection of stories includes many set in Baghdad during the reign of the caliph Harun al-Rashid (Aaron the Just; 786–809). It’s famous for the voice of its storyteller, Shahrazad, the daughter of the vizier to King Shahrayar and the king’s latest in a string of wives.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** The stories Shahrazad tells the king are an antidote to his rage. They serve to suspend rules and buy time; as long as she can keep him interested — she stops her tales most every night at a “cliffhanger moment” — he won’t execute her in the morning. Her storytelling is also therapeutic. It regulates the king’s desire until he is satisfied narratively (and also satisfied sexually, as he’s sleeping with her) and is ready both to rule the kingdom properly and be monogamous with her.

### ***The Decameron*; author: Giovanni Boccaccio (1313–75)**

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** Composed ca. 1348–53, *The Decameron* is famously dedicated to “the Ladies” and — like its predecessor, *Arabian Nights* — it showcases women in a full range of behaviors. They often stand up for their right to possess sexual desire and to have it fulfilled.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** One notable character is Ghismonda, a young widow whose father refuses to find her a new husband. She then takes a virtuous young man, whom her father has praised in court, as her lover. Even so, when her father discovers the trysts, he has the young man killed. Ghismonda’s beautifully crafted, legalistic speech on codified law versus natural law — the right of a young widow to find sexual fulfillment after having known conjugal love — precedes her suicide in protest over her father’s actions.

### ***Exemplary Tales*; author: Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra (1547–1616)**

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN:** As in *Don Quixote*, Cervantes gives voice to the marginalized and the disenfranchised, and his *Exemplary Tales* (1613) show a variety of women as “redemptive heroines” whose words and actions serve to correct or redeem the behavior of men.

**VOICE IN ACTION:** Preciosa is the heroine of the novella “The Little Gypsy Girl.” Kidnapped as a baby from her aristocratic mother and raised by gypsies, she astonishes everyone with her innate wisdom, wit, charm, poise and beauty. Her lessons to a besotted aristocratic suitor teach him (and the reader) about how women should be courted and treated, and about the philosophical elegance and beauty of poetry.

MINI-CORE COURSES are class series that offer College alumni the opportunity to revisit the Core in a lecture/seminar-like setting with a distinguished faculty member and other alumni. Topics relate to the Core Curriculum but explore new texts or ideas. For offerings and other information, go to [college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore).

### **CCT Web Extras**

Read recent articles about ISIS and its claims to the heritage of the legendary Caliph Harun al-Rashid (Aaron the Just): [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

# WKCR Marks 75 Years



1971



1941

It was 75 years ago, at 8:30 p.m. on February 24, 1941, to be precise, that radio station CURC officially went on the air. Broadcasting from the Hamilton Hall Annex, a recording of “Roar, Lion, Roar” was heard by AM listeners in Hartley, Wallach (then called Livingston) and John Jay Halls. That was followed by light classical music, sports, jazz, campus news and symphonic music.

It was the maiden “official” broadcast of the Columbia University Radio Club — an unofficial debut had taken place on December 31, 1940, when there was a microphone line at

the New Year’s Eve party in the John Jay dining hall. “Of course, everyone was at the party, so there is no record of a listener to that first transmission,” club president William Hutchins ’39, SEAS’41, told *CCT* for a WKCR retrospective published in 1986.

Granted its FCC license on October 10, 1941, CURC became WKCR (King’s Crown Radio) in 1946 when the FCC officially recognized college radio stations by giving them call letters. Since 1956, WKCR has been broadcasting to the metropolitan New York area in FM at its current signal, 89.9 megacycles. For more on WKCR then and now, go to [cc-seas.columbia.edu/wkcr](http://cc-seas.columbia.edu/wkcr).



1957



1966



1983

## Dean’s Scholarship Reception

Nearly 450 scholarship donors and student recipients gathered in Alfred Lerner Hall’s Roone Arledge Auditorium on February 9 for the Dean’s Scholarship Reception, an annual event where donors and students can bond over shared College experiences. At right, from left: Amaris Hemmings ’19, a recipient of the Columbia University Club Foundation Scholarship Fund, speaks with Bernd Brecher ’54, JRN’55, a donor to that fund; donor Philip L. Milstein ’71 (far left) and Francois Anderson ’12 (second from left), a recipient of the Philip and Cheryl Milstein Scholarship, spoke on the importance of financial aid, while Dean James J. Valentini thanked donors and Catherine M.W. Jenkinson ’16 (second from right) shared how scholarships transformed her College experience.



DAVID DINI SIPA/14





ESON CHAN

## Sara Sakowitz '18

By Nathalie Alonso '08

**S**ara Sakowitz '18 has turned kitchen counters in more than 40 states into makeshift labs through a science kit subscription service for kids that she runs from her single in Wallach.

Each month, subscribers to Sakowitz's Blue Moon Box — nearly 600 at press time — receive a kit with materials for conducting three or four experiments that revolve around one theme. Past themes have been material science and weather, with projects ranging from a cornstarch-based substance that mimics quicksand (“My favorite aspect of household science is getting your hands dirty,” Sakowitz says) to a DIY anemometer — a device used to measure wind speed. In each kit is a picture book/manual, written by Sakowitz, that features a cast of school-aged characters who use science to solve mysteries and answer questions.

“I wanted kids to see characters just like them having adventures and exploring scientific concepts,” says Sakowitz.

Sakowitz, who transferred to the College after a year in Engineering, developed the concept for Blue Moon Box during winter break 2014–15 while pondering ways to encourage a friend's younger sister to explore science. To her astonishment, the company's Facebook page surpassed 4,000 “Likes”

within a few weeks, and in April 2015 she was invited to pitch her business idea to investor Kevin O'Leary from the reality show *Shark Tank* on *Good Morning America*. “It was all a bit of a shock,” she says.

A Kickstarter campaign that raised close to \$16,000 allowed Sakowitz to ship the first boxes in June. Save for the artist who illustrates the picture books and freelancers she might hire for other tasks, Sakowitz runs Blue Moon Box singlehandedly, from curating each kit to keeping track of subscriptions to managing the company's social media accounts. Sakowitz did enlist a fulfillment center to assemble the kits, which entails measuring and packaging ingredients, after she overran her family's Manhattan apartment in the process of putting together the first 377 boxes herself.

Sakowitz also is involved with the start-up Liongram, a student-run, Columbia-exclusive cookiegram/candygram service for campus residents that launched in December. She attributes her newfound business aptitude to her experience as a member of the student group Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs and as a participant in a business accelerator program run by the Business School called Innovation and Entrepreneurship @ Columbia. (In 2015, she was the first first-year accepted into the program.)

### fast facts

**HOMETOWN:** New York City

**MAJOR:** biochemistry

**CLUBS:** Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs, Parliamentary Debate, Undergraduate Recruitment Committee

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** cancer biology

**KUDOS:** First Place Award offered by AVASC in the Intel International Science & Engineering Fair; National Finalist in the Intel Science Talent Search; Made with Code scholarship from Google

Blue Moon Box earned Sakowitz a spot on *Crain's New York Business* “20 Under 20” list in November, just a few days after she took first place in Engineering's annual Fast Pitch competition for entrepreneurs. For Sakowitz, one of the biggest thrills has been simply seeing photos and videos of children enjoying their science kits. “Figuring out how I'm going to teach kids how to do these experiments and what they mean is the most exciting part,” 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.*

# In Memoriam: Allan Silver, Professor Emeritus of Sociology

**Professor Emeritus of Sociology Allan Silver** died on November 14, 2015, in New York City. He was 85.

Silver was born in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, in 1930, and showed an intense devotion to intellectualism and culture even in high school. He earned a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D. in political sociology from Michigan in 1954, 1961 and 1963 respectively, taking a break from his undergraduate studies to serve with the Army in the Korean War in 1951.

While living in England from 1957 to 1960, Silver worked for a market research firm and, while there, developed a collaborative relationship with Robert McKenzie, a political sociology professor at The London School of Economics. They conducted a study of British working-class conservatives, which became the basis for Silver's dissertation-turned-book, *Angels in Marble: Working Class Conservatives in Urban England*, co-authored with McKenzie and published in 1968.

Silver joined the Columbia faculty in 1964, quickly becoming known for his commitment to and respect for his students. Having joined Columbia at a time of political and social turmoil, Silver nonetheless remained dedicated both to the students and to the institution, working to mediate relations between the administration and students during the demonstrations of Spring 1968. His teaching in the Core Curriculum included both Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities. More recently, in the context of the Global Core requirement, Silver worked with colleague Rachel Chung to develop a course on ideals and practices of friendship in East Asia and the West; they were scheduled to teach it again this spring.

Silver's work has been published in the *American Journal of Sociology* and in essay collections on a range of topics from political sociology of the Hebrew bible and studies of citizenship in the United States to a foundational text on the nature of friendship.

Silver also taught at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences in Paris, Meiji University in Tokyo, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Wisconsin. Even after his formal retirement in 2009, Silver continued to teach in the Core Curriculum and serve as a graduate mentor.

More recently, Silver pursued two other lines of research. One, reflecting the influence of his mentor Morris Janowitz, concerned the historically changing relationships among military institutions, war and democratic citizenship. Silver analyzed the implications of the decline of mass conscript armies in the post-WWII era for the practice of democratic citizenship. He led a lengthy campaign for the return of ROTC to Columbia and other elite universities from which it had been banned after 1968 and was gratified when — in the aftermath of the opening of the military to gay recruits — Columbia and other Ivy League campuses voted to allow the return of ROTC in recent years. The second line of research that preoccupied Silver late in life was the analysis of traditional Jewish texts in light of the concerns of modern political theory.

Silver is survived by his wife, Victoria Koroteyeva LAW'06, a professor at SIPA, and nieces, Marilyn Kravitz and Elaine Arena.

— *Aiyana K. White '18 and Lisa Palladino*

## SUPPORT YOUR CCT

*Columbia College Today* recently debuted its redesign, bringing you the stories you enjoy in a fresh, contemporary style. We continue to celebrate the incredible achievements and remarkable personalities of College alumni, faculty and students while fostering community, inspiring pride and loyalty, and bringing you the Class Notes you love.



Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to CCT by June 30, 2016. Your donations help to defray the expense of publishing and allow the College to more fully devote its resources to students and faculty. We appreciate gifts of any amount but if you contribute \$60 or more, we will send you a limited-edition CCT pen.

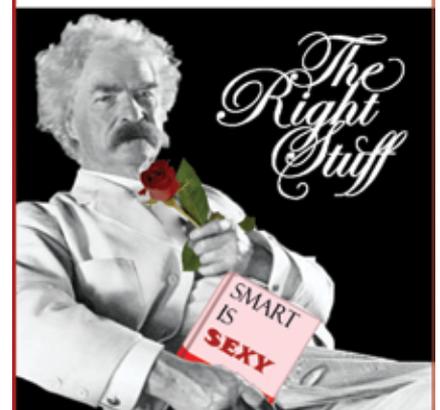
**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING  
YOUR ALUMNI MAGAZINE!**

[college.columbia.edu/cct/giving](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/giving)

## DATE SMART!

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

[www.rightstuffdating.com](http://www.rightstuffdating.com)  
800-988-5288





Get Ready To ROAR!



COLUMBIA  
COLLEGE  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION

REMINISCE · RELIVE  
**REUNITE**

REUNION WEEKEND 2016

THURSDAY, JUNE 2-SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016

If your class year ends in a 1 or a 6, or you're in the Class of 2015,  
**REGISTER TODAY:** [college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2016](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2016)

## So Many Ways To Celebrate Your Reunion!



### Reunite with friends and classmates

- Class dinners, receptions and panels
- Broadway shows or an evening at the Metropolitan Opera



### Reminiscence about your CC days

- Enjoy live music and the Wine Tasting by the Steps
- Take a neighborhood or campus tour (remember Tom's Restaurant and the Hungarian Pastry Shop?)



### Relive your classroom experience

- Keynote Speaker Robert Siegel '68 of NPR's *All Things Considered*
- Mini-Core Classes on Virgil's *Aeneid*, the mysteries of the universe and more

# ROAR, LION, ROAR

## Fencing Wins Ivies Again

Columbia fencing retained its position atop the Ivy League in 2016, but this time in a pair of three-way ties after the two-day Ivy League Round-Robins at Cornell February 6–7. The men's team earned its third consecutive title by finishing tied with Penn and Princeton at 4–1, while the women won their second straight crown, sharing it with Harvard and Princeton at 5–1.

It was the 37th time Columbia has either won or shared the men's Ivy League championship and the 10th time it has won or shared the women's crown.

"It just shows the depth and strength of fencing in the Ivy League," head coach

Michael Aufrichtig told *Spectator* of the fact that three teams shared both Ivy titles. "It's really no surprise. There are so many strong teams and strong fencers, it's so close now.

"What I told the team today was, 'Winners win. And we're winners.' And they didn't forget that."

The Lions will try to defend their NCAA Championship at Brandeis March 24–27, after taking part in the NCAA Regionals at Vassar on March 13. Columbia won its 14th NCAA title a year ago, its first under Aufrichtig.

Eight Columbia fencers earned 2016 All-Ivy honors, with Calvin Liang '19, Michael Costin '17, Jackie Dubrovich '16 and Sara Taffel BC'17 making the First Team and Geoffrey Loss '16, Nolen Scruggs '19, Jake Hoyle '16 and Ilana Solomon '19 earning spots on the Second Team.

The men's team beat Princeton 15–12 and Yale 18–9 but lost to Penn 15–12 on Day One, then defeated Harvard 16–11 and Brown 21–6 on Day Two. The sabre team led the way with Liang (10–2), Costin (10–4) and Loss (9–4) finishing second, third and fourth behind Penn's Shaul Gordon '16 (14–1).

The women beat Cornell 21–6, Penn 18–9 and Yale 21–6 but dropped a 17–10 decision to Princeton on Day One. On Day Two, the Lions defeated Harvard 19–8 and Brown 21–6 to gain their share of the title. The foil team dominated the opposition, with Dubrovich posting an undefeated 18–0 record and Taffel going 14–1.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

"Jackie was fantastic," Aufrichtig said of Dubrovich's weekend performance. "The crazy thing with our foil team is generally whoever we put in, we know that they're going to be able to do well."

Ten days later, Scruggs was crowned the Junior Olympic Champion in men's foil and Porter Hesslegrave '18 took home the silver medal in men's epee on February 17 in Cleveland. Scruggs won gold with a dominating 15–2 performance over William Upbin in the championship bout, posting a touch differential of +28 over his final three bouts. Hesslegrave lost a 15–12 decision to Jack Bradford in the epee championship bout.

And Jeff Spear '10, the 2008 NCAA champion in sabre, helped lead the U.S. men's team to a No. 1 world ranking for the first time since 2004 February 20–21 after winning its second World Cup title at the Warsaw World Cup.



SIDELINE PHOTOS / THE IVY LEAGUE

Jackie Dubrovich '16 won all 18 of her matches to dominate the foil competition at the Ivy League Championship. Above right, Dubrovich in action.

### SCOREBOARD

47

Ivy League championships won by Columbia's men's and women's fencing teams

8

Columbia fencers who earned All-Ivy honors in 2015–16

10

Columbia women basketball players who have scored 1,000 career points; Tori Oliver '17 became the 10th on February 13

6

Times Maodo Lo '16 earned Ivy men's basketball Player of the Week honors in his career

5

Former Lions who attended major or minor league baseball training camps this spring



Nick Maguire '16

MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

## SPRING PREVIEW: Baseball Goes for Four-Peat

**Columbia's baseball team** will be seeking a fourth consecutive Ivy League championship this spring after coming off what was arguably the finest season in program history. Last year, the Lions won a school-record 34 games, topped the Ivies for the third year in a row and won three games in the NCAA tournament. No team has won four straight titles since the Ivy League took over the baseball competition when Army and Navy left the Eastern Intercollegiate Baseball League in 1993.

Columbia, which has won four Ivy titles in 10 seasons under coach Brett Boretti, retains a solid core of veterans including All-Ivy First Team first baseman Nick Maguire '16 and outfielder Robb Paller '16, who each hit seven home runs last season, catcher/outfielder Logan Boyher '16 and pitchers George Thanopoulos '16, Kevin Roy '16, Ty Wiest '17 and Harrison Egly SEAS'18. The Lions lost their top four hitters for average, however, including Ivy Co-Player of the Year Gus Craig SEAS'15, who was drafted by the Seattle Mariners and batted .322 in 34 games in the Arizona League last year.

Columbia's chief rival in the Lou Gehrig Division figures to be Penn, which lost to the Lions in a one-game playoff for the division crown a year ago. The Quakers expect to have a solid pitching staff led by Jake Cousins '17 and Mike Reitcheck '17, with shortstop Ryan Mincher '16 leading the offense. In the Red Rolfe Division, Brown, led by outfielder Rob Henry '17, who batted .363 and reached base in 37 of 39 games last season, may have the best chance to unseat Dartmouth, which has won the division title for eight consecutive years.

The Lions will begin their Ivy quest with doubleheaders against Yale on April 2 and Brown on April 3. Before that, however, they will play 18 non-league games — four at Jacksonville and 10 in California against Pepperdine, San Diego and Long Beach State before returning to the area for one game against Army and three against Connecticut. The Ivy season concludes with four games against Penn: doubleheaders at Philadelphia on April 30 and at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium on May 1.



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

Columbia men's tennis, which swept the Ivy League a year ago and reached the NCAA Round of 16, was ranked as high as 15th this winter by the ITA despite the loss of several key players, including four-time All-Ivy First Team selection Winston Lin '15. "We are excited to still be in the top 20, especially losing so many seniors," said head coach Bid Goswami, who welcomed a strong recruiting class and will be seeking the 11th Ivy title in his 34-year tenure.

Columbia, which will begin Ivy competition at Cornell on March 26, had two nationally ranked doubles teams as of late February: No. 15 Shawn Hadavi '17 and Richard Pham '17 and No. 20 Mike Vermeer '16 and Michal Rolski '18.

MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS



George Thanopoulos '16

**P**oppy Harlow '05 was on a flight from Los Angeles to New York City last fall when terrorists bombed the streets of Paris, attacked restaurants and killed hostages inside a concert venue.

Before she even landed on November 13, her husband, Sinisa Babic, had packed some of her winter clothes and arranged for a courier to bring the suitcase to the airport's curb. She would join a team of about 100 other journalists from CNN to report on the terrorists, the victims and the survivors of Europe's worst terrorist attack in 11 years.

Harlow's first report came about 24 hours after the attacks, outside the Bataclan concert venue where 89 people were killed after ISIS extremists held members of the audience hostage for two hours. "All these other reporters were lined up like sardines, freezing. It was a blur. The information just kept coming in," Harlow says.

In the 10 days that followed, Harlow interviewed the mother of a victim, a doctor who treated the wounded, a French senator grappling with the attack's political repercussions and a survivor still trembling from the shock of the experience, among others. But amid the city's frenzy of tragedy and survival, she had a personal concern: She was five months pregnant.

# A VOICE WITH HEART

CNN anchor and  
correspondent  
**Poppy Harlow '05**  
is driven by the  
search for truth

BY LAUREN STEUSSY

RAYON RICHARDS





"I thought, it's not just me [anymore]; I'm carrying another life. But I also thought, if I am scared and not going to cover something, then the terrorists win," she says.

It's with pragmatism and empathy for her subjects that Harlow does her job. The Minneapolis native and 2015 Emmy nominee for "Outstanding Business and Economic Reporting in a Regularly Scheduled Newscast" brings a voice to the broadcast world that is truth-seeking and tuned to the human experience. Whether she's parsing the details of the 2016 presidential election or interviewing the witness to a heart-wrenching crime, Harlow takes a step back to research thoroughly and listen carefully, showing every subject respect and understanding in her questions. This quality has carried throughout her career, says former CBS News president Andrew Heyward, who later became a mentor to Harlow.

"I'm always impressed by Poppy's thoughtfulness and fundamental decency — perhaps those are her heartland roots showing," Heyward says. "I've never known her to cut corners or fail to consider the responsibilities inherent in being a network journalist."

In other words, says one of her current co-workers, CNN Weekend Programming Manager Bryan Bell, "Poppy's signature is one made with human emotion. We are nothing without it."

**W**hen Harlow isn't traveling the world as a CNN correspondent, she's a weekend anchor for the network. On a day in early December, Harlow, 33, sits high behind a desk in CNN's Midtown newsroom. With 30 seconds until the end of a commercial break, she is composed and ready to begin as the newsroom buzzes around her. A producer arrives breathless to the set, and Harlow tells her, "Relax.

You got time for a manicure and a pedicure." With the ease that laughter brings, the show begins.

Harlow's anchoring responsibilities extend far beyond what we see during *CNN Newsroom Weekend*. She and the show's executive producer plan out discussions, guests and features. When news breaks, Harlow's team pivots from planned material to the latest developments. In the week leading up to the shows, Harlow and her team are constantly identifying editorial opportunities and how the show will cover them.

Harlow recently spearheaded a regular series on her weekend show called "American Opportunity," in which she and other correspondents explored topics on income inequality. Her reasons for focusing on these inequalities have much to do with her own upbringing in a middle-class family.

"I just feel like I had this amazing shot," she says at a cafe across the street from CNN's newsroom after an anchoring shift. She quotes one of her favorite interviewees: "The way Warren Buffett puts it is, he won the ovarian lottery. He was born to parents in the right place in the right time in America to build his success. I feel like I won the ovarian lottery, and a lot of us did. We owe it to people who didn't win that lottery to figure out how they can achieve more."

It wasn't only the content of Harlow's reporting that her parents, Mary and James Harlow '69, influenced. Harlow says she inherited from them practices like taking copious notes, putting long hours into her work and instantly striking up a rapport with her subjects. Mary was a former ballerina and actress who went back to school to earn a doctorate in psychology while her two kids were young. "Watching [my mom raise me while going to school full-time] had a very strong impact on me. I look to her as an example of someone who was ambitious

Harlow interviewed Mercedes Velasco, a single mother of four in Bridgeport, Conn., who when interviewed in 2015 was dependent on food stamps to feed her children. The interview was part of *CNNMoney's* American Opportunity series, "Feeding America's Most Vulnerable Children."



COURTESY CNN



COURTESY POPPY HARLOW '05

Harlow with her father, James Harlow '69, celebrating his birthday.

with her career and also focused on raising me to the best of her ability.”

James was a trial attorney who never got a chance to show Poppy his old stomping grounds at the College. He was diagnosed with cancer when Poppy was 15 and died four months later.

Harlow — her given name is Katharine Julia; “Poppy” is a childhood nickname that stuck — doesn’t recall hearing stories of her father’s time at Columbia. But even without saying much about education and hard work, he instilled in her these values, along with a deep reverence for family, she says. She remembers the family’s long drives to their Walker, Minn., cabin. When he would drive her to skating practice in the morning, the two would listen to *Prairie Home Companion* on the radio. Memories like these reflect the man she feels lucky to have had in her life for 15 years, she says.

When CNN asked Harlow to participate in a special last year, “The Person Who Changed My Life,” she knew she wanted her father to be the focus of her segment. Through it, she learned her father was just as studious as she was, and spent more hours in the library than the student revolutionaries of that era. “While Jim was sympathetic, he was, like Poppy, focused on getting his work done, and frustrated that he couldn’t get into the library when the school shut down,” Mary says.

Attending Columbia was one way Harlow could remain connected to her father. “When he died, I think anything I could do to be close to him, I did,” she says. “I know I took some of the same classes as he did because of the Core Curriculum, so he was definitely in my mind all the time.”

As a political science major at the College, classes like “Game Theory” with Robert Jervis and extracur-

riculars like the Columbia Political Union fed her curiosity. She originally planned to go to law school but entertained the idea of journalism, interning at *CBS MarketWatch* for three years of her college career.

“I loved it — it was everything from the mundane transcribing of interviews to running physical tapes across the street to going on shoots,” she says. “So I decided I was going to do this news thing. If it didn’t work out, I knew law school would be there.”

**When CNN asked Harlow to participate in a special, “The Person Who Changed My Life,” she knew she wanted her father to be the focus.**

Harlow graduated magna cum laude from the College. Her first job was at *CBS Newspath*, where she gathered video footage from the CBS archives, transcribed interviews, and helped producers and reporters on shoots and with research. This led to a broadcast reporting job at local television station NY1, covering Staten Island and New Jersey. Next it was *Forbes.com*, where she was a video correspondent. Along the way she built up expertise in financial reporting and a Rolodex full of valuable sources. It has helped set *CNN Newsroom Weekend* apart from other network shows, says Bell, CNN’s weekend programming manager.

“She has deep contacts within that sector,” he says. “The show is often able to shine a light on an issue that few other news programs can touch in the same way.”

Getting to *CNNMoney* from *Forbes.com* required a set of qualities wholly her own. Harlow describes an interview she had with former *CNNMoney* Executive



COURTESY CNN

Legendary investor Warren Buffet, one of Harlow's favorite interviews, sat down with her in 2015.

Producer Caleb Silver as a test of persistence. When the interview with Silver was cut short, Harlow joined him on the elevator and followed him into the street. "I always think, what do I have to lose?" she says. "That's what I think going into interviews or trying to get an interview." It's a quality she hopes to teach her daughter, due in April, from an early age, she says.

Silver saw something more than persistence, though, and he saw it before Harlow ever stepped into the elevator and onto the street with him. He was taken by her approachability: "She could talk to anyone and make it seem like the conversation they were having was the most important, yet most natural, conversation they could possibly have," Silver says. "That is not a teachable skill. It comes from a person's natural curiosity and presence."

In 2008, Silver hired Harlow as a correspondent during the early stages of *CNNMoney's* online video channel. At the time, producing engaging online videos for the personal finance and financial news website wasn't as simple as publishing broadcast clips on the web. Segments that did well on air wouldn't necessarily succeed online. Harlow describes it as a proximity issue: "When someone is staring at their computer screen or their phone, it's a little more intimate. They maybe don't want to see talking heads. They want you to take them there."

Harlow knew this from her time at *Forbes.com* and *CBS NewsPath*. Silver recognized Harlow's innate ability to connect both on-air and online, but had to convince the network's senior executives that she would excel "despite her youth and relative lack of experience," he says. "She proved me right within about 10 seconds" of her first televised report.

Harlow's first 4½ years at *CNNMoney* were spent online, with many of the segments making it to air as well. She was promoted to CNN as a correspondent in April 2012 and then as an anchor in February 2015.

Upon her return from maternity leave, Harlow doesn't expect to stop traveling and reporting. "I love my job and gain a lot personally from it," she says. And she anticipates her husband, a senior manager at Ernst & Young, will play an important role in their balancing work and family life. But Harlow acknowledges motherhood may change the way she works — it was certainly on her mind in the early days of the Paris attacks, knowing she had another life to look after in what many other reporters described as a "war zone." Harlow believes being a mother will give her reporting a deeper significance, whether it's about policies, justice or the "unsung hero," she says.

"I have these discussions now because I'm passionate about them. Those ambitions haven't changed because

of [my daughter], but I think I will feel responsibility as a parent to tell the important stories I hope will help shape the world she grows up in,” she says.

In much of her reporting, it’s clear that Harlow is putting herself in the shoes of her subjects. This was apparent in her coverage of August’s shooting of reporter Alison Parker and photojournalist Adam Ward in Roanoke, Va., CNN’s Bell said.

“When the shooting occurred, the expected media swarm descended onto the mountain town, and with it, throngs of reporters and cameramen and bright lights,” Bell says. “Live shots were focused on the shooter, the madman behind the trigger who cut short these lives.”

But Harlow and her teammate in charge of arranging interviews, Jennifer Henderson, instead pivoted the story to Parker’s father, Andy, and CNN aired Harlow’s interview with him in a 30-minute special. “It’s because of that skill — of knowing that Andy Parker’s story is one that deserves to be heard — that Poppy was able to connect with him,” Bell says. “We spent 20 minutes listening to him, an eternity in television time. It is that devotion, that ability to capture conflict, emotion, joy and sadness, that makes Poppy so special.”

Similarly, Harlow’s reporting in Paris focused on those left behind, rather than on the terrorists behind the attacks. In one interview, Harlow and a survivor of the Bataclan theater attacks sit together on a Parisian street, the survivor still trembling. Harlow asks him if he feels guilty that he lived while so many others died — “survivor’s guilt.” It’s the type of question reserved for close friends or family members. And the way Harlow’s voice and demeanor comes across, she seems to be exactly that.

Harlow cites longtime CBS correspondent Lesley Stahl as one of her biggest influences. And she regularly runs ideas by her biggest supporter, her husband. The two met when Harlow was visiting her family in Minnesota after she graduated from Columbia: “I value his opinion a lot and I ask for his advice. He’s very honest and helpful,” she says.

And she’s constantly thinking of what it would be like to watch her interviews from afar.

“If you were sitting on your couch yelling at the television, what would you ask that person? I don’t always do it well, but when I do, I’m happy when I get it out there ... If you can bring it home to the viewer and make it personal, about a human and a life, then I think it resonates with people,” Harlow says.

Harlow’s empathetic style occasionally has drawn criticism. In March 2013 she was reporting from Steubenville, Ohio, outside the courthouse where two teenage football players were convicted in juvenile court of raping a 16-year-old girl. In a live report, Harlow described the verdict as emotional, and said it was “difficult even for an outsider like me to watch what happened as these two young men that had such promising

futures, star football players, very good students, literally watched as they believed their lives fell apart.”

An online petition calling for CNN to apologize garnered nearly 300,000 signatures. News websites wrote about the segment, some calling CNN and Harlow’s reporting “sympathetic” to the rapists. In the bigger picture, the reporting was part of a marathon of coverage, much of which did focus on the victim of the assault. And Harlow later interviewed the victim’s mother, bringing an especially important perspective to her viewers, she says. But Harlow, who still thinks about the incident with obvious pain, regrets what she said in the segment. “I think I could have done a better job,” she says. “I learned a lot and it has informed my career as a journalist going forward, no question about it.”

In 2015, Harlow and CNN producer Amanda Hobor were nominated for an Emmy for a report that focused on a many-layered tragedy exposed in the wake of General Motors’ sweeping recalls for faulty ignition switches. Their story followed Candice Anderson, who was driving a 2004 Saturn Ion when the car swerved off the road and crashed into a tree. Anderson’s passenger and boyfriend, Gene Mikate Erickson, was killed in the crash. Because a trace

“If you can bring it home to the viewer and make it personal, about a human and a life, then I think it resonates with people.”

amount of Xanax was found in Anderson’s system, she was charged and pleaded guilty to criminal negligent homicide. However, in 2014, her car was recalled because of the defective ignition switch; Anderson was exonerated of the crime in November 2014.

The district attorney who initially prosecuted Anderson says if she had known about the faulty ignition switch back then, she never would have prosecuted Anderson, Harlow and Hobor’s reporting found.

The segment was important not only to Harlow’s career but also to Anderson’s life, says Heyward, the former CBS News president. “In a business where ambition often trumps other qualities, Poppy stands out by standing for something more than her own success,” he says.

Harlow says she knows stories like that one, which required both hard work and an eye toward justice, would make her father proud.

“Isn’t that what keeps us all going?” she asks. “There are some pretty wonderful people in the world.”

**Lauren Steussy** is an arts and culture reporter on *Staten Island*. Her last profile for CCT was on Marie Claire executive editor *Lea Goldman* ’98 (Winter 2015–16). Steussy’s work has also appeared in *The Staten Island Advance*, *San Diego Magazine* and *The Orange County Register*.

## CCT Web Extras

To watch some of Harlow’s reports, go to [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).



CH6-07

# A Culture of Creation

Entrepreneurship is flourishing at Columbia College  By Nathalie Alonso '08

**Launching businesses and joining startups** have emerged as tantalizing routes and viable career paths for the Columbia College student eager to have an immediate impact on a cause, create a product or service, or enjoy a high level of input in the workplace.

Heralding this trend is a wave of initiatives that provide avenues for undergraduates to explore entrepreneurship. They include a College-sponsored, undergraduate-only challenge in the University-wide, annual Columbia Venture Competition (CVC), which now awards \$250,000; a new academic course on the foundations of entrepreneurship; and internship programs focused on startups. Such initiatives are typically fostered in some way by Columbia Entrepreneurship, an administrative body launched in July 2013 at the direction of President Lee C. Bollinger for the purpose of supporting and cultivating entrepreneurial endeavors across the University. Columbia Entrepreneurship works with all schools, as well as with alumni and student clubs such as the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), an undergraduate entrepreneurship club that has grown exponentially in the last three years.

David Lerner, director of Columbia Entrepreneurship and an adjunct associate professor at the Business School who has been with the University for approximately a decade, notes that the last five or six years have “seen an incredible explosion of interest and enthusiasm around startups and entrepreneurship around the University, but especially at the College.” That surge, he adds, reflects a national trend attributable to resources made available by technology and the reduced cost of launching a business.

“It’s never been more accessible or affordable to start a company,” says Lerner. “The cost has plummeted and, with the information that’s available because of the Internet and blogs, it’s a perfect storm of opportunity for younger folks to get involved.”

Perhaps most indicative of the entrepreneurial milieu that has developed at the College is a recent crop of student-run businesses.

In January, Katherine Jin '16, Kevin Tyan '16 and Jason Kang SEAS'16 — the team behind the startup Kinnos — made *Forbes*’ “30 Under 30” in Healthcare list. The trio was recognized for inventing Highlight, a powder that turns bleach blue, making the otherwise colorless disinfectant visible and therefore more effective as a decontamination agent. [Editor’s note: See “Student Spotlight,” Winter 2015–16.] The news came a month or so after Sara Sakowitz '18 took the \$2,500 first prize in the Engineering School’s annual Fast Pitch competition and was included in *Crain’s New York Business* “20 Under 20” list for her own startup, Blue Moon Box, a science kit subscription service for kids. [Editor’s note: See “Student Spotlight,” this issue.]

Sakowitz and Jackie Luo '17, both of whom have leadership roles in CORE, also are among the eight undergraduates who run Liongram, a campus cookie and candy delivery service that launched in December. “We wanted to get more on-campus businesses going,” says Luo, who hopes Liongram’s presence will encourage other students to “have fun and get some experience running something on their own in a low-pressure environment.”

College students and recent graduates who have launched businesses or are on the verge of doing so can enter the CVC, a campus-wide business plan competition that has engaged more than 1,000 students and alumni from all Columbia schools and from across the world since its inception in April 2009. In 2015, CVC expanded to five tracks, each sponsored by an individual school or other University entity. First place in the inaugural Undergraduate Challenge went to Shriya Samavai '15 and Lauren Field BC'16, founders of Studio Lucien (formerly Academy Of), a clothing line that takes cues from famous works of art. Kinnos took third place.

Samavai believes her company has benefited not only from the \$25,000 prize, which she and Fields are using to produce their first piece — a rain jacket inspired by Katsushika Hokusai’s *Great Wave off Kanagawa* — but also from their experience of creating a busi-



ness plan and pitching their concept to potential investors. “We had an idea at the onset but we didn’t have the full vision,” Samavai says. “The contest helped us focus and think about what exactly it is we’re trying to do.”

Dean James J. Valentini notes that “enthusiasm for entrepreneurship is very high among our students” and believes that Samavai and Field’s win demonstrates “that students can build their own futures, build their own success, that they can use their creative thinking and analytical skills to turn an idea into reality. That’s essentially what we teach in the Core, and that’s what entrepreneurship is all about.”

College alumni who have graduated within the last five years can enter any of the other CVC challenges and apply to the Columbia Startup Lab, a co-working space subsidized by the University that opened in July 2014 at the WeWork building in SoHo West. Admitted startups can use the space for up to a year and have access to onsite workshops and mentors. Of 71 seats, the College has 10. Among the alumni who have worked or are working out of the Startup Lab are Carolyn Yim ’11, founder and CEO of Plyknits, which gives shoppers direct access to her family’s knitwear line; Sam Bodkin ’12, founder of Groupmuse, a social network that matches people who want to volunteer their home for a classical musical performance with musicians and guests; and Cooper Pickett ’10, CEO and co-founder of content creation service Longneck & Thunderfoot.

Richard Witten ’75, former vice-chair of the University Board of Trustees and special adviser on entrepreneurship to Bollinger, says that when it comes to the Startup Lab and other entrepreneurial initiatives, Columbia Entrepreneurship’s approach has been to “let folks shine, create leverage for them and provide resources for them to do their magic,” adding that he believes that as a result, “Columbia is getting a reputation for being a place where entrepreneurs can thrive.”

**In response to the growing interest** in entrepreneurship among undergraduates, this semester saw the debut of a course for College and General Studies students called “Venturing to Change the World.” The weekly, three-hour seminar seeks to “expose students to the intellectual foundations and practical aspects of entrepreneurship.” Sixty students are enrolled in the course, which is taught by Damon Phillips, the Lambert Family Professor of Social Enterprise at the Business School, and Amol Sarva ’98, a prolific technology entrepreneur who co-founded Virgin Mobile USA and Peek. The syllabus is divided into three modules: thinking (Who is an entrepreneur?), creating (What are the elements of a successful startup?) and doing (How to pick a cofounder).

“Students have expressed interest in a course like this for several years, particularly students in CORE,” says Valentini. “This is a course that is very important for us to offer. I would like Columbia College students to recognize that entrepreneurship is something that any of them can do. Entrepreneurship is just an idea meeting an opportunity and turning into a successful enterprise. Columbia College students have no shortage of ideas, and the world offers no shortage of opportunities for those ideas to develop.”

Sarva, who calls entrepreneurship “a powerful force driving progress in our civilization,” believes that the course, a first at the College, was designed in the spirit of the Core Curriculum insofar as it equips students with fundamental knowledge. “Understanding [the] dynamics [of entrepreneurship] and how to harness them and put them to work for the right purposes is really important for young people,” he says.

Christopher McGarry, director for entrepreneurship in the University’s Office of Alumni and Development, notes that the participation of alumni such as Sarva, through mentorship, speaking engagements and other capacities, has been key to the growth of the entrepreneurship ecosystem at Columbia. “The startup community relies on other members

of the community itself for growth, nurturing, support, solution-finding and innovating,” he says. “I look for help for young entrepreneurs and one of the best sources of help is the alumni community.”

The excitement for entrepreneurship among College students has also been characterized by greater interest in careers at startups. Luo, a computer science major who aspires to start a tech company, took the Spring 2016 semester off from her academic studies to pursue an internship at Nylas, a San Francisco-based startup that develops email apps and platforms. “Tech is one of the most exciting things out there because people are constantly creating things and those things are fundamentally changing what the world is like,” she says, adding that entrepreneurship and startups are appealing because they afford “personal empowerment and being able to have more of a say in what you do.”

Jennifer Preis, a senior associate director at the Center for Career Education (CCE), notes that entrepreneurially-minded students often view work at existing startups as a precursor to launching their own ventures. “I’ve had students tell me that they look forward to seeing firsthand what it’s like to execute an idea,” she says.

The thirst for startup experience led CORE and CCE to launch the Startup Internship Program in 2014. Open to students in the College and several other schools, SIP places students in 12-week spring internships at startups in a range of fields and quickly has become the most popular of CCE’s spring internship programs, according to Preis. In partnership with Columbia Entrepreneurship, CCE also administers the Columbia Undergraduate Startup Internship Fund, which launched in 2015. Funded by a gift from an anonymous College parent, SIF covers up to \$5,000 in expenses for financial aid recipients in the College, Engineering and General Studies who are pursuing unpaid or low-paying summer internships at startups.

Last spring, through SIP, sociology major Fabio DeSousa ’16 interned at Venture for America, a nonprofit that recruits recent college graduates to work at startups around the country. After graduation, he will work at one of those startups for at least two years as a Venture for America Fellow. DeSousa, who is interested in urban design and social entrepreneurship, applied to SIP after interning at a startup accelerator and finding that he preferred the work environment to other, more structured internships he had completed. “I can see the work I do directly translating into results,” he says.

Preis has found that many other students also find “the distinctive culture of startups” appealing. “They are drawn to the idea of working hard, taking on a lot of responsibility and making change while ideally working on a cause important to them,” she says.

Since the 2014–15 academic year, College students also have had the option of applying to be part of Res. Inc. — short for Residential Incubator — a residential community housed in the Living Learning Center. Res. Inc. occupies the eighth floor of Wallach Hall. Programming includes weekly seminar meetings, dinners and receptions with alumni entrepreneurs, visits to startups around New York City and events hosted by the LLC Faculty-in-Residence Ioannis Kymissis, associate professor of electrical engineering and an entrepreneur himself. Residents must be working toward launch-

ing their own ventures and are expected to enter both the Fast Pitch competition and the CVC.

Among the students currently living in Res. Inc. is Robert Netzorg ’19, who along with Hamed Nilforoshan SEAS’19 and Eshan Agarwal SEAS’19 developed an app called Bites, which allows college students to connect with local cooks to purchase home-cooked meals. The trio took second place in the Fast Pitch competition in 2015. Netzorg applied to Res. Inc. because he wanted to be surrounded by “like-minded people,” he says. “With regards to entrepreneurship, there’s a culture of creation that’s very interesting to me — how a group of people get together to turn their ideas into something that’s feasible. It’s about creating something for people to use and to make a living off of what you create.”

**Fanning the entrepreneurial flame** among Columbia undergraduates is CORE, which offers a robust lineup of initiatives that revolve around a three-prong mission to “inspire, educate, and launch.” The group was founded in 1999, but it was not until the 2013–14 academic year that it became visibly active, to the point that it is now considered the largest secular, non-political organization on campus. That distinction is based on the group’s email list, which according to president Simon Schwartz ’17 reaches more than 7,000 current students and recent alumni.

Last semester, CORE launched one of its most ambitious initiatives to date: an intensive startup accelerator for New York City students called Almaworks. For nine weeks, teams from the inaugural 10 participating startups, each including at least one Columbia student or recent graduate, received free individualized advice from volunteer mentors. The fledgling companies included Swipes, an app launched by Julio Henriquez ’18 and Helson Taveras ’18 that allows College students to share dining hall meals. A second cohort of startups will participate in Almaworks this spring.

CORE also has partnered with Columbia Entrepreneurship on speaker events (guests have included Peter Thiel, co-founder of PayPal, and Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter and Square). CORE’s other offerings include Women@CORE, a mentorship program that pairs female entrepreneurs at Columbia with female entrepreneurs in New York City. CORE also organizes Global Tech Treks — trips to tech startup hubs around the world — during Spring Break. In 2016, students visited Paris, Berlin, London and Rio de Janeiro. “I’m really proud of how much we’ve been able to push the student group label,” says Schwartz, who has been involved with CORE since his first year at the College.

For CORE’s executive board members and other student leaders, adds Schwartz, being involved with the group is akin to overseeing a small company: “We run it like a startup,” he says. “We have to deal with problems and responsibilities but in a manner that isn’t fiduciary or legally binding. We get this practicum and understanding of the mentality and some of the day-to-day challenges of running a startup.”

Sakowitz, who sits on CORE’s executive board, credits her involvement with the group for the success she has had with her startup. “I started Blue Moon Box because I thought it would be a cool way to get kids involved in science, which is something I’ve wanted to figure out how to do for a long time,” she says. “Joining CORE and exploring some of the programs that Columbia offers flipped the switch and made me realize that this was something I could and would love to do.”

---

**Nathalie Alonso ’08**, from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for *LasMayores.com*, Major League Baseball’s official Spanish language website. She writes “Student Spotlight” for CCT.

KATIE MEILI '13  
SETS  
HER  
SIGHTS  
ON  
RIO

BY CHARLOTTE MURTISHAW BC'15

**TRIALS**  
**TRIBUL**



+

PHOTOGRAPHS BY COREY FOX

# ATIONS

Headed into the star-studded Duel in the Pool meet in December, Katie Meili '13 was nervous, she told her coach David Marsh. She was fatigued from months of hard training, her limbs felt leaden and her muscles ached — not atypical complaints for an elite swimmer, but not a reassuring sensation going into a competitive meet. The American squad was gunning for its seventh consecutive victory at the biennial, trans-continental matchup, but as the meet unfolded, the European swimmers were keeping things close.

It was time for a pep talk. “I told Katie, ‘Here’s the truth of the matter: You’re training better right now than at any time last year,’” Marsh recalls. “Last year, at your best, you weren’t able to do what you’re doing right now.”

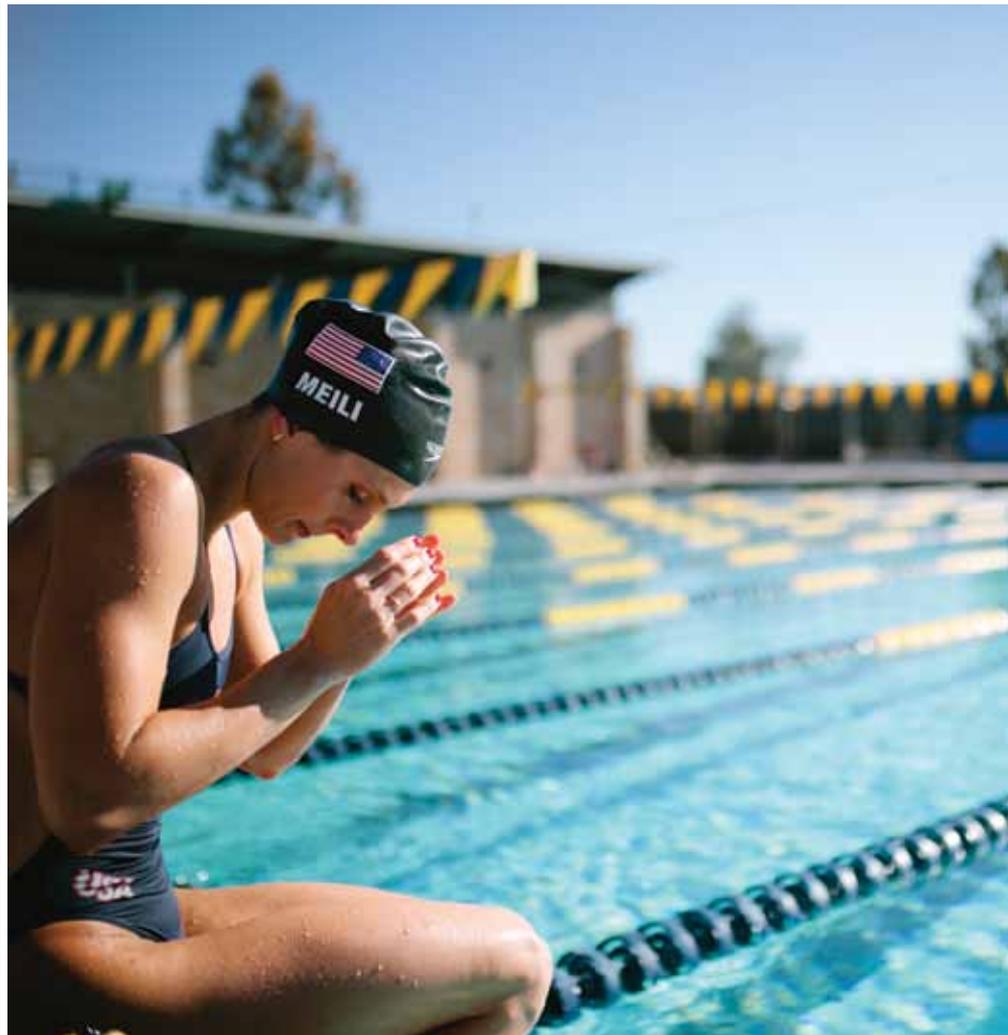
As it turns out, no one at their best could do what a tired Meili was about to do. Pushing exhaustion aside, she emerged from the meet with an American record in the 100-meter breaststroke, her prime event, and gave her world-record-setting 400m medley relay team the edge it needed to pull out the win.

