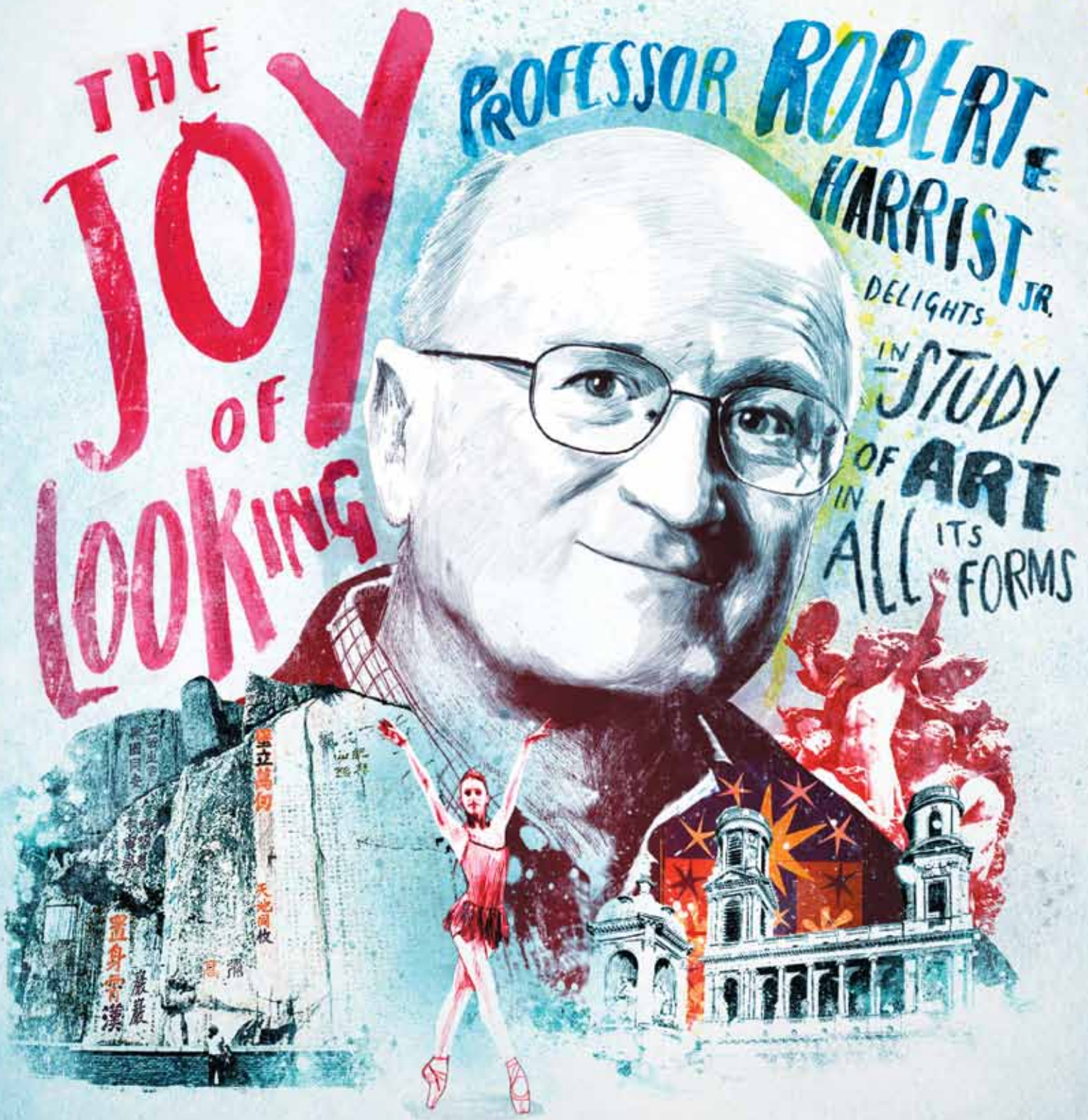


CCT

Winter 2015–16

Columbia
College
Today



Within the Family

Reinvigorating CCT

Columbia College Today is changing. The CCT staff has spent much time during the past two years examining every aspect of the magazine, from content to design to distribution, trying to ensure that the publication we create for you, our readers, is fresher, more inviting, more contemporary and more engaging. The new CCT remains a work in progress, but with this issue we are proud to unveil a new look that you can see on every page, from the CCT nameplate on our cover, to new page designs and graphic treatments, to a cleaner look for Class Notes.

This redesign is CCT's first in nearly two decades. There have been changes and tweaks along the way, to be sure, but never an overhaul. To borrow from *The New York Times* when it unveiled its redesigned magazine, "We have used the hammer and the tongs but perhaps not the blowtorch; we sought to manufacture a magazine that would be unusual, surprising and original but not wholly unfamiliar. It would be a clear descendant of its line." We are proud of what CCT has done so well through the years in connecting our readers to one another and to the College, and we wanted to retain the best of the past, supplement it with the product of new thinking and new ideas, and present it all in a way that would appeal to readers of all ages.

Take our new nameplate, for example. We're still *Columbia College Today*, but we on the staff have always called the magazine by its initials and we want you to feel as friendly with it and as close to it as we do. We were wowed when we saw the acronym approach, and we hope you will react the same way.

To lay the groundwork for this redesign, we conducted readership surveys to ascertain what you like about the publication and where you would like to see improvement, in content as well as in presentation. On a parallel track, we conducted an intensive study of other alumni magazines, not only from Ivy League schools but also from colleges and universities throughout the country. We looked beyond academia, too, to publications of other nonprofits such as museums and foundations, and to commercial magazines that have survived, and in many cases, have thrived in recent years. All of this was done to help inform rather than dictate our thinking about what we wanted CCT to be, not just in print but also online (an updated CCT website will be coming in 2016). And of course we also took a critical look at our own magazine, its strengths and weaknesses, what areas we felt were working well and where improvement was needed.

To be clear, we're talking about more than packaging. We looked at every element of our magazine with a discerning eye, asking not only how best we could present something but also whether it was still worth presenting or whether the space could be put to better use. Simply put, are we giving you what you want to read? Publishing a first-class magazine is an expensive and time-consuming effort, but it is worth it when we connect with you, our readers, and when we connect you with fellow alumni and with the College.

And survey results confirm that CCT is connecting with the vast majority of you. In two surveys conducted during the past three years, the majority of respondents indicated CCT was their primary source for news and information about Columbia College. Nearly all said they read all four issues each year, and 60 percent said they spent 30 minutes or more with each issue. Class Notes was rated the most compelling section by the most respondents, with articles about alumni achievements, student life, history/traditions and the Core Curriculum also getting high marks. When asked about print versus online distribution, 90 percent of respondents in our most recent survey said they wanted to receive a print edition of CCT — a number made all the more remarkable by its coming in response to an electronic survey.

With that mandate, we set about the work of renewing and reinvigorating CCT. In recent issues, you may have noticed increased coverage of students, faculty and academics (especially the Core), and more graphic, eye-catching story treatments. That was dipping our toes in the water; with this issue we dive all the way in, with significant changes throughout the magazine in the design, organization and presentation of features, news items, columns and departments. We've also added new elements, such as "Heard on Campus," which chronicles just a few of the amazing speakers who come to campus each quarter, and "Did You Know?," which highlights a fun and interesting Columbia fact.

Recently, we made the difficult decision to change designers, believing that fresh eyes and a new perspective were needed to help us achieve what we seek. All of us on the CCT team thank and acknowledge the hard work and creative efforts of our previous art director, Linda Gates, of Gates Sisters Studio, who has been a part of the CCT family for more than two decades and done yeoman work throughout that time. Linda and her sisters Kathleen Gates and Susan Gates became more than trusted colleagues through the years; they were valued friends.

Joining the CCT family as art director is Eson Chan. Eson is an award-winning designer who worked for 10 years with *Columbia* magazine; his other credits include the alumni magazines of Brandeis and Northeastern as well as *Columbia Medicine* and *Columbia Nursing*. In the last few months Eson has become an integral member of our team, participating in our weekly planning meetings, offering suggestions and bringing a different perspective to what we do. Eson's ideas can be seen throughout this issue, with more to come.

We hope you are as excited as we are with the launch of this new chapter in CCT's life. Let us know what you think: cct@columbia.edu.

Alex Sachare
Alex Sachare '71
Editor in Chief



KELLY CHAN BC'17

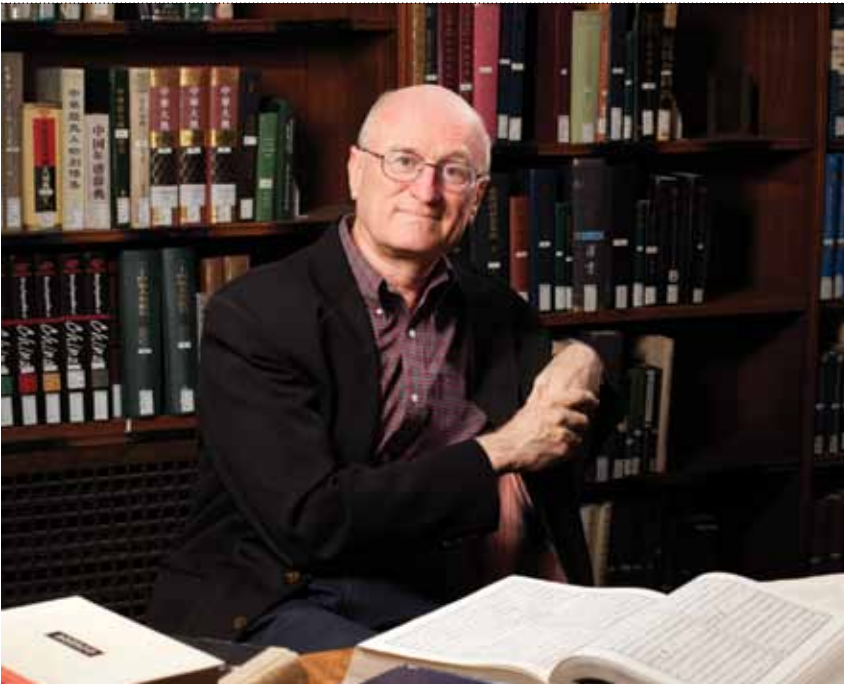
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By Eugene L. Meyer '64



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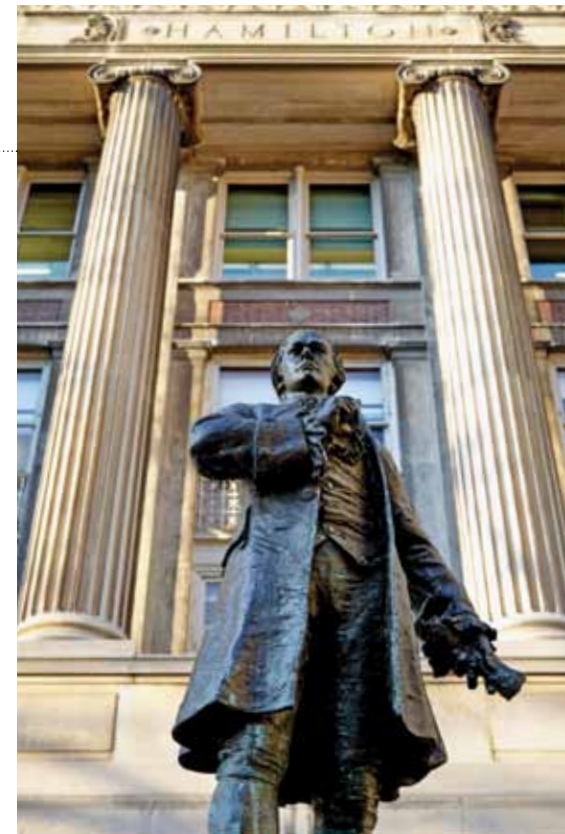
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college.columbia.edu/cct

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FRANCIS CATANIA

President Hamilton?

Being both a College grad and a resident of Hamilton County, Ohio, I am interested in Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778). I found an error in the Fall 2015 "Alumni Corner" by Bob Orkand '58. He states that, due to his birth in the West Indies, Hamilton was ineligible to be President. That is not really true. Article 2, Section 1, Clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution states: "No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States."

Hamilton truly was a citizen at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, so he would have been eligible (even had he not supplied his long-form State of Hawaii birth certificate).

As an aside, several, including this article's author, think that instead of replacing Hamilton on the \$10 bill we should replace Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill. As a College grad I have an affection for Hamilton but I am also a graduate of Andrew Jackson H.S., so I shall remain neutral.

Barry Austern '63
Cincinnati

In his brief essay on Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778) and the \$10 bill ("Alumni Corner," Fall 2015), Bob Orkand '58 repeats a common error regarding Hamilton and his eligibility to run for President. Article 2, Section 1, Clause 5 of the U.S. Constitution clearly says: "No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution" is eligible for the presidency. Or is he claiming Hamilton served in the Revolution as Washington's chief aide, and as secretary of the Treasury, while being a foreigner?

I find it suspicious that the current secretary of the Treasury wants to remove a firm opponent of slavery, who founded New York's first anti-slavery society, while leaving intact three slaveholders (Washington, \$1 bill; Jefferson, \$2 bill; Jackson, \$20 bill). Jackson in particular should be removed as a probable bigamist, scornor of Supreme Court rulings and initiator of genocide.

Thomas Wm. Hamilton '60
Staten Island, N.Y.

Editor's note: CCT reached out to Columbia faculty for clarification and received the following

from Herb Sloan, professor emeritus at Barnard, whose teaching interests are history of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, and the history of American law, including the Constitution:

"Hamilton was definitely eligible to serve as President under the 'citizen at the time of the adoption of the Constitution' rule. (You might note that all of the presidents before Van Buren were born British subjects and were not natural-born citizens.) I cannot tell you precisely how he became a citizen of New York, but I assume it was by virtue of being there at the time — which is how he and everyone else became U.S. citizens under the Constitution ... there was no formal process, no paperwork, etc."

Don't Stop the Music

Great to read about the wonderful piano stylist Dick Hyman '48 [CC'48 Class Notes, Fall 2015], who continues to pack them in at concerts in the United States, Canada and everywhere. I knew Dick as the composer for the Varsity Show, April 1946. I was part of the all-male chorus line — after daily rowing practice on the Harlem River (I was coxswain at 115 lbs.). Tell Dick

to keep it up, make more fingers snap and make more records!

Dr. Joseph P. Rumage '47
Kenner, La.

Putting Names to Faces

The Fall 2015 issue, page 49, features a photo with the caption “New students mingle on Low Steps in 1957.” Fourteen freshmen (wearing freshman beanies) are shown with an older gentleman in a dark suit.

Who are these anonymous students? All freshmen in the Class of 1961, presumably. Of the five students sitting in the first row, I can identify three for certain. Second from the right is Alvin Schiffrin '61, in the middle next to him is David Blicher '61 and next to Dave and second from left is Matthew Chamlin '61, BUS'64 — that's me! Some of the other faces look vaguely familiar but I haven't a clue as to who they are.

Alvin was a roommate of mine and I believe still practices law in California. Dave passed away in 2012 and his life and untimely death were noted in *CCT* (college.columbia.edu/cct/fall13/obituaries). After graduating from the Business School, I was president of nine consumer product companies and am now retired. My only connection with Columbia these days is occasionally auditing courses at the Business School and attending lectures and other events at the Harriman Institute.

I don't recall ever seeing this picture before and dating from what was probably our first week of our freshman year in 1957, it is a bit of an historical relic. Nice to see it!

I wonder what other treasures from Columbia's past are stored in the University Archives?

Matt Chamlin '61, BUS'64
New York City

Teddy Roosevelt's View

Loved the Fall 2015 issue, especially the “Columbia Forum” on TR's house. But please tell me how it is possible to see the Hudson from the back porch in Oyster Bay, N.Y., as stated on page 29? Long Island Sound, yes; Hudson, no.

Allen Breslow '61, LAW'64
Old Bethpage, N.Y.

I was enjoying Adam Van Doren '84, GSAPP'89's “The House Tells the Story” (“Columbia Forum,” Fall 2015) until the fatal moment the author stepped onto the back porch and experienced its sweeping view of the Hudson River. Had he been describing FDR's home at Hyde Park, all would have been well. Alas, he was writing about TR's beloved Sagamore Hill, firmly anchored above Oyster Bay, Long Island Sound. This geographical absurdity had passed neutrino-like through the scrutiny of historian David McCullough, the editors of David B. Godine, Publishers, and ultimately the editors of *CCT*. I conjure the ghosts of Van Doren's distinguished ancestors, Carl (Class of 1911 GSAS) and Mark GSAS'21, who would caution the House of Intellect is vulnerable as was the fabled kingdom of olde to perishing for want of a horseshoe nail.

Tony O'Keefe '59
Port Chester, N.Y.

Editor's note: Van Doren reports that the error has been corrected in the book's second edition, which recently went to press.

Correction



A photo of students in the *Spectator* office (Summer 2015, page 57) was incorrectly captioned. The students are, left to right: Dr. Larry Gartner '54; Lawrence Kobrin '54, LAW'57; Dr. Larry Scharer '54, PS'58; Judah Berger '54; and Michael R. Naver '54. All were members of the 1953–54 *Spectator* managing board. Board members not pictured included Charles Selinske '54; Bernd Brecher '54, JRN'55; and Richard Werksman '54, LAW'58. *CCT* apologizes for the error, and thanks Kobrin and Naver for bringing it to our attention.

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MATTHEW SEPTIMUS



Message from the Dean

Expanding Opportunities
for Our Students

This past summer, my son Colin GS'17 took Art Humanities and Music Humanities at Reid Hall in Paris. Colin and his classmates, 18 Columbia College and fellow GS students, spent six weeks studying the great composers and artists — as they are studied by every Columbia College student — but with the special addition of visiting important monuments and museums, and seeing performances, in Paris and the surrounding region.

This was the first summer that the College offered Art Hum and Music Hum together in Paris, and the first year we offered any part of the Core Curriculum abroad (beginning with individual Art Hum and Music Hum classes during the Spring 2015 semester). Colin and his classmates were lucky to have the opportunity to study with two of our most renowned faculty: Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS'81, one of the leading scholars on Chinese painting and calligraphy, who is profiled in this issue, and Susan Boynton, an expert on both liturgy and music in medieval Western monasticism, and music and childhood. And the students were able to extend their coursework beyond the classroom, from the collections at the Louvre to Monet's home in Giverny.

Expanding opportunities within the Core and beyond Morningside Heights, as we have with our new Reid Hall program, are two goals of Core to Commencement, the campaign we launched on November 20. Core to Commencement aims to strengthen what I think can justifiably be called the world's greatest undergraduate experience by bringing the students who can best contribute to and profit from the unique College experience to campus; by supporting the great scholars who teach, advise and mentor our students; by increasing opportunities beyond the classroom through internships, research projects, fellowships and global experiences; by sustaining our unique Core; and by maintaining the financial aid that makes a Columbia College education accessible to so many.


Our goal as an institution is to prepare students for a future world that they do not know and cannot conceive. We need to teach students to communicate and work with people who hold opinions different from their own, to adapt to unfamiliar circumstances, to navigate complex situations. We need to offer guidance for how to build what Plato called “the Good Life.” These are skills that students gain through the Core, as they delve into great works of literature, philosophy, music and art, and con-

tend with their own beliefs and those of their classmates. These are skills that they gain when faced with new challenges beyond the classroom, while conducting research, working on internships or studying abroad.

This campaign will ensure the vitality of the Core Curriculum, the one formative experience that has been shared by all students and alumni of the College for nearly a century. It will expand that experience and replenish the academic departments that make it all possible, and it will provide opportunities for our students, alumni and faculty to connect and learn in new and imaginative ways. It will allow us to keep the Core true to what it always has been, while allowing the College to continue to adapt to a changing world and prepare our students for the unknown and the unanticipated.

To do all of this, we are depending on you, our committed alumni, parents and friends. This year, you relaunched Columbia College Women, you provided internships and mentoring through the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program and you gave nearly \$3.8 million on Columbia Giving Day, topping the leaderboard for the fourth consecutive year. Columbia College continues to attract outstanding students and faculty and to rank with the best institutions in the world. The College is part of a great university, renewed by the Columbia Campaign, the network of Global Centers and the new Manhattanville campus. Our global profile is rising, with faculty and students winning international awards and propelling scholarship around the world. And our alumni engagement and support is accelerating, with the Columbia College Alumni Association's strategic plan to drive it.

This is the College's moment, and we are relying on you to support our future. I hope you will visit college.columbia.edu/campaign to learn more about our campaign, about our values and about our commitment to our students, our faculty and our education. And I hope you will continue to help us build the best undergraduate experience for our students.


James J. Valentini
Dean



CHAR SMULLYAN GS'98

College Launches Core to Commencement Campaign

Columbia College has launched Core to Commencement, the first-ever fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to Columbia College. With a goal of raising \$400 million, the campaign is defined by five central aims that together will enhance the College experience:

- endowing the Core Curriculum;
- supporting students;
- supporting faculty;
- growing the Columbia College Fund; and
- strengthening community.

Core to Commencement was publicly launched with a special event in Low Rotunda on November 20; the campaign is scheduled to run through the Core's centennial, in 2019.

The campaign expresses a comprehensive vision for the College's future. It seeks to capitalize on the opportunities that are inherent in the College's unique educational experience, especially the Core, and also created by its position within the University and in New York City. It includes priorities as varied as evolving the Core through the use of innovative technologies; offering all students at least one funded summer internship, research fellowship or global experience; and increasing support for faculty and their scholar-

ship, including endowed professorships that attract and honor the best faculty. The College Fund will be reinforced as the College's essential ongoing source of the funds needed to assure its continuing excellence. And connections among students, parents, faculty and alumni will be strengthened through increased mentorships, internships, intellectual programming and volunteer opportunities, among other things.

"I often say that Columbia College is the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world," says Dean James J. Valentini. "The Core to

while also expanding our students' experience and strengthening the academic departments that make it all possible."

The launch event featured Tony Kushner '78, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes*, in conversation with Lisa L. Carnoy '89, University trustee and campaign co-chair. Also speaking were President Lee C. Bollinger; University Trustee Jonathan S. Lavine '88; Meredith Kirk '12; Julie Crawford, the Mark Van Doren Professor of Humanities and chair of Literature Humanities; and Valentini.

"This endeavor will ensure the vitality of the Core Curriculum while expanding students' experience and strengthening the academic departments that make it all possible." — Dean James J. Valentini

Commencement campaign is a commitment to sustaining this greatness for our students and the faculty who teach them. I am excited about this endeavor, which will ensure the future vitality of the Core Curriculum, the formative experience shared by all students and alumni of the College,

The campaign's details and progress can be found at college.columbia.edu/campaign. Among other things, the website will feature articles about Columbians of all kinds — students, professors, alumni and more — speaking to the impact the College has had on their personal and professional lives.

Columbia Honors Alumni Leaders

The 11th annual Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend took place October 9–10 on campus. Sponsored by the Columbia Alumni Association and featuring interactive sessions, an Alumni Leaders Luncheon and the annual Alumni Medalists Gala, the event brought together volunteers from all Columbia schools.



DAVID DINI SIPA 14

Two College alumni were honored during the weekend: Left, at Saturday's luncheon, University Trustee Kyriakos Tsakopoulos '93 presented Carlos A. Cuevas '05, SIPA'12, PH'12 with The Richard E. Witten '75CC Award for Volunteer Leadership, and right, later that day at the College session, Dean James J. Valentini presented Michael Cook '65 the 2015 President's Cup, for leadership during his 50th reunion.



Giving Day by The Numbers

The fourth annual Columbia Giving Day was held on October 21 and, for the fourth consecutive year, the College topped the charts with the most funds raised — more than \$3.76 million from the grand total of more than \$12.78 million. Alumni, students, parents, friends, faculty and staff participated in the 24-hour donation marathon, with University trustees generously funding matching bonuses for various challenges. Some facts and figures from the results:

\$12,788,367

Total raised University-wide

\$3,760,834

Total raised by the College

13,090

Total gifts to the University

1,666

Total gifts to the College

\$671,936

Increase in funds given to the College, as compared to 2014

\$5,000

Bonus earned by the College for winning a parent gift challenge

32.6

Percent of total University-wide funds given by College-affiliated donors; for having the highest percentage, the College received a \$65,181 bonus (double the percentage of money raised)

Heard on Campus

OCT. 8 | LOW

Climate change is a reality and not to address it is gross negligence by government and irresponsible as citizens.

— **Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.)**, in signing the "Under 2 MOU" agreement, which joined New York State in a global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80 percent by 2050



Sculpture exists to be in your way, to force you — as the viewer, as the participant — to interact with it.

— **Roberto Ferrari**, Columbia's curator of art properties, leading a walking tour about sculpture on campus

OCT. 20 | ALMA MATER



Developing an experimental practice can be a lonely business — they don't understand you, or they think you're crazy.

— **Wolfram Knauer**, director of Germany's internationally renowned jazz research center JazzInstitut Darmstadt, on saxophonist Charlie Parker's innovations in bebop

OCT. 22 | BUELL



There is no easily discernable structure to olfaction ... Considering that, I ask you to describe to someone the smell of an orange without ever mentioning an orange. Odor, I argue, can be recreated and communicated only by association to past experience.

— **Dr. Richard Axel '67** at the lecture "Scents and Sensibility: Representations of the Olfactory World in the Brain"

NOV. 4 | MILLER THEATRE



I hope we all leave here with the notion that we are right to be outraged about the conditions that real people live in in this country, and we will be wrong if we drop out. There's so much we can do ... it's a marathon, not a sprint.

— **Maya Wiley LAW '89**, counsel to NYC mayor Bill de Blasio, speaking at the panel discussion "Awakening Our Democracy: Ferguson, Charleston & Beyond"

NOV. 5 | PULITZER

the Essentials

Chris Washburne

Associate Professor of Music Chris Washburne GSAS'99 is an acclaimed trombonist whose interests and versatility extend to jazz, classical, rock and Latin music. His seven-member band SYOTOS is hailed for its innovations in Latin jazz, and Washburne has played with musicians as diverse as Tito Puente, Arturo Sandoval, David Byrne, Björk and Justin Timberlake. On the faculty at Columbia since 2001, he performs up to five nights a week during the school year in addition to teaching, his directorship of the University's Louis Armstrong Jazz Performance Program and other activities. But he took time out one afternoon in September — on the eve of a performance at no lesser a venue than Carnegie Hall — to talk about the varied beats of his life and career.

HE GREW UP on a farm in Bath, Ohio, a small town south of Cleveland.

HIS FIRST GIG was in high school, as the trombonist in a Led Zeppelin cover band.

HE BECAME INTERESTED in music as a career through his stepfather, an amateur jazz drummer. "He always had jazz playing in his car and took our family to local clubs. We saw the Count Basie Band, Lionel Hampton's band, some really famous musicians."

HE EARNED a bachelor's of music in classical trombone performance from University of Wisconsin - Madison and a master's in third stream studies from the New England Conservatory of Music. His Ph.D. is in ethnomusicology: "using music as a lens into the study of culture — combining the fields of anthropology and musicology."

HE LED the charge to add jazz to the Core in Music Humanities classes, which happened in 2003. "I always thought it was strange that we would study Gershwin and Stravinsky, two musicians who were much influenced by jazz and who influenced jazz greatly — but we weren't talking about Duke Ellington or Louis Armstrong. Having even a small unit of jazz in the Core enables students to connect the music that they listen to much more easily to classical music traditions and to a variety of different societal forces."

HIS CLASS "Salsa, Soca and Reggae: Popular Musics of the Caribbean," part

of the Global Core, draws upward of 400 students. "What I really want is for students to discover themselves in the sounds that we're studying, even if those sounds are coming from places that are far from where they are from. I push students to go beyond the classroom walls, to really come up close to, and have interpersonal relationships with, the music or the communities that we're studying."

HE FOUNDED the Louis Armstrong Jazz Performance Program, which offers jazz instruction and performance opportunities through the Music Department, because he thought that "having a university that abuts one of the most important neighborhoods in jazz history — Harlem — and not having an official jazz program was ridiculous." From eight students the first year, in 2002, the program has grown to roughly 130 students across 17 ensembles.

HE RECENTLY SPENT a year making music with inmates at Sing-Sing — part of a new project of his that looks at how jazz and the principles and processes behind the music can be applied to different fields. "I was teaching the inmates how to write music, how to improvise within a musical setting, and then trying to connect those musical experiences to their own life experiences — to processes of transcendence, of catharsis, of redemption, of healing and reform — and seeing where that goes. It was one of the most amazing musical experiences of my life."



JÖRG MEYER

SYOTOS released its sixth record, *Low Ridin'*, in April. "I decided to do Afro-Latin versions of songs that were important to me in my youth," he says. Among the artists covered are Lou Reed, Jimi Hendrix, the Doors and, yes, Led Zeppelin.

SYOTOS STANDS for See You on the Other Side, a phrase that came to him while performing what he thought might be his last concert, in 1992. Days before, Washburne had been "out of the blue" diagnosed with a virulent skin cancer and given low chances of survival. But after surgery that removed the nerve and muscles from half his face, he recovered and has been cancer-free since. It took him two years to fully regain his musical chops.

HE STILL HAS his first trombone. A neighbor gave it to him when he started learning because his family couldn't afford one. "It had been in the attic, this tarnished thing, covered in dirt and dust — horrible looking. I came home and cried. But my mother said I didn't have a choice, if I wanted to play, I had to play this." Though he bought a new trombone for college, there came a day when he had to use the old one for practice. His band conductor, who was an antique instrument collector, "took one look and offered me thousands of dollars for it. I said, 'Uhh, why?' and he explained what a rare and great instrument it was. Suddenly my attitude changed drastically. It's from 1938. I still play it sometimes."

— Alexis Tonti SOA'11

Mini-Mini-Core: The Biodiversity Crisis

There have been five mass extinctions in Earth's history, including the end-Cretaceous event that felled the dinosaurs 66 million years ago, and many believe we are in the midst of a sixth, with species disappearing at a rate that's 100 to 1,000 times faster than normal. Don Melnick, the Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Conservation Biology, in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, tackled this topic, including its causes and consequences, this fall in his three-part Mini-Core Course "The Biodiversity Crisis." Herewith, the takeaways from his classes.

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

GLOBAL TRENDS: Humanity, through our many activities, has drastically altered the environment. This has led to mass-scale degradation of land ecosystems; destruction of aquatic ecosystems; accumulation of greenhouse gases; decline of populations and species; and increases in emerging infectious diseases.

LOCAL EFFECTS: Plant and animal populations are declining in size and becoming more isolated as environments are degraded and fragmented, and therefore are losing genetic diversity more quickly, which means they run a much higher risk of disappearing altogether.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

GLOBAL TRENDS: The negative effects of environmental degradation abound: climate change; decline of fresh water; collapse of fisheries; loss of pollination, pest control and disease-buffering services; mortality, morbidity and declining economic security; and social displacement, civil disorder and eroding national security.

LOCAL EFFECTS: The decline of fragmented populations and species disrupts or diminishes ecological processes and the invaluable services these processes — pollination, insect control, water purification and so on — provide the human population.

HOW DO WE FIX IT?

GLOBAL TRENDS: Develop policies that incorporate the undeniable reality that nature is the infrastructure upon which our security in water, food, health, weather, money and personal safety depends and degrading that infrastructure makes us not only less secure, but takes tens of thousands of lives every day in places all over the world.

LOCAL EFFECTS: Stem rate of transformation of habitats, reclaim hundreds of millions of acres that have been transformed and reconnect the now-isolated habitat patches and populations of species they host — all to restore gene flow and slow erosion of genetic diversity.

EXTRA CREDIT: Read *The Monk in the Garden: The Lost and Found Genius of Gregor Mendel, the Father of Genetics*, by Robin Marantz Henig. Says Melnick: "His experiments were elegant in their simplicity, ahead of their time in their mathematical sophistication and led to discoveries that have stood the test of time. He laid the groundwork for everything we know about genetics today."

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.

DidYouKnow?



Did you know that the architect of St. Patrick's Cathedral was James Renwick Jr. (Class of 1836)?

Renwick (1818–95), whose father was an engineer, architect and professor of natural philosophy at Columbia, entered the College at 12 and studied engineering. He earned a master's in 1839. His first major commission, at 25, was to design Grace Church in New York City, and three years later, he won a competition to design the Smithsonian Institution Building in Washington, D.C.

His best-known work, however, is St. Patrick's, built in a Gothic revival style with German and French influences. Renwick was commissioned by Archbishop John Hughes in 1853 as the cathedral's architect and construction began in 1858. Progress halted during the Civil War but the cathedral opened in May 1879 and was formally consecrated in 1910.

On September 14, 2015, during his visit to New York City, Pope Francis delivered the homily during a vespers service in St. Patrick's. He was the fourth pontiff to visit the cathedral, following in the footsteps of Pope Paul VI (1965), Pope John Paul II (1979 and 1995) and Pope Benedict XVI (2008). Prior to Pope Francis' visit, St. Patrick's underwent a three-year, \$177 million renovation that included conserving and replacing exterior marble and cleaning, stabilizing and conserving 3,700 stained-glass panels and the plaster, wood and masonry interior.

CCT Web Extras

To read more about and to see photos and illustrations of St. Patrick's Cathedral's restoration, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Building a Better Bleach To Fight Ebola

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Thanks to a trio of Columbia students, healthcare workers treating Ebola may be better protected against the deadly virus by next summer.

The innovation is a powder designed by budding scientists **Katherine Jin '16**, **Jason Kang SEAS'16** and **Kevin Tyan '16**. Called Highlight, it alters the properties of bleach — the decontamination agent most commonly used in West Africa against Ebola — to make it more effective. Adding Highlight to bleach turns the otherwise colorless disinfectant bright blue, which allows doctors and nurses to see what parts of their protective gear have been sprayed. The visualization helps eliminate gaps in coverage, a potentially lethal pitfall in the case of Ebola. The stain fades after 10 minutes, the contact time required for bleach to kill the virus, to indicate that the process is complete.

The students were spurred to develop Highlight by the Columbia Design Chal-

lenge: Confronting the Ebola Crisis, which launched in October 2014. Alarmed by the number of healthcare workers who contracted Ebola during the crisis in West Africa, and aware that doctors and nurses in underdeveloped nations are overtaxed, Jin, Kang and Tyan sought to improve existing decontamination protocols without overcomplicating them. "Our goal was to come up with something that was easy to use with minimal training," says Jin, who is studying biology and computer science.

At first the students conceived of their product solely as a colorizer. But as they pinpointed bleach's other shortcomings as a disinfectant, they adjusted the formula. In its current form, Highlight also slows the evaporation rate of bleach to ensure enough contact time to neutralize viruses and prevents droplet formation, which essentially allows the liquid to stick better to waterproof surfaces (such as hazmat suits). "Highlight bridges the gap between



KYLE LEE SEAS'17

Highlight, working on a hazmat suit.

having a disinfectant and using it effectively," says Tyan, a biology major.

As a winner of the challenge, which was sponsored by Engineering and the Mailman School of Public Health, the three received support from the University to develop Highlight, which is patent pending. They scored a major victory last February, when Highlight was awarded a substantial federal grant as one of 12 winning entries in USAID's Fighting Ebola: A Grand Challenge for Development, which received more than 1,500 submissions.

Though developed with Ebola in mind, Highlight can also be used to combat other infectious diseases. To ensure that it does not compromise the antiviral potency of bleach, the product has been subjected to vigorous viral testing. Having shown to be effective on the West Nile virus in tests conducted at the Center for Infection and Immunity at Mailman, at press time it was undergoing testing on influenza at CII and was slated to be tested on Ebola at the National Institutes of Health.

For Jin, Kang and Tyan, who met as first-years and were already good friends when they began developing Highlight, what started out as a purely humanitarian

endeavor quickly became a path to entrepreneurship. They realized they would have to start a business in late 2014, when, in what they consider one of the most exciting developments of their journey, the New York City Fire Department requested a demonstration of Highlight and subsequently purchased and incorporated the product into its hazmat decontamination protocols.

Soon after, the students formed a company, Kinnos, which received \$10,000 for placing third in the "Undergraduate Challenge" of the 2015 Columbia Venture Competition. The company's board of advisers comprises Mary C. Boyce, dean of Engineering; Aaron Kyle, lecturer in biomedical engineering; W. Ian Lipkin, the John Snow Professor of Epidemiology and CII director at Mailman; and Samuel Sia, associate professor in biomedical engineering.

"[Healthcare workers treating Ebola patients] are risking their lives every day, so we want to do our part to help them," says Kang, who is majoring in biomedical engineering. "At the same time, in order to keep providing this protection, we need to have a viable business."

CCT Web Extras

To see a video of Highlight in action, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

After graduation, Jin, Kang and Tyan plan to devote themselves to Kinnos. They hope to be ready to deploy Highlight to areas affected by Ebola by next June. "Our dream is to make a tangible impact on the world," says Jin. "We're so lucky to have this amazing opportunity and a series of events that have blessed our hard work."

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



DIANE BONDAREFF

Welcome Center Dedicated

President Lee C. Bollinger formally dedicated the Susan K. Feagin Welcome Center at the Columbia Alumni Center (CAC) on November 19. Feagin, a 1974 GS alumna who is special advisor to Bollinger, was EVP for University development and alumni relations 2003–10, during which time the University completed the largest fundraising effort in Ivy League history, the \$6.1 billion Columbia Campaign. She also was instrumental in the creation of the CAC, which since 2009 has provided a place for gatherings and meetings of Columbia alumni and is the administrative hub of University and College alumni affairs, development and communications personnel.

Postcrypt: 50-Plus and Going Strong

One of Columbia's iconic spaces lies deep beneath the stately stained glass windows of St. Paul's Chapel. For more than a half-century, Postcrypt Coffeehouse has been bringing musical performers from Columbia, New York City and beyond to its basement performance space — and it's still going strong.

"Postcrypt Coffeehouse brings together the Columbia community and city residents, as well as [unites] current students with previous generations," says head manager Spenser Krut '16. "Many of our regular audience members attended Columbia and enjoy coming back again and again because Postcrypt's doors are still open."

Founded in 1964, the student-run acoustic performance space hosts two shows weekly during the school year and ranks as one of the oldest surviving coffeehouses in New York City. Shows are free and open to the public. Past performers have included Suzanne Vega BC'81, Jeff Buckley, Dar Williams and Ani DiFranco.



CHLOE DURKIN '15

Much of the appeal of the 'Crypt, as it is widely known, is its intimacy — a capacity of just 30, with exposed brick walls, strings of lights and the original stage and mosaic bar. "It's special because every show is unplugged and the performers relax," Krut says, "as if they're just playing and chatting with friends in their living rooms."

"The 'Crypt is my favorite place on campus," says outreach manager Mahelet Fekade '16. "When you are in the 'Crypt, it doesn't feel like you are on campus or in Morningside Heights. It's an oasis."

ROAR, LION, ROAR

Fencing Looks To Repeat as NCAA Champions; Men's Hoops Hopes To Vie for Ivy Title

Columbia's fencers are seeking to defend their national championship and the men's basketball team is looking to continue its climb up the Ivy League ladder in the winter sports season that began with wins for both squads in November.

The fencers opened their season in impressive fashion with a clean sweep at the Columbia Invitational on November 6. The men's team beat Stevens Tech 22-5, NJIT 19-8 and Hunter 19-8 and the women defeated Northwestern 16-11, NJIT 24-3 and Fairleigh Dickinson 27-0.

"Last year after we won the NCAA championships, we all sat down and it was like, 'What are we going to do for this year?'" said head coach Michael Aufrecht. "And the goal was, 'Now is the year we start the dynasty.' We did lose a few seniors who graduated, but we have a huge senior class and they are really excited to defend that championship."

Columbia is led by men's epeeists Jake Hoyle '16 and Brian Ro '16, who were first and third, respectively, at last year's NCAA championships. Aufrecht also cited overall team depth and what he called the "strongest women's sabre team in the country" as other strengths.

"Our mindset this year is to even go stronger than we did last year," he said. "We know we definitely have a target on our backs — I kind of feel as Columbia we always have a target but especially this



All-Ivy forward Alex Rosenberg '16 is back in the lineup after missing last season due to a broken foot.

year as the defending national champions we do have a target. Our mindset is we're champions, we're looking to defend that championship and be champions again."

Columbia will compete in four more multi-team invitationals leading up to the round-robin Ivy League championships at Cornell Saturday, February 6-Sunday, February 7; the NCAA regionals at Vassar on Sunday, March 13; and the NCAA championships at Brandeis Thursday, March 24-Sunday, March 27.

The men's basketball team, which was picked to finish second behind Yale in the preseason Ivy League media poll, opened its campaign at Levien Gym on November 13 by beating Kean 107-62. Three days later,

Columbia traveled to Manhattan, Kan., and dropped an 81-71 decision to Kansas State.

The Lions, who won 21 games two years ago, dipped to 13-15 last year after All-Ivy forward Alex Rosenberg '16 suffered a broken foot during preseason and withdrew from school for the year. Coach Kyle Smith is optimistic that with Rosenberg and guard Grant Mullins '16, who missed last season because of a concussion suffered during the previous campaign, returning to a team headed by All-Ivy guard Maodo Lo '16 and the versatile Isaac Cohen '16, the Lions will have the firepower to contend for their first Ivy League championship since 1968. Lo (18.4 ppg) and Rosenberg (16.0) led the Ivies in scoring the past two seasons and are

the first pair of 1,000-point career scorers Columbia has had on the same team since 1998-99. Behind Lo, Mullins and Cohen, the Lions have solid depth at guard with Kyle Castlin '18, Nate Hickman '18, C.J. Davis '19 and Quinton Adlesh '19.

"We've been picked to do well, and frankly we should," said Smith, who likely will go with a three-guard lineup most of the time to take advantage of Columbia's strength and depth at that position. "This is my sixth year here; the program has matured and I hope we're ready to take the next step." Smith noted that with a plethora of guards and wing players, it will be important that they "identify their roles" during the non-conference games that precede the Ivy campaign. At the same time, frontcourt players will need to step up. Key figures in this group are 7-foot-1 Conor Voss '17 as well as Luke Petrasek '17, Chris McComber '17, Jeff Coby '17 and Lukas Meisner '19.

Columbia plays 17 games against non-conference opponents before beginning Ivy League play with a home game against Cornell on Saturday, January 16. After that the Lions will play five consecutive Ivy games on the road before finishing their season with six of eight conference games at home, the last against defending co-champion Yale on Saturday, March 5, at Levien Gym. Yale topped the preseason media poll with 117 points, followed closely by Columbia at 114 and Princeton at 108. Harvard, the league champion or co-champion each of the last five years, was picked to finish fourth with 96 points.

The Lions' game at Yale on Friday, February 5 will be nationally televised on FOX Sports 1. Two other games will be televised

Football Snaps Streaks

Columbia's football team "got that 800-lb. gorilla off our backs," coach Al Bagnoli said after the Lions beat Wagner 26-3 on October 10 to emphatically end a 24-game losing streak that stretched back to November 19, 2012, when Columbia beat Cornell 34-17.

Three weeks later, Columbia ended two more streaks — 18 consecutive Ivy League losses and 22 straight road losses — by traveling to New Haven and defeating Yale 17-7 in the Yale Bowl. "This is important as the next step as we try to establish credibility," said Bagnoli, who took over as Columbia's coach on February 24 after 23 years and nine Ivy championships at Penn.

Those wins gave the Lions a 2-8 record (including 1-6 in the Ivies) after two winless seasons. Equally important, even though Bagnoli is quick to say there are no moral victories, is the fact that Columbia was competitive in every game except one (Homecoming against Penn),



Lions celebrate following the win over Wagner.

and Columbia's defense, which allowed 38.9 points and 494.5 yards of total offense per game last season, cut those numbers dramatically this year to 19.8 points and 290.3 yards per game.

"I think by most people's standards, we're heading in the right direction," Bagnoli said after the final game. "We're far more competitive. We're playing people for 60 minutes. It's just one year. I'm not sure what people's expectations were. But we're making progress — it just never comes as fast or as seamless as you want it to come."

SPORTS SHORTS

CROSS COUNTRY: Men's cross country won the Ivy League Heptagonal Championship and the women's team finished third at Van Cortlandt Park on October 30. Director of Cross Country/Track & Field Daniel Ireland was unanimously voted Ivy League Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year. Leading the men's team were Aubrey Myjer '16 (third overall) and Jack Boyle '17 (seventh), both of whom earned All-Ivy first-team honors, while Tait Rutherford '16 (ninth) ran his way to the second team. Tops among the women were Olivia Sadler '16 (ninth) and Leila Mantilla '16 (14th), who earned second team all-conference honors.

MEILI: Katie Meili '13 won three medals at the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto in July, including gold medals in the 100m breaststroke and 4x100m medley relay, both in event-record times. She also won silver in the 400m freestyle relay. On September 1, Meili was among 107 members named by USA Swimming to the 2015-16 U.S. National Team, where she joins such stars of the sport as Missy

Franklin, Katie Ledecky, Ryan Lochte and Michael Phelps. Meili hopes to compete in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Friday, August 5-Sunday, August 21; she'll attempt to qualify for the team at the Olympic Trials in Omaha, Sunday, June 26-Sunday, July 3.

FOOTBALL PODCAST: WNYC, New York's public radio station, this fall produced the podcast "The Season," following the Columbia football team under new coach Al Bagnoli as it attempted to bounce back from two winless seasons. Host Ilya Marritz and the producers had extensive access to players, coaches, alumni and University officials, including trustee emeritus and former coach Bill Campbell '62, TC '64, who spoke on the October 1 episode about why football matters. "It is the ultimate team game," Campbell said. "You cannot be successful without a team all operating on the same page. When you snap the ball, when you play defense, when you do everything that you need to do, 11 people all have to be in coordination and in sync."

SCOREBOARD

45

Margin of victory in men's basketball's 107-62 win over Kean, the largest margin in a season opener since 1968

7

Countries represented by members of the nationally ranked men's and women's squash teams

174

Yards gained by football's Cameron Molina '16 in the season finale against Brown, a career high

10

Wins by men's soccer team this fall, the most since 2003

65

Points posted by the men's team in winning the Ivy League Heptagonal Cross Country Championship

6

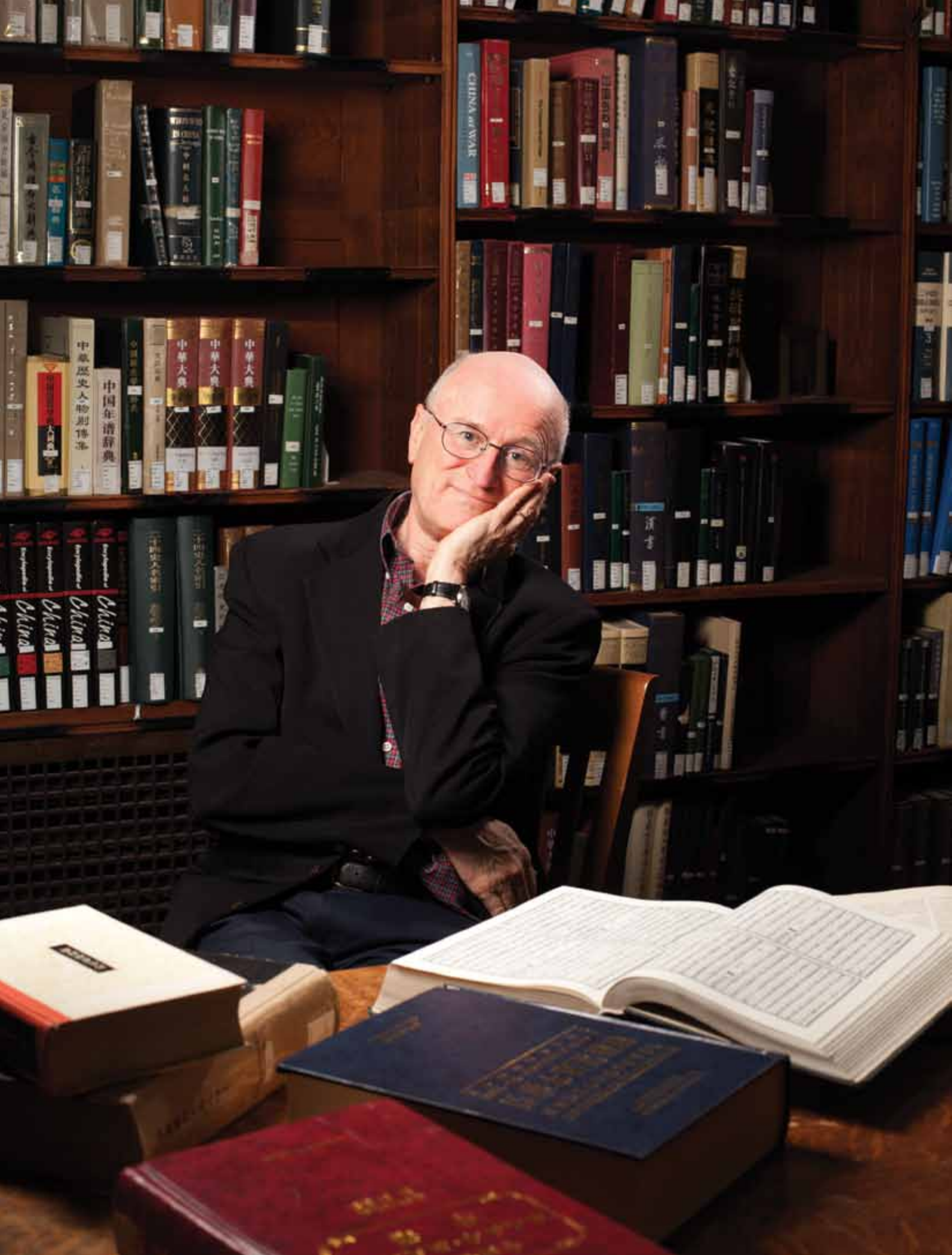
Wrestlers who finished among the top five in their weights in the season-opening Hokie Open



ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit gocolumbiaions.com.

by the American Sports Network: at home against Harvard on Friday, February 19, and on the road at Princeton on Friday, February 26. Columbia's women's team, in its first season under interim coach Sheila Roux, who took over after Stephanie Glance stepped down to become the executive director of the Kay Yow Cancer Fund, also has a nationally televised game, at home against Penn on Sunday, February 28 on the American Sports Network.



It is August, a traditional time of respite for academics, but Robert E. Harrist Jr. GSAS'81 is hard at work. The Jane and Leopold Swergold Professor of Chinese Art has just returned from teaching an Art Humanities/Music Humanities immersion program in Paris and is now preparing to travel to China to give a talk about inscriptions on Mount Tai ("When you go to China you don't just climb a mountain, you read it," he explains).

Harrist, 63, is one of the world's foremost experts on Chinese painting and calligraphy — and one of the few who did not grow up speaking Chinese — and he knows the subject of this conference particularly well; it is the same as his 2008 book, *The Landscape of Words: Stone Inscriptions from Early and Medieval China*. The intense preparation has to do with giving a professional-level, public talk to a mostly Chinese audience, in Chinese — not something he ordinarily does.

"Words you think you know how to pronounce you might be mispronouncing because of the tones," he explains. "All those years you've been meaning to look it up but haven't quite gotten around to it." Now he is spending hours practicing saying those words.

Only days earlier, Harrist was in Paris speaking fluent French. He can also read Japanese and speak it conversationally. Yet he claims he is "not good at all at foreign languages." He plays Bach, Schubert and Chopin quite well on his Steinway grand, although he says, "I play at the level of an advanced beginner, and have for about 45 years." He has thought of trying to teach Music Humanities: "It'd be wonderful, but I don't think I could do it well. I barely know enough to teach Art Hum!" In fact, he has a degree in music in addition to an uncharacteristically deep knowledge of Western art.

Harrist's devotion to various art forms — he is also a balletomane who has written for *Ballet Review* — is part of an overall enthusiasm for life's ornaments, from the literally monumental to the quotidian. He notices details and delights in them. One might guess that his varied expertise and talents make him intimidating, but his humbleness as well as *joie de vivre* have won him many

By Shira Boss '93, JRN'97, SIPA'98

The Joy^{of} Looking

Professor Robert E. Harrist Jr.
delights in study of art in all its forms

friends as well as made him a popular teacher. “I’ve never known anybody who takes such deep and great pleasure in life — in works of art, other people, the weather — you name it,” says William Hood, visiting professor at the Institute of Fine Arts of NYU, a former colleague and longtime, close friend of Harrist. “His whole life is fueled by joy, a capacity to be awed by things most people wouldn’t even notice.”

“I still can’t believe I get paid to do this,” Harrist says. “Can you imagine anything better than being paid to look at sculptures of Michelangelo and talk about them with smart, young people? It’s impossible to describe how fortunate people in my position are — a senior position at a place like Columbia University. We are some of the most privileged people on earth.”

Harrist grew up in the small town of Rockport, Texas, on the Gulf Coast. Adopted as an infant, he was the son of a refrigerator and air conditioner repairman and a homemaker. Instead of growing up hearing about when he was born, Harrist heard his parents speak of “when we got you.” “It was like being parachuted into this world,” he says. He describes his beloved hometown as a cross between *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *It’s a Wonderful Life*. As a kid, he went hunting (“deer, quail, jackrabbit — you name it, we’d shoot it”) and rode on a roundup of his uncle’s cattle.

He also, inexplicably, yearned to learn to play the piano. “In our house, the first and only notes of classical music ever played were by me. I don’t know how I found my way to them,” he says. When

tourists and scholars alike, frequently see these giant inscriptions, but no one before Bob fully realized how phenomenally significant this practice is as a defining characteristic of the Chinese cultural mindset,” says Jan Stuart, who met Harrist in graduate school and is the Melvin R. Seiden Curator of Chinese Art at the Freer and Sackler Galleries, Smithsonian Institution, in Washington D.C.

“In his path-breaking work [*The Landscape of Words*], Bob combined perspectives from these seemingly disparate fields, calligraphy, landscape studies and religion,” Stuart continues. “And he showed us the unique way in which the Chinese have orchestrated their experience of nature by turning the raw material of stone cliffs — mere physical spaces — into landscapes that convey deep values reflective of religious practice, political history, social engagement and art.”

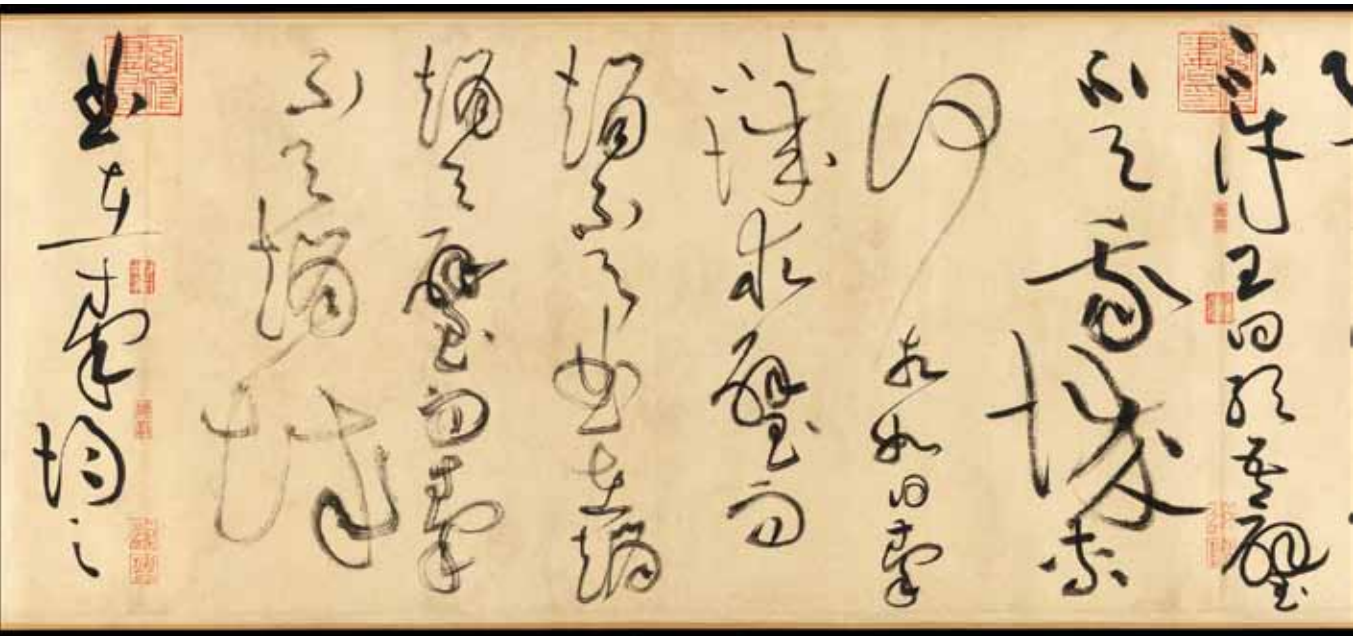
In 1978, Harrist arrived at Kent Hall for an intensive master’s in East Asian studies, then continued his art history education with a Ph.D. in Chinese art and archaeology from Princeton in 1989. He joined the faculty at Oberlin in 1987, where he remained for a decade until a position opened at Columbia. He received an Award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum from the Heyman Center for the Humanities in 2004 and a Lenfest Distinguished Faculty Award in 2006.

“We have been lucky to have Bob share his expansive appreciation of art with generations of Art Hum students,” says Dean James J. Valentini. “Bob is known among students for his incredible knowledge as a professor and for encouraging them to ‘articulate the obvious’ when describing art. His passion for sharing artistic sensibilities does not stop with the visual arts. While teaching in the combined Art Humanities/Music Humanities program this summer in Paris, Bob often used his talent on the piano to play for his class the pieces they were studying in Music Hum.”

Harrist chaired the art history department from 2007 to 2011 and was a beloved leader, according to Stephen Murray, the Lisa and Bernard Selz Professor of Medieval Art History, who has been on the faculty since 1986. “He has a generosity and a civility that is so rare in academia,” Murray says. “He considered the operation as a privilege, as the creation of an ideal community of teachers and scholars, not as imposing rules and restraints. He once asked me, ‘What can I do to make your life better as a teacher?’ Has any chair anywhere ever said that?”

In New York, while on sabbatical from Oberlin in 1993, Harrist met his wife, Weizhi Lu, a Spanish and Chinese teacher at an NYC public high school. They now have a 16-year-old son, Jack. “I’m from South Texas and my wife is from the south of China and together we produced a native New Yorker,” Harrist says. He notes how different Jack’s upbringing has been from his own: “I did not set foot in a major museum until I was 20, in Chicago. We just didn’t have anything like that in a small town. Being able to go to the Met — that would have been the most unbelievably dazzling, glamorous thing you could imagine.” (Jack prefers to go to Yankees games, so Harrist has expanded his interests to include baseball.)

Nearly two decades after moving to New York, the thrill of seeing art at the Met has not worn off. Harrist goes to the museum usually once a week, often with his colleague and friend Hood. In the course of teaching art survey classes, both have lectured on Bruegel’s *The Harvesters* “a gazillion times,” Hood says. Yet one day they stopped to look at it together and, as Hood describes, “The next thing we knew, 1½ hours had passed.”



Biographies of Lian Po and Lin Xiangru, ca. 1095
Huang Tingjian (Chinese, 1045–1105)
Handscroll; ink on paper; 12.75 in. x 59 ft. 9 in.
(32.5 x 1822.4 cm)
Bequest of John M. Crawford Jr., 1988 (1989.363.4)

“It was because of calligraphy that I decided to study Chinese art. I fell in love with it before I had started to learn Chinese, and although I encourage everyone to study Chinese, it’s possible to enjoy calligraphy deeply without a knowledge of the language. The text of this scroll consists of the biographies of two ancient worthies, but a connoisseur of calligraphy would concentrate on the structure of the characters and the energy of brushstrokes, not on the content of the text. It’s sometimes said that the linear patterns of Chinese calligraphy can be appreciated in the way we appreciate abstract art. That’s true, but unlike, let’s say, a painting by Jackson Pollock, calligraphy has to conform to rules: no matter how wild or abbreviated the characters, they have to be written from top to bottom following a prescribed order of strokes. In this scroll you can see traces of how time passed as the calligrapher worked. In the next to last column on the left, the brush was going dry, and before writing the final column the calligrapher dipped the brush in the jet black ink.”

Another day, Harrist led Hood upstairs to look at a late-period Monet water lilies. Hood says he himself had always been prejudiced against the Impressionists, but that Harrist took him up close to the painting to examine how the color of the paint interlaced with the texture on the painting. “It was astounding. I’d never *seen* Monet before,” Hood says. “That’s the type of scrutiny that very few people are capable of. He’s capable of deep scrutiny, of any period, of any style, of any culture. Bob is so dedicated to the life enhancement that can come to a person who’s willing to put the effort into engaging with a work of art.”

Which is why Harrist declares Art Hum his favorite course. He teaches it nearly every year, alongside Chinese Art 101 and a graduate seminar or lecture, often on Chinese painting or calligraphy (a rare offering at U.S. schools). Even his graduate classes on Chinese art, however, are geared toward the non-specialist; he encourages students of European art to participate. “He’s a rigorous looker. He can look at a single work of art for hours and continue to come up with fresh observations,” says Joseph Scheier-Dolberg GSAS’12, assistant curator of Chinese painting and calligraphy at the Met and a grad student of Harrist. He recalls the day when Harrist put up a slide of an ornamental detail in his Chinese art class and asked if anyone could identify it. Nobody could. It was a pattern from a

mosaic on the subway platform at 116th Street. “He never turns his eye off. He’s always looking,” Scheier-Dolberg says.

Harrist says that getting people truly to look is a main job in art history: “The older I get, the more I find myself focusing on that,” he says. “It’s incredibly hard to look at things. You think you’re seeing things but really your eye is just drifting.” Recently he has been examining the ways of the late Meyer Schapiro ’24, GSAS’35, the preeminent art reviewer, historian and Columbia professor. Schapiro believed that to examine a work of art closely, it helped enormously to draw it. To that end, Harrist himself took up drawing about the time he became chair of the department and enrolled in classes at a studio downtown. As chair, he secured funds for students to take life drawing classes.

He says about art, “I love it more every year. Sometimes I feel I’ve only recently begun to see things myself. It makes me wonder what I was doing all those years and all I missed.”

Despite his wide-ranging expertise, Harrist is repeatedly described as low-key, humble, open-minded and humorous. “He has so much knowledge and knows all these facts, but you can go out with him and just have fun,” Stuart says. She says there’s nobody she’d rather go to a concert or ballet with than Harrist.

Nancy Zafris GSAS’79, friends with Harrist since meeting at International House in 1978, describes attending a Matisse cutout exhibition at MoMA last December: “Bob was talking to us and pretty soon there was a little cluster of people listening and following us,” Zafris says. “He was so clear and insightful and interesting, and so accepting of other people. Two older women were there from out of town and he went off with them to look at something. He was very excited about what they had to say.”

Zafris says Harrist “finds a lot of pleasure in things other academics might disdain; he doesn’t disdain anything.” She mentions his

It is the students, Harrist says, who keep him inspired: “I’m always looking for new things to say ... it’s through teaching that I continue to engage with the works.”

watching a *Facts of Life* sitcom marathon with her when he was in grad school at Princeton and his finding it “quite delightful.” On a visit to New York in October 2014, she and Harrist went to see the New York City Ballet and then went straight to a Bill Murray movie.

Susan Boynton, chair of the music department and Harrist’s teaching partner for Art Hum/Music Hum this past summer in Paris, noted that Harrist has so many friends that he was invited out or to someone’s home nearly every night. “He can relate to people

really easily. There’s not a grain of snobbery in him,” Boynton says. Those traits also make it easy for Columbia students to relate to him, she says, and contribute to his popularity.

Students of Harrist appreciate that he gets to know them and listens to them. As part of Art Hum in Paris, on a visit to the Louvre, Harrist told the class first to spend time walking around Michelangelo’s *Dying Slave* and *Rebellious Slave* sculptures, and for the students to note what interested them. Then, in the midst of the crowds, Harrist led each student around the sculptures individually for a few minutes to discuss the work. “He asked us what stood out to us and took us over to that part of the sculpture and talked about it,” says Ben Libman ’17. He says each student did as much talking as the professor: “It was very collaborative. He really embraces the seminar environment.”

“He would incorporate your strengths or interests to bring out the best in you, and for the class,” says Kaitlin Hickey ’18. She says Harrist picked up on her knowledge of mythology, and when the class was at the Medici Fountain in Luxembourg Garden, he asked her to say a bit to the rest of the class about the depiction of Leda and the Swan behind the fountain.

Indeed it is the students, Harrist says, who keep him inspired. “If I were living out in the mountains and not at a university, it’d be hard to stay interested,” he says. “I’m always looking for new things to say — even though they’ve never heard it before, I have, and they can sense a certain staleness if you don’t continue to revise and discover new things. So it’s through teaching that I continue to engage with the works.”



Princesse de Broglie, 1851–53

Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres (French, 1780–1867)
Oil on canvas 47.75 x 35.75 in. (121.3 x 90.8 cm)
Robert Lehman Collection, 1975 (1975.1.186)

“I like to end Art Hum tours with this portrait, which I think is one of the most beautiful paintings in the museum. It stops us in our tracks, above all because of the seemingly photographic precision of the image. Have you ever seen a more beautiful blue satin dress? You can get lost in simply admiring what a master of oil painting Ingres was. But the painting is full of subtle distortions and weird adjustments of reality. The face has the geometric regularity of an archaic Greek statue, and Ingres never let actual bone structure get in the way of painting elegant bodies. Try to figure out how the right wrist is attached to the arm. Most of the surface of the painting is smooth and glossy, but pieces of jewelry are painted with thick encrustations of paint that stand up in relief. The Princesse de Broglie died at 35, seven years after Ingres finished her portrait. This fact has nothing to do with the origins of the painting — neither the princess nor Ingres could see into the future — but it’s hard not to let this knowledge of her fate cast a retrospective melancholy over this quiet, serene image.”



Bacchanal: A Faun Teased by Children, 17th century (ca. 1616–17)

Gian Lorenzo Bernini (Italian, 1598–1680)
Italian (Rome)
Marble; H. 52 in. (132.1 cm)
Purchase, The Annenberg Fund Inc. Gift, Fletcher, Rogers, and Louis V. Bell Funds, and Gift of J. Pierpont Morgan, by exchange, 1976 (1976.92)

“This work is an old favorite on Art Hum tours of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. It is probably a collaborative work by Pietro Bernini and his far more famous son, Gian Lorenzo, one of the great virtuoso sculptors. Finished when he was only 18, this piece is a spectacular demonstration of skill. The visual interaction of the wild faun, plump children, a dog, a lizard, a tree trunk, vines, grapes and other fruit is so complex that it’s hard to know where to start looking. One thing you can do is just try to figure out where all the hands and feet are placed. Looking in this way pulls you around the statue, which is composed to make you move. Another way to enjoy Bernini’s art is to make a visual inventory of the different textures, all carved from marble: skin, hair, fur, bark, leaves, vines, fruit and more. Bernini, like a wizard, could transform stone into anything he liked.”

During the year Harrist spent in New York when he was on sabbatical from Oberlin, he went to see the New York City Ballet 65 times. It was the year of the Balanchine festival, and Harrist had discovered a love of Balanchine while in grad school at Columbia. “It changed my life,” he says of the first performance he saw. “I could tell instantly this was something marvelous I’d want to see again and again. It’s complicated, like paintings. It’s not something you can see once and think you’ve figured it out.” He became somewhat of an expert on choreography by self-study.

Harrist continues to expand his horizons within the art world. He has taken an interest in contemporary American ceramics artist Betty Woodman, for example. He continually goes to exhibitions — back in New York in September, in the 10 days between his return from the China conference and departure for a work trip to England, he was trying to squeeze in a gallery visit to see a show of works by Martha Armstrong, an artist he had never heard of. “I can’t wait to get down to Chelsea to see the paintings,” he says.

In 2010, Harrist encountered the abstract paintings of the late modern artist Roy Newell at a Chelsea gallery. But he didn’t stop at acquiring a work for his own collection; he returned to the gallery and made inquiries, then sought out Newell’s widow, Ann, to learn more. “She was so entranced with Bob, she gave him access to everything,” Hood says. Harrist curated an exhibition of Newell’s work at the Pollock Krasner House & Study Center on Long Island in 2014 and wrote the accompanying catalogue on Newell and his work.

“It was refreshing to do something outside of my normal field,” he says. “If you love art, you should love it all. You can’t be an expert in everything, but you should be *interested* in everything, and you should stretch yourself.”

Shira Boss ’93, JRN’97, SIPA’98 is an author and contributing writer to CCT. Her most recent article was “Building a Lifeline” (Spring 2015). She lives on the Upper West Side with her husband, two sons and two whippets.

Making Her Mark

Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 uses her role as NYC council speaker to advocate for the underserved

As recently as late fall 2013, Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 was a relatively obscure member of the New York City Council. A Democrat, she cruised to reelection in her district, which largely comprises East Harlem and portions of the South Bronx, seemingly destined to serve four more years in the 51-member legislative body before term limits would force her out of office and, more than likely, back to the world of activism and nonprofits.

And then her political future changed forever.

A behind-the-scenes push to elect a liberal speaker of the City Council — which included unprecedented intervention from then-Mayor-elect Bill de Blasio — propelled Mark-Viverito into arguably the second-most powerful elected post in the nation's largest city.

Mark-Viverito, the first Latino or Latina to be elected to the role, has seized the opportunity, leading with a focus on diversity and activism that was in part forged by her experiences two decades prior as a College student. Outspoken and often unfiltered (particularly on Twitter under the handle @MMViverito), she has worked in tandem with de Blasio on a number of progressive reforms for the city, including mandating paid sick leave and creating a new municipal identification program. She also has wielded the power of her position to broaden the reach of government into the lives of its citizens, particularly those left behind by New York's recent economic boom.

"The speaker is a fierce advocate," says de Blasio. "A sense of social justice pervades everything she does. I respect that a lot, and I think it's something that her colleagues in the council trust and respect as well."

But Mark-Viverito also has broken with the mayor on several key issues, such as the size of the police force, and has used her office as a platform to become a forceful national figure on issues like immigration rights and criminal justice reform.

While largely no-nonsense in City Council chambers, she also can display a lighter side, from playfully talking trash during the annual City Council vs. Mayor's office softball game, to live-tweeting the Latin Grammy Awards, to sipping champagne and dancing well past

midnight during the city Democratic party's yearly retreat to her native Puerto Rico.

And, with her four-year term approaching the halfway mark, she doesn't want to squander any time.

"Eyes around the world are on this city," says Mark-Viverito. "Everyone watches what we do."

Mark-Viverito's journey to New York's corridors of power began far from City Hall.

She was born in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, but frequently spent summers visiting family in New York (the five boroughs are home to more than 720,000 Puerto Ricans — six times that of any other United States city). Feeling the pull of Manhattan, she eagerly enrolled at the College.

But her transition wasn't easy.

Coming from a high school that had a graduating class of 40, Mark-Viverito was overwhelmed by Columbia's size. She initially intended to follow in the footsteps of her father, a doctor, but abandoned that track after a year.

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 started interacting with some people who had a very negative view of who a Puerto Rican is," says Mark-Viverito, who previously had never lived anywhere but her hometown. She can, decades later, still recall the sting when a Carman floormate decried Puerto Ricans as "parasites" who were "all living on welfare." Another time, a student yelled at her to "get back on your boat and go home."

"That challenged me," she says. "That got me thinking about what it means to be a Puerto Rican in this new environment."

She realized that her experience of being an outsider was far from novel at Columbia

Melissa Mark-Viverito '91 took office as speaker of the New York City Council on January 8, 2014.

WILLIAM ALATRISTE FOR THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL



By Jonathan Lemire '01

and in the city at large. “That did help shape my level of critical thinking and my place in the city,” says Mark-Viverito, adding that it spurred her to be more involved with social equity issues.

Two passions emerged during her sophomore year that kept her at Columbia.

The first was WKCR. She spent two years co-hosting a radio show that unlocked the world of Latin Jazz to her. Armed with a press credential, she frequented shows at some of the city’s most famed jazz clubs, from Blue Note to the Village Vanguard. She saw the likes of Tito Puente perform and was dazzled by their artistry and moved by the musical tradition of her native land. (Mark-Viverito’s time at WKCR would, after graduation, steer her to the New York City radio station WBAI, a listener-supported liberal station, where she was a volunteer contributor to the news department and political shows.)

The other passion was a burgeoning taste for activism, particularly for racial and cultural causes. As a sophomore, she joined Acción Boricua, a student organization founded to foster awareness of Puerto Rican culture, history and current affairs while also providing support for Latino issues at Columbia. She also became heavily involved with a campaign to diversify the Core Curriculum and another to push for more Latino and Puerto Rican professors and staff. Both met some resistance.

Her niche at Columbia grew to include a political science major and a love for Latin-American film classes. She fondly remembers late nights in Carman and Ruggles debating the issues of the day, and also visiting friends at NYU and on the Lower East Side.

But it was her time involved in political causes at Columbia that helped to shape her career and eventually the policies of New York City’s government.

Her first steps onto the municipal political stage came a few years after graduation when she joined a local community board and then

coordinated a group that protested the Navy’s use of the Puerto Rican island of Vieques as a bombing target. She later became a top organizer at a politically powerful health care workers’ union before running for council in 2003.

She lost, but captured the seat two years later.

Mark-Viverito’s focus was on bettering the lives of the less fortunate in her Upper Manhattan/South Bronx district, which contains the poorest ZIP code in the nation. She sponsored bills focused on tenant harassment and on improving parks; at times she waded onto larger stages, such as when she criticized

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.)’s prior opposition to so-called “sanctuary cities” for not enforcing all immigration laws.

“When it comes to issues of fairness, of sticking up for the dispossessed, she will not compromise,” says City Councilman Corey Johnson, who represents parts of Manhattan.

Mark-Viverito won reelection in 2009 amid a swirling controversy around then-Mayor Michael Bloomberg’s move to overturn term limits and capture a third term. The backlash against Bloomberg’s extended tenure breathed new life into the city’s previously

downtrodden political left wing, including the formation of a progressive caucus in the city council — helmed by Mark-Viverito — and the rebirth of the Working Families Party, which was founded by union and liberal community organizations.

The party formulated secret plans to rally around a progressive speaker candidate in 2013, after more than a decade of rule by moderate speakers who largely kept the body’s liberal tendencies in check. Mark-Viverito and her allies defied the county political bosses who normally hand-pick the speaker and, with de Blasio’s stunning intervention, rounded up enough councilmembers’ support to secure her victory

The vote that made her victory official turned into an impromptu fiesta within City Hall’s council chambers; some spectators waved Puerto Rican flags, and a group of drummers and maracas players broke out into a salsa-inflected song when the tally was over.

New York City’s government is set up to have a powerful mayor but a bill only becomes law if it’s passed by the 51-person council which, traditionally, is dominated by a strong speaker who can set when — or if — legislation can come to a floor vote. Mark-Viverito’s win moved the council, which only has three Republicans to go along with 48 Democrats, in line with de Blasio and ushered in a series of progressive reforms and programs.

Free pre-kindergarten was expanded throughout the public school system, which educates more than 1 million students a year. The NYPD tactic known as stop-and-frisk, which allowed police to question anyone they deemed suspicious, was sharply curtailed after critics decried it as discriminatory against young men of color. And the council passed living wage legislation and paid sick leave, offering a helping hand to those barely scraping by.

“The council under her leadership has been there time and again to drive things forward,” de Blaiso says.

Mark-Viverito’s political views are mostly to the left of the famously liberal de Blasio. She’s moved past the mayor on pushing for criminal justice reform, including the creation of a bail fund for minor offenders and a call for some low-level violations, such as jumping a subway turnstile, to warrant only summonses instead of jail time.

She also sided with the family of Eric Garner, who was placed in a fatal chokehold by a police officer on a Staten Island street, and she wore a T-shirt in the Council chambers emblazoned with his last words — “I Can’t Breathe” — as a sign of protest. The police unions demanded an apology. She refused.

“I feel very comfortable in my role,” says Mark-Viverito, who says she has tried to balance the needs of her district with those of the entire council. “I feel really good about what we’ve accomplished. We’re really making a change in people’s lives in what we’re doing.”

Early in her term as speaker, Mark-Viverito was dogged by a pervasive belief in political circles that she would not defy the mayor because she was beholden to him for helping to install her atop the council. But that has changed.

During two consecutive city budget negotiations, she and the council advocated for hiring 1,000 more police officers to continue to keep crime low and also to provide more outreach to communities that have felt mistreated by the NYPD. The first year, de Blasio held firm and the officers weren’t hired. But in the second, relenting to pressure from the speaker and Police Commissioner William Bratton, he gave in and issued the green light to hire even more police officers (nearly 1,300) than Mark-Viverito had requested.



Above: Mark-Viverito at the June 8, 2014, Puerto Rican Day Parade; right: Mark-Viverito and Mayor Bill de Blasio confer on June 19, 2014, before announcing the budget agreement for Fiscal Year 2015.



PHOTOS: WILLIAM ALATRISTE FOR THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

She also opposed the mayor’s consideration of a plan to tear up Times Square’s popular pedestrian plazas as a means to rid the iconic attraction of costumed characters, like Elmo, and half-naked ladies who aggressively panhandle tourists. And she pushed de Blasio to declare a truce with the ridesharing company Uber and then publicly rebuked the mayor for seemingly taking the council’s support for granted.

The squabbles — and her growing national profile — have helped Mark-Viverito move out of de Blasio’s shadow and assert her political independence.

“Everything is on a case-by-case basis,” the speaker says. “It’s not like I’m calculating that I have to do this or not. Depending on the issue, if it’s something I have to break with the mayor, I’ll do it.”

Mark-Viverito’s voice has become the loudest on immigration issues. She’s made regular appearances on cable TV news as the debate in Washington heats up, and the council has established a fund for unaccompanied immigrant minors’ legal fees. She also endorsed Hillary Rodham Clinton for President and has become a key surrogate for the Democratic frontrunner in Latino communities.

The municipal ID card, introduced in early 2015, is perhaps her signature achievement. More than 500,000 New Yorkers have signed up for the card, which allows undocumented immigrants — and groups such as the elderly and the transgendered — who would otherwise have trouble obtaining legal identification a means to access vital city services.

“I think she was underestimated at first,” says Jeanne Zaino, a political science professor at Iona College and pundit who has watched Mark-Viverito’s tenure carefully. “She has shown a willingness to step away from the mayor and, on immigration, she is becoming a key voice on an issue that looms large in the 2016 presidential campaign.”

Mark-Viverito, 46, has a known preference for privacy and doesn’t often discuss her life outside City Hall. She is equally as tight-lipped about her political plans, though she has ruled out a 2017 mayoral primary challenge to de Blasio or a run for Rep. Charlie Rangel (D-N.Y.)’s Congressional seat when he retires that same year.

But while she can be at times cagey in interviews, she speaks more freely in another venue: Twitter. She runs her own account, rarely submitting tweets to her staff for review, and she has been known to use the social media service to criticize public figures from Andrew Cuomo to Donald Trump. She also used Twitter to reveal in August 2014 that she has human papillomavirus, or HPV, and used the moment to urge her 17,000 followers to get vaccinated.

Twitter is also where she displays her lighter side. She live-tweeted a Republican presidential primary debate and often uses it to tease reporters. On the night of her April 1 birthday, she posted a photo of a diamond ring with the hashtags #OMG #YES, sending reporters — and some of her staff — scrambling.

Eleven minutes later, she sent another tweet: #HappyAprilFoolsDay.

That sense of fun is also present in the privacy of her office. There, she can be colorful and loud, nonchalantly dropping an expletive to make a point. Well-liked by her staff, she moves easily between English and Spanish when talking to her aides and has decorated her office with Puerto Rican artwork.

One of those pieces is by Don Rimx, the same artist whose mural once led to Mark-Viverito being accused of — wait for it — performing voodoo. The painting, of a large and rather colorful decapitated chicken, had appeared on the side of her 2013 council opponent’s apartment building several weeks before the primary. The opponent said it was a hex; in fact the piece was commissioned by El Museo del Barrio. (Mark-Viverito, unsurprisingly, took to Twitter to address the wild claim, writing “Darn! My little secret revealed! #cantmakethisup”.)

She also says she’d be open to building a relationship with Columbia. She has spoken at a few Latino Alumni Association of Columbia University events and she credits her time on the Heights for playing a part in getting her ready for her next challenges.

“I do appreciate the academic rigor and the discipline that it helps develop,” says Mark-Viverito of her studies at Columbia. “There were tough moments, but I definitely value and appreciate that they helped mold me into the person I am.”

Jonathan Lemire '01 covers New York politics and government for The Associated Press.



DUAL IDENTITY

Michael Oren '77, SIPA'78 bridges
the American-Israeli divide

By Eugene L. Meyer '64

Michael Oren '77, SIPA'78 is no longer Israel's ambassador to the United States, a post he held from 2009 to 2013. But here he was this past fall in Washington, D.C., beginning a grueling 10-day, seven-state speaking tour — and this, immediately after conferring with the presidents of Panama and Nepal in their capital cities of Panama City and Kathmandu, some 8,400 miles apart.

In his first two crammed days in Washington, Oren, a newly elected member of the Knesset, Israel's parliament, met with Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Elliott Abrams, a former assistant secretary of state under President Reagan and adviser to President George W. Bush; had breakfast with seven Democratic members of Congress; and met separately with two Republican and two more Democratic members.

During the trip, rising as early as 5 a.m., he would also do 16 media interviews and 17 scheduled events, including speaking to students at American University.

Oren's memoir of his years as ambassador, *Ally: My Journey Across the American-Israeli Divide*, published in June, generated buzz for its critical view of U.S. policies toward Israel and came up repeatedly as he toured. But he is writing a new chapter in a hectic and sometimes controversial life and career that have taken him from Morningside Heights to the heights of diplomacy and now into politics as a member of the Knesset.

Along the way, the American-born Oren also earned advanced degrees; taught Middle East history at Har-

vard, Princeton, Yale and Georgetown to undergraduate and graduate students; and wrote four well-reviewed, best-selling books. His landmark work, 2008's *Power, Faith, and Fantasy: America in the Middle East: 1776 to the Present*, and his memoir, published in English, were scheduled for Hebrew editions late this year.



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"He has tremendous energy," says Oren's close friend, well-known Israeli author Yossi Klein Halevi, with whom

he speaks daily — sometimes two or three times — and with whom he has written Op-Ed articles. In their collaborations, Halevi usually sits at the computer while Oren paces and sometimes dictates. "His mind races," says Halevi.

Oren's successes in academia, in the publishing world and now in politics were not preordained. Raised in West Orange, N.J., Oren (né Michael Scott Bornstein) struggled with dyslexia and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. "I didn't know how to spell, couldn't do math. I didn't know how to do a lot of things," he says. These deficits consigned him to what he calls in his memoir the "dumb classes," essentially the lowest track in an academic classification system. Even when a high school teacher noticed he was writing poetry and promoted him into honors English, he faced an uphill battle.

Oren was preparing to apply to colleges but scored poorly on the SATs. The problem was he couldn't draw a direct line from the question to the right answer box. Armed with a ruler when he retook the test, he more than doubled his scores, helping him to gain admission to Columbia, which he says was his "dream school." (A writer of short stories, plays and poetry — some of which were published in *Seventeen* magazine — he was impressed that Jack Kerouac '44 and Allen Ginsberg '48 were Columbians.)

Oren's upbringing also did not seem to presage his pathway to the Middle East. Though Jewish, he went to a YMCA camp because that's what his parents could afford. While at the Y camp, he recalls, "I went to church every Sunday, said grace before every meal." The only Jewish kid on the block where he lived, he writes in *Ally*, "I rarely made it off the school bus without being attacked by Jew-baiting bullies." When he was in high school, his family's synagogue was bombed.

In the face of these traumas, Zionism — the creation of a Jewish national state in Palestine — seemed increasingly appealing. "As a teenager," he writes in *Ally*, "my Zionism was simple, a passion for an Israel that furnished muscular answers to anti-Semitism and a dignified response to the Holocaust."

In May 1970, Oren visited Washington, D.C., on a trip sponsored by Habonim Dror, a global Labor Zionist youth movement. There he shook hands with Yitzhak Rabin, former commander of the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) who was then Israeli ambassador to the U.S. and later the country's prime minister; he was assassinated in 1995 by a Jewish extremist opposed to his peace efforts. Through Habonim Dror, at 15, Oren spent a transformative summer working on an Israeli kibbutz. He decided then that he would later "make aliyah" (literally, to ascend) to the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people, a right granted to Jews worldwide; among other things, this would involve immersing himself in the culture and in Hebrew language study and, after becoming an Israeli citizen, serving in the IDF. What motivated him, he says, were "my faith plus 5,000 years of [Jewish] history."

At the College, Oren took Arabic and majored in Middle East studies. He pledged Alpha Delta Phi, which he

describes as the "literary and jazz fraternity," and joined the crew team not only because he enjoyed the sport but also because was in training, he reasoned, to serve in military.

As an upperclassman, Oren decided to pursue a joint master's program that, for a total of five years at Columbia, enabled him to earn an advanced degree from SIPA in addition to a bachelor's. He moved into an apartment on Claremont Avenue with David J. Rothkopf '77, now the CEO and editor of the FP Group, publishers of *Foreign Policy Magazine*, and still a close friend.

"He was serious, ambitious, an interesting, diverse guy," says Rothkopf, "in some respects, the ideal combination of these things that Columbia, and places like Columbia, look for."

While undergraduates, Oren and Rothkopf were instrumental in helping to start the campus television station. Oren also was news director of WKCR and editor of the yearbook, for which he interviewed Herman Wouk '34. He wrote and produced plays; two were performed on campus. He was inspired by professors Karl-Ludwig Selig, Columbia's Cervantes expert, and Wallace Gray, who famously taught the course "Eliot, Joyce, Pound."

"Selig taught me how to read a book," Oren says. "Gray taught me how to write one." He made the Dean's List several times.

Oren likes to point out that a number of his Columbia friends also made aliyah around the same time, in the late '70s and early '80s. These include Dore Gold '75, director-general of Israel's Foreign Ministry and former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations; Judy Maltz, BC'83, an Israeli journalist and documentary filmmaker; and Tom Sawicki '74, JRN'77, director of programming in the Jerusalem office of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Changing his surname was part of Oren's acculturation and assimilation in Israel, where many American émigrés adopt Hebrew names. "Oren" is Hebrew for pine tree, which Oren describes in his memoir as recalling his American roots but also referring to his regeneration in Israel. But there was more to it than that. After talking with his father, Michael Scott Bornstein became Michael B. Oren, to retain at least part of his birth name: The "B" stands for Bornstein.

Soon after earning an M.I.A., Oren moved to Israel. He joined the IDF and was a paratrooper in Lebanon, which Israel had invaded in 1982 after cross-border attacks by the Palestinian Liberation Movement.

The year before, a chance meeting on a Jerusalem street led to his marriage to Sally Edelstein, a San Francisco native who was working in a frame shop and teaching dance in the holy city. (She is currently president of the Hadassah International Board of Trustees, Israel, and on the board of Batsheva Dance Company.) Still in the military, Oren redeployed to Beirut the day after their wedding.

When Yoav GS'11, the first of their three children, was born in 1983, Oren told the obstetrician that his son "would never wear a helmet" because of his own traumatic experience in Lebanon, where his unit suffered heavy casualties



and its commander was killed. "And I thought in 18 years we wouldn't be at war still," Oren says. But Yoav, now 32, did serve in the military; he was wounded in 2004 on the West Bank by a Palestinian terrorist. (Oren's other children are Lia, 28, and Noam, 25.) Violence affected the family in another, horrific way. Oren's wife's sister was killed in 1995 while visiting Israel when a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up on a bus in which she was a passenger.

Carrying both Israeli and American passports, Oren easily crossed back and forth between "the Israeli-American divide," a not uncommon condition for many Israelis with roots or careers spanning both countries. Oren returned to the U.S. in September 1982 to complete a doctorate at Princeton, and to teach history.

Oren, the scholar, wrote the 2002 best-seller *Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East*. Eliot A. Cohen, in *Foreign Affairs*, called it "a gripping account narrative that sheds light not only on the tortured

"Oren" is Hebrew for pine tree, which not only recalls his American roots but also refers to his regeneration in Israel.

politics of the region but on the broader, troubling question of how politicians may find themselves drawn into a conflict that they have neither anticipated nor desired."

Oren has also written two novels, one of which, *Reunion*, is based on his father's WWII Army combat experience during the Battle of the Bulge.

In 2009, Oren was teaching "America in the Middle East" and "The Military History of the Middle East" at Georgetown when the ambassadorship to the U.S. opened up, and he decided to throw his hat in the ring. The ambas-

Oren (fourth from right) with his crew team.

COURTESY MICHAEL OREN '77, SIPA'78

sadorship “connected me to the two parts of my identity,” he says now. “It was the link between Israel and the United States. I didn’t want to be the ambassador to Switzerland.” His first diplomatic post was also Israel’s most important.

To assume the post, Oren had to renounce his U.S. citizenship and surrender his American passport. “I cried, literally,” he says. However, he adds, “I understood it wouldn’t make me any less of an American, less of a football fan or less of a Civil War buff.”

In Washington, Oren would represent not only his adopted country but also the Likud government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a controversial figure among American Jews. His challenge would be to walk a fine line, defending the government against its critics and against skeptics in the administration of President Barack

and navigate moment-to-moment political and personal tensions while keeping his eye on the long-term arc of the relationship.”

After Oren stepped down as ambassador in October 2013, he did not have concrete plans. But Rothkopf had an idea. As he recalls, “I said, ‘Look, what are you going to do next?’ He said, ‘I don’t know.’ I said, ‘What about politics?’ He hadn’t thought of it. I said, ‘If you don’t try, you won’t be satisfied. You need to check that box.’ He felt he wanted to retain a seat at the table. That was the most reasonable path.”

A typical day for the Knesset member Oren begins early enough for him to read four or five newspapers before he drives 1¼ hours from his home in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The Knesset meets in plenary sessions Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Committee meetings begin at 9 a.m. and last until 2 p.m. or 4 p.m., when the plenary sessions start, and sometimes end late into the night or early the next morning. “I hadn’t pulled an all-nighter since Columbia,” Oren says. “Now, I do it pretty regularly.”

Entering Israeli politics on his own, Oren eschewed the prime minister’s conservative Likud party for centrist Kulanu (Hebrew for “all of us”) with a center-left domestic agenda but center-right on defense and international issues. With 10 seats, it is the second-largest party in Netanyahu’s governing coalition. “I always considered myself somebody who is center-right on security issues and center-left on social issues; Kulanu is closest to that,” Oren says.

Though he chairs the key foreign affairs subcommittee on security, he admittedly has a lower profile as one of 120 members of the Knesset than as ambassador. “That’s the pinnacle,” he says of his previous position, “and frankly there is really nowhere else to go.” But, of course, there is. Does he aspire to higher office, say, to be the prime minister? “I’m not going to go there,” Oren demurs. “I’m happy serving my country in the best way I can. That’s the diplomatic answer.”

Oren’s fall trip to the U.S. was put together by The Israel Project, a nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization that seeks to “inject facts and an honest perspective into the public conversation about Israel, the Middle East and U.S.-Israeli relationship.”

At American University’s Abramson Family Recital Hall, Oren — who had opposed the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq — delivered a ½-hour critique of America’s foreign policies in the years since, which he described as a “hodgepodge of American reactions” to the 2011 so-called Arab Spring and to subsequent events, in Libya, Syria and the nuclear deal negotiated with Iran. He then settled his lanky, 6-2 frame into a leather easy chair on stage for a conversation with Professor Tamara Wittes, director of the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, followed by Q&A. Afterward, he lingered to talk to students. Like the politician he is, he also posed for pictures with them.

Looking on, Leslie Meyers, Oren’s Israel Project facilitator on this trip, recalled his appearance at Washington’s

Being ambassador was, Oren says, “four years in a pressure cooker, with very little sleep.”

Obama ’83 while seeking to maintain good relations with the increasingly divided American Jewish community.

Publicly, Oren frequently referred to Israeli-American relations as “unbreakable and unshakeable.” In *Ally*, however, Oren writes that privately he found Obama sometimes overly sympathetic to the Arab world while browbeating Israel. “I’m a centrist,” Oren said during his recent American tour. “Enough. Let’s stop calling each other names.” But in his memoir, he is critical of the administration’s negotiations with Iran over its nuclear program, and he discloses that he later disagreed with Netanyahu’s decision to address Congress as politically polarizing.

Being ambassador was, Oren says, “four years [in] a pressure cooker, without a vacation, and not many weekends at all, with very little sleep.” Recalls his friend Halevi, “I used to get phone calls from Michael at 4 a.m. his time when he was ambassador, to just test some ideas. I used to ask him, ‘Don’t you sleep?’ I don’t know how he got through those years on such little sleep and [with] such relentless tensions, because Michael’s job as ambassador was to pretend all was well in the Israeli-American relationship.”

Oren acknowledges that “it was a transformative, challenging period. The Middle East basically unraveled during my time. America was deeply politically polarized. There was the economic crisis. On the other hand, it was an inestimable privilege [to serve].”

He remembers emerging from the White House one time and seeing the Washington skyline over the South Lawn. “I felt, ‘Am I really here?’ That feeling stayed with me during the four years I was ambassador” (actually 4½, as he acceded to Netanyahu’s request that he extend for six months).

In Rothkopf’s view, Oren as “a strategic thinker” was “an extremely effective spokesman for the Israeli government. He was a very effective advocate and talented diplomat. He sought to advance what he saw as his country’s interest through a position of strength. He has had to face



Politics & Prose in June, perhaps the country’s best-known independent bookstore, when eager buyers formed a long line for him to autograph their copies. “He’s so patient,” Meyers says. “He talked to every person.”

Oren’s next stop that night was the Kennedy Center, where he and current Israeli ambassador Ron Dermer were named 12th — as “the new Israel lobby” — on *Politico Magazine*’s top 50 list of “thinkers, doers and visionaries transforming American politics in 2015.”

A few days later, Oren was talking again, this time at 6:50 a.m. on CNN with Chris Cuomo. The set’s backdrop was an enlarged cover of *Ally*. The two discussed escalating tensions in the Middle East and the sometimes difficult Israeli-American relations under President Obama, though Obama’s name was never mentioned.

Oren noted that Palestinian terrorists had killed four Israelis within the past few days and there was a “sense of growing violence.” Right-wingers were demonstrating in front of Netanyahu’s residence demanding retaliation. Even Oren’s children, whom he says are not right-wingers, felt Israel should “do something.”

Ever the teacher, Oren explained that Palestinians are Sunni Muslims who “see what’s happening in Syria,” where Shiites backed by Iran are killing their religious brethren. Palestinians “don’t want this,” he said, reiterating his support for a two-state solution. “But you need someone to sit down at the table with you.”

Cuomo turned the focus back to Israel and America. “Things have changed,” Cuomo said. “It feels different.”

There are “serious differences,” Oren acknowledged. “Iran is a big one,” on which he said there is a national consensus in Israel that “this deal is bad. Iran moved 5,000 soldiers into Syria last week. For us, it’s not just a nuclear issue.”

Yet, politicians aside, Oren added that support for Israel in this country is at an all-time high.

Cuomo wrapped up the segment reminding viewers of *Ally*, adding, “I read it.”

Not missing a beat, Oren offered to autograph his copy.

Eugene L. Meyer ’64 is a former longtime Washington Post reporter, an author and the editor of B’nai B’rith Magazine.

Israeli President Shimon Peres (second from left); Oren (third from left), then the Israeli ambassador to the United States; and others leave the White House after meetings with President Barack Obama ’83 in April 2011.

MANDEL NGAN / AFP / GETTY IMAGES



The execution of the conspirators in the Gunpowder Plot: Claes Jansz Visscher's contemporary etching depicts Londoners gazing from rooftops, windows and streets as four Gunpowder plotters are drawn to the site of execution.

From Leir To Lear

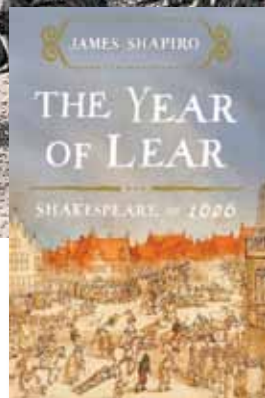
Shakespeare, literary architect, performs a gut renovation and creates a classic

James Shapiro '77 is the Larry Miller Professor of English and Comparative Literature and an eminent Shakespeare specialist: the Shakespeare Scholar in Residence at New York's Public Theater, a member of the Board of Directors at the Royal Shakespeare Company and a governor of the Folger Shakespeare Library. His last book (as an editor) was *Shakespeare in America: An Anthology from the Revolution to Now* (Library of America, 2014).

Shapiro's latest foray into the Bard's works, *The Year of Lear: Shakespeare in 1606* (Simon & Schuster, 2015), takes a radically new look at the so-familiar author. Shapiro admits that, like most scholars, he saw Shakespeare as mainly an Elizabethan writer; the playwright grew to prominence during the "Gloriana" era's gradual decline. But three of Shakespeare's best-known tragedies — *King Lear*, *Macbeth* and *Antony and Cleopatra* — were written in a single, extraordinary year early in the reign of Queen Elizabeth's successor, King James. James had actually named Shakespeare and his players the "King's Men," his official theater company, by 1603.

In *The Year of Lear*, Shapiro describes how Shakespeare's *Lear* was written in the shadows of England's Jacobean gloom, as London was beset by plague and the bitter aftermath of treason. He shows us Shakespeare's efforts to renovate an older dramatic work (*King Leir*, performed by the Queen's Men) and the subtle literary changes he used to make it modern.

— Rose Kernochan BC'82



King *Lear* draws so extensively from *King Leir* that Shakespeare's indebtedness couldn't have come solely from what he recalled from acting in it or seeing it staged years earlier, however prodigious his memory. The profusion of echoes confirms that reading the recently printed edition proved to be the catalyst for the play now forming in his mind. *King Leir's* survival in turn allows us a glimpse of Shakespeare as literary architect — performing a gut renovation of the old original, preserving the frame, salvaging bits and pieces, transposing outmoded features in innovative ways.

Demand for new work was as insatiable at the public theaters as it was at court. Because Elizabethan and Jacobean spectators expected to see a different play every day, playing companies had to acquire as many as twenty new plays a year while rounding out their repertory with at least that many older and reliably popular ones. Attendance would eventually drop when familiar plays began to feel stale, and the task of breathing fresh life into those staged at the Globe would almost certainly have fallen to Shakespeare. While we know that Shakespeare wrote or collaborated on as many as forty plays, we'll never know how many old ones he touched up. We do know (by comparing early and later versions) that he updated his earliest tragedy, *Titus Andronicus* (c. 1590–92), adding a poignant new scene in which a maddened Titus tries to kill a fly with a knife. Some scholars believe he was also the author of the speeches added to that old chestnut *The Spanish Tragedy* (c. 1587), by Thomas Kyd. For all we know, over the course of his career Shakespeare might have refreshed dozens of his company's plays in this way and was as practiced as anyone at giving a cold, hard look at an old favorite, recognizing what now felt a bit off or what trick had been missed. His ability to pinpoint what was flawed in the works of others was one of his greatest gifts, though not one we know enough about nor celebrate today. It was a talent closely allied to his habit of relying on the plots others had devised rather than inventing his own.

Shakespeare had a talent for recognizing the untapped potential of resonant words, even the simplest ones.