Riding the wave of a breakthrough season that included a gold medal at the Pan Am Games, Meili cemented her

standing as the United States’ top sprint breaststroke prospect at the Duel. Her standout summer had not been a fluke: Over the course of several months, Meili shot from a middle-of-the-pack, dark-horse candidate for the U.S. national team to a legitimate medal contender at the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics, coming up in August.

But talking about medals is premature; first, she needs to make the U.S. Olympic team, a task said by some to be even harder than medaling at the Olympics. This summer, America’s most competitive swim meet will light up (perhaps literally — in 2012, it featured flames spurting from the deck) Omaha’s CenturyLink Center from June 26 to July 3, drawing Meili and more than 1,000 other swimmers, most of whom grew up dreaming of reaching that elite level.

Meili spent her childhood in Colleyville, a suburb of Fort Worth, Texas, where, at 8, she met her initial summer forays into competitive swimming with disinterest and consternation. Ribbons proved to be the key incentivizer, and, eye on the prize, Meili went from a non-finisher to third place in a single meet, and subsequently from summer league to a year-round club team.





She was a serious student and a dedicated swimmer throughout high school. It was at the 2008 Junior Nationals, the top annual meet for swimmers under 18, that she was first scouted by Diana Caskey, Columbia's longtime head coach for women's swimming. "She was good, but she wasn't, 'Oh my gosh, she's going to blow the doors off at championships,'" Caskey says. "It was more like, 'She's a great match [for Columbia] — her personality, the commitment of her parents, all those things that go into recruiting the Ivy athlete.'" Though obviously talented, Meili's focus didn't really sharpen until halfway through her collegiate career. "She lived the college life for her freshman and sophomore years, and then she decided she wanted to turn up the heat and really make her mark [in swimming]," Caskey says. "College is tough. There's so much to do and so many different ways to spend your time. It takes a lot of sacrifice to fully invest in yourself and your sport."

From there, Meili's swimming career took off as she posted school and Ivy League records, won "Swimmer of the Meet" honors at the 2013 Ivy championships and the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Award, awarded to the top graduating male and female Columbia athletes. She capped her college career on an even larger stage, snagging a bronze medal and All-American honors in the 100-yard breaststroke at the 2013 Division I NCAA Swimming Championships, a feat almost unheard of for an Ivy Leaguer, not to mention a swimmer who didn't even make NAAs until the year prior.

It's impossible to touch on Meili's success without mentioning Cristina Teuscher '00, a larger-than-life presence in the annals of Columbia athletics and especially Columbia swimming. Teuscher — the last female Olympian swimmer from the Ivies — entered Columbia having already won gold at the Olympics and exited a multi-time NCAA champ and Honda Sports Award winner, with more pool, school, Ivy and NCAA records to her name than is reasonable to count.

"There is no one in the league like her, past or present, and there will most likely be no one like her in the near future," a *Spectator* sports reporter wrote the November following Teuscher's graduation, and indeed, her name dominated the Uris Pool record board for years after her

departure. But less than a decade later came Meili, who started threatening the records that were supposed to stand for time immemorial, before making waves at NAAs.

The podium finish at NAAs would have made a storybook ending to an unlikely career, but Meili didn't stop there. Instead, she moved on to Act II. Taking a gamble, she plunged into the world of professional swimming — hardly a secure career move for anyone not named Michael Phelps or Ryan Lochte — and moved to Charlotte, N.C., to join Marsh's invitation-only swimming group SwimMAC Carolina Team Elite (which includes Lochte, an 11-time Olympic medalist).

"It's a serious longshot," says Caskey of the leap of faith it takes to pursue a pro career. "There are a lot of people gunning for that type of success, and it's very challenging, very difficult, on many levels."

"When I was coming to the end of my [college] career," says Meili, "I had had so much fun that I wasn't really ready to give it up." Given the go-ahead to join Marsh's post-grad group and a little logistical luck, "It was like, 'OK, this is too perfect, I think the universe is trying to tell me something.'"

Marsh's team set her up with a host family that allowed her to live with them rent-free, and through family connections she found a job flexible enough to accommodate her practice schedule.

When she finally arrived at SwimMAC Carolina's loaded Team Elite — Marsh (above left, with Meili) won't even take on a swimmer unless he believes he or she has a serious shot at an Olympic Trials final, and most are aiming for an Olympic medal — Meili had the unusual experience of feeling, for once, like a fish out of water.

"I thought, 'Oh, I don't really belong here, I'm not the best, I've never made the Olympics and I've never made a national team.' I was walking around with this 'I don't belong' attitude," Meili says.

And, at least at the beginning, Marsh agrees that her talent didn't set her apart. "Swimming-wise, I would say

The podium finish at NAAs would have made a storybook ending to an unlikely career, but Meili didn't stop there.



she was very average, so she didn't stand out at all in the water," he says. "She just worked hard every day and came in with a smile."

The workload that goes into being a part of Marsh's elite group is daunting. As a professional swimmer, Meili can spend up to six hours a day in the pool and weight room

during double-practice sessions. Marsh, who developed dozens of Olympians while coaching at Auburn, is famous for his demanding workouts, which can involve anything from Pilates to rope-climbing and always involve a "no pain, no gain" mindset. Because of Meili's laser focus and dedication,

Marsh says he more frequently has to warn her to back off from training too hard than anything else.

As promised in *Rocky* montages, the grueling work began to pay off, and Meili started gaining momentum, both in the pool and out. Her rising profile brought in endorsement deals, which enabled her to leave her day job at Direct ChassisLink (the firm continues to support her through sponsorship). She also was able to get a place of her own, which she shares with teammate Cammile Adams and their one-eyed cat, Boo.

The international meet rosters for this summer were based on the results of the 2014 U.S. National Champi-

onships, where Meili finished fifth in the 100m breaststroke — not enough for an invitation to the FINA World Championships, but enough to earn her a bid to the Pan-American Games, to be held the week prior in Toronto.

There, Meili won the 100m breaststroke in an attention-grabbing 1:05.64, bettering her personal best by nearly a second and breaking the meet record by two seconds. It was the third-fastest time in the world last season and would have been enough to win the gold at the World Championships the next week.

"It made me feel like what I was doing was justifiable and it wasn't a delusion — it was a reality," she says. "That was more of a relief than anything, because I thought, OK, I'm here, I can do this, and now I can really focus on getting better instead of focusing on convincing other people I belong."

According to her friends, though, she's still trying to grow into the role of world-class swimmer rather than Ivy-educated underdog.

"Katie has had to remind herself that she has done the work, and she is as good as she is," says Adams, a 2012 Olympian. "Sometimes I have to say, 'Katie, come on, you're one of the fastest swimmers in the world — how cool is that?'"

Even now, having made a national team, Meili recognizes that she sticks out because of her unusual pedigree, but says she's proud to represent Columbia. "I love telling people if I hadn't have gone [to Columbia], I wouldn't be the person I am today and I don't think I'd still be swimming."

"If I hadn't have gone to Columbia, I wouldn't be the person I am today and I don't think I'd still be swimming."



With arduous daily workouts, Meili is the first to admit that following her dream isn't easy. And it's not as if she's never thought about what would have happened if she hadn't traded her cap and gown for a swim cap and training suit.

"Of course, I can imagine it," Meili says. "I miss the people I went to school with, and I really miss New York.

"This is hard. I get to do incredible things, but it is very stressful, physically and mentally. I am really happy I did what I did, but I also do miss the life that I probably would have had."

In the end, the sacrifices Meili has made will hinge on a narrow window at the Olympic Trials — about a minute, give or take, the time it takes to swim two laps in a 50m pool. While Meili intends to swim a full program, the 100m breaststroke is her signature event and her best chance at a trip to the Olympics. Aside from that, an impressive performance at the Austin Grand Prix in January put her in contention for a 200m breaststroke berth, and she'll also be vying for one of the 400m freestyle relay slots that are awarded to the top six finishers in the individual 100m free.

"You only have one certain day, and you either win or you don't," Adams says. "She has to show up on race day."

As a make-or-break moment, the Olympic Trials are a perfect stage for upstarts, and it wouldn't be the high-stakes meet it is without some upsets. The wise know to temper their expectations, especially in a sport where the difference

between medalists and losers often lies in fractions of seconds. "It's possible I'll have the best swim of my life and still not make the Olympic team," Meili says matter-of-factly.

What's more, there's always the unforeseen. At the 2012 Trials, Meili broke her hand while warming up and lost her chance to qualify for the London Olympics.

Regardless of the outcome in Omaha, Meili plans to continue competing on the professional circuit through the 2017 season, after which she'll decide whether to keep swimming or go back to school — right now, she's thinking about earning a law degree.

In any case, she has no regrets about her choice.

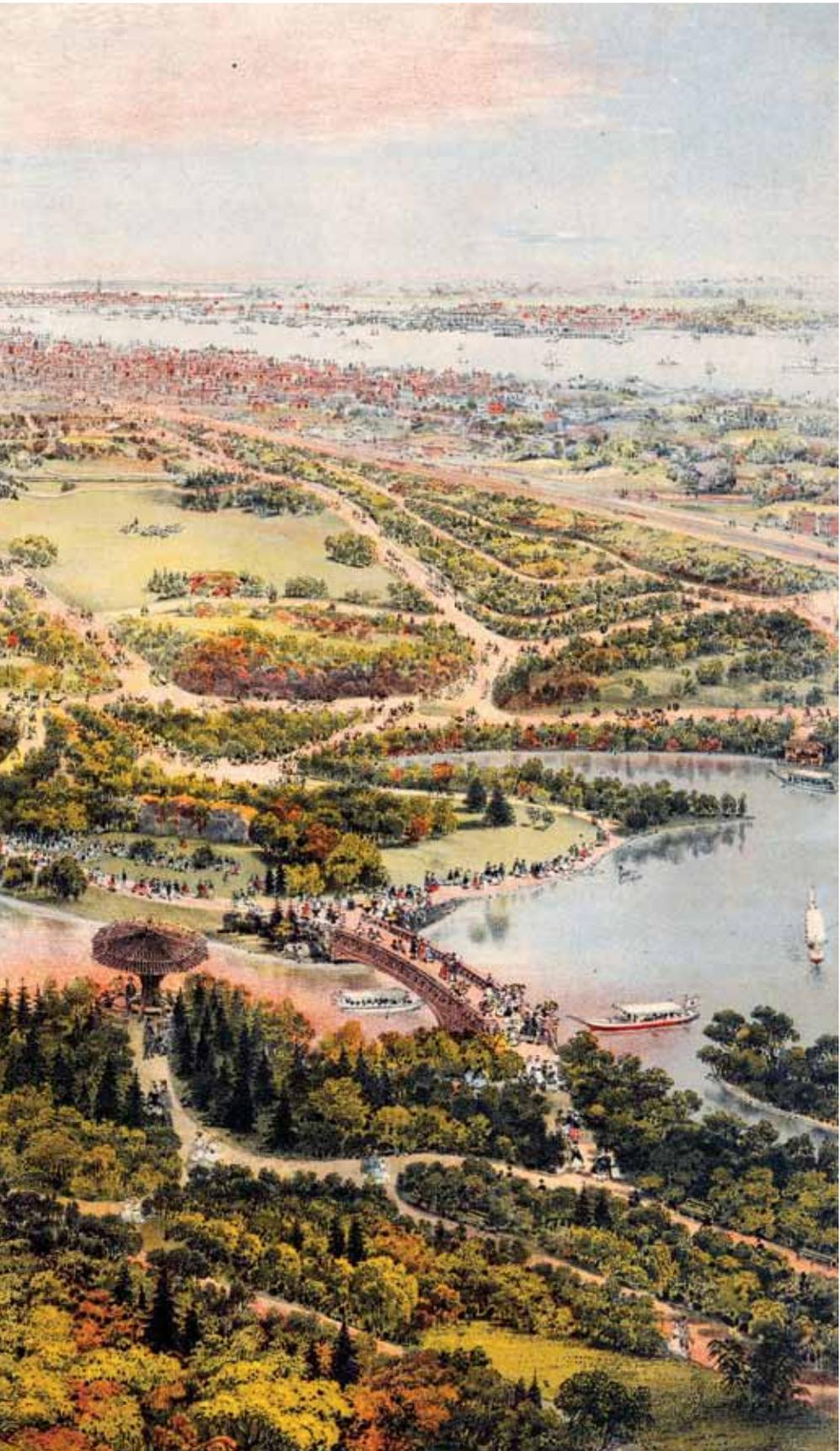
"Most swimmers will tell you that the Olympics are the ultimate goal," she says. "But I think it's important to find ways to keep it valuable, even if you don't consider the Olympics ... Every day I want to feel like I'm really invested in and learning as much from the process, and getting as much happiness out of every single day as I would making the Olympic team.

"If it weren't to happen, of course I would be disappointed, but I wouldn't leave feeling like I had just wasted two years of my life. I really think I'm at the point where I'm never going to say that. This journey has been incredible."

---

**Charlotte Murtishaw BC'15** is a *Student Conservation Association intern in Nebraska, where she is a volunteer coordinator for the National Park Service.*





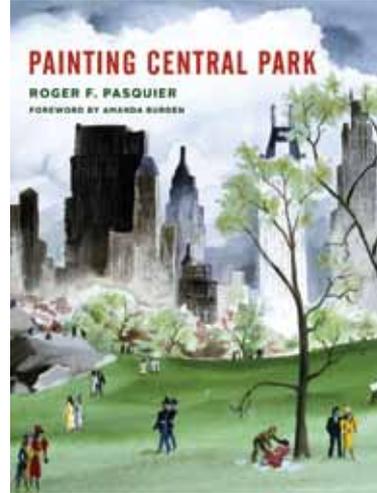
# Painting Central Park

Roger F. Pasquier '69 explores a beloved landmark through the lens of art

*Roger F. Pasquier '69, whose Painting Central Park (Vendome Press, \$60) is excerpted here, has also authored several books on birds, including Masterpieces of Bird Art: 700 Years of Ornithological Illustration (Abbeville Press, 1991). A longtime birder and conservationist, Pasquier spends hours in Central Park, the same park where he played as a child and a park that, as a recent Wall Street Journal profile of Pasquier notes, is many New Yorkers' "real backyard." Pasquier's newest volume includes a range of artful depictions of this green refuge from sometime New Yorkers (or New York transients) such as Marc Chagall, Edward Hopper, Childe Hassam, Richard Estes, David Hockney, George Grosz, and Helen Frankenthaler.*

— Rose Kernochan BC'82

Julius Bien, after John Bachmann, Central Park (Summer), 1865; Color lithograph on paper; Museum of the City of New York (pp. 36–37)



ELLEN WARNER

Roger F. Pasquier '69

I have spent much of my life in Central Park, first as an infant in a perambulator, then as a child climbing on the rock outcrops and roller skating around the Conservatory Water, later exploring the Ramble when I was old enough to be allowed to go alone, and watching birds throughout the park ever since my early teens. Having studied art history in college and graduate school, I have long wanted to explore Central Park through the lens of art. But I first thought seriously of the possibilities during the few years I lived far from it, in Washington, D.C. There, nothing made me more homesick than looking at George Bellows's *Bethesda Fountain* at the Hirshhorn Museum. When I finally found the time to take up the subject, I first wondered whether there were in fact enough really good paintings of the park, by enough artists, throughout the years since the park was created in the 1860s. To my happy amazement, I rapidly found more than eighty well-known painters who have depicted Central Park. (And what fun it was to discover their depictions of the stages of my own park life — as an infant with a nursemaid, as a child climbing the rocks and watching the model boats on the Conservatory Water, even as a birdwatcher.)

Not all of the painters I found are included here — some, in fact, did much better work elsewhere — and I have featured some less familiar artists whose paintings have historic value documenting the park's evolving landscape and popular activities. I took photocopies of many paintings into Central Park, in the hope of finding precisely where the artists stood. I enjoyed thinking of myself

as following, on a small scale, the advice of the author of *The Oregon Trail*, Francis Parkman, who said that the historian must always see firsthand the places in his narrative. I was surprised at how often I could quite literally put myself in the painter's place. And I enjoyed discovering how some artists deliberately rearranged pieces of the landscape for their own expressive purposes.

The whole process of searching for the artists, their paintings, and the places they painted, and then looking for the broader patterns or historic interest the paintings may reveal, has given me a new appreciation for the park I thought I knew so well.

From *Painting Central Park* by Roger F. Pasquier (c) 2015. Used with permission of The Vendome Press.





George Bellows, *A Day in June*, 1913;  
Oil on canvas; Detroit Institute of Arts  
(pp. 146–147)



Richard Estes, *Sunday Afternoon  
in the Park*, 1989; Oil on canvas;  
Private collection (pp. 166–167)



Edward Hopper, *Bridal Path*, 1939;  
Oil on canvas; Private collection  
(pp. 118–119)



Alex Katz, *Bicycle Rider*  
(*Bicycling in Central Park*), 1982;  
Color lithograph;  
Metropolitan Museum of Art (p. 121)



## PANORAMA

*The Great God Pan* graces the lawn in front of Lewisohn Hall, but that hasn't always been the Greek deity's home. Alfred Corning Clark, the former head of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., ordered the piece from artist George Grey Barnard in the mid-1890s as a fountain for famed Upper West Side apartment building *The Dakota*, which then rejected it. The Clark family subsequently offered the sculpture to the City of New York for Central Park. The city also turned it down, and it eventually found a place at Columbia.

The statue's first home on campus was in the northeast corner where Mudd Hall is now; it was installed in 1907 as a working fountain and sitting area. To make room for construction on the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the statue was moved in 1959 to the square in front of Schermerhorn. Construction, this time on Avery, once again forced *Pan* to move. He finally came to rest in front of Lewisohn in 1975.

PHOTO: SCOTT RUDD

### Contents

**42** CCAA Message

**43** Alumni in the News

**44** Lions

Ashley Kahn '83, Robert Cottingham Jr. '88,  
Kerry Constabile '01

**48** Bookshelf

*Notorious RBG: The Life and Times  
of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*  
by Shana Knizhnik '10 and Irin Carmon

**50** Class Notes

**92** Obituaries

**96** Alumni Corner

## Reunions Provide Perspective on Who You Are, Who You Were

By Douglas R. Wolf '88



SCOTT RUDD

The word “reunion” can have many associations, depending on with what or with whom you are reuniting. A reunion between a parent and a child can be heartwarming. A high school reunion often includes awkward moments. But what about a college reunion? And what about a college reunion at a school not known for its school spirit but rather for a student community that is varied and diverse and often distracted by the urban metropolis steps away from its campus’ gates? As Reunion Weekend 2016 approaches (Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5), I thought about the meaning of a reunion at a school whose alumni are known as independent-minded, urbane and sometimes more socially conscious than socially unified.

Reunions at Columbia College have been happening for some time now. I have attended five for my Class of '88, and four for my wife, Sherri Pancer Wolf '90. I have found reunions are an informal and fun way to see old friends and classmates while being reminded of a place that was formative in my development. When I return to campus for reunion and see the Greek names running across the top of Butler Library or leisurely walk up the Low Steps — instead of racing across to make it to wrestling practice — memories of who I was as a student wash over me, even 25 years later. And when attending a cultural event as part of reunion — taking in a Broadway show or attending a ballet at the Metropolitan Opera — I’m reminded of my Core class outings while a student.

I have realized that Columbia College reunions are more than just an opportunity to see old friends and classmates — though it always amazes me how great the CC'88 turnout is and how well everyone is doing — but they are also a rare chance to reconnect with your 20-year-old self. I assure you that as reunions go, the one between you and your younger self is quite satisfying. It is eye-opening to reflect on who you were before you read the Core Curriculum, or panicked over that final paper or heard your graduation day speaker while sitting in a sea of Columbia Blue gowns. Passing Koronet Pizza makes me smile every time, as I think of the many late nights spent there either on the way to or back from a social adventure. Standing in front of Carman Hall reminds me of freshman move-in day, a time when I still relied on my parents to help me. A reunion is as much about oneself as it is about reconnecting with a place or with others. That’s not to say, though, that it’s not

also a great time to show your family the pool where you took the infamous swim test or the Butler stacks where scenes from *Ghostbusters* were filmed.

Since my 25th reunion in 2013, I have longed for more ways to connect to my younger self (don’t we all?) and to my Columbia friends as well as to current students and some of the College’s terrific current faculty. Waiting five years seemed too long, like I might lose momentum. Fortunately, opportunities to attend a Columbia reunion have become more frequent for me. I returned last year for my “27th reunion” while Sherri celebrated her 25th. Though I was out of my five-year cycle, I saw many familiar faces from my residence hall, from classes and from intramural teams. Surprisingly, I saw several other CC'88ers, too. In some ways, being back with friends made through non-class connections was just as fulfilling an experience as reunion was with my own class. I was seeing myself through other lenses, beyond just my graduation year and through my interests and passions. The chance to take Mini-Core Classes and have a glass of wine on the Steps — legally — was a nice bonus.

The opportunity to reconnect with the College, with friends of all affiliations and, of course, with Koronet, is now a more regular occasion for everyone, not just for those with a spouse in another class. The Saturday of Reunion Weekend 2016 (June 4) has been renamed All-Class Reunion. Formerly known as Dean’s Day, it is an annual event for all College alumni to return to campus for Mini-Core Classes, lectures, the Wine Tasting and Starlight Reception on Low Plaza, and for mingling with alumni from your own and other classes. Whenever you want to look back in time to gain perspective on who you are today — by meeting up with old friends or former teammates, by visiting campus spots that had meaning to your student experience or by sitting in a classroom with intelligent people — I encourage you to view Reunion Weekend as something to which to look forward to. I know I do.

So please mark your calendar for Reunion Weekend 2016. If your year ends in 1 or 6, you have a four-day milestone celebration ahead of you. If you’re like me, in an “off” year, let’s make the most of our one special day at All-Class Reunion. I’ll see you then!

**ROAR!**

On February 26, The Legal Foundation of Washington presented **Don Horowitz '56** with the 2016 Charles A. Goldmark Distinguished Service Award, which is given annually to an individual or organization “that has assisted in providing deep and meaningful access to the justice system.” In addition to his current work as a senior adviser at the University of Washington’s Information School, Horowitz previously served as a Washington Superior Court judge and as chief counsel for the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.

**Ommeed Sathe '00** was named in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy’s* first 40 Under 40 list of young leaders who have dedicated their careers to social change. Sathe is VP of impact investments at Prudential Financial in Newark, N.J., and oversees a \$500 million portfolio of investments designed to produce both financial and social returns.

*Making a Murderer*, the hit documentary series co-directed by **Moira Demos '96**, **SOA'08**, was called “Netflix’s most significant show ever” by *Forbes* in a January 3 article. Demos has been interviewed about the documentary — which was filmed over



ERIC CHARBONNEAU/NETFLIX

10 years and follows the story of Steven Avery, currently in prison for murder — in multiple media outlets, including *The New York Times* and *TODAY*. As a result of the series, more than 507,000 people have signed online petitions in an effort to release Avery from prison. *The New York Times* wrote on January 11: “Really, our

goal was to start a dialogue about what we viewed as important issues in our criminal justice system,” Demos told *Women in the World*. “It was always our goal, but I think this far exceeds what we expected, and we’re thrilled that so many people — and so many different people — all over the world are watching, and responding, and having different responses.”

Eight College alumni presented at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival in January: **Josh Fox '95**, director of *How to Let Go of the World (And Love All the Things Climate Can't Change)*; **Lodge Kerrigan '85**, director, screenwriter and executive producer of *The Girlfriend Experience*; **Katharina Otto-Bernstein '86, SOA'92**, producer of *Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures*; **Andrew Neel '01**, director of *Goat*; **Julia Bloch '99**, film editor of *Green Room*; **Yana Gorskaya '96**, editor of *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*; **Miguel Batista '93, BUS'99**, production accountant for *O.J.: Made in America*; and **Carly Hugo '06**, producer of *Suited*.

Columbians made a big splash on *Forbes’* 30 Under 30 list, with eight College alumni being recognized for excelling in their respective fields: **Amanda Gutterman '13**, founder of the online media company Slant (Media Category); **Shana Knizhnik '10**, author of the popular blog Notorious R.B.G. and co-author of the book of the same name (Media Category) [Editor’s Note: See Bookshelf.]; **Heben Nigatu '14**, co-host of BuzzFeed’s “Another Round” podcast (Media Category); **Michael Tannenbaum '10**, who helped negotiate the largest Fin-Tech investment through his work with SoFi’s \$1 billion investment in SoftBank (Finance Category); **Jerelyn Rodriguez '11**, founder of The Knowledge House, a STEM education-to-jobs pipeline in underserved neighborhoods (Education Category); **Christopher Lorn '10**, the consumer journey and analytics lead for tobacco company Philip Morris (Marketing and Advertising Category); and **Katherine Jin '16** and **Kevin Tyan '16**, co-creators (with **Jason Kang SEAS'16**) of Highlight, a brightly colored disinfectant that helps doctors fight Ebola (Healthcare Category) [Editor’s Note: See “Student Spotlight,” Winter 2015–16.].



MARATHONPHOTO

**Dave Obelkevich '65** holds the record for longest streak of finished consecutive New York City Marathons, having run his 39th in November. The accomplishment was covered by *Runner’s World* and *Canadian Running Magazine*; Obelkevich finished with a time of 4:57:01.

On January 5, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the appointment of **Lisette Camilo '98** as commissioner for the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. In a press release, Camilo was quoted, “I am excited by the prospects of continuing efforts to create a green city, support City Agency workforce needs and also maintain the historic city buildings that have become a staple in New York.”

**Nico Muhly '03** composed the musical score for *The New Yorker’s* first animated cover, which was drawn by Chris Ware and premiered on November 30. Listen to the audio and see the video: [newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/cover-story-2015-12-07](http://newyorker.com/culture/culture-desk/cover-story-2015-12-07).

The September 2015 issue of *Interior Design* magazine featured the work of **Erik Maran '86** and **Ira Smith '86**, co-founders of SmithMaran Architecture + Interiors. The duo’s design for Insight Venture Partners’ new space, on the 36th floor of midtown New York’s W. R. Grace Building, was covered with an article and slideshow of the finished space.

— Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09



COURTESY ASHLEY KAHN '83

## Ashley Kahn '83 Brings Music to Life

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

Known on-air as “The Cincinnati Kid” in his WKCR days, **Ashley Kahn '83** has gone from WKCR to the Grammy Awards. With three Grammy nods and a 2015 win for the third nomination under his belt, Kahn has mastered an art that may not immediately come to mind when thinking about music: album notes.

Album notes — also called liner notes — are historical, social, political and/or personal writings that are released with an album to help the listener better understand the context of the work. “My words are attached to this piece of music that’s being brought into the world for the first time — I better get it right,” says Kahn with a laugh while explaining his approach to writing album notes, adding that he looks at the process as creating a frame for readers to reference the music.

In addition to writing album notes, Kahn is a prolific music journalist and an adjunct instructor in NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts’ Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, teaching music history and criticism. Kahn’s 2015 Best Album Notes Grammy was for

his writing on John Coltrane’s two-disc archival release *Offering: Live at Temple University*, while his previous nominations were for 2004’s *Four Women: The Nina Simone Philips Recordings* and 2011’s *Side Steps*, another Coltrane release.

Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80, editor-at-large at *Smithsonian Magazine* (and former editor of *CCT*), has worked with Kahn at both *People* and *Vibe* magazines. “Ashley does the hard work,” Katz says. “He’s really a historian on the front lines of digging up information that is out there in crates, in people’s memories and in recorded fragments. Whatever it may be, he will take the time and effort not only to find it but also to understand it and piece it together.”

Kahn was born in the Bronx and grew up in Cincinnati. While at the College, where he majored in English, he developed a popular WKCR Tuesday night blues and jazz show. “WKCR kind of became more of my major than my major did,” Kahn says. “I was putting a lot of energy into it and, as such, I found there was a kind of self-teaching that was going on.”

Kahn got his start writing album notes while still at WKCR; his first notes were on blues guitarist Roy Buchanan's career revival album *When a Guitar Plays the Blues* for a small Chicago label, Alligator. Kahn says the opportunity came to him because someone at Alligator heard his blues/jazz radio show and invited him to Chicago to sit in on Buchanan's recording sessions and to then write up the notes explaining the album and Buchanan's musical history.

After graduation, Kahn moved to New Orleans, where he immersed himself in the jazz and blues scene: working for three radio stations, writing for *The New Orleans Times-Picayune* and, most influentially for his work, working with the world-renowned New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. That experience propelled him back to New York a few years later, where he worked with the NYC SummerStage program in its infancy, meeting artists like Paul Simon, Peter Gabriel and Ladysmith Black Mambazo, a Zulu choir for which he became the manager and traveled the world with for the next four years.

"Seeing the world through the eyes of musicians — people who are making their living being on the stage, being in studios, creating recordings ... It's incredibly informative and incredibly revealing on how to think about music in a way that I never would have done just coming out of a classroom, or as a journalist or DJ," Kahn says.

After being a band manager and producer for several years, Kahn returned to writing with 1998's *Rolling Stone: The Seventies*, a book of essays chosen to capture the essence of the '70s with both new and republished *Rolling Stone* articles and photographs. From there, his writing career took off again, with eight books and dozens of articles in publications like *Rolling Stone*, *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. His most recent book is a collaboration with guitarist Carlos Santana for the musician's 2014 memoir, *The Universal Tone: Bringing My Story To Light*. It won the



BENNY RIETVELD

Ashley Kahn '83 (far right) with Carlos Santana (center) and Hal Miller, Kahn's co-author on Santana's 2014 memoir, backstage at a Santana gig in Woodstock, N.Y., on June 15, 2014.

2015 American Book Award and was voted one of NPR's "Best Books of 2014"; Kahn says the writing process took 81 interviews over the course of 1½ years.

Katz says that Kahn's passion and respect for music shines through his writing, giving listeners an enhanced experience. "There's a certain amount of understatement in his writing," Katz says. "It's like radio — a lot of it takes place in your own mind when you're listening; it's not beating you over the head. His writing has the same quality that great radio has — he opens the door and you come to [experience] it next to him."

### CCT Web Extras

To hear Ashley Kahn '83's answers to press questions after winning a Grammy, go to [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

## Fencer and Business Owner Bob Cottingham Jr. '88 Leads in Both Roles

By Caroline Rothstein JRN'10

**B**ob Cottingham Jr. '88 says his fencing career, which peaked when he was a member of the 1988 and 1992 U.S. Olympic teams, has directly informed how he manages his rapidly growing global consulting business, Sabre88. And his longtime philanthropic work, both with Columbia's fencing team and with the Peter Westbrook Foundation, is helping to develop a new generation of fencers.

Cottingham, a history major with a 1994 law degree from Rutgers, came to fencing after his older sister promised her high school fencing coach at Montclair (N.J.) Kimberley Academy that her brother would try the sport. "I took on the challenge," says the effervescent Cottingham. "And fencing made Sabre88."

Founded by Cottingham in 2008 as a one-man bedroom operation in Newark, N.J., Sabre88 — named for his weapon and for an important year in his life: his College class year, his first Olympics and the year he won the NCAA individuals — was named the 16th fastest-growing inner city business last year in *Fortune's* "Inner City

100." Sabre88 works with both commercial and federal government clients, among them the Navy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the General Services Administration. With nearly 50 employees based on government and client sites, and \$2.5 million in revenue in 2014, Sabre88 has experienced 672 percent growth since 2012. Last year, *Inc.'s* annual "Inc. 5000" list of the nation's fastest growing private companies ranked Sabre88 671st, and among the top 10 fastest-growing companies led by an African-American CEO.

For Cottingham, who was named by The U.S. Small Business Administration as "New Jersey's 2015 Minority Small Business Person of the Year," customer service is Sabre88's backbone. He tailors the execution of each contract to each client, a skill he honed in prior jobs: serving as a district director for former Rep. Donald Payne (D-N.J.) from 1996 to 2004 and helping grow Phacil, a technology services government contractor, from a company with five employees in 2004 to 850 in 2008.

But even more than those experiences, Cottingham credits fencing for his ability to respond quickly and effectively to challenges.

“Fencing helped me think strategically,” says Cottingham, who as a College student navigated schoolwork while being on both the Columbia and U.S. fencing teams. He competed nationally and internationally, was team captain junior and senior years, and was NCAA Fencer of the Year in 1988 after winning individuals and helping lead Columbia to an NCAA Championship for the second consecutive year. In 2010, he was inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

Each time Sabre88 wins a contract, because of its work with the federal government on a multi-state level with separate rules and regulations in each state, Cottingham has to ensure that everything — from benefits to compensation to time off and sick days — is in compliance with the law. For example, during January’s massive East Coast snowstorm, some of Cottingham’s employees were permitted to telecommute while others were not, given the strictly regulated nature of the material with which they work.

“The recovery is what is so critical,” Cottingham says, noting how this vital fencing skill informs his ability to respond daily at work. “That’s what really drives me — the fight.”

When he’s not traveling to meet with each employee quarterly, Cottingham arrives to Sabre88 headquarters, at New Jersey Institute of Technology’s Enterprise Development Center, between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Because every day brings on different challenges, he’s always prepared to connect with customers, and eager for good reviews. These feel to him like winning a fencing tournament, as all contracts thus far have been referrals, he says.

Columbia fencing teammate Marc Oshima ’91 calls Cottingham a fierce, passionate competitor. “Bob has always been the consummate role model and leader, setting an example around the championship mentality,” says Oshima. “He challenged all of us to be competing against the world, not just the University ... What he helped foster was a culture of winning.”

Oshima has relished watching his friend give back by his support of the Columbia alumni fencing club and current team, both financially and by mentoring current, past and incoming fencing students.

## Thinking Globally, Kerry Constabile ’01 Looks Locally for Climate Solutions

By Kim Martineau JRN’97

Cities produce most of the carbon pollution heating up the planet. It makes sense they would be key to reducing it. **Katherine “Kerry” Constabile ’01, SIPA’06** has bet her career on it.

In a variety of jobs straddling science and policy, environmental advocacy and economic development, Constabile has stuck to her belief that cities, home to more than half of the world’s population, are the building blocks of a sustainable future.

“In cities, citizens are close to where decisions are made,” she says. “Cities are also hotbeds of innovation.”



LOIS GREENFIELD

Bob Cottingham Jr. ’88 uses skills from his fencing career in his business, aptly named Sabre88.

Many of the fencers Cottingham mentors began their careers as kids at the Peter Westbrook Foundation, which Cottingham has been a part of since its inception 25 years ago, as a founder, and for which he now is chairman of the board. The foundation, based in New York City, teaches fencing to youth from underserved communities. “Each Saturday, I get into the weeds by coaching the beginner sabre class with Akhi Spencer-El, a Columbia assistant coach and former foundation student,” says Cottingham, who wears Columbia blue on those days.

Even Cottingham’s children — Bobby (17) and Alison (14) — fence with the foundation as well as for Montclair Kimberley Academy, where Cottingham met his wife, also named Alison, in ninth grade.

Cottingham says his employees know how important fencing is to him, and how passionate he is about the foundation. “I get to serve in leadership in two different capacities, and each one informs the other,” he says.

*Caroline Rothstein JRN’10 is a New York City-based writer, performer, activist and arts educator. She tours internationally performing spoken word poetry, and her work has appeared in BuzzFeed, Narratively, Williams Magazine and elsewhere.*

Constabile is the lead cities adviser to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon’s climate change team, the group that quietly orchestrated last December’s climate deal in Paris. After nearly 25 years of inaction, 195 countries agreed to set voluntary goals to limit warming, phase out carbon emissions by mid-century and help poor countries adapt to climate change and develop clean-energy technology.

The stalemate appeared to end suddenly but the groundwork had been painstakingly laid for nearly two years in an office that works hard to stay in the background. Faced with long odds that national leaders would agree to a binding climate treaty, Ban shifted

tacks just as Constabile joined his office. The problem would be approached from the bottom up.

In March 2014, Constabile and the climate team began to meet weekly with a group of 10 organizations, from Bloomberg Philanthropies to The World Bank. Their goal: to talk cities and companies into cutting emissions and investing in clean energy solutions, prodding national governments to act. “Cities, CEOs and citizens — these are the levers to make national governments more ambitious,” says Constabile.

The momentum shifted at the UN Climate Summit in New York that September. Several coalitions that Constabile and her team helped bring about were announced, among them the Compact of Mayors, a forum for cities to pledge to reduce emissions. A group of institutional investors promised to decarbonize \$100 billion in assets. And the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance was announced to help governments line up financing to adapt to rising seas and warmer temperatures, and to lower emissions by improving energy efficiency in buildings, expanding public transit and investing in renewable energy, among other tactics.

The summit paved the way for the critical United States–China climate deal two months later, along with pledges from a growing number of cities (now up to 420) to cut emissions. Much of what Constabile and the climate team did behind the scenes is confidential, but she is able to say that they wrote speeches, traveled extensively to meet officials and organized calls, emails and events to advance the cause.

Her persistence has impressed those who have worked with her. “Kerry is smart, determined, pragmatic and not least, charming,” says John Tidmarsh, CIO for R20 Regions of Climate Action, a public-private consortium founded by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to accelerate the shift to a low-carbon economy. “She

manages to get what she wants while making others think it was their idea.”

Constabile carries a small camera with her to document historic moments, a hobby she picked up at Columbia in Thomas Roma’s “Intro to Photography” class. Her photos of Bloomberg and Ban have run in news outlets across the globe.

Raised in suburban Larchmont, N.Y., Constabile is equally at home in rural and urban settings. She spent a year at Reed College in Oregon before New York’s arts and culture scene called her back.

Transferring to Columbia as a sophomore, she worked part-time at the Whitney Museum of American Art while studying political science and art history. She co-founded a student group, Urban Roots, to expose city kids to the outdoors, and in a work-study job with UNESCO helped organize the first global conference on biodiversity in cities.

---

*Constabile’s studies at SIPA convinced her that economic incentives work best to change behavior.*

---

Constabile spent a year in Costa Rica studying the effects of deforestation on climate before joining *Grist*, a startup environmental news magazine in Seattle. There, she researched answers for “Ask Umbra,” an Ann Landers-style column for environmentalists that she still reads.

Returning to New York in 2004 to study at SIPA, Constabile analyzed the success of fisheries quotas in Namibia and Chile. It convinced her that economic incentives work best to change behavior. Not long after the European Union launched a carbon market to address climate change, she moved to London to work in sustainable investing.

While Constabile was away, a charismatic senator emerged on the national stage. She volunteered for Barack Obama ’83’s campaign from abroad and when he clinched the Presidential nomination, she moved to New Hampshire to help campaign leadership there.

After Obama was elected, Constabile became lead adviser on urban planning for UNICEF, where she dove deeply into country-specific data on water quality, sanitation, health care and education. Separating city indicators from rural ones, she was able to show that relatively little aid was going to the urban poor. Her analysis opened a debate that continues today on shifting aid to slums, home to an anticipated 1.6 billion people by 2050. “Data makes the invisible visible,” she says.

Most of the world’s great cities sit beside water, and rich and poor alike are at risk of being swamped by rising seas. A warmer climate also spells trouble for agriculture, biodiversity, human health and attempts to reduce poverty and inequality. “It’s the most pressing issue of our time,” Constabile says. “If we don’t get this right we don’t get anything right. The key now is to capitalize on the momentum and do more, quickly, at the most local of levels.”

---

*Kim Martineau JRN’97 leads communications at Columbia’s Data Science Institute.*



COURTESY: KERRY CONSTABILE '01, SIPA '06

Kerry Constabile '01, SIPA'06, lead cities adviser to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon’s climate change team, believes it’s key is to capitalize on the current momentum at the most local of levels.

# bookshelf

## Notorious RBG Goes from Blog to Book

By Jessica Gresko '05

If there were a fan club for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg LAW'59, the most senior member of the U.S. Supreme Court's liberal wing, it's a good bet that **Shana Knizhnik '10** would be a candidate for its presidency.

Two years ago, Knizhnik created the Notorious R.B.G. blog ([notoriousrbg.tumblr.com](http://notoriousrbg.tumblr.com)), which celebrates the almost-83-year-old justice with photos, memes, fan art, quotes and links to recent articles involving Ginsburg. The blog — whose name is a tongue-in-cheek nod to The Notorious B.I.G., the rapper who died in 1997 — took off, with a quarter of a million visitors in its first year.

Now the blog is the starting point of a new biography of the justice, *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* (Dey Street/William Morrow Publishers, \$19.99), co-authored by Knizhnik and MSNBC reporter Irin Carmon.

Knizhnik says the goal was to create a book that has the album-like feel of the blog and the substance of a biography. The finished product takes readers through Ginsburg's life, from growing up in Brooklyn to her work on the Supreme Court. It includes annotated excerpts of important opinions she has written as well as professional and personal photos (including one in which she's white-water rafting), images of papers from her archives and even her workout, which includes the elliptical, planks and one-legged squats.

"The hope is that people take the message — the inspiring story of Justice Ginsburg's life — and are able to bring that to their own lives in some way," Knizhnik says.

Knizhnik's road to authorship began in summer 2013. A political science major at the College, she had just finished her first year of law school at NYU and was paying attention to the news out of the Supreme Court, which finishes its term in June.

She says she was disappointed with a number of the court's decisions from the end of that term, particularly *Shelby County v. Holder*, which struck down a portion of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, a

law enacted to combat discrimination in voting. The only bright spot, Knizhnik says, was the outrage of Ginsburg, who wrote that throwing out that portion of the Voting Rights Act was like "throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet." On Facebook, a friend of Knizhnik's jokingly called the justice "Notorious R.B.G." Inspired, Knizhnik decided to start a Tumblr blog with that name.

"I felt like there needed to be a space to celebrate this amazing person who has done so much for us as a nation," Knizhnik says.

In 2014, the blog earned Knizhnik an invitation to Washington, D.C., to meet Ginsburg, who has said her grandchildren love the blog and that she tries "to keep abreast" of its posts. When Knizhnik met Ginsburg in her chambers, the justice was recovering from surgery but said she had a message for the blog's followers: "I'll be back doing push-ups next week."

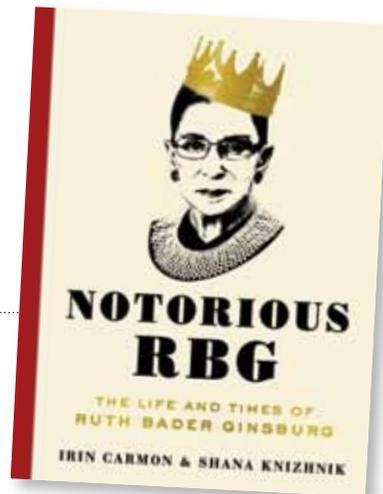
Around the same time, in the fall of her third and final year of law school, Knizhnik was approached by a HarperCollins editor, Julia Cheiffetz BC'00, about using the blog as a jumping-off point for a book. Although she says she never envisioned herself as a book author, Knizhnik was excited by the prospect and asked if she could be paired with a co-author. Cheiffetz suggested Carmon, who, it turns out, lived a few blocks away from Knizhnik in Brooklyn.

The two have described their pairing as an "arranged marriage" that became a "happy partnership."

It took about a year for the two to finish the book, which came out the same day in October that Knizhnik learned she had passed the New York bar.

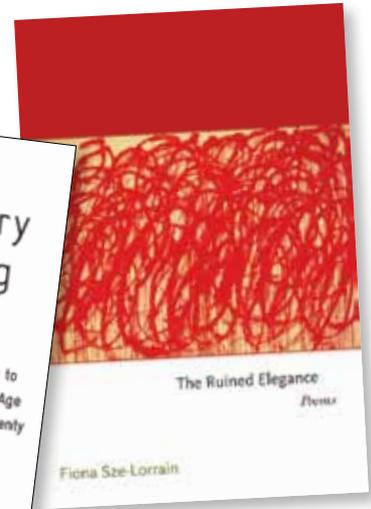
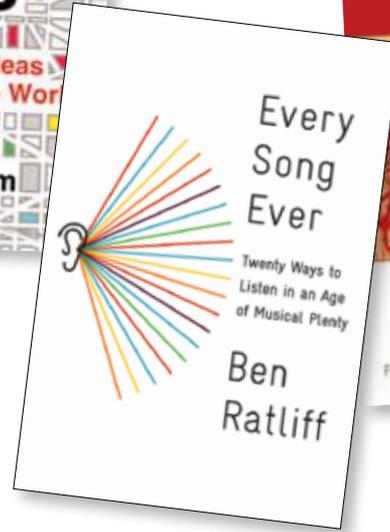
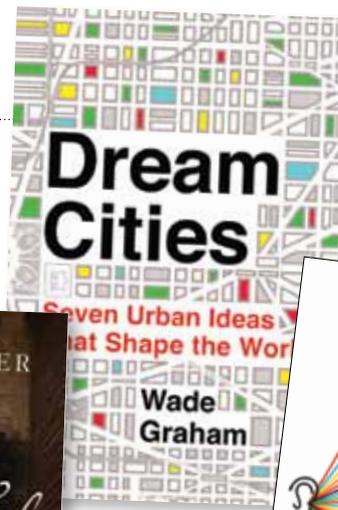
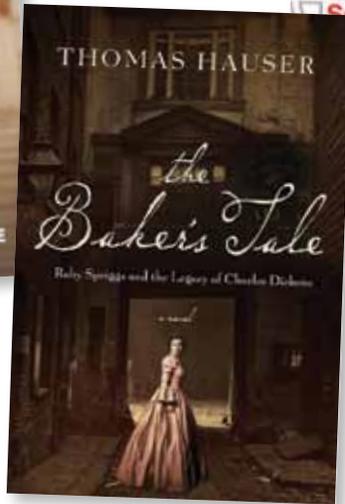
As of January 31, the book had been on *The New York Times*' best-seller list for seven weeks. Knizhnik and Carmon have been interviewed about the book for the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, NPR and MSNBC, where they did Ginsburg's workout with her personal trainer (while wearing Notorious R.B.G. T-shirts, of course).

Knizhnik has been juggling appearances and interviews for the book with her day job as a law clerk for a federal appeals court judge in her hometown, Philadelphia, and hopes to become a public defender. As for future writing projects for the co-authors, Carmon says many exciting opportunities have come about as a result of the book, but it's too soon to talk specifics. "We are just now starting to catch our breath and think about what's next," she says.



MARTIN BENTSEN

Jessica Gresko '05 works in Washington, D.C.



**Jews Against Themselves** by *Edward Alexander '57*. How has history shaped renderings of modern Jewish political and societal issues in the media? Alexander's essays dissect Holocaust denial, boycotts of Israel, blindness to antisemitism and other topics, striving to illuminate why some Jewish intellectuals seem to be ashamed of where they come from (Transaction Publishers, \$24.95).

**Toward a More Perfect University** by *Jonathan R. Cole '64*. As good as the American system of higher learning has become, there is still much to do to maximize its potential — so writes Cole, the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, provost emeritus and dean emeritus of the faculties. He analyzes, and offers suggestions for overcoming, the biggest challenges facing the modern university (PublicAffairs, \$29.99).

**The Baker's Tale: Ruby Spriggs and the Legacy of Charles Dickens** by *Thomas Hauser '67*. Dickens' encounter with an infant girl living in deplorable conditions in 1836 London provides the launch point for this novel that imagines what happened to her afterward. More than inspired by the English author, Hauser's story channels his voice and the causes he championed (Counterpoint Press, \$25).

**Liberating Aesthetics for the Aspiring Artist and the Inspired Audience** by *Wayne Wild '68*. Wild's book grew out of a course he teaches at the Berklee College of Music and aims to remedy what he calls the "stifling effect of a search for 'meaning' in works of art."