Before he picked up a copy of the old *Leir*, Shakespeare was already familiar with several versions of this story. He may have first read about Lear's reign in his well-worn copy of Holinshed's *Chronicles of England, Scotland, and Ireland*. He had also read Edmund Spenser's brief account of it in *The Faerie Queene* and had come across retellings of the tale in both *Mirror for Magistrates* and *Albion's England*. He might have even consulted Geoffrey of Monmouth's Latin version of Lear's story from which all these other versions derive. Yet scholars who have painstakingly compared *King Lear* with each of these sources conclude that as voracious a reader as Shakespeare was, and as much as he might have drawn

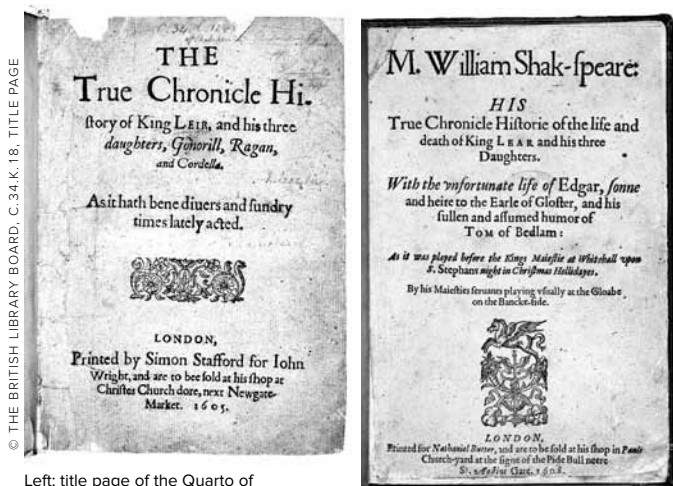
on these and other versions of the story for particular details, it was *King Leir* that he worked most closely from — and against.

That "against" would have been obvious to anyone who compared the title page of *King Leir* with that of the first printed version of Shakespeare's play, a quarto that appeared in London's bookstalls in early 1608. Ordinarily, considerably more time passed before Shakespeare's playing company turned one of his plays over to a publisher; a delay of a couple of years was closer to the norm for his Elizabethan plays, and as yet not a single one of his Jacobean plays had been printed. So it's doubly surprising that Shakespeare's play was entered in the Stationers' Register in November 1607, less than a year after it was staged at court. The full title of the 1608 quarto of *Lear* feels like a riposte to the title page of the old play, which had read in full: "The True Chronicle History of King Leir, and his three daughters, Gonorill, Ragan, and Cordella, As it hath been divers and sundry times lately acted." This time, the publisher not only names the play's author but — and this was new — gives England's best-known playwright top billing in large font. The play is emphatically Shakespeare's: "HIS" is in capital letters and even gets a separate line. The main title that follows is much the same as the old play's: a "True Chronicle History of the life and death of King LEAR and his three Daughters." It too claims to be the "True Chronicle History" rather than distinguishing itself, say, as the "True Tragedy of King Lear." But the title page goes on to distinguish the new play from the old one by emphasizing that it is about both the lives *and* the deaths of Lear and his three daughters. It also offers more than its predecessor: a secondary plot about "the unfortunate life of Edgar, son and heir to the Earl of Gloucester, and his sullen and assumed humor of Tom of Bedlam." It would be the first and last time that Shakespeare ever included a parallel plot or subplot in one of his tragedies.

He needed it, because it was immediately clear that the story in *Leir* lacked counterpoint, a way to highlight Lear's figurative blindness by juxtaposing it with something more literal. It would also enable him to critique the very notions of authority and allegiance at the heart of the main plot. Shakespeare's genius was first in discovering the perfect foil to this story and then in almost seamlessly weaving it into the narrative of Lear and his daughters. He found it in a tale about a blinded father and his two sons, one virtuous, the other evil, that he had read years earlier in the most celebrated of Elizabethan prose romances, Sir Philip Sidney's *Arcadia*, published in 1590. Sidney's striking image of a blind and suicidal old man being led to the edge of a cliff by his good son, both of whom appeared "weather-beaten" and in rags, had clearly stuck with Shakespeare. Sidney's words had also stuck with him, especially what the old man tells his son as he prepared to leap to his death: "Since I cannot persuade thee to lead me to that which should end my grief, and thy trouble, let me now entreat thee to leave me. . . . Fear not the danger of my blind steps, I cannot fall worse than I am." It took very few strokes for Shakespeare to make this scene central to his new play. In Sidney's story, the suicidal old man had been a king who was blinded and stripped of his kingdom by his



James Shapiro '77



Left: title page of the Quarto of King Lear (1605); right: title page of the Quarto of King Lear (1608).

bad son; it was easy enough for Shakespeare to turn him into an earl and a follower of King Lear, then have his evil son implicated in both his undoing and blinding.

What seems inevitable in retrospect was anything but: merging plots from a play and a prose romance to form a double helix, firmly interlocked and mutually illuminating. Shakespeare also saw that Lear's elder daughters could vie for Edmund's affections while the good son, now named Edgar — in Sidney he eventually becomes king — could emerge as something of a hero. All this could replace the meandering and unsatisfying middle of *King Lear* that Shakespeare would all but scrap. It also solved a major problem of the old play. The anonymous author of *Leir* had been content to build to a somewhat wooden reconciliation scene between father and daughter, one that failed to pack much emotional punch. Shakespeare's *Lear* would substitute for that not one but two powerful recognition scenes, the first between Lear and Cordelia, the second, soon after, where the two plots converge, between the mad Lear and the blind Gloucester. It's debatable which of the two is the most heartbreaking scene in the play.

As Lear's division of the kingdoms spills into a psychologically complex drama of two families, motives become more complicated and unsettled. Does Lear go mad because he has foolishly divided his kingdoms or because of his ruinous relationship with his daughters? It's impossible to tell, because in scene after scene the political, the familial, and ultimately the cosmic are so deeply interfused. The fortunate survival of *Leir* enables us to see the sheer craftsmanship involved in all this. Yet it also needs to be acknowledged that Shakespeare didn't always get the parts to fit together quite so neatly. As keen as he was to work in that image of a suicidal man led by his son to the edge of a cliff, audiences have wondered ever since why Edgar, disguised at this point as Poor Tom, doesn't simply reveal himself to Gloucester (the excuse that Shakespeare gives Edgar, that he is trying to cure his father by putting him through all this, feels lame). And the French invasion of England, so central to *Leir*, sits uneasily in Shakespeare's version, a part of the old play that he did his best to integrate but that ends up feeling confused and confusing. He himself — or if not him, members of his company — would go back and tinker with the problematic invasion, though with only partial success.

Rather than rely entirely on his own considerable vocabulary, Shakespeare somewhat surprisingly recycled what he could from the language of the old play. He had a talent for recognizing the untapped potential of resonant words, even the simplest ones. Take “nothing.” The word appears often in *Leir*, even as part of a raunchy joke (Gonorill and Ragan laugh about women getting stuck with a man “with nothing” — that is, one who is castrated, so has no “thing” [2.3.22–23]). But it is never used with any particular emphasis in that old play, not even when the French king asks Cordella whether Leir has “given nothing to your lovely self?” and she pointedly replies, “He loved me not, and therefore gave me nothing” (2.4.71). Each Shakespeare play has its own distinctive music and, not unlike a symphony, its themes are established at the outset. At an early stage of recasting the old play, Shakespeare seems to have decided that “nothing” would be the motif of *Lear*'s score. The first time we hear the word is after Lear demands of Cordelia what she “can say to win a third more opulent” than her sisters, to which she replies: “Nothing, my lord.” Lear, stunned by her response, hurls the word back at her: “How? Nothing can come of nothing” (1.78–81). This first “nothing” takes on a life of its own, reverberating with greater force from then on, punctuated by this pointed exchange between Lear and his Fool:

LEAR. *This is nothing, fool.*

FOOL. *Then, like the breath of an unfee'd lawyer, you gave me nothing for't. Can you make no use of nothing, uncle?*

LEAR. *Why no, boy. Nothing can be made out of nothing.* (4.122–26)

Shakespeare would also, and brilliantly, use “nothing” to suture together the Lear and Gloucester plots. Even as Cordelia's initial response to her father are the words “Nothing, my lord,” so too, in his first exchange with his father, Edmund, when asked by Gloucester about the contents of the letter he has hastily hidden, replies, chillingly, with the very same words: “Nothing, my lord” (2.31).

In Shakespeare's hands “nothing” becomes a touchstone — and the idea of nothingness and negation is philosophically central to the play from start to finish. Cruelly, by play's end Lear turns out to be right: nothing does indeed come of nothing, only not in the way he first meant. Early on in imagining his version of Lear's journey, Shakespeare saw that what began with that first “nothing” must end with Lear left with nothing, except, perhaps, the knowledge that his dead and beloved daughter will never return — “never, never, never” (24.303). In the interim the words “never” and “nothing” recur more than thirty times, the word “no” more than 120, and “not” twice that often. The negativity is reinforced by the sixty or so times the prefix “un-” occurs, as characters are “unfriended,” “unprized,” “unfortunate,” “unmannerly,” “unnatural,” and “unmerciful.” Call it what you will — resistance, refusal, denial, rejection, repudiation — this insistent and almost apocalyptic negativity becomes a recurring drumbeat, the bass line of the play.

From THE YEAR OF LEAR by James Shapiro. Copyright © 2015 by James Shapiro. Reprinted by permission of Simon & Schuster, Inc. All rights reserved.

CCT Web Extras

To read a Q&A with Shapiro about *The Year of Lear*, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.



alumni news



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EARTH TONES

Schermerhorn Hall was built in 1897 as the home of Columbia's natural sciences. Designed by famed architectural firm McKim, Mead & White, the building is known for its inscription above the doorway, which reads “For the advancement of natural science. Speak to the earth and it shall teach thee.”

The building is a gift from former trustees chair William C. Schermerhorn (Class of 1840), who encouraged Columbia's move to Morningside Heights from its former location in midtown. The gift: \$300,000 for a building of whatever purpose the University saw fit.

Columbia Pride Is on the Rise

By Douglas R. Wolf '88

For those who weren't at Homecoming this year, let me paint a scene:

I drove to Robert K. Kraft Field from Boston that morning. It promised to be a great day — cool, crisp weather and, just as important, no traffic (or tickets) during the three-hour trip. The Big Tent hummed with the comings and goings of hundreds of people — alumni, students and their families, many wearing an impressively diverse array of Columbia gear. Hellos were called out, lunch plates were heaped full with barbecue sandwiches, pasta salad and corn on the cob. Outside the tent, the youngest attendees tested their skill at a variety of games at the Homecoming Carnival. It wasn't long before I found my brother Eric Wolf '86, his son, Adam, and my former roommate Rob Daniel '88. Our gathering quickly turned into a mini-Carman 9 reunion including Houston's Sean Wright '88 and Long Island's Rich Ritter '88.

Around the inside perimeter of the tent, shared interest groups manned tables to spread the word about their activities. Among these was our Columbia College Alumni Association table, laden with stuffed lions, our proud mascot. The lions sported spirited shirts — navy with our new CCAA logo — and they were as popular as ever. Kids clamored for them. Students pocketed them, literally, turning them into accessories that stuck out of back pockets and shirt pockets and even shirt collars. And then there were the alumni: Some took a lion without hesitation; others felt compelled to offer an explanation for why they wanted the little guy. There were even a few embarrassed-seeming outliers who circled the tent, coming closer to our table with each pass, until finally they asked for one (or two).

But there's nothing to be embarrassed about. That's CC Pride. And it's not limited to Homecoming. It's here to stay.

Columbia College is having a great moment and it is hard not to notice. Admissions applications are at an all-time high, and Columbia occupies a lofty perch in those ubiquitous college and university rankings. Beyond those numbers, however, I feel the buzz and see the signs of Columbia Pride in many places, from my Class of '88 Facebook group with its streams of Columbia celebration postings, to being asked in response to my garb, "Did you also go to Columbia?" Reunions have had record attendance in recent years, gatherings of College alumni both formal and informal are springing up all over the world with increasing frequency and the online social scene is growing by leaps and bounds.

Dean James J. Valentini likes to say we are the greatest college in the greatest university in the greatest city in the world, and the

Columbia College nation is embracing that. The CCAA numbers tell the story, with 150 meetings, programs and events expected during the 2015–16 academic year. More than 8,000 alumni participated in an event or program last year, with 3,500 involved as active volunteers. We have a bit more than 7,200 Facebook likes, which does not include the many Columbia-based affiliate groups online. We have also almost doubled the number of unique visitors to our website (college.columbia.edu/alumni) in the past year.

Columbia Pride has grown not only within the alumni base but also among students. A visit to campus finds students awash in College colors. I hear from parents that their students rave about the Columbia experience. Recently, a friend's son questioned whether to apply but after connecting with a current student for an overnight stay, he immediately submitted an early decision application.

We should all take great pride in the accomplishments and contributions of our current and former students. There was a great turnout at Valentini's College session during Alumni Leaders Weekend in October, where Mike Cook '65 was presented the President's Cup for his tireless work on his class' hugely successful 50th reunion. Session attendees also heard from Yvonne Hsiao '16, who spoke about her summer experience in California working with the International Medical Corps — an opportunity offered by the Columbia College Alumni-Sponsored Student Internship Program — provided by Margaret Traub '88, head of IMC's Global Initiatives. And there were opportunities to interact with more than a dozen current students from a range of majors and backgrounds, each one already extremely accomplished, and it was clear that the alumni who attended were impressed.

As part of the CCAA Pride campaign, we are hoping to build on this excitement (and have some fun) with our CCAA lion. If you picked up a lion at Homecoming, please take it with you on your adventures and send us photos. Feel free to include yourself or your family in the photos. Please send them to us via Facebook's Messenger feature (facebook.com/alumnicc), post them on your own page or group pages and use the hashtag #CCPride or email them to the Alumni Office: ccalumni@columbia.edu. If you don't yet have a lion, never fear; they will be available at upcoming CCAA events.

ROAR, LION, ROAR!

Left to right:
Doug Wolf '88 and
Rob Daniel '88;
Justin Ifill '06 and
Christine Ortiz '08

Dan Dolgin '74, LAW'77 was honored by Community Impact at its Fall 2015 Gala Benefit Auction with the Outstanding Community Service Award. Dolgin is the director and co-founder of Power My Learning, a national nonprofit that uses technology to improve student achievement with a focus on blended learning, professional development and family engagement.

School of the Arts associate professor of the professional practice of film Ramin Bahrani '96 won the grand prize at the American Film Festival in Deauville, France, for his film *99 Homes*. The psychological thriller, which debuted on September 25, is centered around the U.S. subprime mortgage crisis and stars Andrew Garfield and Michael Shannon.

Jacob Marx Rice '12's play *Coping*, a black comedy about suicide, mental illness, love and family, premiered at the New York International Fringe Festival on August



TRISTAN NASH

16. At the 2014 Fringe Festival Rice won the Excellence in Playwriting Award for his show *Chemistry*. The *Coping* production team included Alex Donnelly '14, Allie Carieri '15 and Fernanda Douglas '16.

On September 30, former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76 received Harvard's W.E.B. Du Bois Medal, the school's highest honor in the field of African and African-American studies. The award is given to individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to African-American culture.



FRAZER HARRISON / GETTY IMAGES

Actress and model Hari Nef '15 has broken new ground on the runway, becoming in May the first openly transgender model to be signed by the U.S. offices of modeling agency IMG Worldwide. In July it was announced that she would join the cast of *Transparent*, an Amazon series that focuses on a family with a transgender parent. The second season, featuring Nef, was set to debut on December 4.

Chris Baio '07 of the popular band Vampire Weekend (whose other members are Ezra Koenig '06, Rostam Batmanglij '06 and Chris Tomson '06) released his debut solo album, *The Names*, on September 18. Baio's press release, which appeared in *Spin* magazine, said the project "has reverberated through my mind for much of the last five years ... Its themes began to take shape when I moved from New York to London in 2013." The album's first single, "Brainwash yrrr Face," reached No. 28 on the Billboard Twitter Emerging Artists chart.

Richard Ravitch '55 was inducted into *Crain's* Hall of Fame 2015, which honors those who have had decades of business and civic leadership success. In a profile that accompanied the announcement, Ravitch said, "I was able to accomplish what I did because there are two things I understand well: finance and politics. I could always explain politics to the business world, and business to the political world."

Brian Dennehy '60 starred in the 10-part TNT drama *Public Morals*, which is set in 1967 and focuses on the NYPD's Public Morals Division. The Golden Globe and two-time Tony winner played a mobster who controls the west side of Manhattan.

Journalists Jodi Kantor '96 and David Streitfeld coauthored "Inside Amazon: Wrestling Big Ideas in a Bruising Workplace," a *New York Times* exposé on the inner workings of Amazon and its grueling corporate culture. The piece, which was published on August 16, caused controversy when Amazon disputed its representation in the article; it also sparked wider debate about workplace practices in the tech industry.

Thomas Dyja '84's book, *The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream*, was selected by the Chicago Public Library as the focus of its semi-annual "One Book, One Chicago" program. This latest installment of the program — which encourages all Chicagoans to read the same work with the goal of fostering



BILL GUERRERO / THE PENGUIN PRESS

community and a book club-like atmosphere throughout the city — began in October and will continue through April. *The Chicago Tribune* calls Dyja's work "a beautifully written exploration of the cultural explosion that took place [in Chicago] roughly between the end of World War II into the 1960s ...".

— Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09



SERGIO KLETNOY

Lea Goldman '98 Is a Shot-caller Among Shot-callers

By Lauren Steussy

When **Lea Goldman '98** joined *Marie Claire* in 2008, there seemed to be a running cliché in women's magazines: a credit card frozen in a block of ice.

The symbolism was used in advice columns and articles, and sometimes in illustrations for those columns and articles. It spoke to the narrow and increasingly outdated notion that women couldn't make their own decisions, financial or otherwise — a concept proven wrong not only by the women reading the magazines but also by Goldman herself.

"It was never the real stuff happening at work," Goldman, now *Marie Claire's* co-executive editor, says over lunch in the magazine's Midtown headquarters. "Questions like 'I just got a job offer. Am I just supposed to take the offer and be grateful?' Or 'How should I ask for more money?' There were real questions people had — that I had, too — about work that were not acknowledged."

Goldman's answer to those questions was a section she started in the magazine in 2011 called "@Work," about empowered women

and their professional lives. It's filled with profiles, advice and the ever-elusive definition of "business casual" fashion.

As a writer, editor, and television and web personality living in New Jersey with her husband and two young sons, Goldman embodies the values reflected in the section's pages. She's audacious, stylish and unabashedly successful.

"I have passions outside the office," she says, "but my work is very important to me. I network my face off and love it. I'm trying to be as versatile as I see a lot of these women in the magazine are."

Prior to joining *Marie Claire* as features and special projects editor, Goldman was hired at *Forbes* magazine straight out of Columbia and worked her way up to senior editor. Along the way, she covered finance, wealth and entertainment, and compiled some of the magazine's "Top 100" valuation lists.

Goldman studied literature at the College but admits she was more involved in extracurriculars, like student council, and was an RA. She co-founded the now highly anticipated annual Bacchanal

festival, introducing to the stage a rapper you may have heard of named Busta Rhymes and a little band called Sonic Youth.

At *Marie Claire*, in addition to launching the @Work section, Goldman edited the magazine's first column for plus-sized women. As a writer, she authored an expose, "The Big Business of Breast Cancer," which won the James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism. This spring, she'll appear regularly as an expert in a still-to-be-named reality TV show premiering on Oxygen about women entrepreneurs. As someone who believes that women should "toot their own horns," Goldman is not shy about the grit required to achieve these feats.

"She is just so tough," said Dennis Kneale, Goldman's colleague at *Forbes* and now a media consultant. "She eats roofing nails for breakfast ... yet at the same time, she's delightfully sardonic, she has such a sense of the absurd and she's driven for high performance."

Kneale, who was *Forbes'* managing editor at the time Goldman worked there, recalls Goldman's decision to put rapper 50 Cent on the magazine's celebrity issue cover in 2004. Goldman recognized that the choice to feature him was edgy and captivating. "It scared the bejabbers out of our readers, but that was genius: taking something that was a culture story but realizing it was a finance story."

Aside from writing and editing, Goldman is constantly looking for partnerships, knowing that "in this media world we live in now ... you have to wear many hats." In 2013, after Goldman's profile of NFL lawyer Anastasia Danias was published, Goldman helped launch a partnership with the league that would include the magazine running

a 16-page spread on women sports fans. "No other women's magazines were talking about the fact that on Monday morning, women were gathering and talking about 'the game,'" she says. The league then added more clothing offerings for women and the magazine continued to devote more real estate to sports and fandom.

"What I love about *Marie Claire*, what speaks to me about the magazine, is that modern women can be as interested in fashion as they are about what's happening in Europe right now, or the immigration crisis, or the presidential debates," Goldman says. "For a long time, if you read women's magazines, there was that tacit assumption that you weren't reading *The Wall Street Journal*."

As a result of her resourcefulness and eye toward the modern woman, Goldman rarely reads of credit cards in ice blocks but frequently of women who have long broken through glass ceilings and are ready to "rule the world," she says. "What I'm most fascinated with is that I get to chronicle a revolution."

Lauren Steussy covers Staten Island art and culture for the Staten Island Advance. Her last profile for CCT was on The Two Man Gentleman Band (Summer 2015). Her work has also appeared in San Diego Magazine and The Orange County Register.

CCT Web Extras

To read some of Goldman's articles, including her award-winning piece on the breast cancer industry and a *Spectator* piece on the first Bacchanal, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Dick Wagner '54 Takes Hands-on Approach to Maritime History

By Michael R. Shea SOA'10



COURTESY THE CENTER FOR WOODEN BOATS

Walking the shore of Seattle's Lake Union in the late 1960s, **Dick Wagner '54** and his wife, Colleen, noticed a change on the waterfront. The fiberglass revolution had hit boat building, and longtime makers of classic wooden craft were closing up shop.

Back on their houseboat, with their own collection of a dozen small wooden sailboats tied to the stern, the couple decided to act. They hung a sign, "The Old Boat House," on the dock, and began renting their little fleet to all comers. With that, a new kind of hands-on maritime museum was born.

"Before the summer was over, three newspapers and three TV stations interviewed me, and everyone and their pet pig knew this was a place to learn about sailing and to have a lot of fun," Wagner says.

Today, The Center for Wooden Boats (CWB) is an interactive museum and education center on Lake Union. A nonprofit since 1976, it has worked with more than 60 communities around the world to promote the art and history of sailing and of wooden boat building. St. Petersburg, Russia; Alexandria, Va.; Fogo Island, Newfoundland; Provo, Utah; Coos Bay, Ore.; Sausalito, Calif., and Kalispell, Mont., all have similar sailing education centers, started under the tutelage of the Wagners.

“We provide a direct, hands-on educational experience,” Wagner says. “Learning to sail is like learning to ride a bike or learning to drive. It’s not an education by laptop or lectern. You learn naturally, by watching and doing.”

An architect by training, Wagner studied history at the College and credits art and architecture professor George R. Collins for first exposing him to hands-on education. “His assignments were to go around New York, to look at buildings, to talk to architects,” Wagner recalls. “I’d walk up and down the avenues, discovering art, talking with people about buildings, writing architects with questions.”

While at the Yale School of Architecture, where he earned a master’s in 1958, Wagner interned one summer for a Seattle firm. The New Jersey native had never been west of the Delaware River. “I fell in love with Seattle,” he says. After another summer internship, he moved to Lake Union, and fell in love again, with Colleen. Around that same time, Wagner’s work took him to Puget Sound. On the dock he watched a man struggling with the mast of an old wooden sailboat. Wagner offered to help, and in time learned to sail himself. “He was one of these guys who didn’t say much,” Wagner recalls. “He had me watch, then pointed out a thing or two to do. I wish I remembered his name.” The friendship was brief, but Wagner learned much and was soon studying books on sailing and boat building.

After Wagner’s marriage to Colleen, the couple traveled the world together by sea, hitching passage on a Dutch olive oil tanker and Grecian passenger ships, and worked for four months on an archeology dig in Masada, Israel.

On their return in 1968, the Wagners began teaching sailing and renting out wooden boats. They soon saw their future in community-based teaching. Wagner continued contract architect work, but dedicated much of his time to educating locals and tourists about catboats and Marconi rigged sloops.

“More work than you can imagine goes into a wooden boat, a boat that’s seaworthy and beautiful,” Wagner says. “The steaming of wood and making of perfect joints, the bronze fastenings. These aren’t craftsmen cutting pieces of soap, and in the late 1960s it was only being done in parts of Maine and on our little lake in Seattle.”

The center’s sites — two on Lake Union, one on Camano Island in nearby Puget Sound — receive more than 100,000 visitors a year. CWB is poised to break ground on a fourth site on Lake Union



Colleen and Dick Wagner '54 in CWB's early days.

in early 2016, the Wagner Education Center, which will provide learning opportunities for more than 5,000 children annually.

“Dick has this indefatigable imagination but what makes it special is it’s always in service of the community,” says Caren Crandall, CWB’s first assistant director and now a professor at the University of Washington. “Before the center, South Lake Union was a rather stark industrial place, and now it’s home to museums, restaurants, a city park, public water access. In 30-plus years it’s been completely transformed, and Dick’s vision showed people how that was possible.”

At CWB, preschoolers can listen to maritime tales aboard heritage vessels. Elementary school students can build toy boats with hand tools. Middle schoolers and high schoolers can construct replica boats and learn to sail them. There are programs for the physically disabled, including sailing instruction for the wheelchair-bound, the deaf and the blind. Many of CWB’s workshops and programs are focused on disadvantaged and underserved youth who wouldn’t otherwise have access to the waterfront.

“We’re thrilled to see people of all ages learning something,” Wagner says. “It’s changed many lives, and I couldn’t be happier about it.”

Michael R. Shea SOA'10 is a freelance writer based in Ithaca, N.Y. His work regularly appears in Field & Stream and a variety of other outdoor publications. Visit michaelshea.com or find him @michaelshea.

Reading the Snowflakes, Judah Cohen '85 Calls the Weather

By Kim Martineau JRN'97

Judah Cohen '85, GSAS'94 saw the return of the polar vortex before anyone else. Months before repeated snowstorms hit New York and Boston in 2014, he warned that the northeastern United States was in for an “active and interesting” winter.

A commercial weather and climate analyst in Boston, Cohen has called three of the last four winters correctly, and his long-range forecasts have hit the mark 75 percent of the time, an astoundingly good record in a field notorious for its bad calls.

“It’s incredibly satisfying to be right,” he says. “It almost feels like having super powers.”

Cohen’s approach is unique. In mid-November, he looks at how much snow accumulated in Siberia the month before to predict how cold and snowy the eastern United States and Europe will be come January. By contrast, most of his peers look south to the tropics and use dynamical models to predict how the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and other dominant climate pat-

terns will evolve. Cohen’s outlooks often best the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and other government agencies.

“He’s a master at sensing and feeling out special patterns, especially this one,” says his former Ph.D. adviser, David Rind GSAS'76, an emeritus researcher at the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS).

As Cohen explains it, when snow cover in Siberia is heavier than usual, a dome of cold and dense air forms over the ground, forcing the jet stream north and sending strong atmospheric waves high into the stratosphere. The polar vortex breaks down, spilling frigid air over the Arctic into North America and westward into Europe.

Though his hypothesis has yet to be fully validated by dynamical models — considered the bible of modern forecasting — the media has embraced it. “Judah Cohen’s winter forecasts have a stellar track record,” says Jason Samenow, weather editor for *The Washington Post*. “His methodologies, while still needing to stand the test of time, show tremendous promise.”

Cohen grew up with his eyes on the weather. At the ocean’s edge, in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, he noticed thunderstorms were more common and coastal storms often brought more snow than to other parts of New York City. The eldest son of an ice cream distributor and computer programmer, he arrived at Columbia knowing he wanted to study the weather.

Though Columbia did not offer meteorology classes, it did provide access to some of the best minds in climate science, at GISS. Located above Tom’s Restaurant, where it remains, GISS ran its climate models on an IBM computer that filled an entire floor. Cohen shared an office with two other work-study students.



Meteorologist Marshall Shepherd (left) had Judah Cohen '85, GSAS'94 on his Weather Channel show, *Weather Geeks*, on November 3 to give his long-range winter forecast.

After graduating with a degree in geology, he set out for the University of Washington and a Ph.D. in meteorology but left after one semester. He wasn’t interested in his assigned master’s topic, fog in the Los Angeles basin. Snow was his passion. Back at Columbia, on his way toward a Ph.D. in atmospheric science, he first noticed that snow created problems when inserted into climate prediction models. Thick or thin, snow cover seemed to have no effect on the predicted weather.

To anyone familiar with real-world weather, including the professors evaluating Cohen’s master’s thesis, this seemed absurd. Splitting with

his advisers at GISS, the observational scientists at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory flunked him. Mark Cane, the Lamont scientist who built the first model predicting an El Niño event, was called in to break the tie. “It was like the Roman Colosseum,” Cohen remembers. “Cane was going to decide — thumbs up or thumbs down.”

Spared from the lions that day, Cohen vowed to work harder and question the models. “It bred in him a need to rely more on observations,” says Rind.

On a cold day in December 1994, Cohen passed his Ph.D. defense, a mug of snow by his side for good luck. He was married

“It’s incredibly satisfying to be right. It almost feels like having super powers.”

by then to Sherri Rabinovitz BC'91, a psychology major he met on the bus ride home from a Washington, D.C., rally to support Jews trying to flee the Soviet Union. They moved to Boston, and Cohen started a postdoctoral fellowship at MIT.

At the encouragement of his adviser, he added snow cover on land to his climate models and came to favor Arctic snow over ENSO as the lead predictor of winter weather. “It was complete blasphemy,” he says. “I’d go on job interviews and people would lecture me on how wrong I was.”

Atmospheric and Environmental Research, a commercial weather firm in Lexington, Mass., hired him as a staff scientist in 1998 and promoted him to director of seasonal forecasting seven years later. Now living in Newton, he and his wife have a daughter, Gabriella BC'18, and twin 17-year old sons, Jordan and Jonathon.

After a string of snowy winters, Cohen in late December 2010 penned an Op-Ed in *The New York Times*, “Bundle Up, It’s Global Warming.” He explained that the extreme cold in the United States and Europe was not at odds with human-caused global warming.

The rapid loss of Arctic sea ice in summer, he argued, exposed more open water to the atmosphere, with the added moisture feeding snow over Eurasia. A blizzard struck New York that day. The phone rang steadily after.

For the last four years, Cohen has provided the winter and summer outlooks on Boston’s ABC affiliate. After his prescience last year, when Boston was buried under a winter seasonal-record 110.6 inches of snow, *The Boston Globe* chose to feature him and his science under the headline, “The person happiest about all this snow.”

The validation still feels sweet after what he calls “the roller-coaster” of the last 20 years. “I am very proud of all those correct forecasts,” he says.

Kim Martineau JRN'97 heads communications at Columbia’s Data Science Institute.

Razzle Dazzle Raises the Curtain On Broadway's History

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

“New York has one thing that no other city in the world has, and that’s Broadway,” says **Michael Riedel ’89**, author of the gossip-rich *Razzle Dazzle: The Battle for Broadway* (Simon & Schuster, \$27). Want to know about the hidden apartments above some of Times Square’s most desirable theaters? Or how a stuck curtain in rehearsals led to *42nd Street*’s iconic opening tap number? Riedel reveals Broadway’s secrets in this behind-the-scenes history of theater and its impact on New York City.

Writer of the *New York Post*’s theater column since 1998, and with five years covering theater for *The Daily News* before that, Riedel

is well positioned to take on his subject. He supplements his insider knowledge with thorough research, including interviews with some of Broadway’s biggest names — among them, The Shubert Organization chairman Philip J. Smith; choreographer, performer and director Tommy Tune; composer Andrew Lloyd Webber; and lyricist Tim Rice.

Riedel became immersed in the theater world shortly after graduation, when he was hired as the managing editor of *TheaterWeek* magazine. He enlisted critic, playwright and former Columbia theater professor Eric Bentley as a contributor, and soon after took Bentley up on his offer to rent a room in his Riverside Drive apartment. Riedel says that the next two years were “like going to graduate school with the most brilliant professor you can imagine. I’d have dinner with him two or three nights per week, and we’d talk about Brecht, Shaw, Shakespeare. He had a massive library, and everything he talked about I could go read.”

That specialist knowledge is peppered throughout *Razzle Dazzle*. The book traces the highs and lows of NYC theater, from the Great Depression to the golden age of musicals in the ’50s and ’60s, the

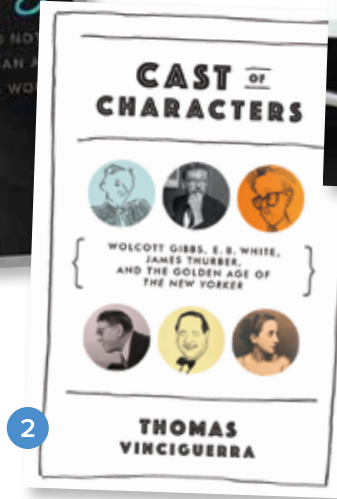
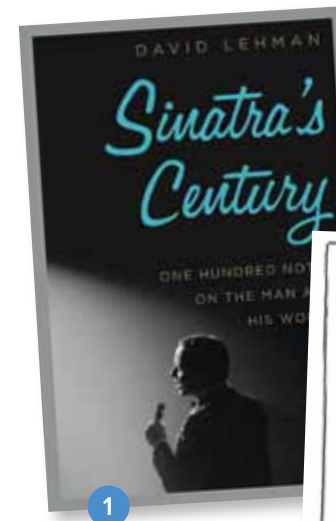
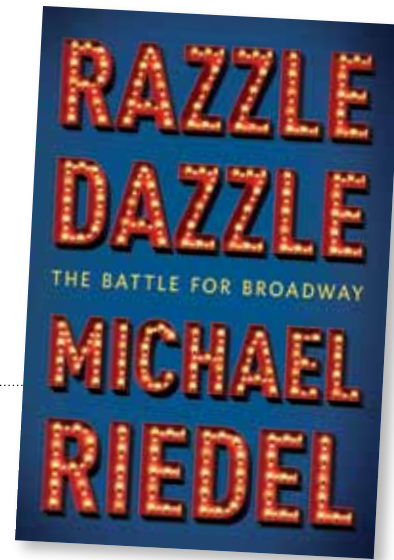
financial crisis in the ’70s and ’80s, and Broadway’s modern rebirth into a billion-dollar industry. It also demonstrates how deeply Broadway’s and the city’s fortunes are intertwined, beginning with the story of how the Shubert brothers (Sam, Lee and J.J.) founded their theater empire at the turn of the 20th century.

“I didn’t want to write a book that was just a little theater book,” says Riedel. “I needed a broader stage. The book works because all these shenanigans, all the gossip, the friendships and betrayals, the back-stabbing and in-fighting, the triumphs and failures — all that is taking place in front of this much larger story of New York City collapsing, and how the city revitalized itself.”

Riedel gives special focus to Bernard Jacobs LAW’40 and Gerald Schoenfeld, the former heads of The Shubert Organization, and their work to revitalize the derelict Times Square area in the ’70s and ’80s. The pair, he reports, were brought into the company as attorneys for the Shubert brothers in the mid-’50s and in 1972 ousted Shubert heir Larry Shubert when his drinking and poor money management were driving the organization into bankruptcy. They then went on a mission to reinvigorate the company, moving from being just landlords of 17 Shubert-owned Times Square theaters to producing shows and seeking new works in which to invest.

The book has its share of juicy stories as well, such as how director and choreographer Michael Bennett (*Dreamgirls*) and his protégé Tune (*Nine*) feuded behind the scenes of the 1982 Tony Awards as their shows competed for the Best Musical prize. It describes how *Cats* went from being deemed, according to creator Webber, “a daft idea of doing a musical based on a book of poems about cats” that struggled to get funding to a global phenomenon. And it portrays producer David Merrick as a larger-than-life character, with one account detailing how he tricked investors into selling him back the rights to *42nd Street* when he realized it would be a hit.

“I was blessed by the fact that it’s a book about theater people and they are, by nature, theatrical and intensely colorful, and they speak in dramatic and captivating ways,” says Riedel. “The joy of doing the book was that I got to spend a lot of time with these wonderful characters.”



Pure Act: The Uncommon Life of Robert Lax [’38] by *Michael N. McGregor SOA’97*. Lax, an experimental poet, is known in the United States mainly as the best friend of Trappist monk Thomas Merton ’38. But this singular man — whose life as an artist and spiritual seeker took him from the halls of *The New Yorker*, into the company of a traveling circus, to a remote Greek island — warrants attention in his own right (Fordham University Press, \$34.95).

Freedom and the Self: Essays on the Philosophy of David Foster Wallace edited by *Steven M. Cahn ’63* and *Maureen Eckert*. “Leaning how to think really means learning how to exercise some control over how and what you think.” So said Wallace in his seminal 2005 speech to the graduates of Kenyon College. In this book, scholars examine the late writer’s abiding concern for the importance of free choice, and other themes (Columbia University Press, \$25).

Down in Laos: Heroism & Inspiration During the Vietnam War by *Francis J. Partel Jr. ’63*. This fictional action-thriller follows what happens when a downed Navy pilot becomes a prisoner of the Pathet Laos. The author, himself a Navy veteran, draws on research as well as his own experience in the Gulf of Tonkin to render the story in vivid and historically accurate detail (Navy Log Books, \$29.95).

Against Time: Letters from Nazi Germany, 1938–1939 by *Francis W. Hoeber ’65*. Johannes Höber left Nazi

Germany for America on November 12, 1938; his wife and 9-year-old daughter followed the next September. This collection of 135 letters, discovered by their son — author Hoeber — chronicles the couple’s separation and acclimation to a new country (American Philosophical Society Press, \$37).

1 Sinatra’s Century: One Hundred Notes on the Man and His World by *David Lehman ’70*. Rediscover “Old Blue Eyes” through the eyes of another — lifetime fan and prominent poet Lehman. In celebration of what would have been Sinatra’s 100th birthday this December, the author offers reflections on the entertainer’s career in music and movies; his relationships, both romantic and Rat Packian; and his signature style and influence (HarperCollins, \$24.99).

Two Men Fighting in a Landscape by *Bill Christophersen ’71*. An imagined debate with Robert Frost is among the entries in this poetry collection from the Pushcart Prize-nominated Christophersen. The 50-plus works toggle between experimental sonnets, free verse and traditional forms (Aldrich Press, \$17).

Heal Your Hips: How to Prevent Hip Surgery and What to Do if You Need It by *Dr. Robert Klapper ’79* and *Lynda Huey*. Klapper, chief of orthopedic surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Group in Los Angeles, and his co-author offer this second edition of their 1999 health and fitness

guide. This updated version includes fundamental concepts from the original as well as breakthroughs in the orthopedic field (Turner Publishing Co., \$17.95).

2 Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E. B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker by *Thomas Vinciguerra ’85*. Founded in 1925, *The New Yorker* came into its own in the period between the Jazz Age and the end of WWII. Vinciguerra chronicles how the eponymous trio, described by founding editor Harold Ross as his staff “geniuses,” and their colleagues shaped the magazine’s unique style (W.W. Norton & Co., \$27.95).

Spectacles of Themselves: Essays in Italian American Popular Culture and Literature by *George Guida ’89*. What can a study of the dialect in Martin Scorsese’s *Goodfellas* tell us about the characters and their world? How did singer Louis Prima’s swinging, multi-lingual style work to draw in audiences — and what message does it send about ethnicity? The author examines these and other questions (Bordighera Press, \$18).

3 The Power of Relentless: 7 Secrets to Achieving Mega-Success, Financial Freedom, and the Life of Your Dreams by *Wayne Allyn Root ’83*. Conservative commentator Root delivers this high-octane treatise outlining his essential principles for accomplishment in

business and beyond. Chapters cover topics from goal-setting to preparation to branding. Case in point: Ralph Lifshitz-turned-Lauren (Regnery Publishing, \$27.99).

4 Strange Tools: Art and Human Nature by *Alva Noë ’86*. How can creative works be used to understand what makes us human? Philosopher and neurologist Noë undertakes a wide-ranging investigation in pursuit of the answer. Insights come from sources as diverse as Cézanne, Bruce Springsteen and *Rosemary’s Baby* (Hill and Wang, \$28).

With Animal by *Carol Guess ’90* and *Kelly Magee*. This short story collection conjures a world where human parents have animal offspring. From bees to sheep and squirrels, strange pregnancies give way to the practicalities and poignancies that come with raising any child. When you’re having a dragon, even extra-hot salsa tastes mild (Black Lawrence Press, \$15.95).

5 The Appearance of Annie van Sinderen by *Katherine Howe ’99*. *The New York Times* bestselling author’s latest YA novel focuses on two central characters: Annie, a teenage girl living on the Bowery in 1825, and Wes, a documentary film student in present-day NYC. It’s no spoiler to say the story, which opens with a séance, takes a supernatural turn. The bigger secrets go much deeper (G.P. Putnam’s Sons, \$18.99).

— Alexis Tonti SOA’11



ANNE WERMIEL



COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The third heat of a 1951 track meet on South Field.

1941

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Hello, CC'41. Please note my new email address, at the top of this column, and send me a note with your news.

My great-granddaughter graduated from NYU and is spending her time post-graduation traveling — she's now up to roughly 50 countries. Of my other great-grandchildren, two are enrolled at High Point University and one is at Smith. My great-grandson, who is still in high school, is interested in attending Class Day with me in the spring for the Alumni Parade of Classes. I will carry our Class of 1941

banner and would be happy to have other classmates join me, as it will be the 75th anniversary of our graduation.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
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In July, I had a phone call from my old pal **Arthur Wellington** to tell me he had entered the Woodbrook Assisted Living Residence in Elmira, N.Y. Arthur, handicapped by progressive arthritis, was entirely lucid and in good spirits. His supportive family is nearby, and he is able to read and to maintain his longtime interest in horse racing and other sports. Arthur can be reached at Woodbrook

Assisted Living Residence, Unit 115, 1250 Maple Ave., Elmira, NY 14904.

Your correspondent was invited to attend, on October 10, the 90th birthday party of Avra Mark, widow of **Herbert Mark**. Herb, who died in 2006, **Bob Kaufman** and I roomed together in Livingston Hall in our sophomore year and remained lifelong friends. I keep in touch with Bob, who lives in Scarsdale, N.Y. Avra lives in Tuckahoe, N.Y. Her grandson, Christopher Mark '02, rowed on the freshman crew team and lives in New York City.

As I write these notes in mid-September, my perpetual event calendar reminds me that my old friend **Gerald Klingon** will celebrate his 95th birthday on September 22. Gerry lives in New York City and continues to pursue his interests in Columbia football, baseball, politics and American

history. He recently reminded me that Ad Reinhardt '35 was a *Jester* editor and cartoonist who drew the immortal symbol of the “Laughing Lion” for *Jester* before he became an acclaimed modern artist, with his work exhibited in museums all over the world.

William Robbins writes to me from Mount Dora, Fla., with reports on local and national politics, and comments on Columbia baseball and football prospects. Bill was a distinguished rheumatologist in New York City, on the staff at Weill Cornell Medical College (his alma mater) and also did research at The Rockefeller University. He is a longtime, loyal Lion and faithful correspondent.

I have heard from **Stewart McIvannan**, who lives in Lakewood, Colo., with his wife, Marie BC'47. Marie (90) is still teaching French and Spanish in local schools, while Stew follows Columbia football and basketball news. Stew was a star halfback on our football team and also played varsity basketball. After a stint in the FBI, Stew rose to be a respected executive in the trucking industry, surviving occasional negotiations with the late, notorious Jimmy Hoffa.

As I write these notes, the football season will begin soon and our hopes are high for success under the new coach, Al Bagnoli. Our opening game was on September 19 at Fordham, which gives football scholarships and

frenzy over professional football has spilled over to the college game, and our Ivy League is now on the scene. Best wishes to coach Bagnoli and our players for a winning year. Roar Lions!

Send your news to my home address as listed at the top of the column, to drmelvin23@gmail.com or call me at 413-586-1517. Best wishes to all classmates and their families.

1943

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My wife, Audrey, and I were reflecting recently on how chance events have very much governed the way we have lived our lives. In her case, it was a friendly neurosurgeon in Edinburgh who steered her to Boston for her post-graduate pediatric training as a Fulbright Scholar. The Scot had a close friend and colleague at Harvard; what if his friend had been in San Francisco? For me, what if Columbia had rejected my application? I had naively applied only there. Or what if I had chosen NYU (where my brother was already enrolled) for my medical training, rather than Harvard? Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital abut on Longwood Avenue. It was the gravi-

This past summer, Dr. G.J. D'Angio '43 and his family vacationed on Bermuda's South Shore, making his great-granddaughter the fifth generation to visit the island.

is a strong team (the final score was 44-24, Fordham). Three Columbia games were scheduled to be televised this year: at Princeton on October 2 on NBCSN, at Yale on October 31 on Fox College Sports and at Brown on November 20 on NBCSN. Fourteen other Ivy League games will also be televised during the season, an extraordinary level of exposure for this conference. Apparently, the national

tational pull of those two institutions that put me in the orbit of academic pediatrics. And I met both my wives in those halls.

Fellow '43ers: We're supposed to be the greatest generation. Send me your great “What ifs?” please. What if your coach in high school hadn't said what he did? Or you hadn't seen that Paul Muni movie? Or you hadn't heard that radio broadcast? Only faithful **Bernie Weisberger** and I have kept this column going for the last several issues. Let me hear from you!

I decided years ago that buying unwanted birthday, Christmas or other anniversary gifts for family members was foolish. A better idea was to provide an all-expenses-paid weeklong get-together once a year. In those seven days would be wrapped all the usual annual gifts. This year our destination was Bermuda. I have been going there

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.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

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

with my family for years off and on. We have always favored the South Shore (Paget), so we returned there in August with my great-granddaughter, Maggie (2). She thus became the fifth generation D'Angio — in her case, D'Angio-White — who has walked those same coral sands I first saw 60 years ago that month. The week was a success.

My wife and I are getting used to life without four wheels, though we actually do have such: a shopping cart. We are managing quite well, though with clipped wings.

I came across the following nugget by chance: President Barack Obama '83 is not the only person with a Columbia connection to receive the Nobel Peace Prize (Obama won his in 2009). Some of the others include Teddy Roosevelt (Class of 1882 LAW), winning in 1906; University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882), who won jointly with Jane Addams in 1931; and José Ramos-Horta (SIPA, no degree), in 1996 for his work in pacifying East Timor. Anyone know of others?

Bernie Weisberger reports: “I'm having a hard time coming up with much to write about since the last letter, and only my determination to sustain the honor of '43 keeps me at the keyboard. But since June I've done no traveling, nor anything much of late except to read and keep up a fairly big email correspondence. I try not to let my conviction that the world is going to hell (all too common to us greybeards) dominate my spirits. My enjoyment

of life dominates, along with gratitude for my luck in the genetic lottery and in avoiding major accidents. I hit my 93rd birthday last month, which isn't exactly unusual news for any of the likes of us who graduated 72 years ago. I just assume that we're all past 90. Anyway, philosophic meditations on longevity aren't much of a theme to explore in these pages and it's all been said better by people like Montaigne, whom I read in first-year Literature Humanities of blessed memory. I promise that between now and December, when I write the letter for the Spring 2016 issue, I'll do something to provide more sparkle — perhaps take up skydiving. Happy Thanksgiving, year-end holiday-of-your-choice and New Year to all.”

1944

Bill Friedman
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A very happy holiday season and New Year to you, CC'44. Please take a few moments to send me an update — our classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small! Send me tidbits about your family, travels, retirement, hobbies or everyday pastimes. Notes can be sent to the email address at the top of this column or submitted through the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Hope to hear from you soon.

1945

Columbia College Today
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CCT sends CC’45 best wishes for the holiday season. We’re saddened not to have received any updates for this issue and hope you’ll consider sending us a note for the New Year. We, and your classmates, want to hear how you’ve been and what you’re planning to do in the first quarter of 2016. You can send news to either address at the top of the column or use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Be well and of good cheer!

1946

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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REUNION2016

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Lawrence Ross PS’51 sent in the following reflections: “Because of my experience as associate editor of the *Columbian* in ’45, when I arrived in Japan during the occupation I was assigned to the 8th Army HQ

Public Relations Office as a reporter and then as news chief. After being discharged, I was delighted to be accepted at P&S, where I met **Al Starr** PS’49, **Paul Marks** PS’49 and **Steve Krane** PS’51.

“It is good to see the names of friends and acquaintances from that distant, hectic time in the ’46 Class Notes columns, such as **Herb Hendin**, **Art Lazarus**, **Jake Israel**, **Pete Rogatz**, **Barney Zumoff**, **Arnie Zentner** and distinguished historian **Fritz Stern**. I regret that I did not keep in touch with many friends and acquaintances at the College and P&S. “My writing career was distinguished only by satirical poetry published in *The Journal of the American Medical Association*; *Pediatrics*; *The New England Journal of Medicine*; and *Look* magazine. I also wrote three scientific papers, one of which gave me 15 minutes of fame when it was picked up by many lay medical columnists. My satirical ‘Understanding Your Baby Doctor’s Behavior’ in *Pediatrics* was enjoyed by Drs. Louise Ames and Frances Ilg, whose newspaper column I spoofed.”

Scanning an issue of *Northwest Mining & Timber* magazine, which covers the mining industry in the far west of the United States, I came across a photo captioned “Extraordinary, Private First Class **John S. McConnell** a U.S. Army Private and Engineer.” The picture was taken from a published history of the 76th Infantry Division (WWII) and shows the moment after John had crossed the Rhine River during the war. After his first wife died, John married Pearl Colhoff and he proudly told me, “Together we have 25 kids and grandkids, plus or minus.” Plus or minus? Come on John, a Columbia grad can count. Here’s some grizzly bear trivia that I bet you didn’t know, from a Post Falls, Idaho, newspaper clipping sent by John: “Every year in July, cutworm moths migrate from the plains toward the alpine highlands ... where the moths feed on late blooming alpine wildflowers. Grizzly bears follow. The moths provide grizzlies with the highest source of protein available — even higher than feeding on deer.”

Join the parade — the Alumni Parade of Classes — on Class Day, Tuesday, May 17. As we mark the 70th anniversary of our class’ graduation, we will process from Butler to South Lawn with our CC’46 banner (we do have one) in front of graduating seniors, the University president, College administrators and faculty. The spontaneous ringing reception will make it a day you will long remember. Also, don’t

forget that our reunion is coming up, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5.

1947

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

Only Dr. **Nicholas Giosa** got in touch for this issue. Here, one of his poems:

Vanity of Vanities

Keep me from anonymity !
Mark my having been
with exclamation
more substantial than some tilted stone
worn by wind and weeping rain;
that might bemuse –
alas – a burdened Dane’s summation:
a short soliloquy.

Nor score the hour
with some meteor’s sweeping eulogy:
a fleeting swath of fire written
across evening’s timeless bulletin –
disquieting trajectory !

Instead,
if I could choose,
let it be but a word or phrase
that
only I
have said.

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. Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season and 2016.

1948

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The three classmates who got in touch for this issue are all doctors and all still working. By email, Dr. **Alvin Eden** shares: “Just completed 60 years as a practicing pediatrician. Enough practicing; time to start the real game.” Also sending in electronically, Dr. **Frank Marcus** writes: “I am quite active professionally and work full-time as professor of medicine at The Univer-

sity of Arizona, Tucson. My specialty is cardiology. I am one of the principal investigators in a four-year NIH grant to study an unusual disease of the heart called Right Ventricular Cardiomyopathy/Dysplasia. Also, I am one of the editors of a book in preparation on this topic. I am active clinically and read hospital electrocardiograms, see patients and do specific tests in patients who faint (syncope). I am fortunate in having a supportive wife, Janet, as well as grandchildren ranging in age from 4 to 22. Janet and I enjoyed a recent two-week cruise to Alaska.”

CCT received a hand-written note from Dr. **Peter Arturi**: “Still enjoying life and family, approaching 89th birthday. Still active medically in the Greenwich, Conn., community and looking forward to family time, having given up golf. Best regards to classmates.” *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. Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season and 2016.

1949

John Weaver
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Warm wishes for the New Year, CC’49. As we welcome 2016, please take a moment to send in a word or two to either the email address or mailing address at the top of this column, or you can use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1950

Mario Palmieri
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You are accustomed to more than this, but troubles, technological and personal, have interfered relentlessly. Be assured, though, that this unlucky streak will end and future columns will bring you up to date. In the meantime, my address is at the top of this column; please use it. You can also submit notes via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Regards to all.

1951

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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REUNION2016

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Greetings, CC’51. Although there is no news to share this time, you are encouraged to send in a Class Note — your classmates want to hear from you, and no news is too small. Please send updates to the email address at the top of this column or use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. And don’t forget, our 65th reunion will be held in June. Returning to campus is a great way to reconnect with old friends and to take advantage of the great intellectual programming and events at Columbia. I hope to see you there.

1952

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

As we speed toward the end of 2015, *CCT* wishes CC’52 a joyful holiday season and a Happy New Year. We did not receive any updates this time, but, speaking of 2016, why not make a resolution to send in a Class Note?

It could be about family, career/retirement, travels, everyday pastimes or special events. You never know what in your life will resonate with others and spark a connection (or reconnection!) with a classmate. Send your news to either the email address or mailing address at the top of the column, or use the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Thank you for reading and be well!

1953

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James Higginbottom sent the following: “Since graduation, I have read every *CCT* and happily have kept up with all those mentioned in each issue — a lot of my fraternity brothers and especially my fellow oarsmen from the freshman, JV and Varsity crews of 1949–53. The recently published book *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics* has taken me back to my time on the crew. “I’ll attempt to fill in a few of the gaps with a sketchy account my life. I could not qualify physically for any of the OC courses offered in 1953, so I volunteered for the draft and entered the Army in September 1953. In July 1955 I married a ray of sunshine named Patti Gibbs (from Seattle), whom I met in Colorado Springs while at Fort Carson. The Army made use of my liberal arts education and promoted me to sergeant (E5) to run the pay and allotments section of an infantry regiment. Upon separation from the Army, I began my career in September 1955 and have had a wonderful and happy life selling vital circuit wire and cable to U.S. railroad signal departments. After a career of

constant travel and deep involvement in the railroad industry, the Okonite Co. retired Patti and me unexpectedly in June 2013, and we have been occupied with our physicians, chemo and family ever since but only recently have we begun to have the time we wanted with the family. Our five children have blessed us with 17 grandchildren and we are expecting our first great-grandchild. “We lived most of our lives (though traveling constantly) in New Jersey but have been North Carolina residents since 1994 and we plan to stay here in retirement. The railroad industry has honored us in many ways since our departure and we manage to keep our contacts up as well as spend as much time with our family as we can. “I look forward to reading about classmates and encourage all to put a line in *CCT* whenever possible.” **John Plate** SIPA’56 sent along the following: “[Here] is the obituary of **Dave Edwards** LAW’58, which recently appeared in the *Hartford Courant*. Dave and I were real friends for 65 years. We met at Columbia, and

address are at the top of this column; you can also submit notes via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1954

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Thanks once again to many of you for keeping in touch. Our classmates want to hear from and about one another — keep it up. And remember, you can email me on a rolling basis, not just when you get an email blast about the forthcoming issue of *CCT*; you can always update or help me edit previous information before *CCT* goes to press four times a year. **Harold Stevelman** PS’58 completed 50 years of medical practice in Westchester, N.Y., as an internist and cardiologist. He is volunteer chair of the ethics committee at NewYork-

Larry Gartner ’54, Larry Scharer ’54 and Larry Kobrin ’54 are working to identify Korbin’s Columbia photos, with plans to donate them to the Columbia University Archives.

were the best man at each other’s weddings. Our families remain close.” [Editor’s note: The following is excerpted from the *Hartford Courant*.] “David Robert Edwards died at Hartford Hospital on April 8, 2015. After graduation from Columbia College, he was drafted into the infantry where he defended Georgia and Alabama during the Korean War. In August 1955, he married Nancy Lee Flaharty.” After obtaining a degree from the Law School, “he served as a trial lawyer for Aetna Casualty Company. He retired as lead counsel in 1989. In addition, he taught at the University of Connecticut School of Insurance. He was part owner of the Studio of Magic, president of the Wethersfield Rotary Club, past president and secretary of Assembly 21 of the Society of American Magicians and secretary of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. “David loved to travel. In retirement, he and Nancy visited 30 countries enjoying the people, arts and cuisine. He was an accomplished chef. David is survived by his wife, children and grandchildren.” Please email your memories of life on campus as well as news about classmates, stories, articles and anecdotes for future issues. My address and email

Presbyterian/Hudson Valley Hospital, where he is also a pro-bono reader of electrocardiograms. He and his wife, Barbara BC’58, have two children and five grandchildren, and are closing in on their 60th wedding anniversary. **Arnold Tolkien** reports that “the family is growing and retirement is good,” and that he and his wife, Barbara, “are still doing a great deal of traveling, and I am still working in the travel industry. It is in my blood.” Many of us in ’54 appear to be “retired but still working!” The Tolkins’ new great-granddaughter, Elizabeth Meg, turned 1 this October; her parents are Aaron Tolkien ’08, BUS’14 and Dena Tolkien BC’09; the family lives in Florida. One of Arnie’s grandsons is marrying “his sweetheart” from Duke, and his oldest grandchild, Michelle Tolkien BUS’09, has gotten engaged “to a lovely young man, Adam Miller BUS’11.” Great news and congratulations, Arnie and Barbara! Arnie had some not-so-good news earlier this year about “a little more aggressive prostate cancer than I was prepared to accept,” but he attacked it with a new-but-tried, heavy-dose radiation treatment that he believes



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.



has “killed the cancer with little or no side effects. So far so good.”

That is indeed some better news. Be well, Arnie; we are with you!

Larry Gartner, Larry Scharer and **Larry Kobrin** have put their heads together on a project to identify pictures of and at Columbia that LK rescued from his Connecticut house before it was sold. “I am having an endless struggle with tons of old pictures that I can’t bring myself to discard,” says LK. The three Larrys look forward to delivering a large batch of the photos to the Columbia University Archives. Classmates: Look forward to a special nostalgia trip on a visit to campus. On that note, does anyone else have pictures or documents you can’t face parting with but that might be of interest to Columbia? After all, ours were the Bicentennial years.

Here’s an update on **Bruce King**, who writes that Columbia University Press will distribute his book *From New National to World Literature*, and that he’s editing the first draft of his autobiography, *An Interesting Life, So Far*. Bruce and his wife, Adele, look forward

to the same blood sugars as non-diabetics.” He worked out an engineering system to accomplish this, 13 years before he became a practicing physician at 49. Dick has written nine books on the subject of blood sugar normalization, a concept that is still opposed by most professional diabetes associations. He has been criticized for opposing the currently advocated high carbohydrate diets covered by industrial doses of medications like insulin that cause wild blood sugar swings. He says these diets should be replaced with very low carbohydrate diets and small physiologic doses of medications.

Dr. B. says, “The elevated and wildly swinging blood sugar, encountered by most diabetics utilizing conventional therapy, is the major cause of heart failure, stroke, blindness, kidney failure, sexual dysfunction, non-traumatic amputations and newborn abnormalities throughout much of the world. Recent research now implicates blood sugar elevation as a major cause of dementia. The common approach to treatment has generated a huge complex of medications, companies and person-

nel, devoted to the treatment of diabetic sequelae, instead of their underlying cause. The financial cost of this greatly outweighs what it would cost to train medical personnel and patients in the basic engineering principles that underlie blood sugar normalization, such as ‘The Laws of Small Numbers.’

“Nevertheless,” Dick claims, “organized medicine still advocates very high blood sugars for diabetics, often calling such values ‘normal.’”

With all the doctors, researchers and other scientists in our class, let the debate begin!

Serge Gavronsky retired this year from Barnard’s French department, “after 50 years right there!” He was chair from 1975 to 2001. A published poet in both French and English, and a translator of French to English and vice-versa, he writes that “the latest to be published [is] a co-translation of Louis Zukofsky’s *A*. [My] novels include *The German Friend*, translated in Italian with a handsome preface by Harold Bloom.” Serge has been the recipient of numerous academic recognitions, fellowships and awards.

It’s been 11 years since our Class of Destiny’s 50th reunion celebration, which took place across a three-day, glorious weekend in June 2004, and was highlighted by activities and special events all over Manhattan, on campus and at [what was then still called] Baker Field. We broke all attendance records up to that time. Were *you* there? Do you still have your commemorative reunion yearbook? All classmates got a copy, if you attended or not. Here is a quotation from that publication, which dealt with some of the “psychology” of that time and of our place in it. Why? Because I hope we can pick up on some of the themes and “update” their relevance today for us, our children and grandchildren (and, as noted earlier, even some great-grandchildren) in publications and at events to come.

About one-third of the class responded in 2004; I hereby quote and paraphrase the following: “More than eight out of 10 considered their Columbia education fulfilling, and two-thirds said the Core Curriculum influenced their lives. Almost all were glad they chose Columbia, but only half of those feel very favorable about Columbia today; still, four out of five ‘would do it again.’ More than half have some close alumni friends and about one-third have been active in some alumni activities. Half claim to be religious, two-thirds financially comfortable and just under half claim a financial worth of one-to-five million dollars. Four out of 10 make annual charitable contributions of close to \$5,000, but twice that number give at least some gift to Columbia. More than half favor affirmative action in college and employment, expected to vote Democratic in 2004 and believe we should not have gone to war in Iraq this time.”

These were sample snapshots based on a wide-ranging number of subjects, and questions were answered anonymously during the first half of 2004. I’ll share a number of the others across the next several issues of *CCT*. Meanwhile, I solicit your comments, questions and suggestions about areas of particular interest that we might report on. As 2015 draws to a close, be well, do good in the world and keep in touch.

Excelsior!

1955

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When Columbia throws a party, it really throws a party. A series of gatherings have taken place during the past several months, bringing together

all parts of the University. Read on for the highlights.

Convocation was held in late August, welcoming the first-year class to Columbia. The event included the Alumni Procession, which entails classes marching with class banners by decade (our own **Bill Epstein** was involved), and speeches by President Lee C. Bollinger and Dean James J. Valentini.

The fall offered several great events for alumni and students. Columbia Alumni Leaders Weekend occurred in early October and featured the presentation of The Richard E. Witten ’75CC Award for Volunteer Leadership and The Richard E. Witten ’75CC Award for Transformational Volunteer Leadership, panel discussions and the Alumni Medalists Gala, held in Low Rotunda. On October 16, Bollinger’s annual 5K Run/Walk had a sizeable number of participants. And Don J. Melnick, the Thomas Hunt Morgan Professor of Conservation Biology, gave a deep and informative series of lectures, “The Biodiversity Crisis,” as part of the Mini-Core Courses. Many believe we have entered the Sixth Extinction spasm in Earth’s history.

Touching briefly on our reunion, I apologize for omitting a few classmates from the attendee list in the previous issue. Also attending the festivities in May were **Anthony Viscusi**, **Bob Brown**, **Dan Fuchs** and **Queens’ Jesse Roth**. Others were **Milt Merritt**, who was pleasantly surprised with the souvenir watches given to all the attendees, and **Beryl Nusbaum**, who couldn’t wait for updates on some of our sports teams. I hope we get professor **Harry Scheiber** to come east for one or more of the crew races. **Lew Sternfels** took many photos; if anyone would like them, let your trusted correspondent know and they will be emailed to you.

Some classmates who couldn’t make the 60th were painter **Jack Stupp** (recovering from back surgery), **Harvey Greenberg** (Haji was in Europe), **Henry Cohen** (living in Oakland and extolling the virtues of Professor Ted de Bary ’41, GSAS’53), **Bill Langston** (also living in Oakland) and **Peter Pressman** (a breast surgeon in private practice in New York).

This year’s Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner honored former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. ’73, LAW’76. Late fencing coach Irv DeKoff was honored at a memorial service in the fall. Irv was one of the most successful coaches in Columbia history.

While meandering around Lerner Hall, I espied a portrait of **Alfred Lerner** on a wall on the advising floor. A plaque for **Jim Berick** and his wife, Christine, is close by.

A special alumni reception will take place in Boston before the Harvard/Columbia basketball game in late January. Classmates in this area who might want to get tickets are **Eddie Goldberg**, **Ken Parker** (Dick Kuhn’s buddy), **Sandy Autor**, **Ralph Wagner**, **Richard Kessler**, **Harold Kushner**, **Mike Vaughn**, **Bernie Chasan**, **Jim Lagomarsino**, **David Sweet** and **Walt Flanagan**.

What are **Alfred Gollomp**, **Don Laufer** and **Bill Epstein** doing? Making plans for their periodic dinners in and around New York.

Dear wonderful classmates, For those who attended the 60th, it was a pleasure to see you. For those who were unable to attend the good times, the clock is ticking for the next event.

It gets better and better.

No one brings more to the party than you guys.

Keep it up.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016

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REUNION2016

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As I write this, I am preparing to leave for my fall 2015 visit to one of my favorite Mexican resorts in Puerto Peñasco, where my wife, Elke, and I will be playing at least 10 rounds of golf at its championship course and will extend our summer activity season into the fall. I will also enjoy dinner with **Giora Ben-Horin** LAW’61 and his wife, Arlene. Giora is one of my old neighborhood and Columbia College friends, and he writes:

“After graduation, I pushed my number up on the draft and served in the Army for two years, including 14 months on a base in France. Upon discharge, I entered the Law School. [After graduation,] I took a position with the Tax Division at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. In 1965, I was fortunate enough to marry Arlene Kane, a school teacher from Youngstown, Ohio, who was living in Washington.

“In 1967, I accepted a position in Phoenix, which I had visited a number

of times while handling tax cases. I became a partner in two major Phoenix law firms. In 1982, I decided to leave the practice of law and formed Benross Corp. to engage in land investments and syndications in Arizona (which, as you might know, is probably the fastest growing state in the country). I have found this to be an enjoyable and rewarding enterprise in which I continue to engage with my son Michael. I have two other children, Lonnie and Hallie, and five grandchildren.”

James Rubin was honored by Mount Sinai Beth Israel Hospital on May 28 for 50 years of service and 44 years as the division chief of clinical immunology and allergy. Jim and his wife, Phyllis, have retired to Cutchogue (on the North Fork of Long Island), N.Y., and he invites classmates who come out that way to give him a call.

We have another addition to the ranks of authors in our class. That would be **Taylor Thompson**, who lives in Kingston, N.Y. He writes:

“Hello, friends. I’ve joined the ranks of other authors (like David McCullough) by writing and publishing my autobiography. It’s titled *An Entrepreneur Grows in a Capitalist Culture* and it is available at most booksellers, primarily Barnes & Noble and Amazon. It’s hard cover, so if you get bored you can always use it as a coffee table book to rest your coffee cup, flower vases or snacks — you have to be practical. It is also available as an eBook on Kindle.

“I think my life illustrates the process that teaches and inspires individuals to become entrepreneurs. I reveal the straightforward ways to start a business and survive roadblocks like fires, lawsuits, union organizing and personnel problems. Contact me if you have questions (like, ‘Why did you waste your time when you could be relaxing in the sun?’).”

Also, for your information, there is a chapter in Taylor’s book that will bring out many Columbia memories.

Robert Lauterborn writes: “This spring I got to fly literally around the world in 22 days — Toronto, Shanghai, Dalian, Beijing, Moscow, Warsaw, London and home again. I was speaking in several of those cities and playing in a couple of others. This summer I spent six weeks wandering around Europe — the Alps in Austria, Switzerland and Germany; then my family’s ancestral home (Trier, Germany) for a couple of weeks; then a week in Paris and another in England. My elder grandson is doing a semester abroad in London this fall and found a flat in Notting Hill. I don’t begrudge him the opportunity, but I am a little envious! I’ll be in the United States for much of the rest of the year, mostly in Chapel Hill, N.C., except for a couple of conferences I’m speaking at



The Class of 1956 held a fall luncheon at Faculty House to begin planning its 60th reunion, along with two staff members from the Alumni Office. Left to right, front row: Jerry Fine ’56, Danny Link ’56, Jillian Rodriguez M’Barki and Maurice Klein ’56; and back row, left to right: Mark Novick ’56, Al Franco SEAS’56, Eric Shea, Stephen Easton ’56, Ron Kapon ’56 and Lou Hemmerdinger ’56.

in Orlando and Atlanta. It’s nice to be home for a change.

“I’m taking singing lessons and singing in both a church choir and a community chorus. Incidentally, a small correction regarding the Ford Foundation scholars you mentioned in a recent column: I was one and I was 16, but I had, in fact, graduated from high school.

“Best wishes to all and I hope to see you before too long at one of the class lunches and/or for a 60th reunion planning session.”

Jerry Breslow updated us on his activities: “The last time I wrote (in 2013), I had become chairman of the board of the Maryland Classic Youth Orchestras, a Strathmore Hall Foundation partner that performs in the Music Center run by SHF in North Bethesda, Md. The MCYO is a 70-year old organization that provides talented student musicians (from third grade to high school) opportunities to perform with their peers from the Washington, D.C., area. Our students perform throughout the U.S. and Europe; this year the kids performed at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

“This past summer the MCYO merged with the SHF, and pursuant to the merger agreement I returned to the SHF board, this time as an ex officio member. I thus have served in each of the three categories of directors represented on the board: as an appointee of the Montgomery County, Md., county executive (also a Columbia College grad); as director elected by the SHF board; and as an ex officio director. No one else seems to have accomplished this particular trifecta.

“I have been active in the men’s club of my synagogue for many years. In 2014, it honored me for my many years of service to the community by selecting me as ‘Man of the Year,’ and a booklet was published that included my biography. I took the opportunity to list my performing accomplishments, which included appearing on Broadway. I did not bother to clarify that it was Broadway and 116th Street.

“My wife, Harriet, and I continue on our way, playing tennis several times a week, entertaining our grandchild, Jayna, and taking a few trips a year. Destinations include the Big Apple for theater; St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands, for snorkeling; and Hilton Head, S.C., for the beach. Harriet, having recently replaced her knees along with her older hip replacements, also skis in Colorado.

“I will be awaiting the reports on the 60th reunion to see who else plans to turn up, aside from the usual suspects who are always mentioned in each of these columns. **Frank Neuberger** told me he hopes to attend. The only other news about classmates of which I am aware is that **Gordon Osmond**, who resides in Brazil, married his partner.”

Phil Liebson, an active Chicago-based alum, writes: “My wife, Carole, and I celebrated our 50th anniversary in September by spending two weeks in the Languedoc region in southwestern France. I am retired from cardiology but still have a clinic in preventive medicine that I go to once a week. My current interests are piano, dance and the Chicago Literary Club. I am on the executive committee of

the local Columbia Alumni Club and also am a governing member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. My literary interest is medieval history, so that I can understand what is going on in current world politics.”

For classmates who have expressed ideas for our 60th reunion, please be assured that although things are still in the planning stage, 1) there will be a location on campus for our class members to rest and relax at any time of the day during the weekend; 2) there will be tours available but also a time, probably on Friday after lunch, for individual presentations and for interacting with classmates; 3) there will be a class-specific wine tasting presented by **Ron Kapon** (currently teaching wine courses at Fairleigh Dickinson and writing for travel/food magazines); and 4) there will be a Saturday dinner for our class, for which we are planning to have a special speaker, most likely related to the Core Curriculum.

The objective of the Reunion Committee’s planning will continue to be to allow time for classmates to meet, greet and spend time together in addition to hearing talks from well-known Columbia faculty members. The committee will continue to sift through all suggestions to accommodate most of the comments we have received.

Lenny Wolfe, our class historian, writes: “For one of our early reunions, I researched and wrote an account of events that took place during the four-year period that we spent at Columbia — from our freshman orientation, to the McCarthy era, to Moses Hadas’ delightful preparation-for-life advice at our Senior Dinner, where he told us to never fan our soup with our hat or pick our teeth with a ballpoint pen. Advice that helped me immeasurably and I’m sure worked just as well for others.

“Perhaps the most important contribution the presentation made was that it served as a springboard for classmates to offer their own reminiscences of our years together. As classmates reported on remembered events, others were spurred to talk of theirs. One recollection led to another and, before we knew it, the entire session became a fun-filled event. It might be fun to do again, even if only to prove that we can remember what happened some 60 to 64 years ago.”

We had our first fall 2015 class luncheon/60th reunion planning luncheon. In attendance were **Maurice Klein, Danny Link, Jerry Fine, Al Franco SEAS’56, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Lou Hemmerdinger** and me, and Eric Shea and Jillianne Rodriguez M’Barki from the Alumni Office. We spent a good amount of time planning our 60th reunion activities, more of

which you will hear about later. Please note the nearby photo, which illustrates that we still have an active group of class members who are interested in making sure we 1) meet regularly and 2) have the best 60th reunion we can have. Please contact me if you care to add your name to the group of luncheon participants.

The subject of fundraising has been mentioned by some of our classmates as a negative part of Alumni Reunion Weekend. I believe that fundraising has a place in our alumni connection to Columbia and I think that it is important for each of us to evaluate what he would like to contribute (or not contribute) of his finances to Columbia to further the objectives of the College. Irrespective of how large the University endowment is, in order to grow and improve there is always a need for alumni support. The Reunion Committee is exploring avenues of giving such as scholarships, endowments or teaching awards that would possibly be endorsed by most of our class members. You will hear more about this later, but not in any way to the detriment of the camaraderie, fellowship, remembrances and fun we would all like to all have at our 60th.

As we move forward, my go-to class members on reunion planning will be **Buzz Paaswell, Danny Link, Bob Sirotky and Jerry Fine**. Please feel free to contact me or any of these men with your input.

I would welcome seeing many more faces at our monthly luncheons so please, if you are a visitor to New York, let me know when you will be in the city so we may plan one of our class luncheons around our out-of-town class members. We have an amazing group of class members and we always have a good time when we get together.

1957

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Edward Alexander reports, “My book, *Jews Against Themselves*, was published in July,” and **Robert Alter** updates us on his latest news: “In the spring I received honorary doctorates from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and from the University of Haifa. My most recent book, *Strong As Death Is Love: The Song of Songs, Ruth, Esther, Jonah, and Daniel, A translation with Commentary*, was published in March.”

From **Peter Caroline**: “One of the items on my bucket list was a five-day defensive pistol course given by the

Gunsite Academy in Paulden, Ariz. At 79, I was the oldest member of the class — the youngest having turned 18 during the class. I put about 1,200 rounds through my Ruger SR1911 .45, shooting at various distances from three to 25 yards, in the rain, after dark and even indoors in various house-clearing exercises. Exhausting, but rewarding.”

Marty Fisher reports: “I am writing this on a beautiful late summer day in New York; I will probably read it on a cold pre-Christmas evening in front of a crackling fire in Florida. Such is the life of a Columbia retiree.

“Fifteen hale fellows well met at the University Club on September 18 thanks to the good graces of **Ed Weinstein**. **Stan Barnett** SEAS’58 traveled the furthest, from West Kingston (not Providence), R.I.; **Sal Franchino** and **Mark Stanton** drove in together from New Jersey, along with **George Lutz** from Warren, N.J. George joined

Erich Gruen ’57 celebrated his 80th birthday on the UC Berkeley campus; the celebration featured speeches from some of his former graduate students.

Alan Brown, Jerry Finkel PS’61, **Ed Weinstein, Bob Klipstein** LAW’60 and me to make up one table. The other was occupied by **Carlos Muñoz** GSAS’61, who has no fewer than four international trips planned for the coming year (including Cuba and Vietnam); **Bob Lipsyte** JRN’59, who does not seem to have gained a pound since our college years; **Neil McLellan**, actively rooting for the Cardinals; **Dave Kinne**, an active docent at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; **Ted Dwyer** PS’61, still looking in good enough shape to play half-court; and **Ron Kushner** (along with Stan, Sal and Mark).

“Mark purchased a condo in Aberdeen, Fla., only a mile or two (and several rungs up the ladder) from Boynton Beach, Fla., where my wife, Doris, and I hang out during the eight months per year we spend down there. I hope we can stimulate some intellectual activity, other than golf.

“That’s about it for another year, except someone calculated that September 18, 2015, was almost 62 years to the day from when our nervous freshman class gathered in the John Jay Lounge for our first Dean’s Reception. I hear that wood-paneled room has changed little in the ensuing years. Happy Holidays to all.”

Paul S. Frommer writes: “There is not much new here in Alexandria,

Va. My brother, **Alan Frommer** (Wellesley, Mass.), and I have started to plan a joint family birthday party (our birthday is December 20, 1935) — amazed that we have made it this far. There are three grandchildren on his side, one on mine.”

From **Erich Gruen**: “I hit my 80th birthday in May and I am happy to say that I am still ambulatory (even though my walking pace has slowed down somewhat). The occasion was marked by a celebration on campus at UC Berkeley, organized with great skill and deception by my wife, Ann (I was kept in the dark until the last moment). Six of my former graduate students, now all professors at prestigious institutions like Oxford, Yale and Brown, spoke (I also have one at Columbia who couldn’t make it). Nor did they deliver mere eulogies. This was as much a roast as a toast, with numerous embarrassing anecdotes revealed — much to the delight of the audience. It was a heartwarming experience, topped

off by the presentation of a leather-bound volume of letters collected by Ann (without my knowledge) from nearly 80 of my former graduate students, recounting experiences, ups and downs, terrors and glories in my seminars, both badges (like Ph.D.s) and scars. It is a wonderful treasure. These are the real rewards of an academic career. On a lesser level in the past year, I was made an honorary fellow of Merton College, Oxford, which gives me dining privileges there for life (and the food is excellent). It’s not a bad way to enter my ninth decade.”

David Kaufman GSAPP’68: “News ... a little. But perhaps a bit of reminiscence as well. My last job was as the Manhattan region senior architect for Citibank, from which I parachuted to retirement in 1993. My work there gave me considerable satisfaction, plus the unanticipated, fascinating window it opened for me as an outsider into the alien world of byzantine corporate politics — shielded by my ‘exotic’ profession from the competitive acrobatics of the bankers.

“Among my previous intersections with Columbia, I was part of the team of young architects assembled by the firm of I.M. Pei & Partners to design the campus ‘Master Plan’ for the University. This was in the wake of the neighborhood furor stirred up by Columbia’s attempt to use a part of

Morningside Park for a new gymnasium, in 1967. My thought was that our purpose (invoking the prestige of Pei at the time) was to provide a positive public face for the University. The project was cancelled a year later.

“Another, positive, connection was the marriage of my cousin (once removed) to a granddaughter of Grayson Kirk, a University president who replaced then-newly elected U.S. President Dwight Eisenhower in our freshman year. Do you remember the headline of *Spectator* freshman week, something like ‘Columbia wins, the nation loses?’ *Spectator*’s editor, the writer of that headline, eventually became my gastroenterologist (Hillel Tobias ’56). Kirk’s granddaughter has been a most definite ‘win’ for our family, and has remained a dear friend all these years, through thick and thin. That friendship included my sister Jeanette, whom we lost in July in her 87th year, the last of my siblings; her children’s father was a member of the Class of ’45.

“Since my formal retirement, most of my architectural work has been as favors for family and friends; no charge, but gratifying nonetheless. What has changed me more is the pursuit of an activity that has shadowed me since childhood: singing, specifically operatic singing. A former singing teacher, one of the great human beings of my life experience and the one whose method I practice today, recommended that I scrap my profession and devote myself exclusively to my vocal studies, predicting that immersion would bring me great success within a year. Ironically, at that very time, I had just passed the New York State Board of Architecture’s licensing exam. Courage failed me then. But now, decades later, I’ve reached a point in my studies that persuades me that he might have been right. Singing is a pursuit that is thrilling and challenging at the same time. As I prepare for my next concert (I write this in October), I experience the mix of excitement and trepidation that even the most seasoned performers often do.

“I have lost touch with many College (and Architecture School) friends but have maintained a close tie with at least one of my ’57 classmates. Often I wonder: Who among the others survives? To them I extend greetings from here in Greenwich Village.”

Al Raab SEAS’58, SEAS’59 reports that he and his wife, Fran (Cornell ’61), recently returned home to Bethesda, Md., from Maine, where, for the eighth consecutive year, they hosted their three daughters and their families (altogether, 15 people) for a week in Harpswell. Lobsters for lunch (or dinner, or both), the beaches, the ocean and lobstering were the usual activities. Al and Fran are now

preparing for a December cruise on the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. Al is a full-time senior program officer with the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., where he provides staff support to committees of volunteers reviewing and advising the Federal Highway Administration’s longterm pavement and bridge performance research programs.

After graduating from the College, he remained on Morningside Heights to earn a bachelor’s and a master’s in civil engineering and then entered Cornell’s Ph.D. program, which he completed in 1963. After leaving Ithaca, Al taught briefly at Connecticut, then analyzed and designed structural components of space cameras, telescopes, radomes and wind turbines at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, Itek Corp., Arthur D. Little, MITRE Corp., Electronic Space Systems and Kaman Sciences. He also worked an 11-year stint as a program manager with the Department of Transportation until he joined the National Academy of Sciences in 1991.

After all that schooling, Al acceded to a family preference for his middle name, Robert, and is now known as “A. Robert Raab.”

From **John G. Scandalios**: “Following my ‘retirement’ from NC State as the Distinguished University Research Professor of Genetics, I continue to write, edit, review and give lectures around the world, and to participate in other scholarly activities. I particularly enjoy giving annual lectures to students at an international institute on the island of Crete and in South America, Japan and Russia. My pride and joy, however, is to spend as much time as I can with my six fantastic grandchildren: Will, Anna, Melia, Celia, Daphne and Penelope. My wife, Penelope, and I thoroughly enjoy many beach retreats with our three daughters and sons-in-law, fishing, swimming, snorkeling and relaxing. Penny and I frequently travel, often meeting up with former students and colleagues. Some of the most rewarding times for me have always been the many opportunities to visit Nisyros, the Aegean island of my birth, with my family (especially my grandchildren) and to enjoy the sea and to visit and reminisce with the childhood friends I grew up with on that beautiful and serene little island.”

Elliott Schwartz writes that concerts of his music are being planned for 2016 to celebrate his 80th birthday. One will take place on April 1 at Bowdoin, where he taught for more than 40 years, and another at Symphony Space in New York on September 21. Elliott’s new string quartet will be premiered by the Kreutzer Quartet in

England (Wilton’s Music Hall in London and the University of Cambridge) this April.

Carl I. Margolis died on July 27. He was a resident of Rockville, Md.

At the 2015 American Bar Association annual meeting in Chicago on August 1, yours truly was inducted into the Public Contract Law Section. 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.

1958

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CC’58, your classmates and friends want to hear from you! No news is too small, so please send a Class Note to me at the email address at the top of the column, or use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1959

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Thanks to the response of classmates to my plaintive plea, I now have an overabundance of material for this issue, though I am limited to 2,000 words.

I heard from **Gene Appel, Eddie Boylan, Steve Buchman, Jerome Charyn, Richard Engelman, Murray Epstein, Allan Franklin, Alvin Halpern, Steve Kallis Jr., Paul Kantor, Harvey Leifert, Bernie Pucker, Lewis Roth, Steve Trachtenberg** and **Ralph Wyndrum Jr.** I apologize to those whose submissions I couldn’t use at this time or had to be edited. They will appear in the next issue.

Alvin Halpern writes: “My wife, Mariarosa, and I continue to enjoy our life in San Diego, going to concerts, plays and lectures when we are not taking long walks or enjoying Balboa Park (the Central Park of San Diego), with its many small but excellent museums and, of course, the San Diego Zoo. We also get a reasonable, and very enjoyable, dose of grandkid time with our grandsons, Luke and Zak, who live not too far away.

“Still, we do get wanderlust from time to time. Our most recent significant trip, from December 2014

through January 2015, was a cruise around South America (Santiago to Buenos Aires), with a few days of cruising Antarctica. It was all spectacular, especially the various penguin colonies. We were lucky and had calm seas across the Drake Passage and great weather while cruising the Palmer Archipelago. The Antarctic scenery is surreal, and we had some adventures as well, including picking up some stranded Polish sailors who were retracing one of Ernest Shackleton’s expeditions. Their adventure became all too real when their sailing vessel ran aground near the Polish Antarctic Station; they gave us some fascinating unscheduled talks about their adventures. We recommend this trip (South America/Antarctica, not Shackleton).”

From Boulder, Colo., **Allan Franklin** lets us know: “On June 1 I retired after 48 years as professor of physics at the University of Colorado. My wife, Cyndi, and I are enjoying this more relaxing time, and she is continuing her studies of music. It is, however, retirement with a small ‘r’ — I continue my research on the history and philosophy of physics, and I will have a new book, *What Makes a Good Experiment?: Reasons and Roles in Science*, available at the end of December 2015. This past summer, I gave talks at both Fermilab and the School of Architecture of the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts. The highlight of the former visit was an excellent Italian dinner with our class secretary, **Norman Gelfand**. As befits our status as grumpy old men, we deplored the decline of liberal arts education and lauded alma mater for maintaining its Core Curriculum of humanities and contemporary civilization.”

It was great to see Allan and I greatly enjoyed the company and the dinner.

Gene Appel is now a member of the zipper club as a result of a successful June 12 open heart surgery. He reports that he is 99.44 percent back to normal and as stubborn as ever, and that his wife, Linda, can now spend more time writing poetry!

Murray Epstein updates us on his activities since his last submission (he also sent some information about his professional activities, which will be included in the next issue): “All is not work. In March, my wife, Nina, and I visited South Africa in conjunction with my participating in the World Congress of Nephrology. We included two lovely and memorable vacations. The first, a safari to Shamwari Game Reserve in Eastern Cape province, which was fantastic — a lovely setting and all the wildlife we could hope for. After my medical congress ended, we flew to Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe and stayed

at the historic Victoria Falls Hotel, built more than a century ago by Cecil Rhodes. Victoria Falls truly deserves its designation as one of the Wonders of the World. Because we planned our trip at the height of the wet season, when the Zambezi River is flowing in full force, we were amazed and mesmerized by the power of the falls. As a history major, I found the Victoria Falls Hotel a delight, and we availed ourselves of an excellent historic tour of the hotel, complete with photos of all the ‘movers and shakers’ who were guests: the British Royal family, Henry Kissinger, the Clintons and a host of Nobel laureates.

“In July, Nina and I traveled to Sweden for a lovely two-week vacation in the province of Östergötland, with side trips to Stockholm and the beautiful Baltic Archipelago Sea (a sailor’s dream). As I write, we are back home in Miami, and preparing to visit our children and grandchildren. I wish all classmates a healthy, fulfilling and enjoyable year.”

Richard Engelman informs us: “I remain active in cardiac surgical research at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass. I have also maintained an academic role, having published the guideline for temperature management during cardiopulmonary bypass, which [as I write] was to be adopted for cardiac surgery in October 2015 in three respected cardiac surgical, anesthesiology and perfusion journals simultaneously. My wife, Jane BC’61, is an active member of our local museum board.”

“We have three children and seven grandchildren, two of whom will graduate this year, from Penn and Syracuse. Our oldest son, Daniel, is a cardiac surgeon at Baystate Medical Center and chief of intensive care for cardiology. He has become a leader in the subject of how medical care is to be practiced in this era of globalization, with Medicare having an ever-greater role in financing how we are to practice in the future.

“My interests are discussing the ethics of medical research and how this has continued to be a difficult matter to regulate. We continue to see the publication of falsified research, which is difficult to detect, and we may go years without any indication that this has occurred. It has culminated in patients being treated inappropriately and, occasionally, has even prompted good care to be discredited because it was reported with discredited data. I have given talks on this subject in venues around the globe and in the United States; I begin I begin with film from the Nuremberg doctors’ trial from 1946 (which is in the public domain from the Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive).”

From **Harvey Leifert** we learn: “For the past couple of years, **Morton**

Klevan and I have been meeting weekly for lunch. We wonder whether any other classmates see each other regularly (once every five years at reunion does not count).”

Harvey still loves to travel and has visited, in the past few years, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Switzerland, Italy, South Africa, Namibia, Ethiopia and Mexico, as well as parts of the U.S.

Lew Roth writes: “In retirement we all need to find activities that we can enjoy. In addition to golf and tennis, in both of which I am mediocre at best, bridge has become a passion. I am now a life master and a director. I love getting out to play at the local bridge clubs and at sectional and regional tournaments. I wonder if there are bridge players reading this who would be interested in playing online. There is a free website, Bridge Base Online (bridgebase.com), where players can play against live opponents from all over the world. My name on that website is ‘Lewr’; contact me if you want to play as partners.”

Ralph Wyndrum Jr. SEAS’59 informs us: “I retired this past March after 10 years of teaching at Rutgers, 37 years at Bell Labs and four years of consulting in between. My wife, Meta, and I have begun to take part in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ active Life Member (LM) program. In May it sponsored a trip to industries in Europe, which took us to Germany, France and Switzerland.

“The trip was pleasant, informative and collegial, and I [again saw] several people I had met years earlier on patent licensing trips for AT&T. Meta and I had taken an LM trip to Japan where, in Tokyo, I was greeted by a co-author from the 1960s, who brought a signed copy of the original paper we published — what a pleasant surprise!

“This past August, Meta and I went on a pure vacation to Paris, met our daughter and her nieces (our grand-daughters) for dinner in Paris on their way back to the U.S., then traveled to Burgundy, France, and down the Saone and Rhone Rivers to Avignon before going to Nice, then flew home. We’re looking forward to more in-depth, foreign travel.”

Eddie Boylan writes: “My wife, Ruth, and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on September 19. Regards to my fellow Class of ’59 alumni.”

From **Steve Kallis Jr.:** “This year marks the 15th anniversary of the publication of my book, *Radio’s Captain Midnight: The Wartime Biography*. With holidays coming up, it’s a worthwhile gift for anyone interested in old-time radio, WWII and/or aviation.”

Paul Kantor sent a wonderful contribution, which requires me to split it into two pieces. Here is the first: “It

seems people take Class Notes to look back a long way, and I will, too. In the fall after graduation, while rooming with **Joe D’Atri** (who left us too soon in the ’90s), **Jerry Goodman** introduced me to a Barnard physics major, Carole Kaplowitz BC’62. We clicked. I continued school for my Ph.D. in physics (at Princeton) and as soon as Carole graduated, we were wed at a big Brooklyn synagogue on Ocean Parkway (visible from her bedroom window). As is so often the case, the rabbi did not know us personally, but he grasped at the fact that we had both majored in physics, to offer the audience this gem: ‘Usually opposites attract, but in this case we have two people who are exactly the same, marrying each other.’ We kept straight faces while our friends and family chuckled. As we left the party, the cloakroom girl opined, ‘I never saw two people dance so much and have such a good time at their own wedding.’ It was an omen of good things.

“The next few years were the academic meanderings that too many physicists know well, even then (and more so now). I completed my thesis under Sam Treiman, whose brilliance I failed to recognize. Then we spent a couple of years at Brookhaven National Laboratory; I was a post-doc with Gian-Carlo Wick, and Carole was an editor at *Physical Review Letters*. Next we spent a couple of years at Stony Brook, and then did a longer stint at Case Western Reserve in Cleveland. That was where I learned of our coastal provincialism, joking that friends at meetings of the American Physical Society would look at me from afar as if thinking, ‘Isn’t that Kantor? I thought he died, or went to the Midwest, or something.’

“Our sons, both born on ‘Lon Gisland’ (remember ‘... suddenly, the rat saw ...?’), grew up in Cleveland and, when it came time to find another position or change fields, Carole and I felt that our sons growing up in a stable and sensible place was worth more than pursuing the chimera of scientific fame. So we stayed.”

More from Paul in the next issue.

Steve Buchman writes, “I am sad to see that Irv DeKoff, Columbia’s fencing head coach from 1952 to 1967, passed away in July. [Editor’s note: See college.columbia.edu/cct/fall15/roar_lion_roar_0.]. For me (and for many others), Irv was a coach, mentor and friend. Many teammates were plucked from Irv’s physical education classes and given a chance to join the varsity team. Many, like me, had never fenced before coming to Columbia and had the opportunity to join that rarity of rarities then, a successful Columbia athletics team.

“He will be missed by so many of us whom he introduced to a whole new way of thinking about sports and themselves. He had a profound effect on my life, and added a dimension to my Columbia experience that continues to resonate.”

1960

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September 10, the second Thursday of September, was the occasion of our class’ regular “first Thursday of the month class lunch.” This change in schedule may have caused some confusion (undoubtedly it did).

Nevertheless, **David Kirk, Art Delmhorst, Bob Berne** and I met at the appointed time and engaged in spirited discussions about politics, the Trump phenomenon, the state of our culture and of our union, and a variety of other foibles and fancies.

As for other news, I’m sad to report that the mailbox has been empty. Here’s wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2016 and encouraging you to write. You can submit updates by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1961

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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REUNION2016

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The first lunch meeting of the Washington, D.C., chapter of CC’61 was held on August 4; 13 classmates attended. They discussed what they had done since college, children, Columbia football (this year will be better), a little about politics (this year could be worse), books written (**Mel Urofsky** and **Tom Lippman** have books coming out soon) and stocks to buy. They hope other classmates in the area can join them next time, as well as any classmates

who happen to be in the area during a lunch. They recommend that the New York (and now D.C.) lunch model be adopted elsewhere; it’s a great way to stay in touch. Please contact **Mickey Greenblatt** (mickey@mgreenblatt.com) for more information if you are visiting D.C. and want to join.

In 1966, **Arnold Abrams** JRN’62 received an East Asian Journalism Fellowship from the Carnegie Foundation, which funded a year at Columbia’s Weatherhead East Asian Institute (where he learned Chinese and studied Asian political history) and another year in Hong Kong. Arnie and his family lived in Hong Kong from 1968 to 1976, where he was an Asia-based stringer, writing for *Newsday* and other newspapers, as well as several magazines. He returned to *Newsday* in 1976, where he subsequently was day editor, national correspondent, general assignment reporter and military affairs specialist before retiring in 2005.

Arnie returned to Vietnam for about three weeks this past fall. It is a place of memories, moments, friends and faces. It is where he came of age professionally, and it is forever embedded in his mind, he says.

He traveled with a friend who knows much about Vietnam, but had never been there. Their first stop was Hong Kong, then he flew to Hanoi for the first time, then traveled on to Hue, Da Nang and Saigon/Ho Chi Minh City. During the trip he returned to My Lai, where he spent a day in 1970 with a Marine Corps patrol (Arnie says that the doctor who vaccinated him before the trip knew about Vietnam the way the Class of 1961 knows about WWII; the doctor had never heard of the My Lai massacre, which took place in 1968, several years before he was born).

The last leg of the trip was to the Mekong Delta. Arnie says that the endless rice fields were the greenest green he ever saw. In that region is the village of Ben Tre, a battle site that became a legend of sorts in the late 1960s when an American officer said, “We had to destroy the village in order to save it.” Arnie was there during the war and, like everywhere else he visited in Vietnam, he looked forward to seeing it in its present-day version.

Stuart Newman’s grandson, Lucas Melendez — son of Stuart’s daughter Jennifer Newman Melendez ’00 and her husband, Lorenzo Melendez III ’00 — became quite a slugger in Little League this past spring and his reward was two weeks at Columbia’s Lions Baseball Camp. Stuart is proud of Lucas, who might be a third-generation Colombian in eight years.

Allen Lowrie retired from the Navy in October after 45 years of service. He

has been a geologist for 53 years and lives in Mississippi.

Tom Lippman and his wife, Sidney, flew to Istanbul in September to resume his late-life gig as a cruise ship lecturer aboard the *Crystal Serenity*, traveling from Istanbul to Rome with stops in Crete, Malta, Santorini and Sicily.

On a sad note, **Robert Goldfeld** passed away on September 18. He earned a law degree from Harvard in 1964.

1962

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Hope all of you are well and will take a few minutes today to send me the latest about yourself.

After 47 years in the paper industry, **Ed Pressman** retired in 2009. For 38 years he was president and CEO of McAlice Paper Corp. in New York. After “retiring,” Ed first worked part-time at the Sports & Arts in Schools Foundation as its summer camp coordinator, where he was responsible for providing free summer camps and after-school programs for inner-city New York City children. Since 2010, Ed has been a lecturer and seminar leader in the mainstream and collegium adult education programs at Westchester Community College. He continues to teach courses in classical and show music, American history and current events.

Having attended one of his classes, I enthusiastically attest to his knowledge and pedagogical talent. Ed has earned a large and devoted following; not a seat in the hall was empty. He is a paragon of the Columbia collegiate education. For the past three years he has also served on the board of the Collegium.

On July 21 *The New York Times* published a telling letter by **Jeff Milstein**, parts of which are excerpted below (read the full piece at nytimes.com/2015/07/21/opinion/invitation-to-a-dialogue-america-in-decline.html?_r=0).

“Children born in America today may expect to live to the year 2100. What kind of life will our children and grandchildren experience?

“Will it be the American dream of our ideals: ‘life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness’; ‘equal justice under law’; democracy; equal opportunity and respect; good education and training; a satisfying job and income; security; health and shelter in a sustainable environment with safe food, water and air? ...

“Americans need to counter the basic causes of decline that exist here now, as well as other indicators of

decline, such as workers’ shrinking share of wealth, decaying infrastructure, inflating influence of money in politics, and plunging proficiency of our political institutions in benefiting the general welfare.

“Abroad we need to reverse the declining effectiveness of our efforts to realize and sustain American security, economic and political goals, while avoiding wars, especially a catastrophic nuclear war.

“So what shall we do to regain and maintain the American dream for our children and grandchildren, to counter the decline of America and to avoid the disaster of war? Americans must address these questions now, *before* the next election. Candidates and citizens should *specify* and critically evaluate what they would do. After new policies are implemented, we need to continually re-evaluate them. The stakes are high — how our children and grandchildren will live, and the continuation of the American dream.”

Jeff’s letter elicited many responses, which were published on July 26 on the editorial page of *The New York Times Sunday Review*. You may read them at nyti.ms/1LKwbf6. Jeff may be reached at Jeffrey_Milstein@msn.com.

I am deeply saddened to report the death on April 15 of **Barry H. Leeds** GSAS’63. The following obituary (ahernfuneralhome.com/condolences/?p=4153) is far finer than anything I might write:

“Barry was the CSU Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Central Connecticut State University in English and had taught at that institution for 47 years. His teaching career spanned 52 years, including appointments at colleges and universities in New York City; Athens, Ohio; and El Paso, Texas.

“Barry had long been despondent over the 1996 death of his beloved daughter Leslie Lion Leeds, and he was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer. He was the author of four books — including landmark studies of Norman Mailer (whom he counted among his friends) and Ken Kesey, along with his own autobiography, *A Moveable Beast: Scenes from My Life* — as well as over 200 articles published in scholarly and popular journals as well as anthologies.

“Barry was most proud of his career as a professor, which he considered himself first and foremost, and for which he received the distinguished service award in 1981 from CSU. He was editor-in-chief of *Connecticut Review*, an interdisciplinary scholarly journal, from 1989–1992, and a member of its editorial board for over a decade. Born in Brooklyn on December 6, 1940, Barry joined the U.S. Merchant Marine at the age

of 16, and served as a seaman on five freighters and tankers between 1957 and 1960. He earned his M.A. in 1963 from Columbia and his Ph.D. from Ohio University in 1967.