His prescription: Be instinctive. How does the art make you feel (Kendall Hunt Publishing Co., \$74.95)?

**Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors** by *William B. Bonvillian '69* and *Charles Weiss*. "Legacy" here means established economic sectors like manufacturing, agriculture, defense, health-care delivery and higher education. The authors contend these industries are suffering from a deficit of innovation and job creation, and they analyze the obstacles and offer solutions (Oxford University Press, \$55).

**Painting Central Park** by *Roger F. Pasquier '69*. See how this beloved landmark has inspired artists from Homer Winslow to Edward Hopper and Christo. The accompanying narrative — about the featured painters and the evolution of the park — adds another dimension to this volume, which seems destined for the coffee tables of New Yorkers and nature lovers alike [Editor's note: See "Forum," Winter 2015–16.] (Vendome Press, \$60).

**The Porch of Common Prayer: A Meditation upon Happiness** by *Peter Tuttle '71*. The author ruminates on how he stumbled upon the privilege of being happy. More than a series of autobiographical musings, this book is a reflection on life and how happiness can be found in the simplest of places, without being purposefully chased or even sought (Back Shore Press, \$19.95).

**The Uncollected David Rakoff** by *David Rakoff '86*. Rakoff's sharp, funny voice shines in this collection featuring essays, short fiction and a novel in

verse. From discussions of the faded fame of Frank Sinatra to comedic rants about inconsiderate dog owners, this book gives readers the opportunity to discover the talents of the writer, who died in 2012 (Anchor, \$15.95).

**Dream Cities: Seven Urban Ideas That Shape the World** by *Wade Graham '89*. Graham offers a cultural history of some of the architects and ideas that have influenced our built environments. Get educated about malls, monuments and the so-called castles in our midst — then go for a walk: You're bound to see things in a new light (Harper, \$29.99).

**War in the Shallows: U.S. Navy Coastal and Riverine Warfare in Vietnam, 1965–1968** by *John Darrell Sherwood '89*. Get "a glimpse of the humanity behind the hardware" in this rigorous work of history. By interweaving an account of the Navy's involvement in Vietnam with interviews with veterans, Sherwood honors the soldiers' sacrifice and highlights their impact on the conflict (Naval History and Heritage Command, \$75).

**Every Song Ever: Twenty Ways to Listen in an Age of Musical Plenty** by *Ben Ratliff '90*. Listen for pleasure and listen to more — with these tenets in mind, Ratliff lays out his guide for experiencing music today. The *New York Times* critic's "strategy of openness" forsakes genre in favor of a freer sonic association. Who'd have thought Billie Holiday and Black Sabbath could be part of the same conversation (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$26)?

**Hangman's Game: A Nick Gallow Mystery** by *Bill Syken '90*. Syken's debut follows Gallow, a pro football player striving for the success he had in his youth. When the wrong man is accused as the mastermind behind a series of murders, Gallow is drawn into a whirlwind of trials and accusations. In this novel of sports and suspicion, how far will Gallow go for glory (Minotaur Books, \$25.99)?

**The Stratford Zoo Midnight Revue Presents Romeo and Juliet** by *Ian Lendler '96*, with art by *Zack Giallongo*. Surprise casting takes on new meaning in this graphic novel featuring a bear as Juliet and a rooster as Romeo. Bits of hilarity are paired with poignant realism as the animal characters act out a fresh version of Shakespeare's tragedy (First Second, \$12.99).

**What Men Should Know About Women** by *Erica M. Loberg '99*. An early entry in this poetry collection declares: "Yeah, I'm a person / Ready to live / To tell / To think / To be." Loberg makes good on her promise, writing with frankness and feeling about what it is to be a woman braving the terrain of love and sexuality (Chipmunka Publishing, \$15).

**The Ruined Elegance: Poems** by *Fiona Sze-Lorrain '03*. The author, who has lived in Europe, America and Asia, draws from every aspect of her broad perspective in this poetry collection. Lyricism and wisdom intertwine as she urges acute observation rather than an impossible search for exact truth: "Believe me, / answers are small" (Princeton University Press, \$14.95).

—*Aiyana K. White '18*

# classnotes



CCT ARCHIVES

Boarding a special nonstop 1 train to Lower Manhattan/Trinity Church (Columbia's first home) to celebrate the Charter Day Bicentennial on April 10, 1987. Charter Day is April 13.

## 1941

**Robert Zucker**  
26910 Grand Central Pkwy,  
Apt. 24G  
Floral Park, NY 11005  
robert.zucker@aol.com

Had a call from **Ray Robinson** to advise that he had experienced, with difficulty, his 95th birthday. Ray started at the Law School after graduation and, as did many classmates, went into the army. When he was released he went back to law school. In the middle of his third year, he decided it was not for him and he quit. He became a sportswriter, was an editor at *Sports Illustrated* and several other magazines, and wrote many articles for *The New York Times*, particularly about Lou Gehrig '23. Ray's wife, Phyllis, was Junior Phi Beta at

Vassar and is in her seventh year of severe Alzheimer's.

I was the sixth youngest in the class, which keeps getting smaller. I would love to hear from you. Please send news to the addresses at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1942

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

I was sorry to note the obituary for **William Carey BUS'42** in the Winter 2015–16 issue. I knew Bill casually from our meetings at Homecomings through the years. We often sat together and enjoyed our reminiscences, including our 50th

reunion gathering in Harriman, N.Y., in 1992, at which Bill entertained us with his snappy jazz piano riffs. In the last years of his life, when Bill's cognitive status began to decline, he still came to Homecoming, sat silently under the tent with us and seemed to enjoy the occasion. Farewell to a loyal friend and classmate.

On October 10, this correspondent attended the 90th birthday party for Avra Mark at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in White Plains, N.Y. Avra, widow of Dr. **Herbert Mark**,

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of CCT prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of CCT, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

looked and acted much younger than her chronological age and announced that in the audience of 50 guests, there were eight among us older than 90. Herb was my dearest lifelong friend until his unfortunate death in January 2006. In our sophomore year, we roomed together in Livingston Hall with **Robert Kaufman**, who at 94 is alive and well in Scarsdale, N.Y. I'm looking forward to Avra's 91st birthday this year.

On September 22, Dr. **Gerald Klingon** celebrated his 95th birthday in his apartment in New York City. Gerry, a distinguished neurologist and historian of Columbiana, was a nifty first baseman on our baseball team who once hit a home run into the Harlem River Ship Canal. He is a well-known authority on the history of the Brooklyn Dodgers and also has miscellaneous New York Giants and New York Yankees memorabilia. Gerry's son Robert (an Amherst alumnus) is an honorary member of our Great Class of 1942.

*The New York Times* reported the November 16, 2015, death of Dr. Michael Bruno '43, PS'45 at 93. Mike graduated from P&S on an accelerated wartime schedule and in 1956 became director of the Department of Medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan, serving in that position for 35 years as a dynamic leader and visionary in medical education.

I write about Mike because I knew him well. We served together in the Army in occupied Japan in 1946–47 as medical officers with the 27th Infantry Regiment. Our regiment was

professional football after Columbia, and Rossides, an attorney, became assistant secretary of the Treasury during the Kennedy administration.

A brief analysis of coach Al Bagnoli's first Columbia football season reveals some interesting statistics. We allowed the fewest points of any Ivy League team during the season (143) and also scored the fewest points in the League on our total schedule (198). We had a significant Ivy League win over Yale (17–7) and won one other game, against Wagner (26–3). Our defense was one of the best in the league but our offense was ineffective, despite the efforts of our great running back Cameron Molina '16, who was elected to the All-Ivy team. Coach Bagnoli is off to a good start and I look forward to much success in the near future.

As I write these comments, Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas and 2016 are around the corner. I send good wishes to all classmates and their families.

## 1943

**G.J. D'Angio**  
201 S. 18th St., #1818  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
dangio@earthlink.net

There was a nice profile on our football-playing classmate Dr. **Felix Demartini** PS'46 in the Fall 2015 issue, page 33. It also mentioned All-American quarterback **Paul Governali**. A photo of those two, plus coach Lou Little — all Italian-

### *Former Columbia first baseman*

*Dr. Gerald Klingon '42 celebrated his 95th birthday in his New York City apartment on September 22.*

full of young West Point officers on overseas duty and when Columbia, led by quarterback Gene Rossides '49, LAW'52; halfback Lou Kusserow '49; and spectacular end Bill Swiacki BUS'48, '49, upset a great Army team 21–20 in 1947, our West Point colleagues did not appreciate our celebration. Rossides and Kusserow were known as the Goal Dust Twins, and could score from anywhere on the field. Swiacki and Kusserow played

Americans — accompanied the profile. That constellation must have given our intolant president, Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882), some pause. And they were not the only ones; **Mike Bruno** PS'45 was also a member of the squad. He, too, became an outstanding physician and later became the director of the Department of Medicine and a trustee of the Lenox Hill Hospital. [Editor's note: See Obituaries.] Any

## COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

<b>BC</b>	Barnard College
<b>BUS</b>	Columbia Business School
<b>CP</b>	Pharmaceutical Sciences
<b>DM</b>	College of Dental Medicine
<b>GS</b>	School of General Studies
<b>GSAPP</b>	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
<b>GSAS</b>	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
<b>JRN</b>	Graduate School of Journalism
<b>JTS</b>	Jewish Theological Seminary
<b>LAW</b>	Columbia Law School
<b>LS</b>	Library Service
<b>NRS</b>	School of Nursing
<b>PH</b>	Mailman School of Public Health
<b>PS</b>	College of Physicians and Surgeons
<b>SEAS</b>	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
<b>SIPA</b>	School of International and Public Affairs
<b>SOA</b>	School of the Arts
<b>SPS</b>	School of Professional Studies
<b>SW</b>	School of Social Work
<b>TC</b>	Teachers College
<b>UTS</b>	Union Theological Seminary

CC'43 footballers left out there? Any stories of those years? Share them with those of us whose time at Baker Field (now known as Robert K. Kraft Field) was spent in the bleachers.

I have been working on a history of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology (abbreviated as SIOP, derived from an acronym of the title in French). I had been president and an active member of the organization for many years. My co-authors and I are at the stage of collecting reviews, photos, anecdotes and so forth ... We expect to be finished by next autumn.

Pope Francis arrived in Philadelphia in late September and turned the city on its ear. Center City universities, businesses, museums and so on closed or were on skeleton staffs for days. The pope performed one miracle: Philadelphia became a quiet city on September 27. No vehicular traffic was allowed across a broad swath of city blocks. It was quite remarkable to be able to walk down the center of major avenues without concern. The pope's visit was a great success; his several functions were thronged and tens of thousands of pilgrims from everywhere packed Benjamin Franklin Parkway for his open-air mass that Sunday.

Soon thereafter, my wife, Audrey, and I entertained a group of pediatric oncology trainees — so-called Fel-

lows — on our then still-flowering 18th-floor terrace. Luckily, it didn't rain as had been forecast. The cancer center chief had wanted the Fellows to meet the five Philly childhood cancer pioneers still alive, my wife and I among them. Interesting point: three of the five (including me) are Brooklynites. It was a lovely occasion. The future is cupped in their capable young hands.

Audrey and I had a delightful overnight stay in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., in October. My son and his wife were there; they had wanted to ride the railroad from Albany to Poughkeepsie in the autumn. It is a delightful ride, viewing the fall foliage of the Hudson Valley in full color. Our trip from Philly was equally pleasant for the same reason. My sister-in-law was a loyal alumna of all-girl Vassar (Poughkeepsie) until it became coeducational. Loyal alumna no more.

November brought Audrey another award, this one by the swank Colonial Society of Pennsylvania. Members all can trace their lineage back to arrival on these shores before 1700. She was honored as a "Contemporary Pioneer," defined as a first-generation American who has made "significant contributions to his/her community." Audrey is English by birth and has made several "significant contributions to

Philadelphia” — in fact, to the world — and therefore fits the criterion. She is the 13th person to receive this award since it was instituted in 1957. It was a nice evening with dinner at the posh Philadelphia Club. It was enlivened for me when I was greeted by an old friend, Dr. George Hill. He is a pediatric surgeon and fellow-combatant in the battle against childhood cancer. We hadn't met before in the intervening >40 years.

We had two Thanksgiving Day dinners. The first was on Monday of Thanksgiving week at St. James School, which my wife co-founded; there were 25 staff members present. The second meal was at home. Some real friends cooked the dinner in their home and brought it into town for us to share. We had nothing to do for either meal except open bottles of Prosecco. We certainly gave thanks for having friends like that!

Faithful **Bernie Weisberger** reports: “It has been a reasonably

and early October (often unsuccessfully) with a less weighty matter in the scale of history — to wit, the baseball season. As a Chicago Cubs addict, I was glued to the television set almost nightly during the team's amazingly successful season after long years of drought — compiling the third best won-lost record in both leagues and advancing to the National League Championship Series where, alas, they were beaten by the New York Mets. The latter were my heroes in the days when my home was New York before my permanent migration to Chicago in 1990.

“When I wasn't watching baseball, I was talking about it with friends, hearing and reading about it in the media and, now and then, dreaming about it. Ely had a hard time breaking in. But I claim some respectability; it was Walt Whitman (according to his biographer Horace Traubel) who said that baseball ‘belongs as much to our institutions,

intriguing exhibition of Egyptian art of the Middle Kingdom at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and also got a look at the new World Trade Center and the memorial pools at its foot. I gather they are where the foundations of the Twin Towers had laid — a powerful and moving memorial to a never-to-be-forgotten tragedy. I didn't have occasion to visit campus this time to check for changes.

“Now, back home, I am caught up in the usual end-of-year celebrating (as I write it is December). To all and sundry, have a prosperous and healthy 2016.”

## 1944

**Bill Friedman**  
833-B Heritage Hills  
Somers, NY 10589  
swf685@aol.com

Greetings, classmates. Although there is no news this time, we all would love to hear from you! Updates about family, summer plans, hobbies and anything else you would like to share are welcome. Please send news to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 1945

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

Winifred Rothenberg BC'47, GSAS'49 shares this remembrance of her husband, **Jerome Rothenberg** GSAS'54, who passed away last summer:

“I welcome the opportunity to tell the Class of 1945 about their classmate. Jerry (who would have preferred to be a poet) majored in economics and went on to get his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Columbia. He then taught at Amherst, UC Riverside, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Chicago, Northwestern, Oxford (Nuffield College) and The London School of Economics before settling down for the long haul at MIT in 1966. Along the way he was

engaged in China, health economics, resource economics, arms control, public sector economics, housing and urban studies. He married me, then Winifred Barr, in 1948; we have three children and two grandchildren. The arc of his life ended on August 10, 2015. His life was a blessing.”

CCT encourages all '45-ers to send an update. Write about family or friends, retirement, travel or hobbies — it's a wonderful way to connect with classmates. You can send news to the addresses at the top of the column or use the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

Be well and enjoy the spring!

## 1946

**Bernard Sunshine**  
165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G  
New York, NY 10023  
bsuns1@gmail.com

Our class will celebrate its 70th anniversary on Tuesday, May 17, at Class Day. Your Class Committee members (**Herbert Hendin, Ira Millstein, Leonard Moss, Irwin Nydick, Don Summa** and **Bernard Sunshine**) are working to make it a memorable day. This is the day when graduating seniors receive diplomas, and CC'46 will march (walk) with our class banner as part of the ceremony. The graduates' enthusiastic greeting and response will stay with us long after the moment. A reunion luncheon on campus with wives and friends will follow, with appropriate accoutrements, music and good fellowship. A

*Bernie Weisberger '43 co-wrote an article to be published in the journal Democracy about Richard Ely (Class of 1876).*

interesting fall season for me in a number of ways. First of all, I was busy completing an article written in collaboration with a young economist friend, slated to appear in the journal *Democracy* in the spring. I publish this ‘advertisement for myself’ only because I am tickled to be able to continue writing as I commence my 94th year of life. The article's subject matter is Richard Ely, a progressive economist with a long and distinguished academic career. He was a pioneer of modern social science, one of the founders of the American Economic Association in 1885 and a member of the Class of 1876. I have never thought of myself as an especially dedicated alumnus and have not taken part in alumni affairs, but somehow my ears always perk up when I discover that some historic notable is a fellow alum, even though the Columbia he attended may have been a far different place than the one I knew.

“I have to confess, however, that my scholarly project had to compete for attention throughout September

fits into them as much as our constitutions, laws; is just as important in the sum total of our historic life.’ And, I would add, is a very consoling distraction from the travails of our present public life.

“Returning, then, to other matters — including encounters with Columbia graduates — for the second time this year I heard Jeremy Bob '00 (my step-grandson-in-law) deliver a talk in Chicago as part of a lecture tour. He shared with us his thoughts as a legal reporter for the *Jerusalem Post*. And for a final reminder to me of the Columbia connection, I sadly noted the passing of another old friend — too frequent an occurrence at this time of life — Kenneth Milford '50.

“I end here with a brief account of a whirlwind two-day visit to New York (December 2–4) during which I was, as always, overwhelmed by the great city's traffic, bustling crowds, infinite variety of cityscapes and general air of being one of the world's classic examples of urban civilization. I managed to see an



## Contact CCT

Update your contact information; submit a Class Note, Class Note photo, obituary, Letter to the Editor or classified advertisement; or send us an email. Click “Contact Us” at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

mailing will provide details. The 70th comes around only once. Don't miss it.

**Alan Berman** GSAS'52 wrote: "My real memories of Columbia begin in fall 1946 when, as a returning WWII veteran, I entered graduate school in Columbia's Department of Physics. There I encountered and was immersed in the most intellectually stimulating environment it has ever been my pleasure to be in. Five of the members of the faculty were or would eventually become Nobel laureates. Eventually seven of my classmates also won Nobel prizes — not a bad ratio considering that only 20 members of my class eventually received their doctorates.

"I was supported by the GI Bill; in order to ease my financial burdens, I took a job as a technician in Professor Isidor Rabi GSAS'57's laboratory where, under his direction, I helped with the building of what would one day become the world's first atomic clock. The device is now on display in the Smithsonian.

"At the time, Dwight Eisenhower was Columbia's president. One morning, while hunched over equipment, I looked up and realized that George Pegram (dean of the physics department), Professor Rabi and Gen. Eisenhower had entered my laboratory. Eisenhower asked me, 'What are you working on?' I gave a stumbling explanation. He smiled and asked, 'Who is paying for this equipment?' When I replied that the Navy was supporting the project he scowled, 'Why? What military value can it possibly have?' Before I could respond, Professor Rabi interjected, 'This is pure research. It has no foreseeable military value.'

"How wrong they both were! Through the next 65–70 years, the performance and precision of atomic clocks (time standards) were improved immensely. Both military and civilian applications followed — GPS, satellite communications, high-speed digital computers, lasers, precision guided munitions, air traffic control systems ... the list goes on and on. The civil and military worlds are remarkably different as a result of Professor Rabi's initial concept."

Alan's recollections brought to mind one of my own. While a student, I was photographer for *Columbia Alumni News*. Professor Rabi had been awarded the Nobel Prize but could not travel to Sweden to receive it during WWII, and

the medal was sent to New York. I photographed the ceremony when President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) made the presentation; the photo is displayed in Pupin Hall. Years later I had occasion to meet Mrs. Rabi and I recounted the ceremony at [then-named] Columbia's Faculty Club. She grimaced and said, "When he made the presentation, Butler called him Dr. Fermi."

From **Arnold Zentner** PS'48: "After practicing psychiatry in NYC and Hartford, Conn., for about 50 years, I retired in 1996 and in 1998 I moved to Sarasota, Fla., which I enjoy very much. My four children (two men, two women) are in their 50s and I have three grandchildren, all males in their teens.

"Unfortunately, my wife of 54 years died three years ago. For the past year I have been going out with a very charming Ph.D. clinical psychologist who works full-time despite my entreaties that she retire. I have had enjoyable dinners with a few classmates who have visited me here — **Ira Shein**, Arnie Ritterband '45 and Chester Semel '45. I maintain a home in Brookfield, Conn., where I spend time during the summer. I still travel a bit and enjoy the cultural activities in Sarasota."

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Your classmates want to hear from you.

[Editor's note: While the Class of '46 will celebrate its official reunion at Class Day, Tuesday, May 17, please know that all College alumni are welcome to attend All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) on Saturday, June 4. For more information, contact Eric Shea, director, alumni relations: [es3438@columbia.edu](mailto:es3438@columbia.edu) or 212-851-7469.]

## 1947

**Columbia College Today  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)**

Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** reminds classmates: "My 230-page book of collected poems, *This Sliding Light of Day*, was published by Antrim

House Books last year. For sample poems and full particulars, visit [antrimhousebooks.com/giosa.html](http://antrimhousebooks.com/giosa.html). My best to the few still with us."

CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1948

**Columbia College Today  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)**

**Raymond G. Auwarter** notes that his brothers Henry E. "Hank" Auwarter '50, SEAS'51 and Richard F. "Dick" Auwarter '53, BUS'57 followed him at the College, and both earned graduate degrees within a 10-year period. Each of the brothers was a varsity athlete, Ray says: him, basketball, and Hank and Dick, swimming.

Dr. **Alvin Eden** shares: "As I approach a round-number birthday I am still practicing pediatrics, teaching, writing another book about childhood obesity and playing tennis, and am very thankful to be able to remain active. I would love to hear from any classmate who remembers me — and even from those who don't. My email address is [babydoceden@gmail.com](mailto:babydoceden@gmail.com)."

CCT, and your classmates, would love to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column. You also can send news online using the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1949

**John Weaver  
2639 E. 11th St.  
Brooklyn, NY 11235  
[wudchpr@gmail.com](mailto:wudchpr@gmail.com)**

It is the third day of the "Festival of Lights" and just two weeks since

Thanksgiving as I write. Your correspondent is back after a most special Thanksgiving; this past autumn I was given a diagnosis of lung cancer. However, thanks to the diligence and care of my physicians, it was recognized at a very early stage. Quick action, surgery and a post-operative assessment allow me to inform you that you are stuck with me for some considerable time to come. A special Thanksgiving, indeed!

Happily we are gifted, once again, with word from **Joe Russell** LAW'52. Both Joe and his wife, Charlotte, continue to be participatory members of their upper Manhattan community. They recently attended a local community board meeting and reported that part of the program included an introduction to a pair of undergraduates from their neighborhood who received Dyckman Institute Scholarships, which assist youngsters from that community. It is another reminder of the continuity and lasting imprint of our unique Columbia College experience.

I also received news from classmates to whom we must be forever grateful for their service in WWII:

Dr. **Stan Edelman** PS'53 writes: "I have been awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal for my combat record during WWII. The French government is recognizing (after 70 years) the crucial role played by the Eighth Air Force in protecting France. To receive the medal, a combat airman must prove that he flew combat missions during one of four battles (i.e. Battle of the Bulge, Northern France, Southern France). I, along with other air combat veterans who have qualified, will be invited to a formal ceremonial dinner in New York City within the next few months and be personally awarded the medal by a member of the French government."

In this year of remembrance, I also heard from another class member who was the recipient of an earlier Legion of Honor award. **Paul Meyer** has provided us with a special note reporting that the Oregon Historical Society hosted a special celebration of the 70th anniversary of V-E Day last May; Paul was one of three vets invited to be on a panel as part of the celebration. His picture from that time as a young GI was on the poster advertising the event.

Here's hoping spring comes with more refreshing news of classmates

still vital and active and willing to share with us all. You can send your news to the email or mailing address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1950

**Mario Palmieri**  
33 Lakeview Ave. W.  
Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567  
[mapal@bestweb.net](mailto:mapal@bestweb.net)

Class of '50, these notes depend on you! Please share your news — from travels to family updates to even just writing in about an interesting book or article you've recently read, Class Notes is the place to stay connected with classmates. You can send updates to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Have a happy spring and summer, and let's stay connected.

## 1951

### REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
[fy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:fy2165@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
[hs2843@columbia.edu](mailto:hs2843@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**George Koplinka**  
75 Chelsea Rd.  
White Plains, NY 10603  
[desiah@aol.com](mailto:desiah@aol.com)

A wonderful time is approaching: Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. This celebration of the 65th anniversary of our graduation will allow us to see old friends and reconnect with the College while enjoying class lunches and dinners, academic lectures from noted Columbia faculty as part of All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) and special events throughout the weekend. Stay tuned for more information from the College in your mailbox and your email inbox.

Please send updates for future Class Notes columns to either address at the top of the column or submit a note through CCT's

[webform.college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://webform.college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Your classmates want to hear from you and look forward to seeing you at reunion.

## 1952

**Columbia College Today**  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)

**Pete Vayda** GSAS'56 is a team leader in a NASA-funded research project in the Indonesian province of Central Kalimantan. His subject: peat fires and the carbon emissions from them. The fires, he adds, were especially severe in 2015.

**Howard Hansen** writes: "We lost a great classmate and champion wrestler in **Bob Hartman**. He and his wife, Nancy, were loyal attendees of our Long Weekend Athletic Group, which met 11 times in the south since 1985.

"The following death notice speaks loudly about Bob's significant accomplishments in life. Sadly, Nancy passed away shortly after he did."

[Editor's Note: The following is excerpted from an obituary sent in by Howard.]

"Robert 'Bob' Stephen Hartman, 84, of Frederick County, Va., died Sunday March 15, 2015, in Blue Ridge Hospice Residential Center.

"Bob was Columbia's first All-American wrestler and came in fourth at the NCAA Wrestling Championships in 1951. He was a veteran, having served in the Army from 1955 to 1957 in Korea. He coached the Far Eastern Army wrestling team while there. He was a professor of physical education at SUNY Farmingdale; he started the National Junior College Wrestling Championships and was twice voted 'Wrestling Coach of the Year.'

"In 1973, Bob was selected to be the coach of the Greco-Roman wrestling team in the World University Games in Moscow. He was also the wrestling team leader in the Junior Pan-American Games in Caracas, Venezuela, in 1978. His name can be found in numerous places in the National Wrestling Hall of Fame at Oklahoma State University as both a wrestler and coach. He retired from SUNY at the age of 48.



This undated photo was taken at Litchfield By The Sea Resort in South Carolina at a meetup of former Columbia athletes. Left to right: Bob Wallace '53, Bob Hartman '52 (deceased), Tom Federowicz '52 (deceased) and, in back, Dan Seemann '52.

"Bob was a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church and served for 16 years on the Frederick County Parks and Recreation Commission. He was a member of the Board of Directors at North Mountain Volunteer Fire and Rescue for several terms; in addition, he served on the Advisory Committee for the Sanitary District of Shawneeland, Va.

"Bob and his wife, Nancy, met in 1944 at Wyoming Seminary Prep School in Kingston, Pa., and celebrated 60 years of marriage on December 27, 2014."

Class of '52, CCT and your classmates want to hear from you! Send your news to the email or mailing 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). It's a terrific way to stay connected to one another and to the College.

In the meantime, happy spring. Thank you for reading, and be well!

## 1953

**Lew Robins**  
3200 Park Ave., Apt. 9C2  
Bridgeport, CT 06604  
[lewrobins@aol.com](mailto:lewrobins@aol.com)

While we were undergraduates, I met an amazing, charismatic, talented member of the Class of 1954 who during the last 62 years has lived a remarkably colorful life: William F. Haddad '54. I'll remember Bill because he wrote the first *New York*

*Post* article about Dean Harry Carman's efforts to convince the Navy that Professor Fred Keller's discovery of the principles of operant conditioning could reduce the time it took enlisted men to master touch typing and Morse code. Bill's headline for the story appeared on page 2 of *The New York Post* and was titled "Sailor Adrift on Sea of Red Tape!"

In 1958 and 1959, Bill and *The New York Post* were awarded a George Polk Award for his resourceful investigative reporting. During the 1960 presidential campaign, he was the liaison between John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy and in a picture that was taken on the morning of the election, Bill was photographed sitting between the brothers at their Hyannis Port, Mass., home.

After the election, Robert Kennedy telephoned Bill with the news that he was going to be nominated to head the Peace Corps. Alas, it never happened because several days later the Kennedys instead chose Sargent Shriver to lead the Peace Corps and appointed Bill as its first inspector general.

In January 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson proposed legislation to create the Office of Economic Opportunity. Sometime after Bill was appointed inspector general of the OEO, he asked me to visit him at his office in Washington, D.C. To my amazement he had an impressive corner office with panels of windows on two sides of an enormous room.

“This office was originally assigned to Mrs. Johnson,” he confessed. “However, she didn’t really need it so they gave it to me.”

After ending his successful journalistic and government careers, Bill founded the Generic Pharmaceutical Industry Association and served as its chairman/president for more than 10 years. We can all be grateful for his efforts to initiate and negotiate the Drug Price Competition and Patent Term Restoration Act (known informally as the Hatch-Waxman Act). He is also responsible for organizing the team that reduced the price of AIDS drugs in Africa to less than \$1 per day.

It would take an entire book to reveal all the details of Bill’s amazing life. Suffice to say those of us who have been privileged to know him are grateful for the experience.

Keep up the good work!

On December 17, I received the following from **David Richman**, along with **Barry Schweid** JRN’54’s obituary, which had appeared in *The Washington Post* on December 11. David says, “I went to Washington, D.C., in late 1958 and Barry, already with the Associated Press, came some months later in 1959. We stayed in close contact in our very early days; we interacted with **Jerry Landauer**, who was with *The Wall Street Journal*. One of Barry’s and my first activities was to find a kosher restaurant in D.C. We succeeded! Then, as each of us became more involved professionally and socially with our colleagues at work — I was new to the Atomic Energy Commission — our social lives went in different directions.”

The following is an abridged version of Barry’s *Washington Post* obituary: “Among career highlights he covered the negotiations that President Jimmy Carter brokered to reach a historic peace treaty in 1977 between Egypt’s Anwar Sadat and Israel’s Menachem Begin. As a reporter, he was known for taking complex situations, especially in the Middle East, and explaining them in simple direct sentences, weaving in context and color.”

“On overseas flights, Henry Kissinger repeatedly went back to the press section of his plane to chat with reporters on background, at least on long trips. After one such flight with repeated briefings, Kissinger returned to his suite at

the front of the plane. Mr. Schweid shouted ‘Close the door! Don’t let him back here.’

“In an interview with AP’s oral history program in 2009, Mr. Schweid reflected on his career saying, ‘My ambition was to be a journalist and tell people what was going on, to tell the truth, to meet people, to understand what was going on in the world. This meant seeing history being made, traveling nonstop around the world, covering big stories, going to places I never thought I’d see and meeting people I never thought I’d meet.’”

Barry’s distinctive radio voice and his knowledgeable commentary will be missed. May God bless our modest, wonderful classmate!

## 1954

**Bernd Brecher**  
35 Parkview Ave., Apt. 4G  
Bronxville, NY 10708  
brecherservices@aol.com

Once again, gents, welcome to “This Is Your Life,” brought to you by special snail mail and a redesigned, snappy, fun-to-read *CCT*. Those of you getting in touch are not only doing your own thing, in which I am delighted to partner, but in a way are showing the world what we of the Class of ’54 were, are and will be made of. In this crazy type of 2016 journalism, anything goes as long as it’s true, from the heart, personal, made up, universal, fascinating, historical, risqué, unique or fit to print. It’s your job to deliver the raw material; it’s mine to make it legible, literate and for the ages. Here goes another round:

**Richard Werksman** writes that there is not much new on his end but shares that his son, Jacob Werksman ’86, was a spokesman for the European Commission delegation at the UN Climate Change Conference, held in Paris in December. Dad notes that, “the odds of him sending that to the Class of ’86 Class Notes reporter are as good as reversing climate change in our lifetimes!”

Tell you what, Richard, you and I will split the PR fee. Where do I send the bill?

**Fred Schlereth** SEAS’56 reports from Syracuse, N.Y., that “research and running are still going well,” and he enjoys tackling

difficult problems. His wife, Heidi, has started painting again after 40 years and Fred says, “I had forgotten that she was so talented.” Not to be outdone, he adds, “I’m enjoying my position as ‘last chair’ in the second violin section of our Onondaga Civic Symphony Orchestra.”

Will our classmates’ accomplishments never cease?

**Saul Turteltaub** is looking forward to conquering the Great White Way. He has in hand the script, music and lyrics for the musical *My Marcello* (based on his screenplay, *For Roseanna*) and finds it “very exciting. If all goes well it should be on Broadway in a year.”

“Break a leg” and all that, Saul. If you can guarantee a financial return equal to *Fiddler on the Roof*, for which we were investor angels more than 50 years ago, we might even send you a couple of bucks.

Saul, I and others have spoken with **Howard Falberg**, who sends best wishes to all and reports that he and his wife, Debby, are enjoying retirement in California, seeing family and keeping in touch with CC’54 and Columbia activities.

**Peter Skomorowsky**, former star photographer for *Spectator* and retired from a career in law and accounting, is now our own “walker in the city” and has taken extraordinary pictures all over New York City. He says: “What I do is walk the subway lines (above ground). I used to do three miles a day but now can manage no more than 1½. The greatest invention on my camera is the delete button.”

Pete has a slide show of several of his recent photographs, which he would be delighted to share with interested classmates. I have encouraged him to submit samples of his work to *CCT* for us all to share. He and his wife, Phyllis, are well and send their regards to all.

An update from **Bruce King**, who is recovering from a recent stroke and tells us he “was at home during the terrorist events in Paris and listened to the police cars and ambulances virtually outside my door ... I am getting around with two canes and still dancing, although not as much.” He and his wife, Adele, will therefore not be in New Orleans this April, as usual, but expect to return to Croatia during the summer.

When you do get back to N.O., Bruce, my grandson Ethan — fin-

ishing his freshman year at Tulane — looks forward to meeting you.

**Ed Cowan**, ever the exuberant reporter, sends the following interesting update about **David Rubin** LAW’56: “My wife, Ann Louise, and I drove from Washington, D.C., to Reston, Va., to have lunch with David and his wife, Betty Ann. As one word led to another, David reminded us that he had argued a case before the Supreme Court and had won with a unanimous decision,” Ed writes. “That was in 1979, but I suspect that these Class Notes have never recorded David’s signature achievement. David worked then for the National Education Association (NEA), the largest teachers’ union in the country. He was representing Bessie Givhan, a Mississippi public school teacher. She had lost her job because in private conversation with her principal she had criticized practices and policies that she thought sustained school segregation. In writing for a unanimous court, Justice William Rehnquist delivered an opinion that upheld the free-speech rights of public employees.”

Before joining the legal staff of the NEA, David had worked in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and at the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Earlier, he clerked for a judge on the Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. David and Betty Ann have two daughters and two grandchildren.

Welcome, David, to the roster of unsung heroes who are members of “The Class of Destiny.”

**Jay Seeman** LAW’56 was in the Fall 2015 issue’s “Other Deaths Reported” box, and his widow, Marsha, has since asked me to share some personal thoughts about her husband.

“Jay died in June; he had a heart attack after a bike ride in Millerton, N.Y., and died three days later at Mount Sinai Hospital. It was unexpected because he had no previous heart condition. We — his children, grandchildren and large extended family — are all still devastated. Jay was Phi Beta Kappa at the College, editor of the *Columbia Law Review* and a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar at the Law School. He practiced law for more than 60 years, was a former chairman of the legal network Mackrell International and was president of the William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis & Psychology.”

We all share in your loss, Marsha.

By the time you read this, my wife, Helen, and I will have seen — on our 57th anniversary — the hottest new Broadway musical of this century, *Hamilton*, about our fellow alum, who was a member of the Class of 1778. The issue of his having been able to be President despite not having been born on American soil, as discussed in the previous issue of *CCT* [Editor's Note: See page 88, Fall 2015.], appears to have been resolved (alas) in his favor constitutionally. In any case, here is a picture of alma mater (then called King's College) just before the American revolution, as described in historian Ron Chernow's *Alexander Hamilton*, the source for the play: "Set on an enormous tract of land that Trinity Church had received from Queen Anne early in the century, King's College stood on the northern fringe of the city, housed in a three-story building with a cupola that commanded a superb view of the Hudson River across a low, rambling meadow ... a spot that one British visitor rhapsodized as 'the most beautiful site for a college in the world.'"

There's lots more about Columbia around page 50; read the whole book.

Be well, all, do good in the world, keep in touch — email, call, snail mail, FedEx, text, oh, you know.

Excelsior!

## 1955

**Gerald Sherwin**  
181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A  
New York, NY 10021  
gs481@juno.com

A few months ago it was that time of year again — the holiday party hosted by President Lee C. Bolinger and his wife, Jean, in Low Library and the College staff gathering with Dean James J. Valentini were among the many fests on the Columbia campus this past winter season. The Tree Lighting and Winter Celebration, as well as the yule log ceremony, were magnificent.

Professor Susan Pedersen, the James P. Shenton Professor of the Core Curriculum, received the 2015 Cundill Prize in historical literature for her book *The Guardians: The League of Nations and the Crisis of Empire*. The international prize is given annually to a book of nonfiction that has a "profound

literary, social and academic impact." Shenton would have been proud.

The Baker Athletics Complex received the Professional Grounds Management Society's Grand Award, saying it has "great looking turf" and "flawless maintenance of landscape."

The Dean's Scholarship Reception in February featured the usual huge turnout of donors (like our class) and scholarship recipients. The event was held in Alfred Lerner Hall and came before the other popular spring event — the John Jay Awards Dinner, which is held off-campus. Other dinner events were held monthly in the greater New York area for our class and, as usual, were put together by **Don Laufer** and **Alfred Gollomp**. We thought we might see **Herb Cohen**, **Stanley Zinberg**, **Aaron Hamburger**, **Anthony Viscusi**, **Tony DiSanto**, **Bob Loring** and others such as **Harvey Greenberg**, **John Nelson** and **Bob Schoenfeld** (from Long Island); **Ezra Levin**, **Joe Savino**, **Lew Mendelson**, **Sven Johnson**, **Michael Schwartz** and **Bob Kushner** (from Westchester); and **Ed Siegel**.

Other classmate news and what they are doing to fill their time:

**Allen Hyman**: Hood Marshall for life.

**Barry Pariser** and **Jack Stuppin**: Continuing to paint on the East Coast and West Coast.

**Harold Kushner**: Is he planning to write another book or two?

**Roland Plottel**: He gave some interesting suggestions on the workings of the Columbia University Club of New York in Manhattan.

**Herb Gardner**: Giving some thought to attending the Varsity Show in late April.

Another round of applause should be given to **Stanley Lubman** and **Richard Ravitch** for their magnificent speeches at our unforgettable 60th reunion.

Even though our football team was 2–8, our guys (**Neil Opdyke**, **Bob Mercier**, **Dick Carr**, **Jim Larson** and **John Nelson**) would be proud of the "new" Columbia football program, which is slowly turning the corner, similar to our baseball brethren (**Jack Freeman**, **Ron McPhee**, **Tom Brennan** and **Tony Palladino**).

Christine and **Jim Berick**: The plaque with your dedication is shining brightly on the advising floor of Alfred Lerner Hall.

Gentlemen of the Class of 1955.

Stay well. Do your exercises. Follow your diet.

Be the envy of other College/Engineering alumni.

Support one another.

The 65th will appear shortly on the horizon.

Love to all! Everywhere!

## 1956

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
**JUNE 2–5, 2016**

**Alumni Affairs Contact**  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

**Development Contact**  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Stephen K. Easton**  
6 Hidden Ledge Rd.  
Englewood, NJ 07631  
tball8000@earthlink.net

This, classmates, will be the last Class Notes column before we gather to celebrate our 60th reunion. Naturally, there are a number of items to mention regarding reunion.

First, I am excited about the enthusiasm and input I have received from classmates regarding their intentions to attend the 60th. I and **Buzz Paaswell** (in addition to many others) are coordinating to make this the best and most memorable reunion for all classmates. The highlight of reunion, for me, will be the Friday program, which will involve, among other things, a tour of campus, a class luncheon and an afternoon program involving four or five classmates discussing topics on subjects they have been involved in during their personal and professional lives. In addition, this time will be used for reminiscences and will be followed by an evening lecture by **Ron Kapon** on "the best wine for the time." Included will be a wine tasting, which will give us the opportunity to evaluate some of the wines Ron will be discussing.

On Saturday, we will have All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) activities but the day will be highlighted by a class luncheon. Saturday class dinner will be in an intimate venue and the committee is in the process of arranging for a speaker. Also, if possible, we will

have Saturday's discussion include one of the subjects currently taught in the Core Curriculum. As I write this, we are still in the process of determining who the speaker will be. It should be noted that we will have a room in Alfred Lerner Hall available to us throughout the weekend for rest and relaxation.

As for class happenings, I note the following: I will be relocating to North Carolina sometime toward the end of 2016. The community, the St. James Plantation in Southport, N.C., happens to be where my brother, **Maurice Easton**, has already been retired and living for 1½ years. This is an exciting time in my life, where, at the tender age of 80, I will be building my first house, with the help of my wife, Elke, who will be building her fourth house (the first with me).

All of you who have experienced the joys and trials of "downsizing" can share in the emotions I am now going through.

**Al Broadwin** SEAS'57 notes that he and his wife, Naomi, have moved to White Plains, N.Y. He informs, "We are on the top floor and next to the 'City Center' in the heart of White Plains."

**Bob Siroty** shares with us that he and his wife, Margo, recently returned from a trip to Cuba. He states: "Lots of '56 Chevys. Small Jewish communities are still left," and that the Cubans believe they will have a better relationships with the United States in the years to come.

Good luck.

This reminds me of when **Joel Pimsleur** and I, after graduating from Columbia, managed to hitchhike to Key West, Fla., and take a ferry to Cuba before Fidel Castro took control of the country. It was a time of great change, and Joel wrote an article on his return for the *New Republic*, predicting that Castro would take over Cuba. Joel has gone on to an illustrious career as a reporter and editor with the *San Francisco Chronicle*. As they say, what goes around does come around.

**Newt Frohlich** writes: "My book *The Shakespeare Mask* was named the 2015 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award Gold Winner for historical fiction. In addition to distribution in the United States and Canada, it's been published in Bombay for distribution throughout the Indian subcontinent on a list that includes

Stephen Hawking and the Dalai Lama. I feel honored. *The Shakespeare Mask* is the product of 15 years of research and writing.

“Also, my historical novel, *1492: Christopher Columbus, the Spanish Inquisition, and a World at the Turning Point*, will be reissued with an updated preface in the fall.”

I have read both *The Shakespeare Mask* and *1492* and have found them to be thought-provoking and interesting reading. I hope Newt will share some of this information with us at the 60th reunion.

**Alan Press**, our itinerant traveler who has now visited more than 59 countries in his effort to “kick the bricks of knowledge” of these various locations, has established his own website, [meetthealanpress.com](http://meetthealanpress.com). I recommend you check it out. I particularly liked the article “What’s a Smart Jewish Boy from Brooklyn Doing in a Place Like Saudi Arabia (?)”.

Alan has shared a number of his travel experiences with us at class lunches and I look forward to him continuing to do so.

**Socrates Nicholas** notes that his travel for the Christmas/New Year’s holiday included visits to Amsterdam for opera and then on to Salvador, Brazil.

**Jordan Richin’s** holiday travel included a visit to England, where his son and his family have relocated.

Elke’s and my holiday travel usually takes us to either Mexico or Seattle to be with family but this year we stayed in New Jersey and benefited from the extra-mild winter weather.

**Don Horowitz**, our Seattle connection, writes: “The Legal Foundation of Washington and the Equal Justice Coalition have announced that I will receive the 2016 Charles A. Goldmark Distinguished Service Award, the highest in Washington State for service related to equal and quality justice for all.

“In 2010 I received the Award of Merit from the Washington State Bar Association, its highest award, given to me for long-term service to the Bar and the public. I’ve been told I’m only the second person to have received both of these awards.”

One of the many things that our late class president, **Alan Miller** (who will be fondly remembered), valued was his love of the continuing education courses offered by Columbia. Thus, I was particularly impressed with **Ralph Kaslick’s** musings as to

what keeps him active and busy after retirement. He writes: “After retirement in 2003, memory of my college years provided me with a desire once again to pursue my nonprofessional academic interests. I was looking for a formal program at Columbia and in January 2007 the Columbia College Alumni Association implemented the first Mini-Core Courses. They have met with great success, as noted on page 8 of the Winter 2015–16 issue of *CCT*. The article describes the most recent course I took, which was on the biodiversity crisis and was taught by Professor Don Melnick. I suggest everyone go to [college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/career/minicore) to explore future courses and new ideas.

“During the past few years, I have also attended many of the class luncheons organized by **Stephen Easton** and found them to be informative about present College life, intellectually stimulating and just plain fun. [In February 2015,] I attended the Dean’s Scholarship Reception and spoke with our class scholarship recipients, who explained in great detail what it is like to be a Columbia College student today. Surprisingly, a picture of me talking to a student was published on page 6 of the Spring 2015 *CCT*.”

I am sad to report the death of **William W. Garretson** in August 2015. Bill was a typical “good guy.” He loved baseball and continued to play through his later years and was an accomplished speaker in economic development, where he spent many years in that department at Citibank. Condolences to his widow, Jan, and the whole family.

A short word on fundraising: Contribute, if you so desire ([college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate](http://college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate)).

A shorter word on class lunches: Join us!

## 1957

**Herman Levy**  
7322 Rockford Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
[hdlleditor@aol.com](mailto:hdlleditor@aol.com)

**Marty Fisher** reports on the September 18 class luncheon at the Columbia University Club of New York. Attendees were **Stan Barnett, Alan Brown, Ted Dwyer, Jerry Finkel, Marty Fisher, Sal Franchino, David Kinne, Bob**

**Klipstein, Ron Kushner, Bob Lipsyte, George Lutz, Neil McLellan, Carlos Muñoz, Mark Stanton and Ed Weinstein.**

Says Marty: “We had a good turnout considering that arrangements had to be made during August, when everyone vacates NYC. Mark is moving to Boynton Beach, Fla., and his current phone number is 732-735-1595. He will be a couple of miles from my residence (4764A Greentree Crescent, Boynton Beach, FL 33436). My phone number in Florida is 561-292-3116 and my email address is [dodger1937@aol.com](mailto:dodger1937@aol.com). Please visit.”

Good news: Columbia football beat Yale 17–7, our first Ivy League victory since 2012. Congratulations to coach Al Bagnoli (he coached Penn for 23 years), whose new regime was covered in an entertaining season-long podcast on NPR. [Editor’s note: You can listen to “The Season,” which followed the Lions through their first season under Bagnoli, at [wnyc.org/shows/theseason](http://wnyc.org/shows/theseason).]

Bad news: **Neil McLellan** died on October 28. His widow, Doris, can be reached at their home: 173 N. Brookside Ave., Freeport, NY 11520 or 516-370-4093.

On October 11, **David Kaufman** (bass), Sean Mahony (tenor) and accompanist Joan Barton de Caro gave a recital at Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel on East 90th Street in Manhattan. David and Sean sang “Amazing Grace” together. David sang, among other arias and songs, the baritone solos “Draw Near All Ye People, Come to Me” from Mendelssohn’s “Elijah,” and “Deep River” and “Libera Me” from Fauré’s “Requiem.” He says that as a bass he enjoys the challenge of singing the baritone numbers.

Joan, whom David characterizes as “an accomplished contralto and my vocal teacher,” is the widow of Ugo de Caro, coach to a number of well-known opera singers including Zinka Milanov and Renata Tebaldi. David describes Ugo as “the great soul of my experience, and the man who devised the technique I practice.” Further, David recalls that it was Ugo’s belief “that if the voice is properly coordinated it never ages, and never fails (think of the tragedies of so many gifted singers forced to exit their careers after the strength of youth, usually by their mid-40s, could no longer substitute for a healthy true

coordination).” In 1993 Joan called upon David to deliver the eulogy at Ugo’s funeral. David concluded, “The lasting lesson that Ugo provided: He taught me how to listen.”