“A member of the wrestling team at Columbia, Barry also practiced weight lifting, karate, ballroom dancing and SCUBA diving. He was a trophy-winning competitive pistol shot, a certified range officer at Metacon Gun Club and had been the Connecticut director of training for CQC (Close Quarters Combat). He was listed in *Who’s Who in America*, *Who’s Who in the East*, *Who’s Who in American Education*, *The Directory of American Scholars* and other such reference works. Elected to the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1991, Barry held a lifetime appointment in the CSU system as CSU Distinguished Professor ...

“He is survived by his daughter, Brett Ashley Leeds, Ph.D., and his grandchildren, Gavin Leeds Woods and Julia Leeds Woods, all of Houston, Texas, and his mate and best friend, Janice O’Brien of Clinton, Conn. He was predeceased by his daughter Leslie Lion Leeds, and will be buried next to her.”

Friends, former students and colleagues of Barry have established the Dr. Barry H. Leeds Award at CCSU in his memory. Donations may be made to the Barry H. Leeds Memorial Fund, c/o Farmington Bank, 1845 Farmington Ave., Unionville, CT 06085.

1963

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Doron Gopstein joined me at Convocation in late August to participate in the Alumni Procession. This newish tradition involves bringing alumni to campus to welcome the incoming first-years to the Columbia family, and kicks off the New Student Orientation Program. The welcoming speeches from the deans of the College and Engineering are always interesting, but it is the enthusiasm of the hundreds of cheering, color-coded-T-shirt-wearing orientation leaders at which I am amazed. Of course, we were much cooler than that (in a buttoned-down, tweed sports-coat-wearing way) and certainly far less organized (as I remember, we had practically no coordination with the administration). All very strange for us old ’63ers, but this is a very different generation.

In any case, the College would like to build on this tradition and involve more alumni. As co-chair of the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of

Directors’“Celebrate Committee,” in charge of reengaging alumni, reinvigorating old traditions and creating new ones, I welcome all of you to remind me of the traditions you remember most fondly, and to suggest some new ones. Drop me an email anytime.

David Pittinsky writes, “I am a full-time commercial litigator at 73, but this email is all about the trip of a lifetime my wife, Alecia, and I took on a safari in South Africa in early September. We went to the Singita Lebombo Lodge in Kruger National Park and the Singita Boulders Lodge in Sabi Sand. Among other amazing sights, from an open Land Rover we were only 20 ft. away from two lions mating for an hour; only 30 ft. from watching a mother and daughter cheetah stalk, chase at 70 miles per hour, kill and eat (yes, eat — this is, after all, the survival of the fittest) an impala; we sat in the midst of a pride of nine lions; we were 20 ft. from a leopard eating what remained of a carcass; we were surrounded by elephants, including a newly born elephant, watching rhinos and hippos; we trailed and then had a leopard walk right by our Land Rover; we watched several giraffes from 30 ft.; and we sat in the midst of a herd of 500 buffalo.

“It is impossible to summarize everything that occurred on our safari so I will send you my eight daily reports. (Note: I have posted all eight days of David’s journal to cc63ers.com.) My dear wife took more than 2,000 photos and several videos with excellent camera equipment, and she is in the process of culling the best from them. If anyone wants to know more about a Singita safari, he should contact me.”

Nick Zill is still up to his political shenanigans and has posted another short video on YouTube. It reveals

Donald Trump’s plan to “head off” ISIS leaders. Nick says, “Some may find it shocking, others, inspiring. Dick Cheney exclaimed: ‘It makes me proud to be an American again.’ You will find it at youtu.be/xtvrAJ8Kdws.”

Paul Gorrin promised a more “spired” update, but until I receive it, here is a brief note he recently emailed me: “I closed my internal medicine/allergy practice in a small town in southern Delaware three years ago; I wrote some about it in *Humanities in Medicine*, an online publication from the *Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine*. I am still married to the still-lovely Ann Robinson, whom I met in Vermont when I was at UVM doing a post-doc in lung cancer immunology, which gave me my start in allergy medicine. We have four children, and a granddaughter due in a few days [as I write]. I am revising a play about the Roebling family (builders of the Brooklyn Bridge), am reading evolutionary biology and Jewish history, and am keeping an eye on English Premier League Soccer via a fantasy league.”

Robert Schlaer copied me on an invitation to a screening in San Francisco of *Carvalho’s Journey*, a documentary by Steve Rivo about Solomon Nunes Carvalho, the Sephardic Jewish daguerreotypist from Charleston, S.C., who accompanied John C. Frémont’s fifth westward expedition in 1853. Carvalho’s images were among the first to record the grandeur of the American West. The film’s website notes, “The film interweaves stunning HD digital and 16mm film landscape cinematography, rare 19th century photographs and artwork, Carvalho’s own surviving paintings and daguerreotypes, and interviews with scholars and artists, including modern day daguerreotypist Robert Schlaer, who recreates Carvalho’s original daguerreotypes on location.”

Bob, I hope the film gets good distribution and we all have a chance to see it.

Rich Juro LAW’66 sent this update: “Since selling our business seven years ago, my wife, Fran, and I have been traveling more than ever. We’ve now been to about 170 nations: every country in the Western Hemisphere and Europe (including the breakaway republics of Transnistria and Nagorno-Karabakh), with one to go in Oceania; four in Asia; and about 20 in Africa. The best part is meeting local people and learning about their customs and culture.

“At home I’m pretty involved with grandkids and three nonprofits: ACLU-Nebraska, ADL Plains States Region and the Omaha Community Playhouse. Although my main ‘job’ at the Playhouse is as volunteer VP of development, I

recently appeared in the bit part of Sir Not Appearing in *Spamalot*. Hope to see many of you at the January class luncheon, and next June in Omaha, when the Lions finally make it to the finals of the College World Series.”

Rich, if the Lions make it to the finals, save me a seat!

Barry Jay Reiss writes, “My granddaughter (believe it or not) began a post-graduate program at Teachers College this fall. I had the pleasure of showing her around campus, top to bottom, and it brought back the usual fond memories. V&T is still open, and we had its great pizza for lunch along with a chat with our waiter, whose father was a waiter there in the ’60s and remembered the curry (which is no longer served). As I was a WKCR guy I also took her up to the station, which is as chaotic and messy as I remember it. The folks couldn’t have been nicer, and it was also good to hear the station is still very much a part of the University. We had coffee and a soda outside at the nice little café they now have in the corner of the Journalism School and enjoyed watching the passing people. Finally we ‘shopped’ at the farmers market parade of everything from pizza and burgers to baguettes and cheese, set up on trucks and tables along Broadway near campus.”

Lee Lowenfish regularly posts blog entries about Columbia baseball along with his observations on MLB (leelowenfish.com/blog.htm). Well worth a read if you are a baseball (and Columbia) fan like me.

Here is another plug for my former roommate **Frank Partel**’s latest book, *Down in Laos*. Kirkus Reviews says: “Military details and dialogue are impressive; giving palpable authenticity to the story and the characters’ interactions ... illuminates not just the war but the internal conflicts of those who had to fight it, from religious doubt to social upheaval. The result is a ripping, visceral read.”

If anyone would like me to plug their book (or anything else), just let me know!

I am sorry to report that I have just learned of the death of **Bill Goebel**. My initial research found that he died on October 23, 2013. If any of you have details or would like to share memories of Bill, please send them to me. I remember talking to him several times at our class lunches about his memories of his days as the basketball team manager. *Requiescat in pace*.

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York are always a great place to reconnect. If you’re in NYC, try to make one of the next lunches, which are scheduled for January 14, February 11 and March 10 — it’s always the second

Thursday of the month. By the way, our class has been having lunches for 12 years now; more than 80 different classmates have attended and many schedule their trips to NYC so that they can join us. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you’re doing and what’s next.

1964

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I am writing this column early in October, and the beautiful days of early fall have given way to hurricane warnings. But the Yankees have a playoff spot (for now) and while the Columbia football team lost its first two games, they are showing signs of promise. [Editor’s note: The Lions won their first game of the season on October 10.]

And the Class of ’64 rolls on. We have resumed our informal monthly lunches on the second Thursday of every month. So if you find yourself in Manhattan on that day, join us at the Columbia University Club of New York on West 43rd Street. In September, **Steve Case**, **Alan Tobias**, **Beril Lapson** and **Fred Kantor** were there, as was **Bernard Catalinotto** (in from California). Bernard, a mapmaker, explained over lunch that he had recently received a patent for a grid system that will enable rescue workers to more quickly locate people lost in the wild or in sparsely populated areas.

Allen Tobias forwarded to me a *New York Times* column published on November 25, 2014, by Jim Dwyer JRN’80 following the death of John Donaldson, father of **Pete Donaldson**. The elder Donaldson was a mailman by day and a writer of novels and poems at night. The column beautifully captures the character of Pete’s father, and the lasting impact of a father on his children. Pete is the Ford International Professor of Humanities and Professor of Literature at M.I.T. He is also the director of M.I.T.’s Global Shakespeares Video and Performance Archive, which provides online access to performances of Shakespeare from many parts of the world as well as essays and metadata from scholars and educators in the field. Read it here: nytimes.com/2014/11/26/nyregion/a-passion-for-writing-about-war-and-love-is-celebrated-decades-later.html.

Jeff Sol, who lives in Hawaii, and his wife, Simin, will return to America from a trip to Europe in time for Homecoming and the band reunion.

Now that the summer doldrums are long past, send me a note. Your classmates want to hear from you. You can submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the addresses at the top of this column or by using the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1965

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Our 50th reunion was so successful that I asked attendees to share their impressions. Here are the responses:

Michael Cook (Michael.Cook@srz.com): “First, classmates told me reunion was a huge success. In the words of **Lou Goodman**, it represented the best of Columbia College: ‘smart and funny.’ We finally got it right after 50 years; having our accomplished classmates run three substantive programs made the difference. **Bob Kronley**’s deft moderating of the economists’ panel on Friday confirmed his superb charm and social skills. The Saturday lunch with the panel of our physician classmates impressed all of us, including spouses and significant others. **Alan Green**’s report of his conversation with his 100-year-old uncle still resonates: ‘we’re still ‘kids.’ The panel’s confirmation that our forgetting names had ‘no medical significance’ also registered. Finally, the well-orchestrated Saturday dinner, with the trivia contest and the Kingsmen in the background, made the weekend. I vividly recall **Leonard Pack** luggage reunion directories into Casa Italiana, **Dan Carlinsky**’s masterful direction of the program and **Steve Handzo**’s awesome command of trivia (Who is he? What is his story?).”

Stan Feinsod (stanfeinsod@astound.net): “One of the remarkable things about reunion was the number of classmates, never before encountered (according to my 50-year-old memories), who were interesting and entertaining conversationalists; it was an amazing few days of meeting and talking to strangers who were classmates 50 years ago — very enjoyable.

“I have one quick story about a person whom I was very interested in seeing and who had registered. I did not see him at all (and could not have recognized him if I did). But on the way to the Saturday dinner, sitting on a bus (the subway was closed), someone in a suit sat next to me. I asked, ‘What class?’ He said, ‘65.’ I introduced myself and, amazingly, it was the very person I had been eager to see — **Howard Katzoff** SEAS’65. We had a great reunion.”

Gene Feldman (feldman.gene@gmail.com): “Our 50th reunion was a delightful time. Upon arriving, I was pleased to see that the neighborhood above West 121st Street has gentrified. I was nearly lost on the north part of campus with its new buildings, plazas and stairs but the south campus looked as it did then. We checked in with a barcode on our smartphones — what a contrast to 1965 tech, when we used slide rules! The highlight was catching up with some friends and talking with several less-familiar classmates. I was happy that most of the men at reunion were fit and working at careers they enjoy. A few, like me, have moved on to the next phase of their lives. It was a pleasure to see our correspondent, **Leonard Pack**; **Don Bachman** (fellow Bronx Science alum); and my former roommate **Neil Smith** LAW’69 (patent lawyer extraordinaire). I missed **Jay Roberts**, **Daniel Waitzman** and **Richard Taruskin**, who shared my passion for music and physics.”

Peter Fudge (psf.steady@yahoo.com): “Although I was on the Reunion Committee, I was only able to attend a limited number of events. My wife, Kathy, and I enjoyed them very much and I am happy to say that I think the whole thing went off very well. One event that had special meaning to me was going to the Baker Athletics Complex. Wow! I felt like I was at some Big Ten school in the Midwest with all those impressive new (to me) athletics facilities. Columbia was always somewhat of an underachiever in athletics (although we did try hard, I can assure you!), and it was nice to see that first-class facilities have sprung up. The old boathouse was better than it was in my day and the old locker room building was still pretty much intact — including the wooden plaques carved with the names of all my fellow oarsmen on the walls in the big room upstairs. Brought back great memories.”

Tom Gualtieri (ctgualtieri@ncneuropsych.com): “Reunion was bittersweet for me, and here’s why. It’s said that ‘Youth is a wonderful thing, too bad it’s wasted on the young.’ The reunion made me think of the friends I might have made, the good friends I haven’t seen in a long time, the things I might have learned and the things I’d do differently. I don’t think I realized that Columbia was as challenging to everyone else as it was to me. If I had, I’d have appreciated why we were all so uptight. It’s said college is the best years of your life. My best years are right now, but if I had a wish it would be to go back to September 1961, knowing half of what I know now. The things I learned at Columbia didn’t open me up, then. They just stayed

with me and have opened my mind ever further with every passing year.”

Howard Matz (ahm@birdmarella.com): “Reunion was very enjoyable. For me, the highlight was not a particular event but the more gratifying general experience of learning about the interesting, accomplished and sometimes inspiring lives and careers of so many classmates whom I did not know and (unfortunately for me) did not make it my business to get to know more than 50 years ago.”

Noah Robbins (nrobbins@montefiore.org): “Our 50th reunion was an extraordinary experience for me. The campus was eminently recognizable, with several additions and no obvious deletions. The Friday night panel on ‘Where Is the World Economy Headed and Can We Do Better?’ offered me insights into global economics and wealth disparity. I chatted briefly with **Archie Roberts**, for whom I was hilariously mistaken at McGill. Dean James J. Valentini’s talk at the Saturday breakfast reassured me that the Core Curriculum is alive and well (and updated). Professor of

many conversations with classmates, most of whom I had not seen for at least 15 years (and most for 50 years). The panel discussions were excellent (with bias, as I participated in one of them). But the most fun was being around the campus again with my wife, Polly, whom I met in May of our freshman year at a fraternity mixer (Delta Phi). The Saturday dinner was great. All in all, a lot of thoughtful conversations and warm camaraderie.”

Steve Steinig (ssteinig71@gsb.columbia.edu): “The limited portions of reunion that I attended provided a satisfying introduction and reintroduction to classmates as well as an opportunity to catch up with a handful I see from time to time. But the biographies that classmates submitted did an even better job of that, walking through college memories of classmates and summarizing the 50 years since then, often in a highly reflective manner. I suggest that for our 75th anniversary we collect and distribute the biographies first and then have the reunion.”

Jay Woodworth (woody17620@aol.com): “[Former Columbia College

David Pittinsky ’63 took a South African safari, visiting the Singita Lebombo Lodge in Kruger National Park and the Singita Boulders Lodge in Sabi Sand.

Biological Sciences and Chemistry Brent Stockwell’s lecture on apoptosis reminded me of those uncertain days in freshman year when I sat in Professor Harry Gray’s chemistry class wondering why ligand field theory was a prerequisite for medical school. The lunch panel on the neuropsychiatric aspects of aging was both humbling and optimistic (**Dennis Selkoe**’s comments on research into the development of monoclonal antibodies directed against Alzheimer’s protein were particularly uplifting).

“At the Saturday cocktail party, I conversed with old friends (like **Peter Sack**, whom I introduced to his wife, Anne Nucci) and made new ones (**Bob Pantell** invited me to visit him in Hawaii). The trivia contest brought tears to my eyes. When it was all over, I introduced myself to someone I did not recognize sitting at my table. It was **Joe Nalven**, the fencer who took several philosophy courses with me, **Dan Carlinsky** and **David Denby** a half-century ago. In summary, our 50th reunion was outstanding and quite unforgettable!”

Dennis Selkoe (dselkoe@rics.bwh.harvard.edu): “I had a wonderful time at the 50th and thoroughly enjoyed

Fund staff member] Sydney Maisel, who should be made an honorary member of CC’65 for her diligent work on our behalf, wrote the other day with a recap of how we’d done (by the way, Sydney has been promoted and has moved to the University Office of Alumni and Development). Former College dean Harry Coleman ’46 would be proud of us; the breadth and depth of our fundraising for the College was impressive.

“Our class reached \$756,000 in unrestricted giving to the Columbia College Fund, slightly exceeding our goal of \$750,000 in Fund A (College giving). Our previous best effort was in 2005 for our 40th reunion, when we raised \$288,000. On the broader, comprehensive Fund B (overall giving), which includes gifts to athletics programs, endowed chairs and multi-year gifts, we blew through our lofty goal of \$6 million by more than 2½ times!

“The class achieved a 35 percent giving participation rate, which is more than any of the last four 50th reunion classes. We also finished with 55 John Jay Associates-level gifts (\$1,500 or more), which is significantly more than the 50th reunion results for the



Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name. Click “Contact Us” at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Class of 1963 (40 John Jays) and 1962 (38 John Jays). This confirms our committee's view that our giving effort was broad-based, rather than centered around one major donor.

"I'm enormously proud of our classmates, who turned out in large numbers for reunion and followed through with generous gifts. Several classmates had never before supported the College Fund but came through with gifts and then made supplemental gifts. I thank **Larry Guido** for his invaluable and generous support as my co-chair of the Class Gift Committee; I couldn't have managed the task without him. Our regional and athletics chairs also did a great job; their leadership knew no bounds. But, at the end of May, it was the 200 members of CC'65 who delivered an outstanding gift for alma mater. I'm so proud of them!"

Robert Yunich (rhyunich@gmail.com): "It was amazing to see my fraternity brother **Tom Gualtieri**, whom I had not seen since graduation. I didn't realize that Tom had become so renowned in the branch of psychiatry in which he practices. It was like we never left the fraternity house; we exchanged email addresses and hope to keep in touch. During Thursday's lunch in the tent on South Lawn, I stared at the façade of Furnald, looked where I thought my dorm room (932) was and could hardly believe that 50 years passed by so quickly."

Owen Zurhellen (zurhellen1@aol.com): "Seeing so many of our classmates again and having strong, positive recollections of our time at Columbia was tremendously enjoyable for me — as clearly it was to all of us. We were, indeed, a special class. Unexpectedly (to me at least), reunion provided a life's juncture that fostered — even compelled — broad-reaching self-reflection for me. I'd be interested to know if anyone else experienced a similar phenomenon."

Martin LeWinter (martin.lewinter@vtmednet.org) responded with this non-reunion report: "I am on the board of the Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival, a wonderful week-long, world-class event that anyone interested in chamber music should check out; it takes place at the end of August in the Burlington, Vt., area. The festival strives to have young musicians and composers participate, and my wife, Barbara, and I always have two or three staying at our house. This year we had three: a violin-violoncello trio; the cellist is Sujin Lee '13.

"On a Monday during their stay, the trio was joined for dinner at our house by pianist Gilles Vonsattel '03, who is getting pretty famous in the classical music world. After dinner we were treated to an unplanned, two-hour

piano quartet concert, with my wife and I as the sole audience. It was a memorable musical evening thanks to these two wonderfully talented recent alumni and their colleagues."

I noticed a witty letter to the editor from **Richard Taruskin** in the June 7 *New York Times Sunday Book Review*. The *Book Review* had published a review by Cynthia Ozick of Harold Bloom's new book, *The Daemon Knows: Literary Creatures and the American Sublime*. Hear the echoes of the Core Curriculum in Richard's response: "You sure know how to pick them. Cynthia Ozick on Harold Bloom on the American sublime! An overwriter overwriting about an overwriter who overwrites about the overwritten! *Sober exegetes unite!*"

1966

<p>REUNION WEEKEND JUNE 2-5, 2016</p> <p>Alumni Affairs Contact Fatima Yudeh fy2165@columbia.edu 212-851-7834</p> <p>Development Contact Heather Siemienas hs2843@columbia.edu 212-851-7855</p>	<p>REUNION2016</p>
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You have been receiving emails about our 50th reunion. Please plan to attend; it will be very special, mainly because the Reunion Committee would like to get you guys here while you are still mobile, and also because this will be one of the last and best times to reunite with old friends and acquaintances and relive the fun, stupidity, naiveté and idealism of 1962-66. As most of you must realize, that time was a stupendous era for not only us but also for the world.

From **Ken Fox**: "Fifty years later, Columbia still matters to me. In the '90s I gave up teaching and went to law school. Then I pursued 20 years of law, mostly criminal defense. It actually didn't involve much law; day-to-day it's more like social work. Contrary to popular belief, the clients know they're guilty, they just want a better deal before they plead. My motto: Avoid juries at all cost. Criminal defense lawyers call going to trial 'rolling the dice'; as at casinos, the odds always favor the house.

"This year I retired and went back to history writing. I became interested in the sociology of the 1950s, which led me to Columbia's Rare Book & Manuscript Library, in Butler, where

I discovered the papers of [Professor] Robert K. Merton. He never taught undergraduate courses, although I think sociology majors were allowed in his graduate courses. This seems a strange policy, because a large number of his grad students were social workers only seeking a master's. I would like to talk to any of you who took his classes or even got a sociology degree.

"Merton saved virtually every piece of correspondence from 1935 to 2002, and it fills many boxes. In 1948, he tried to analyze (and publish a study of) letters received by Dwight Eisenhower, then Columbia's president, urging him to seek the Republican nomination after [TV and radio personality] Walter Winchell had encouraged people in a radio broadcast to write Ike. Hundreds of letters poured in and Eisenhower gave permission to analyze them and later publish a book, or so Merton thought. When the manuscript was ready he met with Eisenhower three times to summarize and explain the findings. Later Merton told his staff it had been like talking to a semi-sophisticated shoe salesman! Plans for publication were far advanced when one of Eisenhower's aides announced the project was being canceled and that all materials were to be returned, including the book manuscript. While he was University president, Eisenhower had two aides from the military with him every day; the military didn't want to lose him and, sometime later in his Columbia presidency, he became head of NATO. Merton's project appears to have been canceled because the aides convinced Eisenhower that he might seek the Republican nomination in 1952 and the letters project might prove detrimental four years on. Merton remained interested in this kind of sociology, and in 1952 contacted Adlai Stevenson, whom he favored for President quite ardently, about analyzing his letters. Stevenson was enthusiastic but no funding could be arranged and the project never got started.

"Our class preceded the events of Spring '68 but Dean David Truman was at the center of the storm. In the '90s he wrote a memoir of the events, which his son later made available in mimeo. It is very interesting. Truman was on track to replace Grayson Kirk as University president. When names were solicited for Kirk's replacement in summer 1968, Merton explained that he would have favored Truman but felt it would not work, and not because of any fault and incapacity of Truman's. Truman says in the memoir that they feared rioters from Harlem might come on campus because of the controversy over the gym in Morningside Park and he met at one point with black political leaders in hopes of avoiding this. Truman is quite hard on Kirk, blaming him for leaving the ship to steer itself, saying that Kirk was on the boards of many corporations and spent a great deal of his time downtown at their meetings; Kirk told Truman he was making so much money from this involvement that he relied on his Columbia salary to pay the income taxes on his corporate earnings.

"Other stuff I've done: I dabbled in op-ed writing for my hometown paper, Connecticut's *New Haven Register*. In one piece I proposed a new designation for a month: White Men's History Month. It was to be January, which gets the most snow. I got to know the paper's editorial page editor; once, after attending a '66 reunion — the 40th I think — I told him about it. He of course asked what college and year, after which he told me he was in our class. His name is **Charles Kochakian** and I think he lived in Furnald. We didn't know each other back then. I have been trying to get him to come to reunions but with no success so far.

"My wife and I have a wonderful son, who of course returned home to live with us after college. Actually we enjoy having him and, since a couple of years later, his girlfriend. We don't feel we can take credit for how he has turned out. When people tell me about their children's travails I wonder: Did we do something with our son that they have not? I doubt it. All credit goes to him.

"I became interested in singer Leonard Cohen and my wife and I went to a concert he gave in Connecticut (they could have put up a sign saying 'Under 65 Not Admitted'). One of our friends, who grew up in Montreal, was there and had dated Cohen in high school! Quite a few men, and some women, came dressed as Leonard. His advice that struck me: 'The older I get, the surer I am that I'm not in charge.'"

Russ Donaldson writes: "Like most of us, I'm retired, but unlike many, I still live in the house my wife and I have shared since 1977. There must be something about this place — maybe the daunting aspect of packing up all our junk for a move — that keeps us here in a suburb of Rochester, N.Y., where I was for many years a legal editor. Even when our two children were born, instead of moving to a bigger house, we just made the house bigger. I suppose it's too big for just the two of us now (three, counting the dog), but it's become family after all the work we put into it."

Edward Fink has been on the faculty at Maryland for 34 years, including a 10-year stint as department chair. He left Maryland this past summer to

join the faculty at Temple as professor of strategic communication. His wife, Deborah Cai, is a professor and senior associate dean of Temple's School of Media and Communication; at long last they are now in the same city. Between them they have five daughters (just like Tevye) and two grandchildren. Ed's daughters are in Maryland and complain about abandonment, but Ed's view is that a 2½-hour trip is not so terrible: "They can visit!"

Richard "Rick" Davis GSAS'74 writes: "I retired just this year from the anthropology department at Bryn Mawr after 37 years of teaching and doing prehistoric archaeology. I've spent time 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. It provided endless fascination and dirty fingernails. The best thing, though, is having a large and growing family: four children (including son Alex Davis '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 for another few years to get a doctorate. I would do it all again in a New York minute."

More from **Michael Feingold**: "Since leaving *The Village Voice*, I've been teaching a course in theater history for undergrad theater majors at Fordham and a course in classic film performances for first-year acting students at the Atlantic Theatre Studio. I've also managed to retain my chairmanship of the Village Voice Obie Awards.

"I've also been writing a monthly essay-column, 'Thinking About Theater,' for TheaterMania.com, for which, this year, I had the exceptional honor of receiving the Nathan Award for a second time. Among the five other double winners is Bob Brustein GSAS'57, my senior seminar professor at Columbia and under whose aegis I worked at Yale and at the American Repertory Theater — I owe him an incredible amount!

"I've recently finished translating a new French play, *Molière's Feast (Le Banquet d'Auteuil)* by Jean-Marie Besset, which [was scheduled to have] a reading at the New York Theatre Workshop in November. Best of all, I've just learned that my own play, *Ragazine or The Second-Best Bed Trick*, will be getting a one-week workshop at Rattlestick Playwright's Theater sometime this fall. I would offer some reminiscences, but as you can see I'm far too busy keeping up to look back! See you at reunion if I'm not stuck in a rehearsal hall somewhere."

Your correspondent had the serious pleasure of attending our season football

opener at Fordham on September 19 with **Harvey Kurzweil** and several hundred other Lions fans. To say the team's performance was amazingly different and better than what we've observed during the past few years is an understatement. Suffice to say, we expect a radically improved team as we go forward under a new administration and coaching staff. Go Lions!

Finally, the Reunion Committee asks all of you to provide us with thoughts or suggestions regarding restaurant venues (i.e., types of cuisines) or other activities for reunion (possibly open-air, double-deck bus tours, boat tours around Manhattan, theater group activities, museum tours, etc.). You can email your ideas to me at rforzani1@optonline.net. We want this to be an incredible experience that you can share with your partner, your family and your old friends.

1967

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Mott Greene writes: "I retired as the John B. Magee Professor of Science and Values at the University of Puget Sound in July 2012, after 27 years. Since then I have been working and writing at home in Seattle while continuing my academic career as affiliate professor of earth and space sciences at Washington. My latest book, *Alfred Wegener: Science, Exploration, and the Theory of Continental Drift*, was scheduled to come out in October. My first book took me six years; my second book, 10 years; and this last one, 20 years. Unless I can figure out some way to reverse this trend, this may well be my last, as I will be 70 in December. I am also a dramaturge with ACT Theatre in Seattle working to develop a stage production of the Japanese warrior epic *Heike Monogatari* in 2017.

"I continue to enjoy life in the Pacific Northwest with my wife, Jo Leffingwell. My daughter, Annie Besset, is a Montessori teacher in Seattle and is planning to return to school for a Ph.D. in anthropology to follow up her master's in Japanese from Washington.

"As I haven't seen it noted in *CCT*, it is my sad task to report the July 2013 death of **Robert G. Hickes** PS'71 of an infection contracted while practicing medicine at Crouse Hospital in Syracuse, N.Y. Bob was a great athlete (All-Ivy second baseman for the Lions and later an excellent tennis player and golfer), an avid (and expert) fly

fisherman and a bridge Grandmaster. He was also my brother-in-law, married for many years to my sister, Joyce Greene NRS'69. Bob was the son of John Hickes '39, PS'42 and father of Katie Hickes Karpenstein '97 and Emily Hickes Meyn (Wells College). Bob practiced medicine for many years in Ithaca, N.Y., in oncology and hematology before moving to Syracuse, and was well-known and loved in both of these towns simply as 'Doc.' He was extremely proud of his connection to Columbia and prized both the education and the friendships that came from it. He is much missed."

Ed Yasuna wrote: "I've allowed weeks, months and decades to pass without responding to Al's and *CCT*'s urgings to share with classmates something about my world since Columbia [Note: This was written originally in 1999, and has been updated for this issue of *CCT*]. I should open by saying that my time at Columbia was excellent and I have been proud of the College (and the University) all my life. How blessed I am that admissions in the early '60s was far more gracious than now; were it not, I'd be someone else!

"Life has been good to me, and I hope I have been good to life. Within a year, a while back, one of my high school classmates was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame (for sports writing) and a College classmate won the Nobel Prize in Medicine [Editor's note: **Richard Axel**.] My depression and diminishment lasted about seven minutes, until I consoled myself that neither was a champion-quality hall monitor as was I, nor could either get sophomores to write fairly decent haiku, and maybe could not even hit a one-handed topspin backhand.

"Fifteen years ago I had a transformative experience: I spent a wondrous year on a Fulbright scholarship, teaching English as a foreign language at a 'regular' high school in Helsinki. My application essay focused on restlessness and risk-taking; the former I know well, the latter sometimes surprises me. I recalled my first days (I was 13) at boarding school (the Groton School), a world foreign to me, my family and my background. Jim Waugh, my English teacher ('Sir,' of course) at the school, pigeon-toed toward me, holding high my first essay, a flowery, aimed-to-please piece. 'Do you talk like this?' he growled. He flipped the paper at my desk, adding, 'Then don't write like this.' I began to value voice, detail and honesty in writing. That has guided my teaching for 30 years [now over 40 years].

"I've stayed in touch with Jim. The detective in the two mystery novels I've written (Agatha Christie meets

Virginia Woolf, I'd like to imagine) is based on him. I wrote those books after leaving teaching in Los Angeles in 1984. I had started a 'serious' novel, and didn't want to grow old without seeing if I could finish it. So I left L.A., moved to Cape Cod with my meager savings and wrote every day for four years while teaching part-time at the community college. And though my agent only 'came really close' to getting the books published — she has probably long since forgotten me! — I wouldn't change the experience an iota. Maybe that — the challenge of new experiences — helps explain why I have always collected stamps, love foreign movies, suffer with the Red Sox, collect wine, play tennis (especially doubles), ski, and build goldfish and water gardens in my yard.

"After bucolic Groton I went to Columbia. New York seemed the right experience. I enjoyed classes with Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'33; Kenneth Koch; Howard Davis; Barbara Novak; and especially Carl Hovde '50; New York in the mid-'60s; and classmates of extraordinary wit and talent. I spent six months studying at the University of Copenhagen during junior year, which was only one of many highlights from that time. Convincing Dean Irving DeKoff to grant me a leave, to grant me credit for the courses in Denmark and to put it in writing (after all, had he not, I'd have lost my student deferment, been drafted, been sent to 'Nam and been probably shot — bad career choices, all) was not easy. In those days, one simply did not study abroad. Things certainly have changed.

"I really liked Columbia. Through the years I've often wished I had spent more time wandering the Village, going to the Fillmore, perhaps hanging at Warhol's Factory. But then I remind myself that I occasionally went to class, read an assignment, wrote an essay and studied for an exam. The readings were often overwhelming, in size if not in scope. One week to read Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend* for Edward Said's class? That wasn't going to happen. But I think I managed to do well, and I certainly learned a lot, often in spite of myself.

"I did take advantage of NYC. I saw the Fugs somewhere in the Village, and might have seen Dylan. I went to the Met and the Guggenheim; ballet tickets were \$2 for the nosebleed seats and Mets games were equally reasonable. I saw a couple of operas performed by the Metropolitan Opera. I had a part-time job taking care of 'troubled' children, one living in the East '60s, two in Riverdale. The latter kids were normal; their mother was the troubled one. I walked around all sorts of fascinating neighborhoods, once

discovering a Ukrainian or Slovenian area somewhere in the East 20s, I think. My junior year apartment-mate, **Gil Kerlin**, was a wonderful friend. And my time at Alpha Delta Phi was, quite simply, good. Sadly, I've lost touch with these folk.

"I obtained a master's from Michigan and a doctorate at Ohio State. Nineteenth-century American literature and painting became my focus. The field of American studies was inchoate; I struggled to convince the English and art history departments to accommodate my work. My adviser, sadly, died suddenly. And then a young 20th-century specialist and novelist, Ernest Lockridge, stepped forward and agreed to direct my work. 'I don't know much about 19th-century literature and painting,' Ernest informed me, 'but I'll know when you're being stupid. And think how much I'll learn.' Ernest is a lifelong friend. His faith in me, and in himself, has taught me to continue to take chances, to expand my vision, to be a risk-taker. How fortunate I have been in my influences and my heroes.

"I had a few university-level jobs when I completed my Ph.D. Life led me to teach at Phillips Academy (Andover) and the Westlake School (Los Angeles) after Ohio State. Andover was heaven, but too familiar; California was new. Then the writing beckoned. I taught high school English on the Cape, at Nauset, for 12 years, including five thankless years as department head, and shortly after the Fulbright took a job in Andover, Mass., at the public high school there. I designed Nauset's AP English course and allowed any student to take the class as long as she loved to read and was highly motivated. I did not care about earlier grades or scores. I also taught the lowest-level juniors, another challenge since so many of these kids were disenfranchised or discouraged, angry or troubled. I liked teaching high school; kids are 'new' readers, and one does not have to deal with theory, just text. And I love to teach writing. Thank you, Jim Waugh.

"Along the way, for about six years in the '70s, I met and lived with and then married a fine woman, Andy Gilchrist. By the end of the decade the relationship was no longer working, but such things happen, so I'm told. For many years (well over 30), there has been a special love, but she lives in Ohio and is either too foolish or too wise to marry me, though I would have leapt at the chance. Our togetherness would surely have been a replication of the phoenix: exciting and immolating and exciting again.

"I retired three years ago to my cottage on Cape Cod, a 1911 'camp' that I

have winterized and expanded a bit. I am about five houses from the Nantucket Sound and I love living on the Cape. I revel in retirement. I walk three miles almost every day; no more tennis (the knees being shot), though, and minimal skiing. I work in my gardens; collect wine; continue to enjoy music, from Italian opera to classic rock; and admit to having seen the Grateful Dead more than 25 times. And Johannes Brahms' music is godly. I read — the books I should have read while in college, the ones that have accumulated on tabletops and on floors, books I've wanted to return to — lots of books about nature and the land, lots of classic fiction, some mysteries, occasional histories, some contemporary fiction. I write, mostly nonfiction. I have a modest collection of white-line woodcut prints and another of studio glass, some given to me by my kind parents, and about a dozen pieces bought in the last decade. I have no more wall space for the prints or other space for the glass. But that does not slow the collecting! I volunteer six hours a week at a nearby nursing home reading aloud to two or three residents, playing Scrabble with another, visiting two or three others and reading to the pre-school kids there (the pre-school being a perk for the staff). I've discovered that I am good at this, and just might be on the short-list for the Nobel in reading to 4-year-olds.

"As I approach 70 — and I do not like the idea of aging, not at all — I am frequently reminded how blessed my life is. I am healthy, bright, content. I wish I had had children; instead, there are nieces and nephews and a special, special goddaughter. I live in a gorgeous part of the world, have good friends and travel often. When one's largest frustration is the squirrels hanging from one's bird feeder, then one knows one's life is good.

"I have not been back for reunion but often think about the many fine people I knew at Columbia, and always with much joy. And I hope that the length of all this has not been, well, too onerous. Peace to you all."

1968

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Hi, Class of 1968. It seems that I have been, for a variety of good reasons, distracted. But I remain deeply committed to reporting what I can of the good news about this special class. I have just a couple of items this time:

I hear regularly from former crew member and dear friend **Ira McCown**,

who now resides in (as he regularly likes to note) sunny Miami. I am sure he would be pleased to see any of us when there. I intend to see him soon. We were in Cambridge at the same time (a long time ago) when he was at the Kennedy School and Harvard Law and I was at the Harvard Business School. Ira continues, as do I, to be a fan of Columbia football. I am so pleased with new coach Al Bagnoli and his team of coaches and am hopeful for the future.

Paul de Bary; his dad, Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary '41, GSAS'53, who surely holds the record for football attendance; Bob Costa '67; Bob's wife, Joan; and I were at the September 26 game against Georgetown. Although the Lions lost, they seemed well-coached and we have some real talent, for sure. As I write this in September, I hoped to see some of you at Homecoming on October 17. We played Penn. By the way, Paul has some good news, and I hope he will report it so I can then report it.

I am looking forward to basketball season, as I believe we will have the best roster in the Ivies and be capable of beating some great teams from across the

country. Point guard Maodo Lo '16 had a great summer playing for the German national team in EuroBasket before tens of thousands of fans and, before that, leading Germany to the silver medal at the World University Games in South Korea (losing to America in double overtime). I hope you get to see the team this year; coach Kyle Smith is great and he has some team.

I heard from **Andy Herz** — what a gem. He is doing well, working fewer hours and doing many good things elsewhere. I hope to get a report on those.

I also heard from **Alan "Buzz" Zucker**, who continues to work with verve and enthusiasm and who, as I may have reported, has a hobby (I wonder if that is the right word for going to seemingly every Broadway and Off-Broadway show for years?). We should get him to talk to us at the next reunion about the nature of this charming addiction/affection. I wonder if he has seen *Hamilton*?

In April, I finished 40 years in public finance, having started at Goldman Sachs in 1975 after my stint with the governor in Massachusetts. I have now decided to do some other things,

which I will report on in a future column. I am in great humor, having had a good 2015 (and seemingly a good run through the years), and I am in reasonably good health. I was on a roll this year; it was a wondrous opportunity to serve communities across the country for general obligation needs (health care; housing; transportation, including airports, mass transit, bridges and highways; economic development; water and wastewater; public power; and education finance) as well as many complex financings. Most importantly, I was able to get to know some great elected officials and some special public servants, and I got to work in nearly every part of the country. I did get to know a number of airports for sure! But I don't miss the travel.

I had many challenging assignments through the years, like as a senior banker for the City of New York for former mayors Ed Koch, David Dinkins and Rudy Giuliani; doing the first financing post-9-11 as senior banker for the District of Columbia; and, most recently, challenging financings for the New York Jets in 2014 and 2015.

There were a few \$100 billion financings and many great professionals to work with, all dedicated to public finance. Now I have more time to get to my second home in Saratoga, Fla.

I saw *Turandot* at the Met in early October. It seems like a long time ago (it was) when I was a first-year at Columbia and somehow was able to see *Aida* at the Met with my Hunter H.S. date.

Please send notes. My email address is at the top of the column, or use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I believe I have lost a couple in the last year (I apologize) and I will be more diligent and spirited in the pursuit of news. I hope to hear from you, and I hope you are healthy and enjoying these days with a few decades to go.

1969

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Andy Bronin has been practicing dermatology for 37 years and "still enjoys it as much as on the first day." He and his wife, Elaine, have lived in Greenwich, Conn., for 28 years, and Andy is on the town's Board of Health. "We love watching our grandchildren (6, 4 and 18 months) grow up," he says.

Andy shared some news that is tricky to cover in a quarterly publication. When he wrote in May, he told

me that his son Luke had left his job as general counsel to Gov. Dannel Malloy and is running for mayor of Hartford. As I file this column in September, I can see from various online sources that Luke won the September 15 democratic primary, defeating the incumbent mayor. By the time this column appears, the November election will be history — so I can only tell you to check online to see the outcome. While Luke did not follow his father into medicine (becoming a lawyer), Andy (of course) was a master politician himself, becoming our freshman class president by edging out your class correspondent, who thereby became freshman class VP.

Another story in motion: **Jerry Nadler** has been much in the news, and has endured many attacks (some crossing any line of acceptable conduct), in announcing his support for President Barack Obama '83's Iran deal.

Joel Solkoff shared a link to the obituary he delivered in 1989 at the funeral of his father, Isadore Solkoff '24; the text had been lost for many years. I recommend that you read about this impressive man: joelsolkoff.com/my-father-isadore-solkoff.

Bill Bonvillian reports: "I live in the Washington, D.C., area and direct MIT's Washington office, working with federal research and development agencies in such areas as advanced manufacturing and online education. I teach technology policy courses at MIT, Georgetown and Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. In September, my new book (written with Professor Charles Weiss of Georgetown), *Technological Innovation in Legacy Sectors*, came out from Oxford University Press. It tackles what we believe is a major economic problem: While the United States can be good at creating new frontier technology sectors like IT, it is not good at bringing innovation into complex, established 'legacy' sectors, like energy or health care delivery. As technological innovation drives our growth, this breakdown significantly limits our growth rate and well-being. We propose policy strategies to get around these innovation barriers, reviewing some examples where these have worked.

"Meanwhile, both my sons are gainfully employed in the financial sector; Marco '14 maintains that [College] link."

From **Vaud Massarsky**: "I authored *The Adventures of Fletcher MacDonald: Stories*, a collection of short stories about a detective from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and I produced 75 commercial plays and musicals, both in summer stock and in New York City. I was a judicial clerk for the Superior Court in San Francisco and I have been a serial entrepreneur

and financier, starting no fewer than 10 businesses ranging from landmine removal technology, to arsenic removal from drinking water, to newspaper publishing to copy centers.

"My special experiences on campus include spending massive amounts of hours at WKCR as a show producer and newsman; being in Edward Said's freshman English class and arguing about cultural relevance (not knowing that Said was the lion of Palestinian scholarship and the independence movement, and one of the world's leading literary scholars); making lifelong friendships with **Wayne Guymon** and Charles Cannon '67 (indeed, Charles and I have been in touch almost every week for 50 years, both for business and socially!). Wayne and Charles are from Utah, so this was my first exposure to the U.S. West — I was a New Yorker (though born in Hoboken, N.J.), with not much interest in things west of NYC or the Northeast corridor. That was an education in itself."

Jonathan Adelman GSAS'76 writes: "I remember the first thing we learned at orientation was how to survive on the streets of Morningside Heights late at night. We were told not to walk near buildings but close to the curb and, if someone was following, to go into the street and, if still followed, to start running. I remember being told that Columbia College was not a school to prepare us for a job but to learn the things that really mattered in life. That was truly wonderful!

"I also remember, in fall 1967, taking a course on Russian and Chinese politics with Professor Seweryn Bialer GSAS'66. I had become discontented with being an economics major and, when I took his course, saw the light. I had Professor Bialer as my adviser for my last two years in college and then again for seven years until I earned my Ph.D. from Columbia in the area in which I still teach — Russian and Chinese politics. Having written or edited 12 books, I am working on a new one on the Soviet Union in WWII. In addition to being a full professor in the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at Denver, I have taken up writing op-eds on Russia, China and the Middle East. I have had 46 op-eds published in almost three years, mainly on the websites of The Huffington Post, *Forbes*, CNN and the like.

"I continue to be active in the pro-Israel cause and I work with the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Jewish National Fund, Israel Bonds and Jewish Federations of North America. I also am on the Board of Scholars for Peace in the Middle East and am very active in Israel, which I visit every year."

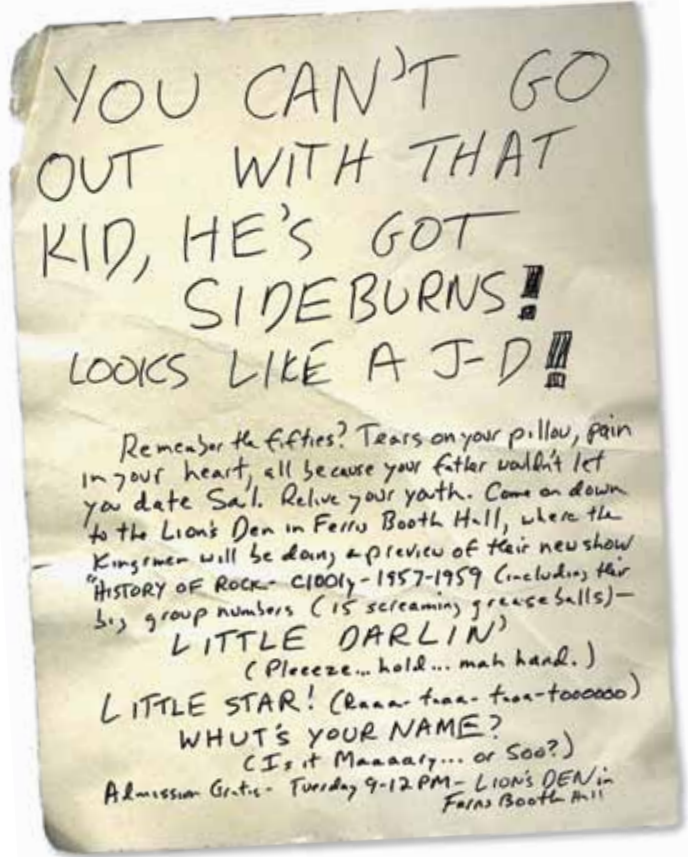
Alan Mintz reports: "I returned to Morningside Heights in 2001 to teach at the Jewish Theological Seminary as the Chana Kekst Professor of Jewish Literature. Last fall, I had the privilege of teaching a course at Columbia on the Holocaust and literary representation. In the spring, I was a fellow at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where I was finishing a book on the Nobel laureate S.Y. Agnon and the stories he wrote about Buczacz, the town in Galicia where he grew up before moving to Palestine at the beginning of the 20th century."

At the end of June, **Marc Rauch** left his position as The American University in Cairo's sustainability director to return to the U.S., joining the staff of the Environmental Defense Fund as a senior energy specialist at its headquarters in New York.

David Sokal recalls: "I arrived at Columbia as a naïve and somewhat shy 16-year old, not well prepared for campus life. Fortunately, I found some friends who liked playing cards, and we spent an inordinate amount of time playing bridge. I did well my freshman year, making the Dean's List both semesters and getting an 'A' on the Calculus 101 final exam without taking the course (allowing me to take Calc 102 in the spring). Sophomore year I started getting more distracted playing cards, with the sailing club and spending time with the female members of the sailing club. I did OK, but didn't make the Dean's List. In spring 1968, I started feeling tired and depressed, yet didn't know why. I spent most of my time in the small New York Public Library branch in the basement of Butler; by the time school was canceled on account of the chaos, I had read almost all of its sci-fi books. I was saved from flunking out by the anti-war protests that closed the College. When I got home, I still didn't have any energy and my father sent me to the doctor. The diagnosis was mononucleosis. I took off the fall semester and didn't expect to graduate with our class. Then, a few weeks before graduation, the registrar said that I needed only two credits to graduate. I remembered Calc 101, and the math department gave me three credits so I graduated with the class!

"Post-script: My academic record was not very good, so I didn't apply to medical school. I narrowly missed getting drafted and I joined Volunteers in Service to America, then for a year was a newspaper reporter before deciding to go back to school. After graduate school and medical school, I went into international public health and spent most of my career working on

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HIV prevention and family planning at FHI 360. After retiring from paid employment, I co-founded a nonprofit, the Male Contraception Initiative (malecontraceptive.org), which focuses on developing a contraceptive pill for men. A few years ago I remarried Mary Lacombe Ph.D.; we retired in 2012, are in good health and enjoy staying active and traveling. We have one grandson, whom we enjoy challenging and spoiling.”

From **Hank Reichman**: “For the past few years I’ve been first VP of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) and chair of the Association’s Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. At this year’s centennial meeting in Washington, D.C., the Saturday evening banquet included a talk by Juan Gonzalez ’68, columnist for the *New York Daily News* and co-host of *Democracy Now!* After the talk, delegates adjourned to a celebration with live music by The Nighthawks, led by Mark Wenner ’71; I was joined by my wife, Susan Hatcher BC’70. This year, four university administrations were placed on the AAUP’s censure list for violations of faculty academic freedom, including the administration of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for its dismissal of Professor Steven Salaita

for his controversial tweets. I led the investigation of that case.”

Mike Schell writes: “I flew to New York from Chicago right after Labor Day in 1965. I remember being nervous, apprehensive and uncertain, while at the same time excited to begin this huge new adventure. Navigating the bureaucratic shoals into my new home in Carman did little to dampen my enthusiasm and happily produced two or three new acquaintances on the way, including my roommate. We agreed it would be good to celebrate the occasion with a beer or two in one of the local bars. We wandered down Broadway to The Gold Rail (after the polls closed, as it was Primary Day). I cemented my earliest friendships at Columbia late into the night.

“I remember my first writing assignment in English Comp that fall. Our instructor was Michael Rosenthal GSAS’67. (He was then just a graduate assistant, as he told me when I saw him at a book party for his work *Nicholas Miraculous: The Amazing Career of the Redoubtable Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler*, in 2006.) He sent me/us to Brooks Brothers to capture the style of the place in a 500-word essay. My submission asserted the place had no style. His red-marked comment dripped with contempt: ‘Are you kid-

ding?’ The place reeks with style. Do it again!”

“Fast forward to the evening of November 9, a Tuesday (I looked it up). I was in an elevator with one or two friends from the higher floors of Carman. Inexplicably, the elevator stopped between floors and the doors appeared to be stuck shut. We yelled, rang bells and generally made a racket, but no one panicked. We finally managed to pry the doors open and discovered we were almost exactly halfway between floors. We soon saw that the entire campus, as well as all of Morningside Heights, was dark. I don’t especially remember the conclusion of the blackout evening, just that it was so much like the rest of our first semester at Columbia that fall and early winter of 1965. We didn’t know much about what was going on or how it had come about, but it was an enormously exciting, adventurous and challenging experience. For the most part, it was more fun than I remember having had any time before. And before we knew it, both that November night and the first semester had passed into history. We were just a bit better educated, more experienced and perhaps even a tiny bit wiser for it.

“One other clear and sparkling recollection is our freshman orientation session, at which Dean David Truman and Professor Fritz Stern ’46, GSAS’53 were speakers. They both made a tremendous impression on me, which — obviously — I did not forget.”

1970

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Many of our classmates are excited that Al Bagnoli has taken over as head coach of Columbia football and is working to instill a new, winning attitude on the team. I know that many football team members from our class (like **Bernie Josefsberg**, **Phil Russotti**, **Terry Sweeney**, **Peter Stevens**, **Frank Furillo** and football and baseball great **Dennis Graham**) have suffered through many painful games at Robert K. Kraft Field and would love to see a more competitive team on the field for Columbia.

David Lehman reports that *Sinatra’s Century: One Hundred Notes on the Man and His World*, his nonfiction book, was released by HarperCollins on October 27.

After you read these notes, please remember to send news of what is going on in your lives, your personal

accomplishments or reports on your significant family events. You can submit updates by writing to me at the addresses at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1971

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Bill Christophersen: “My debut poetry collection, *Two Men Fighting in a Landscape*, was published by Aldrich Press. I’ve been writing since college, when I took modern poetry with Professor Kenneth Koch. His giddy explications of the poems of Walt Whitman, Gerard Manley Hopkins, D.H. Lawrence, Wallace Stevens et al. went a long way toward making them approachable, and his exams — surprisingly rigorous, I can’t help noticing, as I look over a surviving rexographed specimen — always included among the essay questions a poet’s option: ‘Write four lines in the style of Lowell’s *Lord Weary’s Castle*, discuss the success or failure of your imitation.’ Koch’s own poetry often seemed to dissolve in giddiness, but his parody of Robert Frost (‘Mending Sump’), an early shot across the bow of canonical American verse, still shoots the moon.”

Alex Sachare: “I am deeply saddened to report that Lori Sachare, my wife of nearly 27 years, died on August 14, 2015. She was diagnosed with stage four cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer) in October 2010 and battled the disease for nearly five years with unfailing grace. She never lost her positive attitude as she exhausted the few FDA-approved treatment regimens for this rare form of cancer, then underwent several clinical trials. She worked to raise awareness of bile duct cancer and was a featured speaker at the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life at our local high school this spring.

“How important is staying positive? During those last five years, in between trips to places like NYC and Boston for treatment, she was able to experience the trip of a lifetime to Israel, the

graduation of our daughter, Deborah Sachare BC’14, the birth of three grand-nephews, and five more vacations at our timeshare home-away-from-home in Aruba, where we renewed our wedding vows in a beautiful sunset ceremony on the beach in March 2014.

“Lori graduated from SUNY Buffalo State and was a professional journalist and publicist. She served for five years as the public information officer for the Town of New Castle in Westchester County, N.Y., and wrote for several local publications, including the *Journal News* in Westchester (N.Y.) County and *Inside Chappaqua* magazine, for which she authored an inspiring essay about her experience, ‘Finding the “Can” In Cancer’ (theinsidepress.com/finding-the-can-in-cancer).

“The good news is that after her long fight, Lori died quickly, without pain, and with her family by her side. Barely a week before her passing, she was able to experience a remarkable healing ceremony, organized by our rabbi, where more than 40 friends and relatives gathered in our home and described to Lori how much she had meant to them, and she was able to respond to each. This outpouring of love and support from family and friends continued following her passing, was of great comfort to Deborah and myself and served as lasting evidence of the many lives she touched.”

Alex reports that Lori always looked forward to Alumni Reunion Weekend, and especially the camaraderie at the class dinners. We will miss Lori at our reunion as well as classmates and other loved ones who have passed. We want to see you there.

To me, music has always been an expression of emotion. You’ve heard **Arno Hecht** and his tenor saxophone everywhere, from Buster Poindexter’s (né David Johansen) “Hot Hot Hot,” to the B-52s’ “Love Shack,” both of which you can easily find on YouTube if you pick the official videos.

In some videos you can play your own version of “Where’s Waldo,” catching glimpses of Arno. Here are some YouTube searches you can make if you want to catch Arno playing with big names.

He did not participate in the music video shoot of “Love Shack” (although what you hear is him playing) but that’s Arno front and center as Dion sings “The Wanderer,” with Paul Simon singing backup; to see Arno, search on YouTube “Dion Paul Simon Rock and Roll Hall of Fame 25th The Wanderer” (a good version to pick is the one that is 3:39 long).

As a member of Uptown Horns, Arno toured with the Rolling Stones on their Steel Wheels tour. The nearly

82-minute concert film *Rolling Stones: Live at the Max* is on YouTube; the Uptown Horns are introduced at 1:00:29. Close your eyes and imagine being introduced to a stadium full of screaming fans by Mick Jagger.

If you search “legends of rock and roll all-star jam” on YouTube, you will see Arno and the Uptown Horns jamming with Ray Charles, B.B. King, Little Richard, Jerry Lee Lewis, James Brown, Fats Domino and Bo Diddley, all together.

Some other YouTube searches to see Arno in action are “J. Geils Band I Do” (select the official version), “Tom Waits Downtown Train Arno Hecht” for a New York-appropriate song, or, fittingly for Columbia, search “George Benson on Broadway Arno Hecht.”

You can also just search for “Arno Hecht” matched with famous names such as Joan Jett, Joe Cocker, Keith Richards and so on.

Among my favorite videos are blues numbers featuring Arno solos, in particular, “Way Over Yonder” with Hiram Bullock on guitar at the Chicago Blues Fest. To see it, search “Hiram Bullock Arno Hecht” on YouTube and select the 9:10-long version.

Now is the time to ramp up to reunion, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. The campus is the same, yet different. And so are we. Enjoy old friendships and make new ones. I have already heard from class members on other continents who plan to attend.

Remember back 49 Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

1972

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Arnold Horowitz writes, “I am glad to see that Istvan Deak, the Seth Low Professor Emeritus of History, has, at 89, come out with another book, *Europe on Trial: The Story of Collaboration, Resistance, and Retribution During World War II*. I have fond memories of studying European history with him. He is going strong and is still on Morningside Heights. All the issues of internal and external menace that bedeviled Europe in the 1930s are unfortunately also going strong.

“Our son, William, began his sophomore year at The George Washington University and is studying computer engineering. We recently took a trip to England to see if a semester abroad at University College London might suit

him, and it certainly would. I visited New York during the summer and was pleased to find that its livability, while not on par with London, continues to improve. Biking in Manhattan appears less hazardous than London, and I plan a circuit of the island sometime soon.”

Shep Hurwitz PS’76 is a “semi-not-practicing orthopedic surgeon” and the executive director of the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery in Chapel Hill, N.C. In response to my invitation to reflect on our first week on campus, Shep reports “some hazy recollection” of our freshman week, 1968: “The orientation was minimal and the registration process was chaotic in the old University Gym. Socialization began at The West End — remember, the legal drinking age was 18 — and the Gay Way Tavern.”

Steven Hirschfeld PS’83 is still with the U.S. Public Health Service, where he’s chief medical officer for its rapid deployment force, and is associate director for clinical research at the Eunice

In August, Bill Christophersen ’71 published his debut poetry collection, Two Men Fighting in a Landscape. He’s been writing since college.

Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

During the Ebola crisis in West Africa, Steven contributed by backfilling for colleagues who were deployed to that part of the world. He and his wife, France (a tenured professor at Maryland’s School of Medicine), are raising Josh (11), whose “shoe size and age are still in alignment” and whose avid sports interests keep Steven reading the sports pages every morning to keep up.

Now for some sad news. **Dennis Greene**, one of the founding members of Sha Na Na, passed away in Dayton, Ohio, in early September. (Thanks to **Mike Gerrard** for sending the news.) After 15 years with Sha Na Na, Dennis left to get a master’s at Harvard and a law degree at Yale. The obituary in *The New York Times* quoted him:

“Being a rock star was never something that was particularly interesting to me. It was a great job. I loved the singing part. The byproducts, unfortunately, were exhausting; travel and the ongoing-forever politics of being in a business controlled by young adults.” Dennis became a VP of Columbia Pictures and then a law professor, most recently at the University of Dayton. [Editor’s note: See Obituaries.]

You can submit updates by writing me at the address at the top of the col-

umn or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1973

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This is the winter ... ’nuff said. **Marc Gross** is the managing partner of Pomerantz, which was appointed as lead counsel representing investors in the securities fraud action against Petrobras, the scandal-ridden Brazilian oil company. Marc’s wife, Susan Ochshorn BC’75, recently published *Squandering America’s Future - Why ECE Policy Matters for Equality, Our Economy, and Our Children*, an advocacy primer on the importance of investing in early childhood education. Marc is the grandfather (!) of Fox, Maddy and Hawk.

Howard Gould moved to a solo law practice in early 2014, and has since added two other attorneys; their focus is on anything real-estate related. Howard’s son, Kevin ’12, works for a financial industry e-commerce analysis company in Manhattan; his daughter earned a Ph.D. in computational biology from MIT and works at a Bay Area biotech company. They often travel together; this year’s planned trip is to Costa Rica, with Antarctica as next year’s choice. Howard lives in Malibu, Calif., with his wife of 31 years, an infectious-disease doctor whom he met in a sailing class. As the former president of the local alumni club, he welcomes contact from fellow Columbians.

Greg Gall is still involved in fencing; he is head fencing coach at the Hackley School in Tarrytown, N.Y. Greg also is a self-employed architect and his wife, Kim, is now retired after 35 years with IBM. Their daughter, Christine, graduated from Haverford in 2012 and completed her second (and final) year of service with FoodCorps in Maine. Greg is still wondering “why **Eric H. Holder Jr.** LAW’76 cut his hair.”

Drew Gerstle is a professor of Japanese studies at the University of London and was elected a fellow of the British Academy for the Humanities and Social

Sciences in July. He was a guest curator of the British Museum exhibition “Shunga: Sex and Pleasure in Japanese Art in 2014”; an exhibition based on that show opened in Tokyo in September.

Joel Pfister is the Olin Professor of English and chair of the American Studies Department at Wesleyan. His sixth book, *Surveyors of Customs: American Literature as Cultural Analysis*, is dedicated to his wife, Lisa Wyant (a Stanford grad), to whom he is “very happily married.”

And — to end with some comic relief — George Geller wrote in to clarify that he’d dropped out (after starting as a ’73er), graduating from Wayne State and then Michigan Law; he spent 13 years representing labor unions. From 1998 on, he has been the international representative for the Teamsters in NYC. He looks forward to retiring soon and “playing lots of Madden NFL football with my godson.”

That’s all we wrote. Thanks, gents! Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1974

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“Are Prestigious Private Colleges Worth the Cost?” asked a March 1 headline in *The Wall Street Journal*. Well, we all know the answer to that question! It is still gratifying to see the College in the top 10 in the “Best Returns on Investment, Liberal Arts Majors” category.

Based on the four-year cost (using 2013 tuition, room and board with no financial aid) of \$236,500, the Pay-Scale College ROI Report estimated students at the College would earn \$614,300 across the following 20 years. They calculate that this gives a return on investment of 6.8 percent. To put that in perspective, it handily eclipsed the 5.8 percent return that was recently reported for the most recent fiscal year of the Harvard endowment! Not too shabby for an education that includes a hefty allocation of time to a Core Curriculum that includes the “great books,” the history of political thought and all the other required courses.

The latest installment of the “List” series from **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders**, this one titled “The Women’s List,” premiered on PBS on September 25. It

included interviews with 15 women as varied as actress Edie Falco to designer Betsey Johnson to Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). The mini-memoirs covered the pain of rejection, longing and loss, and the stress of living complex lives. Carla Baranukus of Women’s Voices for Change reviewed it saying, “If there were a way to take a film and bottle it so it could be sipped quietly in moments of frustration, fatigue, failure or fear for a little dose of courage, calmness or confidence, I would want the elixir to be ‘The Women’s List.’”

Will Willis, from Palm Beach Gardens, Fla., emailed after reading in a recent column that **Tom Luciani** planned to retire in the near future. Will says that he sold his company (Global Technovations) last December but wonders, “I’m not sure if I’m retired or unemployed.” He added, “Please let Tom know that once he retires and is traveling the country in his Winnebago with [his wife] Theresa, he always has free water and electric hookup at my place. Relative to the sewer, he’s on his own!”

N.B.: This is the third or fourth official retirement claimed by Will. Stay tuned.

Last year we mistakenly reported that **Brian Eskenazi** had retired from being CEO of Riverside Books, a publisher of illustrated art books. Turns out he is only semi-retired and continues to sell down his inventories but found the economics of publishing new “cocktail table books” daunting. He has returned to selling foodstuffs for import and export, saying it is “the continuation of a family business that I went into after graduation.” Brian is involved in the export of roasted nuts and the imports of olives, processed vegetables and bulk spices.

It is amazing how the careers of classmates continue to morph in every direction!

We heard from **Tom Sawicki** (in Jerusalem) when his attendance at a Columbia Alumni in Israel event tickled his memories of his days on campus. “Without a doubt, all my wife, Susie, and I think and care about now is our granddaughter, Zohar, whom we call Zuzu.” He tells us that son Amitai recently finished 12 years in the Israeli air force and began med school last October.

I emailed back that he will soon be able to use the famous New York phrase, “My son, the doctor.”

Tom’s younger son, Ariel, is considering a research position in the Israeli army. Susie is with the New Israel Fund, and Tom is director of programming at the Jerusalem office of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

A lengthy email came in from **Roger Cohen**, in Lancaster, Pa., who

entered the College with the Class of ’73 but graduated with us and now is “firmly committed as a member of the Class of ’74.” When we last heard from Roger, he was the founder of AutoKthonous Marketing Solutions in NYC. Now he tells us, “After a lifetime in NYC and New Jersey, and faced with dramatic changes on all fronts, I moved to Lancaster in 2011 to be with the late-found love of my life, Patricia, a professor of English at Franklin and Marshall College.”

Roger and Patricia were married last March, and in July Roger began a new career working for the governor as the director of policy in the Department of Transportation.

Roger concluded the email with thoughts on starting his new life (on many fronts): “This day I am relishing the prospect of returning after many years to public service, where I have enjoyed the most rewarding experiences of my professional life, and particularly so in this new home, where I came for love, and which I fell in love with.”

An unusual story appeared in *The New York Post* in July that featured **Arthur Schwartz**. It blared, “A prominent Manhattan attorney is facing handcuffs and a night in Central Booking because he dared to dismantle hidden cameras he found trained on his 93-year-old client’s apartment.” Arthur believed

I’ve heard of in the families of our classmates — still not sure what the “infinity” reference was all about, though.

News came in from **Scott Kunst** (landscape historian and purveyor of heirloom bulbs at his company, Old House Gardens in Ann Arbor, Mich.) that his son, David (30), was married last May in a ceremony in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. David and his wife, Emily, live in San Francisco, where David is an executive at Groupon.

More recently a Facebook post showed a picture of the wedding of Allison Klayman, daughter of **Barry Klayman** (partner at the law firm Cozen O’Connor in Philadelphia), and her husband, Colin. The wedding was in late August at the Pearl S. Buck House in Perkasia, Pa.

Here’s a real Columbia College romance, through and through. Hilary Sullivan ’07, daughter of **Peter Sullivan** and Mary Krueger BC’74, met Connall Arora ’06 in an Art Hum class in 2006 when Connall was presenting his opinions of artist Jackson Pollock’s art works. While her first impression was reportedly not so positive, things turned around and the couple was married in May in the Rhinebeck, N.Y. area. Connall works in finance and Hilary is in business school at UVA. The couple plans to return to NYC following Hilary’s graduation, scheduled for next year.

PBS debuted The Women’s List, the latest installment of Timothy Greenfield-Sanders’ 74’s series The List; this episode featured interviews with 15 famous women.

the landlord was using these cameras to intimidate the woman, to whom Arthur was appointed guardian, in order to get her to move out of her \$700/month penthouse in Greenwich Village. The landlord called it felony grand larceny (even though Arthur had turned the cameras over to the Attorney General office). The last we heard was that Arthur may have been in handcuffs, but was released from Manhattan Criminal Court on his own recognizance.

We’ll let you know how this major legal battle plays out — perhaps after the Supreme Court rules!

The last portion of this column can be called the “Ben Casey Segment” (after the TV show some of us will remember from our “Wonder Years,” to mix television genres). This early 1960s medical drama began with a hand drawing symbols on a chalk board while a voice intoned, “Man, woman, birth, death, life, infinity.” In other words, here are some quick notes of changes that

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Gary Atutes** last February. The only details we know are from the Columbia alumni directory, which says he was the territory sales manager of Pittsburgh Seafoods, and from the obituary, which notes that he died “suddenly.” If anyone knows more, please send it in.

There you have it. Much joy amid some sadness. Careers that are ending and some that are evolving. Keep sending in information on what is happening to you and with classmates. And try to stay out of handcuffs!

1975

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Early Happy New Year, CC’75! No news this time, so please make sure to

send in your updates. Your classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small, so make 2016 the year to send in a Class Note. You can send your news to me at the email address at the top of this column or use the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1976

**REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016**
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REUNION2016

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Planning for the 40th reunion is moving along. The Reunion Committee has a core group, led by **Steve Davis**, with me playing Tonto to his Kemosabe, and we have (as usual) a good representation from the New York City area with **Michael Sackler, Jim Bruno, Jon Margolis, Anthony Messina and John Connell**. We also have representation nationwide with **Dan Gottlieb** calling in from Washington State, **Dennis Goodrich** from upstate New York and **Joel Gedan** anchored in Minnesota.

The weekend is coming together and looking to be an enjoyable time. On Thursday evening we will have a joint event with Barnard ’76, and classmates will also have the option of enjoying downtown cultural offerings planned by the Alumni Office for all reunion classes. Friday will feature Mini-Core Classes, campus and neighborhood tours, an all-class lunch and then a class-specific evening event. Saturday begins with the Dean’s Breakfast, then the full slate of Dean’s Day events, an afternoon barbecue and then a class-specific dinner (with a speaker!). We have a few people on the short list and will let you know by email who is scheduled to speak.

For those planning to travel to NYC for the entire weekend, lodging will be available on campus. Just a cautionary tale from the 30th reunion: One classmate traveled to New York with his spouse, who had never been to New York City. He is a good friend of mine and I spent a good part of reunion with the couple. As I live in Hoboken, N.J., it was easy for my wife and me to stay at home. As our classmate was checking

out on Sunday, he looked at me and said, “A lot has changed about Columbia, but one thing is still the same ... Carman is still Carman.”

Homecoming, on October 17, was fun, and the improving football team gives us a lot of hope. [Editor’s note: The Lions won their first game of the season on October 10.] Columbia Giving Day was successful — thanks to all of you for your support!

It seems that Reunion Committee outreach and this new gig as class correspondent have put me in touch with a lot of classmates; that is very rewarding and enjoyable. All of us have a wealth of stories and experiences, and I look forward to reporting those. So send in those updates!

If any of you are in the New York area for Class Day and Commencement, I encourage you to participate in the Alumni Parade of Classes on Class Day (which includes a breakfast in John Jay — mmmmmm, memories ...) and the academic procession for Commencement. Both ceremonies are very different from what our graduation was in 1976. The campus is beautiful and usually the weather cooperates; and, if the weather does not cooperate, the Class Day parade will feature the latest in Columbia College-branded rain gear (through the years, I have received rain ponchos and umbrellas). So look for emails announcing those events. If you get to campus on those days, we will have a pre-reunion lunch after the ceremonies.

More updates: My junior year roommate, **Rich Feldman**, sent this note: “I enjoy the practice of law and visiting the children with my wife in Northern California. I’m growing older as gracefully as possible and riding my bike as often and for as many miles as time allows.”

He did not mention if he is still doing his Errol Flynn swashbuckler imitation with the épée.

My WKCR partner, **Jon Kushner**, sent this from Ohio: “My wife, Gail, and I celebrated our 30th anniversary in November; son Adam is a health administrator at Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati; son Ben is in his third year at Ohio State’s College of Dentistry. I’m using all of my Columbia know-how to console each of these Buckeye alums the three times a year their team has a bad drive and has to punt.”

In addition to giving time to Reunion Committee efforts, **Jim Bruno** sent this:

“I typically don’t like to talk about myself but **Ken Howitt** successfully asserted some pressure at our reunion meeting so here is what is going on with me. My real estate law practice continues to be strong, and my focus is on redevelopment projects in my native

Jersey City as well as other northern New Jersey municipalities, including Harrison, Kearny, Madison and Clifton.

“While I haven’t ventured far from my roots, my son, Matthew, decided to leave his job at a major financial firm in NYC to take a position with a start-up in San Francisco. I admire his spirit and hope it works out for him. My daughter, Jamie, will be getting married next year, so this is keeping me and my wife, Donna, busy (and working!). So with the reunion, 2016 will be an eventful year. It still is hard to grasp that it will be 40 years.

“The current success of the Columbia baseball team brings back great memories of our championship season in 1976. I am confident that new football coach Al Bagnoli will bring to the football team the winning tradition that coach Brett Boretti has created with the baseball program.”

Keep those updates coming. I look forward to seeing all of you on Morning-side Heights in June! My offer still holds: If anyone ventures to NYC, shoot me an email and I will meet you in the city. It is a quick boat ride from Hoboken and then a subway from the spanking-new Hudson Yards 7 train station.

1977

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And we are back. I begin with updates from several classmates.

Jess Lederman is in Alaska, where he is 1) taking piano lessons 2) publishing books to help raise money for the ALS Therapy Development Institute of Cambridge, Mass., the foremost nonprofit biotech devoted to finding a cure for Lou Gehrig’s Disease and 3) helping to spread the words of George MacDonald, the great inspiration to C.S. Lewis, G.K. Chesterton and countless other Christians. Anyone interested in the latter two activities can contact Jess at jess@worksofmacdonald.com.

Bart Holland’s daughter, Alicia, started at Teachers College this fall, and he is confident that she will use her people skills and her language gifts to become “that” English teacher, the one who really makes an impact on students. His son, Charlie, will be using his great empathy and deep interest in psychology, the mind and helping others in a program at NYU he started this past fall to train to be a psychological counselor. Bart’s wife, Jean Donahue, is principal of Bronx Science and Bart himself, when

not working in the Dean’s Office at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School as the director of educational assessment and research, is a tenured professor of biostatistics and epidemiology.

Artie Gold writes, “A couple of months ago I had the great privilege of seeing Bob Hebron ’76 while he was in town. I hadn’t seen him in 38 years, but we effectively just continued our conversations of long ago. While sitting in the Driskill Bar (right by where I work in downtown Austin) we were joined by a couple of my (often frighteningly) young colleagues, who were regaled with stories from an entirely different century.”

Until now, we’ve been long-time, no-hear from **Tony Dardis**; he sends news that at a swim meet in June, he swam the 100m backstroke and that he is currently ranked No. 38 in the nation in his age group for this year. This accomplishment is in addition to being professor of philosophy at Hofstra, where Tony has taught since 1992 (FYI, Tony has a master’s and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley). He published a book in 2008, *Mental Causation: The Mind-Body Problem*, and his latest article is “Modal Fictionalism and Modal Instrumentalism,” published in the *Organon F* journal.

Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1978

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Sometimes this is a lonely job and I have to stop myself from crying out in the immortal words of the defining — though now forgotten — TV drama of our generation, *The Day After*: “Is anyone out there? Anyone at all?” I won’t even go into the impending crisis the Reagan-era “made for TV” movie was about; it seems too trivial today given our worries over Syria and the Fed raising interest rates.

My goal, once so proudly held, is no longer the dream of including some funny and touching triumph of human interest about each and every one of the 700-plus graduates of our class before we reach that sadly empty first column near the front of the back of the book. Each class bows out in a unique and equally unimpressive manner; something like, “I am writing in to tell you that my grandfather has

forgotten which class he was in, so he will not be filing any future columns about which of his friends died for your magazine in the future”No, after 37 years in this job, my quest seems at times to have been reduced to putting something — anything — between the covers of each edition of *CCT* and to keep our class represented near the midpoint of new life (CC’15) and impending death (the last members of CC’40).

But, lest you think I am discouraged, I am not. The football team has won a game and tomorrow is another column!

Still, I do thank the stalwarts, those who love to share something (though occasionally the very same thing you told us last issue) with our curious but less-forthcoming classmates. This issue you came through again.

Seriously, folks, this remains a great gig and *CCT* only gets better each issue, so try to send more news.

Gary Pickholz frequently tells us what’s what from either Israel or his perch at the Business School. He reports, “My youngest son, Yair, recently received his combat wings in the Israeli Air Force. I shall next sleep in 2020.”

Joseph Schachner can be counted on to take the column seriously — thank you, Joe! — and this issue is no different. “My older daughter and her husband both got jobs in the psychology department of UC San Diego; finding two jobs in the same place is a rare and remarkable thing.

“My younger daughter started teaching last year, and her first year was awful; almost no support or collaboration from the school. If anyone thinks teaching is an 8 a.m.–4 p.m. job, she and I can assure you it’s more like an 8 a.m.–4 a.m. job. This is an ongoing story; further updates next year.

“Within the next year I will turn 60, I’m sure just like many classmates. It’s kind of interesting to start visualizing retirement. I don’t feel old, but I think by 66 and four months I will be ready.”

Rob Blank is always quick to fill us in on the latest strange things coming out of one part of Wisconsin or another, but this time it’s just family updates: “My daughter, Deborah, is a high school junior and is looking at colleges. I hope that she and Columbia choose each other, though there is stiff competition from my wife’s alma mater, MIT.”

Hugh Weinberg is somewhat new to the ranks: “Hi, all! Earlier this year I topped off my career in public service, having worked in various legal positions (mostly for New York City government) since 1984.

“Most notably, I was general counsel to the Queens borough president for 14 years and then was a hearing

officer for the Taxi and Limousine Tribunal of the NYC Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings. This past summer I took my pension from the city and moved with my wife, Renee, to Cleveland Heights, as I was born in Cleveland.

“I plan to continue my legal career there and I’d love to hear from fellow alumni who live and/or work in or near Cleveland.”

Chuck Callan has written wonderfully and consistently for decades: “My third of four children recently began college and my wife, Mary, and I now have a college freshman, sophomore and junior and a high school freshman. Few things are quite as terrifying or sleep-depriving for parents as having three teenage drivers. So, the day after daughter Grace began her first year at college, we took the old Volvo, ‘Battlecar Gallatica,’ to be reclaimed at the local scrap yard.

“For Mary and me, it was the moment when terror and exhaustion turned to exhilaration and freedom. The teenage years are wonderful years as well, in particular, the spring semester of senior year in high school. The introspection, the maturation process, the inevitability — I was thrilled for each of my kids throughout this transition, for there is no greater knowledge than self-knowledge.

“This, of course, is true for rising 60-somethings as well. There is something about transitions that make life so alive, so vivid. I reread *Siddhartha* and saw in it this time a light I couldn’t have seen or known when I was reading the Core. It is not simply a search for life’s meaning, a somewhat bohemian call to spiritually — we knew that — it’s also about raising children and letting go. Just as Siddhartha takes leave of his father, so too he must let go of his son, Rahula. “Take him [Rahula] to a teacher,” says the wise ferryman Vasudeva, ‘not because of what he will learn but because he will then be among other boys and girls, in the world where he belongs.’ ‘What father, what teacher, is able to protect him from finding his own path?’ Hermann Hesse tells us that these transitions are opportunities to find oneness again.”

Carl Brandon Strehlke has regaled us over time with his many interests and passions. “This past March I got a certificate (with honors) for a three-month course on Chinese art at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London, a post-retirement treat for me. Now I am about to publish a catalogue of the Bernard and Mary Berenson Collection at I Tatti in Florence, Italy, the city where I have settled.”

Paul Phillips has always kept us up to date on the musical happenings in Providence, R.I., and his own exciting globetrotting travels. He reports, “Lots of traveling this past year, with guest conducting appearances in France, Macau and Argentina, and a wonderful family vacation in Iceland. Last year I led the Brown University Orchestra in concerts at Carnegie Hall and the Fisher Center at Bard College. *Manhattan Intermezzo* is the title of the new Naxos CD that pianist Jeffrey Biegel and I recorded with the Brown Orchestra last fall. It features compositions for piano and orchestra by Neil Sedaka, Keith Emerson, Duke Ellington and George Gershwin, and will be released in January.”

Marvin Ira Charles Siegfried closes our notes with an honest, “Nothing much new to report; I’m a teacher in Brooklyn but now I stay because I want to, as I have reached retirement age (over 55) and years of service (over 30). My wife and I spent a lovely Christmas vacation last year in London and some time in Aruba this past summer. We’re expecting our first grandchild early next year — too early to say if the baby will be Columbia-bound (the baby’s dad is a Cornell graduate).”

Our question of the month had to do with the numerous New Yorkers running for President of these United States. A few of the better comments: “The Donald is a moron, and we’d be better off with Bozo the Clown (although they do share one thing in common: bad hair);” “It’s time for Hillary because it’s time for a woman;” “Bernie Sanders would do a much better job for this country than Trump, and he is a New Yorker in exile of course;” “Trump is somewhat less frightening than the other Republicans;” “Trump should not be president because he did not go to Columbia;” and “I’m stumped.”

Please write soon, even with stories about being hounded to join AARP or your experiences investing your retirement pensions.

1979

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Family news from **Jeff McFarland**: “I will become a grandfather when my daughter gives birth to her daughter in December in Hong Kong. She lives in Shenzhen, China, with her husband. My son is a junior at Reed College, majoring in mathematics. I live alone.

“In professional news, I am concluding two years as the regional

adviser for accelerated disease control at the WHO South-East Asia Regional Office in New Delhi, leading the efforts in the 11 countries of the region to maintain a polio-free region, to verify a region free of maternal-neonatal tetanus and to make progress toward the 2020 goal of measles elimination and rubella and congenital rubella syndrome control. In October, I will move to Hanoi to lead U.S. CDC efforts in influenza in Vietnam.” (*Let us know if Jane Fonda gets the flu!*)

Jack Lipari recently joined the law firm of Helmer, Conley & Kasselman (805 New Rd., Somers Point, NJ 08244; 609-601-6100). He says, “I practice mostly in the area of criminal law, specializing in appeals and motion work, though the firm does all different types of work and has offices throughout the State of New Jersey.” (*Hmmmm, criminal law in the state of New Jersey . . . I think you’re going to need many new partners!*)

Pediatrician **Bill Lee** has been at Scarsdale Pediatric Associates since 1987 and is now its president. He writes, “I have been married to Lara Sargent NRS’82 for 29 years. Our daughter, a teacher, will be married next year. . . . I still listen to Suzanne Vega. She was in Purchase, N.Y., last year, and even took my song request during her concert! This past year, I attended the Varsity Show with **Joel Landzberg** and Ron Weich ’80. One of the composers was Sam Balzac ’17, son of Fred Balzac ’80.” (*I hear that at our age Suzanne Vega is changing her name to Suzanne I-Haven’t-The Vaguest idea what the next lyric is!*)

From yours truly, **Robert C. Klapper**: I recently was invited to a birthday party at a bowling alley, which prompted this Columbia memory:

“Beginning our junior year (that would be 1977), I realized my finances from working in the Catskills as a waiter and busboy would not be enough to cover tuition and room/board. I really needed a job during the school year. When I showed up to begin the first semester, I went to the campus employment office where I met the typical smarmy, gum-chewing, why-you-wasting-my-time administrator in charge of on-campus employment, another reason why many of you want nothing to do with Columbia post-graduation (I am choosing selectively to forget many of these interactions, which is why I write this column).

“When I asked what jobs were available, she replied, ‘There are none; they’re all gone.’ My reply was, ‘Really? Isn’t this the first day of the first semester? And they’re already all gone?’ She replied, ‘What part of “all gone” did you not understand?’

“When I started to think of what off-campus jobs I would have to work, I asked her for a third and final time, ‘Are you sure there are no jobs available on campus?’ With smoke coming out of her ears she replied, ‘There is only one job that is available, and it has been available for five years, because it’s not fillable.’ I said, ‘What job is that?’ She replied, ‘We need a bowling alley repairman for the Ferris Booth Hall bowling alley.’

“She said this job had remained unfilled and one of the three bowling alleys has remained broken because no one has the skill set for this job. Like Groucho Marx, I replied, ‘I know how to fix a bowling alley.’ With her eyebrows as high as the ceiling she replied, ‘Then you have the job!’

“Imagine my first day, staring into the back of a piece of machinery with 50 belts going in 50 directions — but at least I had a job. To make a long story short, I looked into the back of the other two bowling alleys that were working and merely tried to replicate what was working in these two with what was not working in the broken one — a skill I use often to this day as an orthopedic surgeon. That job taught me one thing: I could no longer work for an hourly wage, and for that I am grateful. So technically, I graduated with a degree as a pre-med art history major, with a minor in bowling alley repair.”

Roar, lion, roar! . . . And may the strikes be with you!

1980

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The winter holiday season is always fun in New York City, with the Saks Fifth Avenue windows, skating in Rockefeller Center and Central Park and, of course, basketball! Coach Kyle Smith has a seasoned team of veterans with the size and speed to compete for the Ivy League Championship, and I’ll be there to root on the Lions.

On the subject of sports, congratulations go out to coach Al Bagnoli and the football team for the turnaround that is occurring at Robert K. Kraft Field. There is a renewed commitment to excellence within the program, and it is apparent to me that the best is yet to come.

Dennis Costakos forwarded a nice article in *Forbes* on Dr. **George Yancopoulos** GSAS’86, PS’87, Medicine Man. In addition to being one heck of a wrestler, George has been dubbed a scientific superstar in the field of biol-

ogy. As chief scientist at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals in Tarrytown, N.Y., he is responsible for the creation of four approved drugs and a technology platform designed to invent more. Always a humble guy, George hopes to be “an inspiration to kids who might otherwise become hedge fund managers,” as he says in the August 17 article. [Editor’s note: See college.columbia.edu/cct/summer13/features3.]

I trust everyone is having a wonderful winter and I look forward to seeing you at a hoops game. Drop me a note at mcbcu80@yahoo.com or send updates via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1981

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Winter greetings! It was nice to hear good news from so many of you.

Stephen Masiar is happy to report that his eldest son, Michael, is engaged and is planning a wedding for 2017. Michael recently relocated to Los Angeles, where he is a medical physicist. Stephen’s second son, Chris, graduated from Fordham Law and is a compliance analyst at Citigroup. His youngest son, Brendan, is also recently engaged with plans for a wedding in Maryland, where he is a computer security specialist. Stephen’s daughter, Lauren, is in her second year of a graduate program in regional and city planning at Boston University. How did all this happen? Stephen and his wife, Tricia, celebrated their 34th anniversary this past August.

Congratulations, Stephen! In NYC, **Bill Carey** announced his marriage to Jeong “Terry” O. Shin, who is from Korea. They will reside in St. Louis, New York and London. In addition to his investment firm (Cortland Associates), Bill has, for the past 10 years, built a series of Chinese art funds with the Xiling Group, which has major Chinese ceramics and bronzes on loan to various museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Fogg Museum at Harvard;

the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art; the Art Institute of Chicago; and the British Museum. Last year, Bill joined the Board of Trustees of the Smithsonian’s Freer and Sackler Galleries.

Daniel Ginsberg recently was at a meeting in Madison, Wis., and, unable to shake the ties of alma mater, he jumped in a car, drove to Bloomington, Ill., and met up with **Alan Lessoff**. Both had a grand time, and appear not to have aged a day since their time on Morningside Heights.

Well done, Dan! Please keep me updated on your events, achievements and travels. I look forward to hearing from you! You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1982

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Gents, I trust all is well and that one and all are enjoying the satirically fecund environment that our nation’s election process has become. Yours truly spent the week of September 22 in NYC battling with the faithful for room on the city’s sidewalks: the Pope, the UN General Assembly and Chinese President Xi Jinping all managed to confound my travel plans. I must say, I’m rather disappointed with the *New York Post* for not making use of the most obvious “Post-ian” headline to relate the details of Xi’s speech: “That’s What Xi Said.”

On another personal note, I am somewhat humbled to announce that I was recently elected president of the Society of Columbia Graduates. For those unfamiliar with this organization, SOCG is one of the oldest continual service organizations affiliated with Columbia. Its nearly 1,000 members meet in fellowship to promote and celebrate service to the University. Its objective is to encourage and maintain mutual understanding between Columbia and its graduates and to uphold the University’s influence and further its interests.

In 1949, the society was inspired to embody Columbia’s highest ideals by establishing the Great Teacher Awards, which have been awarded every year since then. These awards honor great undergraduate teaching at the College and at Engineering.

Checking in briefly this period was the intrepid **Scott Simpson**, who was heading in early October to Oslo, then

departing on a three-week sail around the Svalbard Archipelago in the Arctic while fine-tuning his screenplay, *The MacKenzie Breakout*.

Also checking in this period was the erudite **Charles Markowitz**, who related that he had the pleasure of attending this year’s Convocation and marching in the Alumni Procession, where he saw **Sal Volpe**. Says Charles: “We reminisced about our pre-med days at the College, memories that included the good, the bad and the ugly. We were both at Convocation for the same reason: Our sons (Bryan Markowitz ’19 and Sal Volpe Jr. ’19) were there as members of the entering class — quite an achievement for them, considering how hard it has become to gain acceptance to the College these days.”

These two young men must be extraordinary students!

Charles also reported: “Sal told me that he lives on Staten Island and is trained as a geriatrician, although more recently he has been administratively managing a hospitalist group. My family enjoyed meeting him and his family at the Legacy Lunch prior to the ceremonies.

“As for me, not much has changed during the past 25 years. I have maintained my medical practice in Lakewood, N.J., specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation, and I have held directorship and leadership positions in both hospital and rehabilitation facility settings. I have lived at the Jersey Shore with my wife, Meryl, for more than 20 years, and we are adjusting to being empty-nesters, with our son and daughter both at college. There is, however, one new development: In addition to my medical degree, I earned a law degree at Rutgers 12 years ago but have used it sparingly until now. In an effort to more fully expand my horizons, I have become of counsel to the firm of Eichen, Crutchlow, Zaslow & McElroy, headquartered in Edison, N.J., with an emphasis on health-related litigation.”

Gents, thanks for checking in! Remember, you can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1983

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My family celebrated my daughter Rebecca’s bat mitzvah at Faculty House

on September 12. The Columbia campus sparked. Participants included Marc Ripp '80, LAW'83; **Gary McCreedy**; **Ed Joyce**; **Eddy Friedfeld**; **Adam Bay-roff**; Dennis Klainberg '84, Mark Simon '84; Leon Friedfeld '88; and Amy Nelkin '89, LAW'91. My son David recited an original, rhyming poem/toast about Rebecca's life while I manipulated balls, apples, clubs, diablo and devil sticks with all the moves relating to the content of the poem. I also balanced a guitar on my chin and juggled razor-sharp hatchets while balancing on a rola bola. My finale was balancing a rose on my forehead and then presenting it to my daughter. David and I finished the routine by passing six balls (we can pass seven, but I wanted to make sure we didn't drop). We can forward a video link for anyone interested.

My wife, Deborah, and I hosted a reception for parents and new students at my son's middle school. Dean Gillian Lester, of the Law School, and her husband, Eric Talley, the Sulzbacher Professor of Law at the Law School, attended.

On September 20, my sons, David and Ricky, and I attended the Fourth Annual Les Nelkin SEAS'87, LAW'87 Pediatric Cancer Survivors Day at Eisenhower Park in East Meadow, N.Y.

Steve Holtje: "In October 2013, an actor, Brandon Nagle, who worked at a bar I frequent recommended me to the director of the film he was acting in. The director, Enrico Cullen, needed somebody for a non-speaking role in two scenes. He arranged to meet me at that bar. We hit it off and he gave me the part. Then I suggested to him that I could also provide the score for his movie, and he agreed to give me a shot (I had scored a movie in 2006, but it was never released).

"We collaborated well, and it turned out pretty good, if I do say so. *A Man Full of Days* premiered at the Anthology Film Archives in May as part of the NewFilmmakers New York series, and in October it was shown at the Lausanne Underground Film and Music Festival. The soundtrack was released by MechaBenzaiten Records (distributed by Forced Exposure) on CD and for download in August and has gotten good reviews. And now my wife no longer frowns when I go to the bar, because that's where people give me work."

Eric Gardner: "Immediately after I graduated from the College, I went to USC School of Cinematic Arts. As a director, I won several awards including best feature film at the Big Bear Lake Film Festival for *Under The Influence*, starring Peter Greene. I was senior editor of *Alien Autopsy: Fact or Fiction*, one of Fox's highest rated specials, and received world-wide attention when I co-wrote, produced and edited the feature film *Breakaway*, an action/comedy starring the infamous Tonya Harding.

My diverse credits include producer of *Queenas*, a feature length documentary about Latino transsexuals, financed by Canal+ and The Danish Film Board; co-producer and editor of *Great Streets: Champs-Élysées*, starring Halle Berry for PBS; and co-writer, producer and editor of the feature documentary *Dislecksia: The Movie*, starring Billy Bob Thornton. Shortly after I got out of USC, I got into reality television, starting with the second season of *The Real World* (Los Angeles). Through the years, I've worked on a lot of shows. The most well-known is *Survivor*. I worked on that for eight years and received six Emmy nominations (zero wins). I've spent the last five years working on *Shabs of Sunset* for the Bravo network; I'm the show's executive producer/showrunner. I was married, but my wife recently passed away. She had a short (50 days) battle with some aggressive cancer. We don't have any children, other than two beautiful poodle mutts that we rescued two years ago — Jake and Elwood are brothers/littermates. I love to travel and have spent a lot of time in Europe and Mexico, where I'm building a retirement house on a beach in the middle of nowhere. I also collect wine, with particular interest in Champagne and Italian wine."

Carl Faller: "Greetings from Columbus, Ohio. After leaving New York City in 1998, my New York City native daughter, Carolyn, returned this fall to the Bronx to attend Fordham. She is pleased to share that a high school classmate, Noah Goss '19, is now at Columbia. My wife, Mary, and I reside in German Village, a historic neighborhood of Columbus, and she works for Mettler-Toledo. Our twin sons, Bob and John, are sophomores at the Wellington School and maintain an interest in basketball. Given the recent success of Columbia's team you described in *CCT*, it may be time for the team to schedule a return to the Schottenstein Center and play Ohio State. The same actually holds true for the Columbia tennis team, which last visited Columbus for a first-round match in the NCAA tournament."

Carl sent me a copy of *The Lawgiver* by Herman Wouk '34 as a small gesture of thanks for my efforts in support of the class and Columbia through the years. He noted, "In the recent past, I thoroughly enjoyed reading the *Caine Mutiny* with its Columbia campus descriptions."

Carl, I am a huge Herman Wouk fan. Thanks for thinking of me.

In short updates, **Dan Loeb** hosted a \$5,000-a-person East Hampton event in honor of Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.). **David Hershey-Webb** performed with several other musicians at Stuyvesant Cove Park on July 20.



COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Steve Coleman has been named secretary of the Executive Board of the Columbia Alumni Association and I (**Roy Pomerantz**) was named co-chair of the "Serve Committee" of the Executive Board of the Columbia College Alumni Association. **Ed Joyce** says, "I marched with our class in the Alumni Procession at Convocation in August as my daughter, Sarah '19, entered the College."

Wayne Allyn Root reports, "I recently sold my third TV series to Hollywood — I'll be executive producer — and my company, Cool Hand Root Productions, is co-producing. See Robin Leach's column for more information (lasvegassun.com/vegasdeluxe/2015/aug/24/television-las-vegas-da-my-fab-40th-thrill-factor-). Also, my new book, *The Power of Relentless: 7 Secrets to Achieving Mega-Success, Financial Freedom, and the Life of Your Dreams*, was the No. 1 bestselling business book nationally in August, according to CEO-READ."

Kevin Chapman: "The below link takes you to a one-hour performance by the Philadelphia Jazz Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Washing-

ton, D.C. It's a good short set for the group. My son Ross is the first trombone on the end of the second row, nearest to the vocalists when the girls are singing. The kids in this group are all between 15 and 19. Happy listening: kennedy-center.org/explorer/videos/?type=A&id=M6407."

Michael Oren '77, SIPA'78, who served as Israel's ambassador to the U.S. from 2009 to 2013, wrote a book *Ally: My Journey Across the American-Israeli Divide*. *The New York Post* (June 21) notes: "Researching the candidate by reading his memoirs and his statements on Israel, Oren sensed immediately that 'a [Barack] Obama presidency might strain the US-Israel alliance.' But even Oren was surprised, around the time of Obama's inauguration, by the assessment of [Oren's] former Columbia University roommate, David Rothkopf ['77], who had served as undersecretary of commerce, and who told him, 'The first thing Obama will do in office is pick a fight with Israel,' a statement that caused Oren to 'nearly spill my curry.' 'The previous administration was perceived as too pro-Israel,' said

Rothkopf, 'and Obama's policy will be ABB' — Anything But Bush."

From **Peter Rappa**: "I always enjoy the Alumni News section of *CCT*, and it was great to see some recognizable faces in the photo [on page 67 of the Summer 2015 issue]. My wife of 28 years and I have triplet daughters, two of whom play polo at Texas Tech. The other is in the College of Fine Arts at Texas. I am working on a second book. The athlete in me never died; I still play tennis two to three times a week and I carry a football and a baseball glove in my gym bag."

Peter is a board-certified physician in physical medicine and rehabilitation in Dallas. A two-sport athlete at the College, he earned an M.D. from Texas Tech in 1989 and completed a physical medicine and rehabilitation residency at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, where he joined the attending staff in 1993. As medical director for rehabilitation at Baylor Medical Center at Garland, in affiliation with RehabCare, he ran a 12-bed inpatient unit that was awarded the Outstanding Rehab Unit award for the company. In 1995, Peter took an opportunity to grow an inpatient/out-patient practice with a special interest in brain and work injury as medical director for Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Irving, as well as serving The Centre for Neuro Skills Dallas. His career has encompassed appointments with Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation, The Center for Neuroskills and Integra Hospital Plano as well as national medical director for Centerre Healthcare Corp. in affiliation with Methodist Rehabilitation Hospital in Dallas, where he has been the medical director since 2009. Peter has appeared in *D Magazine's* "Best Doctors Dallas" in 2004, 2012, 2013 and 2014. He says in 1998 he began incorporating advanced principles of power inherent in spirit along with medicines and therapy as an adjunct to rehabilitation and recovery, within his traditional medical practice. A series of lectures that described his experiences eventually became his first book, *Healing Heart to Soul: One Doctor's Journey of Health, Healing, and Life*.

Andover, Mass., resident and attorney **Andrew Botti** has been appointed to the Massachusetts Economic Development Planning Council by Gov. Charlie Baker (R-Mass.). The council's mission is to develop a written, comprehensive economic development policy for Massachusetts and to construct a strategic plan for its implementation. The plan will then be submitted to the Legislature's Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies for

public hearing prior to final approval by the governor.

Andrew is a director at McLane Middleton in Woburn, Mass., where he represents corporations, smaller businesses and family-owned-and-operated enterprises in complex business and employment-related disputes. He was chairman of the board of the Smaller Business Association of New England from 2009 to 2011 and is on the board of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts. He is also on the board of Lazarus House and is a member of the parish counsel of St. Augustine Parish in Andover.

Andrew sent me a breathtaking framed print of one of his oil paintings of a lighthouse. I focus on it when I am feeling stressed at work.

Thank you, Andy.

Classmates: The Center for Career Education's mentoring program (careereducation.columbia.edu/alumni/opportunities) is a great way to assist students and recent graduates, and I encourage you to join the program. I recently received this message from Amy Park '13: "Back in 2012, we met at the Columbia internship program's mentor/mentee event. It's been two years since I graduated and now I am looking to relocate to L.A. I wanted to reach out to you and see if you know of great opportunities on the West Coast. I would love to reconnect with you."

Amy has experience in marketing, media and publishing. If any Columbians want to get in touch with her, let me know.

I look forward to seeing you at some Columbia football and basketball games. I have season tickets this year.

1984

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Daniel Berick has been named the 2016 Cleveland Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year by *Best Lawyers*, a longstanding and well-respected legal peer review publication. In each major discipline is honored as "Lawyer of the Year." Dan was honored in 2015 and 2013 as the Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law Lawyer of the Year, and was named Cleveland Securities/Capital Markets Law Lawyer of the Year in 2014 and 2011.

As Cleveland rocks for Dan, Chicago is **Tom Dyja's** kind of town. "My Chicago book, *The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream*, was recently

selected by the Chicago Public Library as the focus of its yearlong 'One Book One Chicago' program," he writes. "Last year was Michael Chabon's *Adventures of Kavalier & Klay*. Other authors the library has honored include Tom Wolfe, Toni Morrison, Colm Toibin, Jhumpa Lahiri and Neil Gaiman."

Belated congratulations to Miami legal eagle **Bernardo Burstein** LAW'88 on his daughter Jessica BC'19's recent matriculation into Barnard.

Yossi Rabin and his wife, Kochava, get a double mazel tov on the births of their fifth and sixth Israeli grandchildren: Shir-Tzion Bracha Rabin, born on March 7, and T'chelet Bracha Eden, born on July 22.