From **Gene Wagner**: “On October 17 the Southern California Class of ’57 group continued our traditional luncheons, which we have [been having] for five-plus years.

“We do this four times a year in Long Beach, Calif. Our group is made up of eight members of our class who have bonded throughout the years. We enjoy each other’s company and always have something of mutual interest to discuss. This luncheon consisted of **John Ahouse, Michael Gold, Bernard Lynch SEAS’57, Lew Schainuck** (who recently moved to San Diego and drove two hours to join), **John Taussig, Gene Wagner and Gerald Werksman**. It was good seeing Lew, especially since he was part of our original group. He is a retired and renowned nephrologist who served in Vietnam.”

Last but not least is **John Ahouse**. John is one of the leading authorities on the history of the Cold War. He is also a renowned scholar on Upton Sinclair. Through the years he has amassed more than 400 books and related archives regarding Sinclair and donated them to California State University Dominguez Hills, where they are currently on display.

John adds: “I worked briefly at the University of Texas El Paso in the Special Collections, then spent a dozen years as archivist/special collections librarian at CSU Long Beach. I retired in 2005 after 15 years at the Special Collections at University of Southern California.”

Yours truly attended his 55th class reunion at Yale Law School on October 23–25.

[Editor’s note: In the editing process for the Winter 2015–16 issue, a portion of this column was inadvertently deleted. The full text, as it should have appeared: “At the 2015 American Bar Association Annual Meeting in Chicago on August 1, yours truly [**Herman Levy**] was inducted into the Fellows of the Section of Public Contract Law. The Fellows is a society of former chairs of the Section and others who have made a significant contribution to the field of public contract law.” Also, in **David Kaufman’s** note

in the same issue, the *CCT* staff neglected to note that Lester Rosenthal '45, SEAS'48 was the father of David's sister Jeanette's children and that David maintains close ties with **Samuel Rosenberg**.]

## 1958

**Barry Dickman**

25 Main St.

Court Plaza North, Ste 104

Hackensack, NJ 07601

bdickmanesq@gmail.com

We are sorry to report the death of Dr. **Bernard Kosowsky** on November 19, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Joyce (née Steg) BC'60; children, Jeffrey, Joshua, Jennifer Michaelson and Daniel; and 13 grandchildren. After graduating Phi Beta Kappa and summa cum laude from the College, Bernie attended Harvard Medical School. He was a practicing cardiologist for his entire career; at his death he was chief of cardiology emeritus at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Boston, medical director of St. Elizabeth's cardiac rehab program and professor of medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine.

The annual Homecoming party, festive as always and morphing, was held at the home of Ruthie and **Ernie Brod** in Manhattan. Attending were Nancy and Michael Berlin '59; Joan and **Peter Cohn**; Carol and **Barry Dickman**; Eileen and **Joe Dorinson**; Audrey and **Harvey Feuerstein**; and newcomers, Harvey's law partner **Paul**

**Herman** and his wife, Malka; Andrea and Ira Jolles '59; Linda Lynn (widow of **Ted Lynn**); Nancy and **Bernie Nussbaum**; Anita and **Howard Orlin**; Judy and **Shelly Raab**; **Arthur Radin** and his wife, Miriam Katowitz; and Ruth and **Bob Waldbaum**.

**Joe Dorinson's** latest book is *Kvetching and Shpritzing: Jewish Humor in American Popular Culture*.

**John Giorno's** show in Paris, which we announced in the Fall 2015 issue, was the subject of a spread in *The New York Times* and received a mention in *T Magazine*, the *Times'* style magazine. Curated by artist Ugo Rondinone, John's longtime boyfriend, the exhibition (called "I Heart John Giorno") at Paris' Palais de Tokyo featured scans of every item in John's archives, including not only his poetry but also audio and visual pieces and a dozen works John did with his former lover, Andy Warhol.

We are sorry to report the death of **Charles Goldstein** on July 30, 2015. He is survived by his daughter, Deborah; stepson, Graham Spearman; and two grandchildren. His two marriages ended in divorce.

As an undergraduate, Charles was a member of ZBT, president of the Columbia Pre-Law Society and, even then, impeccably dressed. Part of the CC'58 contingent at Harvard Law, he was a member of the *Harvard Law Review*. After clerking for the Hon. Irving Kaufman on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, he joined the NYC firm of Strasser, Spiegelberg, Fried & Frank (now Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver, & Jacobson), along with **Shelly Raab** and **Barry Dickman**.

He became a partner at Schulte Roth & Zabel and then became counsel at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, first becoming a preeminent real estate lawyer and then transforming himself into a tenacious advocate for recovering art looted by the Nazis from Holocaust victims. At his death he was counsel to Herrick, Feinstein (where **Harvey Feuerstein** is a partner) and to the Commission for Art Recovery.

We're told that Charles' intellectual acumen and business savvy were unmatched, and that clients and colleagues alike marveled at his ability to grasp and resolve the most complex challenges. His friends were impressed by his varied interests, particularly his expert advice on

world travel. While at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, he was Gov. Hugh L. Carey's personal attorney and his firm handled all of the outside legal work for the state's Urban Development Corp. In an interview in the early '80s, Charles said, "I structured all the [corporation's] major economic development projects — the Hotel Commodore, the South Street Seaport, the Portman Hotel, the Archive Building and the [Hotel] St. George."

At the time, he headed what he described as the largest real estate department of any major law firm in the city. (Along the way he also represented Donald Trump for a while.) As for his work with the Commission for Art Recovery, it began with a chance meeting with Ronald S. Lauder, of the Lauder cosmetics family, on the Concorde.

Lauder was so impressed with Charles that he hired him and, when he formed the commission, named him counsel. The commission estimates that it has recovered or helped recover more than \$160 million worth of stolen art since it was established in 1997 by Lauder, who has called Charles "the unsung hero of art restitution."

Charles was involved in negotiations for the return of Gustave Courbet's *Femme nue couchée* (*Reclining Nude*), which was stolen in 1944 from its Hungarian owner. Charles was surprised that the dealer who ultimately held the painting was more cooperative in its return than the involved governments he confronted. Incidentally, possibly the commission's best known recovery was Gustav Klimt's *Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I*. Lauder bought it for \$135 million from the owner's heir, who had successfully sued for its return. It now hangs in the Neue Galerie in NYC and was the subject of the recent movie *Woman in Gold*, starring Helen Mirren.

**Peter Gruenberger** wants us to know that the long running Class of '58 poker game is going strong, despite the loss of **David Londoner** and **Ted Lynn**. In addition to Peter, the current group comprises **Ernie Brod**, **Peter Cohn**, **Mike Geiger**, **Bernie Nussbaum** and **Bob Waldbaum**.

We are also sorry to report the death of **Mike Lesch's** wife, Judith Willis Lesch TC'85, on July 23, 2015, after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. She is survived by Mike; her children, Sara '89, LAW'93 and Ben;

and five grandchildren. An Indiana native, Judy was a graduate of Juilliard and became a choreographer with her own dance company; her best-known piece, *Songs for Young Lovers*, was performed by the Alvin Ailey Dance Company. After earning an Ed.D. from Teachers College, Judy taught and mentored educators of learning-disabled students. She progressed from a pre-K teacher in Mamaroneck, N.Y., to a post-graduate teacher at Bank Street College of Education. Judy was a thoroughly delightful person who left us too soon.

The class lunch is held on the second Wednesday of every month, in The Grill at the Columbia University Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. (\$31 per person). Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: aradin@radinglass.com. And don't forget to send your news to the addresses at the top of this column or through *CCT's* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 1959

**Norman Gelfand**

c/o CCT

Columbia Alumni Center

622 W. 113th St., MC 4530

New York, NY 10025

nmgc59@gmail.com

We will have to wait until the next issue for the update on **Murray Epstein** PS'63's professional successes.

**Steve Buchman** updates us on the late coach Irv DeKoff's activities after he stopped coaching the Columbia fencing team: "Coach DeKoff was inducted into the US Fencing Hall of Fame in 1967 and into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008. The Ivy League Fencing Championship began during his era, and Columbia claimed 11 of 12 conference titles during his tenure. Irv's teams posted a 141–25 record (.843 winning percentage), including four NCAA Championships, making him one of the greatest collegiate fencing coaches of all time. He was responsible for the development of numerous talented fencers, including 18 All-Americans, eight NCAA individual champions and two Olympians. After concluding his Columbia coaching career in 1967, Irv was briefly an assistant dean at

Stay in  
Touch



Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name:  
[college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect).

Columbia before being appointed dean of Eisenhower College in upstate New York.”

**Paul Kantor** continues his note, the first half of which appeared in the Winter 2015–16 issue: “My wife, Carole, and I developed a shared ‘second career,’ which grew to be very important in our lives: studying, teaching and performing traditional (‘folk’) dances from Eastern Europe and the Middle East (mostly). We found a home at the Mandel Jewish Community Center of Cleveland, which permitted us to move the activity beyond ‘checking the box that says we teach Israeli dance’ to attempt a serious artistic endeavor. Through the years we secured support from the State Council on the Arts and the State Council on the Humanities, and even from the National Endowment for the Arts. We estimated that by the time we left our company (named *Shalhevet*, which means campfire) we had between us three 40-hour-a-week jobs: hers, mine and ours. You can see our company performing the famous Old City Quadrille by Igor Moiseyev, here (Part 1): [youtube.com/watch?v=pL8eb98KG2k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pL8eb98KG2k); YouTube will segue you into the second and third clips. We also worked several times with a wonderful Catholic dance company, the Duquesne University Tamburitzans, but we could not find online versions of our dances, alas.

“Our stay in Cleveland lasted until 1990, during which time I held one kind of position or another in the departments of physics, library science, systems engineering and operations research (‘... and master of none’). The best part of it was probably some time spent studying complex systems — we set up a little center to look at cross-disciplinary problems, and I had a chance to work with a wonderful philosopher/mathematician, Ray Nelson. From 1976 to 1991 I did business as a library management consultant, applying powerful techniques to help clients who had (and still do have) very little money to spend. As **Bob Nozick**, who left us too soon, rephrased it when I told him what I do for a living: ‘...It’s like in the movies, but instead of a gun, you’re a hired brain.’ Sometime in the ‘80s I reconnected with Chicago-based **Bill Zangwill** and we did an NSF-funded project together. You could look it up: [1.usa.gov/1hvNghf](http://1.usa.gov/1hvNghf).

“In the late ‘80s I joined AARP, and Carole suggested that it was time I get a ‘real job.’ A friend and collaborator from my Case-Western Reserve days, Tefko Saracevic, suggested I move to Rutgers, in New Jersey. As he put it, ‘You don’t even have to buy your own computer — they buy it for you and someone comes to the office to plug it in!’ Who can resist that?”

“At Rutgers I had the good fortune to begin near the top of the ladder. I seriously doubt that I could color within the lines long enough to get tenure these days. With a base in library science, I found friends and collaborators in operations research, computer science and the DIMACS (Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science). I also had the good fortune to have some wonderful doctoral students. Somewhere along the line I learned how to get external funding, which makes life at a research university much more pleasant. At the same time (early ‘90s), the calm waters of library science were being churned by the invention of the World Wide Web. I found myself studying these problems and that was where my research headed for the next umpteen years. I had, at the same time, a knack for not making money at it. As an example, when we could only afford to develop for Netscape or for Microsoft Internet Explorer, I picked Netscape! Once a theorist, always a theorist!

“After the attacks of 9-11, I became heavily involved in issues related to security, both national and homeland. It turns out, not surprisingly, that many of the concepts that make it possible to index the billions of pages on the World Wide Web also play a role in finding the bad apples in a basket with seven billion apples in it. These are difficult issues, both technically and philosophically, and for a time I headed up a center for interdisciplinary studies in information privacy and security. Doing this kind of work does have its amusing moments. For example, a colleague and I co-authored a paper that was subsequently classified (what is now called the ‘Hillary Excuse’), so we could not read it. For the last few years most of my time has been devoted to CCICADA (Command, Control, and Interoperability Center for Advanced Data Analysis), based

at Rutgers. On campus, we don’t do any secret stuff but we try to help the parts of the Department of Homeland Security make the most of the information that it does have.”

Sorry Paul, but I have to continue this in the next issue.

**Jim Kniskern** writes: “Since Columbia’s founding in 1754, thousands of graduates have passed through our hallowed halls and found their niches of success, materially or academically. I have had some measure of success in the area of progeny. I have six great-grandchildren: Taylor (15), Nicholas (13), Deven (13), Maddie (12), Kaela (10) and Katie (6).

through Class Notes and I am pleased to say that things remain, on the whole, pretty good. My wife, Sandy, and I remain, thankfully, in good health (with some qualifications, one of which I will mention). I recently celebrated my 50th anniversary as a member of the Florida Bar and continue to practice with the firm I helped found in 1970. I practice on a much-reduced basis, as I am no longer involved in firm management and will not be lead counsel in litigation matters. I now serve as sort of a utility infielder, handling some discreet matters for my partners.

“Our girls and grandchildren are doing fine. Sandy and I have two

---

*Allan Franklin '59 was awarded the 2016 Abraham Pais Prize for History of Physics by the American Physical Society.*

---

“My youngest granddaughter, Joanna, at 18 married a man 10 years older. He had a son by his first marriage, Cory (now 21). Recently, Cory and his fiancée, Kim, had a daughter, Chloe Nicole. Cory is my step-great-grandson and Chole has become my step-great-great-granddaughter.

“I’m interested to know if anyone else, in the last 258 years of Columbia graduates, has had the honor of becoming a great-great grandparent at 77 or younger. Do I stand a chance of being in Columbia’s book of family records? I haven’t checked the Guinness World Records yet. My wife, Joann, and I will be married 56 years this month — still blissful.

“A note to **Luigi Lucaccini** and **Alan Kahn**, who wondered why I was always singing about ‘Cindy’: I always loved the song, and Joann and I named our first daughter Cindy. She and our other daughter, Jenny, were sweet flowers of beauty, love and peace who are now at home with their God. They died 23 years ago in a car accident, which also claimed a granddaughter. Through our faith we carry on, knowing God will sustain us.”

Jim, I am sure that I speak for all of our classmates when I express our sincere condolences on the loss of your loved ones.

**Bill Frye** updates us: “It has been some time since I corresponded

girls, who each had two boys, and we travel north fairly often to see everybody. The health issue I mentioned earlier was a big-time skiing accident in January 2015 on our regular ski trip to Italy. I caught an edge, hit some ice, became airborne and now — some eight months later at the time of writing — continue to rehabilitate fractures of the right femur and hip, with a bunch of new hardware. I set off security alarms whenever I even get close to the airport. Fortunately, my Italian hospital was in the midst of a big ski area with a large and highly skilled orthopedic trauma department and surgeons and I am pleased to say I am pretty much recovered. Our girls threaten to have me locked up if I even discuss going skiing.

“I’m looking forward to doing Alumni Representative Committee interviews again with Columbia applicants, which I missed out on due to the accident (in Italy at the time). I enjoy talking with these young women and men and always feel pretty good about the future with the knowledge that they will be running things one of these days. Hanging around for 50 years of legal practice produces some nice recognitions and awards, and I guess I have had my fair share of them. I think I have learned a little bit about trying lawsuits, which I try to pass on to my younger

partners and associates. I have been a fairly regular attendee at Columbia reunions and it is very nice to renew old acquaintances from those days. So, as I said, all in all, things are pretty good here and if you are down our way in Tampa, Fla., give us a call — we can be found through a Google search. Thanks!”

**Allan Franklin** reports, “I recently returned from a visit to New York, where I had lunch with **Ira Jolles** and his wife, Andrea; **Joseph Krieger** and his wife, Rose; and **Isser Woloch** and his wife, Nancy GSAS’62. The food was excellent and the company even better. Another bit of news — I have been awarded the 2016 Abraham Pais Prize for History of Physics by the American Physical Society.”

**Joel Peter Rosenfeld** GSAS’61 reports, “My wife, Carmen, and I and daughter Tati (née Maria Alicia) spent Christmas/New Year’s 2014 in Valparaiso, Chile, where it was midsummer. In 2016, we plan to visit with **Frank Wilson** [and his family] in Havana, Cuba, where I am on the program committee and maybe Frank will do a keynote for the International Organization of Psychophysiology.”

Space limitations mean that contributions from **Bernie Pucker** and **Steve Trachtenberg** will need to wait until the next issue. Those on my mailing list will receive all the news I have received. Contributions are needed and welcome.

## 1960

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

**Peter Schweitzer** enjoyed the recap of the 55th reunion in our fall Class Notes and remarks, “V&T again contributed a marvelous lagniappe to the festivities that ensued over the weekend. I will plan to attend the 2020 60th reunion and trust **Bob Abrams**, **Rene Plessner**, **Larry Rubinstein** and **John Pegram** will join me. But,” Peter ponders, “will V&T be around in 2020 for our 60th reunion?”

Peter, I respond: “Will *Alma Mater* still be sitting on the steps in front of Low Library? The answer to both questions is: absolutely.”

**Bill Tanenbaum** writes: “This past summer, we sold our main

real estate businesses and now are entering a new phase of real estate ownership. Through all this work (which I enjoy), I can say that while I know the definition of the word ‘boredom,’ I have never experienced it. My wife and I brought three of our grandchildren, ages 7, 9 and 11, to the Colorado Rocky Mountains, where we spent July. The primary activity was hiking, and all of us hiked Vail Mountain from an elevation of 8,100 ft. to 10,200 ft. along a 4.6-mile switchback trail. Hiking mountains offers an excellent metaphor; that is, when asked how one hikes to such elevations, the answer is ‘one step at a time.’ It applies well to many facets of life.”

For the past 25 years, **Harris Markhoff** LAW’63, managing

partner at Danziger & Markhoff in Westchester County, N.Y., has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of corporate law and trusts and estates law. Harris has a broad business and tax practice that includes counseling individuals, professional corporations and closely held and family-owned businesses on a range of corporate, tax and estate planning issues. Now Harris can take pride in the fact that his son and law partner, Michael Markhoff ’87, has been selected by a peer-review survey as “2016 Trusts & Estates Lawyer of the Year” for White Plains, N.Y., and for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* in that field of practice.

**Bob Berne** brought to my attention a moving remembrance of

**Richard Friedlander** that appeared in the Metropolitan Diary column of *The New York Times* on November 25.

“Dear Diary: I met my late husband, Richard, 50 years ago on Oct. 12 on West 72nd Street between Broadway and West End Avenue. He picked me up on the street at 10 p.m. in front of the Famous Dairy restaurant. His opening line: ‘A friend of mine has the summer version of that jacket.’ It was a balmy autumn evening, and I felt like buying ice cream, so I had left my nearby apartment, and threw on some clothes, including the aforementioned wool Army jacket. It was the Swinging ’60s, after all. I turned around and saw a tall, handsome guy with salt-and-pepper hair carrying a dainty racquet. He had just finished playing squash,



CCT ARCHIVES

and was carrying roast chicken in a brown paper bag. His next remark was: 'What school did you go to?' I recognized a distinctive pinky ring he was wearing from a Columbia College honor society, Nacoms. A graduate of the sister school, Barnard College, I coyly replied: 'The same school you did.' We got to the corner. I lived at 70th and West End, he lived at West 74th and Riverside Drive. 'Would you like to come to my place for coffee?' he asked. Instead I invited him to my apartment (safer, I thought). He ate his chicken; I ate my vanilla ice cream. There was one problem. I had on no underwear and my wool pants were becoming itchy! I sent him on his way. We subsequently had proper dates, married, and stayed together for 46 great years. I walk past that spot on 72nd Street every day. Iris Friedlander [BC'63]."

As you will note, the Friedlander name does not appear until the conclusion where Iris is identified as the contributor. That makes the piece all the more poignant when you read the following note from **David Kirk GSAPP'69**:

"After our February 2014 class lunch," David writes, "**Richard Friedlander** called my wife at home, knowing that I would not be there, and inquired in confidence, 'Anna Maria, is David alright? He has lost so much weight.' She replied, 'He's never been healthier in his entire life. Since his semi-retirement he works out every day and we live a very healthy lifestyle.'"

"Richard did not mention his own illness and never disclosed it to any of us until the following class lunch in March which, at his request, was a buffet in a conference room in his office. It was then that he announced to our gathering of classmates that what he had to say he wanted said in the privacy of his office and not at a table in the public dining room of the Columbia University Club of New York. He told us that he had been diagnosed with a return of cancer, that it was inoperable and that he was dying.

"Almost two years have passed since that lunch. Recently Anna Maria was enjoying a vignette in the November 25 edition of *The New York Times* Metropolitan Diary, when she interrupted her reading (not realizing that the piece is about **Richard Friedlander**) and commented to me about our own first

encounter — 52 years ago on the northbound platform of the 116th Street Broadway IRT Station. That was where I uttered my version of an opening line with my wife-to-be — she was heading for Juilliard, then just north of Barnard, and I to the Architecture School. Anna resumed her reading, discovered that the recollections had been submitted by Iris Friedlander and gasped, 'Oh, that's about Richard. He was such a wonderful, caring man!' and shed a few tears of remembrance."

Richard died on March 31, 2014. He always is in our thoughts at every class gathering.

## 1961

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2-5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Michael Hausig**  
19418 Encino Summit  
San Antonio, TX 78259  
mhausig@yahoo.com

This June marks the 55th reunion of our graduation from Columbia. Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5, is the perfect time to reconnect with friends and the College and to share in special events like class dinners, dancing on the lawn at the Starlight Reception and cultural and intellectual events across campus and the city. Can't wait to see you there!

**Barry McCallion** and his wife, Joanne Canary, spent part of last year on trips to eastern Turkey, the Galapagos and Machu Picchu, while the tiny village of Tambor on the Pacific coast of Costa Rica has been a wintertime fishing destination for them for 12 years. They planned to visit Sicily with friends in early 2016.

**Tom Lippman's** book, *Hero of the Crossing: How Anwar Sadat and the 1973 War Changed the World*, was published in January. It "provides the foundation for understanding what is happening in the Middle East today from the rise of ISIS to the collapse of the Arab Spring. It is a good read for expert and novice alike," according

to Edward S. Walker, former U.S. ambassador to Egypt, Israel and the United Arab Emirates. Tom, an analyst of modern Middle Eastern politics and history, explains Sadat the man: his motives, contradictory character and political metamorphosis. Through extensive research and personal observation, Tom provides a compelling narrative about how the "Hero of the Crossing" changed the trajectory of the modern Middle East and global politics.

Tom is a journalist specializing in Middle Eastern affairs and American foreign policy. He is a former Middle East bureau chief for *The Washington Post* as well as the author of numerous magazine articles and books, including *Egypt After Nasser: Sadat, Peace, and the Mirage of Prosperity*; *Inside the Mirage: America's Fragile Partnership with Saudi Arabia*; and, most recently, *Saudi Arabia on the Edge: The Uncertain Future of an American Ally*.

Tom was stationed in the Middle East during Sadat's presidency and lived in Egypt during the aftermath of the October War. He knew Sadat personally, but only now after the passage of time and the long-delayed release of United States Department of State diplomatic files was Tom able to assess the full consequences of the Sadat presidency.

**Ed McCreedy** was presented with New Jersey's Union County Bar Association's first Hon. Edward W. Beglin, Jr. Civil Trial Attorney of the Year Award on November 10; the award is named for a retired assignment judge in Union County.

**Richard Zamoff** reports The George Washington University's Jackie and Rachel Robinson Society will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the GW Jackie Robinson Project on April 14 at 7 p.m. on the GW campus. Those interested in attending the program should contact Richard for reservations (202-994-8125 or rbzamoff@gwu.edu). To date, the educational initiative has served more than 5,000 students and 200 teachers in 10 states, the District of Columbia and Japan.

University of Hawaii (UH) physics professor **John Gregory Learned** continues his physics and astronomy research and teaching, while supervising eight graduate students and holding four grants, with many other projects in motion. This year, John and his colleagues

received acknowledgement for their work in discovering the most peculiar shape-shifting property of neutrinos, muon neutrinos, in this case changing into tau neutrinos as they traverse the earth. Neutrinos are one of the fundamental particles of the universe (along with charged leptons and quarks). They have no charge, very little interaction with normal matter, easily penetrate the earth and stars, and are generally detected by physicists working deep underground with giant, heavily instrumented tanks of water or oil.

As a consequence of his involvement with the now-famous discovery result of 1998, "Evidence for Oscillation of Atmospheric Neutrinos" (the most cited experimental neutrino paper), John and his ecologist wife, Coleen Cory Ph.D., were invited by the Nobel Committee to attend the Nobel Prize festivities that took place on December 10. The Nobel Prize went to the group head, Takaaki Kajita of the University of Tokyo, for the discovery of neutrino oscillations in the Super-Kamiokande detector, located 2,000 ft. deep beneath the Japanese Alps. Further, John's colleague, Professor Art McDonald of Queens University, but he spends a quarter of his time at UH) jointly won the Nobel Prize for leading the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) experiment in Canada, which solved the solar neutrino problem as also being due to oscillations — in this case of electron neutrinos.

To add to these Nobel accolades, in November the BreakThrough Prize was awarded in physics to five experiments (and the prize includes the members of the experiments, not just the titular leaders). John was a major player in three of these experiments (Super-Kamiokande, KamLAND and K2K). Other members of the UH elementary particle physics group were involved in the other two (SNO and Daya Bay), so the UH neutrino group has achieved a great deal of notice in the world's neutrino research community.

John enjoys life in Hawaii and his interactions with friends and family around the world (his daughter and grandchildren are in Wellington, New Zealand, with daughter Alison recently working on the *Hobbit* movies, while son Bryan is flying 747s out of Seattle). John spends his spare time working with wood in

his shop with a view and is making some Maloof-style furniture.

John welcomes contact from classmates who visit Hawaii (he travels often to D.C., but seldom to New York); his contact webpage is [www.phys.hawaii.edu/~jgl/](http://www.phys.hawaii.edu/~jgl/).

**Bob Salman** LAW'64 is an active member of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee and is active in Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign. He will teach a sequel to his "Great Trials" course this spring at Brookdale Community College. The trials he will cover are the Lindbergh kidnapping, the Army-McCarthy hearings, Adolf Eichmann and Casey Anthony.

This spring Bob's granddaughter, Mackenzie Page Werther, will have her bat mitzvah. For her gift, Bob and his wife, Reva, will take Mackenzie on a Tauck tour of

In the Winter 2015–16 issue, **Arnie Abrams** JRN'62 wrote about his journalism career in Southeast Asia and mentioned his recent trip to Vietnam. After covering a losing war that marked a turning point in American history and had a profound impact on his life, Arnie returned in October to Vietnam after an absence of four decades. He found a country greatly changed in physical features like skylines, highways and housing. Unexpected for him was the seemingly positive Vietnamese attitude toward the United States. Remarkably, there is no animus there toward us, Arnie reports. Arnie doubts that if our country had been invaded and devastated by a foreign army and if ordinary American citizens had been treated as contemptuously by those invaders — who callously declared large stretches of land to be "free-fire"

has expanded upward and outward. It still has the original, 10-story Caravelle Hotel (which housed most of the press corps during the war, and now is an adjunct of the towering, 25-story Caravelle built alongside it) and the nearby Hotel Continental. He spent much time at both.

The Hotel Continental was a gathering spot for a motley mix of journalists, spies and spooks who, in late afternoon, would sip *citron pressé*, exchange gossip and ogle young Vietnamese women wearing *ao dais*, a spectacular outfit with flowing tunic and tight pantaloons. That outfit now seems to be worn mostly by female flight attendants, hotel receptionists and waitresses in fancy restaurants.

Also familiar, but greatly changed, is the village of My Lai. About 350 miles north of Saigon, it was known by GIs, many of whom were injured there by booby traps or snipers, as "Pinkville." This was the 1968 site of the war's most infamous massacre — members of the Army's Americal Division murdered hundreds of elderly men, women and children there.

The village has been Disneyfied, reports Arnie. Its tiny bamboo huts (called "hootches" by GIs) have been rebuilt and enlarged; its narrow paths, once a morass of mud, were upgraded; a central plaza was created and tiled; a formal entrance was constructed and a museum — showcasing weapons and artifacts, with lecture rooms, a small auditorium and equipment for visual presentations — was built. However, the site seemingly has few visitors. Nobody was there the day he arrived and stayed several hours. "Some people come here," his guide said, "but it's not a big tourist attraction."

Physical change is not a major factor in the Mekong Delta, a rice-rich and fruit-filled region whose northern tip is a several-hour drive from Saigon. Still, what used to be a tense trip into hostile territory, rife with ambush sites and potential danger, now is little more than a slow trip along a traffic-clogged but widened four-lane road.

An atmosphere of calm pervades the delta, where life seemingly is good for farmers, fishermen and merchants. Business is booming in the town of Ben Tre, which gained notoriety during the Tet Offensive of 1968, when Viet Cong forces overran it. After U.S. artillery and air strikes

had leveled much of the town but allowed the government to retake control, a U.S. officer was widely quoted as saying, "It became necessary to destroy the town in order to save it." That judgment, for many, summed up much about the war.

A fish seller Arnie met in the busy central marketplace vividly remembered Tet. "I was 19," she said. "Everybody else in my family was killed by the American attacks — parents, brothers, sisters." Yet she bears no grudge toward Americans. "They blew everything up," she explained, "but it was the Viet Cong who made us stay." She blamed them, not the Americans.

The woman, now in her mid-'60s, insisted on anonymity. Ben Tre and the entire delta was (and still is) filled with Viet Cong supporters. In the center of town stands a statue of a famous female resident, long dead of natural causes, who was a local Viet Cong leader. Residents who visit her statue to leave flowers and honor her legacy probably outnumber the tourists who visit My Lai.

Sadly, **Bob Goldfeld** died on September 17 after a long battle with acute myeloid leukemia. He was fortunate to have a remission that lasted almost two years.

## 1962

**John Freidin**  
654 E. Munger St.  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
[jf@bicyclevt.com](mailto:jf@bicyclevt.com)

By the time this column reaches you, spring will be arriving. Hoping all of us had easy and relaxed winters.

**Roman Kernitsky**, of Colts Neck, N.J., wrote the following response to **Jeff Milstein's** April 16, 2015, letter to *The New York Times*, which appeared in the Fall 2015 column: "Jeff stated that the United States has been imposing 'diplomatic isolation' on Russian President Vladimir Putin for his invasion of Ukraine. He stated that Obama should have been present in Moscow for Victory Day, because 'the Soviet people paid a terrible price for that victory,' and Obama should have paid due respect to honor that great sacrifice.

"[I disagree.] The Soviet Union consisted of 15 republics — only one of which was Russian. Four million

---

### *Last summer, Gene Milone '61 attended the International Astronomical Union meeting in Honolulu, presenting two oral papers and a poster on his work.*

---

Ireland, including a side trip to JFK's ancestral home. This will coincide with their 53rd anniversary but also unfortunately will cut into their Reunion Weekend 2016 attendance.

Maureen and **Phil Cottone's** granddaughter, Megan, had a son, Matthew James, who makes them great-grandparents. He will be CC'37.

**Gene Milone** attended the International Astronomical Union meeting in Honolulu in August and presented two oral papers and a poster on his eclipsing modeling work of the past year. That work, which involves a more precise and accurate distance determination for these special binary star systems than previous study allowed, is continuing to determine accurate distances to star clusters in which some of them are found. Last year, Gene presented results on a binary in the Hyades. This year the target was a binary in the farther and older galactic cluster NGC 752 in Andromeda. After the meeting, Gene took his grandson on a cruise around the islands.

He notes for those who hate hot and muggy weather: Do not visit Hawaii in the summer!

zones and routinely called local inhabitants "gooks" and "dinks" — we would be as forgiving.

The Vietnamese have been battling foreign invaders for centuries; the "American War" ended in 1975 and many of the people, particularly those he met, had not yet been born when the fighting raged. They probably never saw magazine articles, newspaper stories and official reports about what we did to them. But there was word-of-mouth, years of it, unfettered. They know, yet they still seem to like us, he says.

"Your former president ate here," one resident said to Arnie outside a noodle shop in Saigon, the former South Vietnamese capital, now officially named Ho Chi Minh City. "What an honor."

That blew his mind, as did the changed look of places like Da Nang, which he remembered as a big, scroungy town and now is a real city with modern office buildings, tall apartment houses, neat stores, clean streets and long stretches of beach resorts under construction.

Arnie had no trouble recognizing a once-familiar part of Saigon. HCMC, as government bureaucrats call it, also

Ukrainians fought in the Red Army against the Germans. The Germans took 3.8 million Soviet military prisoners, of which 1.3 million were Ukrainians. The Nazis killed hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian POWs by starvation, gassing and other methods. It was the Soviet 1st Ukrainian Front division that liberated Auschwitz on January 27, 1945. An estimated 6.8 million Ukrainians were killed during the war, including most of the Ukrainian Jewish population. For every one village that was destroyed and its inhabitants executed in France and Czechoslovakia, 250 villages and inhabitants suffered such a fate in Ukraine at the hands of the Nazis. My wife's father was in the Red Army and her uncle was a colonel in the Red Army. To honor the sacrifice of the Ukrainian people in their fight against the Nazis and to emphasize the diplomatic isolation of the fascist Putin for his invasion of Ukraine, Obama was absolutely right to stay away from Moscow on Victory Day."

I asked Jeff whether he'd like to reply, and he did: "Roman is correct that the Soviet Union consisted of 15 republics, including Ukraine as well as Russia and 13 others. In addition, indeed, the Red Army consisted of troops from all of the Soviet Union's republics, including Ukraine. However, I think he misses the main point of my letter.

"The 70th anniversary of the 1945 surrender of Nazi Germany and the Allied victory in Europe in WWII was commemorated in Moscow on May 9, 'Victory Day.' All of the Soviet people paid a terrible price for that victory: more than 20 million total deaths, including more than 8 million military deaths — a majority of all American and Allied deaths in the European theater of war.

"In my letter, which the *Times* published more than three weeks before Victory Day, I suggested that to pay due respect to the few surviving war veterans, and to honor that great sacrifice to our shared historic cause, Obama himself should be present in Moscow on Victory Day, but not attend the parade's show of military force. Instead, I suggested that he lay a commemorative wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

"I reasoned that by showing such respect, the diplomatic ice jam over the Ukrainian crisis might be broken. As it turned out, Obama did

not go to Moscow on May 9. What he did do, however, was to send Secretary of State John Kerry on May 12 to meet in Sochi, Russia, with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and with Putin. One of the main purposes of these first high-level meetings in more than two years since the start of the Ukrainian crisis was to restart diplomatic discussions about the conflict and crisis in Ukraine. While in Sochi (before meeting with Putin) and with Lavrov at his side, Kerry did indeed join Lavrov in laying a wreath of flowers at the Zakovkzalny War Memorial for soldiers killed in WWII. Kerry, in his remarks later that same day, called that wreath-laying ceremony 'a powerful reminder of the sacrifices that we shared to bring about a safer world and what our nations can accomplish when our peoples are working together toward a same goal.'"

I hope Roman and Jeff will share their further thoughts on this matter in time to make the Summer 2016 issue.

**Leo Swergold and Michael Stone** both wrote to express their sadness at the death of **David M. Richter**. Leo and David were roommates at the College. David passed away at home on October 19, 2015, in The Villages, Fla. He was 74.

David was born in the Bronx and graduated from Bronx Science in 1958. He earned an M.D. at Johns Hopkins and from 1972 to 1974 served in the Air Force at MacDill AFB, near Tampa, Fla. He then practiced general surgery in Broward County, Fla., for 25 years.

David had many other interests: flying model planes, sculpting bonsai trees, bass fishing and photography, and he was an avid golfer. Leo recalled that he and David, along with their third roommate, **Steve Bell**, traveled through Europe during summer 1961 "on the proverbial \$5-a-day-routine. Rough but a hoot."

Leo also remembered having dinner at David's parents' home in the Bronx on the night of the New York blackout. "Quite an experience getting there in a taxi [with a driver] that was convinced we were the source of the power outage. David rowed lightweight crew for a while and was a kind and gentle fellow. I will miss him."

David is survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Miriam; daughter, Amy Griffin of Bowie, Md.; son,

Michael of Las Vegas; and grandsons, Myles Griffin and Kamron Richter. The family writes: "David lived his life with humor, kindness and honesty, and, although the world seems a little less bright right now, it is with great joy that the family celebrates a life well lived." Online condolences may be left at [beyersfuneralhome.com](http://beyersfuneralhome.com). Memorial contributions may be made to American Brain Tumor Association, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Ste 550, Chicago, IL 60631.

Please let us know how you and your family are, and share news you'd like us to know.

## 1963

**Paul Neshamkin**  
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50  
Hoboken, NJ 07030  
[pauln@helpauthors.com](mailto:pauln@helpauthors.com)

Homecoming found many of your classmates gathered from near and far in the hopes of seeing the football team return to the form we remember from our undergraduate years (actually, we are the last Columbia class to have enjoyed three winning seasons out of our four — something we all hope to see repeated soon). I saw **Henry Black**, **Paul Gorrin**, **Mary Ellen** and **Frank Partel**, **Jane GS'86** and **Jerry Dwyer**, **Phil Satow**, **Tom O'Connor**, **Steve Barcan**, **Lee Lowenfish**, and **Larry Neuman** and his son **Andreas Neuman '98**. Sadly, the game was lost and this season, though showing signs of great promise, has not brought back winning times. Your classmates will continue to cheer the Lions on; please join us this fall.

Our Second Thursday Class Lunches have entered their 12th consecutive year at the Columbia University Club of New York Grill. Attendance during the last few months of 2015 included an impressive number of you: **Doug Anderson**, **Steve Barcan**, **Henry Black**, **Peter Broido**, **Ed Collier**, **Jerry Dwyer**, **Doron Gopstein**, **Bob Heller**, **Bruce Kaplan**, **Lee Lowenfish**, **Don Margolis**, **Paul Neshamkin**, **Frank Partel**, **Gary Rachelefsky**, **Barry Reiss**, **Phil Satow**, **Harvey Schneier** and **Jeff Thompson**.

Please join us! Send me an email, and I will add you to the monthly reminder.

In late November, the College held an elegant breakfast in the Low Rotunda to celebrate the launch of Core to Commencement, the first fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to Columbia College. I joined **Henry Black** and **Don Margolis**, and spied **Eric Foner** in attendance. I'm sure you will be hearing a great deal more about this \$400 million commitment to the future of the Core Curriculum at Columbia and I hope that you will join me in supporting it ([college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate](http://college.columbia.edu/campaign/donate)). To many of us, the Core remains the defining element of our Columbia education and I hope it remains so for another 100 years.

I got a follow-up from **Bob Shlaer** about the film *Carvalho's Journey* (see the Winter 2015–16 Class Notes), in which Bob writes, "I am the primo talking head (if I may be so boastful). [The film] is finally being distributed. I went to its world premiere last summer at the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival and had my 15 minutes (actually it lasted two days, but that is 'another story') of fame at two theaters, one in San Francisco and one in Palo Alto. For the Q&A I donned exactly the garb that I wear in the film. Quite a number of women in the audience picked it up, but hardly any men."

Bob sent a schedule of screenings around the country. Many preceded this issue of *CCT*, but you might be able to catch it at the Princeton University Art Museum (Princeton, N.J., April 17).

**Nick Zill** has posted yet another of his political comments in an animated video on YouTube: "Hillary Tells A Joke!" ([youtube.com/watch?v=soJoytKlj0w](http://youtube.com/watch?v=soJoytKlj0w)). Nick says, "She may be building momentum, but she's still humor-impaired." On a completely different note, Nick had his research findings on adopted children documented in an article by Ruth Graham in the December 2 edition of *The Atlantic* ([theatlantic.com](http://theatlantic.com); search by keywords "Nick Zill").

**Frank Sypher** has published another book about New York colonial history, *Liber A of the Collegiate Churches of New York, Part 2*, which he edited and translated.

Says Frank: "*Liber A of the Collegiate Churches of New York, Part 2* contains 17th-century records of the Reformed Dutch Church

of the City of New York, including baptisms from 1639 to 1697, with names of parents, children and witnesses; names of members from 1649 to 1701; and names of brides and grooms in marriage intentions and marriages from 1639 to 1701.

“This volume is a companion to *Liber A* (2009), which contains texts of official Church documents, including the royal charter granted by King William III, dated May 11, 1696, establishing the church as an independent corporation. The present publication covers the subsequent portion of the original manuscript, pps. 247–714. The records were written down by Domine Henricus Selijns, minister from 1682 until 1701.

“The records portray the life of the church at this period and provide details about thousands of individuals and their families in New Amsterdam and British Colonial New York. The publication will be welcomed by descendants interested in family members who belonged to the church. But genealogical interest is only part of the story. From a social and historical point of view, the records offer a census-like survey of the demographics of the early colonial city, with data for statistics on births, marriages and remarriages. *Liber A* is a major document of American colonial heritage.”

**Paul Gorrin** followed up with details on his grandchild's birth: “Our first grandchild, a girl named Bailey Samantha, smiled the day she was born — or the day after.”

Paul, a great start, but one I would expect from a Gorrin. Congrats!

Paul also reported that **Paul Zimet**, whose theater group, Talking Band, celebrated its 40th anniversary last year and presented its new play, *Burnished by Grief*, by Ellen Maddow, at La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in the East Village from January 22 to February 7.

Paul, I'm sorry that this issue will be published after your run. Drop me a note and give your classmates a heads-up in advance of your next production.

Classmates, check out talkingband.org to learn about the wonderful work the group has created.

**Charles Miller** writes, “As of November, I joined the partnership of the law firm of Eaton & Van Winkle in the firm's Midtown office. Established in New York in 1820,

Eaton & Van Winkle is one of the oldest general practice law firms in New York City, with a growing contingent of intellectual property practitioners of patent, trade secrets, trademark and copyright law. I look forward to continuing my involvement in the Class of '63s activities, including monthly luncheons.”

Remember, our regular class lunches are a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches, scheduled for April 14, May 12 and June 9 — it's always the second Thursday. Check cc63ers.com for details.

## 1964

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

I am writing a few days before Christmas. As Bing Crosby dreams on the radio of a white Christmas, the weatherman is predicting it will be 72 that day here in New York City!

By the time this arrives in your mailbox we will be well into 2016. I wish you and those dear to you a year filled with good health, peace, joy and prosperity.

**Michael Sklaroff** received the Harris Ominsky Award from the Real Property Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association. The award recognizes the legal talents and achievements, the integrity and the contributions to the public interest made by a Philadelphia attorney.

In response to an article on the Holocaust film *Son of Saul*, the *Financial Times* published a letter from **Allen Tobias** on the meaning of the Holocaust in Hungary.

I have been attending home basketball games, where I see stalwarts **Howard Jacobson**, **Ivan Weissman**, **Doron Gopstein '63** and **Lee Lowenfish '63**. The team started with an 11–6 non-conference record, but the real test came in the middle of January when the Ivy League season began.

**Ken Prager** was awarded a Columbia University Presidential Teaching Award last spring. He is professor of medicine, director of medical ethics and chairman of the Medical Ethics Committee at Columbia University Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

Ken writes: “I was very pleased and honored to be a recipient of the Columbia University Presidential Teaching Award last May at Commencement. As I sat on Low Steps gazing at thousands of graduating students and their families on a perfect spring day, I finally experienced the graduation ceremony I missed 51 years ago.

“There are many parallels between the arts of medicine and teaching. In both, the ability to connect effectively with someone else — in one case a patient, in the other a student — is critical. As a pulmonologist I encountered and became fascinated with difficult end-of-life ethical issues while rounding in the ICU in the 1970s and '80s when the discipline of medical ethics was emerging. This spawned a career as bioethicist at what was then called Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center. It led to many teaching responsibilities involving medical students, house staff, nurses, social workers and the lay public.

“I will be forever grateful for the outstanding liberal arts education I received at Columbia. Its broad scope was a perfect preparation for a career in medicine and bioethics, which demands sensitivity, empathy and the ability to think and reason analytically and clearly.

“Even as I write this note, I think of my first-semester English professor, Steven Marcus '48, GSAS'61, who, by mercilessly dissecting my writing assignments and patiently reviewing them with me in his office, taught me how to write.

“The Columbia tradition has continued in my family. Three of my four children have attended either the College, GS, Barnard or the Nursing School. And equally important, many of the songs I learned from director Bailey Harvey in the Glee Club I passed on to my children around the dinner table — harmony and all. “What if tomorrow brings ...”

Congratulations, Ken, and thank you for your heartfelt tribute to the College.

Happily, throughout 2015 (except for July and August) our informal class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York on the second Thursday of the month continued. Among those who dropped by were **Steve Case**, **Bernard Catalinotto**, **Ephraim Cohen**, **Paul Heyman**, **Howard Jacobson**,

**Marty Isserlis**, **Gil Kahn**, **Fred Kantor**, **Richard Kayne**, **Beril Lapson**, **Jeff Newman**, **Dan Press**, **Steve Rodner**, **Dan Schechter**, **Gary Schonwald**, **Steve Solomon**, **Peter Thall**, **Allen Tobias**, **Marty Weinstein** and **Ivan Weissman**.

I hope to see more of you in 2016. And send in a Class Note — your classmates want to hear from you. You can use either of the addresses at the top of this column or the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 1965

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

Reflections and reminisces on our 50th reunion continue to come in as well as new submissions from generous classmates.

**James Carifio** (James\_Carifio@uml.edu) commented on an item I ran in the Summer 2015 Class Notes on **Niles Eldredge** GSAS'69. “Your little piece on Eldredge ... you really underplayed that one; I didn't know that he was in our class. He may be in the top 10 contributors of our generation, that is how much of a big deal his work is — those two guys [Eldredge and Stephen Jay Gould] really changed the paradigm big time on what [evolutionary] change is exactly and how it occurs. Can't believe that I've been reading and appreciating a guy's work for 40 years and didn't even know he was a classmate ...”

I told Jim that I had roomed with Niles at Columbia. He responded: “You were blessed, Leonard, and you can tell Niles I said so. Such incredibly good work; when I learned he was in our class I was sad that I missed the opportunity right under my nose to know him. But such is university life ...”

“However, I accidentally made good friends with Dick Morley about 15 years ago (the legend of MIT who literally put us on the moon and a million other things ...). We email all the time and I spend an afternoon at The Barn (his farm/think place in New Hampshire) every few months, just hanging out and discussing stuff. What an education. He has immensely



BRUCE GILBERT

Nine members of the Class of '65 gathered at the 2015 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner on November 19. Seated, left to right: Andrew Fisher, Michael Krieger, Allen Brill, Leonard Pack and David Sarlin. Standing, left to right: Peter McCann, Michael Schlanger, Jeffrey Krulwich and Michael Cook.

enriched my thinking on numerous things, including education and healthcare (another one of my interests). [His is] one of the most original and creative minds I have interacted with, which is where the real education is when you are ready for it, or as Dick once said, 'When the teacher is ready, the student will appear'... and I did!"

**Arthur Klink SEAS'73** (arthurklink@aol.com) says: "I received four degrees in chemistry and chemical engineering from Columbia. I was for 42 years an executive for Merck (pharmaceuticals), ExxonMobil (oil, gas, petrochemicals) and lastly for the intelligence community in Washington, D.C., (several defense-related contractors). I always worked in the technical arena related to my education, so my career was enjoyable.

"I have been retired for seven years and consult with my company, Eagle One Consulting. We work in the three main areas related to my experience just mentioned. I am a snowbird and live on a golf course community in southern Pennsylvania for six months in the summer and on the Gulf and a golf course in Naples, Fla., for six months in the winter. My hobbies are golf, reading and computer/technical work. I am an ardent worker and supporter of the Israeli Defense Forces, and I do not view this as charitable work but as a supportive commitment. I have two sons, five grandchildren and one great-grandson."

With help from the reunion afterglow, I received a submission from **Barry Levine** (barry@queso.com): "My wife, Shirley, and I had an enjoyable time at reunion. It was

surprisingly nostalgic to be able to speak to not only the classmates whom I see with some regularity in the city (like you Leonard, **Mike Cook**, **Steve Hoffman** and the **Ed Goodgold/Dan Carlinsky** duo) but also those whom I have not seen in decades. It's funny how memories you thought were buried resurface when such encounters happen. It has been years since I saw **Ed Merlis**, **Jeff Krulwich**, **Lou Goodman** and **Alan Green**. Catching up was great!"

"Shirley and I spent our 'working life' in academic medicine (Shirley in hematology and I in surgery), taking care of patients, teaching, running basic science research labs and climbing the academic ladder. That life took us from the University of Chicago, to the University of California, to the University of Texas and finally back to New York City at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

"We had three kids during our residencies in San Diego, and raised them all in San Antonio, where I was sent as an Army 'Berry Plan' deferece until I finished my residency, and then joined Shirley on the faculty at UT. However, we did make sure that the kids were pointed east for college. Luckily they agreed with that plan and went to Dartmouth and Columbia as undergraduates; all three got their graduate degrees at Columbia as well. Even though they have prospered in their professions (law, medicine and entrepreneurship), the best part about them is that, in total, they have given us eight grandchildren, who have become a central part of our lives. Six live just across Central Park from us and the other two are a short trip away in D.C. It

makes it easy for us to snatch them up, take them on adventures in the city and then have them sleep over at our apartment.

"Shirley and I have both been retired for several years and enjoy it immensely. I have been involved with the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years and also am on the board of the Goddard Riverside Community Center, which is one of the 37 settlement houses that help form a safety net for the poor and underserved in the city. **Mike Cook** got me interested in Goddard and I am very glad he did. Through them I have become involved in early child learning and homeless projects. It has been very fulfilling.

"I also have taken advantage of the educational opportunities that New York offers. I am part of a peer learning group sponsored by The New School, where I have taken and taught courses. I have also enjoyed taking seminars sponsored by the Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia, which are taught by emeritus professors from the College.

"My wife has immersed herself in the art world. She takes drawing and painting courses and has a group of friends with whom she goes on sketching and painting forays around the city. There is not a museum or gallery show in town where she and her friends cannot be seen propped against a wall sketching some of the offerings.

"Finally, we go on the occasional trip to Europe and love to attend theater, music and dance performances in the city. All in all, NYC is a very good place to retire, and I can truly say that all the things that I love to do now were piqued, and then deepened, by my education at the College. I owe Columbia a lot."

**Andy Fisher** (andrewfisheriv@gmail.com) sent an obituary for **Lee Dunn**, who died in October 2013. I sent the obituary to those of us who shared a rental house with Lee when we had internships in Washington, D.C., in summer 1964. One of them, **James Levy LAW'68** (jlevyesq@myfairpoint.net), sent a particularly noteworthy response: "I was saddened to learn of Lee's death. The last time that I spoke with him was probably about four or five years ago. Since then I had tried unsuccessfully to reach him, finally giving up when the numbers were

disconnected. I considered Lee a good friend and [he was] occasional co-counsel with me on medical malpractice cases arising in Vermont. He always was attentive to detail, enjoyed meeting new folks on my home turf and relished the opportunity to engage in rather extended (extensive and expensive as well) litigation, no matter the venue. While I often considered the 'process' to be the 'punishment,' Lee in contrast believed it to be the ultimate form of personal and professional fulfillment.

"In the 1980s and 1990s we often met in Hanover, N.H., to attend the Columbia-Dartmouth football game, welcoming the chance to revitalize our own Lion connections while enduring the seemingly inevitable bloodbath on the gridiron. The Columbia University Marching Band's traditional fourth quarter chant ('you may be winning but we get to leave') provided a most fitting note for our departure but we always vowed to return for yet another bout of gridiron folly in a couple of years. Lee's own linguistic gem ('up your giggy [sic] with a wire brush') will forever resonate in my memory, and his insightful wit will be missed. Alas, the mercy of memory is that it allows us to keep that which we have lost."

**Chris Morren** (morrenchrisopher@gmail.com) commented on reunion: "Our reunion was great, and seeing classmates 50 years later was mythical. Reuniting with glee clubbers and singing in a **Dan Carlinsky** trivia production at the class dinner at Casa Italiana ... well, just can't top that. Since reunion I have fully retired from medical practice.

"I had a delightful dinner with **Joe Beckmann** in Somerville, Mass; **Jeff Krulwich** and **Bill Wertheim** and their spouses joined me and my wife for dinner and singing of old Columbia songs; **Pete Smith** invited us to hear him sing Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus ... reunion was the catalyst for all these wonderful meetings."

**Dave Obelkevich** (obelkevich@aol.com) completed his 40th New York City Marathon in November, finishing in 4:57. His amazing record was featured in *The New York Times*, *Agence France Presse* and *Runner's World*.

The College's Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner was held on November 19, honoring Eric H.

Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76. In an act of great generosity, **Michael Schlanger** invited eight of us to join him as his guests. All nine of us were captured on the nearby photograph, in our penguin-like best.

**Robert Yunich** (rhyunich@gmail.com) sent this: "I enjoyed our 50th reunion very much. It was great that so many classmates participated. It was great fun and a chance to briefly reconnect. During the past two years, I have become very involved as a volunteer for two New York based not-for-profits.

"Most people know about the Fresh Air Fund's programs for enabling inner-city kids to spend a portion of their summer vacation either in the home of a host family outside New York City or as a camper at one of the five FAF-run camps. Less well-known are the programs during the remainder of the year. I have tutored three students, ranging from 7th to 10th grades, needing help in English language arts (this was English when we were in school), chemistry, algebra and geometry (can anyone remember the formula for sulfuric acid or the Pythagorean theorem?). Fortunately, FAF has resources for tutoring the tutor and I had the ability to read the relevant sections of textbooks faster than the students. I also surprised myself with the information, long dormant, retrieved from my memory bank.

"The Community Service Society has been helping disadvantaged New Yorkers for more than a century. I was accepted into its Financial Coaching Corps, which required completion of a 30-hour orientation program and a final exam. As a financial coach, I have been helping people *pro bono* in one-on-one meetings to deal with problems most of us have been lucky enough to avoid: adverse credit reports, stifling credit card debt, default judgments arising from delinquent debt obligations and the quagmire around crippling amounts of outstanding student loans. I also guide my 'clients' through preparing monthly budgets and managing their cash flow. The large majority only have one session, which I suspect is the result of lacking the self-discipline to address and resolve their financial problems. The most gratifying are those who come back multiple times to allow me to review their progress and, more importantly,

to see that hope and optimism from having a plan has replaced initial despair and hopelessness.

"My wife Joanne's and my travels this year have been curtailed, as Joanne's brother is battling cancer and my 95-year-old mother is in assisted living (she calls me when she wants something). Our most recent excursion was a one-week trip to London in 2014 for a little R&R. We stayed at Claridge's and saw some wonderful museum exhibits. We also spent a weekend at The Manor House Hotel in Castle Combe, Chippenham. (Castle Combe, being one of the oldest villages in England, was the venue Steven Spielberg used for filming *War Horse*. The brick streets were covered with dirt for the movie.) Two of London's best theater shows (*The Audience* and *Skylight*) had already moved to NYC so we saw them here and liked them very much. *King Charles III* had rave reviews in London; we saw it and disliked it. It opened recently in NYC to critical acclaim. We look forward to resuming our travels in 2016. I work part-time as a financial adviser at MetLife."

## 1966

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2-5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION2016

**Rich Forzani**  
413 Banta Ave.  
Garfield, NJ 07026  
rforzani1@optonline.net

Classmates and friends, before we get to our column, consider what is happening in June. I'm talking about history and mortality and the passage of our lives. I don't know how many of you attended or thought about your 50th high school reunion, but I'm guessing it was a fair number and that this milestone had some effect on you. Well, this is CC'66's 50th reunion, commemorating the most significant four-year experience in our lives. Time is passing, guys, ever faster.

A large and diverse group of classmates have put in almost a year of intense work to make this event

memorable and different. For those coming back to New York after many years, there are incredible experiences to help you enjoy the city and see its changes. There will be tours of campus and the neighborhood; amazing, informative and enjoyable speakers; and some classic NYC experiences.

**Bob Gurland** is hosting a relaxed, yet elegant, complimentary cocktail party in his expansive TriBeCa loft; a classmate who wishes to remain anonymous has substantially subsidized a luxury cocktail/buffet Manhattan cruise (information will be coming on how those who sign up first can attend for free); and we have impressive venues for our campus events. The idea is to provide an enjoyable College-centric menu of events for you to choose among, so whether you come in for the weekend or the full week, you will have options both on-campus or Manhattan-wide. The experience of a few days in Manhattan is its own justification; enjoying your 50th reunion makes it doubly enticing. Please join us; you'll see old friends and make new ones. It may not be the last hurrah, but it will be a big one.

Pride of place: This edition goes to **Stuart Berkman** BUS'68, in Teresópolis, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, my predecessor as Class Notes correspondent, who put in many years faithfully recording our history. Thanks for your efforts, Stuart.

From Stuart: "My wife, Gilda, and I live in a mountain town outside Rio de Janeiro, and are somewhat apprehensive about the effects of the Olympic Games coming in August. We celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary in February 2016, and plan to go somewhere in the Americas to commemorate, although as of this writing no decision has been made as to where. We had an excellent trip to Austria, Bavaria and northern Italy in October, and planned to visit our daughter, Sacha Berkman '05, in New York over the year-end holidays. We hope to be able to participate in the 50th reunion in June."

**Steve Leichter**: "My wife, Sydney, and I already have our hotel reservations for the 50th reunion. Through the years she has gotten to know some of our wonderful classmates, including **Mark Amsterdam**, **Herb Hochman** and **Mike Garrett**. We are excited about reunion. We ended up in Columbus, Ga., with five

grown children, nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. My 'retirement' is running the largest diabetes/endocrine center in the western half of Georgia; it serves most of the southwest quarter of the state. I always loved endocrinology, especially diabetes care, and still do."

**Calvin Johnson**: "I write a lot about taxation issues (utexas.edu/law/faculty/cvs/chj7107\_cv.pdf). I care intensely about taxes but I have learned, with the help of my wife, not to raise [the topic] in social situations. I recently [was appointed] the John T. Kipp Chair in Corporate and Business Law at UT Law School. The dean called me 'a committed and hard-thinking colleague' and 'a man of ideas,' and said that he was presenting the chair 'with esteem' and 'with much admiration.' I do not know whether to praise the dean as a man of great perception, or just to pay no attention to the man behind the curtain."

**Dan Sullivan**: "When you are over 70, life becomes less active, less interesting and there is less to talk about. Keep well and see you in June."

**Joe Steinberger** LAW'72: "I am semi-retired from my law practice and very much employed in raising my child, Takuma (8). His mother, Keiko, is busy at her restaurant, Suzuki's Sushi Bar, here in Rockland, Maine. I live in awe of my beautiful Japanese wife, who has created one of the finest restaurants in the world using ingredients from local fishermen, farmers and foragers. I hope to bring Tak with me to the 50th so he can meet other aging Columbians and imagine what college might be like. I have a request of my classmates: Has anyone heard any news of **Bob Schapiro**? He was my roommate for two years." [Editor's note: Columbia University records show that Bob passed away in the early 2000s. Anyone who wishes to share memories, please write in.]

**Roger G. Keppel**: "I entered the Army in 1967 and served as an infantry lieutenant in the 9th Infantry Division (Vietnam). Wounded in action in 1969 and discharged in 1970. Received an M.A. in aquatic biology from SUNY Binghamton and retired in 2010 from a career as an environmental biologist working for various companies in the area of power plant impact on fish populations. I'm married to Deborah, a registered nurse, and have three



On January 21, several members of the Class of '66 met for dinner at The Back Room at One57. Clockwise from top left: Eric Gould, Herbert Hochman, Joel Klein '67, Arthur Reynolds, Paul Ehrlich and Barry Collier.

children and six grandchildren. I stay in contact with **Tom Kappner** and his wife, Gussie BC'66, SW'84. I enjoy visiting family, gardening/landscaping and reading."

**Richard "Rick" Davis** GSAS'74: "I retired in 2015 from the anthropology department at Bryn Mawr College — 37 years of teaching and doing prehistoric archaeology. Digging and probing in lots of places it's hard to get to now — Iran, eastern Turkey, northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan — but also Siberia and many visits to the eastern Aleutians. The best thing, though, is having a large and growing family — four children, including Alex '04, and five grandchildren. It really does keep my head spinning. No question my undergraduate years at Columbia were transformative and truly fun, I even stayed on to get a doctorate. And I would do it all again."

**Albert Bruns**: "My wife, Prudence Farrow Bruns (who attended GS in the early '80s) and who later earned a B.A., an M.A. and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley in Sanskrit, published her memoir, *Dear Prudence: The Story Behind The Song*, this spring. It was well-received. My daughter graduated from FSU College of Medicine last spring and is doing her residency in Portland, Ore., in internal medicine. I recently spent time with **Bill Wise**, Mike Melita '68, **Dick Melita** and **Michael Shannon**. They all seem well and we had a wonderful time talking about the old days. Bill has moved from California to North Carolina for the time being. I would like to go to

the 50th reunion but I am waiting to see if anybody I know is attending."

**Pete Wernick**: "In 2015 the bluegrass band I'm in, Hot Rize, toured most of the United States, playing 30 festivals and hitting the top of the Billboard Bluegrass Albums chart with the album *When I'm Free* (drbanjo.com)."

**Harvey Jay**: "I am fortunately doing very well. I am blessed with a wonderful wife, Phyllis; four wonderful children, Dave, Laura, Rachel and Becky; and two wonderful grandchildren, Ellis and Ben."

"I appreciate the excellent education that I received at Columbia College. The interactions with many fellow students, and several faculty members such as Dr. Gary McDowell GSAS'65, were truly life-changing experiences. At a time like this I wonder about classmates who are much less fortunate and probably really need our assistance even more than our college. I cannot be certain that needy classmates exist, but feel that our class and school should make an effort to reach those classmates who require assistance. Opening our reunion and our hearts to classmates in need will demonstrate that our values and actions reflect the higher ideals of our College education. A more democratic and less elitist 50th reunion will be one that I hope many of you will feel is more fitting for the Class of '66. If you agree with this suggestion, please contact our class representatives and let's see if we can again make a positive difference."

**David Kelston** practices law in Boston.

**Joseph Albeck**: "This year I will celebrate my 70th birthday here in the Boston suburbs, a few months before [reunion]. As a member of the Reunion Committee I have been pleased with how the planning is going. I hope to be part of a poetry group at reunion, where classmates may contemplate our musings. The September 2015 Double Discovery Center 50th Anniversary Gala, which celebrated Joel Klein '67 and Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74's contributions to Columbia, was a delightful experience, and happy precursor to our 50th."

"I have a part-time private practice of psychiatry affiliated with Harvard's McLean Hospital. Time spent with family is the most enjoyable activity: three children, four grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and one step-great-grandchild all live nearby, so our dining room table is no longer large enough for some of our gatherings."

"As a charter member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a founder of the New England Holocaust Memorial, the terrorist threats and increasingly disturbing similarities to the politics of the 1930s in Europe and America are of great concern. My own efforts to recover title to some of my family's property in Warsaw, Poland (seized by the Nazis and then by the Russians) is proceeding against the many obstacles the Polish government has put in place, but even if we are unsuccessful, it feels right to make the effort, even after all these years."

"As a physician, I have found it stressful to make the transition to being a patient for the increasing number of (so far non-fatal) conditions that require the expenditure of time and energy. I am no longer the 20-year-old who graduated from college so long ago but I still often feel like I should be as energetic and enthusiastic as I was then. So: 'Doctor, heal thyself' is good advice and I look forward to sharing others' views on the subject when we meet in June."

**Tom Chorba** and his wife, Celeste, reconnected with Kathy and **Bill Corcoran** last summer on Fire Island. A prime discussion point was how much longer are alumni willing to support the Stalinists ("We would not let our enemies have guns. Why would we let them have ideas?") who have imposed restrictions on free

speech at Columbia? A two-question job interview stratagem was also devised: Have you ever been "triggered" by an idea? Do you remember how to leave the building?

Tom is waiting to hear from CC'66 poets who wish to read one of their published poems at our 50th (tachorba@aol.com).

**Ken Benoit** PS'70: "I'm beginning my 10th year of retirement and enjoying every bit of it. Considering how poorly my hands now work with my putter, I'm quite happy that I retired my scalpel when I did after 37 years of surgery. My wife, Mary, and I retired on a bass-filled lake in Bristol, Conn., where we enjoy teaching our four grandchildren the joys of water life. We spend the winter months in Florida but the rest of the year at the lake. A minor setback this past summer included a total hip replacement, which went well. I'm hoping it will restore the length on my tee shots. Hope springs eternal for us 'old golfers.' I'm looking forward to reunion to rekindle old friendships."

**Roger Dennis**: "After being proud to be an American for my first 18 years, I came to Columbia, visited diverse areas around the city, met people from all kinds of backgrounds and learned new, interesting and sometimes disturbing things from 'Sundial speeches' and so on. My newfound knowledge led to a lot of inner confusion and anger, and so in the middle of my sophomore year I quit school and hitchhiked up and down the Eastern seaboard. During that year off I realized that my mission in life was and is to help create a better world. Since then I have been working to fight injustices, increase intercultural harmony and transform education. I believe that mainstream education is instrumental in creating many of the wrongs in our world, and I also believe — ironically — that it has the potential to fix this."

"I am passionate about transforming our justice system (including our prisons), creating a fair economic system, improving the voting process, protecting nature's resources, grassroots problem-solving and identifying and alleviating the root causes of crime, war and the many other forms of violence (including the more subtle forms, such as not listening).

"I have two sons: Christopher (43) lives in South Dakota and

David (39) lives in the Philippines. My wife, Yvonne Wakim Dennis, is an award-winning author, social worker and activist, particularly within her American Indian community. Her son, Jiman, is studying in Colombia and is a finance consultant. As of 1999 I live in the Columbia area — West 107th, near Amsterdam.

“Would love to hear from others at [itistime.nyc@gmail.com](mailto:itistime.nyc@gmail.com). Anyone interested in learning more about my work can check out [itistime2.blogspot.com/p/about.html](http://itistime2.blogspot.com/p/about.html).”

**Bruce LaCarrubba:** “After my retirement from law in 2009 because of health issues, I’ve been teaching Tai Chi, Qigong and meditation at nursing homes, cancer clinics and senior centers in Palm Beach County, Fla., where I spend the winters, and North Jersey (yes, at the old farm many of you visited) during the summer. This has returned me to full and robust health, so I am taking full advantage of enjoying time with my six grandchildren (ages 2–16), and my children, Kevin (49), who introduced me to the martial and healing arts in 1988 and is a musician in Vail, and Christopher (40) and Lauren (38), who are dedicated educators with a passion to teach their students how to think for themselves. Wife Josephine and I also enjoy visiting friends and family in exotic places. My cell is 862-268-6867 for any of you geezers who’d like to reconnect.”

**Ahmet Evin GSAS’73:** “After serving as founding dean of arts and social sciences and professor of political science at Sabanci University, a private foundation university in Istanbul, I’m now professor emeritus but continue to teach. I also am senior scholar at IPC, an independent think tank associated with Sabanci, and am a member of the Columbia Global Centers advisory board. My wife, Zehra, a professor of molecular biology and bioengineering at Sabanci, is also director of Sabanci’s core curriculum. During the founding phase of the university, I played a significant role in designing the core curriculum, for which I used the College’s Core as a model. It was a major innovation in Turkey’s higher education system, which was previously based on the French model. I am happy to see Sabanci ranked 13th among all institutions of higher learning less than 50 years

old worldwide. My wife and I also try to spend time in our house in Hamburg, Germany.”

## 1967

**Albert Zonana**  
425 Arundel Rd.  
Goleta, CA 93117  
[az164@columbia.edu](mailto:az164@columbia.edu)

Sadly, the mailbox is empty this issue! Class of ’67, please share your news. Career, retirement, family updates, travels, hobbies — your classmates want to know about you. Class Notes are a great way to stay connected to the College and to your classmates, so send news to the email or mailing 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).

## 1968

**Arthur Spector**  
One Lincoln Plaza, Apt. 25K  
New York, NY 10023  
[arthurb spectator@gmail.com](mailto:arthurb spectator@gmail.com)

Greetings to the wondrous Class of 1968! Tonight (December 12) I am off to the Columbia basketball game. I believe this is a great team; we shall see (and a superb coach too!). I am looking forward to the New Year and I hope you are all well and in good cheer and had a great holiday season. I know **Reid Feldman** from Paris was to be in NYC for New Year’s and I hoped to see him and his wife, Claudia. I reached out to him after the Paris tragedy and he, of course, reported how the challenges before France and other countries in Europe were enormous.

I expect to see **John Roy**, who called to say he planned to be in the city for Christmas and that he is busy teaching and enjoying the warm Naples, Fla., weather. I didn’t get a report on **Gregg Winn** or **Neil Anderson**, also in Naples.

**Wayne Wild** wrote the following to me (I had Professor Arthur Danto GSAS’53 for my aesthetics class, too. It was my favorite class at Columbia!); I need to get Wayne’s book ...

“I recently published a book based on my Berklee College of Music liberal arts course on aesthetics, ‘Liberating Aesthetics: For the Aspiring

Artist and the Inspired Audience.’ The main concern of this most accessible short book is to have students of the arts, and lovers of all art, recover their instinctual, direct, sensuous and experiential response to art over ‘meaning,’ which scares off and distances all too many high school and college students (as well as adult audiences) from the true enjoyment and fulfillment that art provides. I agree with Professor Danto, who advised we recognize the ‘embodied meaning’ of a work of art, separate from its intellectual interpretation. The second idea of the book is to argue that the relationship of form and spontaneity in art has changed over time, and that whereas creative spontaneity previously fit into established forms, the trend is evermore for spontaneity to engender form.

“On a personal note, my wife, Faye, died in 2011 but I am now very happy with a woman, Eunice Flanders, who teaches at Berklee School of Music in liberal arts as well as teaching middle school in Needham, Mass. Full days! I also work part-time at Tufts Health Plan with my physician hat. Last year, I was invited to Berlin to give a talk, ‘The Origins of a Modern Medical Ethics in Enlightenment Scotland,’ part of my medical-literature interest. My son, Nicholas, and I go frequently to Boston Symphony orchestra concerts and greatly enjoy the new conductor. Nicholas is a music teacher in Danvers, Mass., but he is also involved with the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, which uses specialized ways of teaching music to young children.

“Eunice and I visited my daughter, Zoe, in her home in Sedona, Ariz., and we were blown away by the scenery and her lifestyle there. Zoe works in life coaching and yoga. The three of us visited the Navajo reservation there and it was life-changing experience. I now teach some Native American literature — Sherman Alexie and Leslie Marmon Silko. From there we went on to Carmel, Calif., and Sausalito, Calif. And a word: I appreciate our Columbia experience, and especially the Core Curriculum, more with each day I read and teach. Thanks!”

So I do get these great notes periodically — it seems that many of our classmates are active and others are enjoying some of the peace that they have earned.

I correspond with **Bob Brandt** — mainly about politics — and with **Ira McCown**. Bob went to China recently and I hope to get a report about that. Ira continues to appreciate South Florida and keeps busy.

**Paul Brosnan** has me on his email list to receive his humorous and serious thoughts; I should publish some of these sometime.

I had the pleasure of sitting with **Art Kaufman** at a Columbia basketball game; he is in great humor, teaches at the Law School, is on the College’s Board of Visitors and happily has three grandchildren.

I expected to see **Paul de Bary** at the basketball game I attended on the 12th and I am hoping to get to my place in Saratoga, N.Y., for a few days (I hope there will be some snow). The place is now enhanced with a new kitchen.

I planned to spend a week in Miami Beach around New Year’s Eve and in December my wife, Halle, and I planned to do dinner and dancing at the Rainbow Room — a big band orchestra, sounds like fun — and also planned to go Lincoln Center to hear the Juilliard Orchestra, conducted by Itzhak Perlman, perform. I bet the performance will be stunningly good and there will probably be a College student in the orchestra.

Well, that’s about it from here. I hope to hear from more of you and I will reach out.

All the best to you and your family for 2016. It will be springtime when this issue comes out, and I hope the forsythia in Central Park and in the country are in full bloom.

Don’t forget to send in updates to either of the addresses at the top of this column or use the *CCT* webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1969

**Michael Oberman**  
**Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel**  
1177 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036  
[moberman@kramerlevin.com](mailto:moberman@kramerlevin.com)

It is hard to report breaking news in a quarterly column, so sometimes it takes an update to complete a piece of news. The item on **Andy Bronin** in the Winter 2015–16 issue mentioned that his son, Luke,

had (as of press time) just won the Democratic nomination to run for mayor of Hartford, Conn. Luke won the general election in November, and, as I write this, is scheduled to be inaugurated on January 1. By the time this column is published, Luke should officially be “Mayor Bronin.” It is special to watch the achievements of our classmates’ children when I have — in many cases — written columns reporting on the births of those children.

I have one more follow-up. The Summer 2013 column had an item

reunion of our class at George W. Hewlett H.S.; John and I went to high school and college together and then did not see each other for four decades. Even with the crowd noise and the confusion of being among unfamiliar-looking people with very familiar names (one of many frights of a 50th high school reunion), John’s robust enthusiasm for his academic work was quite apparent, as was his enjoyment of life in Australia.

**Peter Behr** was awarded a 35-year pin by the Registered

in the mortgage industry, he has become the managing partner of Fortress Wealth Management in Iowa, where he has “hired about 15 really smart people who work very hard making me look good.” The firm is a one-stop shop for wealth management, with “every kind of insurance available,” and commercial and residential mortgages. Ron’s family golfs, skis and travels “as often as possible and tries to visit the east often.”

**Richard Rosenstein** “relocated to sunny Florida two years ago, took the Florida Bar and opened a solo legal practice in Boca Raton on June 1, 2014. My top memory of the first couple of weeks at the College was the upperclassmen (only men then) trying to get our Class of 1969 beanies.”

**Bruce Gillers** also had a 50th high school reunion, with Brooklyn Tech, last year, but did not attend. However, **Ron Alexander**, with whom Bruce attended both high school and

triple integrals of vectors). It took about 45 minutes. This was my second week in college. I went directly to the registrar’s office and dropped the course.”

In contrast to the last few columns, I have not used my allotted space this time, meaning I need classmates to send news or memories of the College. And let me make a further request. At our last reunion, some classmates spoke of wishing to stay in touch between reunions. If you would like to participate in some type of Internet class-specific exchange, let me know; also let me know if you have thoughts on how to set up such a channel. If you have interest in occasional gatherings in New York City, let me know; some classes have periodic lunches. Gatherings could also occur in other cities if there is enough interest and a willingness on someone’s part to do the coordination.

---

*Peter Behr '69 was awarded the 35-year pin by the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of British Columbia. He is the first RMT to practice in Powell River.*

---

on **John Schuster**, who at that time had relatively recently retired as head of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of New South Wales and had just published a major work on Descartes in the context of the Scientific Revolution. Now comes the news that John has been elected as a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Going to the Australian Academy’s website ([humanities.org.au/Fellowship/NewFellows#Schuster](http://humanities.org.au/Fellowship/NewFellows#Schuster)), I found this description of John in the announcement of his election: “A leading authority on the seventeenth-century scientific revolution, Schuster’s work has led to new understanding of the importance and work of René Descartes, and to the relation of intellectual and institutional change in the history of science. His research has shaped historians’ perceptions of the period in fundamental ways, including the central place of natural philosophy in both the scientific revolution and in the work of Descartes.”

John shared this reaction with a group of friends: “Because you know me well, you will correctly predict that I must have certain qualms about this. I do not like to feel constrained by good old Aussie academic PC-ness when speaking out in public about things. We shall see if this is indeed the club for me. Of course, I hope for the best.”

I had a chance to visit with John on the occasion of the 50th

Massage Therapists’ Association of British Columbia. Peter was the first RMT to practice in Powell River, a city on the coast of British Columbia, Canada. Peter first practiced out of his home, then at a spa and finally at his own clinic. Since 1982, he has been in practice with his wife, Margaret. When Peter began, there were only 130 RMTs in the entire province; now there are some 3,300. Peter was president of the board of the Massage Therapists’ Association in the 1980s, during the time that an effort was being made to eliminate health care coverage for massage therapy; that effort was defeated, and massage therapy remains part of Canada’s provincial health care system. Peter has also taught clinical treatments at West Coast College of Massage Therapy in New Westminster, Canada. He started on the path to massage therapy as a child, massaging his father’s feet to help with health issues. After moving to Powell River, Peter suffered from severe back pain and had to go all the way to Vancouver for massage therapy. Based on the positive results he experienced, Peter went for RMT training in the United States (none was available in Western Canada at the time), which led him to become the first RMT in Powell River. Peter plans to continue in practice as long as possible.

**Ron Rosenblatt TC’74** reports that after 10 years of teaching at a university and 25 years as an executive

college, did attend the reunion and shared news with Bruce. He adds that he and Ron were “roommates for our four years at the College, all in Carman! He was also the best man at my wedding. We have seen each other at the *brit milab* of two of my Washington, D.C.-born grandsons, ages 2 and 4. I practice ophthalmology in suburban Boston and live in Newton, Mass. My wife, Mina, is a pediatrician in Dorchester, Mass. Our children are all over the country.”

**Bill Stark** has shared some more memories of the College, including the following: “There were four levels of physics at the College, which went from ‘Poet’s Physics’ up to advanced. Thinking I was smart, I signed up for advanced, taught by Melvin Schwartz. Professor Schwarz did these derivations; there was a long blackboard, and he would write a long equation, then walk back and forth, striking out one little bit and changing it. It is very hard to take notes when the professor uses proof by erasure. The graduate student teaching assistant had just gotten his B.A. but was about to get his Ph.D. (He was advanced — in graduate school for just one year.) In a problem session, the smartest kid in the class said, ‘In one line of the derivation, the professor said “obviously” — it wasn’t so obvious to me.’ I thought ‘me either.’ So the TA solved from before the ‘obviously’ to after the ‘obviously,’ using tensors to the third order (something like

---

## 1970

---

**Leo G. Kailas**  
**Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt**  
**885 Third Ave., 20th Fl.**  
**New York, NY 10022**  
**lkailas@reitlerlaw.com**

In response to my request for notes, I was inundated with news, mostly happy reports but also some sad news. **Victor Hertz** and **Dan Feldman** informed me of the death of **Paul Kropp**, whom they fondly remembered. I am briefly excerpting their notes and celebrating some of Paul’s accomplishments during his all-too-brief life: “Paul Stephan Kropp, author and publisher, Toronto, Canada, died August 22, 2015 ... Memories of Paul revolve around late-night Scrabble games made all the more creative by festive toasts and audacious puns; attending concerts in Manhattan; amateur theater productions on Morningside Heights; and eating notoriously unhealthy pizzas at local restaurants. During and after college, in his annual holiday ‘Kropp Cards,’ Paul created a multi-decade history of our times and the shifting kaleidoscope of politics and life.

“Following graduation he relocated to Canada and completed his master’s in 17th-century English poetry at the University of Western Ontario before securing his teacher’s

certification at Althouse College. For many years Paul taught high school in Burlington, Hamilton and Oakville ... In 1994 he left the teaching profession to become a full-time author and publisher of his own and others' works. Many of his works garnered critical acclaim: 12 of Paul's books have been selected for the Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice lists; *Ellen/Elena/Luna* was a finalist for the Toronto Book Awards and a nominee for the Silver Quill Awards. Paul also wrote and lectured extensively for parents, including his non-fiction book *How to Make Your Child a Reader for Life*. Paul also ventured into adult fiction with his recently completed art history thriller, *The Lost Botticelli* [under the pen name Paul Stephano]."

If you read the Winter 2014–15 CCT then you are familiar with the good works of **Eric Eisner LAW'73**. Eric started the YES program to help less-privileged kids in Los Angeles get into better high schools; the program then follows and assists the participants through college and professional school. The program has spread to other cities, including Chicago, and it has had a beneficial effect on the lives of many participants.

I received the following note from José Contreras SEAS'14, a graduate of Eric's program: "My parents always instilled upon [me and] my siblings the importance of education, but since my parents came to this country only a couple of years before we were born they didn't really have a complete grasp of how the American education system worked. I excelled in elementary school but I never even thought about the idea of going to a more competitive school with a diverse curriculum because my family did not have many resources. When I met Mr. Eisner in the sixth grade, he and his program helped me learn more about opportunities that were available and eventually helped me apply to various schools so that I could be challenged.

"Being mentored by Mr. Eisner and the YES program at such an early age provided me with a boost of confidence in regards to my intellectual ability and helped further develop my passion for learning and problem solving. In high school, he provided YES Scholars with advice regarding the college application

process and helped us create goals. YES also helped me (and other YES Scholars) to prepare for the SAT with SAT prep classes at Lennox Middle School. Engagement from institutions like Columbia only painted a clearer picture of what college life would be like and the educational opportunities that would be available at such schools. YES helps students see that their educational goals are attainable and that there are plenty of opportunities out there — YES students coming to Columbia Law School every Saturday is a great example. Thanks to the work of YES mentors and supporters, students across four states are learning that they can realize their dreams both as students and as professionals. Being part of YES, I had the privilege to learn about the educational opportunities available early on and to find a network of like-minded students from similar backgrounds."

**Chuck Silberman** reports: "Our second grandchild was born in October. Alexa 'Lexi' Coral Goldstein joins her brother, Max, as the youngest members of our family."

Professor **Michael Aeschliman** GSAS'91 informed me of several recent articles he authored. The one that intrigued me the most was his spirited defense of Columbia College's most famous alumnus, Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). Michael's article, "Hamilton and Jefferson: The Deserving and the Deserter," appeared in the October 31, 2015, edition of the *National Review*.

**Lewis Siegelbaum** sent this note on his recent publication: "I am still pursuing Russian history after all these years. Last year, Cornell University Press published *Broad Is My Native Land: Repertoires and Regimes of Migration in Russia's Twentieth Century*, a big book that I wrote with Leslie Page Moch (my wife!). Sami, my older son, is pursuing a career as an art historian, hampered by the catastrophic decline of the humanities in the academy and certain demographic disadvantages; my son Sasu is working in Manhattan for Great Big Story, a Turner-financed provider of 2–3-minute videos for social media."

**Len Levine** reported: "I work for the Department of Defense, Defense Information Systems Agency. I could retire now but am looking to keep going until 70 — January 2018. I'm doing a three-day-a-week, 110-mile



CCT ARCHIVES

(round-trip) trek from the Northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C., to just south of Baltimore. The van pool is essential, two days a week of telework helps and the work on setting IT standards at the Object Management Group is fun. Absent any of those factors, I'd probably retire tomorrow."

**Dan Feldman** modestly noted: "I don't know whether this is 'pressworthy,' but I have a new book out, which I predict will not be of interest to our classmates, maybe with the exception of [**Leo Kailas**]: *Administrative Law: The Sources and Limits of Government Agency Power*. It's short (244 pages), and book jacket praise from Peter L. Strauss, the Law School's preeminent administrative law scholar, says my writing style is 'informal and clear, almost as if he were having a conversation with his readers,' with 'vivid examples' that are 'engaging.'"

I was happy to receive a report from **Jack Probolus** on the whereabouts of former members of the crew team: "The stalwart Class of 1970 heavyweight crew members who, as seniors, represented Columbia at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association National Championship on Lake Onondaga

in Syracuse, N.Y., will once again take to the water, this time in the form of a new, four-oared shell they are gifting in the name of the Class of 1970. The shell was christened on College Walk late in the afternoon of December 5. This was followed by Columbia's Annual Rowing Banquet. **Bob Kidd, Bill Longa, Jack Probolus** and **John Seney**, although spread across the country, also plan to make an appearance this spring and dip their oars while in the new shell at one of the varsity rowing events. The cox for their event was at that time a junior, Andy Dunn '71. Andy also contributed to the donation and will guide the lads on the water once again. We are all delighted that we can contribute and give back to the College in tribute to all those who have rowed and those who continue to represent Columbia in the great tradition of rowing."

My dear friend **Frank Motley** LAW'74 reports on having failed at retirement: "On July 1, after 34 years of loyal service to Indiana and the Maurer School of Law, Frank Motley retired to spend time with his wife and 19 grandkids (!). Barely three months later, he went back to work at (of all places) the University of Kentucky College of Law. Given the

storied history/rivalry of these two schools, it will be interesting to see where he sits when they meet on the basketball court.”

**Mark Pruzansky** sent this proud note: “My son, Jason Pruzansky ’04, is a talented surgeon in my hand surgery practice. Very exciting and a game changer for a guy like me, who has practiced solo for so long. My daughter, Julie Hug ’07, is happily married and practicing adolescent and adult psychotherapy in Reno.”

**David Lehman** reported on his amazing publication: “*Sinatra’s Century: One Hundred Notes on the Man and His World*, my new non-fiction book, appeared on October 27. *The Washington Post* reviewed it on October 28, with critic Sibbie O’Sullivan writing: ‘David Lehman’s *Sinatra’s Century* is a much shorter but more intimate portrait [than James Kaplan’s doorstep biography]. Many of the same anecdotes used by Kaplan can be found here, too, but Lehman, an established poet, widens the frame of reference, thereby expanding the emotional resonance of the songs. He compares Sinatra’s version of “One for My Baby” to both Humphrey Bogart in *Casablanca* and to Ernest Hemingway’s famous story “A Clean, Well-Lighted Place.”

“Whereas Kaplan accumulates facts, Lehman tells us what those facts mean. For example: ‘There are two reasons that male resistance to Sinatra turned completely around. ... His voice deepened ... and he was able to sing so convincingly of loss, failure and despair unto death.’ But when a fact is needed, Lehman comes through: In a 2014 commercial for Jack Daniels, a voiceover tells us what Sinatra’s recipe was: ‘three rocks, two fingers and a splash.’ There it is, a Sinatra haiku, and, boy, what a splash he made.”

**Martin Newhouse** also sent in a proud note: “My biggest news is that my wife, Nancy J. Scott, an associate professor of fine arts at Brandeis, recently published a biography of Georgia O’Keeffe as part of the Critical Lives series produced by the English publisher Reaktion Books (marketed in the United States through the University of Chicago Press). It is the first biography to take thoroughly into account the recently published O’Keeffe-[photographer Alfred] Stieglitz correspondence (which was under wraps for years). Obviously, I think the book is not

only well written but also revelatory on a number of fronts, and recommend it to all.”

## 1971

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Jim Shaw**  
139 North 22nd St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
jes200@columbia.edu

Now is the time to ramp up to Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Mark your calendars, plan and arrange. The campus is the same, but different. And so are we. Enjoy old friendships and make new ones. I have already heard from classmates on other continents who plan to attend.

The Reunion Committee, headed by **Peter Hebert** and **Jeff Knowles**, is hard at work planning special events to make this the best reunion yet! Keep in mind that Reunion Weekend 2016 includes All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day) on Saturday, June 4, a day of lectures and classroom discussions with some of Columbia’s leading faculty. Other highlights of the program, which is still being finalized, include an all-class Wine Tasting and the gala Starlight Reception on Saturday — desserts and dancing under a large tent on Low Plaza. More details to follow by mail and email but mark your calendars now!

**Mitch Orfuss**: “As I glide contentedly toward retirement, I find myself re-reading what I half-read in CC and Humanities, taking myself back to Columbia as if to restart after not being fully there while I was there. I’m thankful that Columbia sank in some permanent claws. Many brilliant professors (Howard McP. Davis, Edward Tayler, Karl-Ludwig Selig, Martin Wenglinsky ’61, GSAS’72 and Eric Foner ’63, GSAS’69) and engaged classmates. A trite confession of searching for lost time — with best to all in the Class of ’71.”

**Alan Flashman**: “I have let go of university teaching after adjuncting nearly everywhere in Israel for three decades. What a relief, no more papers and university procedures. My practice (in Be’er Sheba, Israel) remains active in adult child and family psychiatry. In addition to therapies, I write a lot of court reports on disabilities, damages and family disputes. I specialize in protecting families from State incursions; most of my colleagues work for the State in some way. I have become something of a gadfly in the medical marijuana procedures here, advocating for liberalization and taking note of the tremendous beneficial effects of cannabis on people suffering from PTSD (which is huge in Israel).

“My distress and alarm at the direction psychiatry is taking led me to self-publish a professional autobiography, *Losing It: Six Decades in Psychiatry*, in March 2015. It involves imaginary dialogues with social critic Michel Foucault, whose work became too familiar to me after Columbia. The chapter on my Columbia years may be of interest to the few of you who can remember who I am (or was). It is out as a rather inexpensive ebook.

“After publishing the new Hebrew translation of Martin Buber’s *I and Thou* in 2013, I have been pulled (to my delight) into some academic conferences on Buber. The last one was at Buber’s residence in Heppenheim, Germany (near Frankfurt). I have completed a Hebrew translation of Buber’s earlier work called *Daniel: Dialogues in Realization*, which I hope will be published within the year. Now it is time to learn German properly.

“Retirement seems very remote as long as health hangs in. My wife and I are taking great pleasure in our four grandsons and in seeing our adult children thriving.”

**Myron Gutmann**: “Two and a half years ago my wife, Barbara, and I moved to Boulder, following four years in Arlington, Va., where I was assistant director of the National Science Foundation and head of NSF’s Directorate for the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences. Since coming to Boulder I’ve taken a job as professor of history and director of the Institute of Behavioral Science at Colorado. Boulder is the perfect place for combining time

outdoors (mostly hiking in our case) with a serious work environment.

“Before NSF I worked for eight years at Michigan and 25 years at UT Austin. It’s hard to believe that this is my 40th year of academic life! I’ve had the luxury of a varied career in terms of interests, too, digging into the history of Europe and the U.S. from the 17th century to the present, and studying economic and environmental change and the ways that they shape people’s lives in the past, on top of nearly two decades leading broad-based social science organizations.

“We get to New York fairly often to see our son, Robert Gutmann ’05, and his family, which makes us think a lot about our time at Columbia.”

**Francis G. Lu**: “I retired from UC Davis, as the Luke & Grace Kim Endowed Professor in Cultural Psychiatry, Emeritus. I live in Cupertino, Calif., with my wife, Phuong-Thuy Le, a psychiatrist in private practice in San Jose. My stepdaughter is Uyen-Khanh Quang-Dang, who is completing a geriatric psychiatry fellowship at UCSF.

“I have co-led 32 film seminars at Esalen Institute in Big Sur, Calif., described at [gratefulness.org](http://gratefulness.org) (search ‘films’), and will co-lead two seminars in July with Br. David Steindl-Rast, a Benedictine monk from Austria.”

**Mark Seiden**: “Chronologically, I’m just on the edge of geezerdom/cashing in those senior citizen discounts and am still trying to be as immature as possible under the circumstances. Professionally, I’ve had several careers, in words, music and their intersections with technology.

“Words: working in magazines (computer industry trades through *Wired*) and editing a handful of books, recently John Markoff’s book about robots and people (*Machines of Loving Grace: The Quest for Common Ground Between Humans and Robots*).

“Music: after ‘majoring’ in WKCR, I was a recording engineer for some years, recording great playing at the Aspen and Marlboro Music Festivals, then at Institut de Recherche et Coordination Acoustique/Musique and Lucasfilm programming infrastructure for digital audio.

“Technology: working at startups and big companies in Silicon Valley, trying to solve gnarly networking and information security problems. Someone recently called me the ‘Zelig of Computer Science,’ because

I've worked everywhere important but nobody knows what I had to do with any of it, though I have good stories to tell. Now I have clients in San Francisco and New York, and do much work for lawyers (often involving persons of interest to law enforcement, figuring out whodunit and whadideydo), which adds even more stories to the trove. There's a book in here, somewhere.

"A recollection: In my sophomore year, I was almost expelled for a prank involving history Professor Morton Smith, who taught ancient history/religion from 1957 to 1990. WKCR taped his class, and I was sentenced to edit it (with a razor blade and sticky tape) for broadcast some days later.

"Problem was, Professor Smith had a rather distinctive throat condition involving clearing phlegm loudly every few minutes, which caused several of us to refer to him as 'Professor Lurgy,' and I dutifully edited out these episodes (rather than inflicting them on the radio audience). Instead of tossing these out, I saved the juicier bits for no intended purpose, accumulating about 20 minutes by the last class, and (possessed by some demon) edited them into the middle of the last class's broadcast.

"The phones lit up with people worried about Professor Smith's health, whom the shift engineer

the day and remember me probably will be surprised, perhaps even shocked, to hear all this, except for the part about playing rock 'n' roll."

Get your items in now — email me at the address at the top of the column. If you have a new (or newly preferred) email address, get that to me also as well as to Columbia ([college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect](mailto:college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect)).

Remember back 49 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

## 1972

**Paul S. Appelbaum**  
39 Claremont Ave., #24  
New York, NY 10027  
[pappel1@aol.com](mailto:pappel1@aol.com)

These days, **Bob Ahrens** sits in his home office "screaming at my computer monitors" and staring at his fish tank. Thirty years of trading commodities on the New York Exchanges separate him from his days on campus, along with four "wonderful" grown children (three boys and a girl) and two grandchildren. It all sounds pretty staid. But 45 or so years ago, Bob was a member of Sting Rays, a band that played the music of Lou Reed, Taj Mahal, Muddy Waters, Little Wal-

giving a special one by giving him his first granddaughter, Samantha Renée Shepherd. He says, "I forgot how lightweight newborns are! My youngest daughter, Becca, will finish her junior year at Johns Hopkins in bio-medical engineering. She's already looking forward to a life not studying 24/7 and actually getting paid. We all remember our first real jobs after the College or graduate school. Our own place. Good money. Good times."

Family news, personal accomplishments, life-status changes (someone must be thinking of retiring) — all are good reasons to write and share your news with your classmates. I look forward to hearing from you. Please write to either address at the top of this column or submit news via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1973

**Barry Etra**  
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306  
[beta1@bellsouth.net](mailto:beta1@bellsouth.net)

Alas and a lack ... of notes. I need input!

**Nick Lubar** retired from Swagelok last June, having worked there just under 40 years (!). One thing he doesn't miss is the travel to Japan, he says, but he can now see those colleagues when they visit Cleveland. He spent last summer sailing and crewing in the Port Huron to Mackinac Race ("on Lake Huron," he adds drily, "for those who are blurry on U.S. geography west of Hoboken"). December brought a trip to Cuba led by a professor from Kent State ("Yes, that one," he noted). Nick hopes to visit NYC and Columbia this spring. He still prefers the Columbia Lions over the Cleveland Browns, he says!

**Don Jensen** is a senior fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins. He writes extensively on Russia and post-Soviet affairs and makes frequent media appearances. In his spare time, he is active on the Nineteenth Century and Deadball Era research committees of the Society for American Baseball Research and won the Chairman's Award last year for his work on the baseball heritage of Madison Square. Don noted

that "to his great pleasure" he ran into **Steve Flanagan** at a NATO conference in December, and reports that he's doing well.