Neel Lane was nominated by *Texas Lawyer* as "Lawyer of the Year" in recognition of his legal work for the cause of marriage equality. He also began a three-year term as chairman of Episcopal Relief & Development, the international relief and development agency of the Episcopal Church, headquartered in New York. During the last few years, while attending his son Shelby's basketball games at Claremont McKenna College in Southern California, Neel has met up with TV education guru **Pete Lunenfeld**. He also stays in touch with rugby teammate and esteemed former University senator **El Gray**. Neel says, "(Although) I don't see my classmates nearly enough ... I love seeing everyone's updates on Facebook."

Tom Gilman, working in Maine in human resources at IDEXX Laboratories, is happy to report that his daughter, Julia, has started her freshman year at Colorado College. Tom and his wife, Sue BC'85, are adapting to their life as empty-nesters. He notes his former squash coach, Ken Torrey, recently retired and wishes him the best.

Jonathan Dutch announced: "I am excited to share the fantastic news of the September 7 wedding of my firstborn, Merav, to Moshe Jacobs. Merav is in her third year at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and studies philosophy, politics and economics; her husband studies philosophy, also at Hebrew U. Teddy Weinberger '83 and his wife, Sarah Ross Weinberger BC'83, attended the wedding. A fun time was had by all!"

David Kung checks in for the first time in a long time, and here's why: "Three decades have brought about amazing change. I live in Bethesda, Md., with my lovely wife, Bonnie DM'89. We're the proud parents of two awesome future alums: Nathan '16 and Justin '17. I am engaged in the practice of plastic surgery and recently completed work on a definitive two-volume textbook, *Aesthetic Plastic Sur-*

gery in Asians: Principles & Techniques, published this summer. I am scheduled to go to Ecuador this coming year to operate on children with congenital deformities as a guest of the government. My 'free' time is spent coaching high school varsity basketball. Onward and upward, my brethren!"

Longtime reader, first-time contributor **Daryl Neff** SEAS'86 is a partner at Lerner David in Westfield, N.J., a 70-attorney firm specializing in intellectual property law. He spends most of his time helping clients obtain U.S. and international protection for their inventions in electronics, computer-related technologies, medical devices and financial services.

Former Connecticut Yankee and Columbia University Marching Band trumpet player **Jeffrey Rashba** reports: "After having been blessed with five daughters, I finally got a boy to join the clan when my eldest daughter, Orli, married Eitan Chajmovic on July 30 in the Jerusalem area. Our home still feels like a Barnard dorm, but with some official raiders."

Todd Sussman, who honed his writing skills at *Spectator*, *Jester* and the 1984 *Columbian*, melded his love for writing and entertainment by becoming a film critic, video reviewer and columnist, most prominently with "Todd's Corner" in the London-based international fan publication, *All About Barbra* (Streisand). In addition, he is a licensed mental health counselor and licensed marriage and family therapist, and is an administrator specializing in privacy rights in the Broward County Public Schools. A great fan of Bette Midler, he visits New York and Columbia at least once yearly. Feel free to make contact at toddaos@aol.com.

From **John Albin**: "I don't remember when last I updated, but I continue to toil away at the NYC Department of Finance, subverting city government from within. I get together regularly with **Mike Melkonian** and Rob Kahn '83 to play music, including the occasional live performance. We recently did a set at The West End (no, not that West End), on West End and West 107th. Nothing will ever quite match the glory of the Blue Rose, but it'll do.

David Adler GSAS'87 has a new book out: *The New Economics of Liquidity and Financial Frictions*, published by the CFA Institute Research Foundation.

Scott Avidon: "I toured Israel during the summer. Saw my share of the archaeological gems, religious shrines and national sites. Rode a camel, got soaked in the Jordan River and had a beer at Earth's lowest bar. I've been a workers' compensation judge in New York for 15 years. I chat with Harris Morgenstern '85 from time to time.

We both edited *Course Guide* many years ago when typewriters still existed and the Mets owned New York.”

With great joy, yours truly **Dennis Klainberg** had the honor of attending the bat mitzah of Rebecca Pomerantz, daughter of Roy Pomerantz ’83 (my fellow Class Notes correspondent). With Eddy Friedfeld ’83, Leon Friedfeld ’88, Marc Ripp ’80, Adam Bayroff ’83 and other luminaries present, this already impressive and heartfelt event reached new heights when Roy and his son David honored Rebecca and thrilled the crowd with an after-party juggling routine that included balls, apples, clubs and machetes!

For those of you not in the know, Roy is a world-class juggler who shared his talent on the field with the Marching Band in our day and, thereafter, was one of a select few entertainers (20, I seem to recall — it was on the news!) accepted in 1983 at the exclusive Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Clown College (alumni and former instructors include Penn Jillette and Bill Irwin). Sadly (or perhaps prudently, as the Clown College is no more), he chose Harvard Law instead and joined his family business. A loving husband and father, and a dedicated fan of Columbia basketball, Roy works hard to keep the world’s children (and their parents!) entertained and happy, albeit with his world-class selection of licensed baby products.

1985

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Here is the second installment of my Alumni Reunion Weekend report; thanks to so many of you for your updates. Some were in the Fall 2015 issue and some follow here. I welcome hearing from the rest of you (whether you made it to NYC for reunion or not) to let everyone know what’s up.

Reunion was a great chance to reconnect with old friends and to rekindle memories from 30 years ago. I have had a lifetime of great experiences but have trouble believing so much time has passed. Before the event, the Reunion Committee circulated a brief survey and received about 40 responses. We discussed the survey questions at the Saturday dinner, creating a great way for each table to reconnect.

The survey asked about family, education and professional accomplishments as well as open-ended questions about our “bucket lists,” if we would we rather be on campus now or 30 years ago and what advice would we

give to our younger selves. I put some of the initial survey results in the Fall 2015 issue. Here is a summary of the balance of the survey results:

A total of 39 percent of us reported “creative passion” as the reason for our career choices, with 26 percent reporting financial security/aspiration and 24 percent reporting public service/philanthropic goals.

Several of us stated that they’d rather be at Columbia circa 2015 vs. 1985 for one reason: “girls.” Others reached the opposite conclusion based on the same reasoning, with one member voting for 1985 saying, “I wouldn’t want to be 21 again now,” while another classmate voted for 2015 “because it would mean I’m 30 years younger now!”

Our bucket list goals are varied. Many of us hope to travel, listing places like Japan, Russia, India, the Galapagos and Kazakhstan as places to see as well as a goal of cycling across the country. Others want to play golf in Scotland, some want to build a home, some want to run for elective office and one of us claims to want to visit a bucket factory.

In advising our younger selves, there is a common thread regarding seeking happiness: “When confronted with major life choices, such as where to work, where to live and who to spend time with, always optimize for what makes you most happy, even if it takes you on an unusual career/life path or seems to be the less-safe course. It will always work out better in the long run,” a classmate advises. One of us succinctly says: “Relax — everything will turn out just fine.”

Greg Kinoian was only able to attend the Sunday brunch on Barnard’s campus, “but I saw a couple of friends and some familiar faces. It was a good time,” he reports. Greg is an attorney and says, “My practice is primarily in bankruptcy court (mostly in New Jersey, but also in New York) and primarily involves Chapter 11 cases, representing secured and unsecured creditors, equity holders in closely-held corporations, commercial landlords, parties that purchase assets or businesses out of bankruptcy and debtors. I earned a J.D. from Brooklyn Law in 1991 and practiced at two firms in NYC before joining my current firm in December 1998.

“I have two wonderful daughters. Melissa (19) is a sophomore at the College of New Jersey and wants to major in biology and possibly pursue a pre-med track. She took an EMT training course this summer in Passaic County, N.J. Natalie (15) is a sophomore in high school at the Academy of Holy Angels. She particularly enjoys her English, French and history classes

and is interested in the arts, including drawing and guitar. I had a blast reviewing *The Odyssey* with her.

“From our class, I primarily keep in touch with **Michael Nagykeri** and **Brian Kirby** as well as Amy Guss BC’85 (Amy and I were high school classmates). I occasionally run into former members of the Armenian Society of Columbia University. This past August, my firm relocated to Glenpointe Centre West, in Teaneck, N.J.”

Pace Cooper: “It’s kind of sad, but we went to reunion only late Saturday night (after a late Sabbath end) and we got there [for the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza]; it was not by class and we did not recognize a soul! My wife, Aileen Herman Cooper BC’85, and I have six amazing kids. My eldest three, Jeremy ’17 (21), Dylan ’18 and Ethan ’18 (both 19), are costing us a not-so-small fortune but they love being there. I hope their brother, Elan, and sisters, Serena and Yael, will choose schools in Tennessee!

“I’m busy with my hotel business (Cooper Hotels); we have 20 hotels, mostly in the various Hilton brands. I was recently appointed chairman of the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority, am president of my synagogue and am a minority partner in the Memphis Grizzlies. So my extra-curricular passions keep me busy. Aileen has become an accomplished cyclist to add to her achievement list since MIT Sloan School of Management and a great business career.”

On Thursday night during reunion we had a lovely cocktail party in Midtown, courtesy of **Brian Cousin**. I ran into many classmates there, including **Greg Viscusi** (who works in Paris with Bloomberg, has an 11-year old daughter and coordinated attending reunion with his dad, Anthony Viscusi ’55), **Brian Margolis** (who practices at Wilmer-Hale and whose oldest child is enrolled at Rochester), **Tom Scotti** (whose daughter Anne ’16 has loved so much of her College experience) and Furnal grocery maven **Kevin Kelly**, who posted some great campus pictures online.

After the cocktail party, some of us proceeded to the New York City Ballet for its evening performance; one of the members of the company was Unity Phelan, daughter of **John Phelan**. The ballet pieces were a great combination of traditional and jazz (including a Jerome Robbins precursor to *West Side Story* piece). After the performance, Unity and one of her fellow corps members gave us a private backstage tour, and we got to take a group photo right on the main stage. I was amazed how the performers use a new pair of ballet shoes every day, how they beat them up and how they juggle this with all of their school classes.

A really cool evening — thank you, John!

Throughout much of reunion, as always, **Tom Carey** was taking photos with his “real” camera. After many years in Montana, Tom has moved to Maumee, Ohio (a suburb of Toledo), where he is an associate pathologist for ProMedica. One of his children is applying to med school, while another is enrolled at Montana State.

Our Friday dinner was at V&T, where not too much has changed and I reconnected with (albeit too briefly), among others, **Abe Thomas** (who has moved to New York from Michigan with his teenagers), **Alex Rodriguez** (who was appropriately talking baseball), **Andy Andriuk** (who lives in Westport, Conn., with his three children and works in residential real estate development), **Konrad Motyka** (who’s working at Columbia), **Joe Chu** (who lives in Tenaft, N.J., with his two children) and **Lydia Hsu SEAS’85** (representing a nice group from SEAS).

For me, the rest of Friday night and Saturday afternoon included reunion, and many formal and informal performances (some on campus and some in the wee hours of the morning on a Lower East Side rooftop) with the Columbia Kingsmen, who had coordinated an alumni event to coincide with reunion. More than 60 Kingsmen alums, some going back more than 50 years, attended. Joining me were **David Zapolsky** and **Elliot Friedman**. David (who recently celebrated his son Ian ’15’s graduation) works at Amazon and travels the world, while Ian works and lives in NYC. Elliot now teaches at Purdue after stints in Williamstown, Mass., and Madison, Wis.; he has twin 17-year-old children.

Many of our contemporary Columbians came in from across the country just for the Kingsmen festivities, including Charles Lester ’84, Jon Abbott ’84, Phil Birnbaum ’86, Paul Spinrad ’86, Kieran Mulroney ’87, Kirk Woerner ’88 and Abe Glazer ’88. I can’t tell you how amazing it was to reconnect with this group (many of whom I had not seen in 30 years) after having spent countless hours as an undergrad creating so many wonderful memories with them.

While traversing campus on Saturday I ran into **Ken Handelman**, who works for the Department of Defense. He lives in Bethesda, Md., and three of his four children are in college (two at Maryland, one at the College of Charleston).

Unfortunately, I missed the Saturday dinner, as my youngest son was attending his junior prom. I was also sorry to miss the Glee Club mini-concert at the Sundial on Saturday

evening; **Dan Poliak** and Beth Knobel BC’84 joined in.

Condolences to Dan on the recent loss of his dad, Paul Poliak.

Joe Titlebaum writes from Bethesda, Md., where he has lived for 16 years with his wife, Julie, and their kids, Ben ’19 (18), Aaron (15) and Eve (12). Joe is co-founder of Mezzobit, a Silicon Alley big data/tech company, and so now has another reason to be in New York City in addition to Ben’s move to Morningside Heights.

I’m sorry I didn’t run into more of you; I saw some pictures on Facebook of Columbia scenes from **Mark Rothman** and **Eugene Jen**. My apologies if we chatted briefly and my failing memory and/or notes didn’t get all the good info locked in so I could include it here. Please send it on so I can put it in a future column.

The Reunion Committee also realized that a five-year gap between major events is too long — both not to reconnect and to help build participation for our next event. A Tri-College reunion was held in NYC on July 23 to continue the reunion momentum and to refocus our efforts on ensuring that all three schools interacted. **John Phelan** reported, “Five of us showed: **Joe Titlebaum**, **Ian Winograd SEAS’85**, Eric Epstein ’83, Michele Shapiro BC’85 and myself. So we achieved the Tri-College goal! (A photo was posted on our class Facebook page: facebook.com/Columbia-College-New-York-Class-of-1985-121664639320). All liked the gathering and want to do it again in the fall. We missed the rest of you!”

One correction from my last column: **Mitch Regenstreif** lives in Manhattan Beach, Calif., not New York.



During Alumni Reunion Weekend 2015, The Kingsmen held an all-class reunion on the Lower East Side. Attending, among others, were Charles Lester ’84, Jon Abbott ’84, David Zapolsky ’85, Jon White ’85, Hank Jaffe ’86, Phil Birnbaum ’86, Paul Spinrad ’86, Bruce Fischer ’87, Kieran Mulroney ’87, Tim Rood ’88, Abe Glazer ’88, Matt Park ’89, Bennett Cale ’90, Chris Payne ’90 and Dave Kansas ’90.

I don’t know how that got mixed up — sorry.

And finally, in case you missed it, congrats to **Tom Cornacchia**, **James Hagani**, **Josh Hyman**, **Jinduk Han**, **Marty Moskovitz**, **Joe Titlebaum** and **Larry Slaughter**, who get to add the “P: ’19” designation to their Columbia moniker, as their children are all members of the Class of 2019.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season, and all the best in 2016!

1986

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JUNE 2–5, 2016
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REUNION2016

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John Stepper SEAS’87 sent a first-time update: “I was reading the Fall 2015 column, and it prompted me to send you this email after, well, 29 years. I’ve recently published *Working Out Loud: For a Better Career and Life*. It’s available on Amazon or at workingoutloud.com. The book helps people build a network toward a goal they care about — think ‘Dale Carnegie meets the Internet.’ Peer support groups that help people put ideas into practice are now forming in 10 countries. The goal isn’t

so much to sell books as it is to help people enjoy work more and gain access to more opportunities.”

Many classmates have never been featured in this column. Please take John’s lead and send an update on your doings since graduation; your classmates want to hear from you! You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1987

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My apologies for the short column this time. But even though we don’t have the quantity, we do have the quality.

Jay Dipasupil has been appointed VP for underwriting, errors and omissions for professional services and financial institutions at CNA, the eighth largest U.S. commercial property and casualty insurance company. Previously, he was VP of professional liability for the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Co., where he was responsible for the company’s professional service and healthcare portfolios

Congratulations, Jay!
Lee Ilan writes: “It’s been wild settling my daughter into pre-K. We’ve all spent years (hopefully) feeling smart and accomplished, and suddenly we’re supposed to be connoisseurs of early childhood education. Our family is pretty excited about this next chapter; while our kiddo has settled in happily, her parents are taking a bit longer to adjust. Otherwise, there is no shortage of contaminated sites to clean up in New York City, or of new development projects, so I’m busy at the Mayor’s Office of Environmental Remediation. I also recently got back from presenting (and live-tweeting) at the Brownfields 2015 conference in Chicago. You could be our 300th follower at @NYCOER.”

A birthday celebration update: **Steve Abrahamson** celebrated his 50th in Paris with his wife (and my dear friend from high school), Maritza Guzman SIPA’90, and their daughter, Sofia. He says, “Since 2004 we have been living in Montclair, N.J., where Sofia is now in fifth grade. For the past five years I have been director of direct response fundraising at the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. On September 25, Maritza and I celebrated our 16th wedding anniversary.”

You can help bring quantity along with quality. Please, please send me

your contributions. I can’t do this alone, unless all you want to hear is me mesmerize you with tales of existential psychology. ... I thought not. Please write to me at the address at the top of this column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1988

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Congratulations to **Jonathan Roth** BUS’04 in Pasadena, Calif., on his recent professional advancement: “Jonathan Roth has been named executive director of the advertising agency Ayzenberg’s sub-agency, ION,” according to the company’s press release. “He will work closely with ION’s management to continue development of its best-in-class influencer identification and engagement offering, helping to scale ION’s technology to build a leading platform play. Prior to joining ION, Mr. Roth spent 10 years at leading middle-market advisory firms in New York, Seattle, Los Angeles and Boston.”

Claudia Kraut Rimerman writes, “I recently started a relationship management job in Boston for telehealth firm American Well. That keeps me away from my youngest child (at home in Stamford, Conn.), but puts me near my sons, one at Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass., and the other at the White Mountain School in Bethlehem, N.H.” Claudia finds time to correspond with classmates: “I stay in touch with **Diane Bauer Orlinsky**, who recently celebrated the bat mitzvah of her fourth child and is preparing to send her second to college while maintaining a wildly successful dermatology practice in Baltimore. Recently visiting the United States was **Jonny Roskes**, who has moved back to Hong Kong to run the deal conflict of interest group for Bank of America. **Laurence Holzman** continues to write great musicals and raise his two sons with his wife, Lara.”

Tim Rood and **Abe Glazer** attended the Kingsmen reunion on campus in May, “along with many others from the revival of the Kingsmen in ’84 through ’90 and beyond,” Tim reports. “Events included the current ’Smen’s annual reunion party, generously hosted by Jed Bradley ’06, a short performance in Alfred Lerner Hall as part of Alumni Reunion Weekend, and lots and lots of hanging out and singing. The Lerner stairwells and elevators

both turned out to have excellent acoustics with plenty of natural reverb.”

Laura Eberstein Jacobs and her husband of 20 years, Erik Jacobs ’81, SIPA’85, have drawn inspiration from the pop culture of Laura’s years on campus. Laura and Erik and their children, William (12) and Margo (8), “have converted their savings to a nest egg, bought a Winnebago and are making plans to celebrate turning 50 by getting ‘Lost in America’ in 2016,” according to Erik.

Keep us posted!
Everyone else, also please keep sending updates — and photos! I look forward to hearing from you. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webforms college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note for notes (comes directly to me) and college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo for photos (goes to *CCT*, or you can send photos to me via my email). Don’t forget caption info!

1989

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Hi, classmates! I hope 2015 was a great year for you and your families. I connected recently with **Doug Cabot**, who lives in Salem, Mass., with his wife, Carrie, and daughters (7 and 9). Doug writes, “In order to have more time with my family, six years ago I made the jump from working in documentary television to teaching film and animation at Salem H.S. I’m still playing drums in a rock n’ roll band, still making movies and recently I’ve taken up oil painting. Most days I’m amazed by the simple fact of life.”

I connected with **David Odo**, a visual anthropologist and the director of student programs and research curator of the University Collections Initiatives at Harvard Museums, who is keeping busy. David’s latest book, *The Journey of “A Good Type.” From Artistry to Ethnography in Early Japanese Photographs*, was published this year. In *A Good Type*, David examines the Peabody Museum’s collection of Japanese photographs and explores their production, acquisition and circulation in the 19th century. David also mounted a related exhibition at the Harvard Center for Government and International Studies. “It’s been exciting to see both projects come to fruition since starting my current position at the Harvard Art Museums,” he writes. David was previously at the

Yale University Art Gallery and began working at Harvard in April 2014.

If any of you get to see the Columbia women’s swim and dive team, be sure to cheer for **Seth Antiles’** daughter, Jessica Antiles ’19, a swimmer. Seth writes, “A flood of great memories rushed in as I moved Jessie into Carman. My wife, Janette BC’92, BUS’97, and I are thrilled that we will be going back to campus periodically to watch Jessie race. I have two other kids, boys aged 16 and 15. Both are heavily involved in sports; the 16-year-old is a swimmer and the 15-year-old plays hockey.”

Seth and his family live in South Orange, N.J., where he is a portfolio manager at Seix Investment Advisors in global sovereign debt, with a specialty in emerging markets and global currencies.

I recently visited Columbia and loved discovering a great little coffee shop in Butler Library (which issues alumni cards easily). **Donna Herlinsky MacPhee** introduced me to a delicious “modern Mediterranean” restaurant, Tessa, on Amsterdam and West 76th Street, whose owner is Larry Bellone ’77. I highly recommend it whenever you might be lucky enough to find yourself looking for something to eat on the Upper West Side.

Your classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1990

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A lot of stuff went down in August 2015 for CC’90. **Carol “Kate” Guess**’s 15th book, *With Animal*, was published in August. The magical realism short story collection highlights the bond between humans and animals. *With Animal* was co-written with Kelly Magee, her colleague at Western Washington University.

In August, **Judy Shampanier** ran into **Lisa Cohen** as they were leaving *Hamilton*, the hottest Broadway play of the summer. Lisa and Judy proudly discussed *Hamilton*’s several references to the buildings on campus named for the historical figures mentioned in the show.

Anita Bose BUS’95, PH’95 writes, “After nearly three decades in NYC, I finally made the leap to Chicago! I’ve started a gig as head of client and business development at W2O Group, a network of marketing communica-

tions companies. I’m loving the great Midwest and am having fun exploring my new home. I’ve already caught up with **Sunhee Lee**, who’s a longtime Chicago resident. I’d love to catch up with others who are living here or just passing through!”

In “Our Children Are Now in College” news, **Betty Mar Tsang SEAS’90**’s son, Tyler SEAS’19, lives

Carol “Kate” Guess ’90 published With Animal, a magical realism short story collection highlighting the bond between humans and animals.

on Carman 8 (the best floor!). **Laura Shaw Frank**’s daughter, Ateret, is taking a gap year in Israel and will matriculate at Maryland in fall 2016 as part of the College Park Scholars Program. **Robin Zornberg Wald SEAS’90**’s son, Aaron, is a freshman at Hampshire College.

If your child is a new college student and I didn’t mention it, it’s only because you didn’t tell me. I welcome all news from everyone, so please write. You can submit updates by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Happy 2016!

1991

REUNION WEEKEND
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Greetings to all! I was fortunate to spend some quality time with **Elise Scheck** when we were both in Orlando this summer for conferences. She continues to amaze me by successfully juggling a family of seven, her legal career and countless hours of community service. Elise’s most recent project is the Women’s Impact Initiative, which she chairs through the Greater Miami Jewish Federation.

Sam Helfrich sent this update: “In addition to continuing to direct opera

and theater around the United States and abroad, I have received a full-time faculty appointment at NYU/Tisch School of the Arts. I started as an associate arts professor in September, and my title is resident director and head of dramaturgy in the Tisch Graduate Program of Design for Stage and Film. Upcoming opera projects include Offenbach’s *Orpheus in the Underworld*

at the Virginia Opera and Bach’s *St. John Passion* with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as well as a world premiere production of *Embedded* by composer Patrick Soluri at the Fort Worth Opera.”

After 17 years with Hansberger Global Investors, **Ron Holt** launched PREMIS Capital Partners in October 2014. PREMIS is located in Fort Lauderdale and focuses on providing global equity investment management services to institutional clients and high net worth individuals and families. Their first fund was launched in April.

In case you haven’t heard (or lost count), Alumni Reunion Weekend, which celebrates the 25th anniversary of our graduation, is scheduled for Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5.

Annie Giarratano Della Pietra is the Reunion Committee chair, and the committee is off to a great start. If you’d like to join the committee, please send me an email.

Until next time, cheers! Don’t forget, you can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1992

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Greetings, CC’92ers!

The first submission I received for this column took me back to evenings of cigarette smoke and Rolling Rock at the Marlin — it came from **Han Park** PS’97, a first-time Class Notes writer, who sent in an envy-generating update.

Han and his wife shed New York for Honolulu in 2011. “We got tired of the long winters and cramped quarters in Manhattan and decided we had to move somewhere warm,” he writes. Han

works in the ER at the Queen’s Medical Center in Honolulu; it’s the only trauma center in the Hawaiian Islands, so it’s “not quite the chaos of NYC hospitals but pretty busy,” with patients coming in from as far away as the Marshall Islands and Samoa, he says.

The good doctor says he doesn’t miss seasons, but “Surfing is still a challenge, especially since we have a 1-year old named Maya, so I’m spending much of my time off changing diapers and learning how to do most of my day-to-day work with a 20-lb. baby in my arms,” he says.

Han also extended this invitation: “If you (or any alums) are in Honolulu and want to grab a Mai Tai, please drop me a text and I’ll come meet ya. Aloha!”

Your humble correspondent is thrilled to report that he heard from Jake Novak GS’92. Jake is entering his fourth year as a supervising producer at CNBC. He and his wife, Adar, and their daughters, Jordan and Yael, moved to their new home in Merrick, N.Y., this past summer.

At CNBC, Jake has overseen a number of shows and writes what he describes as “a popular but controversial editorial column” on CNBC.com. Your correspondent put that in quote marks because much of the most popular content online is, shall we say, challenging to readers. Jake is fiercely active on social media, where those who follow his work can get almost daily blog updates on Columbia football (ROAR!) at culions.blogspot.com/.

Jake says he is “extremely excited about the upcoming season under coach Al Bagnoli and believes his persistent calls for a truly substantial commitment from the administration for the sport has finally materialized.” He closes his note: “See you at Homecoming!”

Alas, your humble correspondent was unable to attend Homecoming but hopes that you all took good notes at the game and early in the evening (but maybe not later in the evening) and will share them with me for a future column. Send to the address at the top of this column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1993

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Greetings, classmates! This has been a slow news quarter, so I will make my regular plea for updates — you can email me at the address at the top of the column, send me a Facebook

message or report updates through the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

My one piece of news is that **Alice “Ali” Bers** (along with John Baick ’91) attended the June wedding of Alexandra “Ali” Wagner ’94 to Danielle Pershing in Los Angeles. Ali and John had a fun evening and also enjoyed the company of Sonya Duffy ’94.

1994

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Hi, everyone. I’m sorry to report that Class Notes are in limited supply this time out, which means you will now be subjected to my urgent plea for more information. Share your news, be it big changes or quotidian observations. Your classmates want to know what’s going on with you!

Whew, now that the demands are out of the way, I do have a couple of nice updates to share:

David Gonzales III is starting his second term as a Cameron County Court at Law judge in Deep South Texas.

Hank Torbert returned from New Orleans that he is launching EnerGX, an energy-focused accelerator for start-ups in Louisiana, in partnership with notable energy industry executives and The Idea Village, New Orleans’ oldest incubator.

Thanks to both of you for sharing your news. Everyone else: It’s your turn! You can submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of this column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1995

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Many thanks to **Gene Mazo** for serving as emcee during our reunion dinner on Saturday, and for mentioning that a handful of classmates have become law professors.

Gene, who teaches at Wake Forest in North Carolina, is an expert in democracy law and writes about election law, constitutional law and legislation, according to his school web page. His research focuses on the regulation of the political process, democratic development and constitutional design.

He is the co-editor of *Election Law Stories*, which will be published next year. Read more about his work: law.wfu.edu/faculty/profile/mazoed.

Before becoming a law professor, Gene worked for large firms (Skadden, Arps; Slate, Meagher & Flom; and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton) and was the general counsel of a small company in Silicon Valley (that’s when he lived next door to **Hilton Romanski**).

On the other coast, **Michael Wara** teaches at Stanford Law and **Darien Shanske** is at UC Davis. Michael is an expert on energy and environmental law, and his work “lies at the intersection between environmental law, energy law, international relations, atmospheric science and technology policy,” according to his Stanford bio.

Darien pursued graduate studies in philosophy and rhetoric at McGill and UC Berkeley. After finishing his Ph.D. at Berkeley, he was a public finance consultant in Sacramento, Calif., before returning to law school at Stanford. As a law professor, he focuses on tax (particularly state and local tax), state and local government and public finance.

“I think of these interests as exercises in applied distributive justice, which means that I am able to pursue my interests in public policy and philosophy at the same time, more or less,” he writes. He and his wife, Stephani, have a daughter, Maisie (2). Read more about his work: law.ucdavis.edu/faculty/shanske.

Brett Frischmann SEAS’97 is a professor and co-director of the intellectual property and information law program at Cardozo Law. I emailed him on a fortuitous day: “It is ironic that you reached out to me now because I’m writing this email in a Columbia law school adjunct faculty office, a few minutes before I teach copyright law,” he replied. “It is quite a thrill to look out of the window at the Columbia campus and see everyone swarming about.”

After graduating from Columbia with a major in astrophysics and then earning an M.S. from SEAS, Brett earned a law degree from Georgetown.

“I have always been drawn to interdisciplinary work, and in a sense I am a perpetual Ph.D. student because I continually work across different disciplines, from law to economics to science and technology,” he writes. He says his biggest professional accomplishment was a 2012 book, *Infrastructure: The Social Value of Shared Resources*, which won the 2012 PROSE Award for Law & Legal Studies and received great reviews in “some pretty cool places” like *The Economist* and *Science*. Read more about his scholarship at brettfrischmann.com.

Brett has been married for 18 years; he and his wife, Kelly, have three boys: Matthew (14), Jake (8) and Ben (6). The family has lived several places (Washington, D.C.; Burlington, Vt.; Chicago; Ithaca, N.Y.) before settling in Maplewood, N.J., where Brett plays soccer and coaches his kids.

David Webber moved, with his wife and three children, from NYC to teach at Boston University. His work focuses on investment law, including shareholder activism, corporate governance and shareholder litigation.

“I was always interested in fraud, in financial regulation, in the fraught challenge of regulating a global market,” he writes, and adds he spent several years litigating securities and deal cases in New York, which he enjoyed. “But I wanted to delve deeper into the underlying issues. I wanted to devote more time to learning and thinking about them. Issues of fraud, financial regulation and economic inequality force you to grapple with the same deep questions you wrestle with in the Core,” he says.

If I missed any other law professors out there, please send in an update. Everyone else please send in updates, too; your classmates want to hear from you! You can send updates to either the email address at the top of this column or through the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1996

REUNION WEEKEND
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Hi everyone! Only a bit of news to report this time:

Ian Lendler published *The Stratford Zoo Presents: Romeo and Juliet*, the second volume in his series of graphic novels that translates Shakespeare for children. He spent this past year traveling around the United States and Britain talking to schoolkids about graphic novels, Shakespeare and his love of tacos.

Arman Rosta, one of our star soccer players who led the men’s team to an Ivy League championship, is in touch with several fellow ’96ers (mostly guys from the soccer team) like **Greg**

Frith SEAS'96 and **Rikki Dadason** as well as **Charles Balsamo '98**. Arman reports **Greg** married **Kimi Yasunaga**.

Arman is the founder and CEO of **Blueliner Marketing**, a leading digital agency headquartered in New York City. He is responsible for strategic planning, general management, software research and development, and **Blueliner's** expansion into new markets such as Latin America, Europe and Asia. In 2000, Arman founded **401Kid**, an education funding advisory portal aimed at bettering opportunities for children. Prior to founding **401Kid** and **Blueliner**, Arman spent five years as co-founder and COO of **Exeter Technologies**, a New York-based automotive electronics firm.

I really need more notes from you! Please send your news to me using the new email at the top of the column or submit via the *CCT* online form college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

And remember, our 20th reunion is Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5, on campus and throughout New York City. I hope to see many of you there.

I leave you with this:
“Why fit in when you were born to stand out.”

— *Oscar Wilde*

1997

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Swati Khurana earned an M.F.A. in fiction from Hunter, where she taught two undergraduate writing courses, and received the Mary M. Fay Award in Poetry, a Hertog Fellowship and the Dean of Arts & Science Master's Thesis Support Grant. She received scholarships for Sarah Lawrence's Summer Seminar for Writers and Skidmore's New York State Summer Writers Institute. Swati says her greatest success was successfully navigating the first universal pre-K process in NYC for her daughter (4).

Zaharah Markoe and her husband, David, welcomed a son, Abraham “Abie” Benjamin, on July 10. He joins sister Claire. Zaharah moved back to South Florida about two years ago, re-met David (a high school crush) and married him in January. In attendance at the wedding were **Jennifer Feldsher**, **Rushika Conroy** (née Richards), **Matthew Wang** and Judy Choe BC'97.

Carrie Bass Mezvinsky, husband Scott and son Beau welcomed twins Nora Jean and Grace Olivia on July 7.

Hannah Trooboff McCollum, husband Brian McCollum SEAS'97

and their daughters, Lena (7) and Caroline (4), moved this past summer to Hopewell, N.J., into Brian's childhood home. They enjoy the slower pace of life and look forward to being there for a long time.

Brian became director of operations at **Impax Laboratories** in Middlesex, N.J., where he enjoys his new and increased responsibilities and, after five years of commuting daily from Brooklyn to Long Island, also appreciates the shorter and more bucolic commute. Hannah is focusing a lot of energy on helping their girls transition this year but is also working part-time advising a charter school in Red Hook, Brooklyn; helping eighth-grade New Jersey SEEDS scholars prepare their high school applications; and working remotely for Trinity School's Office of College Guidance. They had the pleasure of attending the wedding of **Gabriella Carolini** to Tom Parent and are excited to welcome their son! **Cindy Warner Kruger** also attended the wedding. In addition to seeing many other friends from Columbia as often as they can, Hannah and Brian stay in close touch with married couple **Daphna Gutman** and **Jon Schwartz**, their girls' godparents. Daphna recently became the principal of a public elementary school on the Lower East Side.

Kerri Bauchner Stone lives in Miami with her husband, Josh, and son, Dylan, and was recently promoted to full professor of law at Florida International University College of Law.

Don't forget, you can send updates to either the email address at the top of this column or through the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1998

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Happy fall, CC'98. Although some classmates (including myself) already have teens and tweens, there are still plenty of us starting and adding to our families.

This edition's baby announcement belongs to my dear friend and fellow *Spectator* alum, **Julie Yufe**. Julie and her husband, Michael Dreyer, are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Zoe, born on July 29 weighing 6 lbs., 15 oz. I was lucky enough to visit Zoe a week after her birth and I can say that, like her mother, she is quite the beauty.

Congratulations to Julie and Mike!

We also have two wedding announcements to share. Please Google



Tim Laurie and Jeff Cohen '98 were married on September 5 in Santa Monica, Calif. Pictured are John Fisher; Jen Briggs Fisher; Kim Van Duzer '98 and her daughters, Sophia and Elena; the grooms; Andy Topkins '98 and his wife, Keri Chaimowitz Topkins; Leah Madoff '98; and Nick Rynearson '97.

Tifphani White's “Summer Love” story in *The New York Times*; it's remarkable. Tifphani and her husband, Michael King, met when she was 15 and he was 18. Except for a brief separation right after she finished law school, they dated for 23 years and were married at St. Paul's Chapel on June 26. For the first years of their two-decade relationship, Michael could only visit Tifphani for Sunday family dinners at her home on Long Island. They went to her prom together in 1994, and during her freshman year at Columbia, he proposed with a diamond ring. It wasn't the first time he'd asked her to marry him (the first time was a few months after they met, with a vanilla ice cream cone instead of a ring), nor would it be the last. When he proposed for the third time, it was with a considerably “larger, fancier ring,” according to *The New York Times*. Tifphani, a partner at Deloitte Tax, also splurged on a ring for Michael, who owns a barbershop in South Jamaica, Queens. His Cartier ring is inscribed with their initials, their wedding date and “est. 1992.”

Congratulations, Tifphani and Michael!

Congratulations are also in order for **Jeff Cohen**, who married Tim Laurie on September 5. Jeff, a Los Angeles County public defender, and Tim, a television producer, were together for five years before their nuptials. Jeff described their wedding as a “beautiful outdoor ceremony on a sunny day in Santa Monica, followed by cocktails, dinner and dancing.” In attendance were **Andy Topkins**, **Kim Van Duzer**, **Leah Madoff** and Nick Rynearson '97.

Mazel tov to Jeff and Tim!

Your classmates want to hear from you! You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1999

Adrienne Carter and **Jenna Johnson**
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Classmates! Here at home in New York City we enjoyed some perfectly golden last days of late summer (with a nip in the air that took us back to our first days on campus in 1995!). We've been happy to have messages from a few of you to make those memories even stronger. Here's a little news:

Meghan Taira writes in with news of her life in Washington, D.C., where she is legislative director for Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.). She fits in regular travel, though, and told us about a little Columbian serendipity: “Last summer I was vacationing in Hawaii and literally ran into **James Boyle** in the supermarket. I am back in Hawaii for vacation [as I write this] and had dinner with James and his fiancée, Stefanie. It's a small Columbia world!”

Congratulations on your engagement, James!

In addition to raising two daughters (6 and 2), **Carmen Van Kerckhove Sognonvi** has been raising the quality of life for the residents of Ditmas Park, Brooklyn. Seven years ago she and her husband started a karate and kickboxing school, Urban Martial Arts (urbandojo.com). The school is thriving and Carmen has spun that success further: She is now training and advising business owners on local marketing. She has been featured in *Inc.*, *Entrepreneur*, *Fox Business Network* and *Crain's New York Business* (carmensognonvi.com).

We reached out to many of you this time around but maybe you were enjoying your summer beach time. Now that we're back in the well-scheduled days of autumn, and just about into winter, send us your dispatches! And enjoy that sweater weather; maybe we'll even see you at a basketball game? Yeah, yeah ...

Don't forget, you can submit updates by writing to either of us at the addresses at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2000

Prisca Bae
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Colin Harris writes, “I am leaving private practice in upstate New York to accept a position as an assistant professor in the department of orthopaedics, spine division, at Rutgers in Newark, N.J., at the first of the year. I have a 17-month-old son, Grayson, and am excited to be moving back to the New York metro area.

“I keep in contact with **Paul Mul-lan** and **Ali Ahmad**, both of whom are also practicing physicians (Ali in Hackettstown, N.J., and Paul in Norfolk, Va.) and are doing well.”

Thanks for the update, Colin!

CC'00: Your classmates want to hear from you! Send updates to me at the address at the top of this column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2001

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016
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I hope everyone enjoyed the fall. When I look back on my time as a student, it was my favorite season to be on campus.

Mary Herrington (née Lee) wrote in with an exciting update: “In early January, I welcomed my son, Lee, who joins his sister, Margot, in giving their parents

chronic backaches. We live in beautiful Brooklyn Heights. I also launched a legal consultancy this year that focuses on the needs of creative entrepreneurs in the events and wedding industries. It combines my backgrounds in corporate law and events production and, while most of my clients are in New York, I also advise creative small businesses throughout the country.”

Congratulations to Mary and her family!

Matthew Rascoff and his wife, Emily Levine, welcomed a son, Jasper Hirsch Rascoff (CC'37?!), on August 20 in Durham, N.C. Jasper is named in memory of Matthew's father, Dr. Joel H. Rascoff '63, PS'68.

Max Dickstein and his wife, Erin Branum, welcomed Benjamin Branum Dickstein on September 14.

Congratulations to Max and Erin!

Seth Dadlani Morris and his wife, Giti, welcomed their second child (a boy, Shaan) on August 28.

Congratulations to Seth and Giti! I recently enjoyed a wonderful group dinner in Los Angeles with **Dan Laidman** and Miriam Haskell BC'02. The cuisine was vegan and the discussion was lively. There were four lawyers at the table, but when they weren't talking about the law, we focused on great memories from *Spectator*. It was so nice to see them all!

I hope to see many of you at Alumni Reunion Weekend, which celebrates the 15th anniversary of our graduation, Thursday, June 2–Sunday, June 5. Wow, time has flown!

Please write with updates on your adventures; you can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2002

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Hi CC'02. I'm happy to share some exciting news about our classmates. Please keep the updates coming to soniah57@gmail.com. Thanks!

Melissa Stewart (née Tominac) and her husband, Mike Stewart SEAS'03, are overjoyed to announce the arrival of William Martin, born August 1 at 1:52 p.m. (on Swiss National Day!). He was a happy and healthy 9 lbs., 1 oz., and 20.5 inches long, and is growing quickly.

Sarah Lundquist Norton married William Norton (Boston University Law '04) on September 13, 2014, in Sarah's hometown of Charleston, S.C.

Sarah and Bill reside on Sullivan's Island, a tiny barrier island just off Charleston, with Sophie, their Calico. Sarah said she had the unexpected pleasure of running into **Daryl Weber** at the New Orleans airport's cab stand in March; they shared a taxi into the city and enjoyed catching up.

Andres Zuleta's luxury travel company recently marked its second anniversary. Boutique Japan (boutiquejapan.com) specializes in private culinary and cultural trips to Japan.

Sara Velasquez lives and works in the Philippines to assist those who were worst affected by Super Typhoon Yolanda, which made landfall in November 2013. She also works on projects in Pakistan and recently completed research on child abuse in Paraguay for a multi-country study commissioned by UNICEF.

Sara is also helping to expand the successful Special YOU Reading Club project in California. The project links community volunteers with children to help the children become comfortable reading and telling their own stories, using the book *You Are a Very Special You* (available in English, Spanish and Mandarin). The organization celebrates diversity and similarities, and is looking to expand the project to more multi-cultural communities in which children speak Spanish, Mandarin and English. Visit specialyoureadingclub.org, and if you have any ideas, she'd appreciate hearing them!

Zecki Dossal BUS'13 co-manages the private equity and venture business GLG, a professional learning platform that helps organizations access targeted expertise. He joined the company soon after graduating from Columbia; when he started, the company had 35 employees and now it has more than 1,000. Zecki also launched the company's social impact division and is working with the Global Partnerships Forum to build a platform and tools to drive transparency in the social sector, and to help accelerate achievement of the United Nations' Sustainable Development goals.

Evan Zeisel reminds us that **David Epstein** wrote a well-received book, *The Sports Gene: Inside the Science of Extraordinary Athletic Performance* [Editor's note: See college.columbia.edu/cct/winter13/bookshelf1.], which was on *The New York Times* bestseller list in 2013 when it was released.

David is at the forefront of investigatory journalism; he works for ProPublica and recently published yet another pivotal piece on performance-enhancing drug use, this time focusing on the track and field communities.

Evan further reports that he had the pleasure of attending the summer wedding of **David Epstein** and Elizabeth

Green, along with more CU alumni than I can list (or, really, remember what years they graduated).

Evan and his father, John Zeisel '65, GSAS'71, created (along with many others) Scripted-IMPROV, an Alzheimer's disease-centered drama program that was released worldwide in June. The dementia care training and drama activities program is based upon the National Institutes of Health and National Institute on Aging-funded clinical research study Evan was part of during the last five years. During the study, Evan helped write, test and perform plays specifically designed for people living with Alzheimer's disease. Evan was also one of the lead consultants in designing training materials for the program.

2003

Michael Novielli
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I start this month's column by thanking those who have sent updates recently, and to ask for the help of those who have not recently done so. Many classmates tell me that they don't feel comfortable sending an update because they have not recently been promoted at work, gotten married or had kids. Please rest assured that we want to hear what's new in your life — even if that means just sharing news about a fun trip you took, a Columbia event you attended in your city or even an interesting book that you've recently read. So please, don't be a stranger.



Submit Your Photo



CCT welcomes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click “Contact Us” at college.columbia.edu/cct.

I recently caught up with **Shaun Ting, Kenneth Sim** and Chee Gan '05 in Singapore. Shaun recently returned from his brother Yan Ting SEAS'06's wedding to Emily Tsai SEAS'05 in Los Angeles. A number of Columbians were in attendance, including Michael Sin '05, Jennifer Lee '05, Sandy Huang '05, Johnny Lan SEAS'05, Jonathan Huang SEAS'05, Erica Yen '05, Justin Wei SEAS'05 and Yanni Guo BC'06. Kenneth has been busy with his job at the Singapore Workforce Development Agency and took a business trip to Denmark, which he thoroughly enjoyed, he says.

Adam Libove writes, "After close to three years at New York City's Department of Investigation, in early August I transitioned to the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office as a senior assistant district attorney in the Public Integrity Bureau. My unit investigates and prosecutes corruption and fraud committed by elected officials and public servants at all levels of government. It has been a great change so far."

Oscar Chow recently married Celeste Luk on the beach in Phuket, Thailand, in the presence of a number of Columbians including his brother Justin Chow '08, **Jacob Boeding**, **Matthew Arrieta-Joy**, Paul Chun '04, **Connie Chun** (née Sheu), Ethan Farberman '02, Natalie Farberman BC'03 (née Fung), Akram Zaman '01, Rohan Saikia '04, Eric Wallace '05 and Rajeev Emany '05.

Anand Venkatesan married Bo Han at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology in Philadelphia in September. Columbians in attendance were **Daniel Dykema**, Nikki Thompson BC'03, **Shelly Mittal**, **Gaurav Shah** and **Peter Koechley**.

Lisa Bearpark (née Pettersson) "recently had a second child, a boy

named Stellan, born in mid-June. I also started medical school at the Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm — a late and exciting career shift."

Cyrus Habib is running for lieutenant governor of Washington State (cyrushabib.com). In other Washington news, **Paul Morton** is a Ph.D. candidate in cinema studies at Washington, in Seattle.

In response to my email about favorite vacation destinations, **Lien De Brouckere** writes, "My favorite recent vacation was cycling the Karakoram Highway through the Hunza Valley in northern Pakistan, then through Xinjiang Province in China and ending in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Cycling on- and off-road was the best way to see and experience the stunning scenery; to enjoy the open air, orchards, tea, apples, dried apricots and challenging climbs; to meet people; to sleep in yurts; and so much more."

Jessica Chan adds, "My last trip was to Turkey for my wedding on September 5 to Anil Taner. In attendance were **Katherine Jorda**, **Shay Weiner** and Yong Woo SEAS'02. We were married in Iskenderun, Turkey, but my family and I traveled to Cappadocia afterward. I highly recommend a hot air balloon ride there at sunrise."

2004

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No news this time, but here's wishing you a happy holiday season and New Year! Speaking of 2016, why not make it a resolution to send in a Class Note? It could be about family, career, travels, everyday pastimes or special events. You never know what in your life will resonate with others and spark a connection (or reconnection!) with a classmate. Send your news to the email address at the top of this column or use the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

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Hi Class of 2005! Here are some updates:

Nate Bliss and his wife, Amira Bliss (née Ibrahim) BC'05, SIPA'09 welcomed baby Miles on July 16. After some time off during the summer, the family is resettled in their home in strollerville Brooklyn.

Ben Harwood launched the website thatsoundscool.com, which he calls the Airbnb of activities. It's in beta testing in New Orleans, so check it out if you're in the Big Easy and want to get down like the locals.

Italome Ohikhuare wrote, executive-produced and starred in her first short film, *The Mermaid*, which won the Best Film designation at the Canes Film Festival at the University of Miami and is touring the international festival circuit (themermaidfilm.com).

Elizabeth Claire Saylor is a visiting assistant professor of Arabic at Bard College, having earned a Ph.D. in Arabic literature from UC Berkeley earlier this year. Her dissertation, *A Bridge Too Soon: The Life and Works of 'Afifa Karam, The First Arab American Woman Novelist*, brings to light a neglected pioneer of the Arabic novel, Lebanese immigrant writer and journalist Karam (1883–1924).

After nearly a decade living in the perpetual spring of the West Coast, Elizabeth says she is relishing the beautiful fall colors while revising her dissertation into a book manuscript and teaching Arabic language and literature to a brilliant and dedicated group of students.

Raisa Belyavina is in the Kyrgyz Republic through the end of 2015 doing fieldwork research toward her doctorate at Teachers College.

Rebecca Breheney (née Warner) married Jesse Breheney on July 26 at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

Merry Boak welcomed a son, Theo Biber (CC'37?). He has already been showered with love and spoiled by his honorary uncles **Jackson Shafer** and **Paul Wright** and auntie **Keri Wachter**.

Tracy Reuter (née Bucholski) writes: "Announcing the birth of our second child, Lillian Jane Reuter, born September 2 at 9:53 p.m. to me and my husband, **John Reuter**, and proud big brother, Jack."

Xan Nowakowski says: "My life partner and I started a blog about scholarship informed by the lived experience of trauma and adversity; visit us at writewhereithurts.net and on Facebook."

Bartek Ringwelski reports: "My wife, Marija, and I bought a house in San Francisco. Also, her medical billing dispute startup recently got funding. I am now a hang 2 licensed hang glide pilot."

Joseph Choorapuzha announces: "On October 3, I married Jayne Abraham in Chicago. In the bridal party from Columbia were **Mark Chatoor SEAS'05**, **Amil Mody SEAS'05** and **Arturo Pelaez SEAS'05**. Our flower girl was Madeleine Longo, daughter of **Tom Longo** and **Christina Longo SEAS'05** (née Vullo)."

In her first submission, **Francesca Hoffman** writes: "I got married at the end of September in the Catskill Mountains to Celia Basner (Mount Holyoke College '06). We went to high school together on Long Island but never spoke until we officially connected a few years ago. Columbia attendees were **Andrew Hao**, **Jennifer Preissel**, **Dan Fastenberg**, **Laura Coradetti '06**, **Sasha Davidov SEAS'05**, **Rebecca Eskreis BC'05**, **Matt McAndrews '04**, **Nicole Tourtelot '04** and **Karan Gulaya '04**."

Rachel Feinmark reports, "After almost a decade in Chicago, I recently moved back to New York for a post-doc at the Tenement Museum. I'd love to reconnect with NYC people!"