OK — I am off. But you knew that. Send in your notes — your classmates want to hear from you! You can either mail updates to the addresses at the top of this column or you can use CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1974

**Fred Bremer**  
532 W. 111th St.  
New York, NY 10025  
[f.bremer@ml.com](mailto:f.bremer@ml.com)

Walking up Broadway last fall I was surprised to see a small green sign that read "Grace Gold Way" just below the Broadway street sign at West 115th Street (outside of what was Takome). A little research revealed that the block was named to honor a Barnard freshman killed by falling masonry in 1979. The tragedy led to laws that require frequent inspection of building ornamentation, and all of the scaffolding that is ever-present throughout the city. The next time you dodge the sidewalk structures on the Manhattan sidewalks, remember that they are due to an event that happened on Morning-side Heights more than a third of a century ago, and that they are there to prevent a repeat of the bad fortune that befell Grace Gold.

It seems like a lot of the emails (and Facebook posts) from classmates feature news and photos of their children and grandchildren. This column is filled with this information (as well as classmates' updates on their doings). As many of us are seeing our careers gradually (or literally) moving to the next stage, the next generations are often just starting their own life adventures. We report it all!

Last December I saw a Facebook post showing **Ed Berliner** (in West Orange, N.J.) with granddaughter Kira and a three-story dollhouse. When I emailed Ed about this, he wrote, "After raising three sons, I had no idea that this is what a dollhouse now entails — a totally different scale." Ed's family is also of quite a different scale: he has three sons (Avi, Joshua and Jonathan) and six grandchildren!

---

*This past fall, Art Engoron '71 was elected a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, the state's trial court of general, original, unlimited jurisdiction.*

---

assured had no cause for concern. Unfortunately, one of the listeners was Professor Smith, who was rather unmused. (I came to realize they called us 'sophomores' for a reason.) **Art Engoron**: "On November 3, I was elected to be a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, the state's trial court of general, original, unlimited jurisdiction. I graduated from NYU Law in 1979, litigated commercial cases for four years, taught classical piano and played rock 'n' roll for seven years, law-clerked for a judge for 12 years and was elected to New York City Civil Court in 2002. Those of you who knew me back in

ter, Captain Beefheart, Howlin' Wolf and the Rolling Stones.

He says: "Our first gig was in the PostCrypt Coffeehouse and we went on to bigger and better things, eventually playing in the Lions Den, Furnald Hall, Barnard, the Business School and (of course) frat parties. What a ton of fun we had!"

**John Brancati** was another of the boys in the band, along with a crew of CC'ers: Louie X. Erlanger '73 ("of Mink DeVille" fame), Kim Field, Jim Becker and Jon Birkhahn '75, "and too many other bass players to name."

**John Miller** wrote that one of his daughters made this past Thanks-

Last October Jonathan married Leora Falk BC'07. Among our classmates who traveled to Boston for the wedding were **Elliot Falk LAW'77** (no relation to the bride), a partner at the Phillips Nizer law firm in Midtown, and **Meir Shinnar**, director of heart failure at Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan.

Ed retired from Bell Labs more than 13 years ago and has since been working for the provost at Yeshiva University in upper Manhattan. "It's a great second gig!" he writes. It should be noted that every year Ed sponsors a *Kiddush* for the Columbia Yavneh (orthodox Jewish) students in memory of his dad. He writes, "He was very proud I went to Columbia and the students always appreciate free food!"

An email packed with info came in from **Mark Mogul** (in Port Washington, N.Y.). Foremost is news of his first grandchild: Emerie "Emmie" Brooke Holt. She is the daughter of Mark's eldest daughter, Perri Holt, marketing director at *The Wall Street Journal*. "She got married about three years ago," writes Mark. "Didn't wait 10 years to have their first kid as we did."

His middle daughter, Alexandra, is in her last year of Fordham Law and already has a job lined up at Debevoise & Plimpton in Midtown. Mark's youngest daughter, Hilary SEAS'15, is a software engineer at Microsoft.

He adds gleefully, "I am happy to say I am done with both undergraduate and post-grad payments. Best of all, all my daughters are employed!"

Mark and his wife, Laura, celebrated their 40th anniversary last summer with a trip to Spain and France. Laura started a job a year ago as executive director of Landmark on Main Street (a nonprofit community cultural center in Port Washington that includes a 425-seat concert venue that attracts artists such as Judy Collins and David Bromberg). Mark provides business systems and information technology consulting services through his firm, Mogul Technology, and claims he has no plans to retire any time soon.

From across the pond we hear from **Les Bryan** (in Derby, England) that he retired from both the Navy and the Department of Defense schools (where his last post was as the principal of a K-12 school at Royal Air Force Menwith

Hill, a base in England). He says he has now turned to writing and his first novel is out: *The Return of the Bad Penny (A Sea Story)*. It is available through Amazon and as an ebook through Smashwords. Les tells us his daughter, Rachel, is a practice development manager for Bupa Health Care (specializing in end-of-life care) and that she was married last November. His son, Colin, lives in Massachusetts and "has given us our first grandchild, Grace."

A Christmas card from **Kevin Ward** (in Glen Rock, N.J.) included news that his second son, Jamie, graduated last spring from Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass. His fourth son, Matt, is engaged. Kevin is a financial adviser at Merrill Lynch in New Jersey.

It might appear that **David Melnick PS'78** (in Manhattan) can't keep a job, at least recently. After 34 years working in Wilmington, Del., for the British drug company AstraZeneca, David's business card changed to "Actavis" as he accepted a position testing infectious disease cures for the New Jersey-based company. Soon after, he had to toss out those business cards for new ones reading "Allergan" after Actavis acquired Allergan and also took its name. Soon you will find David working at Pfizer, as Ireland's Allergan is scheduled to close on its purchase of Pfizer (and take its name) in the largest healthcare industry merger. That will mean that David has worked for four drug companies in less than two years!

We have learned that portrait photographer and videographer **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** (in lower Manhattan) received a 2015 Legends Award from Brooklyn's Pratt Institute. For those outside the art world, Pratt is ranked the leading arts and studio program by *USA Today* and others. It gives annual awards to art and design professionals. Timothy posted on Facebook, "I'm now officially a Legend!"

It has been a long time since word has come in from **Al Rabbat BUS'76** (in Holmdel, N.J.). He tells us that after 20 years on Wall Street, he retired ... in 1997! Do the math — he has been retired nearly as long as he was working! Since abandoning his wingtips and suspenders, Al says he has been doing volunteer work, primarily as a fundraiser. He also says, "Lately I find myself doing

something I really enjoy, which is teaching bible study." He and his wife, Ellen, have been married for 30 years and have two children. Daughter Nicole is a real estate broker in New Jersey and son Paul is a computer engineer.

Fascinating details about the children of **Bryan Berry** (in Joliet, Ill.) were included in his annual Christmas letter. He wrote, "Our daughter, Mother Aciparthenos [whom you once knew as Joanna], made her final, perpetual vows to the Lord as a nun in the Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará in a Mass on September 14 in the crypt of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C." Bryan adds, "The Mass of Perpetual Vows is very much a wedding between each nun and Jesus Christ."

Bryan's son, John, is a lieutenant in the Navy and flies E-6 Mercury 707 planes out of Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City. All that was included about daughter Adrienne is that she plays clarinet in the U.S. Army Ceremonial Band (we'll get more for a future column). Bryan's wife, Jill, is a school librarian and Bryan is a writer and journalist. He says he enjoys the monthly meetings of the local Columbia (University) Book Group.

There you have it. Some classmates are retiring, while others continue to achieve in their chosen careers. Novels are being written and dollhouses built. But most of all, it seems that the children and grandchildren of our classmates are becoming the central interests of many in the class. Continue to send in news about you and your family. It is especially interesting to learn what retirement plans (if any) you have and what you look forward to doing in that new phase of your life!

## 1975

**Randy Nichols**  
734 S. Linwood Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
rcn2day@gmail.com

CC'75 Class Notes took a brief hiatus, but rest assured the column will return in the Summer issue! Use this time to gather your notes and send them to either of the addresses at the top of this column or through

CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Wishing you a healthy and pleasant spring.

## 1976

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 2-5, 2016

**Alumni Affairs Contact**  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

**Development Contact**  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION2016

**Ken Howitt**  
1114 Hudson St., Apt. 8  
Hoboken, N.J. 07030  
kenhowitt76@gmail.com

With the 40th reunion right around the corner, the Reunion Committee has made some exciting event choices. Here is the update on what to expect:

Reunion Weekend 2016 (Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5) will kick off on Thursday with a reception at Heartland Brewery in Midtown. Our class will have a private room with passed hors d'oeuvres and a beer and wine open bar. This will be a joint event with Barnard's Class of 1976 and is scheduled in the early evening so that attendees can take advantage of the cultural event offerings and/or enjoy a dinner with friends on their own.

On Friday evening, we will repeat our event from five years ago, when we had more than 100 people in the back room of V&T. There will be family-style pizzas, pasta and dessert with a beer and wine open bar. There is also an interesting pre-dinner activity — a walking tour of Morningside Heights that will emphasize the changes in the neighborhood, east of Morningside Park in particular, and end at V&T for dinner. This will be a joint event with Engineering's Class of 1976.

The on-campus reception and dinner will be on Saturday and will feature a TBD dinner speaker of note. There will also be a pre-dinner Wine Tasting.

This weekend is shaping up to be an enjoyable step back into the past as well as a look at the current and future status of the College. Hope all of you can make it.

Just a couple of updates (c'mon folks, let's get some news in about

careers, retirement, hobbies, children, grandchildren and so on!):

**Burton F. Dickey**, from Houston: “My daughter, Ariana ’16, will graduate with a degree in art history. She’s loved [being at Columbia] and I’ve enjoyed reliving my Columbia College experience vicariously. I’ll need an excuse to continue to visit Morningside Heights on a regular basis (it’s a bit of a distance from Houston).”

From upstate New York, **Dennis Goodrich**: “I’m the senior partner at a small (11 attorneys) law office in Syracuse, N.Y., specializing in representing employers and carriers in workers’ compensation matters. I will celebrate my 40th wedding anniversary with my high school sweetheart, Linda, in May — just before our reunion at Columbia of the same number of years. Linda is retired after 30 years of service for the New York State Insurance Fund, where she was a claims supervisor. We spend our vacations visiting the Southwest United States and Europe, where we explore new food and wines. My son, Kristopher, is a college professor (Ph.D. from Syracuse) at New Mexico, where last year he received tenure and published a text book he co-wrote, *Group Counseling with LGBTQI Persons*, which may be purchased on Amazon. My daughter, Katy, a master’s graduate in the field of international political economy from The London School of Economics, lives and works in the technology field in London.”

Let’s get a few more updates for future issues! Send news to either of the addresses at the top of the column or through CCT’s webform



## Send in Your News

Share what’s happening in your life with classmates. Click “Contact Us” at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct), or email or mail to the address at the top of your column.

[college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

I look forward to seeing many of you at reunion.

## 1977

**David Gorman**  
111 Regal Dr.  
DeKalb, Ill 60115  
[dgorman@niu.edu](mailto:dgorman@niu.edu)

A few brief notes: I heard from **Donald Olson** that, after nearly two decades as a pediatric neurologist at Stanford University Medical Center, he has retired and moved to Ashland, in southern Oregon. Don is keeping his hand in medicine by working part-time in the area as a child neurologist.

In December I saw **Jon Lukomnik** quoted in *Business Wire* in his capacity as executive director of the Investor Responsibility Research Center Institute, concerning the winners of the institute’s annual investor research competition.

Congratulations to **Jim Shapiro**, who published *The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606*, with Simon & Schuster last fall, to very good reviews indeed; it’s a kind of companion volume to *A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare: 1599* (2006). As an English professor myself, I am of course partial. [Editor’s note: See “Forum,” Winter 2015–16.]

My daughter, Caitlin, will graduate from Illinois this year. At Thanksgiving she and well over 300 other Marching Illini were in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York (marching right before Santa!), bringing back to her dad many fond memories of the holiday season in Manhattan.

I, and your classmates, want to hear from you! Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1978

**Matthew Nemerson**  
35 Huntington St.  
New Haven, CT 06511  
[matthewnemerson@gmail.com](mailto:matthewnemerson@gmail.com)

Having been in the magazine business for a few years in the 1980s I

know how challenging and exhilarating it is to commit yourself to a complete remake of the format and look of a journal, so congratulations to CCT Editor-in-Chief Alex Sachare ’71 and his team for the wonderful job they have done. Also, good for everyone at Hamilton Hall and the Alumni Center for caring enough to make the magazine a great read and something that always makes me proud to be a Lion. (Even if WKCR never gets the ink it deserves.)

I asked the question this issue about who you expect to see running for President later this year. Based on your classmates’ intuition, it will be Hillary Clinton against either The Donald or Marco Rubio. Interesting that no one thought Chris Christie or Ted Cruz would be there at the end.

**Thomas Reuter** SEAS’99, who works at GE in Schenectady, N.Y., writes, “My wife, Grace, and I are very proud of our youngest son, Tim, who was published (and paid!) in *The American Conservative* magazine for his piece comparing the Syrian and Spanish Civil Wars. *The New York Times* columnist Ross Douthat’s piece on the same subject came out 10 days later. Coincidence? I think not.”

Tom’s favorite football moment: “My wife had one of Columbia’s current linebackers in her fourth-grade technology class years back. During the Homecoming game, she actually stopped talking with her girlfriend to ask, ‘Where is Gianmarco Rea [’17] playing?’ As I pointed him out, at that exact moment he tackled, clobbered and stuffed a monster Penn running back short of the first down. Wow! Someone really taught that young man how to tackle. I honestly feel that Columbia has turned the corner in football.”

“All is pretty well with the Ferguson family,” notes **Ed Ferguson**, “though of course less so with the state of the world and American politics. Ordinarily my concerns about such things would be alleviated by confidence in the expected contributions of generations to come, but judging from the current crop of entitled whiners passing for college students on the campuses of elite colleges (regrettably, in this instance, including Columbia), terrorism, global warming and the like are probably not our most serious problems.

“The kids are great! My oldest is out of college and gainfully employed, and I hope my two

younger ones, once they get to college, will also emerge with a healthy sense of what the world does and does not owe them.”

We asked people to compare the current crop of candidates using the techniques of our CC classes and a few people took the bait. Ed wrote, “Our unit on two-bit philosophers and snake-oil salesmen was very short, and I’m not sure I ever did the reading. I guess Ted Cruz might be Machiavelli in his (Machiavelli’s) most unguarded moments but of course the whole point of Machiavelli is that there are not supposed to be any of those. Trump is just some monster that Odysseus slew but that unfortunately came back to life with orange hair and knowledge of the bankruptcy code!”

**Michael Glanzer**, who lives in Brooklyn, writes, “My family is looking forward to my daughter Rebecca Glanzer ’16’s graduation. We have one other student who finished his first semester elsewhere.”

**Carl Brandon Strehlke** leads an enviable life of ideas and travel based in Florence, Italy. He writes: “I just spent the week in London at the home of **Don Guttenplan** and family. In London there were a series of events in honor of the publication of my book, edited in tandem with Machtelt Brüggén Israëls, *The Bernard and Mary Berenson Collection of European Paintings at I Tatti*. The most fun was signing copies of it at Hatchards bookstore on Piccadilly.”

**Frank Basile**: “I wrote and produced a nine-part documentary mini-series on The Three Stooges, *Hey Moe! Hey Dad!*, available at Amazon and major retail outlets.

**Paul Phillips** shares that the CD *Manhattan Intermezzo*, “which I recorded last year with the Brown University Orchestra and pianist Jeffrey Biegel, was released on January 8. Search for it on Amazon.”

**Steven Bargonetti** always sends us his latest press kit worthy of the Broadway star that he has become: “The show for which I am onstage performer/music director/music arranger, *Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3)*, continues to receive great accolades. I am scheduled to reprise my role at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles in April/May. In September/October the show will be in London at The Royal Court Theatre and we have hopes of later coming to



Alvin Powell '78 (right) and Eric Granderson '80 met in New Orleans in July.

Broadway. In the meantime, I will be starting a Broadway show, *Disaster!* (a comedy that parodies '70s disaster movies with a jukebox score of '70s songs); previews began in February."

**Alvin Powell** sent a picture and note: "I met Eric Granderson '80 in New Orleans in July, 35 years after graduation."

Eric is director of Local Government Affairs for New Orleans. Sounds like someone I need to reach out to in order to get some pointers.

**Alec Bodkin**, at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., has reason to be proud: "Check out groupmuse.com, the creation of my son, Sam Bodkin '12 (like me, a WKCR grad), who has become a full-time proselytizer of classical music via a social networking website that brings people together at house parties (mostly in NYC and Boston, but growing elsewhere) featuring chamber music, as was common in Europe until the mid-20th century. Sam's effort is to save classical music from extinction by connecting people online who'd like to party with classical musicians who'd like to perform at such parties. 30,000 members so far, and more than 1,000 musical house parties. Though designed to convert the younger generation to the music of the ages, it's suitable for young and old alike."

"Regarding Sam's father: I still study — and provide treatment with — novel medical remedies for depressive illness and related problems (one of which I had published

in 1995 and is finally making its way through the FDA under the 'fast-track' designation; rather ironic, given the 20-year delay). I am also still an expert consultant/witness in legal cases involving psychiatric issues in my 'off hours.' Somewhat dismayingly, I work as hard as I did 35 years ago. Are some of the rest of you experiencing a similar phenomenon? Not what I had expected."

On our Republicans as Core Curriculum case studies, Alec writes, "I consider Donald Trump as a voluble occupant of Plato's cave, who makes not the slightest effort to discern anything about the lighted world outside. He chats up the cave dwellers, inflaming their annoyance about the troubles of life in the dark."

**Jeff Canfield** SIPA'82 works for the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon and was only authorized to give us this declassified information for the column: "Enjoying life with our granddaughters."

**Bob Crochelt** lives in Glasgow, but not the one you may be thinking of: "My wife, Donna Smith (an ob/gyn), and I have relocated to very rural Glasgow in northeast Montana. We are looking to close out our careers providing quality surgical and obstetrical care to a culturally diverse and somewhat underserved population. We enjoy good health and fulfillment in our work. I am grateful every day for my Columbia education."

"It was exciting to see Columbia's football team almost beat Princeton in the rain, and I got to watch it

on TV. But, no, I do not think the program has turned around yet."

He adds, "Isn't Donald Trump a version of Machiavelli?"

**Francis J. Collini**, of Shavertown, Pa., says, "I am a solo practitioner (plastic surgeon) just outside of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton trying to eke out a living in the disastrous world of Obamacare. I own and operate the only solo-owned ambulatory surgery center in the state of Pennsylvania. I see my Columbia roommate (**Jaime Morhaim**) several times a year and he remains my best friend. My daughter does aesthetic tattooing and works in my office. My wife is my office manager. My mother-in-law is a full-time secretary and my son is my future accountant. So as you can see, I keep it all in the family!

"I consider either Trump or Cruz better than Obama or Clinton but they do not remind me of any famous ancient philosopher or statesman."

**John Ohman** LAW'92 reports, "A year of positive changes for my wife, Kara, and I. She started a consulting practice focused on sales training in the digital media space and I recently changed law firms, joining the New York City office of McGlinchey Stafford, a dynamic and growing national firm based in Louisiana."

"Throughout my career, Columbia has never been far from my thoughts. I recall my first day at the Law School, when I ran into Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig on College Walk. When I told him that I was going to be a lawyer, he seemed pleased. He told me, 'You will see, as you already learned at Columbia College, so much in life is about the close and careful reading of texts.' Then he sauntered off, God knows where. He was so right."

"My kids are doing great. My younger daughter, Lauren, is in her senior year at the University of Arizona in Tucson. And my older daughter, Caroline, having earned a B.A. at Oberlin, is finally following the family's Columbia tradition, studying for a master's at TC."

"Donald Trump seems to me neither a statesman nor a philosopher, but his candidacy brings to mind Nietzsche's criticism of 19th-century Europe, especially the German Empire, when he wrote, 'In declining cultures, wherever the decision comes to rest with the masses, authenticity becomes a liability, superfluous and disadvanta-

geous. There, only the actor arouses great enthusiasm.' ('Nietzsche contra Wagner,' Section 11)."

We close with **Joe Schachner**, who enjoyed hearing about Columbia football on public radio (wnyc.org/shows/theseason) and notes, "My older daughter, a Ph.D. in psychology, has been hired by UCSD and is doing great."

My family is well, and I enjoy my role as top administrator for the wonderful mayor of New Haven, Conn., Toni Harp, whom I hope will break onto the national stage soon. I handle the departments that do economic development, small business, city planning, transportation and fun things like permitting (seriously, very cool stuff). I just love the challenges of government and politics and advise everyone to apply all your years of wisdom and patience to this sort of endeavor wherever you might (be it in some small or large way) while you can. We can help make a difference.

My wife, Marian Chertow BC'77, continues her global leadership as a Yale professor in the area of industrial ecology. She travels around the world when not teaching here in New Haven, working in India, China and Singapore a lot of the time. I'm tagging along on a trip to Japan in the springtime. Daughter Elana (25) is graduating from her master's program in library science and archiving at Simmons, and Joy (21) is graduating from American University's School of International Service with a specialty in China policy. I'm sure job offers and connections are welcome!

## 1979

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

**Jonathan Rubin** writes, "I am continuing my tenant advocacy as a legal professional with the designation of NYC Civil Court Housing Part Guardian Ad Litem and NYCHA Guardian Ad Litem. My wife, Cathy GSAS'90, is starting a special products clothing company. Our daughter, Zoe, will graduate from Yale College with a degree in history in May and was the editor-in-chief of the *Yale Globalist* in the 2014-15 school year."

Zoe won an Aspin Fellowship last year and applied for three fellowships this year, including a Fulbright Fellowship and a Luce Fellowship.”

**Robert C. Klapper:** “Through my work at ESPN, I am heavily involved with the world of sports in America — especially my beloved Los Angeles Lakers. Having Kobe Bryant do the promo for my radio show has been a true highlight of this second career of mine.

“People ask me what has been the greatest sporting feat that I have seen over the years (after five NBA championships) and my answer still harkens back to my junior year at the College.

“I lived in John Jay at the time with **Jack Garden, Robert Darnell, Liz Clarke BC’79** and **Carl Forsythe**, to name a few. A guy two doors down (I forget his name) introduced me to the greatest Puerto Rican salsa music and a song I think is called ‘Ella Fue,’ which still makes my legs start moving just by hearing the beat. But it was our classmate who lived right next door that is the source of this memory. His name is **Steve McKenna**, and he wrestled for Columbia.

“One day he said to me, ‘You should come and watch one of our matches, and see what real sports are like.’ On this particular day they were wrestling Harvard. Needless to say this was not a sold-out event, but to champion his cause I obliged. I felt compelled because he told me he was from Yakima, Wash., and I constantly confused it by saying he was from Yarmulke, Wash., which upset him to no end (I don’t think a Jew has ever come close to that part of Washington State).

“I had never been to a wrestling match and was quite excited to sit on the Columbia side of the bleachers and root for my friend. The first match began with the heavyweights. There was our gladiator in blue and white with muscles bulging like watermelons. The Harvard wrestler, dressed in crimson, needed to be escorted onto the mat. I thought, ‘That’s odd.’ It then became clear that the Harvard wrestler was blind — at this point my jaw dropped in shock. The only concession made was that he was allowed to face the Columbia grappler and touch his arm so that he could feel his opponent as they faced each other.

“I found myself standing and swaying rather than sitting, as

though ‘Ella Fue’ was playing in my head. The match started and I (and everyone else in the stands) feared for his life. What I witnessed, however, was quite the opposite. His strength was so overwhelming that the Columbia wrestler resembled a Mr. Potato Head assembled on LSD, with arms where legs should be and ears where kneecaps should be. I found myself screaming in joy for this upset victory. It was at this point I realized the Columbia wrestling team (including my friend) was now staring into the stands, regretting that I had been invited to the match. It remains one of the most impressive sporting feats I have ever witnessed, and in many ways has inspired me throughout my life. Roar, lion, roar!”

## 1980

**Michael C. Brown**  
London Terrace Towers  
410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F  
New York, NY 10011  
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

Spring is in the air and it must be baseball season. **Eric Blattman** and I had the honor of attending the Metropolitan Area College Baseball awards ceremony, where Columbia baseball coach Brett Boretti was given the Metropolitan Area College Coach of the Year Award from the New York Professional Baseball Hot Stove League. This is truly a crowning achievement for coach B. and our program, one of the best baseball programs in the East.

**Leo Wolansky** was appointed acting chief of neuroradiology and professor of radiology at Case Western Reserve’s School of Medicine. He is an Alumni Representative Committee interviewer for Columbia. Leo and his wife, Maria, have four sons, the youngest of whom, Ivan ’20, recently was accepted to the College.

For those of us who graduated from high school in the year of America’s bicentennial, 1976, it has been 40 years since the days of *Frampton Comes Alive!* Best wishes to all, as we have come a long way!

Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). Your classmates want to hear from you — no news is too big or too small.

## 1981

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Michael G. Kinsella**  
543 Nelliefield Trl.  
Charleston, SC 29492  
mgk1203@gmail.com

I’m writing this in December, so belated holiday greetings to all and thanks for keeping in touch! It was nice to hear good news from so many of you.

**Mark Gordon** is happy to report he is president and dean of William Mitchell Hamline College of Law in St. Paul, Minn.

**James Klatsky** reports the arrival of a grandson, Samuel, in November. We wish Samuel the best and hope to see him in Columbia blue one day!

**Michael Horowitz** has been a busy man. He is in his sixth year leading TCS Education System, known as the community solution in higher education. Michael is the founding president of TCS Ed, which is only the second private nonprofit higher-ed system in the United States, enrolling more than 6,000 students across five colleges (tcsedsystem.edu). He celebrated his 27th anniversary with his wife, Jeannie Gutierrez Ph.D., in 2015. Their son, Eli, completed Teach For America two years ago and is a college readiness teacher and basketball coach at Achievement First in Brooklyn.

Michael states: “To understand our millennial children better you’ll enjoy Eli’s blog/podcast with Emma Gase (medium-talk.com).”

Michael’s daughter, Maya, graduated from Cornish College of the Arts in 2015 and continues her dance studies with Vertigo Dance Company in Jerusalem. Michael lives in Chicago’s Bucktown neighborhood or, as he states, “the closest analogue to NYC in Chicago.”

**Ed Klees** LAW’84 joined the firm of Hirschler Fleischer and will be resident partner of its Charlottesville, Va., office. Ed represents universities, foundations and money

managers in the areas of alternative investments, venture capital, bank custody, biotech and academic/industry collaborations. He will continue to be an adjunct professor at the UVA School of Law, where he teaches a class on private equity and hedge funds, and chair of the American Bar Association’s Institutional Investors Committee.

Congratulations, Ed!

**Seth Haberman** sold his latest company, Visible World, to Comcast; he says it was with great thanks to **Tom Glocer**, who both helped him start and finish it.

In addition to his preventive cardiology/clinical lipidology practice, **Seth Baum** PS’85 is chief medical officer of MB Clinical Research, incoming president of the American Society for Preventive Cardiology and secretary/treasurer of the FH (Familial Hypercholesterolemia) Foundation.

Please keep me updated on your events, achievements and travels. I look forward to hearing from you! You can send updates to the addresses at the top of this column, or you can use CCT’s webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

And don’t forget that our 35th reunion is Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. **John Tsanas** and **John Luisi** co-chair our Reunion Committee, which has planned a fantastic weekend for us. There will be lots of great events like class-specific dinners, live music and dancing in front of Low during the Starlight Reception and fascinating lectures as part of All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean’s Day).

## 1982

**Andrew Weisman**  
81 S. Garfield St.  
Denver, CO 80209  
weisman@comcast.net

Greetings gents! As I sit down to write, 2016 has just begun. The stock market rang in the New Year by “plotzing.” For those of you who opted-out of a career on Wall Street (where the key to success is to dress British and to speak Yiddish), I will translate: to collapse or faint, as from surprise, excitement or exhaustion.

Checking in this quarter is my good friend **Wallace Wentink**. He’s

still busy working for the Central Park Conservancy ensuring that it continues to be a wonderful resource for all New York City residents. Wally divides his time between New York and Stuart, Fla.

Nice life!

As luck would have it, Wally and I managed to grab a drink in NYC during my last trip to the city. I am not above buying drinks in exchange for Class Notes. Keep that in mind!

On a personal note, yours truly recently co-authored a paper that will be published in the Winter 2016 edition of *The Journal of Portfolio Management*, "Forced Liquidations, Fire Sales and the Cost of Illiquidity." In October I presented it at the Institute for Quantitative Research in Finance (Q Group) and it ended up being the highest rated paper/presentation. Apparently it helps to tell a few off-color jokes when presenting a technical paper.

Keep those notes coming in! You can send them to the addresses at the top of the column or through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note. Your classmates want to hear from you!

## 1983

**Roy Pomerantz**  
Babyking/Petking  
182-20 Liberty Ave.  
Jamaica, NY 11412  
bkroy@msn.com

My sons, David and Ricky, and I attended the Homecoming game against Penn. We sat with Paul Neshamkin '63, who told us that Robert K. Kraft '63 was the president of his class and Paul was VP. This is consistent with my experience that class leaders often continue to be the most active alumni. Bob had aspirations of starring for the Lions on the football field and was a running back on the freshman squad in 1959. While an injury cut his football career short, he has maintained an active involvement with Columbia athletics. For his generous donations as co-chair of the Columbia Campaign for Athletics, in December 2007 the University officially renamed the playing field at Lawrence A. Wein Stadium as Robert K. Kraft Field. Paul is on the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA)

Executive Board and has co-chaired every CC'63 reunion. Both Paul and Bob have been campus leaders for more than 50 years.

I also spent time with Thomas Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90. Tom's latest book is *Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E.B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker*, published in November. Tom is CCT's former deputy editor.

**Kevin Chapman** and his wife, Sharon Chapman BC'83, also were at Homecoming. Kevin and Sharon celebrated their 32nd anniversary with a party at the Party City Park at Citi Field for a Mets game with 18 friends. Unfortunately, the Mets did not win, but they said everyone had a great time.

David and I attended the Harvard-Columbia football game with his middle school classmate, Rhys, and Rhys' father, Eric Talley, the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law at the Law School (and husband of Law School dean Gillian Lester). It is truly a pleasure to see Columbia competitive on the gridiron.

I also attended the 2015 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, which honored Eric H. Holder Jr. '73 LAW '76. I sat with **Steve Coleman** and his daughter, Sarah Coleman '15. From Steve: "The progress the football team has made this year is remarkable. Losing by 8 points to Harvard. Losing 13-9 to Dartmouth and we had the ball with a minute to go but couldn't make the big play. Lost to Princeton 10-5 and blocked a punt, which Princeton recovered in its endzone for a Columbia safety — if Columbia had recovered for a touchdown, it could have been 10-10."

I also sat with Mike Satow '88 (son of Phil Satow '63) at the dinner. Thanks to Phil's generosity, Satow Stadium is one of the best college baseball facilities in the Ivy League. Phil was last year's Alexander Hamilton Medal recipient. Mike is president and CEO of JDS Therapeutics and Nutrition 21.

**Barry Rashkover** was also at the dinner. Barry is partner and global leader of Sidley Austin's Securities & Derivatives Enforcement and Regulatory Group and a partner in the New York Litigation Group. Barry is a frequent speaker and writer on SEC enforcement and related issues. Prior to joining Sidley, he was co-head of enforcement and associ-

ate regional director for the SEC's northeast regional office. In 1999, Barry received the SEC's Stanley Sporkin Award for outstanding contributions to the agency's enforcement program. Barry mentioned to me he had been following **Eddy Friedfeld's** career. Barry was particularly impressed by the close relationship Eddy had with Sid Caesar. Eddy co-wrote Caesar's creative biography, *Caesar's Hours: My Life In Comedy, With Love and Laughter*.

**Wayne Allyn Root's** book *The Power of Relentless: 7 Secrets to Achieving Mega-Success, Financial Freedom, and the Life of Your Dreams*, was mentioned in the November 2015 issue of *Forbes* in the article "Turning the Page on 2015."

I am senior co-chair of CCAA's Serve Committee. **Eric Epstein, Gary McCready, George Wilson and Kevin Chapman**

support while they are taking them. Now, you don't have to be President to have talents or time to contribute, so stay tuned for the launch of the online portal for the Serve Committee — you may be surprised at what you can do!"

Jim Reinish SEAS'82 played the trumpet for the Columbia University Marching Band when I was the band's juggler. His daughter Ariel Reinish SEAS'10 is a fellow alum. Jim notes: "I got to go to a few football games during these years. It always brought back fond memories."

Jim and his family sent the following holiday note: "As we begin the holiday season, [my wife] Lisa, [children] Daniel, Ariel and I would like to extend an early greeting to you and your family. As some of you may know, Lisa and I have relocated to Rochester, N.Y., to be closer to Ariel.

---

*Karl Citek '84 earned Diplomate status in the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry.*

---

have graciously agreed to be on the committee.

From **Gary McCready**: "Recently, I was asked to serve on a new committee (thanks, Roy!) whose goal is to create opportunities to give back to Columbia and to the community. Part of the goal is to get alumni involved using their time and talents, and I can't help thinking of involving one of our most famous alums — President **Barack Obama**. The projects that the committee will focus on are still under development, but I do know one thing the President could do from his bully pulpit that would benefit all prospective students (not just Columbia's), and that is enabling more exposure to college-level courses [for students still] in high school. The optimal method is to have courses such as AP and International Baccalaureate programs available in schools themselves, but with technology options present even in the lowest performing schools, the courses can come to areas where they were. What the President must enable through advocacy and focused funding are the resources to prepare students for those courses and

We are living in a new community on the Erie Canal and settling into a new and hopefully calmer chapter of our lives. Whether it's a daisy along the canal path or a small child wearing a Batman tee shirt, we see signs of [our late daughter] Shelby everywhere and are positive that her spirit is alive and well.

"With that in mind, as we enter the holiday season, we would like you to consider a cause that has been near and dear to our hearts as well as to Shelby. Shortly after Shelby's passing, we established a permanent memorial, in Shelby's name, at the Edmond J. Safra Family Lodge on the grounds of the National Institutes of Health campus in Bethesda, Md. Similar to Ronald McDonald House Charities, the Safra Lodge provides no-cost accommodations to families of patients receiving care at the NIH Clinical Center. The Family Lodge is designed to foster much-needed rest and relaxation. In addition to private rooms, families are free to use the lodge's many amenities including a library, business center, fitness center, children's area, lounges, a healing garden and

a home-style kitchen. The Family Lodge is located within short walking distance to the NIH Clinical Center, where thousands of patients are treated for rare forms of cancer and many other medical conditions. Lisa and I were very fortunate to stay at the Lodge during both of Shelby's hospitalizations. Being able to experience some reminders of normalcy during extremely difficult times meant so much to us. With your help, not only can we support this worthy cause, but we can continue to keep Shelby's spirit alive. Your tax-deductible contributions can be sent to Jamie Cooper, Advancement Officer, Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814.

"In order to be properly recognized, checks should be made out to FNIH or Safra Family Lodge. The memo section should say 'Shelby's Bench.'"

**Norman Menachem Feder** recently visited NYC and met my friend Marc Landis (a managing partner at Phillips Nizer). Norman manages Caspi & Co.'s international department and focuses his practice on cross-border transactions, banking and finance and investment management. To read more about what Norman has accomplished, (including his work as editor-in-chief of *New York University Journal of International Law and Politics* and as an editor of the four-volume Hebrew-to-English translation of *Jewish Law: History, Sources, Principles*) check out his bio at [casplaw.com/attorneys/norman-menachem-feder](http://casplaw.com/attorneys/norman-menachem-feder).

I recently was in touch with **Miguel Estrada**, one of the most accomplished lawyers in the world. Miguel is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, and has argued 22 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and briefed many others. His corporate bio, which states that "*The Atlantic* recently described his oral argument in a 2014 high-profile separation-of-powers case as 'one of the most dazzling arguments the marble chamber has heard in many years,'" can be read at [gibsondunn.com/lawyers/mestrada](http://gibsondunn.com/lawyers/mestrada).

Ricky and I attended the Columbia basketball game against NJIT. We waved to **Andy Gershon** and his son, Alex. Alex is attending the REACH program for special needs students at the College of

Charleston in South Carolina and flew to NYC to attend the game. We sat at the game with Susan Feagin, special advisor to the President [Lee C. Bollinger]; M. Dianne Murphy, former director of athletics; Diane McKoy, senior associate director of admissions; and Geoffrey Colvin '74, a former president of the CCAA. Columbia won 65–56.

I wish everyone health and happiness in 2016.

## 1984

**Dennis Klainberg**  
**Berklay Cargo Worldwide**  
**14 Bond St., Ste 233**  
**Great Neck, NY 11021**  
**dennis@berklay.com**

Greetings to all from Miami, where yours truly was working nonstop schlepping million-dollar boxes at Art Basel Miami Beach and its satellite fairs for more than two weeks in December. I made time during the craziness to dine with Miami legal heavyweight (and guitar store impresario) **Bernardo Burstein** (whose daughter, Jessica Burstein BC'19, is a first-year).

**Chase Welles** is set to wed! He reports, "Getting married to Annette Graumann at Grace Church on Broadway, where my grandparents were married. We met three years ago the new-fashioned way — on Match.com — and we split our time among our apartment on West 69th and Central Park West, my suburban paradise on the Hudson River in Piermont, N.Y., and our house on the coast of Maine. I still negotiate commercial real estate deals for tenants and landlords. I'm working on the redevelopment of Industry City on the Brooklyn waterfront, which at six million sq. ft. may be the largest redevelopment project in the country — it certainly is in the city and Tri-State area."

**Karl Citek**, a professor of optometry at the Pacific University College of Optometry, says: "In addition to recently celebrating my 21st(!) anniversary as a faculty member here, in October I earned Diplomate status in the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry (only about 7 percent of fellows are diplomates in the various sections of the academy)."



CCT ARCHIVES

**Eldridge Gray** was recently elected a Regent At-Large for the California Tribal College.

**Carlton Wessel** practices law at DLA Piper in Washington, D.C. He writes, "My wife, Sarah Morgenthau BC'85, LAW'91, and I live in the Washington, D.C., neighborhood of Cleveland Park with two of our three wonderful kids, Henry and Mizia. Our third, Teddy, went off to Colby College this year.

"Sarah and I attended the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner at Columbia in November. It was a fun evening and it was great to reconnect with Lanny Breuer '80, Joe Greenaway Jr. '78 and Steven Reich '83, all of whom I have gotten to know in my post-Columbia life but with whom I still feel a connection. The dinner was capped off by a moving speech from honoree Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76, who ended with these lines from Tennyson: 'Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho'/We are not now that strength which in old days/ Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are;/One equal temper of heroic hearts,/Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will/To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.'

"Kind of sums it up about where I am in my life as well," Carlton adds.

Proud papa **Michael Feldman** is kvelling: "My daughter Cloe was featured on Nickelodeon's Halloween Special and hosts her own YouTube

channel, CloeCouture, which has more than 1.6 million subscribers."

Back to work!

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1985

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

After reunion last summer, things have gotten a bit quieter on the Class Notes front, so please send in updates as we progress through 2016! Just a few updates for everyone — most of them are congratulatory.

I had the pleasure of having dinner with **Tom Vinciguerra** JRN'86, GSAS'90 in Port Washington, N.Y., in December. Tom was speaking at my local public library about his latest book, *Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E.B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker*, a group biography of the magazine's early years and the key figures who led to the publication's success. (Tom edited a 2011 collection of Gibbs' *New Yorker* writings, *Backward Ran Sentences: The Best of Wolcott Gibbs from The New Yorker*.) According to the terrific review in *The New*

*York Times*, “Loosely organized and pleasantly digressive, *Clast of Characters* is swift and enjoyable reading.”

Having read through the book (and having known very little about this great contributor to the New York literary scene), [I can say] it was chock full of interesting details and I heartily second *The Times*’ recommendation.

Congratulations to **John Phelan**’s daughter Unity, whom our class had the pleasure of seeing as part of the main company of the New York City Ballet during reunion. The day after Christmas, Unity danced the lead role of Sugarplum in *The Nutcracker*.

Way to go, Unity and John!

John’s wife, Kimberly, has also been featured on radio commercials for her accounting firm.

Hard to believe that the Class of 2020 is on the way, but here they come! Congratulations to our classmates whose children will arrive on campus this fall.

Time for an update from me. My and my wife Allison’s oldest son, Isaac White ’14, enjoys his employment at *The New York Times* as a software engineer. He is a part of several teams helping the *Times* transform its digital platform both aesthetically and functionally so it can maintain its preeminent position in the world of journalism. Our middle son, Noah, is a sophomore at Duke; having spent last semester trekking the wilds of Patagonia he continues his studies in environmental science and was not planning on “tenting” outside for six weeks in order to secure prime tickets to the Duke-North Carolina game.

Speaking of exciting college basketball, our youngest son, Josh, joined me for multiple Lions basketball games this season. It is wonderful to see our team so competitive in the Ivies. He and I also had the great pleasure of watching our beloved Mets in person for each playoff game last fall. Truly a special experience, even if the results fell just short. Josh is a senior in high school and by the end of this summer our house will be eerily quiet on a regular basis. A big transition for sure. Allison, who is extraordinary, continues to amaze in her educational advocacy. She has worked on such issues as digital privacy, excessive standardized testing and Common Core, and has been regularly cited online and in print as one of Long Island’s most active educational advocates. I’m very proud and very fortunate on all fronts.

Don’t forget to send in an update! You can send updates to the addresses at the top of this column, or you can use *CCT*’s webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1986

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Everett Weinberger**  
50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B  
New York, NY 10023  
everett6@gmail.com

Our 30th reunion approaches, so get ready for Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. The weekend will feature great events like the Starlight Reception’s dancing and drinks on Low Plaza, class-specific dinners and special events with faculty. Don’t miss it!

We had a few first-time updates for this issue. Here’s news from **Goran Puljic**: “After working at several sell-side investment banks (Morgan Stanley, Lehman, Goldman Sachs — in that order) in various roles involving interest rate and credit derivatives, I moved to the buy-side and joined Lehman Brothers Private Equity in 2002 and went through its bankruptcy. Since October 2008, I have been at Oak Hill Advisors and am currently a partner, in charge of structured credit investing and collateralized loan obligation issuance businesses. I was married in 1995 to a wonderful woman, Melinda, and we have two teenage boys, Nick SEAS’19 and Tucker. Nick is studying computer engineering. Tucker is in his senior year of high school at Greens Farms Academy in Westport, Conn., and will be attend Tulane on his way to becoming a veterinarian (hopefully).

“We live in Darien, Conn. Since Nick started at Columbia, I have reengaged with the place, after not being involved since our 10th reunion. I joined the Alumni Representative Committee and have starting interviewing prospective

Engineering students in Fairfield County, Conn. (one of ‘my’ kids got in early and one was waitlisted). I also joined the Engineering School’s Parents Association and my wife and I are taking a Lit Hum Mini-Core Class with a Columbia professor.”

**Peter Muniz** wrote from Atlanta: “After 20 years with GE Capital in numerous executive roles, I joined The Home Depot in August 2015 as VP and deputy general counsel responsible for corporate securities and governance, commercial transaction, tax, privacy and interline brands. My wife, Ivette Feliciano-Muniz SEAS’86, and I relocated to Atlanta and we are adjusting to life as empty-nesters. Our youngest, Kelsey, is a freshman at Michigan; our middle child, Jonah, is a sophomore at Johns Hopkins majoring in mechanical engineering and a member of the varsity soccer team; and our oldest, Joshua SEAS’14, is in his second year of medical school at the University of Illinois at Chicago.”

Congrats to **Tom Marrinson** in Chicago! His son, Nathaniel ’20, was accepted early decision. Hope he gets housed in John Jay!

As we prepare for our 30th reunion, it’s the perfect time to send your news to either of the addresses at the top of this column or through *CCT*’s webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Your classmates want to hear from you!

## 1987

**Sarah A. Kass**  
PO Box 300808  
Brooklyn, NY 11230  
ssk43@columbia.edu

October was a wondrous month for CC’87 get-togethers, both formal and informal. Between Homecoming and a Columbia College Women (CCW) event, many of us had a chance to visit before our next reunion (only a little more than a year away — can you believe it?).

I’m so grateful to **Michelle Estilo Kaiser**, who spearheaded the Homecoming section of this column, gathering reports from many of our class’ attendees. Michelle wrote: “It has been wonderful to reconnect with so many old friends via Facebook. Knowing a glimpse of what classmates have been doing

during the past 30 years allows an easy catch-up when given the rare and special opportunity to bond in person. When we found out that **Laura Adams** — just about the coolest psychology professor ever — was making the trip from Texas for Homecoming this year, we organized a mini-cheerleading reunion. Who better to hang with at Robert K. Kraft Field than some great women who share so many memories there? I reminisced with **Christine Jamgochian Koobatian**, Susie Wu Dare BC’90 and her beautiful family, and Bonnie Host ’89. Our awesome and indefatigable CC’87 leader **Kyra Tirana Barry** organized a rockin’ tailgate, where we caught up with many ’80s friends.”

Michelle added, “It’s always great to see **Ron Burton** (the nicest person ever) of 1987 WKCR fame, and many ’80s football players:

**Greg Fondran**, **Bill Flick**, **Greg Gonzalez**, **Rob Flaherty**, **Jason Pitkin**, **George Stone** and **Joe Policastro**. **Laura Adams** said that not only was it great to spend time with her fellow cheerleaders but it was also fun to tailgate with these former Lions.”

**Ron Burton** added: “Just great seeing everyone. And fun to be back in the booth after almost 30 years. The good news is that although we got crushed by Penn that day, it looks like coach Al Bagnoli has truly set the wheels of a turnaround into motion.”

I wish I hadn’t had to teach! I’m so sorry I missed it.

But at least I didn’t miss the event at the end of the month — a CCW get-together at Stephanie Katz Rothman ’88’s apartment featuring Jodi Kantor ’96, speaking about her experiences at her other “alma mater,” *The New York Times*. Most special of all was spending time with **Michelle Estilo Kaiser**, **Suzanne Waltman** and **Gerri Gold** as well as seeing Stephanie, my dear friend from our raucous teenage, pre-Columbia years! If you haven’t been to a CCW event in a while, consider coming back — it’s changing, growing and evolving! And as the first fully coeducational class, we continue to pave the way.

In other sports-related news, **Bruce Furukawa** met up with **Greg Gonzalez** at a Cal vs. USC football game, as both of Greg’s daughters are at UC Berkeley. Bruce also got together with **Doug Cifu**, who is

part owner of the Florida Panthers, at a San Jose Sharks game with their families. **John Sun**, who lives in the East Bay, joined them at the game.

**Garnet Heraman** recently launched a startup accelerator and investment group (with \$25 million in initial commitments), along with several NYC and Silicon Valley partners. He said he would love to hear from any and all Columbia entrepreneurs and investors: [anvilp.com](http://anvilp.com).

Remember, time is flying and Reunion Weekend 2017 is not too far away; Thursday, June 8–Sunday, June 11, 2017. What better time to write me and give me all the latest info? Send updates to the email address at the top of this column or via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1988

**Eric Fusfield**  
1945 South George Mason Dr.  
Arlington, VA 22204  
[ericfusfield@bigfoot.com](mailto:ericfusfield@bigfoot.com)

Congratulations to banker **John Vaske**, who has been promoted to a leadership position in Goldman Sachs' mergers and acquisitions division. John, who is currently co-chairman of the natural resources group, will become co-chairman of global mergers and acquisitions.