Talibah Newman Ometu '06 and **Uzo Ometu '06** were married on May 2 in Riviera Maya, Cancun. Here, with their wedding party, left to right: **Brittany Dubose '08**, **Chad Musgrove '10**, **Victor Ometu**, **Quinn Miles**, **Megan Browder '06**, **Randy Appiah**, the bride, the groom, **Jeff Coles '06**, **Melanie Singleton '06**, **Narada Newman**, **Simone Gaines '06**, **Segun Oluwadele**, **Retanya Dunbar**, **Gunwa Oluwadele**, **Stephanie Colley '06**, **Marty Ometu** and **Yinka Oluwadele**.

Osman Ongun says: "I'm moving to Istanbul to work for Multi Corp. after 10 years in London and in banking."

Nathaniel Becker Chase writes: "My wife, Annelise BC'04, and I moved after seven years — two blocks away! Sign we might never leave Manhattan."

From Max Shterngel '04: "It was great to see old friends at reunion this past summer! On August 16 I married the lovely Lena Kushnir at a sweaty outdoor wedding in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, just a few blocks from our apartment. Columbians who helped us celebrate were **Sebastian Siadecki**, **Greg O'Keeffe SEAS'05**, **Sunil Amin**, **Oleg Slinin**, **Ramya Angara SEAS'05**, **Natasha Tsiouris**, **Jason Liang SEAS'05**, **Kate Gluzberg '04** and **Jane Rubinshteyn BC'07**. If you're looking for a beautiful outdoor venue for a smallish wedding, consider Jungle Design NYC in Williamsburg."

Congratulations to everyone on the moves, babies, marriages and abiding friendships! Write me at claire.mcdonnell@gmail.com with your news.

2006

REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016

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REUNION2016

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Dear Class of 2006, here are some updates from classmates:

Jeremy Kotin took a hiatus from media work to edit and co-produce the feature film *Blood Stripe*, which he looks forward to bringing to film festivals in 2016. He's extremely excited to spend the winter working with Baz Luhrmann on his new series for Netflix.

This past August, **Will Thomas** defended his dissertation in philosophy, thus successfully bringing to a close his combined J.D./Ph.D. program at Michigan.

College sweethearts **Talibah Newman SOA'13** and **Uzo Ometu BUS'13** married in Riviera Maya, Mexico, on May 2, accompanied by friends, family, colleagues and various classmates from the College and the Business School. The couple resides in New York City and collaborated

to create the comedic web series *First Dates*, which was released on July 27. Check it out at firstdates.tv.

Carolyn Christine Schook (now Foster) and **David Wesley Foster** were married on April 11 by the bride's aunt, retired U.S. Court of Federal Claims Judge Christine O.C. Miller, at the University Club of Chicago. Carolyn earned her medical doctorate at Harvard Medical School and recently finished her year as chief pediatric resident at Seattle Children's Hospital and the University of Washington School of Medicine. David is a patent attorney, entrepreneur and founder of SnapDoc, a legal software company in Seattle. He pursued his undergraduate studies in computer science and mathematics and earned a law degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The couple met and reside in Seattle.

Rachael King and **Ady Barkan** were married on October 9 at the County Courthouse in Santa Barbara, Calif., where they moved in September 2014 for Rachael to be an assistant professor of English at UC Santa Barbara. In attendance at the wedding were **Ciel Hunter**, **Sim Kimmel**, **David Schiff SEAS'06**, **Jeremy Dell**, **Carlo Canepa** and **Jillian Wein Riley BC'05**. Ady is senior staff attorney at the Center for Popular Democracy, where he directs the Local Progress and Fed Up campaigns (the latter of which recently received extensive coverage in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, The Huffington Post and other media). Rachael and Ady say they are settling into the SoCal lifestyle and would love to see any CCers passing through the area.

Congratulations to all the newlyweds! Happy holidays to all and wishing you the best in 2016!

2007

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I hope that everyone is having an enjoyable winter (and staying warm)!

Thanks to everyone who submitted notes for this issue. Remember, you can send along an update or note at any point; just email me at david.donner.chait@gmail.com or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Here are some exciting updates from classmates:

Abby Friedman writes, "A year ago, my husband and I moved to New Haven where I'm an assistant professor in the Yale School of Public Health's Depart-



Bryan Mochizuki '07 married **Hannah DeLetto** on March 21 on the north shore of Long Island. Left to right, back row: best man **Jacob Olson '07**, **Tim Paulin '08**, **Dan Neczypor '08**, **Adrian Demko '07** and **Matthew Barsamian '07**; middle row: **Alana Weiss '07**, **Luciana Olson BC'07**, **Geo Karapetyan '07**, **Jordy Lievers-Eaton '07**, the groom, the bride, **Todd Abrams '07** and **Stephanie Davis '09**; and front row: **Andrew Walther '07** and **Noah Cooper '08**. Not pictured but in attendance was **Ben Baker '07**.

ment of Health Policy and Management. We're definitely enjoying it here, plus the proximity to NYC (and friends there) is a huge perk."

Zak Kostro shares, "Happy to say that after eight years of bartending since graduating (as well as pursuing voiceover and acting gigs in NYC and Los Angeles), I'm back at Columbia at the Journalism School. It's great to be back at alma mater, living the dream and doing what I love, writing."

Mariely Hernandez recently

started at the clinical psychology doctoral program at City College.

Bryan Mochizuki married **Hannah DeLetto** on a Saturday in spring on the north shore of Long Island. In attendance were his best man, **Jacob Olson**, and his wife, **Luciana Olson**; groomsmen **Matthew Barsamian** and **Ben Baker**; **Alana Weiss**; **Todd Abrams**; **Adrian Demko**; **Jordy Lievers**; **Geo Karapetyan**; **Andrew Walther**; **Noah Cooper '08**; **Dan Neczypor '08**; **Stephanie Davis '08**; and **Tim Paulin '08**.

There are also lots of new faces and several potential members of the Class of 2038:

My wife, **Amanda Mullens Chait GSAPP'13**, and I are happy to announce we welcomed a daughter, **Julia Rose**, on July 1. She is an absolute joy and is already developing a complex from her oodles of Columbia gear.

Liz Miller (née Epstein) shares, "Some exciting news: My husband, **Jonathan Miller**, and I welcomed our precious son, **Nathaniel Asher**, on July 13."

Samantha Feingold Criss writes, "My husband, Dr. Jonathan Criss, and

I are ecstatic to announce the birth of our beautiful son, **Miles Sebastian**. He was born on July 15 weighing 8 lbs., 9 oz. We are loving every minute."

2008

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Happy New Year, CC'08! The mailbox was empty this time, so please send news for future issues — your classmates want to hear from you. No news is too small: From travels to career changes, from relationships to hobbies, let your classmates know what's happening in your life. Send to the email address at the top of the column or use the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2009

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Valentina Castillo and **Frederick Gaston Hall** were married in Atlanta on August 29. The couple met in law school and will live in Washington, D.C. **Tiffany Tang**, **Nora Sturm**, **Caleb van der Swaagh**, **Saumil Kachhy**, **Andrew**

Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or email or mail to the address at the top of your column.

Scheineson, Amari Hammonds and **Ricardo Saavedra SEAS'09** were on hand to celebrate the union and the close of their two years of long-distance dating. The Columbia College crowd was well represented on the dance floor, much to the bride's delight.

On June 27, **Spencer Silverstein** surprised his girlfriend of three years, Ashley Zwoyer, by proposing to her in beautiful Santa Barbara, Calif., wine country at the Demetria Estate in the Santa Ynez Valley. After enjoying a weekend of emotional euphoria with excellent food, wine and scenery, the couple returned to Los Angeles to celebrate their engagement with their immediate families. They will be married on October 15, 2016, in Los Angeles.

Stephanie Chou released her second full-length CD, *Compass*. It is the debut recording of the Octavia Romano and Stephanie Chou duo; the two perform folk songs and originals sung in English, Chinese, Spanish and Portuguese. Octavia is an Argentinian guitarist Stephanie met during graduate studies in music composition at City College. The CD release concert/party was at Rockwood Music Hall in NYC on October 24. Visit stephaniechoumusic.com to hear or buy the album; you can also hear her previous full-length album, *Prime Knot* (2011), and *C for G*, her 2012 commission for former American Ballet Theatre principal ballerina Susan Jaffe, there.

Your classmates want to hear from you! Please share news about yourself, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/ submit_class_note.

2010

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Lauren "Casey" Hayes-Deats joined the staff of the Brooklyn Arts Exchange as education manager. She is also completing her master's in applied theater at CUNY and had the opportunity to travel to Rwanda this past summer to facilitate workshops for undergraduates studying drama education. She hopes to return to the country for a longer stay!

Daryl Rashaan King writes, "After pursuing various stints at art galleries, nonprofits and other organizations, I am as surprised as anyone to announce that I recently started working as an urban education fellow for a local New York City charter school as a part of AmeriCorps. To be more precise, I was

never the type of person to believe that our nation would need as much help as those countries on the lower rungs of the GDP scale, nor was I the type to be seen in any of our Columbia University gear. I am a former cynic and native of the Upper West Side. However, my new position demands that I demonstrate what a proud Columbia graduate is by wearing our apparel for some of the smartest middle school students that New York City has to offer.

"I missed the opportunity to attend this year's reunion, but I am now more aware of the real impact that our attendance at Columbia has on us. The honor of being a member of CC'10 is clear to me as I (and the team of fellows) work to lead the next generation of thinkers toward the future."

Dan D'Addario lives in Brooklyn with his fiancé, **Jacob Schneider**. Dan is a staff writer at *Time* magazine and Jacob, who recently graduated from the NYU School of Law, is working in the family defense practice at Brooklyn Defender Services. Dan and Jacob got engaged on a recent trip to Berlin.

Jehan Sparks is entering the third year of her Ph.D. in social psychology at UC Davis. Her research focuses on behavioral economics and judgment and decision making.

Veronica Couzo married her law school sweetheart on July 25. After living in Memphis for a year during Veronica's clerkship with the Honorable Julia Smith Gibbons, the couple recently moved to Chicago. They are excited to be Chicago homeowners and Veronica is thrilled to have started in October as an associate at Jones Day.

Artist **Isla Hansen** shares, "**Ryan Withall SEAS'10** and **Katharine Abrams** are engaged to be married next May. Their wedding ceremony will be performed by me — I earned an M.F.A. from Carnegie Mellon this year and recently became a minister for the Church of The Flying Spaghetti Monster for the sole purpose of marrying my many, many straight friends and passing these ceremonies off as art projects. **Adam Lampell** may be involved with these shenanigans (but he probably is, guesses this authority)."

Olivia Frazao recently moved back to NYC and is developing her life coaching and energy healing career. She's excited to connect with other alumni who share similar interests.

Jordan Fraade writes, "I recently started a master's in urban and regional planning at UCLA, where I'm studying public transportation and land-use policy. For my first year I'll be navigating Los Angeles by bus and bike — wish me luck!"

Asher Grodman earned an M.F.A. in acting from the American Conserva-

tory Theater in San Francisco. At the time of this writing, he was playing Wickham in a world premiere production of *Pride and Prejudice* at Center Stage in Baltimore. He also wrote and directed an award-winning short film, *The Train*, starring Academy Award winner Eli Wallach in his final performance. The film has played at numerous festivals this year, including The Vancouver International Film Festival.

Jing Li has been steadily making a career transition into investments research. Right after undergrad, he was a fundraiser to get by and took graduate-level accounting and finance classes. He also interned with a family office for the past few years. He's in his second year at the Business School and looks to make a full career jump with his M.B.A. Any leads in credit or equity research-related roles would be much appreciated: jl116@gsb.columbia.edu.

And from **Chris Yim**: "I recently read some of the Class Notes in the Fall 2015 issue, and the most badass one that I've ever read is from Kasey Koopmans '11. She hiked thousands of miles on the Pacific Crest Trail and got out alive, giving me major FOMO.

"Oh man, where to begin? Here's what else is going on:

"On married life: An older friend told me something poignant about marriage. It sounds like a no-brainer, but she said, 'You've got to be able to tell each other anything.' People have been asking me what's different since I've gotten married (which I still can't believe), and my response usually is, 'The big difference now is that it's for life.' What those two things together mean is that I'm not able to have a fully healthy relationship with my wife, Grace ('10 Parsons), if I can't tell her the things that I'm feeling, and I have to be fiercely honest — though there's a difference there from being brutally honest. You have to also be careful, because once you say something you can't ever take it back, which happens a ton when you're in the heat of the moment. In marriage, it's good to have short-term memory loss, to be able to forget (and forgive) the things that happen. The fortunate thing about marriage being a forever-type of thing is that you are forced to figure it out. I am lucky to have a person who is equally committed to the figuring it out part, even when I'm a total pain and acting like a child. I know I'm painting a very real version of marriage but it's an awesome thing to find the person you want share your life with and have him or her involved in all the complexities and intricacies of it.

"On the eternal search for truth: I know that I write some very apparent Christian stuff in my updates. I

know a ton of people from CU are either areligious or anti-religious, and I probably sound like an athlete after they've won the championship who has to say, 'I give it all up to the man upstairs, without whom this all wouldn't be possible.' I believe it's true. But I also want to point out that I'm going through this journey to uncover what God, my purpose on this planet, humanity, etc. all mean. These questions have pretty big implications that could and should affect the rest of my life and my outlook on things, so I'm trying (and it's tough in cities, where a young person's life is so deeply secular) to confront them in an intentional way. For me, that experience looks like attending church, getting involved in a faith community and surrounding myself with people who will challenge me and keep me accountable. For the longest time (and even still), I have had this way of making up rules for myself, deciding what I thought was moral and immoral, right and wrong. It's a very egocentric approach to how you live your life, and it starts to paint your lens on how you see people/world — as equally selfish, greedy and self-seeking. I know that this isn't the way I want to be and something has to change. Check in with me about this later. This effort has been a few years in the making now; it's a tough one. David Foster Wallace says 'We all worship something.' We have to figure out for ourselves what that thing is.

"On wanderlust: I grew up watching too many movies and spending a lot of time on the Internet. When you do this, you get this idea planted in your head of what your life should look like. If you're an extroverted experience-seeker, and you've grown up somewhat privileged like I have, then you want to do so much. It's hard

Answers to Core Quiz on page 80

1. In September 1919, "Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West" was created as the first course in what became the Core Curriculum.
2. September 1937.
3. September 1947.
4. Homer's *Iliad*, Aeschlyus' *Oresteia* and Dante's *Inferno*.
5. Sophocles' *Oedipus the King*.
6. A second year of CC, called "Introduction to Contemporary Problems in the United States," was introduced in 1928; it became elective in 1961 and was dropped in 1968.
7. Jane Austen, whose *Pride and Prejudice* was added in 1985 and remains.
8. James V. Mirolo GSAS'61 and J.W. Smit.
9. An Extended Core requirement was created in 1990; this evolved into Major Cultures and finally into what is now the Global Core.
10. Plato and Shakespeare.

to balance reality with the romantic idealism that you have in your dreams. After 2½ years in San Francisco, a big part of me is itching to travel and see the world. I'm not very different from anyone else our age. I know that I have to do it before I have a kid, and at the same time, there are professional aspirations that I want to fulfill. It's hard to squeeze all your dreams into a mason jar with finite capacity. Also, you get used to having a certain type of lifestyle and it's hard to not have that when you think about moving from place to place. I'm definitely seeking advice here. Feel free to share :).

"On philosophizing: I've never considered myself someone who is super sophisticated. I'm a country bumpkin from the sticks of Virginia who was fortunate enough to not grow up with a thick Southern accent. I was one of those kids who never talked in Lit Hum or CC because I didn't want to sound stupid (and also because I never read any of the books — I read slowly, OK?!). I had also never been exposed to intellectualism at that level, getting immersed in conversation about society, race, privilege, how to enact change and take action. Since college, I haven't been involved too much, so those brain muscles have atrophied. And let's face it, people in Silicon Valley don't care too much about the common people/good. However, I've had good influences here — **Varun Gulati SEAS'10**, **Jake Grumbach** and **Rohit Iragavarapu '12** — who keep the wheels spinning and ask the challenging questions. I still sit on the sidelines silently, but I do ponder and talk to my wife about it.

"As always, thanks to everyone who keeps me on my toes and challenges me. Thanks to those whom I have in my life who are compassionate and teach me humility. I am blessed to surround myself with good people who

remind me of the values that I hold true and dear. There's really nothing that I can complain about. Until the next episode, I bid you farewell."

2011

**REUNION WEEKEND
JUNE 2–5, 2016**
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Though you're reading this in December, we're writing these notes in the first week of September; TimeHop is reminding us that about eight years ago we were reading *The Iliad* and posting bizarre status updates. Also, is it just us, or are **Tania Harsono** and **Chris Elizondo SEAS'11** in every picture from first year ever?

Since our last update, **Sean Udell** is in the throes of his first year of medical school at Penn and **Nuriel Moghavem** has moved to Sacramento, Calif., to work for his local legislator in the California State Assembly for a year. He hopes to learn more about the legislative process and is set to work on water policy, among other items.

Before moving to Sacramento, Nuriel joined with **Zack Susel**, **Ricky Schweitzer**, **Diana Greenwald**,

Teddy Poll, **Tara Menon**, **Dhruv Vasishtha**, Elyssa Goldberg '12, Molly Spector BC'11 and **Victoria Callaway** in Fairfax, Va., for the wedding of **Nora Diamond** to Austin Jones. They met at UVA Law and will be attorneys in Washington, D.C. We wish them the best as long as they stay out of medical malpractice law.

Alex Gross says he had a whirlwind summer: He graduated from the M.B.A. program at Notre Dame and started a brand management job in Columbus, Ohio, with Scotts Miracle-Gro helping people of all ages express themselves on their own piece of the earth, he says. Between those events, he competed in the International Federation of American Football World Championship for the American team (he played professionally in Europe for two years following graduation)! The team won the gold medal (as the American team should in an American football tournament). He says he felt ancient and rusty compared to the gang of recent graduates but the game returned to him quickly after a few practices and he had a successful tournament. He has settled in Columbus and would love to connect with Lions there. There is no alumni group in central Ohio (only in Cleveland and Cincinnati) so he has been adopted by the Dartmouth group. Whomp.

Ryan Gingery declares he is listening to his Truth and letting it dictate how he expresses himself.

Tomas Rodriguez says he had an incredibly exciting summer. On May 29 his son, Tomas Enrique, was born and he and his wife, Valentina, have tremendously enjoyed being with him (despite not sleeping much). They all moved to California in September, where Tomas began an M.B.A. program at Stanford.

Akosua Ayim recently completed her M.B.A. at the University of Cambridge and plans to move to London to continue the dreaded job search. At the moment she is interning with Adludio, a London-based start-up that creates sensory advertisement campaigns. If anyone is in the London/Cambridge area, please feel free to drop a line!

On September 5, **Kasey Koopmans** completed the Pacific Crest Trail, hiking 2,650 miles between the Canadian and Mexican borders. After four months of living in the forest, she's now sitting in Seattle and trying to figure out what's next.

Vesal Yazdi started classes at Harvard Business School this past fall and became engaged to Nicole Cerutti BC'12 after proposing in Sydney, Australia. They never met while at Columbia, despite the overlap, but were introduced later through friends — quite serendipitous!

Scott Maxfield and **Carmen Rosenberg-Miller**, who started dating as juniors, got engaged on July 2. Scott proposed under the George Washington Bridge during a run along the Hudson River. He is an associate in the Urban Investment Group at Goldman Sachs, where he has worked since graduation, and Carmen began a Ph.D. in art history at Princeton this past fall, focusing on 19th-century French art. Scott and Carmen recently moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn, after buying an apartment by McCarren Park, and thoroughly enjoy their neighborhood.

As you get engaged, married or make celibacy vows, keep your class correspondents notified! We love hearing from you, and we wish you a very Happy New Year.

2012

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As 2015 draws to a close, I wish the Class of 2012 a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year. I am sure many exciting things will happen during the holidays, so send in those updates afterward! Here's the latest:

This past summer, Columbia soccer alums **Nora Dooley** and **Mike Mazullo** traveled to South Africa and Malawi to volunteer with Coaches Across Continents. CAC partners with local organizations across the globe to use soccer for positive social change. In an interview with Columbia Athletics published on August 20, Mike explained, "Coaches Across Continents has an unusual platform: using sport to teach about anything from gender equity to HIV to mathematics. It's education through soccer. Sounded like a great idea to me!"

Mike returned to New York in the fall to resume teaching and coaching soccer at his alma mater, Fordham Prep in the Bronx, while Nora works full-time with CAC.

Paul Hsiao reports that he had the best summer ever, starting with the launch of his side project, Standard Shirt, a menswear company focusing on — you guessed it — shirts. He collaborated with Michael Discenza '13, GSAS'15 to create the visual aesthetic of the company. He says he also had a lovely time with **Emily Ahn** in Cape Cod during the July 4 weekend.

Congratulations are in order for newlyweds **Michele Beth Levbarg-Klein** and Max Rayden! They were

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Samuel Roth '12 married Helena Yoo '16 in a traditional Korean wedding ceremony at the Westin Chosun in Seoul, South Korea, on August 22. Left to right: Seoung Yeon Kim LAW'16; the groom's sister, Sarah Roth '16; the groom; the bride; the groom's father, Steve Roth '77; and Yongho Kim GSAS'92.

married on August 27 in a beautiful ceremony at The Pierre in New York City. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, the couple plans to live in New York and Palm Beach, Fla. In 2013, Michele earned an M.A. in history of art from the Courtauld Institute of Art in London. She is an assistant buyer for handbags at Bergdorf Goodman.

Alexandra Lotero is a data manager at Student Success Network, a networked improvement community of education and youth development nonprofits that work together to ensure that New York City students are empowered with the social/emotional learning competencies needed to succeed in college and in life. Classmates can contact her at al2736@caa.columbia.edu.

Celine Pascheles is in her fourth year of medical school and is applying for her residency in the field of emergency medicine. She is excited about the year ahead and eagerly awaits her match.

Good luck, Celine!
This past fall, **Chuck Roberts** started his first year as part of the Stanford Law Class of 2018.

Congrats, Chuck!
On August 23, **Randy Subramany** proposed to Kiva Eisenstock BC'12 in front of the lawns near Hartley and Wal-lach Halls. Randy planned an elaborate surprise involving the couple's families (including Kiva's parents, who flew in from California), **Robert McMahon**, Emma Sorkin BC'12, **William Mazur**, **Brandon Christophe**, William Reggio SEAS'13, Jessica Cui BC'12, Marc Fitorre SEAS'11, Sarah Brovman '11 and Amanda Hofman BC'03.

After the proposal, the group took photos on campus and then celebrated

at none other than Mel's Burger Bar, which was (as Randy put it) "a staple of our college experience!"

Congratulations, Randy and Kiva!
After seven fantastic years in New York City, **Vighnesh Subramanyan** moved to Philadelphia this past year. He writes, "While it is sad to move from a city that I have been thrilled to call my home through these formative years, I am excited to be starting an M.B.A. program at Wharton. To classmates in the area: I would love to get in touch; please do drop me a line at vs2299@columbia.edu!"

2013

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Happy winter, Class of 2013! I hope everyone is gearing up for the holidays and enjoying a break from the heat! Thanks to those who submitted updates on their whereabouts this quarter.

Ryan Mandelbaum has moved back to New York after spending two years managing software implementations for Epic Systems in Verona, Wis. He is pursuing a master's in journalism with an advanced certificate in science reporting at NYU's Science, Health, and Environmental Reporting program with hopes of becoming a science journalist. You can see his pieces on scienceline.org.

Amanda Gutterman updates us on her work with Slant, a journalism

platform that blends crowd-sourced content with professional editing. After 10 weeks in beta with a closed group of writers — who, she says, produced a wide range of stories from an interview with a 2016 presidential contender to a candid sit-down with A\$AP Rocky — the mobile-first news site has hard-launched and is fully open to the public. The site is receiving rave reviews in *TechCrunch* and *Columbia Journalism Review* as well as garnering server-busting traffic numbers. After more than 2.5 million page views and hundreds of posted articles, now anyone can log in and create stories on Slant, get professionally edited and get paid for his or her work. If you like to write, Amanda suggests you try out Slant's easy-to-use creator tool, found on slantnews.com.

Stephanie Nass founded Victory Club, a project to bring together friends of friends over the culinary and visual arts. Victory Club began as a way to bridge the gap between a liberal arts college experience and post-college life in a non-creative industry. Stephanie, a trained chef, started cooking for friends in her shoebox New York City apartment in late 2014. The springboard for conversation at that time was the work on her walls — primarily her own paintings but also treasured gifts from artist friends. Now, with 50 subscribing members and hundreds of guests, the project has outgrown her apartment; events take place bimonthly around New York (with pop-ups in the Hamptons and London) in art venues like galleries, museums, artists' studios, homes with private collections and restaurants with art collections. The project has been covered in *Town & Country*, *The Observer*, *Food & Wine* and *Harper's Bazaar*, and membership grows daily.

As always, I encourage everyone to submit updates so classmates can hear about your accomplishments and milestones. Feel free to email me directly or submit via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Happy Holidays!

2014

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
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Calling all CC'14ers! CCT needs a new Class Notes correspondent for this column. Being a class correspondent is a great way to stay in touch with friends and classmates and to share all the amazing things that the class is up to! Please reach out to us at cct@columbia.edu.

edu if you — or you and a friend; a two-person team is fine too, if you want to share the job — are interested or have questions about the role.

CCT thanks **Emily Dreibelbis** for her great work during the past 1½ years. Until a new correspondent is on board, please send your news to CCT at the email address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2015

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Hello, Class of 2015! Let's jump right into the news:

Maria Diez was recently the set/costume designer for *Ennui: An English Comedy with a French title for an American audience*, a new comedy written and directed by Henrietta Steven-ton '18, which ran at the Theater for that time was the work on her walls — primarily her own paintings but also treasured gifts from artist friends. Now, with 50 subscribing members and hundreds of guests, the project has outgrown her apartment; events take place bimonthly around New York (with pop-ups in the Hamptons and London) in art venues like galleries, museums, artists' studios, homes with private collections and restaurants with art collections. The project has been covered in *Town & Country*, *The Observer*, *Food & Wine* and *Harper's Bazaar*, and membership grows daily.

The creative team also included Mike Kling GS'17 (lighting designer) as well as Alex Taylor BC'15 (assistant director/stage manager).

As always, your classmates want to hear from you! Write to me at the address at the top of the column or via the CCT webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

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obituaries

1936

Venan J. Alessandrone, attorney, Old Greenwich, Conn., on November 20, 2014. Alessandrone earned a degree from the Law School in 1939. During WWII, he served in 1943–44 as a member of the Board of Economic Warfare, stationed at Léopoldville (Kinshasa) in the Belgian Congo. He remained in the Congo for 14 months and traveled extensively throughout Central Africa. From 1945 to 1946, as a first lieutenant in the Army, Alessandrone was appointed chief military judge in Seoul, Korea; he presided over the trial of approximately 50 members of the Communist Party. In recognition of this service, he was awarded the Army Commendation Ribbon. Throughout his law career, Alessandrone lectured and wrote extensively on estate planning. In 1974, he became an adjunct visiting professor at the University of Miami School of Law. He was the estate tax and gift tax editor of *The Journal of Taxation* and was published in *The Banking Journal*, *Journal of Taxation*, and *Journal of the University of Miami Institute on Estate Planning*. Alessandrone is survived by his wife of 35 years, the former Adelle Lincoln.

1940

Albon P. Man IV, editor, Palisades, N.Y., on October 22, 2014. Man earned a degree from GSAS as well as a degree from the Law School, both in 1950. He worked at Prentice Hall, where he became editor-in-chief of his division, and at the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Man was a community volunteer and activist for peace both early and late in his life. He was predeceased by his wife of 44 years, Yolanda Abruzzi Man, and is survived by his son, Anthony; daughter, Angela Pungello, and her husband, Steven; and one grandson.

1941

Bruce Wallace, retired professor, Blacksburg, Va., on January 12, 2015. Born and raised in McKean, Pa., Wallace earned a bachelor's in zoology in 1941. His Ph.D. study under Theodosius Dobzhansky at Columbia was interrupted by WWII. After four years in the Army, Wallace returned to Columbia and earned a Ph.D. in biological sciences from GSAS in 1949. He took a position at, and later was assistant director of, the

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York. In 1958 Wallace joined Cornell, where he was a professor of genetics until 1981; he then joined the biology department at Virginia Tech, where he became University Distinguished Professor of Biology and was active until he retired in 1994. In 1970 Wallace was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and was president of the Genetics Society of America, the American Society of Naturalists, the Society for the Study of Evolution and the American Genetic Association, as well as an editor of *Evolutionary Biology*.

Robert S. Wallerstein, psychoanalyst, Belvedere Tiburon, Calif., on December 21, 2014. Born in Berlin, Germany, in 1921, Wallerstein moved with his family to New York City at 2. He earned a degree from P&S in 1944 and became an internationally renowned psychoanalyst after having trained at the Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kan., where he became director of research. Wallerstein received the Sigourney Award for Outstanding Contributions to Psychoanalysis in 1991. His 20 books and his more than 350 scholarly articles made a vast contribution to the scientific study of psychoanalysis. He was an advocate for training analytic practitioners from lay backgrounds and founded the Doctor of Mental Health program at UC Berkeley-UCSF. Wallerstein was predeceased by his wife of 65 years, Judith, and son, Michael. He is survived by his daughters, Nina and Amy; daughter-in-law, Liz; sons-in-law, Glenn and David; and five grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wallerstein Memorial Library, UCLEAA, Inc. (University College London), c/o Chapel and York, 1000 N. West St., Ste 1200, Wilmington, DE 19801; or New Israel Fund, PO Box 96712, Washington, DC 20077-7438.

James J. Byrnes, chemical engineer, St. Petersburg, Fla., on February 18, 2015. Born the son of Irish immigrants in New York City, Byrnes entered with the Class of 1942 and graduated from Engineering in 1943. He worked on the Manhattan Project, helping to develop the atomic bomb, and later worked for Burns & Roe as a project manager, building a number of power plants. He ended his career there as a VP. Byrnes enjoyed solving problems and fixing things. After

1942

James J. Byrnes, chemical engineer, St. Petersburg, Fla., on February 18, 2015. Born the son of Irish immigrants in New York City, Byrnes entered with the Class of 1942 and graduated from Engineering in 1943. He worked on the Manhattan Project, helping to develop the atomic bomb, and later worked for Burns & Roe as a project manager, building a number of power plants. He ended his career there as a VP. Byrnes enjoyed solving problems and fixing things. After



James J. Byrnes '42

retiring he volunteered for 20 years, fixing bicycles for young children, at the Christmas Toy Shop in St. Petersburg, Fla. Byrnes met his wife, Joan, at Brookhaven National Laboratory in New York; they married in 1951. She survives him, as do his daughters, Maureen, Eileen and Colleen; and two grandsons.

1945

Benjamin R. Kaplan, retired attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on November 28, 2014. Kaplan was born in Brooklyn in 1925 and was in the first graduating class at Midwood H.S. He earned a degree in 1951 from the Law School and owned a storefront law office on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, on Avenue B, where he practiced for 50 years. Kaplan was an avid blues record collector and had a complete Bessie Smith collection on original 78s. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, whom he married in 1952.

1946

Paul C. Rotondi, business executive, Lakewood, N.J., and Pompano Beach, Fla., on January 28, 2015. Rotondi served in the Army Air Force during WWII. He was president of Dan Dee Belt & Bag Co., Hoboken; was chairman and CEO of Washington Savings Bank, Hoboken; and served on various boards, including Wearver-Proctor-Silex. Rotondi was president or chairman of nearly every group he joined, including the Cliffside Park Board of Education; the North Hudson YMCA; the Hoboken Rotary Club (Walter Head Fellow); the Hoboken and Hudson County Chambers of Commerce; the Model Cities Program; the Hoboken Steering Committee for Redevelopment Projects; and the Hoboken Waterfront Advisory

Committee, where he was instrumental in obtaining funds from the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, enabling Hoboken to purchase a portion of the waterfront for development. He also led homeowners associations in South Mantoloking, N.J., and Pompano Beach. Rotondi is survived by his wife of 69 years, Marie (née Senatore); daughter, Mary-Frances Dougherty, and her husband, Robert; son, Charles, and his wife, Patricia; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

1947

Sidney Gelber, university co-founder, administrator and professor, New York City, on November 13, 2014. Born in New York, Gelber graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. and served in Army counterintelligence during WWII. He earned an M.A. in 1950 and a Ph.D. in 1954, both from GSAS, and joined Columbia's philosophy department faculty. Gelber was on the editorial committee that rewrote the source book for Contemporary Civilization, and he taught classes with Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38 and Fred Dupee. Gelber helped to create and build SUNY Stony Brook and rose to academic VP and provost. In 2001 he published a book, *Politics and Public Higher Education in New York State: Stony Brook—A Case History*, a definitive history of the university. He also shared his expertise with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, where he was on the Board of Governors and received an honorary doctorate and a Lifetime Achievement Award. Gelber also was an accomplished pianist who

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, Columbia College Today, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 6th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

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

- 1936 **Carl E. Schorske**, retired university professor, East Windsor, N.J., on September 13, 2015.
- 1939 **Jerome G. Arnold**, Stamford, Conn., on September 30, 2015.
- 1940 **Franklin N. Gould**, Arlington, Va., on November 25, 2014.
- 1941 **Ulrich P. Strauss**, retired chemistry professor, Highland Park, N.J., on August 7, 2015.
- 1942 **Walter C. Boschen**, retired editor, Wolfeboro, N.H., on June 7, 2015.
- 1943 **Michael S. Bruno**, physician, New York City, on November 16, 2015.
- 1945 **Jerome Rothenberg**, professor emeritus of economics, Waban, Mass., on August 10, 2015.
- 1946 **Ira E. Shein**, retired commodities trader, Teaneck, N.J., on October 28, 2015.
- 1948 **Sears E. Edwards**, physician, Garden City, N.Y., on August 14, 2015.
- Stanley N. Rader**, retired fastener company executive, Boca Raton, Fla., on October 19, 2015.
- Jackson H. Sheats Jr.**, musician, Lansdowne, Va., on January 27, 2015.
- 1954 **Robert A. Falise**, attorney, Bedford, N.Y., on August 13, 2015.
- Leon Gordis**, physician, epidemiology department chair, New York City, on September 1, 2015.
- 1957 **Neil R. McLellan**, retired teacher, Freeport, N.Y., on October 28, 2015.
- John Wellington**, retired university and foundation executive, Summit, N.J., on September 29, 2015.
- 1958 **Richard W. Bossert**, retired senior analyst, Queensbury, N.Y., on February 13, 2015.
- 1961 **Robert Goldfeld**, attorney, Goshen, Conn., on September 17, 2015.
- 1966 **John A. Litvack**, television executive and producer, Los Angeles, on March 21, 2015.
- Richard H. Steingesser**, retired author, college instructor and private investor, Providence, R.I., on August 31, 2015.
- 1967 **Robert G. Hickes**, physician, LaFayette, N.Y., on July 30, 2013.
- 1968 **William B. Parmer**, physician, San Francisco, on October 2, 2015.
- 1970 **Edward E. Ingraham II**, retired airline and security agency executive, South Portland, Maine, on May 21, 2015.
- Thomas R. “Rick” McIntosh**, attorney, East Falmouth, Mass., on October 12, 2015.
- 1978 **Jonathan N. Aranoff**, anesthesiologist, Bronx, N.Y., on April 27, 2015.
- 1994 **Philip I. Margolis**, pilot, Ventura, Calif., on May 23, 2014.

performed in Carnegie Hall with his wife, Anita, and valued the two years that he was president of the Mannes College of Music. He is survived by his children, Alexis, Stephen and Valerie, sons- and daughter-in-law, Mark Whitaker, Abraham Jacob and Susan Luciano; and five grandchildren. He was predeceased in 2012 by his wife of 64 years.

Peter LaForte, ophthalmologist, Ridgefield, Conn., on August 24, 2014. LaForte was born in Frankfort, N.Y., on November 27, 1924. Moving to Brooklyn, N.Y., with his family at an early age, he graduated from NYU Medical School. In a career that spanned more than 60 years, LaForte initially practiced pediatric medicine and in later years returned to complete a medical residency, pursuing a career in ophthalmology. He maintained a private practice in ophthalmology in Stamford. A WWII Army veteran, LaForte was a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, Connecticut State Medical Society, Senior Men’s Club of New Canaan and the Country Club of Darien. He was a member of St. Mary Catholic Church and its choir. In addition to his wife of 54 years, Jeannette LaForte (née Grieco), LaForte is survived by his children, Peter and his wife, Judy Ratner, Elizabeth and Christopher; sister, Faye Reggio; and five grandchildren. LaForte was predeceased by his brothers, John, and Frank DiMostra, and sisters, Anna Alfano and Frances Messina. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance, 801 Roeder Rd., Ste 750, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or via tsalliance.org.

1948

John H. Bottjer, retired mortgage broker, Eastchester, N.Y., on March 28, 2015. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Bottjer graduated from Erasmus Hall H.S. and earned a master’s at Haverford College. He was a 62-year resident of Eastchester and had a successful career in mortgage financing and real estate investments with his own company, retiring soon before his death. Bottjer’s passion was photography, mainly nature photography, for which he won many awards. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Marilyn BC’50; sons, David and his wife, Sarah, John and his wife, Lauri, and Paul; and one granddaughter.

1949

Edgar M. Housepian, neurosurgeon and professor, Hackensack, N.J., on November 14, 2014. Affiliated with Columbia his entire life, Housepian

attended its elementary school as well as medical school (PS’53) and residency. He was a Columbia University Medical Center faculty member, special adviser to the dean for international affiliations and ultimately professor emeritus of neurological surgery. A distinguished neurosurgeon, Housepian made early contributions to cerebrovascular and image-guided stereotactic surgery. Loyal to his Armenian heritage, he helped organize relief efforts after the major earthquake in Armenia in the 1990s, for which he received several honorary doctorates from its medical institutions, its Presidential Citation and the Humanitarian Award from the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.

Eugene D. McGahren Jr., retired attorney, arbitrator and judge, Yonkers, N.Y., on January 2, 2015. A graduate of Roosevelt H.S., McGahren earned a degree from the Law School in 1952 before serving as a lieutenant in the Navy and Merchant Marines. After returning from two tours around the world, including time in the Korean War, he had a lengthy and successful career as an attorney at Sperry Rand and later as an arbitrator and judge. His passion for the law was matched only by his enthusiasm for aviation (he was a private pilot), travel and family gatherings. He and his wife of 57 years, Elizabeth, enjoyed many vacations around the globe. She survives him, as do his children, Eugene D. III, Thomas, Kevin, Brian, Paul and Peter; 10 grandchildren; brothers, George, Richard and Kenneth; and several daughters- and sisters-in-law. Memorial contributions may be made to The Lancaster General Health Foundation, Attn.: Myles McGahren, 609 N. Cherry St., PO Box 3555, Lancaster, PA 17604-3555, or The UVA Children’s Hospital, Attn.: Eugene D. McGahren Jr., 1215 Lee St., Charlottesville, VA 22908 or childrens.uvahealth.com.

Robert J. Vellvé, retired educational equipment exporter, Paris, France, on March 20, 2015. Born April 8, 1925, and raised in New York City, the son of French and Spanish parents. Vellvé interrupted his collegiate track for the Army in WWII, serving as a light artillery sergeant in Patton’s army in the Battle of the Bulge. Recognizing his family roots, while returning from Germany following VE Day, Vellvé stayed on in Paris to serve a second tour, participating in the U.S. effort to stabilize Europe, to which he returned in retirement. After graduation, Vellvé entered his father’s exporting business on Beaver Street in lower Manhattan. He met his wife, Angelita, there shortly thereafter, and they enjoyed

63 years of marriage, raising four children in Garden City, Long Island. Vellvé traveled extensively throughout the Southern Hemisphere, principally as a sales representative for American Seating Co. products. At retirement in 1984, Vellvé moved his family to Paris, where he toured widely. Before his health declined, Vellvé assisted with interviews and acceptance coaching of French applicants to the College. He is survived by his wife; two daughters; two sons; and six grandchildren.

1953

Julius “Jules” L. Ross, retired financial executive, New York City, on December 4, 2014. Born in the Bronx, Ross was a retired Air Force officer, avid sports fan and voracious reader. A 1954 alumnus of the Business School, Ross had a successful business career and then devoted his time to reading, playing bridge, attending Torah study and enjoying the company of his wife of 36 years, Carole; children Jennifer and her husband, Michael, Peter and his wife, Barbra, and David and his wife, Jessica; five grandchildren; brother, David Rosensweig; and friends.

1954

Richard J. Rudolph, engineer, Houston, on January 30, 2015. Born on October 3, 1932, in Long Island City, N.Y., Rudolph spent his childhood in Flushing, enjoying summers at Little Neck Bay fishing, clamming and exploring the bay on a boat he built. After graduating from Bayside H.S. in 1949, he studied chemical engineering at Columbia.

He began his career with Mobil but spent most of it in metallurgy with Huntington Alloys. In 1960, Rudolph moved to Houston, where he began his family. As an adult, he learned to speak Spanish and Portuguese fluently, in addition to German, which he could speak from childhood. He enjoyed travel, and his love of Mayan ruins led to one of the biggest adventures of his life: a three-week canoe trip down the Usumacinta River between Mexico and Guatemala with four close friends in 1977. Rudolph is survived by his wife, Dianna; children, Kristen, Bill and Susan; and sister, Mary. He was predeceased by a son, Richard. Memorial contributions may be made to Border Collie Rescue Texas (bcrescuetexas.org).

1955

Richard B. Knapp, physician, New York City, on November 29, 2014. Knapp graduated from New York Medical College (NYMC) and completed a residency in anesthesia at Cornell-New York Hospital. His distinguished medical career included being professor and chairman of anesthesiology at West Virginia University Medicine. Knapp was a medical naval officer during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He and his wife of 61 years, Harriett, started and maintained for 13 years a medical program on the Caribbean island of Barbuda. Knapp authored *The Gift of Surgery to Mankind: A History of Modern Anesthesiology*. He enjoyed teaching medical students, residents and other physicians, for which he received the Distinguished Alumni Medal from NYMC. Knapp loved travel and was a

sports enthusiast. His wife survives him, as do his daughters Carolyn Green and Pamela Townsend Jenkins; son, Benjamin; two grandchildren; and brother, Robert. He was predeceased by his daughter Laurie. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

1960

Stephen B. Brown, attorney, New York City, on December 27, 2014. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., and a lifelong New Yorker, Brown played basketball at Columbia and attended NYU Law School. He earned a second bachelor’s, a B.S. in 1961 from Engineering. For many years, Brown was general counsel at Champion International, and after retirement was town attorney for Southampton, N.Y. He claimed the “World Record for Grandparent Attendance” at baseball, basketball, lacrosse, tennis and golf events along the Eastern Seaboard, where his five grandchildren participated during the last decade. They survive him, as do his wife of 51 years, Linda Sirota; daughters, Ali Kotin and her husband, Alan, and Jen Simon and her husband, Neal; and brother, Harvey.

Elliot M. Olstein, attorney, Butler, N.J., on November 27, 2014. Born in the Bronx, N.Y., on August 15, 1939, Olstein graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. He earned a B.S. in 1961 from Engineering, a J.D. from Georgetown in 1965 and an LL.M. in taxation in 1977 from NYU. He was a partner in the firm of Carella, Byrne, Cecchi, Olstein, Brody & Agnello in Roseland,

N.J. Olstein had broad experience in intellectual property law and was an expert in chemical and biochemical inventions, with particular emphasis on their medical applications. He is survived by his wife, Joan; sons, Erik and his wife, Kathleen, and Jon and his wife, Laura; and five grandchildren.

1962

Harvey J. Goldschmid, law professor, New York City, on February 12, 2015. Goldschmid was born on May 6, 1940, in the Bronx, N.Y., where his father was a furrier and a postal worker. Goldschmid said in an SEC Historical Society interview he knew he wanted to be a lawyer from the time he was 12. He earned a degree in 1964 from SIPA and another in 1965 from the Law School. Goldschmid joined the Law School faculty in 1970 and became the Dwight Professor of Law in 1984. He was general counsel of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 1998 to 1999 and a special senior adviser to the chairman, Arthur Levitt Jr., in 2000. Goldschmid, a Democrat, was named to the SEC by President George W. Bush in 2002, just after the President had signed one of the most sweeping federal securities laws ever enacted, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. He was a commissioner from 2002 to 2005. After he returned to the Law School to teach antitrust and corporate and securities law, Goldschmid was also a policymaking consultant. He is survived by his wife, Mary; and sons, Charles ’99, LAW’04; Paul BUS’06, LAW’06; and Joseph BUS’14, LAW’14.

— *Lisa Palladino*

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15
AD DEADLINE FOR
Spring 2016 issue:
Friday, January 15, 2016

corequiz



EILEEN BARROSO

So you made it through Contemporary Civilization and can still quote from *The Odyssey*. But how much do you know about the Core Curriculum as an institution?

1. When was the Core Curriculum created?
2. When was Humanities A, or Literature Humanities as it is now called, added?
3. When did Art Humanities and Music Humanities become required, rather than optional?
4. What books have been on the Lit Hum syllabus from its inception to the present, without interruption?
5. This book had been on the Lit Hum syllabus since the course's inception but was dropped this year.
6. Was Contemporary Civilization ever a two-year requirement?
7. Who was the first female author to be included as required reading on the Lit Hum syllabus?
8. Which two longtime faculty members were co-recipients, in 1993, of the first award for Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum?
9. When was the Core expanded to require courses in cultures not covered by Contemporary Civilization and Lit Hum?
10. Not counting the Bible, which has had 16 books on the Lit Hum syllabus, name the two authors who head the list with 12 of their works being required at one time or another.

Sources: Core Curriculum website (college.columbia.edu/core) and *An Oasis of Order: The Core Curriculum at Columbia College* by Timothy P. Cross GSAS'98.

Answers: page 75.



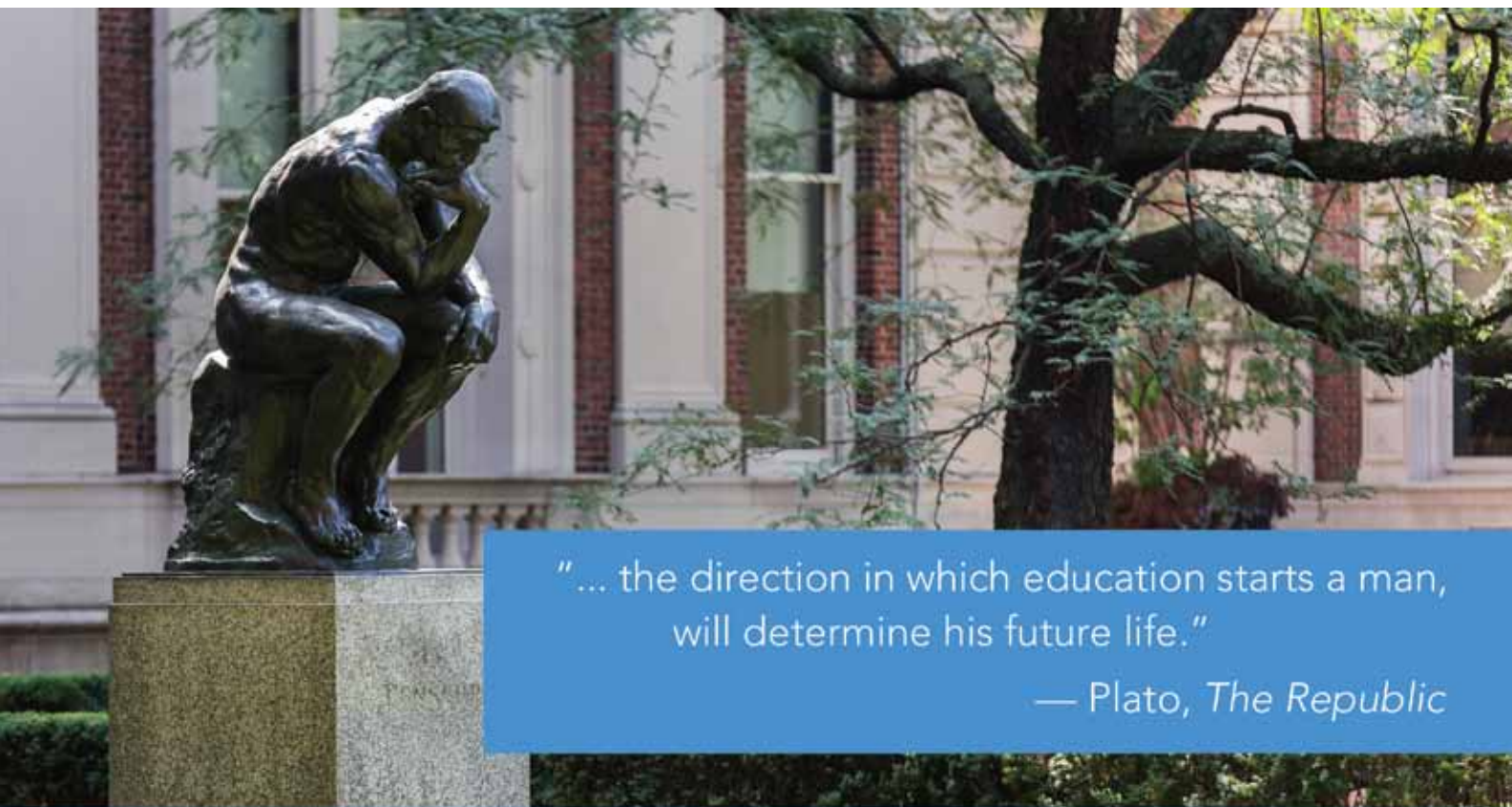
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