My former roommate **Lee Hadad** FaceTimed me from Jerusalem, where he has lived for nine years. The recent surge in terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens has made their life more difficult lately but people con-

tinue to go about their business, he says. Lee reported that our former floormate **Philip "Shraga" Levy**, also a Jerusalem resident, is now a father-in-law, having married off a son, one of his seven children. I don't know if that's a first for the Class of '88, but Shraga is definitely the first classmate whom I know personally to reach this milestone. And I think we all know what comes next.

It was great to get a first-time update from Dr. **Diane Ridley** PS'92: "I completed my residency in anesthesiology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center (before the merger with New York Hospital) in 1996 and a fellowship in obstetric anesthesia in 1997 (you guessed it — at Columbia). I worked at Elmhurst Hospital Center (Queens) but came back home to New Jersey in 2005. I've worked in Jersey City, East Orange and New Brunswick, and recently started working in Teaneck. I live in Newark, N.J.

"I maintain close ties to Columbia College through participation in Sachems events," Diane continues, "as well as supporting events hosted by Rho Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. Incidentally, I was among the 12 Columbia women (six from the College, five from Barnard and one from SEAS) who established Rho on campus in 1986."

Keep your updates coming! I look forward to hearing from all of you. All news is welcome, and can be sent to either address at the top of this column or submitted through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1989

**Emily Miles Terry**  
45 Clarence St.  
Brookline, MA 02446  
[emilymilesterry@me.com](mailto:emilymilesterry@me.com)

From her home in the Boston area, **Lisa Elmes Weinstock**, who is married to **Peter Weinstock**, writes, "Peter and I are officially empty-nesters! Our daughter, Hannah '16, is majoring in psychology. She has had an amazing experience at Columbia and has especially enjoyed the work she is doing as a research fellow in Professor Valerie Purdie-Vaughns '93's lab. Our son, Noah, is a freshman at Northeastern studying engineering. It's nice to have him close to home.



CCT ARCHIVES

"I work for Framingham Public Schools. After 18 years in the classroom, I recently moved into the role of literacy coach, working with teachers and administrators around literacy curriculum and instruction. Peter is a pediatric critical care doctor and director of Boston Children's Hospital Simulator Program. He travels the world helping other hospitals establish medical simulation programs."

Congratulations to the Weinstock family, who will be at Hannah's graduation.

A few Columbians have recently relocated. **Jody Collens Fidler** and her family left the Washington, D.C., area for Denver to pursue new adventures — professionally

as well as on the ski slopes. Jody's husband, Dr. Phil Fidler, accepted a position as director of a new burn unit at the Swedish Medical Center. Jody left her role as area director for the American Lung Association in D.C. prior to the move. Once they arrived in Denver, she focused on getting their three kids settled while volunteering for the Denver Peanut Butter Plan, a nonprofit assisting homeless people in Denver. Jody says, "We all have been enjoying the outdoor lifestyle and have adjusted to the effects of high altitude on the ball of every sport. We were thrilled to go skiing on Thanksgiving!"

**Elisabeth Socolow**, who has lived in Asia for 15 years (most recently in



Submit  
Your  
Photo



CCT welcomes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), arrived in Washington, D.C., where she and her family will reside for the next year. Elisabeth joined the State Department several years ago as an economic officer and will move with her family to Seoul, South Korea, this coming summer to work in the U.S. Embassy there. Her sons, Marko (12) and Nicolas (9), are enjoying their time in the United States and have visited Columbia a couple of times.

My husband, Dave Terry '90, and I attended the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner last November, which honored Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76, former U.S. attorney general. While there we had the pleasure of dining with **Josh Krevitt** and his wife, Marcy Krevitt (née Nislow) BC'90, as well as Michelle Estilo Kaiser '87 and her husband, Michael Kaiser, and **Donna MacPhee**.

The morning following the dinner began with an exciting breakfast in Low Rotunda for the launch of the College's Core to Commencement campaign. I visited with **Victor**

are interviewed and mentioned, including **John Alex**. "The Season" starts out as a turnaround story but given Columbia's rich, complicated and at times harrowing football history, it becomes much more.

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1990

**Rachel Cowan Jacobs**  
313 Lexington Dr.  
Silver Spring, MD 20901  
[younggrache@hotmail.com](mailto:younggrache@hotmail.com)

Kudos to **Andrew Cohen**, a Scruggs Scholar and associate professor of history at Syracuse. Andrew's latest book is *Contraband: Smuggling and the Birth of the American Century*. It is available at your nearest bookstore. He says, "One of my great thrills was getting a blurb from Eric Foner '63,

like he's the man about town.

**Christopher Millward** wrote from Beijing, where he has been working in public affairs and communications for 22 years. He says hi.

In August 2014, **Jon Earle** became the dean of Louisiana State University's Roger Hadfield Ogden Honors College. Moving from Lawrence, Kans., to Baton Rouge meant not only adjusting to the weather but also adjusting his spelling. Is it "go" or "geaux?"

Jon says, "The Ogden Honors College curriculum owes a lot to CC's (another way Columbia led in higher ed). Our college's classroom building, the French House, is a Huey Long-era fake Norman castle which, when renovations are complete, will house some of the finest seminar classrooms on the planet! I use my CC education every day, trying to replicate it for bright undergraduates in the SEC. Geaux Tigers, and Lions!"

**Dean Sonderegger EN'90** is VP/GM of legal markets for Wolters Kluwer, a global provider of legal information solutions to law firms and corporate counsel. Dean lives in Reston, Va., and works in NYC. His oldest son, Crawford, is a sophomore studying political science at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Frederic Schultz** writes his first Class Note: "What I've been up to the last several years is a long story. In brief, I started a rabbinical school, the Academy for Jewish Religion, CA ([ajrca.edu](http://ajrca.edu)) by donating money many years ago, and intend to go there some day to become a rabbi, but I'm currently a lawyer and running for President! My classes at Columbia and Barnard (including those with the incredible professor Dennis Dalton, and many others!) and our activism then inspired me so much, and I look forward to working with college and university students and grads to help bring freedom and prosperity back to our nation and world! Sending my Columbia friends lots of love."

Fred is running as a Democrat and **Ljiljana Stanojevic Penuela EN'90** is heading his campaign committee. If he does not secure the nomination, he will run as a candidate of the Love Party, which he is forming. At the time of submission, Fred did not have a URL to give me, so google him and learn more about his campaign.

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1991

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 2-5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
[fy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:fy2165@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
[hs2843@columbia.edu](mailto:hs2843@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Margie Kim**  
1923 White Oak Clearing  
Southlake, TX 76092  
[margiekimkim@hotmail.com](mailto:margiekimkim@hotmail.com)

Greetings to all! I hope 2016 is treating you well so far. This update is going to be short and sweet, with a small reunion request thrown in.

**Ted Stern** married Judith Wallner in Washington, D.C., last May. The wedding took place at the National Museum of Women in the Arts. Ted's son, Teddy, was the best man and **Milton Villanueva** was in attendance.

Apologies to Ted for the delay in including this in Class Notes.

As a reminder, the 25th anniversary of our graduation from the College will be celebrated at Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2-Sunday, June 5. **Annie Giarratano Della Pietra** is our Reunion Committee program chair and **Bob Cooper** is our fundraising chair. The committee has had several conference calls to plan a memorable weekend with special celebrations, activities and speakers. Part of the fun will include a slideshow of memories from our time at Columbia and beyond, and here is where I need your help. Please email me any pictures of you and our classmates that you would like to share. It will be fun to dig out the old photo albums and show our kids how we used to document our lives before Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Don't wait until June ... **SEND THEM NOW!**

We have a Facebook page (Columbia College Class of 1991) to keep you up to date on all of our activities. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 25th reunion!

*Sandra Fahy '93 and Jen Larrabee '93 are triathlon training partners in New York and can be found competing on weekends.*

**Mendelson, Michael Behringer, Kaivan Shakib and Peter Schnur**. Peter told the story of a fender bender he and his family were in on the way to Columbia for move-in day, which forever dictated the route his father took to campus. A highlight of the breakfast for me was University Trustee **Lisa Landau Carnoy's** thoughtful and personal interview with Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and screenwriter Tony Kushner '78 on his academic experience and enthusiasm for the Core. If you are interested in helping to support this campaign, you can find more here: [college.columbia.edu/campaign](http://college.columbia.edu/campaign).

Last fall I enjoyed following our improving Lions football team under Columbia's head football coach, Al Bagnoli. If you don't know how the Lions season finished (and even if you do), try listening to the podcast "The Season" from WNYC Radio, NPR's local NYC affiliate: [wnyc.org/shows/theseason](http://wnyc.org/shows/theseason). Some classmates

GSAS'69, who described the book as "fascinating and revealing." Andrew has been teaching at Syracuse since 1999. His wife, Carol Faulkner, is also a professor of history at Syracuse. They have one daughter.

**Laura Shaw Frank** has a new job in addition to her teaching position at SAR Academy, a Modern Orthodox day school in Riverdale. She is now director of recruitment, placement and alumnae relations for Yeshivat Maharat, the first Orthodox program to ordain women as spiritual leaders. Learn more at [yeshivatmaharat.org](http://yeshivatmaharat.org).

**Isaac-Daniel Astrachan** has a lot going on, and not just because his son Aidhan recently turned 13! In the world of architecture in NYC, Isaac-Daniel is working on a dozen projects, including a 43-story residential tower in Long Island City, a 35-story residential tower in Downtown Brooklyn, a five-star hotel in Tribeca and a modular hotel on the Lower East Side. Seems to me

Don't forget you can send Class Notes anytime to the addresses at the top of this column or through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). Until next time, cheers!

## 1992

**Olivier Knox**  
**9602 Montauk Ave.**  
**Bethesda, MD 20817**  
**oknox9602@gmail.com**

Greetings, classmates. I am writing this a couple of days after New Year's, having spent a week with my brother, Christophe Knox '95, and his family. There are potentially three Lions in the making, if my boy and both of his cousins make a play for Morningside Heights.

I got a nice note from **Robert Carey**, who moved in October from Long Island to Peoria, Ariz., a suburb of Phoenix. "No more miserable winters for me!" he says. But he's not done with (potentially miserable) New York summers, as he'll be back to see his extended family.

Robert was a writer and editor for VNU/Nielsen Business Media from 1992 to 2007, then went out on his own. During the past eight years, he says, "I've been writing for various B-to-B media outlets and creating content-marketing campaigns for hotels and resorts."

Robert says he's had to acclimate to his new surroundings, what with never having lived west of Hoboken, N.J. "I've already toned down my friggin' accent so that it's barely per-

ceptible," he says. "Any Columbians in the valley who want to play a round of golf or take a motorcycle ride can look me up," he adds.

If you're reading this but have never contributed, please email a little life update to the address at the top of this column! You can also send in a note through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). This column only works when you chime in!

## 1993

**Betsy Gomperz**  
**41 Day St.**  
**Newton, MA 02466**  
**Betsy.Gomperz@gmail.com**

Greetings, classmates! This column is courtesy of **Patti Lee**, who writes:

I had a whirlwind trip through the northeast corridor in December — I was in Boston visiting my brother and his family and was lucky to spend a few days in New York City as well, where I picked up a number of updates from old friends about a number of our classmates. We'll start with **Andrew Ceresney**, who is the director of the Division of Enforcement of the Securities and Exchange Commission and has been all over the news. Our former class president has been busy explaining recent actions taken against J.P. Morgan and putting the spotlight on Martin Shkreli. Who is Shkreli? Exactly. He's the kind of guy you don't want to get to know.

**Thad Sheely** is the new CFO and EVP, real estate, for the Atlanta Hawks. Friends in New York are sad to see Thad leave the city but the new job is a great opportunity for him.

Congratulations!  
**Kevin Connolly**, entrepreneur, husband and father of two, spent a good part of the holiday season working to procure Christmas trees for disadvantaged families in his hometown of Garden City, N.J., working with a charity he started to honor his late father. Kevin tells me because he didn't have enough on his plate he decided to embark on a massive renovation of his childhood home.

That's our Kevin — always reaching for the stars while keeping his feet firmly on the ground!

WKCR alums are also making their mark. **Brad Stone**, the unofficial expert on everything

Amazon, was promoted to senior executive editor at Bloomberg in San Francisco.

Meantime, after getting married earlier this year (the wedding was profiled in *The New York Times*) Jon Bonne '94 (with whom I co-produced an excellent show back in the day), relocated from San Francisco to New York, where he is working on a new book.

While catching up with **Sandra Fahy** in New York, I learned that she and **Jen Larrabee** are triathlon training partners and can be found competing on weekends. However, if you ask Sandra about it, she will downplay her athleticism. She will also downplay the fact that her innovative course on eugenics at Packer Collegiate Institute is becoming quite renowned. Earlier this month, Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy dropped into her class and told her students they were lucky to be able to take such a cool course!

I also saw my favorite filmmaker and writer, **Neil Turitz**, whom I credit with editing this column. Neil has projects in the works that I am not at liberty to discuss. However, I can tell you that he and **Rachel Mintz** are already hard at work planning our 25th reunion, now a little more than two years away. See you then, but stay in touch in the meantime! Thank you to **Betsy Gomperz**, who graciously invited me to pen this edition of Class Notes. You can find me on Facebook and LinkedIn under pattijlee. Aloha.

Please continue to send in updates or reach out to me (Betsy) at [betsy.gomperz@gmail.com](mailto:betsy.gomperz@gmail.com) about submitting your own "guest column" update. You can also submit notes via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1994

**Leyla Kokmen**  
**c/o CCT**  
**Columbia Alumni Center**  
**622 W. 113th St., MC 4530**  
**New York, NY 10025**  
**lak6@columbia.edu**

Many thanks to **Karen Ortiz**, who took action in response to my plea for news! Karen lives and works in New York City. She's been practicing law for more than 15 years since graduating from Fordham Law in 1998 and

recently was made legal director of the MTA's New York City Transit Adjudication Bureau. "Outside of work," Karen writes, "I devote my time to a few fledgling creative projects, which include writing a novel and creating a greeting card line."

In news from Chicagoland, **Elliot Regenstein** orchestrated a Class of 1994 outing to the Columbia-Northwestern basketball game in November that included a few of us — and a few members of the next generation. We had a chance to catch up over a pre-game dinner. Our group included Elliot and his two kids; **Eric Older** and his daughter; and my older daughter and me. Elliot works at the Ounce of Prevention Fund as SVP, advocacy and policy, and Eric is a VP of North American private brand development for Daymon Worldwide.

As for the game, well, let's say that the Columbia turnout in the stands was on the lighter side — I think I counted at most 10 people in Columbia blue (including us). **Brian Orefice** also joined us for part of the game, which, while close, ended with our beloved Lions losing in overtime.

That's it for now. As always, I urge you to write with your news. Any updates on jobs, families, homes, hobbies, travels or general musings on life are welcome; you can email them to me at [lak6@columbia.edu](mailto:lak6@columbia.edu) or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Thanks!

## 1995

**Janet Lorin**  
**730 Columbus Ave., Apt. 14C**  
**New York, NY 10025**  
**jrf10@columbia.edu**

I hope this column finds everyone well and inspired to send in an update. If you attended reunion last spring and have never sent an update, please consider this an invitation — you can write to either of the addresses at the top of this column or you can submit through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

Thanks to **Simon Butler** for letting us know what he's been up to for the last two decades. He and his wife, Trudi, recently celebrated their fourth anniversary and moved from Forest



## Contact CCT

Update your contact information; submit a Class Note, Class Note photo, obituary, Letter to the Editor or classified advertisement; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at [college.columbia.edu/cct](http://college.columbia.edu/cct).

Hills, Queens, to Bennett Avenue in Manhattan's Washington Heights.

Simon is editor of Masterplanner New York at BizBash Media. During his nearly 20-year career, he has written and edited for publications ranging from *Adweek* to *Zagat*. He says, "The latter was quite an interesting stint, as I got a chance to review restaurants, write myriad reviews for the print guides (including New York) and write for the *Zagat* blog, which was a lot of fun." He adds, "Recently, I've written articles for CURNBLOG, an Australia-based cinema blog for which I've interviewed quite a few personalities, including Whit Stillman, Susan Seidelman, Keith Gordon and Hal Hartley, as well as

*Transformed a City*. The book is a collection of original essays and photographs (some featured in *The New York Times* in November) exploring the past, present and future of affordable housing in New York City. Matt is an associate professor in the department of urban policy and planning at Hunter College. I attended a launch for Matt's book at the New York Public Library, and it was fascinating to hear Matt and a distinguished panel of scholars and practitioners discuss some of the book's themes.

**Maira Demos** SOA'08's 10-part Netflix documentary, *Making a Murderer*, premiered in December. The series is the culmination of a decade of Maira's work. She, along with



In October, Sandie Angulo Chen '98, Jeremy Blacklow '98 and Erin Harken McConkey '98 met up in San Diego, where Blacklow was DJing the opening of Gay Bowl XV, the national LGBT flag football tournament.

*Shivali Shah '97 was elected to City Council of Mount Rainier, Md., having worked for the past 10 years as an activist and a self-employed attorney.*

Randall, the man behind the Honey Badger web series."

Simon keeps in touch with his former Carman 9 floormate **Aram Ciamician**. "Sadly, my two other best friends from Columbia, **Mike Hauben** and **Ed Buhrman**, are no longer with us," he writes. "I'd like to give a shout-out to them — they were part of what makes Columbia great."

Please keep the news coming!

Laura Ricciardi SOA'07, chronicled the story of Steven Avery, a man who spent 18 years in prison for a 1985 sexual assault conviction. He maintained his innocence and was released from prison when he was exonerated for the crime, only to be convicted of murder in 2007 and sentenced to life imprisonment. Maira's documentary focuses on Avery's trials, particularly the murder case. As a result of the series, more than 300,000 people have signed online petitions in an effort to release Avery from prison.

I also have news. I recently left my role as labor and employment partner in Baker Hostetler's New York office to accept a great opportunity to be associate general counsel, labor relations, at NYU Langone Medical Center. I will be responsible for providing legal advice and strategy on all labor relations issues the medical center deals with on a regular basis. If any other classmates work at NYU Langone, I'd love to hear from you!

And that goes for the rest of you too — please send in notes to the addresses at the top of this column or through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note!

Our 20th reunion is just around the corner (Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5), so please send in news

of yourselves, our classmates or at a minimum please show up at Reunion Weekend 2016. It's the perfect time to reconnect with friends and with the College, and there will be tons of fun events like the Wine Tasting on Low Plaza, dancing at the Starlight Reception, class dinners and intellectual and cultural activities on campus.

"Fear is the path to the dark side. Fear leads to anger. Anger leads to hate. Hate leads to suffering." — *Yoda*

## 1997

**Sarah Katz**  
1935 Parrish St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
srk12@columbia.edu

CC'97, I need to hear from you! Our notes column is shorter this edition, so please send in updates for yourself and your friends, either to the addresses at the top of this column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

**Athena Ole** was remarried in May of this year. She writes, "I now have a new, wonderful modern family with my husband, Rich Feinberg; his sons, Ben and Josh; and my son, Lachlan. Our wedding was in the Gospel Tent at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival. The reception was at the home of **Rebekah Gee** in New Orleans' beautiful Garden District. **Lauren Grodstein** was there too, and we had a blast!"

**Sabra Gandhi** welcomed another son on October 27, Rumi Gandhi Sellers, 8 lbs. 12 oz., 21 in. long.

**Kim Alexander** (née Feigenbaum) announces: "After being associate counsel for New York-based RD Management (a large, privately held real estate management and development company) for more than 10 years and previously with Kaye Scholer, I accepted a position as counsel for A.Y. Strauss, a boutique real estate law firm that focuses on retail, multifamily, office and industrial real estate transactions. When I'm not working, my sons, Evan and Lance (11 and 8), keep me busy!"

Last May, **Shivali Shah** was elected to City Council of Mount Rainier, Md. During her 10 years as a Mount Rainier citizen, Shivali has worked tirelessly as an advocate for women's and immigrant rights, both as an activist shaping policy in Congress and as a self-employed lawyer helping battered immigrant women and other exploited immigrants with nowhere else to turn.

## 1998

**Sandie Angulo Chen**  
10209 Day Ave.  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Hello, CC'98. We start off this edition of Class Notes with a career update from **Robert Travis**: "As of May I have begun serving in southern Rhode Island as rector of the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Wakefield, and rector of the Chapel of Saint John the Divine in Saunderstown. This is an exciting experiment for me — to see if these

## 1996

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Ana S. Salper**  
24 Monroe Pl., Apt. MA  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
ana.salper@nyumc.org

Greetings, classmates!

I congratulate my friend **Matt Lasner** on the release of his book, *Affordable Housing in New York: The People, Places, and Policies That*

churches can effectively share one head priest between them.”

Congratulations, Robert!

Walking through any bookstore you are likely to see best-selling author **Adam Mansbach** SOA'00's children's books (for parents), including his latest, *Seriously, You Have to Eat*, which was published last October. *School Library Journal* said of the book: “The illustrations are humorous, and some children may giggle in recognizing their own mealtime behavior. But the chuckles are more likely to come from those weary parents who face this particular daily struggle.”

I was lucky enough to attend an event in San Diego last October and met with two classmates while there. **Erin McConkey** (née Harken) lives in La Jolla, Calif., with her husband, Phil, and their daughter, May. Erin's passions (in addition to raising May) are gardening and paddleboard surfing. By coincidence, the same weekend I was in San Diego, so was **Jeremy Blacklow**. Erin and I went to see him working a DJ gig for the opening of Gay Bowl XV — the national LGBT flag football tournament put on every Columbus Day weekend by the National Gay Flag Football League. Jeremy lives in Los Angeles with the love of his life, his pug.

You don't have to wait until you've gotten married or had a baby to send in an update. I'd love to hear from more of you, so send your updates to my email address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 1999

**Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[adeliz@gmail.com](mailto:adeliz@gmail.com)  
[jennajohnson@gmail.com](mailto:jennajohnson@gmail.com)

Classmates! As we're writing this column, the holidays are upon us (though we've spotted plenty of NYC trees budding as if it were April and not December). Some of you took the post-Thanksgiving quiet as an opportunity to update us on your newest news.

**Chris Harriss** has enjoyed two big life changes in 2015 — a move and a baby! He writes: “Last year was an exciting one for the Harriss family. Last summer we moved from an apartment in Brooklyn Heights to a house in Pelham, N.Y., and we recently welcomed our second child, Jack Lachlan, into the world. Our first, Abigail Whitney, is a doting big sister and great helper to her mother, Sarah Whitney TC'06.”

In other moving news, we were delighted to hear that **Alex Charters Zubko** has returned to the New York area. After being away for 10 years, she has returned not to “a cubby in the West Village” but to Westchester along with her husband and their three children. Alex has hopped on the commuter line for a new job: “I've decided not to act my age and have joined 20-somethings at a travel start-up in the Flatiron area.” Other than that she's “generally just trying to survive life with very energetic toddlers!”

Welcome back, Alex! And good luck!

We also heard from **Ramzi Kassem** LAW'04, associate professor at the CUNY School of Law, where he directs the Immigrant and Non-Citizen Rights Clinic. Ramzi's scholarship, teaching and clinical practice focus on the intersection of law and security as well as immigration. He has been, along with his students, representing inmates at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp for much of the last decade and has published pieces in *The New York Times*, *Vice* and *The Nation*. He keeps close ties with **Omar Farah**, **Nina Bond** (née Lee), **Vikram Kumar** SEAS'99, **Nithya Ramanan** SEAS'99 and **Nirmalan Navaratnam** SEAS'99.

**Nina Tannenbaum** also sent in an update involving fellow Columbians. She writes: “**Guillermo Silberman** and I recently spent the day selecting candidates for Venture for America, a fellowship program for college graduates to launch their careers as entrepreneurs, focused on fueling job growth in U.S. cities that need it most. Venture for America was founded by Andrew Yang LAW'99. **Robin Chan** and **Jay Adya** '98 are longtime supporters.”

November saw a crew of CC'99ers make the trek to Robert K. Kraft (né Baker) Field for the Columbia–Harvard game. **Adrienne Carter**, **Martin Mraz**, **Jenna**

**Johnson**, **Joshua Meyers** '97, **Dylan Hightower** SEAS'99, **Jane Hwang** '98, **Jonathan Speier** SEAS'97, **Matt Nociti** '01, **Naomi Altschul** (née Fraenkel) BC'97, SEAS'98 (and her daughters **Jeannie** and **Amelia**), **Maya Arison** BUS'01, **Isaac Oh** BUS'13, **Alessandro Pireno** BUS'13 and **Jennifer Aziz** BC'00 gathered at the picnic tables for some pregame catch-up with kids and partners and spouses. An astonishing array of pickles, mustards and bratwursts were provided by Jane and her husband, Gus, though the real feat was a last-minute transfer from forbidden glass jars to stadium-approved plates — a cautionary tale for future tailgaters! It was a great way to draw in Columbians from other classes; we made a lot of new friends that day. Join us next time!

As you may have gathered from the recent WNYC podcast “The Season,” the football team made an improved showing this year under coach **Al Bagnoli**. We were also happy to see the Columbia University Marching Band is as spirited as ever. We rewarded their energy with some pretty exceptional marzipan created by Martin.

Thanks to everyone for the excellent updates. We hope to hear from more of you in the coming months (either email your updates to us at [adeliz@gmail.com](mailto:adeliz@gmail.com) or [jennajohnson@gmail.com](mailto:jennajohnson@gmail.com), or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note)) and that the winter was good to each and every one of you.

## 2000

**Prisca Bae**  
344 W. 17th St., Apt. 3B  
New York, NY 10011  
[pb134@columbia.edu](mailto:pb134@columbia.edu)

**Natalia Petrzela** (née Mehlman), along with **Nicole Hemmer** GSAS'10 and **Neil Young** GSAS'08, launched a podcast ([pastpresentpodcast.com](http://pastpresentpodcast.com)) that you should all subscribe to on iTunes. “We are three historians who ‘turn hindsight into foresight’ and take on topics from the refugee crisis to Planned Parenthood to SoulCycle,” says Natalia. “Three months in and we have more than 7,000 listeners! I also have a new ‘fitness history’ column I've launched at **Well + Good**, and I went to London over the holidays to hang with **Adelaide Scardino**.”

Congrats to **Ommeed Sathe**, who was named in *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*'s first 40 Under 40 list of extraordinary young leaders around the globe who have dedicated their careers to social change. Ommeed is VP of impact investments at Prudential Financial in Newark, N.J., and oversees a \$500 million portfolio of investments designed to produce both financial and social returns, with Prudential aiming to increase the amount invested to \$1 billion by 2020.

Support **Tchaiko Omawale**'s Indiegogo campaign and support her film, *Solace*, which explores “disordered eating in the black community through a fun coming-of-age narrative that was inspired by [her] own struggles with an eating disorder and self-harm.” View the trailer and learn how to donate: [vimeo.com/143481270](http://vimeo.com/143481270).

Class of '00, share what's going on with you! You can email me at [pb134@columbia.edu](mailto:pb134@columbia.edu) or send news through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2001

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
**Fatima Yudeh**  
[fy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:fy2165@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
**Heather Siemienas**  
[hs2843@columbia.edu](mailto:hs2843@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Jonathan Gordin**  
3030 N. Beachwood Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90068  
[jrg53@columbia.edu](mailto:jrg53@columbia.edu)

I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season and caught up on rest, like I did (though this issue reaches you in spring, these notes are written in December). It's hard to believe but this is the last Class Notes update you will read before our 15-year reunion in June.

Congratulations to **Dr. Miles Berger** on receiving the Dennis W. Jahnigen Career Development Award from the American Geriatrics Society and the Foundation for Anesthesia Education and Research. Miles' work focuses on understanding what causes postoperative delirium and cognitive dysfunction.

tion, and whether these disorders are accompanied by changes in Alzheimer's disease pathways.

Amazing stuff, Miles! Everyone else, write in to either of the addresses 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).

So, I didn't have much news to report this go-round, which can only mean one thing — I'm ready to collect lots of great updates in person at Reunion Weekend 2016, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. My wife, Jamie Rubin BC'01, and I are excited to see you all there!

## 2002

**Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani**  
2 Rolling Dr.  
Old Westbury, NY 11568  
[soniah57@gmail.com](mailto:soniah57@gmail.com)

**Genevieve Thornton Baker** and her husband, Grey Baker BUS'16, announce the two newest additions to their family: Fleur Thornton Jepsen Baker and Brittin Thornton Burnett Baker, identical twin girls born on October 28.

**Joyce Anderson** (née Chang) wrote from Napa Valley, Calif., where she had a Columbia tennis mini-reunion with **Ilene Weintraub**, Leena Rao (née Krishnaswamy) '03, Shelly Mittal '03 and Melissa Nguyen BC'04.

Joyce lives in Evanston, Ill., with her husband, Chris, and sons, Henry, James and Gus. She is the head girls'



A few former members of Columbia's women's tennis had a mini-reunion in Napa Valley. Left to right: Melissa Nguyen BC'04, Leena Rao (née Krishnaswamy) '03, Ilene Weintraub '02, Shelly Mittal '03 and Joyce Anderson (née Chang) '02.

tennis coach and the college-bound student-athlete adviser at Evanston Township H.S. and works with AP recruitment and retention logistics. Before moving to Evanston, she practiced securities litigation in Chicago at Sidley Austin for three years. Joyce visited **Lillian de Gournay** (née Davies) in Paris last spring, where Lillian is an art history professor and where she lives with her husband and two children.

Advertising photographer and conceptual artist **Mike Mellia's** work has recently been commissioned by *Vogue*, Brooks Brothers, Harry Winston and one of the architects responsible for 4 World Trade Center. He appeared on CNN to discuss his work, and has also been featured by MoMA, The Huffington Post, BuzzFeed and *Fast Company*.

**Daniel Abelon** is happy to be back in NYC after six years in the Bay Area, where he earned an M.B.A and started an online dating company, SpeedDate. Now he is a VC investing in startups related to artificial intelligence, robotics, data science and other areas of advanced tech. Daniel is always happy to chat with other Columbia tech/startup people! He is married and having fun learning the ropes of parenting from his wife's two little boys, he says.

**Jacqueline Karp** and her husband, Dave Spencer Karp '99, are thrilled to announce that they had another son. Alexander Gabriel arrived November 3 at 10:36 a.m.

On October 3, **Albert Lee SEAS'02**, BUS'07 married the girl of his dreams, Cara Killackey, at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, with groomsmen Kendrick Bales '01 and usher **Elvis Rodriguez SEAS'02** in the wedding party. The reception was held at the Waldorf Astoria Chicago and they were joined by **Purdy Tran Bailer**, **Lindsay Jurist-Rosner**, Rachel Nichols Kershaw '03, **Franklin Amoo**, Edward Choi SEAS'98, BUS'07, Jenny Lee '99, Kate Chaltain BC'01 and Matthew Wang '97, BUS'05. Purdy moved to Philadelphia and has been reacclimating to the northeast — especially the winters! Last July she gave birth to a son, Miles Lincoln, who joins brother Max Hudson.

**Michelle Leavy** and her husband, **Charlie Katz-Leavy**, are excited to announce the birth of Benjamin Edward on November 2. He is named after Charlie's late



Mary Ebner '03 married Derek Chanler-Berat on August 2, 2014, at the Paramount Country Club in New City, N.Y. Left to right: Jason Colombo '03, Tara Twibell Hastings '03, Ramin Hastings '03, Myles Osborne '03, April Jarvis '03, Kathryn Ebner '05, the groom, the bride, Virginia Ebner NRS'79, William Ebner '73, Irene Plagianos '03, Robert Gallagher '73, Lindsay Torrey '01, Allison Enriquez (née Buehler) '03, Kenneth Torrey TC'74, Courtney Drucker (née Ryan) '03, Renee Rivera (née Livecchi) BC'03, Laura West (née Drazdowski) '03 and Sean West. Kneeling, left to right: Andrea Berkowitz (née Shvarts) '03 and Anne-Marie Ebner '01.

father, Edward N. Leavy '64. Charlie writes: "He is a big, healthy and good-natured baby. Like his sister, Emily Rose, he is looking forward to his years on Morningside Heights. His Columbia parents are excited to have Ben join the Columbia community, and send their regards to the Class of '02 from the northeast outpost in Portland, Maine."

## 2003

**Michael Novielli**  
World City Apartments  
Attn.: Michael J. Novielli, A608  
Block 10, No 6. Jinhui Road,  
Chaoyang District  
Beijing, 100020,  
People's Republic of China  
[mjn29@columbia.edu](mailto:mjn29@columbia.edu)

I hope 2016 is off to a good start for you! For those who follow the lunar calendar, I wish you a happy Year of the Monkey! Now let's start off the year on a high note by celebrating the good news of our classmates.

**Moses Ahn** has been working at the New York City Law Department for 2½ years and was recently promoted to a management position as an assistant unit chief in his division. He oversees a team of attorneys and investigators who defend

against claims aimed at NYC's law enforcement personnel.

**Maureen Falcone** (née Powers) writes, "My husband, Tony, and I welcomed our second son, William, in June. We live in my hometown, Allentown, Pa., with William and James (3). I work part-time as an in-house attorney for St. Luke's University Health Network and enjoy the extra time at home with our sons. Tony is also an attorney and does licensing work for Avago Technologies."

**Jaime Oliver** writes, "The last few months of 2015 were a whirlwind! I graduated from Villanova's M.B.A. program, started a role as a product manager, got married, visited my 40th country and ran the NYC Marathon. All good things, but I'm looking forward to a less eventful 2016!"

**David F.C. Wong** is happy to share that his second daughter was born in October.

**Ben Casselman** is the chief economics writer at FiveThirtyEight. His recent articles explore topics ranging from job growth to No Child Left Behind to religious views and how they impact the upcoming presidential election.

In addition to running his spirits brand, VEEV Spirits, **Carter Reum** is also a regular contributor to *Inc. Magazine*.

In other job updates, **Nadim El Gabbani** is a managing director at Blackstone, **Mary Rozenman** is SVP of corporate and commercial development at Aimmune Therapeutics in San Francisco and **Miriam Stone** runs Brand Plume, a brand and messaging consultancy she founded in 2014. She is based in the San Francisco Bay Area and her clients have included the likes of Adobe, Google, Honeywell and Intel.

Everyone else, your classmates want to hear from you! Please send any news, big or small, to [mjn29@columbia.edu](mailto:mjn29@columbia.edu) or submit notes via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2004

**Columbia College Today**  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu)

Attention, CC'04ers! CCT needs a new class correspondent for this column. This is a great way to stay in touch with friends and classmates and to share all the amazing things that the Class of 2004 is up to! Please reach out to us at [cct@columbia.edu](mailto:cct@columbia.edu) if you — or you and a classmate; team correspondents are fine — are interested in or have questions about the role.

CCT thanks **Angela Georgopoulos** for her work during the last six years. Until CCT has a new correspondent, please send updates directly to us at either of the addresses at the top of the column or via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2005

**Claire McDonnell**  
47 Maiden Ln., 3rd Fl.  
San Francisco, CA 94108  
[claire.mcdonnell@gmail.com](mailto:claire.mcdonnell@gmail.com)

Happy 2016, Class of 2005! Here's the latest on your classmates:

I recently caught up with my freshman and sophomore roommate, **Jennifer Legum Weber** (oh hey, Carman and Ruggles!), when she was visiting San Francisco with her beautiful son, Avi, and her husband, Daryl Weber '02. They were visiting

from Atlanta, where Jenn works in wealth management at Morgan Stanley. All you marketers and entrepreneurs out there, check out Daryl's upcoming book, *Brand Seduction: How Neuroscience Can Help Marketers Build Memorable Brands*, which is due out this spring.

Jenn and Darryl were visiting **Inna Fabrikant** and her husband, Mehul Patel, and their new baby. Inna is a senior client development manager at Socialcast, which was acquired by VMWare. Jenn and Darryl also had a chance to see recent San Francisco transplants **Anya Cherneff** and **Bennett Cohen** on their visit. Anya and Bennett moved here after a long sojourn in the Netherlands. Anya is the executive director of Empower Generation, which helps women in Nepal become clean energy entrepreneurs, and Bennett works in future energy technology at Royal Dutch Shell and is a Kauffman Fellow.

**Ife Babatunde** lives in New York and works for LinkedIn.

**Erica Yen** shares, "My husband, Phuong, and I welcomed our first daughter, Zoey, on October 13."

In January, **Evita Morin** (née Mendiola) SW'09 became executive director of San Antonio's Rise Recovery, a nonprofit addressing youth and family recovery from the impact of drug and alcohol addiction. She was selected by the National Association of Social Work's Texas Alamo Area Branch as "Social Worker of the Year." Evita says that she continues to be grateful for her Columbia education and felt honored by the opportunity and responsibility to serve her community.

**Dan Binder** writes: "Last year was a great year for me — I started it off on 1/1/15 by proposing marriage to Alyssa Farmer (a Louisiana girl by way of Texas A&M) and closed the year celebrating in San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua, with my wife and partner (married 5/9/15)."

Some of our classmates humored my request to share how their New Year's resolutions from 2015 turned out. Thank you all for sharing.

**Gemma Sieff** says, "I wanted to start writing seriously and I did."

**Jonathan Treitel** wanted to have a second daughter and he succeeded with the help of his wife, Stephanie Feldman BC'05, who also wanted to launch the paperback version of her novel *The Angel of Losses* through HarperCollins — she did.



PAMELA YASUKO

Carolyn Schook Foster '06 married David Wesley Foster on April 11 at the University Club of Chicago. Left to right: Eliza Horstman SEAS'06, the bride, Kate Crawford '06, Denise Warner '06 and Susan Altman '04.

**Ben Harwood** reports on how a resolution turned out: "I made the resolution to have 80 percent of the relationships in my life be healthy. In 2013, my life was full of unhealthy relationships that were quietly making my life miserable (and I thought 100 percent was unrealistic). So in 2014, I stepped down from the dysfunctional board of a charity I started, parted ways with a delusional business partner and started a new business with grounded, caring people, and ended a two-year romance with a woman who was truly unavailable. Now I'm six months into a reciprocal relationship with an affectionate girl who is a promising young surgeon."

**Italome Ohikhuare** says, "My goals for 2015 were to finish my short film and get it into a prominent film festival — and I accomplished both! *The Mermaid* was accepted into the Mental Health Channel's film festival and won the Jury Award for Best Film. It's currently playing on the channel: [mentalhealthchannel.tv/film-festival/the-mermaid](http://mentalhealthchannel.tv/film-festival/the-mermaid)."

**Kunal Gupta** responds, "I set out in 2015 to create a community coordination app and freelance marketplace for work that is motivated by social impact, with the idea that it will help more mission-driven communities succeed and grow [their] impact (it's called Better, you can check it out at [better.space](http://better.space)). It's motivated partly by thinking about what I wish I had when I founded [music venue and art gallery] Silent Barn and [video game creation collective] Babycastles.

"This seemed important, so alongside the initiative I took on a whole bunch of [other] New Year's resolutions: no sugar, meat or alcohol, and lots of meditation. Of course, I didn't keep that up. On that note, my app isn't fully out yet, either. But during 2015 I came within sight of realizing those initiatives, so it was a monumental year."

Congratulations to everyone, and here's to 2016!

## 2006

**REUNION WEEKEND**  
JUNE 2–5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
[fy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:fy2165@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
[hs2843@columbia.edu](mailto:hs2843@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Michelle Oh Sing**  
9 N 9th St., Unit 401  
Philadelphia, PA 19107  
[mo2057@columbia.edu](mailto:mo2057@columbia.edu)

Here are some updates from our classmates:

**Andrew Stinger** made the leap from behind a desk at Google to on top of the SoulCycle podium as an instructor. Though Andrew will miss seeing **Nick Cain** on a near-daily basis (their desks were only a few feet apart), he loved getting to see fellow Columbians in NYC during training camp, he says. Andrew can now be

found teaching SoulCycle classes in San Francisco's Bay Area.

**Sam Schon** made two trips to Russia's Sakhalin Island in the North Pacific Ocean during 2015 in his role as a geologist with ExxonMobil. He looks forward to seeing as many classmates as possible at reunion!

Hope you are all well, and I look forward to celebrating our 10-year reunion with you, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Reunion Weekend 2016 will give us a chance to reconnect with friends and the College; there are lots of fun events on the itinerary like the Wine Tasting on Low Plaza, all-class dinners, All-Class Reunion (formerly known as Dean's Day) lectures from distinguished professors so we can relive a bit of our College classroom experience and more. It's a great chance to catch up with friends and reconnect with Columbia!

In the meantime, don't forget to send in updates about you. You can send updates to either of the addresses at the top of this column or use CCT's webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\_class\_note.

## 2007

**David D. Chait**  
4621 Old Cheney Rd., Apt. 6  
Lincoln, NE 68516  
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

Thank you to everyone who shared exciting updates with the class! It's so nice to stay connected.



EMMA DODGE HANSON

Alexandra Cerutti '07 married James Bolognese at Lake George, N.Y., on September 5. Left to right: Michael Margello '07, Andy Sama SEAS'07, Whitney Windmiller '07, Alex Verbuch SEAS'07, Alexandra Bolognese'07, the bride, Michael Fishel '07, Jeremy Maletz '07, the groom and Garrett Leahy '07.

**Mike Groopman** may be living your dream. He shares, "I won a World Series as part of the Kansas City Royals front office." Mike is the Royals' director of baseball operations/analytics.

**Rina Haverly** opened a bar in Ridgewood, Queens, called The Bad Old Days. She says it was a labor of love and has been a long road, but there's now a neighborhood bar with a warm living room feel that is worth the trip if you're in the city. The address is 1684 Woodbine St.

**John Schneider** shares, "My wife, Stephanie Pahler BC'06, and I are excited to announce the birth of our second daughter, Emily Anne, in September. Everyone is happy and healthy and our 2-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, is excited to be a big sister. I'm an exploration geologist in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico at Chevron in Houston."

**Tara Erer** was featured in an October 27 article in *Variety*, "Hollywood's New Leaders: Film," for her position as SVP in international sales for Filmnation Entertainment. The article states, "The Istanbul native rose quickly through the ranks from assistant at the Weinstein Co. to her current position, in which she's played a significant role in the company's record-breaking deals (*The Imitation Game* to Weinstein for \$7 million, *Story of Your Life* and *Top Five* to Paramount for \$20 million and \$12.5 million, respectively). She's responsible for more than \$50 million in international sales in the first half of 2015 alone. Upcoming: Denis Villeneuve's *Story of Your Life*, John Lee Hancock's *The Founder* and Toronto [Film Festival] winner *Room*. I'm driven by the idea of great filmmaking.' Her motto: 'Follow the film, follow the filmmaker.'"

**Ed Hambleton** has opened the world's first drag queen chili food truck, the Texas Chili Queens, in Austin, serving delicious food all over town. Check out the truck on Facebook by searching "Texas Chili Queens" and find it on Instagram and Twitter @TxChiliQueens.

**Simeon Seigel** proudly shares that his family recently celebrated his younger son Asher's first birthday!

**Kasia Nikhamina** shares, "My husband Ilya Nikhamin's and my shop, Redbeard Bikes in DUMBO, Brooklyn, recently celebrated three years in business! We make awesome bikes and we make your bikes



JAMIE KARLIN KAPLAN / JKP PHOTOGRAPHY

On August 8, Melissa Flores Caban '07 married Cleo Caban at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset, N.J. Back row, left to right: Ameer Saleh SIPA'12, Denaka Perry '04, Jamie Hinman Brawner '07, Kelsey Doorey '07, Nicholas Medile '87, John Ruben Flores '78, Raymond Flores SEAS'73, Procter Hug '08, Pam Wiznitzer BC'08, Melissa Hannah Opper GS'07, Amanda Pena '10 and Angelica Gonzalez SEAS'07. Middle row, left to right: Sophia Lin '07, Salima Eboo SEAS'07, Wendy Perez BC'07, Charlotte Cowles '07, Julie Hug '07, Jessica Flores '10 and Jessica Jennings '10. Front row, left to right: Allison Fortune '07, Danielle Flores '04, the bride and the groom.

awesome. If you experience pain or discomfort on the bike — whether you're competing or just riding for fun — we can help! We have big plans for the coming year." You can find a great interview with Redbeard Bikes on bike.nyc or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

**Scott Sugimoto** writes, "I'm happy to send the update that I married Christine Liang SEAS'09 at the Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel in Dana Point, Calif., on September 5. Five years earlier we were both working at Accenture in New York and met at a company Columbia alumni event. We had an awesome time celebrating with old friends at the wedding!"

**Melissa Flores Caban** married Cleo Caban on August 8. Many Columbia alumni attended the event, including the bride's sisters, father and uncles. Melissa lives in New York City with her husband and works in a charter school, where she serves the needs of English language learners and supports teachers in the classroom.

**Eric Bondarsky**, **Jeffrey Feder SEAS'07**, **SEAS'08**, and **Matthew Kondub** recently celebrated with Daniel Friedman SEAS'08 upon his completion of memorizing the entire Book of Numbers. While this does not seem like an impressive feat for an applied mathematics major, this

adds to his completion of the Books of Genesis, Exodus and Leviticus. David Friedman '78 provided funding for the celebration while **Riddhi Dasgupta** provided much of the inspiration, dubbing the guest of honor Daniel "Leviticus" Friedman years ago. We look forward to his renewed efforts in memorizing the Book of Deuteronomy.

## 2008

**Neda Navab**  
353 King St., Apt. 633  
San Francisco, CA 94158  
nn2126@columbia.edu

Not much news this time but there are a few happy announcements! **Maxwell Cohen** married Antonio Savorelli at City Hall in Cambridge, Mass., on October 26. It was a small but lovely ceremony and they look forward to having proper celebrations in both the United States and Italy this year.

On June 26, upon hearing the Supreme Court's decision to recognize a constitutional right to same-sex marriage, **Rodrigo Zamora GSAPP'11** and **B. Ashby Hardesty Jr.** were married at the Marriage Bureau in New York. In attendance were classmates and



LORETO CACERES PHOTOGRAPHY

Casey Acierno '08 and Jack Palmer celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary with a November ceremony at Congregation Beth Elohim and a reception at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. Back row, left to right: Mairead Murray '08, Gabe Rodriguez '08, Chris Harris SEAS'08, John Painting SEAS'08, Morgan Rhodes SEAS'08, Nate Morgante '09, Lucas Martin '08 and Joe Hall SEAS'08. Front row, left to right: Kai Twanmoh '08, Madeline McDavid '08, Irina Ikonsky '08, Katie Simon SEAS'08, Laura Cole '08, Rachel Lowdermilk BC'08, Laura Brunts '08, Sam Roberts '08 and Max Foxman '07. Holding banner: the groom and the bride.

friends from undergrad and grad school, including Cristina Handal BC'07, GSAPP'11; Greg Bugel, GSAPP'11; Dionysios Kaltis, GSAPP'11; Julia Stroud BC'07, UTS'14; and Hannah Goldfield '09.

**Charlotte Hall** has a great recommendation for Lions supporters: a podcast from WNYC called "The Season," which followed the Columbia football team during the 2015 season after a 21-game losing streak (it may even bring back memories of CC'08's struggle to keep the tailgating tradition alive for generations of Lions to enjoy): [wnyc.org/story/welcome-to-the-season](http://wnyc.org/story/welcome-to-the-season).

**Justin Yi** moved to Southampton, N.Y., last year and "had an octopus summer!" If you want to know what that means, reach out to Justin — he would love to reconnect with classmates!

**Casey Acierno** recently celebrated an important anniversary: "My husband, Jack, and I got married on November 22, 2010, at City Hall in Manhattan, accompanied by some close family and friends (including **Mairead Murray**; Max Foxman CC'07, JRN'15; and John Painting SEAS'08). For our fifth anniversary, we had a big wedding in Brooklyn with a ceremony at Congregation Beth Elohim and

reception at the Brooklyn Society for Ethical Culture. Mairead was the maid of honor, Max was a groomsman and we were lucky enough to have Columbia alums from near and far attend!"

**Rachel Sales** (née Trager) and her husband, Ben Sales, welcomed their son, Dov Alexander, into the world on December 31.

Congratulations!  
CC'08, your classmates want to hear what's new with you! All news is welcome. Send updates to either of the addresses at the top of the column or through CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2009

**Alidad Damooei**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[damooei@gmail.com](mailto:damooei@gmail.com)

Just one announcement this time around! **Marissa Brodney** and **Amir Meiri** were married in Chantilly, Va., on June 7. The couple met in Boston five years ago, lived for some time in Washington, D.C.,

and recently returned to Boston, where Marissa attends law school and Amir is completing a medical residency program in internal medicine. Marissa and Amir were thrilled to celebrate their wedding with friends **Nathan Morgante**, **Mary Catherine Bullock**, **Maria Abascal**, **Jennifer Salant**, **Dan Chinoy**, **Shannon Ding '08**, **Sam Ashworth GS'10** and **Sarah Besnoff BC'09**.

CC'09ers, let's hear from you! All news is welcome. Email it to me at [damooei@gmail.com](mailto:damooei@gmail.com) or use CCT's webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2010

**Julia Feldberg**  
One Western Ave., Apt. 717  
Boston, MA 02163  
[juliafeldberg@gmail.com](mailto:juliafeldberg@gmail.com)

**Lauren "Casey" Hayes-Deats** recently started a job as the education manager of the Brooklyn Arts Exchange. She is also working on completing her master's thesis in applied theater, which explores creating original theater with adults with dementia and memory loss.

**Veronica Kamenjarin** (née Couzo) married her law school sweetheart last July. She and her husband reside in Chicago, where he is an NFL agent and she is a labor and employment attorney at Jones Day. Veronica is happy that **Ritu Arya** also lives in Chicago, because

Ritu teaches her the proper way to do leg day.

As always, here is the latest from **Chris Yim**: "I went camping a few months ago in Yosemite National Park. I needed to get away from the busyness of city life and had a few life questions that I wanted to think on, so I called the camp ranger early one Friday morning and told him that I would be making my way.

"I drove nearly four hours to reach the park entrance before I realized that I had forgotten my tent. It wasn't an ideal situation, and I was already sort of unnerved after having listened to the podcast *Serial* on my way up. Now, I was wondering if Adnan had actually killed Hae, so I added this to the list of questions that I would answer for myself over the weekend.

"For those that are reading this, I don't know if many of you have ever had the distinct pleasure of visiting Yosemite, but you should do it, like, now! It's probably my favorite place in California, where I fell in love with the mountains and have splashed around in pools at the top of a ginormous waterfall.

"After parking my Prius, I made way into the forest and the unknown. I left my cell phone and wallet in the car and relied solely on my map and five senses to guide my wandering soul. Nearly three miles into the trail, I heard a wild screech. It sounded like it was less than a mile away. I imagined an animal being backed into a dark alley and being slaughtered by



EMILY WREN PHOTOGRAPHY

**Marissa Brodney '09** and **Amir Meiri** were married in Chantilly, Va., on June 7. Left to right: **Nathan Morgante '09**, **Mary Catherine Bullock '09**, **Maria Abascal '09**, the groom, the bride, **Jennifer Salant '09**, **Alistar Erickson-Ludwig**, **Dan Chinoy '09**, **Shannon Ding '08**, **Sam Ashworth GS'10** and **Sarah Besnoff BC'09**.

a wildebeest; this did not put me at ease. I started hiking faster, deeper and deeper into the black forest.

“Fifteen miles in and nearly five hours later, I set up camp. At this point, it was just past midnight, and I was starving. I pulled out the Lunchables that I had picked up at a gas station in San Francisco and started making myself personal pizzas. It wasn’t until I got to the Butterfinger bar that I noticed the stump across from my campfire was actually moving. Not only was it moving, it was starting to roll around. This stump was no stump — it was a baby brown bear.

“Freaked out, I leapt to my feet and tried to remember what Survival 101 taught me: Get big and start making loud noises. In a frenetic panic, I got into a praying mantis kung fu position and started hissing. The bear was not amused and started advancing. Then, I started screaming at the top of my lungs. I refused to turn and run because I knew it would just hawk me down. I growled and made a multitude of animal sounds — wolf, cow, mountain lion and grizzly bear.

“None of this was working. To make a bad situation worse, the bear had siblings who were hungry for human meat. I kept my eyes on the bears and started rummaging in my bag for the knife that my dad had given me as a child. I wish I were lying when I said this, but he had actually gotten into a fight with a fox in South Korea as a teenager. He had a scar on his back to show for it, but he let the blood of the fox speak for itself. He let the blood dry on the knife and gave it to me years later. How ironic that I’d be using it to defend myself from the Berenstain bears here and now.

“When I got it out, the bears could smell the aggression and they marched forward. I had heard of deaths by bear attacks in Yosemite and Denali, but never thought that it would happen to me. I liked bears, but I didn’t have it in me to run. My legs were dead from the 15-miler that I had just done. I cocked my hand back and threatened them, ‘Don’t come one more step, or else!’

“If I could understand bear, they must’ve been saying, ‘Or else what?’ because they kept inching forward. I jumped forward, and we were eye to eye. If you’re reading this, you’re probably thinking this is all a farce,

but ask my roommate, **Varun Gulati SEAS’10**, because I told him this story as soon as I got home. Anyway, in that moment, a man came shrieking out of the shrubbery behind me. He looked like the scary homeless beggar/prisoner who took Aladdin to the cave to get the genie’s lamp. He came running and started spraying the bears with what I assumed was bear spray.

“The bears took one look at him and freaked out. They ran, I screamed, this guy was screaming. It was all a mess. He saved my life. I would later find out that his name was Deneal, and he was in Yosemite because his wife had left him a few months earlier. He decided to live in Yosemite until she came and found him. He was certainly weird, but we climbed Half Dome together, made fires the next two nights together and ate his homemade brownies.

“When I left Yosemite, I had a newfound appreciation for my life. I came home and told my wife how much I loved her, and she told me that I needed to go camping by myself more often. Next stops: Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon and Coyote Buttes.”

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2011

**REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2–5, 2016**

**Alumni Affairs Contact**  
Fatima Yudeh  
fy2165@columbia.edu  
212-851-7834

**Development Contact**  
Heather Siemienas  
hs2843@columbia.edu  
212-851-7855

**REUNION 2016**

**Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[nurielm@gmail.com](mailto:nurielm@gmail.com)  
[sean.udell@gmail.com](mailto:sean.udell@gmail.com)

Happy spring, CC’11! As we’re writing these notes in the darkest days of winter — though it was 65 this past weekend — we hope that there is warm, sunny weather where



Veronica Kamenjarin (née Couzo) ’10 was recently married, and several Columbia friends attended the ceremony. Left to right: Alise Green ’10, Khadeeja Safdar ’10, Courtney Morrison ’10, the bride, Ritu Arya ’10 and Alana Sivin ’10.

you are and that you’re all enjoying it. Nuriel is wrapping up his year working in the California legislature and Sean is almost done with his first year of medical school. We love hearing about what all of you are up to; as always, feel free to drop us a line at [nurielm@gmail.com](mailto:nurielm@gmail.com) and [sean.udell@gmail.com](mailto:sean.udell@gmail.com).

Don’t forget that our fifth reunion is almost here, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. It’s the perfect time to reconnect with friends and the College, and there will be tons of fun events like the Wine Tasting on Low Plaza, dancing at the Starlight Reception, all-class dinners and intellectual and cultural activities on campus.

On August 29, **Sam Reider** married his high school sweetheart, Claire Turner, in Nicasio, Calif. Many Columbians joined the couple to celebrate, including **Trevi Joyner, Javier Plasencia**, Reuben Doetsch ’14, **Avi Allison, Sarah Steele, Freddie Tunnard, Roxanne Unger, Joanna Farley, Sean Udell** and **Leo Goldberg**. Sam and Claire have lived in Brooklyn since graduation, and Sam continues to reach new musical heights with his band, Silver City Bound (formerly known as The Amigos).

**Shira Schindel** married Ron Gejman ’10 on October 25.

**Nicole Cata** and her husband, Benjamin Theodore, moved to Brooklyn in September and love their verdant neighborhood south of Prospect Park. Nicole passed the

New York bar exam in October and was admitted to the bar in January. In Columbia-related news, Nicole has also been obsessed with *Hamilton*.

**Sara Jacobs** SIPA’12 is back in New York, where she is a policy adviser on the Hillary Clinton campaign. Prior to the campaign, Sara spent two years in Washington, D.C., working at the State Department, where she served in the bureau of conflict and stabilization operations. There, Sara was a policy officer focusing on countering violent extremism (security sector reform), and U.S. policy toward conflicts in Sub-Saharan Africa, specifically East and West Africa.

**Nelson Mills** recently was honored with a spot in *Utah Busi-*

**Stay in Touch**



Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name:  
[college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect).



On August 29, Sam Reider '11 married Claire Turner in Nicassio, Calif. Back row, left to right: Avi Allison '11, Ruben Doetsch '14, Javier Plasencia '11, Trevis Joyner '11, Sean Udell '11. Front row, starting second from left, left to right: Joanna Farley '11, Roxanne Unger '11, the bride, Freddie Tunnard '11, Sarah Deutsch '11 and Sarah Steele '11.

ness Magazine's "20 in Their 20s," a list of young business leaders in Utah. Please enjoy the article at [utahbusiness.com/articles/view/twenty\\_in\\_their\\_20s\\_1](http://utahbusiness.com/articles/view/twenty_in_their_20s_1). You can also check out a *Utah Business Magazine* video featuring Nelson at [youtube.com/watch?v=bWFxCBSPJNQ](http://youtube.com/watch?v=bWFxCBSPJNQ).

**Amanda Olivo** started a master's at Rutgers, where she is studying drug discovery and development in the master's of business and science program. Amanda recently launched Rise Up Women Leaders, an organization for women to develop their leadership skills in order to achieve their career aspirations ([riseupwomenleaders.com](http://riseupwomenleaders.com)). Amanda has been busy but received a promotion at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, where she has worked for the past couple of years.

**Alex Ivey** works at Brunswick Group but moonlights on his father's (Glenn Ivey) campaign for Congress. If anyone lives in Maryland's fourth congressional district, vote for him! Also check out the campaign announcement in *The Washington Post*: [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com); search by keywords "Glenn Ivey kicks off."

Finally, it wouldn't be a CC'11 update without some mundane nonsense from **Dhruv Vasishtha** (he really gets a kick out of seeing his name in print). Dhruv is excited

for his India vacation, where he will travel, relax, visit family and show his girlfriend, Molly Spector BC'11, his hometown. However, his parents keep insisting he take "much needed" supplies back for his aunts and uncles. While he insists that Centrum A-Z has made it to New Delhi, his parents just respond that he needs to stop being so difficult and watch the "Parents" episode from *Master of None*.

## 2012

**Sarah Chai**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[sarahbchai@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbchai@gmail.com)

Happy spring, CC'12! As new and exciting things happen in your lives, please continue to send your updates my way.

Last October, **Pat Blute** was featured in a *Wall Street Journal* article about his awesome app-controlled, tech-savvy San Francisco home: [wsj.com/articles/the-house-that-google-built-1445522039](http://wsj.com/articles/the-house-that-google-built-1445522039).

Last year, **Aditya Mukerjee** joined Stripe, a startup that enables businesses to accept and manage

online payments. He is excited to work on a team with **Dan Weinstein**, **Nathan Bailey**, **Pierre Gergis** and **Gabrielle Marx**.

Aditya writes that Dan was back in New York for a three-month retreat at the Recurse Center (founded by Nicholas Bergson-Shilcock SEAS'08 and David Albert SEAS'09). The center, based in SoHo, is "a free, self-directed, educational retreat for people who want to get better at programming, whether they've been coding for three decades or three months."

Aditya also ran into **Nida Vidutis** last December. Nida recently graduated from law school and works at the ACLU.

Congrats and hey to our classmates in the Bay Area!

**Netra Pan** writes from Lausanne, Switzerland: "I'm at EPFL, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, doing my thesis on investor decision-making. In addition to research, I recently delivered my first guest lecture on crossing the chasm to reach base of the pyramid customers. We closed the first edition of our Massive Open Online Course on high-tech new venture strategy and are working on translating it into French and Mandarin. We will launch it on Coursera again in September with \$2,500 in prize money to be awarded to the top performing teams.

"Outside of work, I'm helping to build a community of young creatives with heart. I joined Sandbox when I was at Columbia, but left after the main VC backing the startup implemented some odd strategies. Actually, most of us left and have regrouped under a newly formed, independent nonprofit, Thousand Network. I'm restarting the Lausanne/Geneva-based hub and looking for introductions to young founders, authors, policymakers, artists, singers, hackers and researchers interested in applying. Basically, we welcome anyone who wants to make a (positive) dent in the universe and is open to sharing and experiencing life with our global community of 1,000 people ([jointhousand@gmail.com](mailto:jointhousand@gmail.com)). Would be happy to share more with interested alumni!"

**Claudia Sosa** sends an update from Myanmar: "Claudia Sosa extends an open invitation to anyone coming through Myanmar to reach out; she'll take you for a beer and some tea-leaf salad at her

favorite Burmese tea shop. Claudia has been based in Yangon since April 2014. There, she works with a rural-focused social enterprise called Proximity Designs as a design project lead. She spends about 30 percent of her time speaking with farmers all over the country as part of a project with [ideo.org](http://ideo.org) to design agricultural sensors for Myanmar smallholders."

As for the rest of you out there — hope to hear from you soon!

Please send updates to either the mailing address or email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

## 2013

**Tala Akhavan**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[talaakhavan@gmail.com](mailto:talaakhavan@gmail.com)

**Eva Suarez** was ordained to the transitional diaconate in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, D.C., on November 21. Bishop Mariann Budde presided. Eva will serve as a deacon until her graduation from Union Theological Seminary and Hunter College's joint M.Div/M.S.W program in 2017, when she will be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church. You can find her on Sundays on staff at Trinity Wall Street in lower Manhattan.

**Isabel Losada** is back in the United States after leaving her job

Columbia  
College  
Alumni  
on Facebook



[facebook.com/alumnicc](http://facebook.com/alumnicc)

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

and graduate school plans last year to move to the Dominican Republic. She lived in the capital, Santo Domingo, for a year at an archdiocesan retreat house where she worked alongside six other American volunteers and 60 Dominican women. She served in the kitchen and also as a translator for guests visiting the retreat house. It was definitely not easy, she says, but it was an experience she is extremely grateful to have lived. Upon her return in August, she traveled to Florida to visit family and attended the World Meeting of Families with Pope Francis in Philadelphia. If you visit The Frick Collection, stop by and say hello; Isabel works in development as the membership assistant.

Don't forget, you can send updates to my email address at the top of the column or through the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). Your classmates want to hear from you, and no news is too big or too small!

## 2014

**Rebecca Fattell**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[rsf2121@columbia.edu](mailto:rsf2121@columbia.edu)

Thank you to the class members who sent updates to CCT:

Inspired by Elon Musk's space aspirations, **Jennifer Lee** recently moved to Southern California to work at SpaceX. She loves her new

role and the L.A. life, she says. Alumni in the area, please feel free to connect: [jel2580@gmail.com](mailto:jel2580@gmail.com)!

**Danielle Morenike Benson**, a student at the Law School and president of its Black Law Students Association, was interviewed by WNYC on December 10 on Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia's comments on race as a factor in college admissions. Listen and read more: [wnyc.org/story/scalias-affirmative-action-comments-reverberate-campuses](http://wnyc.org/story/scalias-affirmative-action-comments-reverberate-campuses).

**Kate Eberstadt** says she is thrilled to be a visiting artist in the American Academy in Berlin this spring, where she will form a children's choir in an emergency Syrian refugee camp. During this residency, Kate will compose an original choral piece the new choir will premiere in downtown Berlin in April. She will also create a documentary (with French filmmaker Brune Charvin) about the process. To supplement the research phase of this project, Kate will be a resident artist at Robert Wilson's Watermill Center in Long Island in January. She says she greatly looks forward to sharing the product with the Columbia community and beyond.

And now, a note **Rebecca Fattell**: "Hi Class of 2014. I'm happy to be your new class correspondent (thank you, **Emily Dreibelbis**, for two years of hard work!). I'll write this column four times a year with updates on what our class has been up to since graduation, almost two (!) years ago.

"The content depends on your submissions. When you get the chance, please email me with updates. These could include where

you work, places to which you're traveling, projects you're excited about, experiences you've had with other Columbians (including, like our predecessors, some Columbia marriages). Or, anything else you wish to share.

"Email updates to me at [rsf2121@columbia.edu](mailto:rsf2121@columbia.edu) or use the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

"Can't wait to hear from you!"

## 2015

REUNION WEEKEND  
JUNE 2-5, 2016

Alumni Affairs Contact  
Fatima Yudeh  
[fy2165@columbia.edu](mailto:fy2165@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7834

Development Contact  
Heather Siemienas  
[hs2843@columbia.edu](mailto:hs2843@columbia.edu)  
212-851-7855

REUNION 2016

**Kareem Carryl**  
c/o CCT  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530  
New York, NY 10025  
[kdc2122@columbia.edu](mailto:kdc2122@columbia.edu)

I hope the first few months of 2016 have been treating you well! It's hard to believe that it's already spring. What's even more unbelievable is that in June, we be reunited in Morningside Heights for our one-year reunion! During the past few months, we've all gone off in different directions, whether it's a new job, graduate school or something completely different. Time has

really flown by and I cannot wait to catch up with you all. Our Reunion Committee has been hard at work crafting an amazing schedule of events including Mini-Core Classes, a Class of 2015 happy hour, the Columbia College Young Alumni Party and (possibly) the ultimate throwback event — a Lerner Pub!

Over the coming weeks, you'll hear from me and other members of the committee with details and I encourage you to join us as we reminisce, relive and reunite with our class and alma mater during the weekend of Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Feel free to reach out with any questions.

Until then, here are two updates from our class:

**Faith Williams** writes, "Greetings from England! During my senior year at Columbia, I decided I wasn't finished with biological anthropology, so now I'm studying toward a master's at the University of Cambridge. This term I've been settling in and exploring the town by touring all the different colleges, going punting on the river and walking through some of the surrounding countryside. The rest of the time, I'm in the (beautiful, 19th-century Gothic) Pembroke College library or in the lab researching ancient parasites."

**Talya Presser** shares that she is a 1L at Yale Law School!

Please submit updates by writing to me at the address at the top of the column, emailing me at [kdc2122@columbia.edu](mailto:kdc2122@columbia.edu) or submitting via the CCT webform [college.columbia.edu/cct/submit\\_class\\_note](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note).

See you Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, at Reunion Weekend 2016!

# classifieds

## PERSONALS

**Date Smart:** Ivy League dating for all ages since 1993. [www.rightstuffdating.com](http://www.rightstuffdating.com)  
1-800-988-5288



**Columbia Jewelry**  
1754 Crown Cuff Links, Studs, Lapel Pins, Pendants, Lions, CU designs. Fine, hand-made. (917) 416-6055  
[CUJewelry.com](http://CUJewelry.com)  
[ColumbiaUniversityJewelry@gmail.com](mailto:ColumbiaUniversityJewelry@gmail.com)

## RENTALS

**Sag Harbor** five-bedroom, contemporary, pool. MD-LD or monthly. [petersalze@aol.com](mailto:petersalze@aol.com)  
CC'66



**AD DEADLINE FOR**  
Summer 2016 issue:  
Monday, April 25, 2016

## Classified Ad Information

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

**Payment:** Prepayment required on all issues at time of order. Check, money order, MasterCard, Visa or American Express. **No refunds for canceled ads.**

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

**Mail or email orders to:**  
Columbia College Today  
Columbia Alumni Center  
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl.  
New York, NY 10025

212-851-7852  
[cctadvertising@columbia.edu](mailto:cctadvertising@columbia.edu)  
[college.columbia.edu/cct/advertise\\_with\\_us](http://college.columbia.edu/cct/advertise_with_us)

# obituaries

## 1946

**Ira E. Shein**, retired commodities trader, Teaneck, N.J., on October 28, 2015. After serving in the Navy, Shein earned a degree in 1948 from GSAS and taught at Bronx Science and Forest Hills H.S. He then became a commodities trader, first dealing with foodstuffs and later with precious metals. He and his wife, Myra, had three children: Faith, Jon and David; and five grandchildren.

## 1947

**Ernest Kinoy**, screenwriter and playwright, Williamsville, Vt., on November 10, 2014. Kinoy was born on April 1, 1925. He graduated from the Ethical Culture Fieldston School in the Bronx and was drafted into the Army during WWII. He served in the 106th Infantry Division and was taken prisoner after the Battle of the Bulge. He threw away his dog tags,

which identified him as Jewish, but the Germans still sent him to a slave labor camp with other Jewish POWs. He later wrote a television play based on the experience, *Walk Down the Hill* (1957). After the war, Kinoy graduated from the College, where he wrote stage plays, and soon landed a job with NBC. He was president of the Writers Guild of America East, 1967–69. During his career he wrote Broadway musicals, Hollywood screenplays and Emmy Award-winning episodes of *The Defenders* and *Roots*. Among his many notable scripts are *Skokie* (1981) and *Lincoln* (1988). Kinoy's wife of 58 years, the former Barbara Powers, died in 2007. He is survived by a son, Daniel; daughter, Judith; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

## 1948

**Edward P. DeBlasio**, television writer and producer, Studio City, Calif., on February 1, 2015. DeBlasio

was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. He graduated from the H.S. of Music and Art at 16 and attended the College for two years before enlisting in the Navy. After his service he returned to the College and then in 1950 earned a degree from the Journalism School, where he was president of his class. DeBlasio's first job was as a copy boy at the *Hartford Courant*. He traveled to Italy in search of an interview with Lucky Luciano, which he did not get, but sold a few articles to *Inside Detective* magazine; he eventually became its editor. Later DeBlasio worked for *Modern Screen* and *Photoplay* magazines. His first teleplay for *East Side/West Side* became its premiere episode and launched his career. He also wrote for *The Defenders*, *Marcus Welby, M.D.*, *Ironside*, *Strange Report* and many other shows. DeBlasio and his family moved to Los Angeles in 1971. After freelancing for several years he became executive script consultant for *Police Woman* and wrote several episodes. DeBlasio was *Dynasty's* writer-producer for its first

eight years and wrote 94 episodes. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Irene; daughter Gioia Cristina; brother, Peter; two grandchildren; and two nieces. He was predeceased by daughter Michelle Maria in 2012.

**Sears E. Edwards**, retired physician, Garden City, N.Y., on August 14, 2015. Edwards was born on October 8, 1928, in Brooklyn, N.Y. After playing freshman football as a Lion, Edwards performed in the *Varsity Show*, foreshadowing a lifelong interest in theater. He decided to be a doctor at 9, after a hospitalization for septicemia. After graduation in 1952 from New York Medical College, he trained in urology while in the Navy and later at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. While practicing in Garden City, Edwards was elected to lead the county medical society. He married Hope McClean and they had four children: Leslie Wood, Christopher, Jennifer and Craig (deceased). In retirement Edwards maintained his devotion to

## Dr. Michael S. Bruno '43, PS'45, Physician, College Alumni Leader

**Dr. Michael S. Bruno '43, PS'45**, a physician and administrator at Lenox Hill Hospital and a member of the Columbia College Board of Visitors from 1996 to 2002, died on November 16, 2015, in New York City, where he was born and raised. He was 93. In 2002, Bruno became an emeritus member of the BOV and served in that role until his death. He also served on the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors from 1988 to 1992.

After graduating from P&S, Bruno remained in New York City, interning at Bellevue Hospital before joining the Army and serving in Japan. He was discharged in 1948 as a captain and was appointed chief resident at Bellevue, with additional teaching and administrative responsibilities. In 1956, he became director of the Department of Medicine at Knickerbocker Hospital in Harlem, serving as president of its Medical

Board and as a member of the Medical Board Executive Committee.

Bruno joined Lenox Hill Hospital in 1966 and was dedicated to developing its potential as an educational resource. He was associate dean for medical education for the affiliated NYU Medical Center and worked to craft a successful graduate medical program. What once was considered a community hospital is now held in regard as a teaching hospital and tertiary care center, improvements that Bruno helped push.

Director of the Department of Medicine at Lenox Hill Hospital for 35 years, and a member of the Board of Trustees and Joint Conference Committee for 24, Bruno was elected to four terms as president of the Medical Board and was a member of the Lenox Hill Corp.

In addition to his teaching and administrative practices, Bruno was regarded as a highly skilled internist,

diagnostician and mentor. In 1978, he approved Dr. Simon Stertzer performing what was then the first balloon angioplasty in the United States. Bruno gave Stertzer the support, encouragement and resources to develop the program, which revolutionized the care of patients with heart disease throughout the world.

Predeceased by his wife, Ida Marion Bruno, in 2002, and by his brother, Gregory, and sister, Lilian, Bruno is survived by his partner, Maria Goode Schwartz; children, Lauretta Bruno BU'70, Pamela Williams and her husband, Charlie, and Michael Bruno BU'82 and his wife, Meg; grandchildren, Geoff Williams '03, Mike Bruno '11, Russell Bruno and Price Bruno; and one great-grandchild.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Michael S. Bruno, M.D. Scholarship Fund at Columbia College c/o Jim McMenamin, senior associate dean for Columbia College



COURTESY BRUNO FAMILY

development and senior director of principal gifts (212-851-7965 or jtm2@columbia.edu), Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., New York, NY 10025; or to the Michael S. Bruno, M.D. Memorial Fund, Lenox Hill Hospital, Attn.: Development Office, 100 E. 77th St., New York, NY 10021.

—Aiyana K. White '18  
and Lisa Palladino



Sears E. Edwards '48

Columbia sports. He supported the golf team and welcomed generations of Columbia alumni who became physicians into his beloved New York City Physicians Golfing Association.

## 1950

**Stephen L. Wythe**, retired manager and consultant, Maryville, Tenn., on November 13, 2015. Wythe was born in Queens and was a longtime resident of Westfield, N.J.; Pickens, S.C.; and Knoxville. He was a WWII Army veteran, serving from 1944 to 1946, and a Bronze Star recipient. Wythe was his College class' valedictorian. He went to study at Michigan and returned to Columbia, earning a Ph.D. in 1954 in organic chemistry from GSAS. From 1953 to 1982, Wythe was employed by Exxon Corp., where in the 1960s he managed the domestic plastics and lube additives business. He participated in creating and managing Exxon's corporate research program in the 1970s. After retirement from Exxon, Wythe had his own consulting business from 1983 to 1997. Wythe was predeceased by his wife, Patricia, and is survived by a daughter, Shirley W. Beasley, and her husband, Randy; sons, Stephen M. and his wife, Marilyn, F. David and his wife, Lynn, Scott and his wife, Isabel Parker, and Chris and his wife, Tracy; and 11 grandchildren.

## 1951

**Frank Tupper Smith Jr.**, attorney, Dallas, on December 30, 2014. Smith was born May 21, 1929, in Englewood, N.J. At the College, Smith was a member of Phi Kappa Psi and the rowing team. He earned a degree in 1954 from the Law

School and specialized in estate planning, probate and tax law, and was licensed to practice law in New York, California and Texas, having lived in all three states. Smith spent part of his career as a trust officer in the banking industry. He was an Army veteran, having served in the Judge Advocate General's Corps during the Korean War. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jill Anita Smith; daughters, Delia Elizabeth West and her husband, Rod, Lisa Noel Gentleman and her husband, Arthur Hogg, and Kathryn Edith Hartle and her husband, Jesse; and three grandchildren. Smith was preceded in death by his sister, Anne Sidaris Reeves. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 7272 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75231. Memorial messages may be directed to his daughter Kathryn: kathrynhartle@hotmail.com.

## 1949

**Thomas F. Buckley Sr.**, retired casualty insurance manager, Bridgewater, Mass., on May 3, 2015. Buckley was born in Greenfield, Mass., on July 26, 1922. He served in the Navy, attaining the rank of lieutenant during WWII. Buckley lettered in varsity baseball in 1947 at Columbia. He served on the Windsor, Conn., Board of Education and was a committee member of the Capitol West Regional Community College, which facilitated the formation of the Greater Hartford (Conn.) Community College. Buckley was a Boy Scout committeeman and bowled for many years in the Windsor Locks Bradley Bowl bowling league. He also was an avid Yankees fan. Buckley retired to High Pond Estates in Bridgewater and played in its shuffleboard and bocce leagues. He had lived in Windsor, Conn., for 40 years. Buckley's career spanned 40 years in the insurance business; he retired from Aetna Life and Casualty Co. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Theresa (née Colletti); son, Thomas, and his wife, Donna; daughter, Susan Okolita, and her husband, James; four grandchildren; and a brother.

## 1952

**Thomas C. Keating**, retired SVP of commercial leasing, Plandome,

N.Y., on October 6, 2015. Keating retired from Rudin Management Co. He was predeceased by his wife of 56 years, Deirdre, and is survived by a son, Thomas, and his wife, Ann Marie; a daughter, Amy; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The New York Foundling Hospital or Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

## 1954

**Norman Talal**, physician, New York City, on April 1, 2015. Talal was born in Brooklyn. He earned an M.D. in 1958 from P&S and in that year wrote the first of his more than 350 medical and scientific publications. He trained at the Presbyterian Hospital, spent a fellowship year at the Pasteur Institute, worked at P&S and then began his career at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as a research associate. He became a senior investigator in the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases (now the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases) and published his first paper on the autoimmune disease Sjögren's syndrome with Dr. Joseph Bunim in 1964. Talal's major contribution using experimental animal models was the identification of the role played by female hormones (estrogens) in the development of autoimmune disorders. He was a world authority on Sjögren's syndrome. Talal left NIH in 1971 to become professor of medicine at UCSF and head of rheumatology at the VA Medical Center there until 1981 and then was professor of medicine and microbiology and head of the Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology at UT San Antonio. Talal was a passionate lover of art. He returned to New York in 2000 and taught courses on achieving wellness through the arts with his wife, poet Marilynn Talal. She survives him, as do daughter, Melissa, and her partner, Mark Steere; son, Andrew; daughter-in-law, Marianthi Markatou; and a granddaughter.

## 1955

**Burnell D. Stripling**, physician, Menominee, Mich., on December 19, 2014. Stripling was born on July

13, 1934, in the Bronx. He attended Fordham Prep and New York Medical College. Stripling's internship was at Los Angeles County Hospital, where he completed his residency in internal medicine. He and his medical school friend Dr. Harry Locke then set up a practice in Colorado Springs. Two years later, Stripling was drafted into the Navy and stationed at Great Lakes NH in Illinois. Stripling soon joined the Marinette Medical Clinic, beginning a 33-year career in local medicine. Stripling was an active member of the Menominee Rotary Club, supported the DAR Boys and Girls Club and worked with the elementary students at Lincoln School. He also loved to sail, play tennis, run, watch his kids play sports and watch Menominee football from the sidelines as team doctor. He was an avid supporter of the Green Bay Packers and enjoyed hunting camp. Stripling is survived by his wife, the former Jane L. Gribble; children, Burnell, Wesley, and Wendy Gandy; seven grandchildren; brothers-in-law, Robert Pileggi and Jack Gribble; sister-in-law, Carol Gribble; and nieces and nephews. Memorial contributions may be made to Bay Cliff Health Camp, PO Box 310, Big Bay, MI 49808, or to the Grace Episcopal Church, 922 10th Ave, Menominee, MI 49858.

## 1956

**Alfred M. Smith**, retired insurance executive, Mount Dora, Fla., on November 30, 2015. Raised in

### 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.

Forest Hills, Queens, Smith summered in Patchogue, L.I., with his widowed father, Alfred R. Smith (Class of 1921, SEAS 1923). The family was of a direct line from Richard "Bull" Smith, founder of Smithtown, L.I. After the College, Smith was called into the Army while working on his M.A. thesis. He married his first wife, Adrienne Angst, while in Germany, and they had three children during their 18-year marriage. On returning to the United States, Smith joined Liberty Mutual Insurance Co. and then Great American Insurance Co., which became American Financial Group. Upon his retirement as VP of commercial claims, Smith moved from the company headquarters in

Cincinnati to Sarasota, Fla. He was always very proud of his Columbia background. Smith is survived by his wife, Marie "Mimi"; daughters, Tracey and Claudia; son, Richard; and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, 317 South Mary St., Eustis, FL 32726.

## 1957

**John Wellington**, retired university and foundation executive, Montclair, N.J., on September 29, 2015. Wellington began his career as a teacher at Montclair Academy from 1957 to 1959. He then was Columbia's director of admissions



John Wellington '57

from 1959 to 1967 and director of alumni relations from 1967 to 1977. Wellington moved to Bucknell and was VP of university relations

from 1977 to 1979, then Fordham's VP of institutional advancement from 1979 to 1986. From 1986 to 1988, he was VP of American Colleges and from 1988 to 1991 was a fundraising consultant to Fox Chase Cancer Center. From 1991 to his 1999 retirement, Wellington was director of the Mountainside Hospital Foundation. Wellington loved reading, crossword puzzles and playing sports. In high school, he played football, basketball and baseball; he was a four-year member of the Lions football team under Lou Little. Wellington was a founder of the Old Blue Rugby Football Club of NYC and helped create the Old Blue Rugby Foundation, a nonprofit that helps sustain OBRFC financially;

### 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.

1941 **Walter C. Eichacker**, retired physician, Heathsville, Va., on November 18, 2015.

1942 **Henry W. Decker**, professor emeritus of French, Riverside, Calif., on March 6, 2015.

1943 **Thomas C. Catalano**, physician, Syosset, N.Y., on June 24, 2014.

**Edward H. Callahan**, corporate manager, Davenport, Iowa, on March 17, 2014.

**Rudolf E. Henning**, engineer, Belleair, Fla., on July 9, 2013.

**David Higgins**, engineer, Seaville, N.J., on May 8, 2014.

**Pierre J. Johannet**, psychoanalyst, Cambridge, Mass., on December 5, 2015.

**Morton Pomeranz**, retired legal consultant, Washington D.C., on May 10, 2015.

**Vincent J. Vigliano**, Port Charlotte, on August 9, 2014.

1945 **Daniel H. Robbins**, retired engineer, Pittsford, N.Y., on November 2, 2015.

1947 **Stanley H. Milberg**, stock analyst, Brooklyn, N.Y., on December 13, 2015.

1948 **Anthony S. Arace**, Fullerton, Calif., on October 10, 2015.

**Jesse Schomer**, psychiatrist, Westport, Conn., on November 6, 2015.

**Laurence A. Spelman**, retired attorney, Sarasota, Fla., on January 31, 2016.

1951 **Robert S. Allgaier**, research physicist, Potomac, Md., on January 9, 2016.

**Robert B. Kaemmerlen**, architect, Hingham, Mass., on November 30, 2015.

1952 **Thomas F.S. Buckley**, reporter and columnist, New York City, on November 1, 2015.

**Robert S. Hartman**, professor of physical education, Winchester, Va., on March 15, 2015.

**John W. Oplinger**, marketing consultant, Greenwich, Conn., on December 2, 2015.

1953 **David S. Dana**, retired corporate VP, Dalton, N.H., on December 22, 2015.

1955 **Michael Hollander**, professor of architecture, New York City, on November 11, 2015.

1956 **Horace R. Givens**, professor emeritus, Mesa, Ariz., on January 26, 2015.

**Richard Jennings**, advertising executive, New York City, on August 13, 2015.

**Robert M. Spevack**, tax executive, Las Vegas, on December 30, 2015.

1957 **Richard M. Marks**, psychiatrist, New York City, on January 14, 2016.

1959 **Larry W. McCormack**, attorney, Aiken, S.C., on March 16, 2015.

1960 **Paul R. Lindemann**, teacher, Wheat Ridge, Conn., on March 1, 2015.

1961 **Richard A. DeVore**, retired businessman, Wickenburg, Ariz., on February 1, 2016.

**Burt R. Ehrlich**, investment banker, Greenwich, Conn., on December 21, 2015.

**Charles I. Wexton**, attorney, Franklin, Tenn., on May 30, 2013.

1969 **Kirk J. Bachler**, tax agent, Minneapolis, on June 9, 2014.

1975 **Richard A. Shur**, adjunct professor of ESL, activist, New York City, on January 6, 2016.

1999 **Peter B. Carroll**, hospital employee, blogger, New York City, on September 28, 2015.

2008 **Elena K. Parker**, writer, producer and creative technologist, Pomona, N.J., on December 26, 2015.

he was a foundation trustee and past president. He is survived by his wife, Katie; children, Carole Cox and her husband, Julian, and John; stepchildren, Peter Reinhardt and his wife, Jenny, and Elizabeth Bredahl and her husband, Tom; and 13 grandchildren.

## 1959

**Shelby T. Brewer**, engineer, Alexandria, Va., on March 19, 2015. Brewer was born on February 19, 1937. Following the completion of two degrees at Columbia (a B.A. from the College and a B.S. in 1960 from Engineering), Brewer served as a commissioned officer in the Navy from 1961 to 1964. He completed an M.S. and a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering at MIT before joining the Atomic Energy Commission in 1971. Brewer was the top nuclear official in the Reagan administration from 1981 to 1984, serving as assistant secretary of energy. After leaving government service, Brewer became president of ABB-Combustion Engineering Nuclear Power, one of the world's leading energy companies. He was also an accomplished tennis player, securing a position on the 1953 Junior Davis Cup Team. Brewer is survived by his wife, Marie Anesten Brewer; children, Jens, and Sara Trewwhitt; their respective spouses, Michele, and Philip Trewwhitt; sister, Janet Riggs; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

**Arthur M. Louis**, retired journalist, Cheyenne, Wyo., on December 22,

2015. Louis was born in Toledo and raised in Rochester. At the College, he was a *Spectator* editor. Louis earned a degree in 1960 from the Journalism School and worked for more than four decades as a journalist, including stints at the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Fortune Magazine* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He authored several books (including non-fiction, fiction and memoir) and was a talented amateur photographer. He is survived by his children and other family members.

## 1961

**Sheldon G. Weinstein**, retired attorney, Westfield, N.J., on February 8, 2016. Weinstein earned a degree in 1964 from the Law School and entered private practice in New Jersey. Thereafter, he transitioned to the public sector, and was very proud to be engaged in public service. Weinstein was a skilled and avid tennis player and found friends in amicable games over many years. He enjoyed ping pong, movies, reading and watching professional sports, particularly his beloved Mets. Weinstein also was devoted to youth sports and coached in many New Jersey youth leagues. He was proud of Columbia and was a frequent visitor to Morningside Heights (he loved V&T) and followed alma mater's doings throughout his life. His family and friends heard many of his fond stories from his time there. He remained a devoted fan of Columbia athletics through years lean and successful and attended many games across a variety of

sports. Weinstein is survived by his children, Adam, David, Janet Weinstein-Zanger BC'92 and Stephen '91; four grandchildren; sister, Marcia BC'66; and brother-in-law Richard Stern LAW'64. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia College Fund (please earmark for financial aid), the Alzheimer's Association ([alz.org/join\\_the\\_cause\\_donate.asp](http://alz.org/join_the_cause_donate.asp)) or Friends for Preservation of Middlesex County Jewish Cemeteries. ([friendsofjewishcemeteries.org](http://friendsofjewishcemeteries.org)).

## 1969

**Samuel P. Sprotzer**, ophthalmologist, Woodbridge, Conn., on April 3, 2015. Born in a displaced persons camp in Germany after WWII, Sprotzer was raised in the Bronx and graduated from NYU Medical School 1973. After a residency at Yale, Sprotzer founded a multi-office medical practice that grew to a staff of more than 60. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Judy Sprotzer BC'72 (née Rubin); and children, Michael, Arielle and her husband, Evan Schlansky, and Elizabeth.

## 1970

**Thomas R. "Rick" McIntosh**, attorney, East Falmouth, Mass., on October 12, 2015. Born in 1948 in Boston, McIntosh grew up in Weymouth, Mass. While at Columbia, he participated actively in the campus events of that time. McIntosh wed Deborah "Debbie" B.

Cahn just after graduation in 1970. He earned a J.D. from Boston University School of Law in 1973. Subsequently moving to Falmouth, McIntosh began his work as a VISTA attorney for Legal Services for Cape Cod and the Islands (LSCCI) and its successor entity. He spent his entire career there. McIntosh worked tirelessly to improve the lives of thousands of low-income Massachusetts families who faced exigent legal challenges regarding healthcare, disability, nutritional assistance, housing and unemployment. While at LSCCI, he twice served as acting director. In 1993, McIntosh received the Massachusetts Bar Association's Legal Services Award honoring his dedication and contribution to civil legal aid. He is survived by his wife; sons, Andrew, and his wife, Jessica Simon, and Daniel and his wife, Jessy; and brother, Stephen, and his wife, Qi.

## 1978

**Jonathan N. Aranoff**, anesthesiologist, Bronx, N.Y., on April 27, 2015. Aranoff earned a degree from P&S in 1982 and worked in cardiac bypass surgery at the Manhattan V.A. for more than 25 years. He is survived by his wife, Susana Krausz Aranoff; sons, Akiva, Ben and Daniel; mother, Freda Appleman Aranoff GSAS'45; sisters, Shera Aranoff Tuchman and Gaya Aranoff Bernstein; brothers-in-law, Lewis Bernstein and Alan Tuchman; and nieces and nephews.

— Lisa Palladino

## Letters to the Editor

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5



The Columbia heavy-weight crews swept the Miami Intercollegiate Regatta in March 1969. Left to right: Tom Kinzler '71; Mitch Brodey '71; John Hughes '71; head coach Bill Stowe; Dave Clark '70; Bob Logan '71; Andy Dunn (cox) '71; Ken Heisler '71, PS'75; and Bob Ropiak SEAS'72, BUS'74.

ago one of them nominated him to the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, writing, "Bill held the rowing program together — two full boats of heavyweights, every one of them a walk-on — through some of the darkest days of the University and did so with a modicum of success that would not be duplicated for many a year."

**Dr. Kenneth A. Heisler '71, PS'75**  
Falmouth, Mass.

## Addendum

Jonathan Yee SEAS'17, son of John Yee '82, DM'87, transferred to Columbia in the fall but was omitted from the Fall 2015 issue's "Alumni Sons and Daughters" listing on page 71.

## Il Mio Tesoretto

By Keith O'Shaughnessy '94

Had it not been for Columbia, I might never have become a poet — or at least not a published one. In fact, it took the most unlikely combination of already improbable “leonine” coincidences to bring about the publication of my first poem and, subsequently, my first book. The same goes for my second book, and soon enough, my third and fourth.

It all began one Thursday night in April 2007 — Maundy Thursday, to be exact, the eve of Good Friday on the liturgical calendar and occasion for a recitation of Dante's *Inferno*, given annually and entire, at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine by a collection of prominent local *literati*.

That year I attended with my then mentor and now dear friend Rachel Hadas, daughter of Moses Hadas GSAS'30, celebrated Columbia classicist. There was something in the wisps of incense lingering in the air from the censer swung not two hours prior that recalled the haunted atmosphere at the first poetry reading I attended, at 15, in a stuffy old library at The Lawrenceville School, fittingly enough by Rachel's mentor, James Merrill, an alumnus of the same.

Together we listened as the cantor reached the legendary passage in which Dante encounters his own mentor, Ser Brunetto, who enjoins his former pupil to remember him through his book *Il Tesoretto* (*Little Treasure*). I found myself glancing under Rachel's chair at the shopping bag I would later learn contained a tiny portrait of Sr. Alighieri, itself a little treasure, which Merrill had owned and that she would that very night pass along, in turn, to me, on whose desk it continues to rest. To complete the circle, I would go on to write a poem, my first published, about the experience, titled, naturally, *Il Mio Tesoretto*, which would appear later that year, just as naturally, in *Columbia Magazine*.

As literary fate would have it, Ifeanyi Menkiti JRN'65, a poet himself and longtime professor of philosophy at Wellesley, chanced

upon the poem while leafing through his copy of the magazine. As it turns out, he was also the proprietor of the Grolier Poetry Book Shop, a veritable literary landmark on Harvard Square where the likes of T.S. Eliot, Robert Lowell, e.e. cummings and Elizabeth Bishop have consorted over the years. In an act wholly uncharacteristic of him, he sat down and penned a “fan letter” then and there.

Unsurprisingly, it is the only one I've ever received. But as Aesop's lioness retorts to the vixen who mocks her for yielding a litter of just a single cub, “Only one, but a lion.” Better still, a year later it would lead to his calling me out of the blue to inform me that not only had he finally gotten around to reading the manuscript I'd handed him at lunch one day in Boston on a lark but also that he had decided to found a prize under the auspices of the store and my book *Incommunicado* would be its inaugural winner. Roar, Lion, Roar!

Today *Il Mio Tesoretto* can be found on the first page of another little treasure, my second book, *Last Call for Ganymede*, published by Menkiti and dedicated to Rachel. Due to the kind intervention of our mutual friend and fellow poet Moira Egan SOA'92, a copy currently resides on a writing table at The James Merrill House in Stonington, Conn., just as his Dante portrait does on one of mine. Best of all, in the mentee equivalent of being ushered by Beatrice unto *Paradiso*, Rachel recently helped secure me an invitation to join the infernal reading roster at St. John's this March. I can only pray I get Canto XV.

Looking back, it seems almost prophetic that the first gift Rachel gave me, some five years before that night, was a copy of her book *Pass It On*, a title now literalized many times over in our friendship, like the simultaneously progressive and cyclical spiralings of Dante's epic journey itself. Together they provide a vivid illustration of the kind of interactions between literary tradition and contemporary writers, between teachers and students, that lie at the very core of the Core Curriculum.

Wouldn't you know it, but in one final stroke of poetic justice, by a *contrapasso* worthy of Dante himself, the ne'er-do-well who spent two weeks of his undergraduate career not reading the *Inferno* has gone on to spend the “lion's share” of his professional career writing about it and teaching it in his community college's equivalent of Literature Humanities, where, in a way, this all began.

**Keith O'Shaughnessy '94** teaches English at Camden County College in southern New Jersey, to which he commutes from his native Princeton ([keithoshaughnessy@hotmail.com](mailto:keithoshaughnessy@hotmail.com)).



COURTESY KEITH O'SHAUGHNESSY '94



CHART OF HELL BY BOTTICELLI

DEMOSTHENES · CICERO · VERGIL

A **Blueprint** for a Better World  
The Campaign for Columbia College



Be a part of our ambitious vision — a campaign  
to create the greatest undergraduate  
experience there is.

Learn more: [college.columbia.edu/campaign](https://college.columbia.edu/campaign)



CORE TO  
COMMENCEMENT  
COLUMBIA COLLEGE



# REGISTER TODAY FOR

---

## COLUMBIA COLLEGE

# ALL-CLASS REUNION

## DEAN'S DAY

---

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2016

All classes are welcome to attend this annual alumni celebration. Don't miss:

- The keynote lecture with Robert Siegel '68 of NPR's *All Things Considered*
- Mini-Core Classes on the *Aeneid*, the mysteries of the universe and more
- BBQ Luncheon on the lawn, wine tasting and campus tours
- Champagne, sweets, dancing and live music by the Steps

[college.columbia.edu/alumni/allclassreunion2016](http://college.columbia.edu/alumni/allclassreunion2016)



**COLUMBIA  
COLLEGE**  
ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION