

# THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE



MAR|APR19

## Mariette Pathy Allen GFA'65: Pioneering Photographer of Transgender Life

**What We Get Wrong about Virality**

**Final Four Frenzy Remembered**

**Ill-Fated "Filibuster"**

**William Walker M1843**



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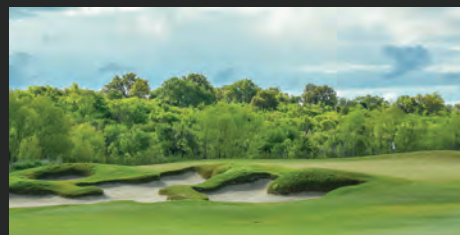
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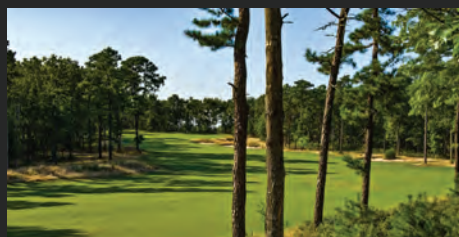
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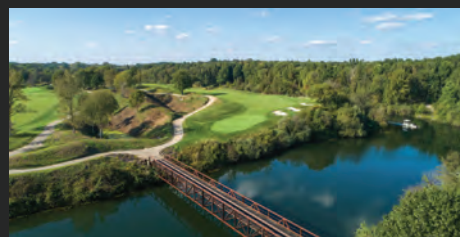
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Mariette Pathy Allen GFA'65  
"Bob becoming Malinda." 1982.  
From *Transformations*.

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By Myles Karp

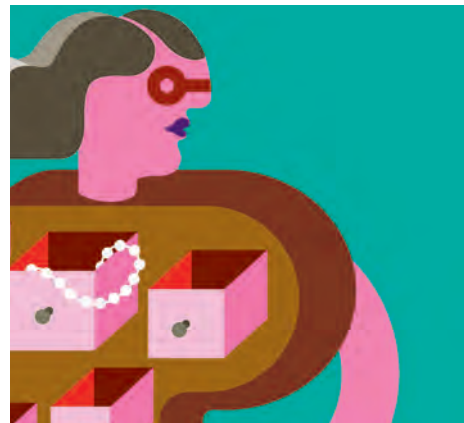


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# THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE

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# Fateful Moments

**O**n her website, the photographer Mariette Pathy Allen GFA'65 has described the photo that appears on page 34 this way: "The moment I started on my exploration." In this issue's cover story, "Beyond the Binary," frequent contributor Molly Petrilla C'06 shares the details of that fateful moment in 1978 (no spoilers here) and traces the extraordinary artistic journey that proceeded from it.

Allen's groundbreaking first book—1989's *Transformations*—illuminated the community then known only as "cross-dressers," from glamor shots to casual gatherings to intimate family portraits, while her 2003 follow-up *The Gender Frontier* charted the growing openness and pride of the trans community and push for transgender rights. More recently, she has continued her exploration on a global stage, with books set in Cuba and in Burma and Thailand.

In reporting the article, Molly interviewed some of Allen's portrait subjects, art scholars, and admirers of her work like Penn LGBT Center Director Erin Cross Gr'10 and Zackary Drucker, a producer on the Amazon series *Transparent*, which used *Transformations* for back-

ground research. "For me, as a millennial trans person who didn't experience the '70s and '80s," Drucker told Molly, "Mariette is crucial to helping me locate my own history."

Molly also talked with Allen

**"I began at a time when I really was needed, in many ways. Now I am not."**

about her childhood, when she felt out of place both at home and at school; her happy years at Penn's then-School of Fine Arts finding her way as a photographer; and her charged relationship with the New York art world. And Allen spoke frankly about the impact changing attitudes surrounding representation have had on her work: "The focus now is that transgender people should photograph transgender people ... I began at a time when I really was needed, in many ways. Now I am not."

Aside from that issue, the article also notes that technology—digital cameras, social media—has altered how members of the trans community can portray themselves and communicate

with each other. Ever since Malcolm Gladwell's 2000 book *The Tipping Point* popularized the idea, it's become conventional wisdom that the way behavior spreads—everywhere, but the internet is a compelling case—is best compared to an epidemic (thus the term "going viral").

But Penn sociologist Damon Centola has a different view, which senior editor Trey Popp lays out in "The Virality Paradox." Key to his perspective is his childhood spent tagging along with his activist parents as they attended protests and otherwise advocated for various not necessarily popular causes, along with his own experience of community service and research on organizing efforts such as the civil rights movement.

While the virus model may explain actions—sharing a cat video, say—where the effort required is minimal and the stakes involved are low, in many other cases spreading behavior is a lot harder than sneezing. (Citing a local example, Trey contrasts the hundreds of students who indicated on Facebook that they were going to a protest against reduced hours at Huntsman Hall to the handful that actually showed up.)

Forty years ago, a contagion stronger than any internet meme swept Penn's campus. In "The Outsiders," Dave Zeitlin C'03—a longtime freelance contributor who joins us as associate editor with this issue (Welcome, Dave!)—recalls the fever of excitement associated with the 1978–79 men's basketball team's trip to

the NCAA Final Four. He also caught up with head coach Bob Weinbauer, star forward Tony Price W'79, and other key players on the team, who returned to campus for a tribute at the Palestra during the Penn–Princeton game on January 12.

Finally, moving from heroes to villain, we have "William Walker's Dark Destiny." Writer Myles Karp C'12 stumbled on Walker's story shortly after moving to Costa Rica and catching sight of a T-shirt bearing the inscription "William Walker was a punk ass bitch."

Intrigued, he learned that Walker M1843 had gained popular acclaim in the US—and ignominy throughout Central America—as a "filibuster," a term then associated with a breed of "guerilla expansionists" who deployed the logic of manifest destiny to seize foreign territory.

At one point, exploiting a civil war in Nicaragua, Walker took control of the country, installing himself as president and prompting Costa Rica to declare war. The tide turned when—legend has it—Costa Rican national hero Juan Santamaría (still celebrated annually on April 11) sacrificed his life to set fire to Walker's stronghold. Walker escaped but was later captured attempting another land grab in Honduras, where he was executed by firing squad in 1860.





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#### Relief from “Cyber-Frenzy”

I thoroughly enjoyed the article by Linda Willing, “A Woman of Letters” [“Expert Opinion,” Jan/Feb 2019].

Like her, I send handwritten letters/notes through regular mail. This is done to avoid transmitting messages on the internet, an impersonal and very *anti-social* media, in my opinion.

People are so spellbound by the cyber-frenzy which seems to dominate our era that they overuse it. Many have forgotten the beauty of handwritten words (ink on paper) conveying how we care about each other as human beings.

Thankfully, there are still those like Ms. Willing who have not forgotten.

*Frank A. Fratoe Gr’74, Fredericksburg, VA*

#### Spreading the Word (By Hand)

I so much enjoyed Linda Willing’s “A Woman of Letters.” Like her, I had a mother who insisted on thank-you notes, but I think the letter writing habit really got its start in the need to communicate with school friends over the summer and camp friends over the winter. I also loved stationery and enjoyed buying it, even keeping samples of my favorite pieces once a box was used up. It’s frustrating to no longer have the need for even note cards, or the chance to select the most appropriate letter paper for the recipient.

I do text and email, but I think of these more as substitutes for phone calls. I draw the line at e-cards and won’t even open them. At least around Christmas and birthdays I have the pleasure of sending and receiving hand-addressed envelopes.

I think I will make copies of Linda’s article and send it to certain friends—inside of actual, handwritten letters!

*Jill Becker CW’64, Lambertville, NJ*

#### Past Preserved in Letters

I was so pleased to read the article about letters and letter writing by Linda Willing. I am a proud believer in the power of the art form and glad to see it get some recognition.

Letter writing has brought me joy since 1985. I have done it far less often with the advent of email but on special occasions, for special people, I’ll make the extra effort ... in cursive on white lined paper!

I still have two shoe boxes containing old letters I received through the years. A vast majority of them are from my peak letter-writing years of 1985–1988 (my senior year in high school and first couple years at Penn). There are letters from maybe 10 people in there, one of whom I see regularly (my sister), some others I’m sure I’ll never see again. There are a couple from my freshman year roommate Ted Katramados W’90. Is it overly sentimental, silly, or even ridiculous of me to still have these boxes after 30-plus years and many moves? I never had the heart to discard them. They are me, a past version at least. I was glad to read in Linda Willing’s article that someone she knew produced a 10-year-old letter from her.

I am certain that my letter writing days will continue, and if I receive a few too, that would be great.

*Greg Landry W’90, Erdenheim, PA*

#### FERPA Endangers Students

Penn’s appointment of the Ivy League’s first Chief Wellness Officer [“Gazetteer,” Jan/Feb 2019] is clearly a sign of the times, acknowledging the problems that can no longer be ignored—with more suicides on campuses, students getting sidelined by depression, abuse of drugs and alcohol, and pervasive feelings of helplessness, hopelessness, and worthlessness that contribute to so many of our children finding themselves at risk.

As parents of four children, we have experienced this during the past year with our youngest child, who was attending another university. I am hopeful that the University of Pennsylvania has clearly rallied around this challenge and obviously taken important steps to address the “staggering number of suicides” (among other profound signs that this generation is in pain) and that other schools will quickly follow suit.

As they do and Penn continues to grow its program, I want to know: Where are the parents and what role is being fashioned for them? When our three older children were students in university as well as graduate school programs, we had contact with their schools through paper mail occasionally; they shared grades with us and we were very aware of their progress, their frustrations, and were always able to be there to help and guide them as parents should. With our youngest, our son, this was not the case and there was *no contact* with any office in the school, even though we reached out to try to have such. This is due to the



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Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects the privacy of students' educational records—but leaves the parents and supportive structure no recourse when said student is in trouble. Our children are our dependents, we are paying exorbitant amounts of money for them to have their college experience, and we have no one to contact when they are in trouble and hiding it from us. What is decidedly wrong with this picture?

While chronologically they may have squeaked into some type of quasi-adulthood, the reality is that a significant number of college students do not have the skills to negotiate the problems that confront them without guidance counselors, parents being contacted, and grades being sent home. We had to rely on what our son was telling us, and he chose not to tell us the truth. Then when his problems mounted to the point that he did not have the skill sets or personal resources needed to address them—and had absorbed the message conveyed to him that he is an adult and his parents do not need to know what is occurring—it was too late and there could have been a disastrous ending to this story.

We are among the lucky ones. Thanks to ongoing contact, an extremely close family that stays on top of each other (in spite of his supposed independence), and the intervention of non-university adults, our son was saved from his own worst nightmare and certainly ours. Yet, when I contacted the university he attended, there was no response.

Until there are serious discussions and considerations of how parents can be kept in the loop in the same way as years ago, I fear that a wellness officer and any number of counselors, no matter how qualified and well-intentioned, will not be enough to address the real issue of our children being given a freedom they are not ready for. Please include the parents in your wellness equation.

Saundra Sterling Epstein CW'75 GED'76  
GrEd'83, Elkins Park, PA

**Biased Telling of Very Important Story**

Your article, "Confirmation and Its Discontents" ["Gazetteer," Jan/Feb 2019] expresses much dismay over the conduct and outcome of the hearings to confirm Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court. Never mind, of course, that there wasn't a single human being who could corroborate a single one of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's claims; the author chose to make no mention of that bit of what would seem to me to be rather relevant information. How does such a biased telling of a very important story serve the common good?

Emilio Bassini W'71 C'71 WG'73, New York

**Progressive Inability to Listen**

The *Gazette* looks more like MSNBC every day. The hit piece on the Kavanaugh confirmation was typical of the Progressive inability to even listen to the possible other side of a position. Penn's Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program hosted Anita Hill and Kimberle Crenshaw, an advisor to Ms. Hill in 1992. Nobody from the other side of the Kavanaugh debate? No males present?

Then to whine to the Penn readership that Ford was "given less than a week to gather evidence." But it was Ford and her Democratic "allies" who withheld her accusation for six months before dropping it during the last two days of hearings. If Ford wanted justice, the accusations should have been given in July for a thorough investigation.

The *Gazette* also snidely referred to "multiple allegations" against Kavanaugh. Multiple allegations do not make any of the allegations more truthful. An allegation is still just an allegation ... not a *fact*.

Not arranging more balanced seminars is a disservice to Penn students. Surely a \$70,000 tuition can pay for another viewpoint.

Sean P. Colgan C'77, Napier, New Zealand

**Learning Objective No. 1**

President Amy Gutmann's soul-searching column, "Lessons in Leadership" ["From College Hall," Jan/Feb 2019] men-



tions two Penn Presidential Professors, Joe Biden and Jeb Bush. She describes them as among “the world’s foremost experts.” In a particular sense, this may hold for Mr. Biden, but not for Mr. Bush.

Biden overcame severe family and personal adversity to attain high and long-standing political office as a US senator and vice president. He is certainly expert at rising from the depths of despair to political success. Let us wish he shares the life factors responsible for his rise up.

Former Florida Governor Bush’s eight years in office featured passion for improving public education but no life-altering achievements, such as mass movement of minorities into higher education, establishment of black community safety, or greatly improved job opportunities for all. His political career went down in flames during the 2016 Republican presidential primaries. His professorship is a strange selection.

In mentioning mass murders of recent (Pittsburgh synagogue) and distant (Nazi Holocaust) vintages in her column, President Gutmann reminds us that evil intentions afflict far too many people. If the University community learns from presidential professors the importance of respecting each human life and spreads that message throughout their own lives, prospects for peaceful humanity are improved.

In the University virtue of “truth-telling,” this is learning objective No. 1.

*Richard Masella D’73, Boynton Beach, FL*

### Practice the Golden Rule

Amy Gutmann’s editorial reminded me that in addition to her advocacy of all Americans having equal opportunities and our need to protect the environment, we also need significant improvement in how we treat one another. Because of our insistence on doing whatever each of us thinks is right in our own minds, America is approaching anarchy. Political intolerance and acrimony have reached a fever pitch. Instead of demanding the freedom to do what we “want” to do, our desire should be for freedom to do what

we “ought” to do. This admonition comes from both the Hebrew and Christian Bible—that people are not inherently good, and all of us striving to achieve our own selfish interests leads to trouble. Author and social critic Os Guinness described our human dilemma best: without virtue, freedom cannot be preserved, and without faith, virtue can’t be preserved. All of us, including our political leaders—left, right, and in the middle—need to practice the Biblical admonition of the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

*Neal Hunt WG’68, Raleigh, NC*

### Revolutionary Lessons

The Jan/Feb 2019 issue excelled in the number of quality stories, and the “Lessons in Leadership” column spoke volumes in listing the leaders speaking at Penn, with one significant omission.

The interview with Patrick Spero, author of *Frontier Rebels: The Fight for Indepen-*

*dence in the American West, 1765–1776* [“Arts”], is of particular interest at this time, as attention to the Black Boys is an important lesson to the many cross-currents among colonials that continue to make the history of the Revolution and its origins fertile ground for discovery. Reading of the exploits of this group in Pennsylvania during the Revolution brings feelings of pride in their spirit, while their attitudes on Indian removal and antagonism towards the Eastern elite seem to presage the nativist movement that returns from time to time, even today.

In the aftermath of the Revolutionary War, I wonder if Spero found the Black Boys joining (perhaps leading) the Whiskey Rebellion, as the essential taxes espoused by Treasury Secretary Hamilton ran against the grain of fiery independence as defined in the villages of Pennsylvania.

Thanks for one more great edition; Franklin would be proud, indeed.

*Lee Purcell G’68, New Bern, NC*

untold news

“Israel is, by many measures, the country, relative to its population, that’s done the most to contribute to the technology revolution.”

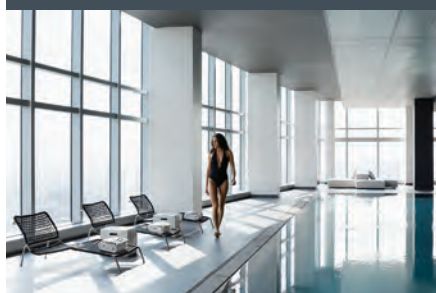
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## Pleasant Surprise

It was a pleasant surprise when I saw one of the postcards from my collection, which is now at Penn's archives, used as an illustration for the "Old Penn" feature in the Jan/Feb 2019 issue.

This very rare postcard shows a dormitory room in a fashionable Victorian décor as a typical Penn student dorm room, a home away from home for "Bruce, Class of '07."

The Skaler Postcard Collection, collected over 40 years, shows University City and Spruce Hill as they looked circa 1910 in real photo postcards.

Anyone who wants to restore their West Philadelphia home should check the Penn archives and may find a real photo postcard of their house the way it looked one hundred years ago.

*Robert M. Skaler Ar'59, Cheltenham, PA*

## Lawyers Turning Comics Common

Your article on Liz Glazer, a law professor turned stand-up comedian ["Alumni Profiles," Jan/Feb 2019] caught my attention. As a comedian also serving as the executive director of the Ivy League of Comedy, I've run across a number of attorneys who became comedians. It's actually not an uncommon career path. Just in the Ivy League, Dan Naturman W'91 and Talia Gil Reese C'97 are Penn alumni. Harvard has given us Karen Bergreen and (the late) Greg Giraldo. Jeff Kreisler went to Princeton. All are attorneys who became comics. I'm a Penn alumnus—a banker turned comedian, although for some reason people seem to think that I used to be a lawyer. And I object to that.

I don't know the optimum number of lawyers, but the world could always use more comedians.

*Shaun Eli Breidbart W'83, Scarsdale, NY*

## Forbid US Interference in Elections

My conclusion from Richard Clarke's review of Kathleen Hall Jamieson's book *Cyberwar* ["Arts," Jan/Feb 2019] is that now is the time for us to write or email our senators and representatives telling

them to introduce a resolution forbidding any US government agency from interfering in the elections of other countries or sponsoring coups in other countries.

*Eliot Kenin C'61, Martinez, CA*

## Apologia for Hillary

I haven't read Kathleen Hall Jamieson's book *Cyberwar* but it appears that both she and Richard Clarke, through his review, are presenting another apologia for Hillary's failure to win three key states in 2016. They stand firmly inside the liberal bubble with Hillary and condescendingly point their finger of blame at "non-college-educated white audiences," "African Americans," and "Haitian Americans," not explaining how these segments of the population had the time, inclination, or wherewithal to engage with political social media while trying to survive in President Obama's economy.

Clarke and Jamieson also float a couple logical inconsistencies. They say that insufficiently educated whites and minorities were susceptible to laughable fake political postings but were joined by Green party voters in falling for Russian propaganda. I am sure that most Green party voters are well-educated liberals and therefore don't fit their thesis, but are included out of pique that votes for Jill Stein, Green party candidate for president, drew off support for Hillary. They also aver that the Russian cyber intrusions were and are state of the art and hard to detect. So, basically they are saying that the Russians' weapons delivery system is state of the art or better, but their ammunition is poor and defective except for their categories of vulnerable targets. So we are dealing with an adversary that has the advanced technical knowhow to develop sophisticated cyber delivery systems but with poor social media munitions. How clever can the Russians be if they cannot develop believable "bank shots" off of legitimate social media political posts?

*John O'Donnell GEE'74, Jenkintown, PA*









## Dessert #2

“When I went home, I wanted decadence.”

By Colin Lodewick

I drove home from the Union League Cafe every night covered in butter and thinking too much about crepes. I thought about crepes folded like blankets around cream and supremed orange segments. I thought about the shatter of creme brûlée, the arrangement of macarons on a dish, profiteroles. I heard a rumor that the head chef went home and could only eat a simple fried egg on bread. After entire days and nights enveloped in the kitchen’s pungent fog, he couldn’t handle anything rich.

When I went home, I wanted decadence.

In my daydreams I was a sous chef caramelizing shallots and chiffonading sage. But in reality I was a busboy who

spent shifts running between the dining room and a cramped vestibule where I manned a gigantic, sputtering espresso machine. Unforgiving, it scalded me with unexpected belches of steam as servers crowded around me shouting orders I needed to fulfill *immediately*.

My summer began with modest hopes. I wanted, first, to go home. I also wanted to feel useful, or to at least learn more about my interests. I worked twice a week at a small arts nonprofit in Brooklyn, doing communications work for a stipend so small it only covered my MetroNorth rides through coastal Connecticut. Back in New Haven I signed on as an arts reporter for a hyper-local newspa-

per. Indulging in these two underpaid positions, I needed another job to support myself. So I was a busboy, and synthesized a life between the three.

In a city known for its grungy, ancient pizzerias, the Union League Café stands out as a space of elite dining. Half-moon stained glass windows in the dining room filter light through scenes from American history. A plaque by the fireplace explains that the building stands on the site of a homestead George Washington once visited.

My uniform was a crisp white shirt, black pants, black shoes, black socks, and a black bow tie. I was made to memorize a ritualistic list of other requirements. Do not speak to the patrons. Only serve from the right. Clear the table only by beginning with the setting of the eldest female guest. I learned to distinguish dessert forks from salad forks by the indentation of the tines, how to refill glasses of water imperceptibly. I learned to be invisible while constantly present, ready to anticipate any need. I rebelled by wearing socks in a dark shade of red.

Under pressure, I learned to do little things very quickly, all while distracted by the food emerging and disappearing around me. Servers yelled obscenities if I fired an espresso too early, its thin film of bitter foam dying away before it reached the dining room. Servers yelled if I poured steamed milk into a latte from too high up, the liquids mixing instead of forming tricolor stripes of milk, coffee, and foam. While coffee oozed out of the machine, I rapidly donned latex gloves to massacre huge blocks of butter into identical triangle. If I was too slow, servers hooted and yelled.

As I floated between the vestibule and the tables, I watched guests dissect huge plates of oysters nested in strings of seaweed, canard au poivre, mountains of fingerling potatoes blessed with herb aioli. I never got closer than that observation—the staff meal I infrequently received consisted of a spinach salad topped with a cut of plain, dry chicken. On a day off, I drove



to a restaurant supply store and bought four small ramekins. If I cleaned up messes during the day and left at night smelling like coffee grounds, I deserved something beautiful at home, alone.

It became a ritual. For weeks, I crept into my house after midnight and pulled the cooled ceramic dishes of custard from the fridge. I experimented. My mother's half-and-half yielded a more tender mouthfeel than whole milk or heavy cream. Cinnamon didn't work—it resulted in a textured surface that burned under fire. Using my father's decades-old blowtorch, I lit up the dark kitchen as I melted paper thin layers of granulated sugar. I waited a minute for it to harden and then cracked it with a sharp tap from a spoon. I compared the taste of the creme brûlée to yesterday's. And then I went to sleep.

My two other summer jobs lined up with what I thought I wanted to do with my life. I study English, I thought, so I should do something with writing. But New Haven's arts scene slows to a crawl in the summer, so my newspaper reporting led to only two published stories. At the Brooklyn arts nonprofit I sometimes interviewed artists about their work—a practice that left me feeling distinctly close to meaningfulness, but not close enough. I spent most of my hours copyediting grant applications and designing colorful GIFs to embed in newsletters. During lunch breaks I entertained the other interns with stories from the restaurant.

In the ecosystem of the Union League Café, at least I was an essential employee—not just an accessory intern. Away from my lonely custard fantasy, I made friends with the servers and stood in the dining room expressionless, feeling my power grow along with my mastery of the restaurant's rhythms. Pending their moods, the servers at the ends of their shifts divided cash tips among the bussers.

One afternoon, I watched the world's most beautiful macaron sit on the dining room's red marble counter for over an hour. By then, I thought I knew everything that was happening on the dining

floor at all times. I convinced myself that the macaron was ordered by mistake, that I would be doing my job to clear it away. Using the skills of discreetness I'd acquired, I slipped the macaron and its engraved silver tray into the dishwasher's station. In a fluid motion I placed it in my mouth and dropped the tray on a pile of other dirty dishes. It was filled with raspberry jam. I walked out happy.

"What are you eating?" the manager demanded upon seeing me emerge.

"A leftover macaron," I replied.

After a long and cruel reprimand, I fled to the basement. Most staff members found refuge down there in the single bathroom, where a framed photograph of black beluga caviar hung askew on a hook above the toilet and the air was thick with lemon-scented air freshener to mask the smell of cigarettes. I found myself a few feet further down the hall, standing in the walk-in

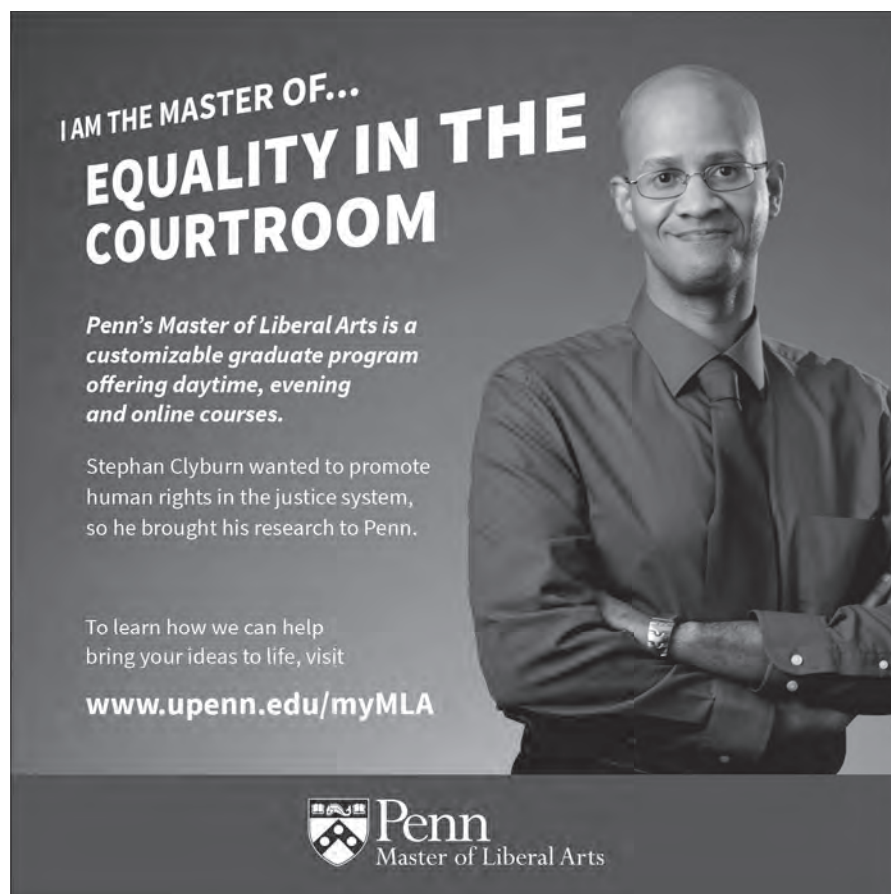
refrigerator. I cooled and calmed down among plastic-wrapped halves of yellow-flesh watermelon, stacked bricks of imported butter, and drawers full of citrus. After a moment, I returned humbled to the dining room to perform again the image of perfect service.

Toward the end of the summer, I began to write a fancy imaginary menu for a fancy imaginary restaurant. I never finished the document and only got so far as to describe Dessert #2. "A feeling of fullness delivered to the center, fulfilled by a volley of pleases and thanks. Folded into a rich batter scented with the love of your mother."

A dessert that's not a food but a feeling of contentment. That's what I was looking for, with my three jobs, my creme brûlée, and that beautiful macaron, but couldn't find.

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Colin Lodewick is a College senior.




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# About That Jewelry ...

My mother emerges from the chrysalis of wifedom.

By Cynthia Kaplan

A couple of Thanksgivings ago, while my 80-something father, my husband, my brother, his wife, and our assorted teenaged children slumped on the living room sofas in a post-dinner fugue state, my mother cornered me in the foyer. She spoke in a low, ominous tone, just above a whisper, as though she were proposing the kind of large-scale drug deal that takes place in an empty airplane hangar.

"I need you to take a look at the jewelry and tell me what you want."

"When?" I asked.

"Soon."

Now, there is jewelry looking and there is *jewelry looking*. My maternal grandmother, Lillian, was an advocate of the former. Every childhood visit to her white-carpeted Florida apartment included a complete inventory of cocktail rings in the shapes of flowers and snakes, bangles to be worn in stacks with cunning three-quarter-sleeve jackets, and earrings with garnets or topaz that could choke a medium-sized dog. The selection, laid out on my grandmother's bed, never varied, yet I was thrilled every time, particularly by the grand finale, a gold and ruby encrusted

necklace and bracelet set straight out of *The Borgias*.

"One day," she would say with glee, "this will be yours."

My mother and I partook of no such activities. Her jewelry was boringly tasteful, and I had plenty of other things to do at home, such as memorize the lyrics to "American Pie" and bake inedible cakes in my Easy Bake Oven. The only time I saw my mother's jewelry was on her actual body or when I sat on her bed on a Saturday night and watched her dress to go out. She kept everything in soft leather cases, lined up like sleeping dachshunds in her top dresser drawer, and while she took the hot curlers out of her hair I would open them, unzipping each pouch to feel the cool metal links of her bracelets and snapping and unsnapping the long leather noodles that held her rings.

There was only one reason I could imagine that might incite an emergency viewing of this bounty, so when I got home, I put our Thanksgiving leftovers in the freezer and called my father.

"What's wrong with Mom?" I asked.

"I can't tell you or she'll kill me."

This was just the response I was hoping for. While my mother will take a secret to her grave, my father never met one he couldn't spill.

"She's got a little thing."

"What kind of thing?" I asked.

"A thing. We're waiting for some tests to come back. She doesn't want you to know."

"That's crazy."

"You can ask her yourself about it, but don't tell her you heard it from me."

I did ask her, and she said she was fine. Of course, my mother uses the word "fine" as a synonym for an assortment of moods and conditions, up to but not including death. Just like there's jewelry looking and *jewelry looking*, there's fine and there's *fine*.

"I have a little thing," she said. "Don't tell anyone."

Every few years now my mother has the impression that Death may be imminent. Either hers or my father's. She does not share her concern with us but instead is-



sues a flurry of tense directives. Arrangements must be made! These include, of course, the future ownership of her jewelry, and the question of who wants the plug pulled and when (my mother, immediately if not sooner; my father, *Not so fast, mister!*). There is also a list of *further* directives written in her looping, illegible cursive on college ruled paper and stowed in her night table drawer. My father is mostly concerned we will be able to decipher the Alan Turing-worthy enigma of his many and varied computer passwords: the grandkids' birthdays in chronological order and in reverse chronological order. Mom's birthday with two asterisks. Their anniversary plus their birthdays minus something he doesn't remember.

There is little warning for these occasional forays into estate planning. One reason for this is that my mother's code of parental ethics includes not troubling one's children with sad and sorry tales. Another is that both of my parents are old-school hush-hush about mortality. Someone had a procedure, maybe a smidgeon of surgery, a pinch of cancer? Why should everyone worry? Who wants to make a thousand phone calls?

A week later we knew. They'd examined the thing, and she was going to be fine.

"Do you still want me to look at your jewelry?" I asked her.

"I guess it can wait."

I called my brother, whom I had secretly told about the thing.

"The death is off for now," I said.

**This past Thanksgiving**, once again, my mother pulled me aside. "I'd like you to take me to look at cemeteries."

It turned out that my mother's interest in purchasing graves for my father and herself, unlike the viewing of her jewelry, stemmed, for once, from a well-founded foreboding. In three weeks, my father would go into the hospital to have a Thing with a capital T removed. This latest Thing was potentially dire. My mother was admirably composed while we awaited test results and contended with the prospect

of unexpected complications.

"There's a cascade effect," said my mother. "You go in for some big problem, and they fix it, *maybe*. Either way it gives birth to other problems, some that were there already and get worse, or brand new ones. Your father isn't young."

Someone should tell all the old people they don't have to say they aren't young.

You might wonder how it is that two old Jews never got around to getting cemetery plots. For now, chalk it up to the fact that my father, despite his various infirmities, doesn't think he needs one. He wants to be cremated and have his ashes sprinkled on a golf course or on the sidewalk in front of a Nathan's hot dog stand. My mother has another theory.

"He doesn't think he is ever going to die."

My father has a thousand doctors for this express purpose. Paradoxically, my mother seems to have outrun death thus far by having no doctors at all.

Willowbrook, Ferncliff, Woodlawn. The names of the cemeteries my mother suggested were practically identical to the names of the all-girls summer camps she and my father took me to see the summer after I turned eight. This was just the kind of disconcerting switcheroo people say occurs as our parents age and we become involved in their care. And yet, the conjuring of happy times playing field sports on a verdant Maine camp-scape added an unseemly excitement to the prospect of touring green spaces. Then my mother said she'd like to be buried (stowed?) in a mausoleum. A simple, engraved marble square on a wall of other marble squares might be nice. Preferably Carrera, like the kitchen counters on Martha Stewart's old TV show. Ah, well.

One morning, however, before the field trip was to commence, the phone rang. At 5:15 a.m. Anyone who knows my family or knows some Jews knows they don't call each other outside the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Crack of dawn and dark of night are strictly reserved for ill-tidings.

"I'm at New York-Presbyterian, in the emergency room. Dad woke up in the

middle of the night delirious, and I had to call the ambulance."

I got dressed in the dark and told my husband I'd call him when I knew anything. I got in a taxi. My cell phone rang.

"It's on 71st and York."

When I got to the hospital I walked through the waiting room and the triage area. My mother was standing by the entrance to the nurse's station.

"Hi, Sweetheart."

She led the way to my father, who lay on a gurney in a narrow, glass-walled room, hooked up to a variety of tubes. He was asleep, or unconscious, I wasn't sure which, and very pale. I put my hand on his forehead. "Hi, Pop," I said.

"The doctor has been wonderful," said my mother. "He's young. Thank God someone is."

"What happened?" I asked.

Basically, he didn't take to the chemo, developed an infection, and now he had sepsis.

"They've asked me if Dad has a do-not-resuscitate order."

"Does he?"

"No. He wants them to do everything they can to save him. Listen," she said, "when my time comes, no tubes, no machines, no nothing. Just set me on an ice floe and push."

"You got it."

"And while we're on the subject," said my mother, "he's not getting cremated."

Just when I thought I had a handle on the directives, came this whopper.

Over my father's prostrate body, I defended his right to determine his own, post-mortem future.

"Nope," said my mother. "It's my turn to decide."

This was irrefutable. She has earned a say in her future. She has always been a feminist at heart but not necessarily in practice. She applied her practical abilities and intellectual rigor to raising two children and supporting her husband through the highs and occasional lows of running a small business. I believe her when she tells me she has no (well, few) regrets—she

# Against the Fire

## California burning.

By Daniel Bercu

was a product of her time—but I have always believed her gifts were not put to full use as a mother, housewife, and helpmate. My mother possesses the rare ability to be both pragmatic and kind when everything is going to hell, and she would have been an excellent social worker or first responder. She also would have made a terrific lawyer, possibly personal injury, because she can really hold a grudge.

The truth is that my mother is not that concerned about her dachshunds of jewelry. She knows I don't even want them. I wear earrings from Claire's and a silver ring made for me by a friend and tied to a piece of black string around my neck. I'm not even sure my mother cares that much where she is buried, so long as it's not with her in-laws. Rather, she is making her wishes known, in all the ways she can, that when the time comes, when it all goes to Hell, *puh puh puh*, everyone will be alright, and everything will be in its place. Including her and my father. And, if she says that she does not intend to lay in the cold hard ground/marble drawer alone, so be it.

I take back what I said about respecting my father's wishes. My mother has emerged from the chrysalis of wifedom, and I am brimming with pride.

**A few days** after we bring him home from the hospital, I lay on the bed with my father, looking at animal videos on YouTube, while my mother is in the kitchen making us grilled cheese sandwiches. We watch one with fainting goats and laugh. These are the goats that when you frighten or surprise them, their legs become rigid and they fall over onto their sides or backs. Moments later, they hop back up, as though nothing happened. Sure, it's a metaphor, and you could say my father is the goat.

But you'd be wrong.

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Cynthia Kaplan C'85 is the author of two books of essays, some films, and a bit of TV. You can find her at [www.cynthiakaplan.com](http://www.cynthiakaplan.com). Her father is Jack B. Kaplan W'53.

California exists as a target for catastrophe. Wildfires and mudslides erupt from hills that tremble with tectonic pressure while population growth strains the land. The constant action drew me west after graduating from Penn in 1987.

My new home lived up to its reputation for chaos. Within five years I experienced the Northridge earthquake, fires and floods in Malibu, and the Los Angeles riots. But the next 20 years passed almost quietly, until November 8, 2018.

My family woke that morning to news from Thousand Oaks, which lies eight sparsely settled miles from our home on the far western edge of inland Malibu, where a gunman had killed 14 people at the Borderline Bar and Grill. Not long after lunch, about 10 miles to our north, the Hill Fire ignited. Barely 20 minutes after that, this time 20 miles to our east—upwind—the Woolsey Fire broke out.

Our years in California have given us a complicated attitude toward fire. The Santa Ana winds whipped over the hillside our three children share with two huskies, seven chickens, three goats, and three sheep, carrying the telltale smell. Yet the following morning found me thinking about the consistency of my omelet. I can barely manage to change my Facebook status, let alone master the calculus of distinguishing a random blaze from a specific threat. So every Christmas we leave offerings on the doorstep of Fire Station 56—Paul Mitchell shampoo and homemade cookies we hope will protect us from the devil winds. And the rest of the year I make sure the captain's mobile number is current in our iPhones.

At 8:30 a.m. we got the first text that all of Malibu was being evacuated. This clearing out of the entire city—which spans 27 miles of coastline—had never before been ordered. Yet I was still not overly concerned. We had evacuated several times in the past, only to see the winds change and the fire pass us by. And as the frequency of fires has accelerated, so has the technology underpinning our daily lives. Years ago we struggled to cram huge metal file cabinets filled with financial information into our cars. Now most materials exist on “the Cloud,” saving critical space and time when fleeing. Having packed a few old-fashioned documents—birth certificates, Social Security cards, passport—the night before, I felt little urgency now. I finished my omelet at 10:15 a.m., threw my wallet in the truck, and helped my wife and kids pack the three other cars.

The boys loaded up their electronics, surfboards, and some signed memorabilia. I am a minimalist and took nothing. Before fleeing we drove to the top of our mountain to have one last look around. A giant mushroom cloud of smoke, over 10,000 feet tall, blocked the sun. Fifty-foot flames danced atop the adjacent ridgeline.

Now I was scared.

Only two of us were licensed drivers. Our son Hunter was 14 and had never driven more than a few miles. Yet now we hurtled down the mountain, right into the line of cars heading north on Pacific Coast Highway. The PCH was stuffed full of traffic going both directions. This gridlock, it would soon become clear, was to prevent many fire engines from entering Malibu from either direction.





View from behind our home.  
November 9th 2018.

We were lucky. Our family's exodus included a prolonged stay at the Santa Barbara Hilton, which threw open its doors to all evacuees and their pets. Our 100-pound huskies had the time of their lives. They destroyed planters of rich foliage. They drank out of fountains. They drank from toilets. They ate room service—only some of it ordered by us. From the beach we could see fire on the mountains 50 miles away. But we strained for information.

The Hill Fire, which had initially spread with frightening speed, was soon contained. But the slow-starting Woolsey Fire spun out of control, racing through 96,000 acres before meeting the Pacific Ocean. It was almost impossible to get any news. All access points to the city were blocked by California Highway Patrol deputies. The electric grid had been fried. Cell phone towers had melted. I started a group text with our six closest neighbors, one of whom—a former Blackwater military contractor—had stayed to protect his home.

He was not the only one.

Cal Fire records would later show that more than 3,200 personnel were deployed against the Woolsey Fire, commanding 418 fire engines and 19 helicopters. Yet in Malibu it felt like no one had turned up at all. The Hill Fire had sucked up many

first responders. More were dispatched to the even deadlier Camp Fire, which started the same day and reduced the town of Paradise to cinders. Meanwhile Pepperdine University had been surrounded by fire and the dean had ordered all 4,000 students to "shelter in place," spreading firefighters thinner still.

So people like our neighbor put themselves between their homes and the flames. Malibu may be synonymous with spectacular wealth, but the "Canyon Folk" who inhabit the nooks and crannies on the land side of the PCH are a world away from the multimillion-dollar manses perched above the shoreline—buffered from danger both by the highway and in some cases private firefighters. So when Jeremiah Redclay noticed coyotes fleeing on his way to work as a Hollywood set-builder, and then watched fire jump the eight-lane 101 freeway, he turned back homeward toward Latigo Canyon. For years he had attacked the grounds around his stucco home with a weed-whacker and a shovel, trying to create a 200-foot-wide fuel-free buffer around his family and his second livelihood—restoring rare oil paintings.

As his wife and children bundled possessions into their cars, Jeremiah sandwiched a 14th-century Titian between several abstract-expressionist canvases

by Arshile Gorky in the bed of his Ford F-350 pickup. Soon he and his son Elijah were helping their neighbor, Hollywood stuntman and City Councilman Jay Wagner, try to saturate his own home and grounds with water as the next house over exploded into flames. Convinced that he alone could save his home, Wagner would not leave. He would end up in intensive care at UCLA Medical Center after his house burned to the ground. Jeremiah and Elijah would lose the paintings when a drifting ember incinerated the lot, but they helped save several of their other neighbors' homes along with their own—though smoke damage drove them to sleep on the ground outside of it for four nights.

In the midst of California's most devastating wildfire season in living memory, they epitomized a new reality that is bound to shape how people will respond the next time we smell smoke: Leave and your house is gone. Stay and you *might* ensure its existence.

Our family is among the lucky ones. The hills are charred black, we need a generator for electricity, and our kids are still without a functioning high school, but our home was spared. Yet our good fortune fills me with ambivalence, given that so many others lost all they had. A layer of survivor's guilt has been deposited atop the ordinary Jewish variety—along with a creeping dread about what the future may hold. The good news is that only two people lost their lives in the firestorm. The bad news lies in the lesson many residents may take from the limited death toll. When the next fire comes, hundreds may stay to defend their turf. I don't know whether I will be one of them.

And fire is by no means the only menace in this dramatic landscape that continues to hold me in its thrall. As I tuck the kids into bed, the drumbeat of rain starts to pelt our glass windows. A steady trickle of mud flows into our street.

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Dan Bercu C'87 W'87 lives in Malibu, California.



# Finding Faust

Tackling “perhaps the most formidable translation problem” in world literature.

By Eugene Stelzig

I recently completed a translation of the most famous work by the most famous German author, *Faust, Part I* by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. It will be published this summer, joining a list of English versions that was already daunting well before I came along. Since its publication in 1808, *Faust* has been rendered in English almost too many times to keep track of. In 1932, a scholar judged Goethe’s masterpiece “perhaps the most

formidable translation problem in all the literature of the world”—yet counted 44 complete attempts in English. There have been at least half a dozen since then, several of which remain in print.

So why go to the trouble of doing yet another one? Wouldn’t that arduous task be a wasted and redundant labor? Why re-translate a classic literary text that’s already available in multiple English versions?

One answer is a merely personal one: I was up for the thrill of the challenge. During a teaching career spanning four decades, I taught English versions of the play many times in undergraduate courses. On occasion I would compare passages with the German original, and the thought would occur to me that I could do better. To test if I was merely deluding myself, I had to give it a shot.

To render Goethe’s great play into English is at once a fool’s errand and a labor of love. The best recent English translation is David Luke’s 1987 edition—and as he put it eloquently, “in the end we must acknowledge again the inherent hopelessness of the whole attempt to find an English equivalent for poetry of this order.”

So, again, why even try—especially in light of Luke’s award-winning rendition? Let me invoke the authority of Goethe himself for the most fundamental justification. In an essay on Shakespeare, he asserted that “so much has already been said about [him], that it would seem that there’s nothing left to say, and yet it is the peculiar tendency of the spirit that it perpetually motivates the spirit.” The spirit of Goethe’s dramatic poem continues to speak to us in new and changing ways, as we and our world continually change.

With the exception of a single scene, *Faust, Part I* is in verse, and most of it in rhyme. However, to translate the play consistently using rhyme, as most of the translators, including Luke, do, forces them into a straitjacket and results in inevitable distortion of the meaning of the German text, dislocation of syntax, and extra wording in order to get the rhymes. The alternative—a prose translation—is tempting, and has been done (most ably by Stuart Atkins). But the problem is that *Faust* without rhyme isn’t really *Faust*; reading such a translation is like watching a color film in black and white. Thus in my rendering of the play I have chosen a flexible alternative, employing a more or less contemporary English with some use of rhyme to make the poetry



memorable, but without any consistent use of or regular reliance on it.

My flexible approach of not doing a strictly rhymed translation is in keeping with Goethe's expressed views on the translation of classic texts. In his autobiography, *Poetry and Truth*, he praised Wieland's prose translation of Shakespeare's plays as accessible to the reader, adding: "I honor rhythm as well as rhyme, through which poetry first becomes poetry, but that which is actually deep and fundamentally effective ... is that which remains of the poet when he is translated into prose." And when in 1830 he read a new French translation of *Faust*, Goethe praised it, "even if the greater part is in prose, as very effective." He then added a remarkable declaration: "I don't like to read *Faust* in German any more, but in this French translation everything appears entirely fresh, new, and witty."

What this surprising comment suggests is that a translation, at best, can be

a refreshed and revitalized version of the original. This may in practice be an impossible ideal, but it does reflect Goethe's appreciation of such a task as a creative and regenerative process, and one that has the potential to even reinvigorate the source text. Goethe had a sophisticated and cosmopolitan understanding of literature, and his praise of the French translator (the poet Nerval) provides fuel for the argument that new translations of classic texts are necessary for new generations of readers precisely in order to bring to light anew their almost inexhaustible power. For them to stay relevant and fresh, and for their timeless and universal appeal to resonate in the *here and now*, they need to be re-translated—or re-created, as it were—every so often, again and again.

Eugene Stelzig C'66's translation of *Faust* will be published in July by Bucknell and Rutgers University Press.



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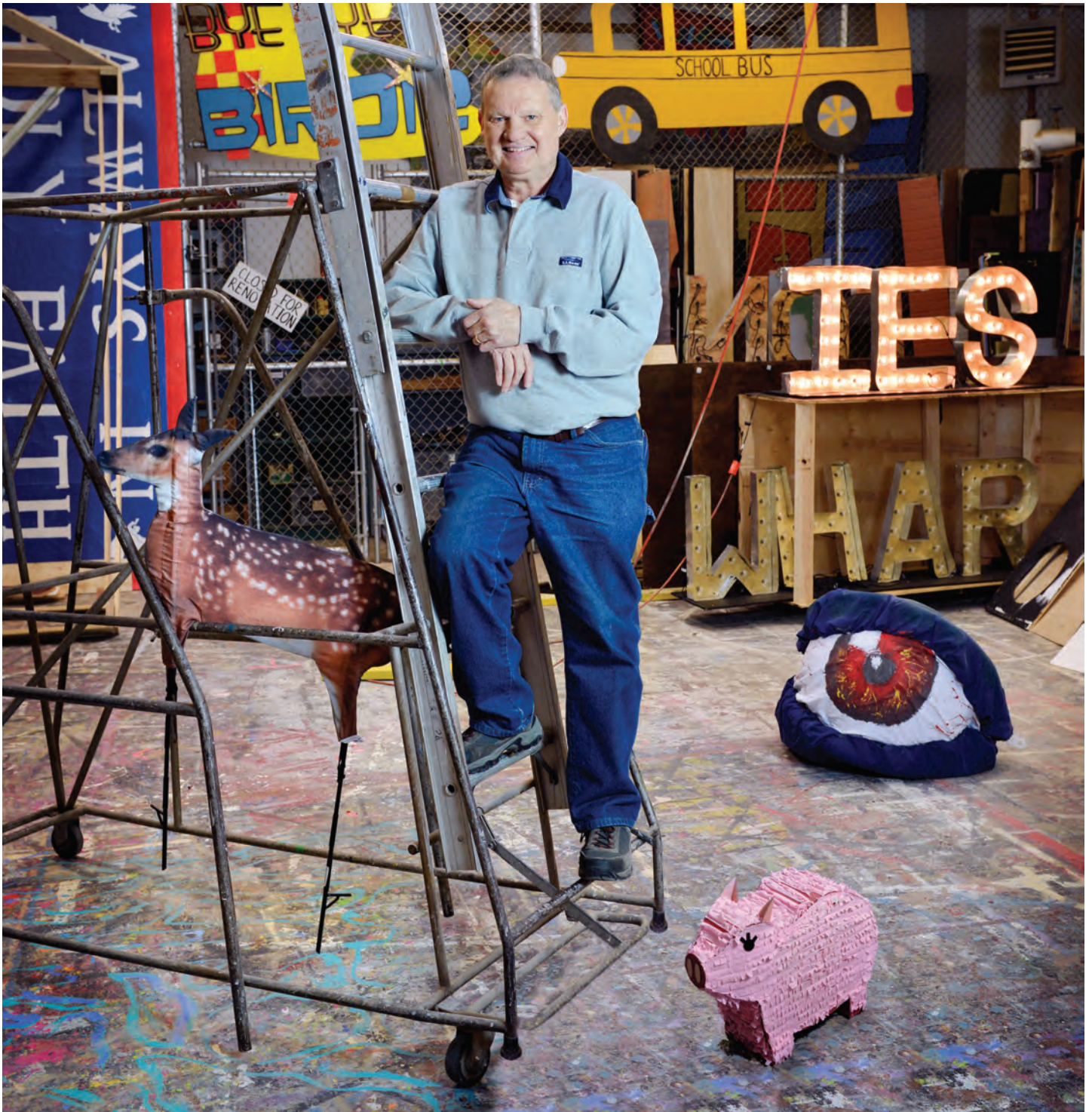
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## Peter Whinnery Is Packing Up Shop

Curtain call for the set-building guru behind hundreds of student productions.



**It's** one o'clock in the morning on a Saturday in November, and Peter Whinnery is watching students rip aluminum tape off a makeshift coffin. The students, all 30-plus of whom have spent the semester working on the Penn Players' production of *Heathers: The Musical*, are incredulous that they've finally arrived at every production's mortuary ritual: striking the set. In sleep-deprived, post-show giddiness, they drill out screws, unhinge wood flats, throw out scraps, fold up costumes, shelf props, and maybe keep a stray memento. Whinnery is overseeing it all but lets the producer and tech director—students as well—take charge. It's only a matter of time before they start redirecting questions to him.

"Ask Peter," someone will inevitably say. "Peter knows."

"It's one of the things that's gonna be hard for the next person that has this job," says Whinnery, who's retiring from his position as technical advisor for Student Performing Arts in the spring. "I just know. I mean, I've been here for 36 years, so when someone says, 'Do you have X, Y, or Z?' it's like— 'God, we used to, let me see if I can find that thing.'"

The Performing Arts Council wood shop can be an overwhelming space to navigate. It occupies the second floor of a building whose ground level serves as an apparel store for the Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College, on 41st Street between Locust and Walnut. Whinnery helped design the

space after the previous shop in Irvine Auditorium was closed in 1997, and he thought of everything. The shop has a ramp and an elevator to bring set pieces up and down. There's also a props closet, two costume rooms, a furniture room, a tool shed, and a wide, paint-splattered floor.

Whinnery has been working with his hands since childhood. His father owned a small woodworking factory in Michigan, and he learned how to use tools early. Whinnery was introduced to theater through an elective course while majoring in math at Albion College. The following summer, his professor called him up from Interlochen Arts Camp. The entire staff had gotten mononucleosis, and they badly needed someone to work at the shop: Would he be willing to take the job?

"It was room and board and 150 bucks for a month," Whinnery recalls. He was working in his father's factory at the time. "I said, 'You betcha, I'll be there tomorrow.'"

In 1982, after a master's program in Technical Theatre and Design at the University of Michigan, he came to Penn. Whinnery assumed he would stay in his first job until something better came along. "And the better came along here," he says.

What started as a nine-month gig supervising the shop in Irvine would turn into a 36-year career. Whinnery has aided student productions, taught three classes as a lecturer in theater arts (on lighting, scene, and cos-

**"Ask Peter,"  
someone will  
inevitably say.  
"Peter knows."**

tume design), and built relationships along the way. In particular, Whinnery is a close friend of InterAct Theatre founder Seth Rozin C'86 ["Profiles," Jan/Feb 2004], with whom he has worked on 46 productions.

Thanks to InterAct, Whinnery says he's enjoyed being able to pursue his original aspirations as a professional designer. That was one of the things he missed the most in the early days of his job, when he realized that being a supervisor wouldn't allow him to design on behalf of the students. Nowadays, Whinnery works as a designer across the Philadelphia area while staying busy with the demands of his Penn position, which are considerable: this Fall semester alone, there have been 21 PAC-funded productions, eight of which required a fully built set. In the Spring, there are usually even more.

Whinnery says the performing arts community has exploded in the time he's been here. Somewhat at variance with his own philosophy—"just do one or two things well, instead of a dozen things half-assed"—Penn students keep ramping up the number

of shows they do every year. So the demand for tech keeps expanding, and Whinnery helps students to stay afloat.

Their ambitions sometimes meet with the crusty skepticism of one well-versed in the gulf between dreams and practicality, but Whinnery likes the enthusiasm. He understands why newer undergraduates are so eager to try their hands at everything. As a professional designer, he's familiar with the pressure of looming deadlines and tries to pass on the *modus operandi* taught to him by his father: "Make it good enough for who it's for." In other words, if the group you're designing for doesn't care what it looks like, there's no need to sweat the details—it'll be gone in a week. Whinnery observes that this is something students tend to figure out themselves over their four undergraduate years, as they narrow their focus and learn how to manage their projects. And groups that put their souls into their productions can count on Whinnery to respond. He takes some pride watching "tenderfoots" who come in stressed and clueless emerge knowledgeable and self-assured, ready to wield a circular saw and teach others how to do it too.

So Whinnery never says no. Joshua Slatko C'00, the business manager of Mask and Wig Alumni, was a member of the stage crew during his undergrad days. He remembers a set he designed senior year, which featured a ship that looked like it had crashed into a rock. The final



set spanned Iron Gate Theatre's entire stage. "A lot of people would've said, 'You're out of your mind,'" says Slatko. "Peter said, 'It's a great idea, and here's how you do it.'"

"It really is learn by doing," says Whinnery. "You're not gonna know what it looks like until you actually put it together, and paint it, and put it on stage." Behind-the-scenes work offers opportunities for personal growth, and for things to go wrong. Whinnery calls it "community building by disaster"—like when a set is too big and the production staff has to try to tetrise the unwieldy pieces through the door, or when the paint isn't delivered on time and it's all hands-on-deck to get the set done by opening night.

"You can talk about big concepts—he certainly understands it," says Rozin of InterAct. "But what he wants to know is: What does it look like? It really comes down to something simple."

Whinnery jokes that his whole life has followed the theater cycle: you build something up, you strike it down, and then you start all over again the next semester. So in that way, he's been practicing retirement every summer—and this time, as usual, he's planning to keep things simple. But Slatko, who's helping to organize Whinnery's retirement party during Alumni Weekend, is planning to "make as big a deal of Peter as he'll let us." After all, it should be good enough for who it's for.

—Meerabelle Jesuthasan C'19

## Stuffed

When a penchant for hanging onto things crosses a clinical line.

**S**tudying hoarding has been like trying to catch a freight train, said Gail Steketee, professor and dean emerita at Boston University's School of Social Work, during a Wolf Humanities Center lecture last fall titled "Buried in Treasures: When Stuff Takes Over."

"Once we realized that hoarding was a serious problem that we needed to pay attention to, and once the research started in the late 1990s ... it just took off, and we were running as fast as we could to catch up."

Steketee is an expert on treating obsessive-compulsive spectrum conditions, specifically hoarding disorder, and she is the author of numerous books on the subject, including *Stuff: Compulsive Hoarding and the Meaning of Things*, coauthored with Randy Frost.

In fact, it was thanks to Steketee and her colleagues' research that hoarding disorder was included in the fifth edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders* in 2013, colloquially known as the bible of psychiatry. Its primary feature is difficulty discarding items, resulting in disorganized clutter, distress, and impairment.

One in 20 people in the United States has a hoarding problem, she asserted. It frequently starts in preteens

and teenagers who keep things "much, much longer" than their peers, eventually "accumulat[ing] enough so that they couldn't move around the bedroom." The disorder peaks in middle age.

People hoard clothes, shoes, newspapers, mail, food, take-out containers, plastic bags—everyday items that they can't part with or feel they will need one day. (Animal hoarding is considered a "special manifestation" of hoarding disorder, and is difficult to study, Steketee said, because after it becomes criminal, people are

usually unwilling to discuss it.) Their reasons for saving things are "the same as yours and mine," she said. The items may be sentimental, useful, or beautiful and thus hard to let go. One woman anthropomorphized her yogurt cups and felt guilty throwing them away.

Hoarding affects not only the one doing it, but also family members and the community, putting adjacent neighbors at risk of insect and rodent infestations, and creating fire hazards. Steketee told the unfortunate story of a man whose rooms and halls were so jammed that firefighters could not enter to save him when his house caught fire, and he perished in the blaze. And in a highly publicized case in the 1940s, the two Collyer brothers



were found dead in their home after their possessions collapsed on one—causing the other, who was blind and paralyzed, to die of starvation. Other people have become homeless or estranged from family members.

Hoarding often gets lumped in with obsessive-compulsive disorder, but they are two distinct mental illnesses. One of the differences, Steketee said, is that those who hoard often lack what psychiatrists call “insight.” That is, they have no awareness of their illness, as is also typically the case with patients with psychosis and bipolar disorder. This makes treatment difficult. And it is also why forced cleanouts are often upsetting to patients and can even lead to suicide attempts.

In a study of 62 elderly hoarders, social service providers reported that cleanouts by outside organizations helped only 15 percent of them. If safety or legal reasons mandate a cleanout, Steketee said, it is best to involve the afflicted person as much as possible in deciding what to keep and what to toss.

Trauma is not a typical cause of hoarding, she said, but it can sometimes play a role. “We had an instance, for example, where a woman was raped in her own home by a stranger,” Steketee explained. “She walled off the whole second floor of her house where that happened, and gradually that wall of stuff spilled into the lower floors and the whole place was covered. It was clear that was a triggering event for her.”

One common comorbid mental health problem, however, is major depressive disorder. Fifty percent of people with hoarding disorder, she said, are also depressed.

It is perhaps for this reason that Steketee and her colleagues have found cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to be so effective. CBT uses short-term goals to change thinking patterns, which in turn affects behavior. It can take about a year, but after 26 sessions of CBT, most people will no longer fit the clinical criteria for hoarding disorder.

So how do you know when your collection of Beanie Babies has crossed over into hoarding? Steketee herself admitted she collects antique fans. The difference, she said, is that collections are often themed, planned, organized, and not distressing.

“All mental illness runs on a continuum,” she said. But when people can no longer use their homes in the way that they used to—such as having nowhere to sit in the living room because the furniture is piled high with clothing, or not being able to use the stove because it’s covered in papers—that’s called impairment. That’s when you know you’ve crossed the line.

“We all have memories, and we like being reminded of things we found pleasurable,” she said, musing on the emotional resonance certain objects can have in our lives. But “in many ways, we don’t need objects for that. All we need is a reminder somewhere, sometime.” —NP

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

## Amazing Scientific Finding! (Wanna Bet?)

**Research methods in the social sciences** have come under fire in the last decade for being unreliable. In a new study, Gideon Nave, a Wharton assistant professor who specializes in decision science [“Gazetteer,” Jan/Feb 2018], finds the criticism is justified—and that online betting markets could be a handy way to distinguish solid findings from spurious ones.

Nave and his collaborators set out to reproduce the results of 21 high-profile social science studies published in *Science* or *Nature*. The researchers were unable to find evidence supporting the original findings for eight of the studies. For the other 13 they found weaker, though still consistent, evidence. They published their results in August in *Nature Human Behavior*.

“The incapacity to replicate and generalize published scientific findings undermines the very core of the process in which science accumulates knowledge,” said Nave.

Studies that failed to replicate tended to have traits in common: they involved small sample sizes, high p-values (reflecting the likelihood the results occurred by chance), and hypotheses that just sounded too good to be true. In a twist, the researchers also set up a betting market in which social scientists could guess which studies would replicate and which wouldn’t. Bettors correctly predicted the replication outcomes for 18 of the 21 studies, suggesting experts know a flimsy result when they see one.

Yet the new study wasn’t entirely gloomy about the future of human knowledge. Of the 21 studies, those conducted in the last five years replicated at higher rates than those conducted five to eight years ago. This suggests, said Nave, that social scientists have taken the criticism to heart and improved their methods. “I’d take it as another reason for cautious optimism,” he wrote on his blog. —Kevin Hartnett



## Online betting markets could be a handy way to distinguish solid findings from spurious ones.



# To Infinity and Beyond

The Digital Media Design major turns 20.

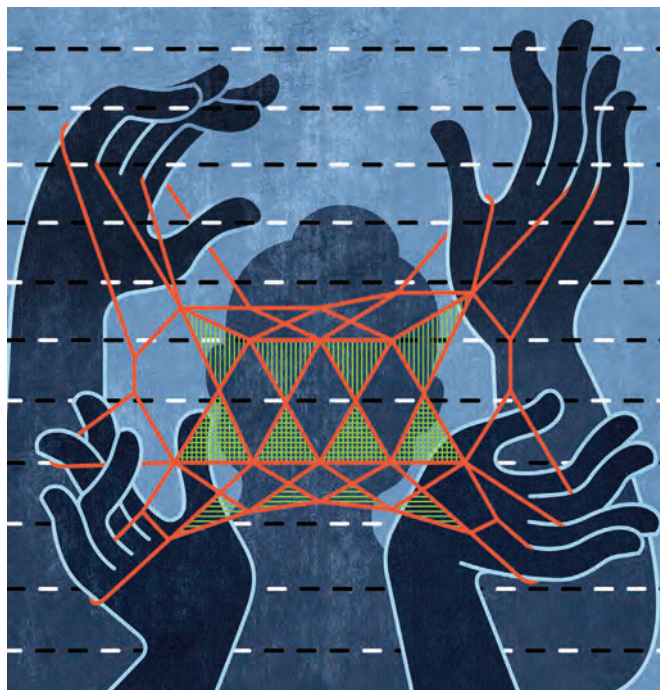
**T**hree years after *Toy Story* leapt onto movie screens as the first fully computer-animated feature film—and soon became the highest-grossing movie of 1995—Penn debuted a new major.

Housed in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Digital Media Design program launched in 1998 to prepare students for careers in computer graphics. The field was racing forward by then, as computer-generated imagery (CGI) became more sophisticated and reached further into video games, movies, and even TV commercials.

Twenty years later, Penn is still training the next generation of computer graphics experts—and while the DMD program only graduates about 25 students a year, many of them go on to work at companies that rule the field.

According to Amy Calhoun C'82, the director of integrated studies programs for the Engineering School, one in 10 technical directors at DreamWorks Animation came from Penn. A significant number of alumni have also landed at Disney, Pixar, Google, Electronic Arts, and Microsoft, and she says that roughly a quarter go into special effects.

To celebrate its double-decade, DMD invited nine alumni to speak at a panel event during Homecoming Weekend in November.



“The coolest thing about DMD is meeting people and the community-building,” said Ray Forziati EAS’04, one of the panelists. “In all three of my entertainment gigs, I’ve had DMD alumni around me. I think I brought in 10-plus DMDers to DreamWorks. I lost count, there were so many. And in my first few days at Netflix, I met three Penn grads and two of them were from DMD. We’re everywhere.”

In addition to Forziati, the panel included alumni who work at Pixar, Instagram, and Etsy; who make their own movies and animations; and who work for Major League Baseball and augmented reality start-ups.

To find out more about DMD’s evolution, *Gazette* contributor Molly Petrilla C’06 spoke with Calhoun, who has been with the program for 19 of its 20 years.

## What’s been the biggest change since DMD started?

In the years before DMD started, the only people who were studying computer graphics were PhD students, because you had to know enough math and enough programming to build all your own tools. Also, the computers that did rendering in the early days were massive and unbelievably expensive. Unless you had access to that kind of computational power, you couldn’t make anything.

Now that same computing power is in your cell phone. Today it’s much more feasible for the average person to make animations.

## Was it hard to get students interested in the program early on?

Actually, it was pretty easy to find students who were interested. But it was hard to find employers who believed that undergraduates were capable of doing this work because they had only hired people with PhDs up to that point. I would go and visit companies like Pixar and say, “Hey, we have undergraduates who are majoring in graphics,” and they’d say, “Well, what can they do?” The challenge was to convince industry people that you didn’t need a PhD anymore to do this work.

## Was there a certain point that you noticed things were beginning to change?

Paul Kanyuk EAS’05 went to do an internship at Pixar his junior year. We knew by midway through the summer that they were going to ask him back. That changed everything. Once you have an undergraduate working at a company like that, then the other companies start to take you seriously.

Around the same time, we had a couple software engineers go off to Disney and other [DMD grads] were breaking through in the games industry. It was around 2004 that we started to see great interest from industry in these kids because of what

they could do, their level of enthusiasm, and the fact that they were the same age as the people [those companies] were marketing to.

**DMD students take classes in computer science and engineering, fine arts, mathematics, and communications. Those are some very different disciplines for them to toggle between.**

In some ways, DMD really is a major about language. When DMD students are in an art class, they have to speak art speak. Then they go off to a communications class, and that definitely has its own lingo. And then they come back to engineering and they're speaking engineering lingo. That's been one of their successes out there in the world. They can talk to all of the people who build an animated movie or a game—artists, businessmen, computer graphics people, software engineers. None of those people were trained in the same way and they don't have any shared language. DMDers learn all of the languages and then they pick the right one for the people they're talking to. I think that's as essential as the technical education they receive.

**It also sounds like many DMD students stay in touch with the program after they graduate—you know what so many of the alumni are up to.**

They do stay in touch. Everybody in DMD feels like they made DMD, so they feel a sense of pride of ownership. Each group adds some new

dimension or some new career field that's opened up. If I were trying to make a major really successful, it would be that: to make each class feel that they built it, they contributed to its success, and they reshaped it to suit their needs.

**Any predictions for the future of DMD?**

The technology changes so fast that the notion that your curriculum should stay stable is ludicrous. It can't. Now we have at least 10 people working in VR/AR [virtual reality/augmented reality] and it didn't even exist as an industry 10 years ago. You have to be willing to change and keep pace with things. And you also don't know which things are going to take off and which aren't. When VR and AR first came out, the hardware was so bad that people were like, this isn't going anywhere. But we thought it would. Now it has the potential to be an incredibly large business.

What DMD will be in 20 years won't look anything like what DMD is right now except that it will probably have very creative, very engaged students who are interested in changing whatever it is we have now.

**Is there something you'd like everyone out there to know about DMD—or maybe a misconception you'd like to clear up?**

That it *is* an engineering degree. It *is* a technology degree. When you look at the number of graduates who go

## BIOMEDICINE

## Engineered Spinal Discs

**An interdisciplinary team** including researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine, Penn Vet, and the University's department of bioengineering successfully implanted engineered spinal discs in goats—the largest animal yet to receive such a treatment. As reported in *Science Translational Medicine* in November, the team extended its work on rats to an animal model whose size and semi-upright posture have far more in common with humans—for whom disc degeneration is a major cause of pain and disability.

MRI results and histological analysis revealed that the engineered discs—biomaterial scaffolds seeded with stem cells—

had compressive properties matching or exceeding native goat cervical discs, and integrated well with surrounding tissue. Other evidence suggested that the engineered discs' composition and mechanical properties grew more robust over time.

"This is a major step: to grow such a large disc in the lab, to get it into the disc space, and then to have it start integrating with the surrounding native tissue," said Robert L. Mauck, a professor for Education and Research in Orthopaedic Surgery at the Perelman School of Medicine and co-senior author of the paper. "The current standard of care does not actually restore the disc, so our hope with this engineered device is to replace it in a biological, functional way and regain full range of motion."



off and work in all different forms of industry, they are first and foremost engineers who are solving real problems for people in tangible ways.

Each year in admissions selection committee, I see kids who might make great animators but are not going to make great engineers. I want people to know that this is a real marriage between art and science, and you have to be good at both.

And most people aren't. The reason it's a small program is that it is asking you to be equally skilled with your right brain and your left brain, and most people really are not capable of doing that. It's a particularly challenging major, and I think it somewhat discredits the amount of work that it took to just think they're all going to go off and make pretty pictures.



# Resiliency by Design

A new certificate program addresses urbanism's latest watchword.

Pick a city, virtually any city, and odds are high that its movers and shakers are talking about “resilience.” Resilience offices have become fixtures of municipal government in places as different as Atlanta and Addis Ababa. According to the Rockefeller Foundation, politicians and business boosters are touting “resilience strategies” to attract outside investment to cities ranging from Semarang, Indonesia, to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Fittingly for a term that encompasses readiness for sudden shocks (flooding, earthquakes) and remedies for chronic stresses (endemic violence, overloaded public transit), resilience planning comes in many forms. It informs climate-related construction standards for city buildings in New York, green-roof incentive schemes in Chicago, and bike-share programs everywhere.

But mostly, as Howard Neukrug CE'78 observed during a January symposium titled “Building Resilience in Design”—presented by PennDesign with Rockefeller Foundation support—“no one talks about cities and resilience without talking about water.”

As founding director of the Water Center at Penn and former CEO of the Philadelphia Water Department—where he established an in-

novative stormwater management program emphasizing porous pavement and rain gardens instead of a single-minded focus on traditional engineering solutions—Neukrug can be forgiven for being biased. Yet the watery aspects of climate change loomed large at the all-day roundtable, which served as the official launch of PennDesign's new Urban Resilience Certificate program. Presentations by urban planners, architects, and engineers—plus an activist, a sociologist, and a risk analyst—also touched on issues ranging from forest fires, to the urban heat island effect, to coral reef restoration.

The new certificate program was initiated by professor of architecture and urban design and former School of Design dean Marilyn Jordan Taylor, and made possible by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation. Taylor observed that the term *resilience* gained traction in the wake of Hurricane Sandy in 2012, as environmentally oriented urbanists advocated for proactive planning that would address long-term threats posed by climate change and other large-scale phenomena.

The program's director, associate professor Matthijs Bouw (who hails from the waterlogged Netherlands, where people have spent “one thou-



sand years working at these things”), provided an overview of the academic topics the certificate program will cover, including the science of decision-making, unpredictability, systems thinking, social justice, and the design and planning aspects of water policy and energy management.

Attendees—made up largely of students and faculty in related fields—showed an inclination to frame the academic content in terms of real-world challenges. How can designers work around cumbersome zoning regulations? When a municipality needs new affordable housing units but its only vacant land abuts a flood plain, what's the best way forward?

“A big focus ... has to be about the overlap of practice and theory,” observed PennDesign lecturer Rebecca Popowsky GAR'10 GLA'10.

“Having this mix of people at the table can help pinpoint moments of opportunity to translate ideas into projects.”

Taylor advocated building business cases for resiliency initiatives, emphasizing the

potential costs of muddling along with the status quo. “It's useful,” she said, “to think in terms of ‘more resilient equals less vulnerable.’”

Carolyn Kousky, director of the policy incubator at the Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center, also addressed the business aspect of conservation. She described a novel project spearheaded by The Nature Conservancy (along with the Rockefeller Foundation) to safeguard both coral reefs in Mexico and the tourist industry that depends on them. A public-private partnership established a trust funded by tourist taxes to finance ongoing maintenance of reefs and beaches, as well as to purchase insurance to ensure their restoration after extreme storms hit.

Whatever the approach, whatever the discipline, participants agreed on one thing: the necessity of being proactive. “We need to keep the design community involved so [the responses] are shovel-ready,” Neukrug said.

—JoAnn Greco

# Rhodes Scholars

## Anea Moore

In November, Penn senior Anea Moore was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for graduate study at the University of Oxford. The Philadelphia native, who is majoring in sociology and urban studies, is a first-generation college student who has devoted substantial energy to improving the undergraduate experience of other such students. Moore created a program housed at the Greenfield Intercultural Center that provides additional resources to more than 1,000 first-generation/low-income students. She has also served as co-president of the Collective Success Network at Penn and chair of the Netter Center for Community Partnerships student advisory board, among other leadership positions. She came to Penn as a Philadelphia Mayor's Scholar and was also the University's 2017 Newman Civic Fellow.

At Oxford, Moore plans to pursue a doctor of philosophy degree in evidence-based social intervention and policy evaluation. She applied for the Rhodes Scholarship with assistance from the Center for Undergraduate Research and Fellowships.

"All of us at Penn are incredibly proud of our newest

Rhodes Scholar Anea Moore," said Penn President Amy Gutmann. "Anea's commitment to advocacy on behalf of first-generation, high-need students advances our Penn Compact 2020's inclusion principle to the next level by creating programs to strengthen academic success and retention. She shows a passion for engagement and embodies the finest attributes of Penn scholars who are working to make a profound difference in the world. Anea is truly deserving of this pre-eminent recognition."

## Adamseged Abebe

Penn senior Adamseged Abebe, of Gondar, Ethiopia, has been awarded an inaugural Global Rhodes Scholarship for graduate study at Oxford. He was one of two chosen from countries around the world for the new award, which allows exceptional students who are from countries not historically eligible to apply.

Abebe is simultaneously pursuing a bachelor's degree in health and societies from the School of Arts and Sciences and a master's in nonprofit leadership from the School of Social Policy and Practice. He has conducted research on mitochondrial proteins at Penn Medicine; HIV/AIDS, mental health,

## SPORTS MEDICINE

### Five Yard Solution

**Kickoffs have long been** a uniquely dangerous part of football. They produce three to five times as many concussions as ordinary plays from scrimmage, depending on the league. In 2016, the Ivy League tried to reduce that toll with a minor rule change: moving the kickoff line from the 35-yard line to the 40-yard line, and shifting the touchback line from the 25-yard line to the 20-yard line. The intent was to increase the number of touchbacks (in which the player receiving the ball opts to kneel in the end zone to begin the ensuing possession at the touchback line, rather than attempting to advance it himself).

The experimental gambit seems to have paid off. In a research letter published in *JAMA* last November, a team led by Douglas Wiebe, a professor of epidemiology at the Perelman School of Medicine, compared the incidence of kickoff concussions before and after the rule change. They found that the rate of concussions dropped by more than 80 percent in the 2016 and 2017 seasons.

"The national conversation on concussions that occur in football can be informed by scientific research aimed at making sports safer," said Wiebe, who co-leads the Ivy League's concussion surveillance system. "We've found that this simple yet strategic policy change helps sustain the quality of the game, while also making it safer for student athletes."

**The rate of concussions dropped by more than 80 percent.**

and population health in Malawi; and the impact of Chinese investment on Ethiopian infrastructure. He has also served as a teacher and a mentor for children at a nonprofit school in Ethiopia for the past three summers. He is a Penn World Scholar, a Perry World House Student Fellow, a Lipman Family Prize Fellow, and a Paul Robeson and Anna Julia Cooper Scholar.

"We are so very proud that Adamseged Abebe—Adam to his friends at Penn—is one of

the two inaugural Global Rhodes Scholars," said Gutmann. "His compassion and determination to help others throughout the world is the essential embodiment of a global citizen at Penn. Adam wants to make a difference in the world, and I could not be more confident that he will, aided by this well-deserved recognition as a Global Rhodes."

At Oxford, he will pursue a master's degree in international development.



# Taiyuan Tower

After moving from China to California, freshman hoopster Michael Wang finds a home at Penn.

By Dave Zeitlin

**W**hen Michael Wang returned to the locker room following the Penn men's basketball team's 78-75 victory over reigning national champion Villanova in December, he was expecting *some* congratulatory messages. But for the Quakers' 6-foot-10 freshman, the sheer volume of texts on his phone was almost as shocking as the win itself.

Only later did Wang learn the reason: the Penn-Villanova game had been streamed live across China, and he was told about 8 million people in his native country watched. Among them were friends and family members from Taiyuan, the capital of the Shanxi province where he grew up.

"For a player who comes straight from China, that means a lot to a lot of people," says Wang, who scored 14 points against 'Nova and has since emerged as a key starter. "Hopefully my story will motivate others and help them become more successful players."

Although basketball is very popular in China, Wang always felt he'd have more opportunities in the United States. "Before I came here," he says, "there were two paths: you either choose to play basketball and become

a pro, or you become a full-time student." And so, with the blessing of his parents, both of whom played basketball and helped nurture his love for the game, he moved to California when he was 14.

Hooking on with Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana eased the transition. Not only does the school boast a prestigious basketball program but the team was led by Spencer Freedman, who became Wang's best friend. So when Freedman's parents asked Wang if he wanted to live with them, he happily accepted the offer. "And then they just became family to me."

Freedman is now a freshman point guard at Harvard. Wang, who developed into a highly rated recruit, could

campus than at Harvard. "I came here for a visit and I just fell in love," says Wang, who reckons there's only a handful of Division I college basketball players from China.

Donahue faced obstacles during the recruiting process, including the fact that Wang's parents don't speak English. But on his visit, Penn fencing coach Andy Ma, who is of Chinese descent, tagged along, which "helped with the language barrier." And Donahue came away impressed with how Wang's parents helped



Michael Wang

His mom stayed with him for a couple of months to help get him settled, and he initially stayed with a family friend. But adapting to American culture, learning English, and finding a permanent place to live was hard. "I moved all over the place," he says. "I got used to it."

have probably joined him there, or have signed on to play for one of the Pac-12 programs that showed interest. But Wang picked Penn, according to Quakers head coach Steve Donahue, because "his parents really stressed going to an Ivy League school." And he got better vibes at the Palestra and around the rest of

foster their son's passion and motivation.

"I think it's kind of unique that a kid that age is willing to pick up and move halfway across the globe because he thinks it's right for him academically and for basketball," Donahue says. "It's also remarkable how he's adjusted to American life."

Wang has also adjusted well to college basketball, bursting onto the scene with 14 points in his first game and pouring in 23 points the next month in a win over Miami. A sprained ankle caused him to miss a couple of games and then struggle upon his return—a contributing factor to Penn's four-game losing streak from December 29 to January 12—but he put in a good performance versus Saint Joseph's to help Penn complete its first sweep of Big 5 opponents in 17 years.

Wang, who has a sweet shooting stroke and is a great passer for his size—he said he's still growing and may hit 7 feet soon—has “got to get a little grittier, a little tougher,” in Donahue's estimation, to become an Ivy League star or win a dreamed-for place in the NBA.

“I think his commitment in the weight room, the physical part of it, will be a big piece in determining to me if he can make a real living playing basketball,” the Penn coach says. “But he does have a lot of things you can't teach.”

### Spoiling Dunphy's Farewell Tour

Few people have done as much for Big 5 basketball as Fran Dunphy, who played at La Salle before long coaching stints at Penn and now Temple. So it was with mixed emotions for Donahue when he led Penn to a mid-January upset of Temple in Dunphy's final city series game.

Dunphy—who coached at Penn from 1989 to 2006, with Donahue serving as his

assistant for much of that tenure—is moving on from Temple at the end of this season after 13 years, making the 2018–19 campaign something of a farewell tour for a coach that Donahue believes belongs in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

“You can count on one hand the college basketball coaches at this level that have achieved as much as he has,” Donahue says, pointing in particular to the number of league championships that he won, including 10 at Penn. “I think it's not a coincidence our 11-year [Ivy League title] drought coincided with him leaving the program. You just don't replace guys who are legendary.”

Donahue hopes Dunphy will remain in coaching if he wants to because “I see the same guy I saw 20 years ago. I see great energy, great passion.” But barring a return, this year's Penn–Temple game marked the final meeting between the two friends, with Donahue pulling off his second win over Dunphy in 17 tries. The only other came when Cornell upset Temple in the 2010 NCAA Tournament—which Donahue called “a terrible feeling for a while,” even though it was the “highlight of my career.” In this year's game, Donahue pulled some tricks out of his sleeve, playing a few reserves, including Kuba Mijakowski, who surprised the Owls with four three-pointers in the first half to help boost the Quakers to their first win over Temple since 2007.

## Scoreboard

from Dec. 6 to Feb. 7

### MEN'S BASKETBALL (6-5)

La Salle 83-65 (W)  
**Villanova 78-75 (W)**  
 New Mexico 75-65 (W)  
 Toledo 45-77 (L)  
**Monmouth 74-76 (L)**  
 Princeton 65-68 (L)  
**Princeton 53-62 (L)**  
 Temple 77-70 (W)  
 Saint Joseph's 78-70 (W)  
 Cornell 71-80 (L)  
 Columbia 72-70 (W)

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (8-1)

Iona 66-43 (W)  
 Drexel 55-39 (W)  
 Stetson 75-53 (W)  
 Princeton 66-60 (W)  
**Villanova 50-58 (L)**  
**Temple 71-62 (W)**  
**Haverford 81-46 (W)**  
 Cornell 59-46 (W)  
 Columbia 72-60 (W)

### MEN'S FENCING (12-6)

Penn State Invitational, 2-3  
**Philadelphia Invitational, 5-2**  
 Northwestern Duals, 5-1

### WOMEN'S FENCING (9-5)

**Philadelphia Invitational, 5-3**  
 Northwestern Duals, 4-2

### GYMNASTICS

Maryland, West Chester, Cortland, 3rd Place  
 Yale 192.350-193.775 (L)  
 Temple, Ursinus, Ithaca, 2nd place  
**Brown, Cornell, Ursinus, 1st place**

### MEN'S SQUASH (5-2)

Yale 7-2 (W)  
 Brown 9-0 (W)  
**Trinity 3-6 (L)**

### Colby 9-0 (W)

Princeton 5-4 (W)  
**Dartmouth 6-3 (W)**  
**Harvard 3-6 (L)**

### WOMEN'S SQUASH (3-4)

Yale 2-7 (L)  
 Brown 5-4 (W)  
**Trinity 1-8 (L)**  
**Colby 9-0 (W)**  
 Princeton 1-8 (L)  
**Dartmouth 6-3 (W)**  
**Harvard 0-9 (L)**

### MEN'S SWIMMING (4-1)

**Yale 191-109 (W)**  
**Dartmouth 227-73 (W)**  
 Harvard 102-198 (L)  
 Brown 174.50-125.50 (W)  
 West Chester 196-100 (W)

### WOMEN'S SWIMMING (2-3)

**Yale 63-237 (L)**  
**Dartmouth 161.5-131.5 (W)**  
 Brown 82-218 (L)  
 Harvard 78-222 (L)  
 West Chester 173-126 (W)

### MEN'S TENNIS (4-1)

**Navy 7-0 (W)**  
 Baylor 1-6 (L)  
**Cleveland State 6-1 (W)**  
**Liberty 6-1 (W)**  
**NJIT 7-0 (W)**

### WOMEN'S TENNIS (3-0)

**Delaware 7-0 (W)**  
**Drexel 6-1 (W)**  
**Marist 7-0 (W)**

### WRESTLING (2-4)

Duke 18-25 (L)  
**Drexel 15-16 (L)**  
 Binghamton 12-24 (L)  
**Army West Point 10-28 (L)**  
**Brown 18-16 (W)**  
**Harvard 35-6 (W)**

**bold** indicates a home game

“I told Dunphy that I'm handling this worse than he is,” said Donahue, who was hired by Dunphy as an unpaid volunteer assistant almost 30 years ago. He then served on Penn's staff from 1990 to 2000 before head coaching stints at Cornell, Boston College, and now Penn. “Every spring, I used to think, ‘I'm going to have to work for someone else.’ And I thought about it and I knew it wasn't going to be

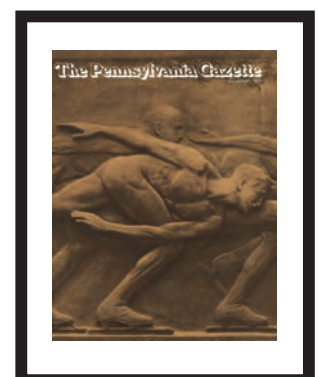
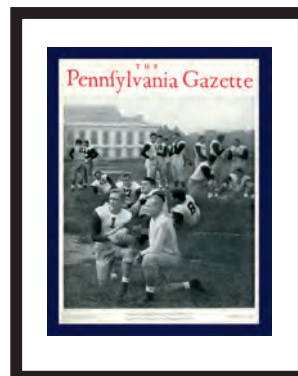
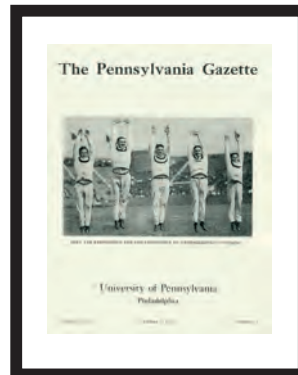
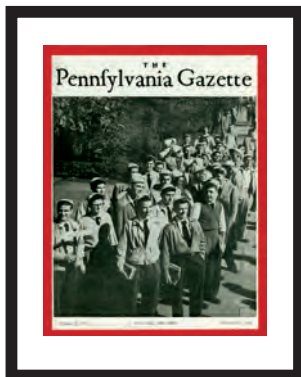
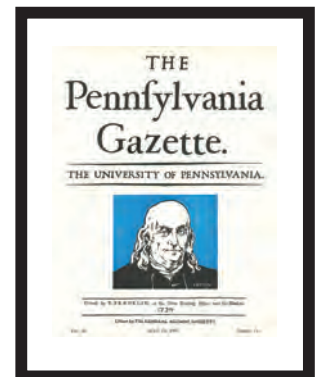
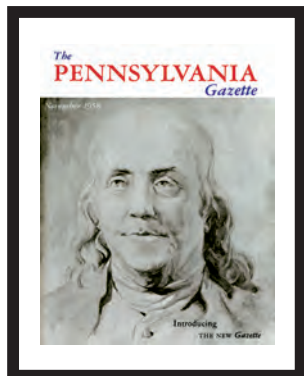
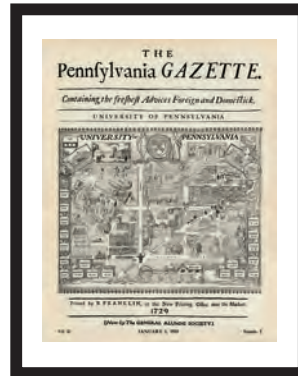
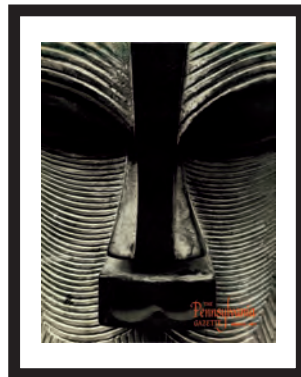
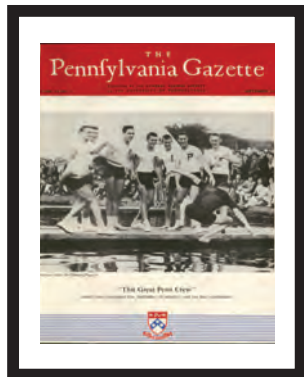
any better. That drove me to stay. And I haven't worked for anyone else since. I'm just really lucky.”

Dunphy said that he, too, learned a lot from Donahue during their time on the bench together. “At the end of the game,” Dunphy said, “we shook hands, we hugged a little bit, and I said, ‘I'm very proud of you.’”

For more on Penn's Big 5 title, visit the sports blog at [thepenngazette.com](http://thepenngazette.com).



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# Beyond the Binary

For 40 years, Mariette Pathy Allen GFA'65 has focused her camera on gender identity and expressions of gender. Through portraits of men who identified as crossdressers in the 1980s—and later, through photos of the transgender community and trans rights movement—she has shined a light on people who were often pushed to the margins of society. Some consider her the unofficial photographer of transgender life. But finding her place in the fine art world has been another story.

**By Molly Petrilla**



PHOTOGRAPH BY CANDACE DICARLO



"The gathering I met on the last day of Mardi Gras in New Orleans." 1978.



**I**n 1978, Mariette Pathy Allen GFA'65 and her husband Ken went to New Orleans for Mardi Gras.

On the last morning of their trip, Ken woke up early, put on his homemade jester costume, and took off for the closest parade. But Mariette was too sleepy to join him. She made her way downstairs a little later, her two cameras and assorted photo gear in tow.

She'd been working as a photographer since finishing her MFA at Penn, snapping pictures of 30th Street Station, of suburban New Jersey, of antique shops and billboards and artists and pig farmers. In those days, wherever she went, her camera bag usually came, too.

Noticing that she was alone in the hotel dining room, a group nearby asked if she'd like to join them. They were a glamorous bunch, especially for breakfast time: full make-up, evening gowns, luscious wigs, glossy jewelry.

"I didn't have a word for it at the time, but I hadn't seen people quite like them before," Allen remembers. "I just thought, these are amazing-looking people."

Soon the group headed outside to the hotel pool, circling it and then lining up shoulder to shoulder beside it. Allen followed.

She watched as one person pulled out a camera and started taking pictures of the group. Allen still had her photography bag with her. An introverted kid who had only recently outgrown her shyness, she wondered whether anyone would mind if she took a picture, too.

With some hesitation, she raised the viewfinder to her eye. Through it, she saw a group that was giddy and distracted, everyone looking in different directions, talking, laughing. But one person stared straight back into Allen's lens.

"I had an astonishing feeling," she says. "I felt like I wasn't looking at a man

or a woman, but somehow at the essence of a human being. I said to myself, 'I have to have this person in my life.'"

That's how Allen met Vicky West, who turned out to live just 20 blocks away from her in Manhattan. "And it was through meeting that one person," Allen says, "that I entered this whole world."

**Forty years later,** Allen rummages through a closet in her Upper West Side apartment. The shelves hold extra copies of her four photography books, published in 1989, 2003, 2014, and 2017.

Each book contains photo after photo of people who are transgender or who express themselves outside the limits of the male-female gender binary—starting with men who identified as crossdressers in the 1980s (including a few people from the Mardi Gras group), continuing with trans men and women in the US and Cuba, and ending with genderfluid spirit



"Maxine, Ariadne, and Virginia at the Unitarian Church, Provincetown, MA." 1980. From *Transformations* (1989).



mediums from Burma and Thailand.

Allen pulls out a copy of each heavy book and heads back down the hall, past a wall-sized collage from her Penn days and into her sunken living room. Amid the room's glossy wood floors and views of Riverside Park and the Hudson River, she settles into a chair. Her hair is neatly styled except for a single rogue strand. An aqua blouse intensifies the blue of her eyes. Two large abstract paintings she made shortly after graduating from Penn hang to her left and right, and prints from her third book, *TransCuba*, decorate the wall behind her.

She sits down carefully, a little stiffness in each movement, and starts to talk about two years after Mardi Gras, when Vicky West invited her to Fantasia Fair in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Vicky had brought her to a few parties and clubs by then, but nothing like the 10-day gathering in Cape Cod that now

calls itself "the longest-running annual event in the trans world." In those days, there were workshops on wigs, makeup, and scarf-tying; all-night pajama parties; volleyball tournaments with more than a few participants in heels.

"Fantasia Fair wasn't just a cross-dresser convention—it was THE cross-dresser convention," the Fair's website notes of 1980, the first year Allen attended. "In these early years, the Fair served as a model for transgender events all over the world."

In spite of the gathering's joyous tone, not everyone was happy to see Allen and her camera there. One of the organizers chided her for not writing to introduce herself in advance. Another person threatened to smash Allen's camera if she took their picture. But others welcomed her into their experience, laying out their own stories and showing her around the event.

She returned the next year, 1981, as Fantasia Fair's official photographer.

"That's when I started to learn how to photograph crossdressers," Allen says. "I figured out how to make them comfortable, how to make them take up space in more interesting ways, how to help them connect with the femininity they felt inside."

"I was always trying to make it playful and fun," she continues, "but often it was a very moving experience for me and for them. They had never been photographed before by someone who accepted them and appreciated them and encouraged them."

As she continued to take pictures of people who identified as crossdressers over the next decade, Allen used her work to document their everyday lives: hugging their wives, playing with their kids, washing dishes, putting on mascara. To Allen, it was never about shock value or exploitation.

**"Valerie at the End of a Glamour Session."  
1986. From *Transformations*.**



"I was determined," she later wrote in an essay, "to change the way crossdressers saw themselves, and how they were seen by others."

Today the difference between a crossdresser and a trans man or woman is clear. But when *Transformations* came out in 1989, "transgender" hadn't yet become a mainstream term and the idea of transitioning was still so taboo that

for some, it felt safer to say they were simply crossdressing.

"Not that all crossdressers identify as transgender," adds Erin Cross, director of Penn's LGBT Center. "But that language wasn't even there. So Mariette created a visual language, which is so powerful."

Over the next 10 years, Allen's collection of photos grew until there was enough to fill a book. She typed up each

person's story and included written profiles along with her pictures. Then she started contacting publishers. She tried almost 50 before finding one who would take on *Transformations*.

Now, sitting in her apartment, she picks up a copy of the book.

"Valerie and I were up in the dunes in Provincetown," she says, looking at a vertical portrait. "She wanted glamor pictures. We'd been doing that all afternoon. Then it was starting to get cold and suddenly I found her hugging her fur jacket. It occurred to me that she looked like a child with her teddy bear."

"What a beautiful child who accepts her father," she says, pointing to another picture. It shows a young girl, about 8 years old, embracing her dad, who looks a lot like Princess Diana. Their side-by-side heads and clasped arms form a heart shape.

Allen says that when *Transformations* came out in print, the people featured in it were thrilled. Many even signed each other's copies next to their own pictures, yearbook-style.

"Up until then, the only materials they could find were either in porn shops or they were scientific discussions," she says. "Many told me it was the first time they saw pictures of people who represented who they are."

"Back then, it was very avant-garde to portray folks who were so outside the norm," Cross explains. "But she really humanized them and helped document a community that otherwise would have been invisible."

Several decades later, Zackary Drucker, a producer on the Amazon series *Transparent*, brought copies of *Transformations* to the set and shared them with the creative team. At the time, they were working on flashback scenes of the main character, a trans woman named Maura (played by Jeffrey Tambor), attending a crossdressing retreat in the early 1990s. ("We are crossdressers, but we're still men!" one attendee, angry that a friend has transitioned, tells Maura.)



Drucker says that Allen's book showed the *Transparent* team how self-identified crossdressers were styling themselves around that time: what they wore, how they did their makeup and hair, and—through Allen's interviews—how they talked about themselves and their experiences.

"For me, as a millennial trans person who didn't experience the '70s and '80s, Mariette is crucial to helping me locate my own history," Drucker adds.

But since the beginning of what Allen now considers her "Gender Series," the art world has been less enthusiastic. After *Transformations* came out, she recalls a mix of outright negativity and condescending comments about her work being some kind of self-sacrifice. It was the beginning of her long battle for recognition in the fine art world—and an extension of the years she had already spent feeling like an outsider.

**The only child** of wealthy Hungarian immigrants, Allen sums up her childhood in two words: *miserable* and *uncomfortable*.

"I was between two worlds: the European, old-fashioned, conservative world of my parents and the very contemporary and progressive school that I went to where people called their teachers by their first names and kids wore blue jeans to school while I went in there carrying a pocketbook," she says.

Whether she was at Manhattan's exclusive Dalton School or at home, Allen felt out of place. "I had very few friends and was extremely shy—that lingered for a long time," she says.

Painting provided some of the only moments that she felt at ease. She didn't have to talk to anyone or wear the right thing.

She studied art history at Vassar and then enrolled at Penn as an MFA student in painting. Allen remembers those years at Penn as some of the happiest in her life.

At the time, the Fine Arts Library housed all the studios and classrooms for her concentration and its cousins: printmaking, sculpture, architecture, landscape architecture. The program encouraged its artists to learn from each other. If Louis Kahn Ar'24 Hon'71 gave a lecture to



the architecture students, the painting classes went, too. If high-profile painters came in to critique student work, the architecture students sat in. "The whole thing was an ecstatic experience," Allen says.

As graduation loomed, a University photographer came in to snap pictures of the students at work. On his way out, he invited Allen to a class that he was taking downtown. She figured, why not?

The instructor was Harold Feinstein, a fine art photographer best known for his black-and-white images of Coney Island from the 1950s. "I went to this class and I had such an interesting time that I thought, 'I'll just take pictures,'" Allen remembers.

She set up a darkroom in her Philadelphia apartment and began booking job after job.

"Photography is a passport into the world—you can go anywhere and do anything," she says. Suddenly, the shy, uncomfortable kid didn't feel so shy anymore.

"Once you have the camera in your hand and a project in your mind, it's not about you," Allen adds. "It's about what you're trying to do. That is the great gift of photography."

She's had a long-standing interest in cultural anthropology, too. While studying it at Dalton during some of the most awkward years of her own life, "I was totally fascinated and kind of relieved to learn about other cultures and ways of forming families," she says.

"I always questioned whether the way we were living was the only way to go, and whether the adults really were right in their rules," Allen adds. "I was asking myself questions all the time."

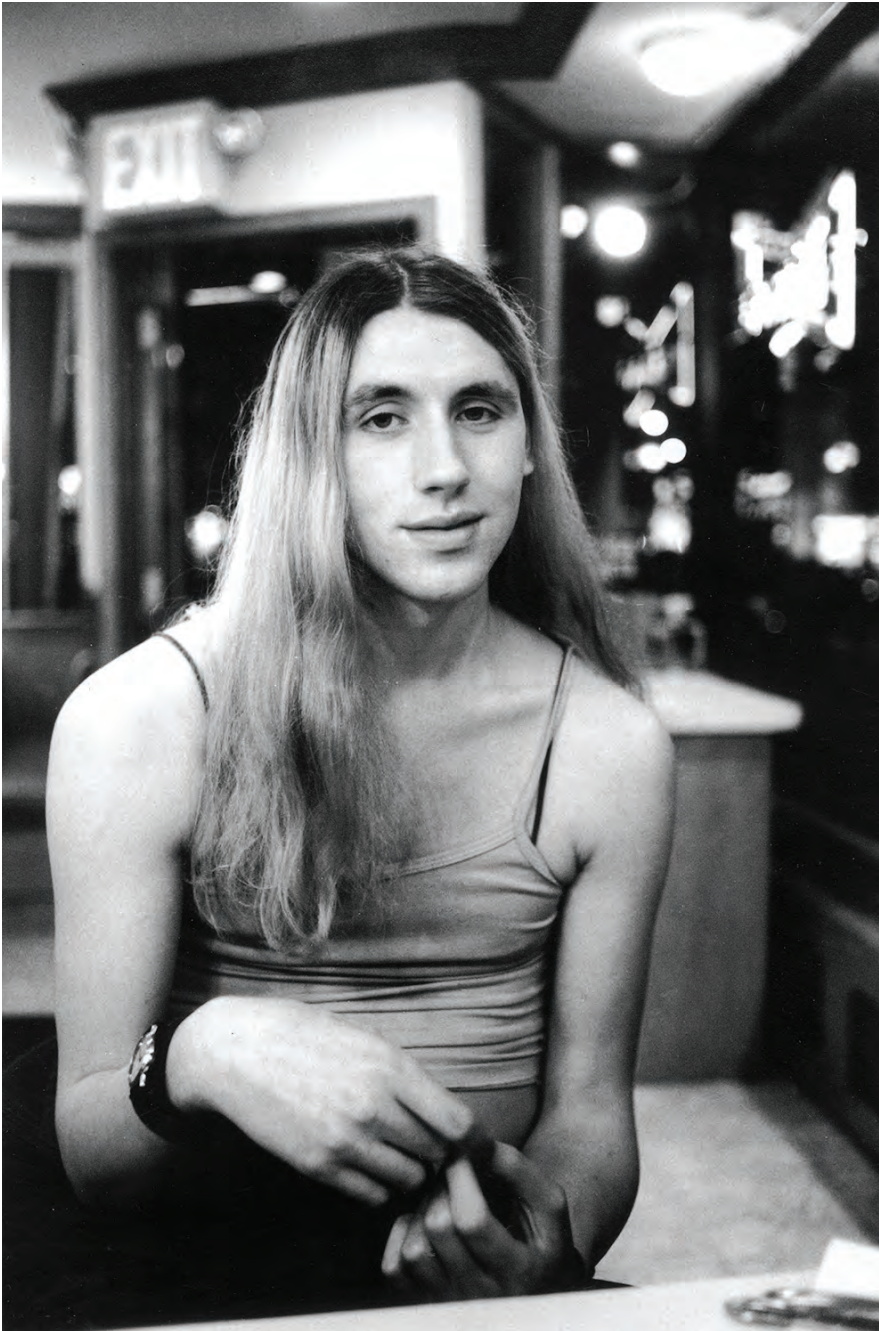
As her long-running gender series has unfolded, it's only prompted more questions. In fact, "it's people living the *most important* questions," she says. "What does it mean to be a man or woman? And who makes up the rules, and why?"

**In 1952**, when Allen was just entering her teens, Christine Jorgensen became the first American to publicly announce her transition from male to female. "EX-GI BECOMES BLONDE BEAUTY" a New York *Daily News* headline shouted from the front page.

It was the first time many Americans had heard about a trans person, and Jorgensen quickly became famous—the subject of news stories and photo shoots, then the author of an autobiography, and eventually the focus of a 1970 movie, *The Christine Jorgensen Story*. (Actual text from its poster: "Did the surgeon's knife make me a woman or a freak?")

Exactly 50 years after Jorgensen first

"Kiwi at a coffee shop, NYC." 2002.  
From *The Gender Frontier* (2003).



came out to the country as transgender, Kiwi Grady was an undergraduate student at NYU who had recently come out as trans herself. It was 2002: three years since the first Transgender Day of Remembrance was established to honor victims of anti-transgender violence; a year before a National Center for Transgender Equality existed.

Grady was majoring in gender and sexuality studies at NYU, but much of her education happened outside the classroom. She was a frequent face at trans demonstrations and conferences, and had founded the city's first trans-focused college student club, T-Party.

It was only a matter of time before she crossed paths with Mariette Pathy Allen.

Allen was focusing her work on all sides of the trans community by then. Since the early 1980s, she'd been traveling the country to snap photos and give slide presentations at transgender conferences and related events. She'd photographed the cover for *Read My Lips: Sexual Subversion and the End of Gender* (1997)—a book by Riki Anne Wilchins that was "incredibly ground-breaking, and is still used in a lot of classes," Cross says.

Allen often did TV and radio interviews, and her work had even appeared on film at the Sundance Film Festival. She consulted and shot still photography for *Southern Comfort*, a documentary about the last year of a transgender man named Robert Eads' life, and the film won Sundance's Grand Jury Prize for documentary in 2001.

"Mariette was positioned in a very central place because of her continued investment in the trans community," recalls Drucker, whose college years in New York partly overlapped with Grady's. "She was really in the center of the action."

Allen began taking the photos that would become her second book, *The Gender Frontier*, a few years after *Transformations* came out. Those images reveal the change that was happening around her: a growing trans rights movement, a new generation who were coming out as transgender, and the diversity of people around the country—this time both men and women—who identify as trans.

"That book represented the next stage," Allen now says of *The Gender Frontier*.

Its cover shows a 21-year-old Grady looking straight into the lens, her lips in a semi-smile. Her eyes, hair, and even arm position—along with that hint of a smile—all have a Mona Lisa quality.

The image was snapped at a time that Grady now remembers as both exhilarating and frustrating. She says that in the early 2000s, the trans community was battling sensationalized media coverage, fighting for its rights, and searching for acceptance—even among other marginalized groups. "There was still a very



"Antonia, alone at Christmas, NYC." 1993.  
From *The Gender Frontier*.



strong trans-phobia in certain feminist spaces," Grady says, "and we were very angry at the larger LGB community because we felt excluded there, too."

Along with images of protests, vigils, and lobbying trips to DC, Allen's book again captured slices of everyday life: dance lessons, horseback rides, hospital stays, frolicking in the mud.

"It was cool just to see someone trying to respectfully represent trans people in the media," Grady says. "There weren't a lot of positive or diverse images out there at that moment, and I appreciate what she did."

"At that time, the community was always being represented through the eyes of other people, and that obviously can be a critique of Mariette, too—that she's an ally, not a community member," Grady adds. "But I think as an ally, she did a good job of trying to show the human

side of the community—the diverse lives that are present and the different ways that different trans people live."

Antonia Gilligan, who's pictured in *The Gender Frontier* working in her science lab, lounging at home, and skydiving, remembers her first time posing for Allen in the early 1990s. As a trans woman, "there's always a fear that you're just going to be used for exploitive purposes," Gilligan says. "I've never had that feeling with Mariette. What she's done is shed a light on the community—but it's been a friendly light, as opposed to just taking cheap shots."

**After *The Gender Frontier*** came out, Allen wasn't sure about her next move.

She was still giving her slide presentations at transgender conferences, but fewer people were filling the seats. They'd stopped coming to her on-site portrait

sessions, too—almost everyone had their own digital camera by then, and several years later, an iPhone. And thanks to the internet, the trans community didn't have to rely on conferences to meet each other anymore. They could just find a message board or website.

"I didn't know if what I could offer was still important," Allen remembers. "The conferences were ending and I was feeling less and less useful."

So she went to Cuba.

More specifically, she went to a professional conference for sexologists in Havana. It was mostly in Spanish and mostly academic, but while she was in the city, she also met three transgender women who became the focus of her next book, *TransCuba* (2014).

"I went wherever they took me," she says. "I went to visit their homes and families and friends and went to events.

“Nomi and Miguel, partners, watching television at Malu’s apartment, Havana, Cuba.”  
2013. From *TransCuba* (2014).



I had a wonderful time with them and they were so open.”

In Cuba, Allen found a very different situation from the one she’d been tracking in the US. By 2012, America had its first openly transgender judge, its first openly transgender NCAA athlete, and a ruling that Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act also protected transgender employees. Soon it would have trans characters sensitively represented on-screen in the hit series *Transparent* and Netflix’s *Orange Is the New Black*.

Meanwhile, in Cuba, “the situation for them was so terrible,” Allen says of the transgender women she met there. “There was still so far to go.”

She discovered that transgender people in Cuba couldn’t legally change their names and had limited job opportunities. Most of the trans women she met worked as prostitutes and had become

HIV positive. “The other problem was the bullying,” she says. “If they went to school, they would be bullied not just by the other students, but by the teachers as well. So they dropped out.”

But Allen also observed a country on the cusp of change. Decades after Fidel Castro had sequestered gay men in military “re-education” camps, his niece Mariela Castro was running the Cuban National Center for Sex Education (Cenesex), championing LGBT rights and acceptance.

Cenesex exhibited a selection of Allen’s work in 2014 and again in 2017.

Keren Moscovitch, an artist who teaches at the School of Visual Arts and curated the Cuba show, says Allen’s work is both “a poetic form of storytelling” and a type of political activism.

And whether it’s her Cuba pictures or her earlier work in the US, “I’ve just

been particularly drawn to the intimate nature of her work and to the engagement and emotional involvement that she has with the people in her photographs,” Moscovitch adds. “She’s not a fly on the wall. She is a participant, a friend and a partner.”

“I’ve seen her photograph a few times,” notes Drucker, the artist and *Transparent* producer, “and I think she has an incredible ability to reach people and to see people.”

Drucker considers Allen “the single most dedicated photographer of the trans community.” While well-known artists including Nan Goldin and Diane Arbus have “glimpsed into our lives,” Drucker says, “Mariette is the only one who has embedded herself and invested her time and creative labor into investigating trans and gender non-conforming lives.”

“She’s our photographer,” Drucker adds.





“A novice *nat kadaw* (spirit medium) preparing to assist their teacher at a *nat pwe* (spirit festival) in Mandalay.” 2015. From *Transcendents* (2017).

Allen had a good feeling about 2018. Her fourth book, *Transcendents: Spirit Mediums in Burma and Thailand*, came out in late 2017, raising fresh questions about gender expression and acceptance. (In the places Allen visited—two countries known to be homophobic and transphobic—she found that genderfluid spirit mediums were not only accepted, but revered.)

The new book sparked a fresh crop of articles about Allen and reviews of her work. Then a collection of her photos appeared in *Aperture*, a major photography publication, at the end of 2017.

She was eager to see what would happen next as the calendar rolled over to 2018. She hoped for an exhibition or maybe some book signings. Anything that would indicate an uptick of interest around her work.

“I thought, *This is going to go somewhere*,” she says, back inside her apartment, the end of 2018 then only a few months away. “And, well, it hasn’t so far.”

Her work is in a number of museum collections—the Corcoran Gallery of Art in DC, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and Portland Art Museum, among others—and private collections, too, but she doesn’t currently have a gallery repre-

senting her and she’s had limited exhibitions of her work over the years.

Does she feel under-recognized? “Yes, to be honest with you,” she says with a small laugh.

Even Erin Cross, who calls herself “a professional queer,” hadn’t heard of Allen before.

“I was shocked that I didn’t know who the heck she was,” Cross adds. “She’s done this groundbreaking work. What is it that has kept it to the side, not just in the mass appeal sense, but even in niche communities?”

Drucker says it’s because trans stories in general are still only a small piece of public discourse. “For me, Mariette’s big,” Drucker says. “But in the larger world, the trans zeitgeist is so peripheral still. I’m constantly surprised at how little people know.”

Granted, there are institutions that have taken notice. Duke University’s Archive of Documentary Arts has been preserving Allen’s work since 2006. Today the Mariette Pathy Allen Photographs and Papers includes over 900 items.

Laura Micham, who directs Duke’s Center for Women’s History and curates its gender and sexuality history collections, says Allen’s work is “a significant contri-

bution” in the school’s commitment to documenting transgender communities.

Still, 2018 didn’t turn out the way Allen had hoped. So she sits in her chair, eyes fixed on the wall of windows across from her, looking out at New York City and wondering what its art world might want from her. Should she shift her focus to mixed-media and one-of-a-kind pieces? Or maybe it’s time for a retrospective book.

“I am struggling,” she later admits, to figure out her next steps.

The transgender community, once pleased that Allen wanted to document their lives and struggles, is no longer as interested in posing for her. “The focus now is that transgender people should photograph transgender people, and why do you need an outsider?” she says. “I began at a time when I really was needed, in many ways. Now I am not.”

Allen is still in touch with many of the people she’s shot over the years, but now they swap stories about grandkids rather than connecting over intimate portrait sessions.

As she flips through old pictures in her apartment, remembering the most prolific years of her gender series, it’s hard not to wonder if her long-standing interest in marginalized people—the invisible pull that drew her toward the group at Mardi Gras, that bonded her with Vicky West and the hundreds of people she’s photographed since—stems from her own feelings of isolation as a kid.

She bristles at the suggestion. “It’s too personal, and also a put-down of my work,” she says. “It suggests that I wouldn’t have done this unless I myself had had struggles.”

But maybe there’s another way to see it. Maybe a difficult childhood left her with more compassion and empathy than most. Maybe it gave her special powers to see people for who they are.

“Yeah,” she says thoughtfully, eyes drifting back over to the window. “I guess that’s a good way of looking at it.”

Molly Petrilla C’06 writes frequently for the *Gazette*.

# The Virality Paradox

Damon Centola thinks the contemporary wisdom about how behavior spreads is missing something fundamental—and that may be why mindless trivialities crowd out civic engagement. Can anything be done? He has an idea or two.

By Trey Popp

**A**t midday on November 29, 2012, the internet crashed throughout Syria, bringing the country's high-speed cellular network down with it. The civil war was in its second year. Four months had passed since Bashar al-Assad's Syrian Army repulsed rebel forces in the Battle of Damascus, and the opposition was back on the move. On November 28, rebels had launched an attack on the capital's airport, hoping to cripple Assad's air force, which had begun barrel-bombing civilian targets.

The sudden internet blackout was an ominous development. It deprived rebels of critical communications tools at a dramatic juncture. Civilians too had much to fear. Autocrats elsewhere had used strategic internet outages to quell dissension, and Syria's tech-savvy government seemed to have experimented with the same technique. A similar out-

age in July, which lasted a few hours, sparked exoduses from neighborhoods fearing a military blitz.

But there was something different about the November 29th blackout. For one thing, it lasted an unusually long time—until the afternoon of December 1. Furthermore, there's reason to believe that the Syrian government did not trigger it. Later, Edward Snowden claimed that it had been caused, inadvertently, by US National Security Agency hackers attempting to remotely install a snooping device into one of the country's core internet routers. That might explain the apparent lack of a concerted attempt by the Syrian Army to capitalize on the blackout.

But what made this multi-day disruption truly remarkable was the impact it had on the rebels. The loss of Skype, cell phone service, and other digital tools kneecapped their communications network. What had

been a city-spanning web became a scattered archipelago of geographically isolated groups. Yet rebel activity did not stall—it spread like wildfire.

As political scientist Navid Hassanpour later documented, those three days saw a dramatic jump in firefights, anti-regime bombing attacks, and other aspects of “revolutionary unrest.” The day before the blackout, such clashes occurred in five neighborhoods. By its end, they had spread to 13—including five that had not seen conflict all year. And though urban warfare is often marked by hotspots of repeated skirmishes, the blackout featured an unprecedented rash of “first-time” incidents in locations that had been quiet for a month or more.

By the conventional wisdom on tipping points and social contagions, this is about the last thing you'd expect. For a behavior to go viral, there must be





paths it can travel. And the paths that seem most valuable—the long ties bridging dispersed subgroups—were exactly what the Syrian rebels lost.

There's an exception to every rule, you might say. But the real reason that what happened in Syria is so surprising, says Penn sociologist Damon Centola, is that we've gotten the rule wrong.

The dynamic that emerged during Syria's blackout mirrors patterns observed in a huge variety of contexts: the spread of the early labor movement in Sweden, the adoption of family planning practices in South Korea, the mobilization of insurgents during the Paris Commune of 1871, the adoption of air conditioning units in midcentury Philadelphia, the process by which Wenzhou, China (rather than, say, Shanghai) became the "birthplace of China's private economy," and the list goes on.

In each instance, some new behavior spread through a tightly knit, spatially cohesive group. *So what?*, you might retort. *Imagine how much faster Koreans would have adopted birth control if social media existed at the time.* But Centola contends that that may have been more likely to doom Korea's campaign than to boost it. "The network pathways that were most successful for spreading behavior change were not the same networks that would be predicted by the theory of viral diffusion," he observes about that case in his new book, *How Behavior Spreads: The Science of Complex Contagions* (Princeton University Press, 2018).

The reason, he says, is that behavior simply does not spread the way information does. If the Syrian rebels had been trying to disseminate LOLcat memes, the blackout would have been fatal. But for spreading revolution, it was an unexpected boon.

Indeed, a final reason to suspect that Assad didn't trigger that outage is that he presumably knew what had happened the previous year in Egypt. There, President Hosni Mubarak cut internet, cell phone, and significant landline service across Egypt in an apparent attempt to stall the

momentum of demonstrators in Tahrir Square. Suddenly dependent on face-to-face contact to share information and coordinate, the people of Cairo turned what had been a single protest location into a city-spanning constellation of eight that overwhelmed the regime's police—and, in short order, the regime.

If the common understanding of how behavior spreads is missing something fundamental, the implications reach from military insurgencies to public health campaigns, commerce, politics, and social change writ large.

### THE LIMITS OF THE VIRAL VIEW

Human social dynamics do not reduce to any single formula, but you're probably acquainted with the dominant account of how new behaviors spread. "Ideas and products and messages and behaviors," Malcolm Gladwell declared in his 2000 bestseller *The Tipping Point*, "spread just like viruses do." The best way to understand phenomena ranging from fashion trends, to crime waves, to the rise of teenage smoking, he argued, is to regard them as epidemics.

At a time when the average Facebook user has upwards of 300 friends—and every last one has an opinion about whether that voice is saying "Laurel" or "Yanny"—this seems self-evident. Gladwell's thesis rested on two seminal works of sociology. In 1973, Mark Granovetter emphasized the power of "weak ties" to spread information through social networks. In his classic example, he showed that Boston-area workers tended to find their jobs through distant contacts far removed from the densely overlapping relationships at the center of their social lives. In 1998, Duncan Watts (who will join Penn's faculty in July) and Steven Strogatz elaborated the mathematics of "small-world connectivity" to show that even a modest number of "short-cut" links connecting distant people dramatically accelerate an infection's diffusion across a network.

"We all get the idea of having the flu and sneezing on someone," says Centola,

who directs the Network Dynamics Group at the Annenberg School for Communication, which he joined in 2013 as an assistant professor. (He also holds an appointment in SEAS.) But research over the past decade or two has served up evidence of stranger sorts of contagions.

"Like: obesity is contagious," he says, referring to an influential 2007 study by Nicholas Christakis G'92 Gr'95 and James Fowler. "Well, what does that actually mean? What is spreading? Or, the iPhone is contagious. It's not literally spreading from person to person, is it? What's happening?"

What's happening, of course, is human behavior, in all its mysterious complexity. And that's where the insights Gladwell popularized begin to falter.

"We use epidemiology as a reference point because it's convenient," Centola says. "You can make a lot of simplifying mathematical assumptions that allow us to think about diffusion and not worry too much about the fine points of the network. And while that does work for viruses, it's a really bad idea when it comes to behaviors."

Obesity is a good example of why. The last 20 years have seen literally hundreds of public-health efforts to tackle the problem. Yet obesity rates among American children and adults continue to climb, most interventions seem to fail, and even successes often remain mysterious.

The AIDS epidemic in Africa provides an even starker illustration. The virus has spread like, well, a virus. Meanwhile, one behavioral intervention after another—promotion of male circumcision, free condom distribution, pre-exposure prophylaxis medications—has hit snags that have held progress to a heartrendingly slow pace.

"The things that we would like to spread often fail to diffuse," Centola writes. "At the same time, the things that we want to prevent from spreading often succeed despite our best attempts to stop them." His new book attempts to explain why. Drawing on a decade's worth of his own experimental research, Centola argues that the very



characteristics that make modern social networks ideal for accelerating simple contagions—from communicable diseases to viral videos—turn out, unexpectedly, to stymie the spread of behavior.

## SOCIAL CHANGE AND COMPLEX CONTAGIONS

Centola, who grew up outside of Philadelphia in Bucks County, belongs to the last generation to come of age before the internet conquered American life. He was a year out of high school by the time the first Netscape browser debuted, and was a senior at Vermont's Marlboro College when Hotmail ushered in the era of web-based email. Without social media to cast a spell over his free time, he fell under the influence of two parents who were interested in social change. With Damon in tow, they regularly took to the streets to join demonstrations: for women's rights, for environmental sustainability, for nuclear arms control.

"I spent a lot of time marching as a kid," he laughs.

It led him to sociology, just as the field was shifting from the ethnographic and often activist orientation it had developed in the 1960s toward an emphasis on quantitative analysis. The math part played to Centola's academic strengths. But the social-change piece remained a big motivator. Centola's passage into adulthood saw him go from marching to community service, volunteering with the American Friends Service Committee and spending a year working for Habitat for Humanity.

By the time Centola embarked on graduate study in sociology, Granovetter's "The Strength of Weak Ties" was one of the most-cited papers in the field. But Centola's interest in social movements made him wonder if something was being missed. As a kid who'd marched for environmental sustainability in the 1980s—"when it wasn't fashionable yet"—he knew what it felt like to be part of a group that seemed to take forever to convert acquaintances into full-fledged allies. Meanwhile, empirical sociological litera-

ture on the civil rights movement often emphasized the critical role of strong, overlapping ties—which, for instance, had proved pivotal in the recruitment of participants in the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer Project.

"There appeared to be kind of a puzzle," Centola recalls. "On the one hand, the strength of weak ties, and then the small-world model, argued that the kind of network features that would accelerate spreading were these long-distance tendrils across a network. And that just didn't seem to jibe with the literature on the civil rights movement, and the literature on the classic diffusion of innovations through geographical pathways."

His attempt to reconcile that paradox proceeds from the premise that contagions come in two major flavors: simple and complex. Simple contagions can spread by a single contact—like the measles, or a tweet. Complex contagions require some social reinforcement, which is to say multiple contacts, to spread.

In the social sphere, things that spread by a single contact often turn out to involve minimal effort or cost. Consider a viral video. "Someone sends it to you, you watch it, and you forward it, right?" Centola asks. All it takes is a click.

"Now suppose the video shows up on your screen, but when you click on the link it asks you to install new software," he goes on. "All of a sudden there's a little question mark that gets raised—because it's a little bit risky now to proceed." Who sent it to you? Is he trustworthy? Is he computer-savvy enough to even know that a nasty virus might spread this way? "And it's not until a couple more friends say, 'It's safe, I did it, it's fine,' that you actually think, 'Okay, maybe I'll do it, too.'"

**"I spent a lot of time marching as a kid."**



Damon Centola.

There's hardly anything revolutionary about that commonsense observation. But as soon as an individual requires two nudges rather than one in order to adopt a given behavior, the dynamics of contagion change dramatically.

In his book, Centola considers a stylized 44-person "large world" network in which each individual is linked only to his four closest neighbors. If any given person requires two recommendations before installing new software and then recommending it in turn to their other contacts, it would take 26 days for the new software to spread across such a network.

If three of those neighborly ties are converted into long-tie shortcuts that make the world a little smaller, a simple contagion would conquer the network in just six days. But now the software actually takes *longer* than before to spread—35 days.

Increase the number of long ties to seven, and something even weirder happens: this minimally complex, two-contact contagion never gets beyond three people.

This happens, Centola says, because although long bridges are decisive for diffusing simple contagions, complex contagions travel best via wide bridges—that is, multiple, overlapping ties uniting clusters of individuals. You can think of the members of a second-grade classroom as forming a wide-bridge structure: everybody knows everyone else, so there's a huge number of pathways along which two tablemates can spread a budding interest in soccer-star trading cards to the rest of the class. But suppose one of those students has a second-grade cousin 1,000 miles away. Now the soccer-card obsession has only a single route to travel—a long bridge—which may not be enough, especially if the kids there are in the throes of Pokemon mania.

The real world, obviously, contains more than 44 people. And real people might wait for a third or fourth person to chime in before cluttering their computers with extra software. More realistically, some will need three recommendations, others eight, and still others will hold out until

every single person they know has gotten on board. Add in that some individuals have a couple dozen social contacts while others have hundreds, and the picture grows more complicated.

What's more, different behaviors may entail different thresholds. In some cases that threshold might be an absolute number. "Think about a rumor," Centola says. "Hearing it from one person may not be enough to get you to believe it. But add a second or third or fourth source, and that may be enough [for you to spread it further]." In other contexts, an individual might pay more attention to a behavior's relative prevalence among all of his contacts, weighing adopters against non-adopters.

"This notion of a contested or a fractional threshold shows up anytime there are reputation effects at stake," Centola points out. "Think about a Fortune 500 manager who's in a position where she's got a lot of people paying attention to her. If one person adopts some sort of really unusual or unfamiliar kind of management innovation, and then she just adopts it immediately, that makes her a little reckless, you know? Whereas the more people who adopt it—the more established it is—the more credibility she has as an actor in making that decision ... so if it goes sideways on her, there are lots of other people doing it too."

That dynamic, incidentally, changes the way network hubs function when a potential contagion is complex rather than simple. "From the classic viral perspective," Centola explains, "a hub is likely to get infected early on because it has so many contacts. And once the hub gets infected, it acts as an accelerant, since it just spreads the infection to everyone they know. But that only works if the hub's not paying attention to all the non-adopters. And as soon as you have reputation or legitimacy at stake, hubs actually become fairly conservative—they become the people in the network who are the *least* likely to adopt an innovation early on."

Our 44-person model is stripped clean of all such variation. But what Centola has shown, along with coauthor Michael Macy of Cornell, in a 2007 paper honored as the year's best publication in mathematical sociology, is that when you inject those sorts of complications into the model—muddying it up to make it more and more realistic—"the results are not just robust, but they actually become stronger." In other words, the more lifelike the model, the more important these "wide-bridge structures" turn out to be for fostering the spread of behaviors requiring social reinforcement.

## NETWORKS AS POLICY TOOLS

Not long ago, Penn's campus witnessed a tidy display of how complex contagions differ from simple ones. The beginning of the fall semester brought an announcement that Huntsman Hall, which has long been open 24 hours a day, would begin closing between 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. as part of a larger effort to improve wellness among Wharton students. Opponents of this change planned a sit-in to protest. As word spread on Facebook, it generated a massive response. As the *Daily Pennsylvanian* reported, 318 students clicked a button to confirm that they would be "going" to the sit-in, and a further 548 clicked an "interested" button. Meanwhile, through a separate process, 547 people had signed a petition calling for reversion to the old policy. Yet when the appointed hour came—requiring an action that went slightly beyond a touchscreen tap—only eight students showed up.

To use Centola's terminology, the network characteristics that made a trivially easy behavior go viral were no help at all for stoking one that required the modest effort of being physically present. (To say nothing of what it takes to stand up for a marginalized group, agitate for threatened rights, or oppose a tyrant.)

In the decade since his 2007 paper—which kicked off a wave of related research and has now been cited over 1,000 times—Centola has put his theory



to increasingly elaborate tests, often rooted in public health.

One of them built off of a cancer-screening website called Your Disease Risk, which is run by the Harvard Center for Cancer Prevention and attracts tens of thousands of unique visitors per month who complete health surveys that provide risk assessments for various forms of cancer.

Centola placed a link on its final assessment page inviting people to join a custom-designed online health community. Its purpose was to enable participants to learn about new health resources from one another. It was also an experiment, for participants were randomly placed in one of 12 online health communities that were identical but for one difference. Six were structured as clustered networks in which neighbors shared overlapping contacts, “creating wide bridges to the nearby neighborhoods.” Another six were randomly structured networks with lots of long ties.

When registering, participants entered information about their health interests, lifestyle, and fitness background. This helped match them with six similar “health buddies” (eight in some trials) with whom they could share information. In the clustered networks, each group of buddies was clustered close together in the mesh of dense, overlapping ties. In the random ones, the buddies were spread out. But the networks themselves were invisible to the participants, who could see only that they had a fixed number of buddies to interact with.

Centola kicked off the experiment by selecting a random node in each network to send a message to its buddies encouraging them to join a particular health forum website. To join, people had to click on an email link and then fill out a form designed to be just long enough to necessitate a little scrolling to reach the end. That turned out to be just enough work to discourage a surprising number of people who clicked the email link from actually completing the registration. Successful registration triggered

an automatic email to all the registrant’s buddies encouraging them to join.

If networks don’t really matter for individual behavior, one would expect to see similar rates of registration in each condition—especially considering that every participant had enrolled in Centola’s health community expressly because they thought it would give them resources they might value. But that was not the case. In the six clustered networks, about 54 percent of participants registered for the recommended site. In the random networks—the ones that would spread a simple contagion with the greatest ease—only 38 percent of participants registered. In other words, altering the network’s structure produced a 40 percent change in behavior adoption. Even more striking was the speed with which behavior spread. On average, registration spread four times faster in clustered networks than random ones.

Armed with experimental evidence for how to optimize network structure to spread a desired behavior, Centola tried to leap a higher bar. Could he use network design to actually drive people to the gym?

With funding from the Annenberg Foundation and the NIH, he created an 11-week fitness initiative that offered more than 90 weekly exercise classes to nearly 800 Penn graduate students. There were four experimental conditions. A control group was given an online portal through which they could sign up for classes—nothing more, nothing less. Another group was broken up into online buddy groups according to fitness-related similarities, and given a web portal enriched with information about the class attendance of anonymized health buddies, with whom no communication was possible. In each of those conditions financial prizes were promised to individuals who completed the most classes (as measured by actual attendance reported by the instructors).

In two additional conditions, participants were again assigned to groups, but promised rewards on the basis of which buddy

group collectively completed the most classes. This time, all participants could also web-chat directly with their buddies to coordinate schedules, encourage one another, or anything else. The difference here was that one condition displayed the scores of other teams, introducing a competitive prompt absent in the other.

The control condition, Centola points out, bears more than a passing resemblance to what Penn already does for its faculty and staff: namely encouraging them, on an individual basis, to pursue healthy behaviors via modest financial rewards for taking part in wellness programs. At least to some degree, that works. Hundreds of University staff get flu shots and cholesterol screenings this way, and many achieve fitness goals like walking one million steps in a year. But Centola found that two of the cluster-network conditions—the ones incorporating comparisons with other individuals or teams—increased the daily exercise rate by a whopping 90 percent.

Interestingly, the experimental group provided only with the ability to chat *underperformed* the control group. This, Centola says, demonstrates the potential pitfalls of social design—and the perils of giving too much credence to people’s stated desires. At the conclusion of an earlier study, Centola asked participants what extra features they would have liked. “Everyone said, ‘Oh, I wanted to chat with my health buddies. I wanted to get to know them. I wanted to go to classes with them.’” But whereas the combination of social comparison and the right network structure generated a striking positive behavior change, simply providing a rich social-media space backfired (perhaps because it shunted attention from top performers toward mediocre ones, creating a “social inertia” that pulled the entire group toward inactivity).

“I don’t think Steve Jobs would be surprised,” Centola says, referring to the late Apple CEO’s famous insistence that customers don’t actually know what they want until you tell them.

“Just asking people what they want isn’t a good way of doing science,” he says. The same goes for policy. “What we should do is understand the causality behind behavior and then build spaces that generate the causality we want to see.”

Yet that’s easier said than done. Centola says he offered to give the University his program for free, pitching it to the human-resources division as a scientifically proven upgrade over the existing wellness program. “And they basically said, ‘We’ve pretty much already committed a lot of resources behind our incentive model, so we’re just going to keep using it.’”

In a way, that just confirms his main research theme. There he was trying to get someone to adopt a new behavior that would entail some effort and perhaps a little risk, and the evidence mattered less than the fact that he was trying to spread it through a single contact.

He thinks his research will eventually find purchase, though. “I suspect that 20 or 30 years from now, there will be these kinds of social networks, just pro forma: you’ll show up and you’ll get one. And that will be part of the way in which you are incentivized to do these kinds of things.”

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OR CULTURAL AMNESIA?

Centola’s latest paper, coauthored with Annenberg colleagues Douglas Guilbeault and Joshua Becker last year in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, demonstrated the potential of structured networks to do what has come to be regarded as impossible: get liberals and conservatives to participate in civil exchanges producing accuracy and agreement about a key component of climate change.

Basically, several groups containing an equal number of self-identified liberals and conservatives were presented, in an online forum, with a NASA graph showing the observed extent of Arctic sea ice over roughly the last 30 years. When asked to consider the trend line and forecast the amount of sea ice for 2025, liberals were

substantially more likely than conservatives to make a prediction that accorded with NASA’s—i.e., that the ice pack will continue to shrink. But after their first prediction, participants were shown the average answers of their neighbors, then permitted to revise their own estimates.

“There’s this thesis floating around that one of the reasons we see so much political polarization, particularly on social media, is that when Democrats and Republicans interact, the fact that they’re confronted with opinions they disagree with generates a stronger reaction and basically exacerbates polarization,” Centola explains. But when the study participants interacted on an anonymous basis (confronting only ideas and not political affiliations), after two rounds of revision accuracy rose for conservatives and liberals alike, and polarization between the groups completely disappeared. In fact, conservatives became slightly *more* likely than liberals to produce estimates that accorded with NASA’s (though the difference did not reach statistical significance).

Yet a second experimental condition showed just how dependent such an effect can be on getting the social design just right. When the exact same exercise was carried out—only on screens that had free-floating donkeys and elephants in the background—the gulf between groups came roaring back.

“To me this was the most stunning finding,” Centola says. “We can eliminate the political polarization we see—but we do this small thing and it shows up again.”

Yet as everyone knows, the “small thing” in question—using a logo to nudge people to see things through a politicized lens—permeates contemporary media and social media environments.

“It’s not that social learning can’t take place,” he argues. “It’s that we are going out of our way to design spaces for people to interact that actually undercut our whole agenda with the space, which is to have people actually learn from each other.”

Which begs the question: Why is that so? “Because it makes it more fun,” Centola says. “It’s arousing, and it generates more clicks, more participation, more emotional reactions. It’s fundamentally undercutting the democratic nature of the space, but it’s good from a product point of view.”

Nevertheless, he’s not totally pessimistic about the future of social media. Human beings are wary of manipulation, and the dawning realization of how much of it is happening on social media may spark a demand for digital alternatives.

“Facebook and Twitter are not fixed entities,” he points out. “They’re constantly revising their design. Facebook runs millions of experiments a year. Obviously they’re all product-oriented ... but is it really that hard to think five years into the future about what new tech would be available for people to have productive political discussion?”

To Centola, a deeper problem is that society’s failure to design more beneficial networks stems partly from fundamental theoretical shortcomings in his own field. Even a standard metric like *path length*, which is a measure of how many steps it takes to get across a network, can lead well-intentioned researchers and product designers astray. “If you talk about path length, you’re already assuming that one link across two groups is a path,” Centola observes. “The definition you have settled on implies that what a connection means is something a simple contagion can pass across. But if you’re talking about a complex contagion, there’s no path there!”

“Our whole concept of networks is based on this principle of simple contagion,” he goes on. “So we build more networks that can spread them, and more of them wind up spreading ... so we build *more* networks that can spread them. And what gets lost is all the stuff that isn’t spreading, right?”

This is where Centola’s insights take a grim turn. The world we’ve built in the social media age favors “fast spreading,



easily digestible bits of information” that require minimal effort or engagement on the part of those whose attention they fleetingly occupy. Their proliferation, and the proliferation of networks that amplify them, may come at the expense of more valuable forms of social intercourse.

“Emile Durkheim’s famous notion of modernity and anomie was that people were becoming fundamentally isolated and alone,” he muses, referring to one of the principal architects of modern social science. But the last decade or so has given that idea an ironic twist: “It’s not that we’re becoming less connected. We’re becoming massively connected—but we’re tending not to notice what those connections look like,” Centola says. “And if the pattern is lots and lots of weak ties everywhere, it does make it harder to get the kind of social reinforcement you need for the kinds of cooperative or civic-minded behaviors that maybe require a little bit of work.”

He worries that people may increasingly expect social intercourse to consist primarily of the sorts of insubstantial behaviors that spread like simple contagions, and that they will gradually begin to view anything else as a bizarre anomaly or an unwanted intrusion.

“The kinds of gestures and civic-minded behaviors [people] are expected to display may be transformed by the kinds of cultural items that can spread through weak ties,” he writes. “As complex contagions become less represented in the stream of social consciousness, a society may begin to suffer a form of cultural amnesia.”

## **SOCIAL CAPITAL AND POSITIVE CHANGE**

The overarching theme of Centola’s work is that different kinds of networks confer different sorts of benefits—and disadvantages. And the reason to pay close attention to what distinguishes one from another is that they are all, ultimately, conduits for social capital.

Weak ties are truly fantastic for information flow, he emphasizes. Getting wind of

**“We’re becoming massively connected—but we’re tending not to notice what those connections look like.”**

a job through a friend of your cousin’s carpenter can be immensely valuable. “But there’s a different sort of social capital,” Centola says, “and that’s the kind of social capital of someone to watch your kids. Or someone to lend you money if you’re going through a financial hardship. And that typically is based on strong ties.”

One of the epiphanies he experienced as a young man engaged in community service was how often people expressed a thirst for a kind of social capital that wasn’t present in their lives. He noticed it most with disadvantaged high school students.

“They would self-consciously say things like, ‘I’d like to make this decision, but I don’t know how.’ Most of the time it was about a job or school. And it was clear that they had this really strong intuition that they needed some kind of guidance they just didn’t have available to them. And in the absence of that, they would take whatever guidance was available—which would lead them into socially entrenched pathways ... which is normal.”

Organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters of America have long tried to augment the social capital available to disadvantaged youth. Centola is convinced that the “hunger” for such spaces and networks is far more pervasive.

“People are looking for the kinds of social capital that can help them make the decisions they want to make,” he contends.

“It’s clear that all of the stuff floating across weak-tie social media is fun. It’s entertaining. It’s easy. It’s familiar. But if you are struggling to make a change, it’s not going to be super helpful.” And if your

neighborhood—or your school, or your workplace—doesn’t offer something that is, it’s up to some other organization to provide it. Centola argues that ivory tower institutions have a role to play.

“We do job training, right? We provide ways of people getting social mobility through neighborhood programs and college programs, right? And obviously we have models of financial capital.” Why not add better networks—the actual infrastructures and the tools to take advantage of them—to the mix?

“I think that the more that hospitals, universities, and other institutions take it upon themselves to provide these spaces, people will come and use them. And we can shape those spaces in intelligent ways, to direct the behaviors we want to see.”

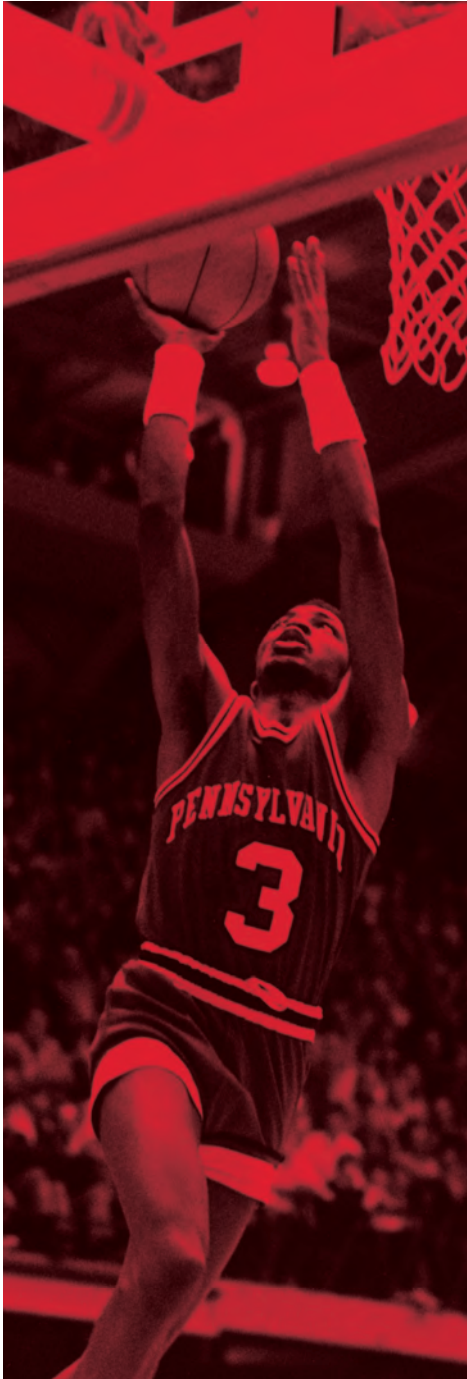
If the hint of heavy-handedness in that formulation pricks your anxieties about Big Brother or the nanny state, it bears remembering that any number of social networks entrenched in society already shape our behavior in ways often invisible to us. But we have the agency to choose at least some of the ones we join. So it’s hard to argue against designing alternatives with a clearer sense of how they can help or hinder us.

“When people do a network in the right way,” Centola declares, “you actually generate social learning that outperforms the classic wisdom of the crowd.”

Without making any presumptions about our own present level of wisdom, one senses that there are worse fates that could befall us.

From left to right, James “Booney” Salters, Bobby Willis, Tim Smith, Matt White and Tony Price—the five starters on Penn’s 1978–79 Final Four team.

**THE**





# OUTSIDERS



Celebrating the University's most storied sports team on its 40-year anniversary.

**By Dave Zeitlin**

**T**here they are, Booney and Bobby and Tony and Timmy, lined up on a sliver of Palestra floor mostly hidden from fans, next to one of the ramps they used to run down for practice, near the court where they played basketball in a way few Ivy League teams did before or have since. A nervous energy crackles as they stand alongside their other teammates from Penn's famed 1978-79 men's basketball team, waiting to hear their names called over the PA system. "Everybody ready?" someone calls out, and then one by one, they walk out onto the court as their old coach, Bob Weinbauer, hugs them all, whispering encouragement into their ears.

For a moment, it's almost as if they are back in college, getting ready for a game ... like 40 years haven't passed since those plucky Quakers pieced together one of the greatest underdog stories in college basketball history, culminating in what many still believe to be the sport's most important NCAA Final Four. "The most gratifying part about being here," says James "Booney" Salters W'80, the starting point guard on that 1978-79 team, "is it makes you feel like you're 21 again."

A couple of hours before Penn's Final Four team was honored during halftime of the Penn-Princeton game on January 12, Salters walks around the Palestra concourse, catching a glimpse of his 21-year-old self—smiling, a net hanging around his neck—in a picture on the wall. “Were you a player on the team?” a fan asks him as Salters arrives at the door to the Class of 1978 & Class of 1979 Atrium, which served as home base for most of the 40-year anniversary festivities. “James ‘Booney’ Salters,” he replies with a knowing smile, making sure to include the nickname that was so ingrained in college that it was on his license plate. The man eagerly asks for his autograph.

“That’s the thing I really enjoy the most—seeing how much joy we brought to people’s lives,” says Salters’ partner in the backcourt, Bobby Willis W’79, sitting up in the Palestra stands and watching pregame warmups. Back in the Atrium—which connects the Palestra to the basketball practice facilities and was adorned last year with giant photos and murals of the 1977–78 and 1978–79 teams—the joy is easy to see. One former season-ticket holder, Sally Katz C’82, wears her old “Show No Pity in Salt Lake City” T-shirt, which was the hot commodity on campus leading up to the 1979 Final Four, held in Utah’s capital. She’s chatting with Robert Oringer W’82, who came up with that slogan and designed those shirts as a freshman. “It just rhymed,” says Oringer, who flew in from Montreal for the 40-year anniversary party. “It wasn’t like an advanced Wharton marketing class.”

Forty years ago, the Quakers liked to say they had a secret. The slogan began when, while warming up for their second-round NCAA Tournament game versus North Carolina, then-assistant coach Bob Staak, sensing a bit of apprehension, told the players, “We’ve got a secret. Nobody knows it but we’re gonna beat these guys.” And then Penn did just that, pulling off arguably the best win in program history. After two more victories to get to the Final Four,

the Quakers’ new motto became “It’s no longer a secret.” A banner with those words once fluttered across Walnut Street.

While it hasn’t been a secret in the 40 years since, the accomplishment, in many ways, has become even more impressive over time as no Ivy League basketball team has come nearly as close to winning a national championship. “As the years go by—and they’ve gone by kind of quickly—it seems to become more and more precious,” says Tony Price W’79, the star of the 1978–79 squad.



As such, the University has made a concerted effort to embrace its illustrious basketball history, first honoring the 1977–78 Sweet 16 team (which featured the core of the Final Four squad) last season during the dedication of the Atrium. And this year’s festivities, which included giving out rings and presenting Weinbauer with a framed jersey, marked Penn’s first official celebration of the Final Four team since its 25-year anniversary. “I can’t believe they’ve done so much for us in putting together this day,” says Tim Smith C’79. “It really warms my heart to know they care that much about our team.”

Smith, the second-leading scorer on the ’78–’79 squad, admits he doesn’t get back to the Palestra as much as he’d like anymore. But he knows he’ll always share a

**“That’s the thing I really enjoy the most—seeing how much joy we brought to people’s lives.”**

special bond with Price, Willis, and Salters. Tragically, the fifth member of the team’s starting lineup, center Matt White C’79, was killed in 2013 by his wife Maria Garcia-Pellon, who was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter (but mentally ill) in his stabbing death in their Delaware County home. White had reportedly taken her to a hospital to address her delusional behavior one day before the attack, but she was discharged with a follow-up psychiatric appointment. “If he had passed away from natural causes, that would have been one thing,” says Weinbauer, adding that most of the team attended the funeral. “This was a very, very difficult situation—one that nobody could quite understand.”

White’s two children represented him at this year’s Palestra reunion. Price



stood next to them the whole time. “Matt was a big guy, very physical, but off the court the nicest person you ever wanted to meet,” Price says. “He was the greatest person—and a very big part of our team.”

## The Makings of Greatness

There are a lot of places you can start the story of Penn’s magical Final Four season. A South Bronx apartment on Webster Avenue is as good as any, in a room with a few shopping bags stuffed to the top with letters. That’s where Price kept all of his college offers—and there were a lot of them.



A two-time New York City champion out of Taft High School, Price could have gone just about anywhere. Penn wasn’t even on his radar until his high school coach, Don Adams, suggested he think about going to an Ivy League school. “I thought he meant schools with ivy growing on them,” laughs Price. But after seeing the look on people’s faces when he started telling them he was considering Wharton, he knew it was the right move. “Tony was a big thing,” says Weinbauer, an assistant coach under Chuck Daly when Price arrived at Penn.

Willis, another New York City native, had known Price since they were both 12

years old. But he was ready to break free of the East Coast and had committed to play at the University of Southern California. It wasn’t until spending the summer before college in Europe that he decided he might want to stay closer to home the next four years. When Weinbauer heard the news, he jumped in a car to convince him to follow Price to Penn. “It was one of the best things that happened to Bobby,” Weinbauer says, “and certainly one of the best things that happened to our basketball program.”

For the Quakers to nab not one but two New York City public league stars in the

same class was quite a score, and a testament to Daly’s formidable recruiting skills. For them to also add a Philadelphia public league standout made the group even more dynamic. Enter Smith, who met Daly after playing in the Philly high school championship—which the Penn coach called on the radio. “Have you ever thought about Penn?” Smith remembers Daly asking him. He hadn’t, even though he lived only a few blocks away in West Philadelphia. “I probably would have signed with Villanova, but I was still figuring out where I wanted to go,” Smith recalls. Two days later, he committed to Penn. “Best decision I ever made,” he says.

**Facing page: The former players reunite on the Palestra floor. Below: Price and Willis show off their new rings next to old photos of themselves.**

The first time the three African American city boys laid their eyes on the tall, lanky white walk-on from a Connecticut prep school, they weren’t sure what to expect. “Matt White happened to walk on the floor one day,” Smith says. “He was pretty raw, but his size and his willingness to learn the game was really a blessing.” Adds Willis: “When he walked in the gym, he was as strong as an ox. He didn’t have a lot of skills but we told Coach, ‘Put him on the team and we’ll teach him.’”

White would go on to an exceptional career at Penn, shooting a staggering 63.3 percent from the floor during the Final Four season (in which he was named first team All-Ivy along with Price) and finishing his career as a 59.1 percent shooter, which remains a program record. And he meshed well with his classmates from the start, joining Price, Willis, Smith, and Ed Kuhl W’79 to tear opponents to shreds on a freshman team that went 17-1. (At that point, freshmen couldn’t play on varsity—a policy that coincidentally changed for the 1978-79 season.) “I remember playing against Columbia as a freshman and we had more fans for our freshman game than they did for the varsity game,” says Smith, crediting much of Penn’s upcoming NCAA Tournament success to that season.

Salters arrived the next year to complete the Final Four core. Like the other New Yorkers, he didn’t know anything about Penn while growing up on Long Island. “I had never even heard the word *college*,” says Salters, whose parents grew up in the South and “could barely read or write.” His parents, though, always stressed schoolwork and his high school coach, seeing how good his grades were, suggested Wharton, even though “people in my community had issues with that because Bobby Willis was there, a year ahead of me, technically playing the same position.”

In the end, Weinbauer told Salters, “There’s no rule that I can’t have two point guards.” And so, while Price and Smith became the team’s top two offensive weapons as forwards, and White gobbled up rebounds and scored easy

buckets as the center, Salters and Willis ended up forming a steady backcourt. The explosive Willis had a knack for getting to the rim while the diminutive Salters, who Weinbauer called “the smartest point guard in the city at the time,” could hit the corner jump shot and be the team’s on-court general. “The most important part about that class in front of me is they took my leadership as a junior as not a problem,” Salters says. “They *looked* for me to do that.”

The year before Salters joined varsity, the 1976–77 Quakers had a disappointing season, at least by the lofty standards of 1970s Penn basketball. They finished in second place in the Ivies, missing the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year and leading Price to wonder if he had made the right choice. “I started doubting things I had been doing all my life,” Price told the *Gazette* in a feature in the magazine’s April 1979 issue. “I didn’t know who to talk to about it. I didn’t know where to go.”

The 1977–78 season brought a sudden change: Daly quit just three weeks ahead of the first game to take a job with the Philadelphia 76ers. Weinbauer, then only 37, took over. And Price and the Quakers suddenly got their swagger back, reclaiming the Ivy League championship, and finishing No. 20 in the final AP poll. “Coach Weinbauer prepared us mentally and physically to play every game,” Smith says. “We used to call him Sarge. He was really a disciplinarian. He made sure we went to bed on time. With Daly, those things weren’t as important.”

Some say that 1977–78 team—led by a trio of seniors in Keven McDonald C’78 (whose career scoring average trailed only Ernie Beck W’53), Stan Greene C’78, and Tom Crowley W’78—was more talented than the one that followed it. But after opening the 1978 NCAA Tournament by beating St. Bonaventure in a de facto home game at the Palestra, the Quakers blew a second-half lead in a Sweet 16 loss to Duke, ending a wildly successful season in devastating fashion.

Price left the court that day with a message to himself. “I just said, ‘The next time I get in the tournament, they’re going to have to carry me off the court. I’m not leaving.’” Indeed, Price and his teammates ended up playing the maximum possible number of games in the 1979 NCAA Tournament—four to qualify for the Final Four and then two more once they got there, including a third-place consolation game (which no longer exists). “Maybe I should have been a little clearer to myself and said, ‘I need to win a championship,’” adds Price with a laugh. “I said, ‘I’m going to play the most games I can possibly play,’ and that’s what I did. I wasn’t going home early.”

### The Secret

Although there were some question marks heading into the 1978–79 campaign following the graduation of McDonald, the Quakers quickly answered a lot of them in the season opener with an 80–78 win over a Virginia team they had lost to the previous year. Even better, freshman Vincent Ross CGS’92 punctuated the victory with a thunderous blocked shot, quickly showing how much Penn would benefit by the new rule allowing freshmen to play. Along with fellow frosh Angelo Reynolds C’82 and Tom Leifsen WEv’82, Ross would play a big role off the bench that year. So would sophomore Ken Hall W’81, who in his first season on varsity proved to be a valuable third guard behind Salters and Willis. “Vince Ross used to call me ‘Billy Basic’ because I wouldn’t do anything that was too far out of line,” Hall says. Weinbauer gave him a little more credit than that, calling Hall “probably the most mentally strong individual I’ve ever been around.”

Less than a month after their win over Virginia, the Quakers beat another ACC team, cruising to an 88–66 victory over Wake Forest (behind 12 points from Reynolds in his first collegiate game) to improve to 5–0 on the season. Some figured Penn should be ranked at that point,

but those thoughts went out the window when the Quakers traveled to San Diego for a tournament and lost a pair of games, first to Iowa in double overtime and then to a San Diego State team led by future Major League Baseball Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn. Some of the players enjoyed a few team bonding experiences while there—taking a bus trip to Tijuana, skateboarding on Mission Beach boardwalk, crashing a house party for New Year’s Eve—but maybe it was too much bonding. “That was a hard flight back,” says reserve forward Ted Flick C’81. “That’s when I started to not like flying.”

The losses in California proved to be a blip. Penn began the 1979 calendar year by easily winning its first two Ivy League games at Harvard and Dartmouth, before enjoying an epic week with Big 5 victories over nationally ranked Temple and Saint Joseph’s sandwiched around a one-point overtime victory at arch-rival Princeton. That set the stage for the most memorable game of the regular season: a showdown with No. 10 Georgetown at the Palestra, televised nationally on NBC with famed broadcasters Marv Albert and Bucky Waters on the call. “There was virtually no college basketball on TV then,” says former *Philadelphia Daily News* sports columnist Rich Hofmann W’80, then a sports editor at the *Daily Pennsylvanian*. “If you got Marv and Bucky to come to your game it was a big deal.” According to those listening, Albert repeatedly said, “I don’t know if you can hear me over this crowd”—which Dan Markind W’80 L’83, then the UTV sports director, said was the loudest he’s ever heard it in “50 years of watching basketball at the Palestra.”

The Quakers lost the game by two but still made a big statement. Afterward, Weinbauer famously told a reporter, “If they’re ranked 10, then we’re 10A”—which would prove to be a prescient observation. And Penn went on to win 10 of its last 12 regular-season games, only losing to Villanova and, surprisingly, at Columbia after the Quakers had already clinched the Ivy League title with three



Weinhauer flanked by former student manager Peter Levy W'82, left, and Tim Smith.

games to spare. Weinhauer remembers the Columbia fans, in their glee, shouting, “First-round losers” at the Quakers, in reference to Penn bowing out of the upcoming NCAA Tournament in the opening round. Price, in his home city, says he didn’t hear it and wouldn’t have cared if he had. “We were getting ready for the tournament,” he says. “We weren’t even thinking about Columbia.”

Indeed, for some teams before them, finishing the Ivy League with a perfect record might have been a primary goal. These Quakers, though, took especial joy playing—and beating—top teams outside the Ivies. “The hard part was trying to stay in shape, stay at that level during the Ivy League season,” Willis says. “We were always more focused playing against the Virginias, the Dukes, stuff like that.” Adds Smith: “We all played in public league schools, and we saw more action in public league games than we did in college. We weren’t afraid of playing in hostile arenas.”

And so when the NCAA Tournament bracket came out and the Quakers learned they were a No. 9 seed with a potential second-round game looming versus tournament favorite North Carolina—in the state of North Carolina, where the Tar Heels had never lost in the tournament—most people figured “maybe they’d win a game but then they’d get Carolina and that would be it,” Hofmann says. The players, though, weren’t scared. “I don’t think [other teams] respected our athletic ability,” Price says. “We would come out on the court, and they were like, ‘I thought we were playing an Ivy League school.’ Then they’d see us start playing and realize they were going to have a rough night.”

Iona, coached by Jim Valvano, learned the hard way as the Quakers beat the No. 8 seed in the East, 73–69, in an opening-round game at Reynolds Coliseum in Raleigh, North Carolina. Showing off the team’s depth, Leifsen, a 42 percent free throw shooter, made clutch foul shots down the stretch to seal the win and exasperate Valvano (who four years later



**“Coach Weinhauer prepared us mentally and physically to play every game. We used to call him Sarge.”**

would lead North Carolina State to a national championship in another one of college basketball’s great Cinderella stories). “I had known Jimmy forever,” Weinhauer says of the coach who died in 1993 after a famous fight with cancer. “So we just couldn’t lose that game. And Iona is a New York school and I’ve got three New York kids on my team. They weren’t going to lose to a New York team.”

Up next, two days later, were the mighty Tar Heels. For fans of top-seeded North Carolina, it probably seemed like a small speed bump en route to a showdown with second-seeded Duke, its biggest rival, down the road. But former UNC head coach Dean Smith expressed caution, telling reporters that Weinhauer had been an invited guest to a North Carolina pre-season practice and might know a thing or two about his team. And after Wein-

hauer pointed to Penn’s narrow 1978 loss to a Duke team that went on to the national finals as proof that his Quakers could play with these guys, and Staak shared his “secret” with the team, Penn stunned the crowd at Reynolds Coliseum (the same place where Penn’s 1970–71 near-perfect season ended [“Almost Perfect,” Mar|Apr 2011], in crushing fashion to Villanova) with a 72–71 victory.

The win was essentially sealed when, with Penn clinging to a late one-point lead, Price pulled down a rebound and threw a long outlet pass to Salters, who hit a layup while being fouled—hard. “Tony comes running down there and they had to hold him back,” says Salters, who composed himself enough to make the ensuing free throw to put the Quakers up four. That proved to be enough of a cushion for Penn to hang on, and for Price, who battled foul

trouble throughout the game, to bask in the glow of sweet vindication.

"This has to be one of the greatest feelings I ever experienced in my life," Price told the *New York Times* after the game. "And we come from the so-called weak Ivy League." The *Times* game recap ended with a Weinbauer quote: "We absolutely fear no one."

### Campus Buzzing

As the team's student manager, Peter Bagatta W'79, was always looking around, observing things. That's what he was doing after St. John's completed what's still known in North Carolina as "Black Sunday" by following Penn's upset of the Tar Heels with an equally massive upset of Duke. First, he saw Weinbauer and St. John's former coach Lou Carnesecca meet under a stairwell in Reynolds Coliseum and give each other a big hug. Then, from his seat on the bus, he watched UNC and Duke fans exit the arena in shock.

"It was like the night of the living dead," Bagatta recalls. "Coach Weinbauer says, 'Let's just be quiet until we get out of the parking lot and then you can do whatever you want.' Once we got on the road, we were yelling and screaming and hooting and hollering."

Meanwhile, Markind and friends were enjoying their long trek back to Philly. "Every time we passed another Penn car on I-95, we rolled down the windows, yelled at them—and they at us—and blasted our horns," says Markind, who had rushed the court from the upper deck and stormed the Penn locker room, where Staak "had brought out the cigars." Hofmann, who also drove back to Philly that night with *Daily Pennsylvanian* basketball beat writers John Eisenberg C'79 and Jonathan Lansner W'79 (both current journalists), remembers "standing outside afterward and everyone is trying to give tickets away for the next weekend in Greensboro."

Perhaps some Penn fans scooped up those tickets for the Sweet 16 and Elite Eight games, although Greensboro Me-

morial Coliseum was certainly far less full than it would have been had UNC and Duke advanced to the next round in their home state. The Quakers still put on a show for those that were there, surprising Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim by running with a high-octane Orange team led by "The Louie and Bouie Show"—Louis Orr and Roosevelt Bouie. "Bobby and I had something to prove going into the Syracuse game," Salters says. "We were an Ivy League school and people kept saying we're not good enough to do what we were doing."

Fueled by Price, who Boeheim called "the best forward we've seen all year," the Quakers built an early 17-point lead before holding on for an 84–76 win. After the game, Smith, who finished with 18 points (second on the team to Price's 20) rang a familiar bell, telling reporters, "I thought Syracuse was going through the motions in the first half." Forty years later, the chip is still on his shoulder. "They took us lightly," remarks Smith, who Weinbauer says was the type of guy who "could not be stopped when the game was on the line." The former Penn coach adds, "I think we surprised them by coming out running the way we did. They were known to be a running team, but we were quick. We were *New York City* quick."

The next game against St. John's, the region's No. 10 seed in the midst of an unlikely run of its own, had a different pace. "The game was a horror show," Hofmann recalls. "It was just a rock fight." But the Quakers, hardened by winning close games throughout the season, survived a series of St. John's chances in the final seconds—culminating with Ross intercepting a length-of-the-court pass—to book their ticket to Salt Lake City with a 64–62 victory. Then they celebrated the Ivy League's first Final Four berth since Bill Bradley took Princeton there in 1965. "They have a picture of me, I think, talking to [broadcaster] Bryant Gumbel and maybe cutting down the net," Weinbauer says. "And I honestly do not remember cutting down the net."

The celebrations were even crazier—perhaps hazier, too—back on campus in the week leading up to Penn's Final Four game versus Earvin "Magic" Johnson and Michigan State. Bedsheets hung from the highrises, painted with signs that read "The Secret Is Out" and "The Quakers Don't Believe in Magic" and "Michigan State Will Pay the Price." The incredible capper came at Franklin Field where some 10,000 students and fans completely packed one side of the double-tiered football stadium for a pep rally. "You walk in and you're like, 'What the heck is this?'" says Hall, who was equally amazed by all the fans who followed the team to Salt Lake City. "We're just going to play a basketball game!" It was quite the send-off to go to the airport. "That's something you never thought would happen at Penn," Bagatta says. "We were like the Beatles on the bus."

Hofmann—who says the rally is "still outrageous when you think about it"—cranked out hoops content for the *DP* all week, including driving directions to Salt Lake City that cheekily read along the lines of, "Go to the South Street Bridge, make one left, and drive for two days." He spurned his own advice to take an airplane for the first time and cover the first major sporting event of a career that would be filled with them. But when he got there, his journalistic impartiality collided with a despondency felt by every Quaker loyalist. "I was sitting there at halftime looking a little sad and [the Utah sports information director] said, 'It's not that bad,'" Hofmann recalls. "And I just looked at him and said, 'Not that bad? It's 50 to fucking 17.'"

The halftime score was indeed hard to swallow, and the final wasn't much better as the Quakers crashed out of the tourney with a 101–77 loss. Magic Johnson led the way with 29 points while Greg Kelser scored 28 for Michigan State. The Quakers, meanwhile, shot less than 30 percent from the field and coughed up 24 turnovers. All the missed layups, especially early in the game, is



**“We were an Ivy League school and people kept saying we’re not good enough to do what we were doing.”**

what still sticks in the players’ crawls the most. Michigan State coach “Jud Heathcote saw Bob [Weinhauer] and I later on and said, ‘You guys executed against our zone better than anyone did all year,’” Staak says. “We just couldn’t make shots.” The Quakers played better in the consolation game against future NBA star Mark Aguirre and DePaul but again fell behind by a big first-half margin, before losing in overtime.

Penn’s former players and coaches don’t believe the missed shots were due to the nerves of playing on a big stage. Some, however, think the team could have been hurt by the very thing they were so excited about at the time: all of the Penn people who made the trip to Salt Lake City. Because of the way their hotel was laid out, with the rooms facing a central courtyard, Bagatta remembers being woken up the morning of the national semifinal game by the Penn Band practicing the fight song. And the players mixed it up with fans at the hotel throughout their stay. “If we were a little more isolated,” Smith says, “I think we would have played a lot better.”

But even if there may have been some extra challenges—including a delayed flight to Utah and needing oxygen tanks at practice to adjust to the Salt Lake City



First row, from left to right: seniors Ed Kuhl, Bobby Willis, Tony Price, Matt White, Tim Smith. Second row: Head coach Bob Weinbauer, manager Kevin O’Brien, Tom Condon, Vincent Ross, Tom Leifsen, Ted Flick, assistant coach Bob Staak. Third row: Assistant coach Dennis Jackson, Angelo Reynolds, James “Booney” Salters, David Jackson, Ken Hall, manager Peter Bagatta.

altitude—the players were glad to have such support. And although Salters, who only scored two points in the Michigan State loss, spent many years wishing his team had arrived in Utah earlier and gotten more time to practice away from the crowds, he eventually was able to put the game into proper perspective. “As I got older, I realized I would not have given up that week of being [in Philadelphia] and sharing it with the city,” Salters says. “I would not have given that up.”

### Setting the Bar

As one of the players who returned to the team the next year, Hall figured the Quakers would get to enjoy an encore performance. “I was under the impression that Penn would be back in the tournament every year,” he says. “After we finished going to the Final Four, all the expectations became: *What are you going to do next?*” At the time, he had no idea just how remarkable the run had

been, or how it would mark a glorious conclusion to Penn’s golden decade. “Whoever believes what you’re doing is going to last for five years, much less 40?”

Looking back, there were certainly reasons to believe the Quakers could have continued to be a top program nationally. They had been one win away from making the Final Four in both 1971 and 1972, and several other teams in the 1970s were absolutely loaded with talent. “The Penn program was as good as any program in the country during that 10- to 12-year period,” Weinbauer says. “And so we had a lot to live up to.”

Some of Penn’s magic continued into 1980, with Salters hitting the game-winning shot in a one-game playoff versus Princeton before leading the Quakers to a first-round NCAA Tournament upset of Washington State. (Salters holds the program record for NCAA Tournament appearances with 10, having won at least one tourney game in each of his three

varsity seasons). But since then, despite remaining an Ivy League powerhouse for long stretches of the past four decades, the Quakers have won only one NCAA Tournament game—exactly 25 years ago.

Perhaps the writing was on the wall. Hofmann recalls that “the rest of the league was not happy” about how good Penn was becoming, and six years later the Ivy League created an “Academic Index” to monitor the academic qualifications of recruited athletes across all eight institutions. Meanwhile, the explosion in college tuition since 1980 has made it harder for big-time high school athletes to justify going to a league that doesn’t give athletic scholarships.

College basketball also changed a lot in the last 40 years. The Big East formed less than two months after the 1979 Final Four, becoming the go-to conference for many of the best basketball players from Northeastern hoops hotbeds. A shot clock and a three-point line were added, generating more offense and excitement. And the NCAA, which Hofmann characterized as a “real mom-and-pop organization” in the 1970s, grew to become a behemoth, with its end-of-season basketball tournament evolving into the much-hyped spectacle now known as “March Madness”—with a yearly TV value of more than one billion dollars.

The 1979 NCAA Tournament is now considered a launching pad for the madness because it had expanded to include more teams (40, from the previous season’s 32), and, for the first time, seeded teams based on their regular-season performance. (The expansion continued to 68 teams but the seeding laid the framework for the NCAA tourney bracket that even the most amateur office pool gambler has come to recognize.) The national championship game that year also pitted Magic Johnson against Larry Bird of Indiana State, two of the greatest athletes in any sport. It remains the highest-rated game in the history of college basketball—something the Quakers

couldn’t have realized as they watched it unfold from the stands, exhausted from their overtime loss to DePaul that preceded it. “I enjoyed watching Magic. I enjoyed watching Bird. But I was not an enthusiastic observer at that time,” Weinbauer says.

Seeing what Bird and Magic became, though, made Penn’s Final Four exit easier to swallow over time, gradually turning into a source of pride for having shared the stage with them. “The buzz that was brought in by Larry Bird and Magic Johnson really lit up the NCAA and made it a national phenomenon,” Flick says. “We were a part of that—a Cinderella-type team that wasn’t supposed to be there.” Other Cinderella teams have followed. George Mason (2006), VCU (2011), and Loyola Chicago (2018) each made stunning Final Four runs from smaller conferences. But the 1978–79 Quakers remain one of the best underdog stories in college hoops—and, in many ways, the first. “That’s the Final Four that made the Final Four what it is today,” Bagatta says. “We weren’t the stars, but I would say we were like the best supporting actor.”

The Quakers haven’t received any Oscars for their performance, but they may soon get their due on the big screen. Two young filmmakers have been working on a documentary titled *The Secret Is Out: College Basketball’s First Cinderella Story*. They’re still looking for more funding to complete the project, but some footage was shown on the Palestra big screen before the Penn–Princeton game, to the delight of the old players. “I guess I don’t mind being called that now, but I thought we were one of the best teams in the country,” Price says. “I was trying to win a championship; I ain’t thinking of no Cinderella.”

However he thinks of it, Price—who beat out Magic and Bird for honors as the top scorer in the 1979 NCAA Tournament with 142 points, capped by a career-high 31-point effort versus DePaul—believes the Quakers can one day return to

the Final Four. “I would never say never—because if I believed that, then how did we do it?” says Price, whose son, A. J., made the Final Four with the University of Connecticut exactly 30 years after he did—before also losing to Michigan State. Most of his former teammates and Weinbauer agree with that assessment. A few pointed to this year’s team beating the defending national champions (Villanova), among other exciting wins, as proof that maybe the Quakers aren’t as far off as some might think.

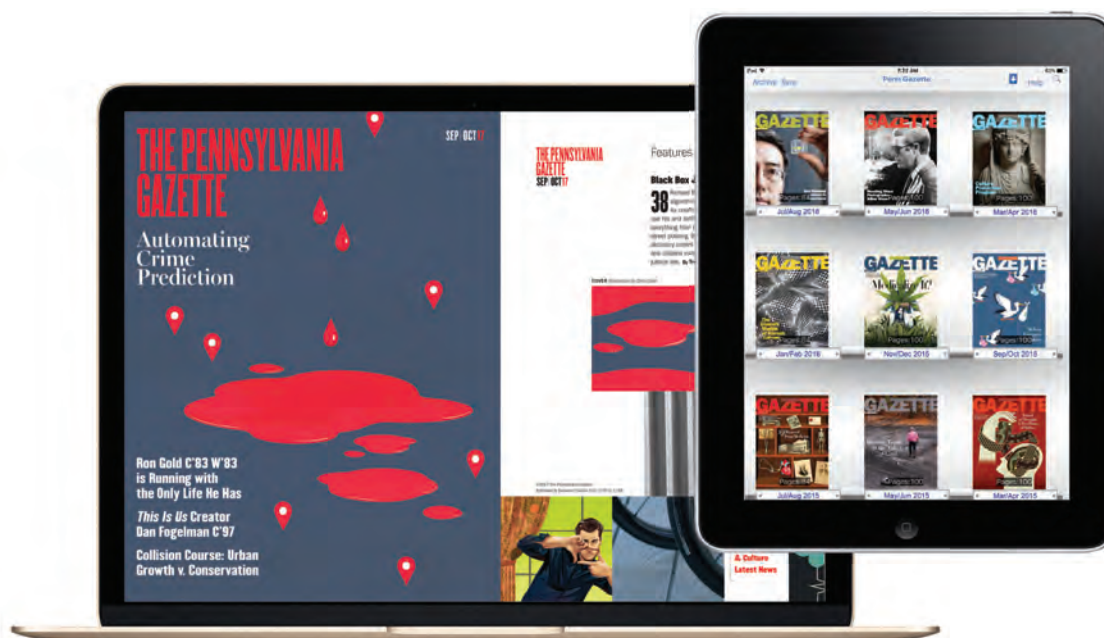
Current men’s basketball head coach Steve Donahue—who took Cornell to the Sweet 16 in 2010, the closest an Ivy League team has come since 1979—believes a Final Four return is possible too. “It may be an easier path now,” he remarks, because Ivy teams tend to have more upperclassmen than the big-conference teams whose stars bolt for the pros after one or two seasons. So does junior forward AJ Brodeur, Penn’s top scorer, who enjoys the connection the current Quakers share with the program’s past stars—including Weinbauer, who returns often to speak to the team. “It’s good to set high goals to want to become a legendary team, to become cemented in Penn’s history,” Brodeur says. “Every year, some team makes a surprise run, and I bet the whole country doesn’t see it coming—except for that one team.”

No matter what happens in the future, Penn’s 1978–79 men’s basketball squad will forever be enshrined as one of the most acclaimed teams in the University’s rich athletic history. Somehow, it was a vision that Price always had, when he decided to attend a school he knew could do as much for him as he for it, hoping to carve out the kind of legacy he didn’t believe he could have gotten anywhere else.

“I want our team to be the one people think of all the time when they mention Penn basketball,” Price told the *Gazette* before the 1979 NCAA Tournament began. For 40 years—and who knows how many more—his dream has come true.



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# WILLIAM WALKER'S DARK DESTINY

Newly settled in Costa Rica, a recent alumnus investigates the legacy of “filibuster” William Walker M1843—largely forgotten in the US but still perhaps the most hated man in Central America.

By Myles Karp

A few months ago, I found myself browsing in a novelty store in Alajuela, Costa Rica, about an hour from where I live. Among garments displaying more familiar Costa Rican iconography—sloth on a surfboard, sloth with sunglasses, sloth trapped inside a glass of a tropical beverage—was a T-shirt bearing the proclamation: “William Walker was a punk ass bitch.”

I had moved to Costa Rica in January 2017 after a bout of restlessness and was trying—awkwardly—to learn the language, the customs, and the history; I still am. I had never heard of Walker, but I soon learned that—like me—he was a visitor to Central America from the US who had graduated from Penn and tried his hand at a few jobs before getting hit with wanderlust. From there, our paths

diverged. Whereas I had been lured by visions of sunshine and hammocks, Walker tried to take over large swaths of Central America to create his own personal slave republics. For a time, he succeeded.

Walker was the central antagonist in Costa Rica’s national history and mythology. Probably Nicaragua’s too. El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras all helped to vanquish him. Here in Costa Rica, the repulsion of the would-be invader and usurper was largely what first forged the young republic’s sense of national identity and unity. Though the past century and a half have largely effaced Walker from the historical imagination of the United States, Central Americans have not forgotten the misdeeds of the so-called “Grey-eyed Man of Destiny.”

**Walker was born** in Nashville, Tennessee, on May 8, 1824, a descendent of Lipscomb Norvell, a lieutenant in the Continental Army. Academically precocious, he graduated from the University of Nashville at age 14. After some time at the universities of Edinburgh and Heidelberg, he obtained a medical degree from Penn in 1843, by then all of 19.

Walker practiced medicine in Philadelphia and law in New Orleans for brief stints, before coming into control of a New Orleans newspaper called the *Daily Crescent* as editor and co-owner. At one point, his co-editor was a pre-fame Walt Whitman—who was fired, as he had been from other journalistic positions,

for his zealously anti-slavery views. Though no abolitionist firebrand like Whitman, Walker at the time wrote against the expansion of slavery in the growing United States.

In 1850, Walker moved to San Francisco, whose population had ballooned following the discovery of gold nearby in 1848. After obtaining an editorial position at the *San Francisco Daily Herald*, he made the enforcement of law and order in the relatively lawless young city his journalistic crusade. But despite his righteous tirades, Walker seems to have gotten caught up in the city’s culture of violence. He apparently fought three duels, one of which ended with a bullet in his leg.

While it was primarily the material promise of gold that drew prospectors to California, this mid-19th century westward expansion also had strong ideological underpinnings. During the 1845 debates over the annexation of Texas, journalist and politician John O’Sullivan wrote in the *Democratic Review* that it was “our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying billions.” The concept of manifest destiny, though not universally endorsed, became a rallying cry for the expansion into and annexation of territories near the country’s growing borders.

Politically, manifest destiny featured prominently in the platform of the Democratic Party. President James K. Polk, a Democrat, fervently pursued expansion







during his tenure from 1845 to 1849, wresting 600,000 square miles of land from Mexico in the Mexican-American War.

During his time in California, Walker became a strong advocate of the manifest destiny ideology, and he eventually shifted his journalistic focus from local crime to American expansionism. His writings were especially concerned with Latin America; he advocated for the annexation of Cuba and US involvement in Nicaragua, which in addition to a territorial boon also promised to be a profitable business opportunity, given the country's role as a prominent shipping byway in the time before the Transcontinental Railroad and the Panama Canal.

Though Polk embraced manifest destiny, the US presidents who followed him—Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore, both of the Whig Party—proved less enthusiastic. With federal support lacking, zealous expansionists often took matters into their own hands, traveling to nearby lands with ideological compatriots or mercenaries and small arsenals to claim territory for the United States. These guerilla expansionists came to be known as *filibusters*, from an arcane Dutch word for pirates. Walker was not the first filibuster, but he became the most famous and—for a while—the most successful.

After hearing about a French colonial expedition to Sonora, Mexico, Walker set in motion his first plan to act upon his expansionist inclinations. Without waiting for permission from the federal government, which Walker believed to be too passive, the Tennessean arrived with a group of 45 mercenary recruits in Mexico on November 4, 1853. Despite a complete lack of military experience, Walker successfully commanded the capture of the governor of the Mexican state of La Paz and declared himself president of the new Republic of Lower California. Though he ostensibly intended to eventually join his republic with the United States, his installation of himself as president of an independent state might have foreshadowed a com-

mitment more to his own aspirations of power than to any patriotic ideology.

Though slight in appearance and of gentle affect, Walker inspired fear and loyalty in his men. According to the writer J.C. Jamison, who fought for Walker in Nicaragua:

“He was a man of small stature, his height being about five feet five inches, and his weight close to 130 pounds. His body, however, was strong, and his vital energy surprisingly great. The expression of his countenance was frank and open, and heightened by the absence of beard of any kind. His aggressive and determined character was plainly indicated by his aquiline nose, while his eyes, from which came his sobriquet, ‘Grey-eyed Man of Destiny,’ were keen in their scrutiny and almost hypnotic in their power. A woman’s voice was scarcely softer than Walker’s ... But with all his placidity of voice and demeanor, men leaped eagerly into the very cannon’s mouth to obey his commands.”

**By the time of this first filibustering mission,** Walker had long abandoned his mildly anti-slavery views and instead championed the institution’s expansion throughout the Americas. He may have had a change of heart—or may simply have recognized the usefulness of pro-slavery sentiment in gaining support and recruits for his filibustering. The most ardent advocates of manifest destiny were Southerners who viewed expansion and annexation as opportunities to establish new slave states, tipping the tenuous balance with the abolitionist North. Most of Walker’s enlistees on the Mexican misadventure had been recruited from the slave states of Tennessee and Kentucky. Once in control, Walker borrowed the laws of Louisiana for his new republic, making slavery legal by default.

Despite the hundreds of reinforcements who had come to join his ranks, Walker failed to take his second target, Sonora. Facing immense pressure from both the Mexican and American governments, he surrendered in early 1854.

Back in California, he was charged with violating neutrality laws, which forbade American military expeditions to allied nations. Representing himself in court, Walker deployed his substantial charisma and rhetorical charms to obtain an acquittal after eight minutes of jury deliberation. He was a popular hero in California, as well as throughout the sympathetic American South and West.

Walker settled into another newspaper position, but it was not long before he embarked upon his next filibustering journey. Nicaragua was in the throes of a civil war between the Legitimist and Democratic parties, based respectively in Granada and León. The Democrats sought mercenary help and contacted Walker. Eager to exploit the nation whose shipping route could prove immensely valuable to himself and to the United States, Walker agreed; this time, however, he made sure to circumvent neutrality laws by obtaining a contract to bring “colonists” to Nicaragua.

On May 3, 1855, Walker and 57 followers left San Francisco by boat. Shortly after arriving, and reinforced with local Democratic troops, they attacked the Legitimist stronghold of Rivas. They lost decisively, driven out of town after suffering significant casualties. Though his military prowess was questionable, Walker became the leader of the Democrats by default, when the chiefs of both the military and the executive branch died. On October 13, in what many consider to be the only truly adept maneuver of his military career, he commanded a ferry and sailed to Granada, taking the Legitimist forces by surprise. At this point, he effectively gained control of Nicaragua, installing a puppet interim president in Patricio Rivas. Soon after, he had himself elected president and was inaugurated on July 12, 1856.

Walker’s reign was characterized by the imposition of white American cultural and racial hegemony over the native people and traditions. He declared English the official language, confiscated property from Nicaraguan rivals to give



to American supporters, legalized slavery, and invited—practically begged—white Americans to immigrate in notices like this one from a New Orleans paper:

“The Government of Nicaragua is desirous of having its lands settled and cultivated by an industrious class of people, and offer as an inducement to emigrants, a donation of Two Hundred and Fifty Acres of Land for single persons, and One Hundred Acres additional to persons of family. Steamers leave New Orleans for San Juan on the 11th and 26th of each month. The fare is now reduced to less than half the former rates.”

He established a bilingual newspaper, *El Nicaragüense*, which originated his famous sobriquet, based on a supposed indigenous legend about a grey-eyed leader who would drive out Spanish oppressors. “This traditional prophecy has been fulfilled to the letter,” proclaimed a writer for Walker’s paper in December 1855. “‘The Grey-Eyed Man’ has come.”

If his ideological commitment to slavery had been ambiguous earlier, Walker was by now a zealous proponent. He also saw slavery as a means of limiting the race-mixing between Spanish and indigenous people that he considered the root of social unrest in the region.

**Back in the US,** Walker was practically beatified. Plays were staged about his exploits, with a playbill for one July 1856 production at Manhattan’s Purdy National Theatre calling him “The hope of freedom.” W.F. Brannin of Kentucky took it upon himself to write the “Nicaragua National Song,” presenting Walker as a tyrant-toppling liberator:

It needs not a Prophet or talker  
To tell you in prose or in verse,  
the exploits of Patriot Walker,  
Whom Tyrants will long deem a curse -  
A brave son of Freedom is Walker  
And Nations his fame will rehearse.

In addition to lauding his bravery and accomplishments, many Americans saw

Walker’s reign in Nicaragua as an opportunity. Southerners seeking to add a slave state to the union, emigrants looking for new opportunities and land, and capitalists seeking new sources of profit each assumed he would champion their unique causes. But as he gained power, Walker demonstrated that his only unwavering ideological commitment was to himself.

It was his repudiation of powerful capitalists that led to his eventual downfall. Since 1849, the Accessory Transit Company, controlled by Cornelius Vanderbilt, had enjoyed contractual dominion over the transit route across Nicaragua. Assuming their compatriot would prove sympathetic to their aims once in power, company executives had provided much of the financial and logistical support for Walker’s mission. But shortly after gaining control of the country, Walker revoked the company’s charter and seized its boats. Though Walker had made a great number of enemies, none had been so rich, powerful, and vengeful as Vanderbilt.

As Walker established himself in Nicaragua and began hinting at greater ambitions in the region, nearby countries sought to prepare defenses. Costa Rican president Juan Rafael Mora became the primary galvanizer of opposition to the filibusters for both Costa Rica and the region as a whole. In November of 1855, about a month after Walker’s victory at Granada, Mora offered the following warning to his countrymen in a decree:

“Peace, that fortunate peace that, together with your industrious perseverance, has so increased our credit, wealth, and happiness, is perfidiously threatened. A gang of foreigners, scourge of all peoples ... plan to invade Costa Rica to look in our wives and daughters, in our houses and farms, pleasures for their fierce passions, nourishment to their unbridled greed. Will I need to paint for you the terrible ills that coldly awaiting such a barbaric invasion can result in?”

On February 26, 1856, Costa Rica officially declared war on the filibuster government of Nicaragua. A few days

later, Mora issued a proclamation calling to arms not only his countrymen but also the “Great Central American family” of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras.

Walker responded in kind with a decree of his own:

“The Natural law of individual protection obliges us, the Americans of Nicaragua, to declare eternal enmity to the servile party and the servile governments of Central America. The friendship we have offered them has been rebuffed. We are left with no option other than to make them recognize that our enmity can be as dangerous and destructive as our friendship is faithful and true.”

The Costa Ricans did indeed take up arms. The filibusters had, by that point, actually penetrated into Costa Rican territory, inhabiting a farm called Santa Rosa in the Nicoya Peninsula, just south of Nicaragua. Mora and the Costa Ricans reached Santa Rosa on March 20 and won the ensuing skirmish in 14 minutes, officially expelling the invaders from their country. They then continued to Rivas for a now-legendary battle. After grueling street fighting, the two sides reached a sort of stalemate, with the filibusters entrenched in the Guerra family’s home and boardinghouse, from which they maintained a secure firing position.

As the possibly apocryphal legend goes, a Costa Rican drummer boy named Juan Santamaría volunteered to charge the house with his torch as long as someone would take care of his mother in case of his death. He managed to light the house on fire, drawing out the filibusters, but he was gunned down in doing so. Juan Santamaría is now Costa Rica’s national hero. The international airport is named for him, and every April 11—the anniversary of the battle—the country celebrates Juan Santamaría Day.

Though they do also commemorate the anniversary of independence from Spain, Costa Ricans consider Juan Santamaría Day to be the primary national holiday, and mark it with comparable fanfare. This past April, fireworks displays audible

from around the Central Valley had the stray dogs that rule my street howling loudly and proudly; even the little dachshund-chihuahua mutt was celebrating the rout of Walker's men at Rivas.

The Costa Ricans had a key ally, and Walker a fateful enemy, in Cornelius Vanderbilt. The tycoon sought to seize back control of the San Juan River and his former boats, which had become Walker's lifeline for supplies and reinforcements. In doing so, Vanderbilt could help defeat his nemesis while simultaneously regaining the lucrative transit route. In December 1856, one of his agents, Sylvanus Spencer, led 120 Costa Rican troops by canoe and raft toward the ferry port at Greytown, Nicaragua. There they were joined by Mora and 800 more troops, well-armed with guns and ammunition supplied by Vanderbilt. Together they traversed the river and captured the ferry boats one by one, eventually gaining control of the route. Walker's lifeline was cut, and Vanderbilt had gotten his revenge.

Meanwhile, the allied coalition of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala attacked from the north. As fighting went on, Walker's situation became increasingly desperate, exacerbated by outbreaks of disease and desertion among his men. Finally, on May 1, 1857, Walker surrendered and was brought to New York by the US Navy.

Once again greeted as a hero at home, he cast himself as the injured party, lodging a formal complaint against the US naval commander who had captured him in a meeting with President Buchanan. His continued criticism of the Navy for interfering cut into his popular support somewhat, and there were occasional run-ins with the law over his flouting of neutrality laws, but nothing came of them. He lectured widely, trying to raise money for a return to Nicaragua, and in 1860 published *The War in Nicaragua*, an autobiographical account of his military campaign, where he is listed on the title page as "Gen'l William Walker."

In a dedicatory note to "my comrades in Nicaragua," he describes the book as an effort "to do justice to their acts and motives: To the living, with the hope that we may soon meet again on the soil for which we have suffered more than the pangs of death—the reproaches of a people for whose welfare we stood ready to die: To the memory of those who perished in the struggle, with the vow that as long as life lasts no peace shall remain with the foes who libel their names and strive to tear away the laurel which hangs over their graves."

But Walker's next return to Central America would prove considerably less consequential to the region—and fatal for him.

A group of rogue British settlers hoped to establish a colony on Roatán, an island off the Honduran coast, and they asked the famed filibuster for help. He agreed, but shortly after arriving, he was captured by Commander Nowell Salmon of the British Navy. The British controlled the land that is now Belize and viewed Walker as a threat to their interests in the region. Salmon turned Walker over to the Honduran government—a gift surely received with pleasure. On September 12, 1860, at the age of 36, Walker was executed by a firing squad.

The *New York Times* report of the execution suggests the fervency with which the Honduran executioners undertook the task:

"Three soldiers stepped forward to within twenty feet of him and discharged their muskets. The balls entered his body, and he leaned a little forward; but, it being observed he was not dead, a fourth soldier mercifully advanced so close to the suffering man that the muzzle of the musket almost touched his forehead, and being there discharged, scattered his brains and skull to the winds. Thus ends the life of the 'Gray-eyed man of Destiny.'"

**Though lionized** during his lifetime, over the decades Walker faded into obscurity in the US. But Central Americans

haven't forgotten. Still-popular terms for both Salvadorans (*Salvatruchos*) and Hondurans (*Catrachos*) derive from the name of the allied commander in the war against the filibusters, Florencio Xatruch. Here in my adopted home of Costa Rica, the national heroes and holidays, the names of airports and highways, stem from the story of Walker and the heroic quest to prevent the country from becoming a Yankee-controlled slave state. As I was researching this piece in a room full of battle dioramas at the Juan Santamaría Museum in Alajuela, a group of school-children around eight or nine years old entered the room, their teacher spinning the national yarns of the campaign against the filibusters; they looked like they had heard it all before.

It's all too easy to canonize our heroes and forget about our demons. Walker was an exceptional case, but he certainly was not the last demon in the story of the relationship between the US and Central America. Many of the most egregious transgressions are, like the Walker affair, left out of our history books. Even without sinister intention, US culture continues to exert a hegemonic—often uninvited—influence on Central America. Ironically, the words on the T-shirt that inspired my William Walker fact-finding initiative were, despite their anti-imperialist sentiment, printed in English.

Given the historical context, to welcome a visitor like me is an act of forgiveness for Costa Rica, and I've been striving to adapt to local customs and be a good guest—an anti-Walker. I'm not sure how we can keep the memory of our collective misdeeds alive—but a handy T-shirt with a disparaging quip about one of America's most nefarious punk ass bitches is a good starting point.

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Myles Karp C'12 is a journalist living in Costa Rica, seeking out and writing about exotic fruits, compelling human stories, and lesser-known episodes in Latin American history for publications ranging from *The New York Times* to *Vice*.



## Calendar

## Annenberg Center

**Michael Londra and the Celtic Fire**  
*Mar. 16*

**The New Lionel Hampton Big Band**  
Featuring Jason Marsalis *Mar. 23*

**Union Tanguera + Kate Weare Company** *Apr. 5–6*

**Hiromi** *Apr. 11*

**Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers** *Apr. 12–13*

**The English Concert**  
Handel's *Semele*  
*Apr. 16*

**BODYTRAFFIC** *Apr. 26–27*

## Arthur Ross Gallery

**Soy Cuba: The Contemporary Landscapes of Roger Toledo**  
*Apr. 6–June 2*

## ICA

**Colored People Time:**

**Mundane Futures**

**Cecilia Vicuña: About to Happen**  
*Both through Mar. 31*

**Introducing Tony Conrad:**

**A Retrospective**  
*Through Aug. 11*

## Kelly Writers House

**Ahmad Almallah and Tom Sleigh**

A reading and conversation *Mar. 20*

**Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge**

Kelly Writers House Fellows Program  
Reading *Mar. 25*

Brunch Conversation *Mar. 26*

**Lunch with Emily Jane Fox C'11**

Alumni Authors Series *Mar. 27*

**City Planning Poetics 7:**

**Carceral Justice**

Emily Abendroth and Keith Reeves  
*Mar. 28*

**Allison Cobb and Brian Teare:**

**A Poetry Reading** *Apr. 2*

**Katie Degentesh Poetry Reading**  
*Apr. 9*

**Brave Testimony:**

**A Reading by Chris Abani**  
Sponsored by the Center for  
Africana Studies *Apr. 16*

**Roseanne Cash**

Kelly Writers House Fellows Program  
Reading *Apr. 22*

Brunch Conversation *Apr. 23*

**A Conversation with**

**Douglas Brinkley**

Povich Journalism Program *Apr. 24*

## Penn Museum

**Bearing Witness:**

**Four Days in West Kingston**

**Moundbuilders: Ancient Artifacts of North America**

*Both through Dec. 2*

## Penn Libraries

**Whitman at 200:**

**Looking Back, Looking Forward**

(Symposium) *Mar. 29–30*

**Wise Men Fished Here:**

**A Centennial Exhibition in Honor of the Gotham Book Mart, 1920-2020** *Through May 20.*

**Music Partnerships at Play:**

**The Marlboro Music Festival**  
*Through Jun. 21*

## Slought Foundation

**Concerning Violence**

(Film) *Mar. 29*

**The Politics of Race in America**

A conversation with Johnathan Metzger, Dorothy Roberts, and Anthea Butler  
*Apr. 17*

## Wolf Humanities Center

**A History of Space Debris**

Stuart Grey *Mar. 27*

**Queer Urgencies**

(Conference) *Apr. 5–6*

**Monuments and Memory**

David Brownlee, Ken Lum  
*Apr. 17*

## World Café Live

**Kat Edmonson** *Mar. 20*

**The Barr Brothers** *Mar. 22*

**Meow Meow + Thomas Lauderdale:**  
Hotel Amour Tour *Mar. 26*

**The Antlers: Hospice**

10 Year Anniversary Acoustic Show  
*Mar. 27*

**An Evening with JD Souther** *Mar. 28*

**New Sound Brass Band** *Mar. 30*

**An Evening with John Parr** *Apr. 2*

**Tobe Nwigwe** *Apr. 4*

**The Wild Reeds** *Apr. 9*

**Wild Belle** *Apr. 10*

**Cyrille Aimée**

A Sondheim Adventure *Apr. 14*

**The Dip** *Apr. 17*

**Natalie Prass** *Apr. 18*

**Against the Current** Past Lives

World Tour 2019 *Apr. 19*

**Joy Williams** With Special Guest

Anthony De Costa *Apr. 24*

**Lisa Loeb** *Apr. 26*

# Citizen Curators

The audience takes over at the Arthur Ross Gallery.

When she creates an exhibition, Heather Gibson Moqtaderi is used to guiding it through the full curatorial cycle, from rough concept to finished show. As both assistant director and associate curator of the Arthur Ross Gallery, it's her job to intuit themes, select specific artworks, and even piece together audio tour scripts.

But as she began planning a new exhibition drawn from the University's expansive art collection—something the gallery does semi-regularly—"I realized that I was more interested in hearing what our audience members would like to see on the walls," Moqtaderi says. So she asked them.

The result was *Citizen Salon*, the University's first fully crowd-sourced exhibition, which opened in December and runs through March 24.

The process kicked off last May, when Moqtaderi launched a *Citizen Salon* website with 125 eclectic artworks and invited "citizen curators" from the Penn community and beyond to vote for their favorites. The gallery's own email list was supplemented with "every campus listserve we could get our hands on," she says, and they also reached out to arts organizations and individuals from Philly to China (via the International Council of Museums listserve). Along with an image of each piece, she included some background about the artwork and its creator. Four months and a little over 600 votes later, the 50 most-selected pieces became *Citizen Salon*. (The title is a nod to both modern "citizen science" collaborations and the 18th-century salons of Europe.)

"I couldn't be more excited with how the

exhibition turned out as a result of the citizen curator choices," Moqtaderi says. There was no single theme among the works voters chose, but "I was surprised—and relieved—to see the serendipitous relationships among the artwork," she adds. "It felt natural to put these seemingly disparate works together."

A 1972 print by Jacob Lawrence received the most votes of any piece. Created in a style that Lawrence himself dubbed "dynamic cubism," *The Workshop* depicts a group of black carpenters who are working together on a building project. Citizen curators were invited to comment on why they chose the pieces they

did, and Moqtaderi says that several *Workshop* voters mentioned the idea of "building something for the greater good and people working together," just as they were doing with *Citizen Salon*.

Others said they chose *The Workshop* because they wanted artwork in the show that was both by an African-American artist and depicting African-American subjects. Moqtaderi noticed that thread running through many of the comments: voters told her they were specifically choosing a work by a woman, or an African American, or an artist who came from another community that is under-represented in the art world.







Dale DeArmond's *The Quintessential Puffin* (1983) had the second-highest number of votes, reaffirming the citizen curators' interest in representation. DeArmond was living in Alaska when she enrolled in a correspondence course called "The Famous Artists." She completed her art training through mail-in submissions, far outside the art world's hot spots. Her colorful *Puffin* woodblock print reveals the Inuit influence on DeArmond's work—and with its rounded body and big glossy eyes, it's also just plain cute.

Other works are on view in Arthur Ross for the first time, including Audrey Flack's *Lady Madonna* (1972). The print marks Flack's transition from abstract expressionism to photorealism, and combines a reference to the popular Beatles song "Lady Madonna" with a representation of the Virgin Mary. "I'm always amazed by how relevant [this piece] is to topics in religion and ritual, motherhood and feminist movements, the neuroscience, psychology and physiology of emotions, as well as literary studies and theory," one citizen curator notes in the audio tour.

After studying the 50 most-selected artworks, Moqtaderi eventually sorted them into six broad categories: Place, Body, Spirit, People, Sky, and Birds and Beasts. To hang so many pieces in the

modestly sized gallery, she drew on the "salon style" of double- and even triple-hanging certain groups of work.

Moqtaderi's citizen curators wrote much of the show's wall labels—their online comments are woven throughout the text—and many of their voices appear on the audio tour.



"One of my takeaways is that our audience members are interested in visiting exhibitions to learn something and also for inspiration within their artistic community," Moqtaderi says. "So I thought people would be interested in hearing the comments of their fellow citizen curators."

While she hasn't ruled out another crowd-sourced show, Moqtaderi says there isn't one on the calendar at this point. She will, however, write up the exhibition as a study to help other museums that want to give citizen curation a try. "There really isn't a defined precedent or best practice," she says.

"Crowdsourcing is certainly not for every exhibition," Moqtaderi adds. "But it was incredibly gratifying for me to listen to what members of the public were attracted to within certain artworks and think through how we might use that information to shape our exhibition schedules in the future."

—Molly Petrilla C'06

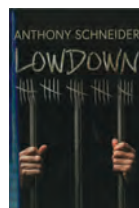
## Briefly Noted



**MAN OVERBOARD: New and Selected Poems** By Michael H. Levin C'64

(Finishing Line Press, 2018, \$14.99). This thin volume of 29 short poems traverses

love and loss, family tensions, and international politics. Several have won freestanding awards or have been published previously in anthologies.



**LOWDOWN** By Anthony

Schneider C'87 (The Permanent Press, 2018, \$29.95.) Schneider's second novel is a gripping, romantic thriller that spans two continents and three

decades. At the opening, Jimmy Paccini, a former Brooklyn mobster, is released from a 25-year prison sentence for arranging the execution of the head of a rival crime family. Milena Cossutta, who loved Jimmy as a young man, is married to another mobster and on the run in Sicily. Their story follows a twisting road of violence and tenderness to arrive at a surprising, bittersweet redemption.



**THEN WE GREW UP: A Post-College Journey into Adulthood** By Andrew Marc

Berman C'14 (Savio Republic, 2018, \$16.00.) Four years after graduation, Berman still felt as lost and

hopeful as the day he strolled down Locust Walk in his cap and gown. In this collection of introspective essays, he shares his experiences navigating his early 20s with charm and wit.



**THE 30-DAY MONEY CLEANSE: Take Control of Your Finances, Manage Your Spending, and De-Stress Your Money for Good** By Ashley Feinstein

Gerstley W'08 (Sourcebooks,

2018, \$17.99.) Gerstley, a former investment banker turned money coach, encourages readers to examine their relationships with money in this workbook, based on her popular online course. Using reflective questions, Gerstley guides readers to discover why they spend their money the way they do.

Visit [thepenngazette.com](http://thepenngazette.com) for more *Briefly Noted*.

# The Sopranos Lives

Alan Sepinwall C'96 dives deep into one of television's greatest shows.

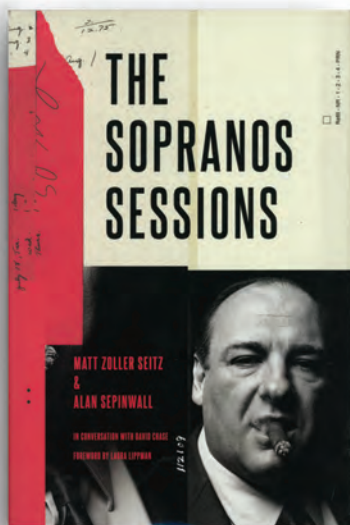
**B**ack at Penn, when he wasn't going to class or working as *34th Street's* managing editor, Alan Sepinwall C'96 spent a lot of time watching his then-favorite show *NYPD Blue* and writing about it (you can still find his old articles at [stwing.upenn.edu/~sepinwal/nypd1.html](http://stwing.upenn.edu/~sepinwal/nypd1.html)).

That led to a job out of college as a reviewer at the *Star-Ledger* in Newark, New Jersey, and laid the groundwork for him to become one of the country's most well-known TV critics. Sepinwall, who now writes for *Rolling Stone*, after previous stops at the websites *HitFix* and *Uproxx*, has published several books on television, including *The Revolution Was Televised* (2013); *TV (The Book)* (2016), coauthored with Matt Zoller Seitz; and *Breaking Bad 101* (2017).

His latest book, *The Soprano Sessions*, on HBO's famed mobster series, also coauthored with Seitz, is a callback to both writers' roots, as each first wrote about the show while working at the *Star-Ledger*—the newspaper, Sepinwall proudly notes, that sits at the end of main character Tony Soprano's driveway.

Timed to coincide with the 20th anniversary of the series' debut, the book provided an opportunity, Sepinwall says, to bring back to center stage "this great and important show that seemed to be dropping out of the conversation a little bit in terms of what's the best show of all time," as it's been obscured by more recent favorites like *Mad Men* or *Breaking Bad*, "which would not have existed if not for *The Sopranos*."

*Gazette* associate editor Dave Zeitlin caught up with Sepinwall to discuss how the book came to be, where he ranks *The Sopranos* and the late actor James Gan-



**THE SOPRANOS SESSIONS**  
By Matt Zoller Seitz & Alan Sepinwall C'96  
Abrams Press, 2019, \$30.00

dolfini (who played Tony) on his TV Mount Rushmore, and how he keeps up with so many damn television shows these days. The interview has been edited and condensed.

**I was struck by how thorough the book was, with essays devoted to every *Sopranos* episode, plus interviews with series creator David Chase, and more. How did you and Matt come up with the structure and then write it?**

We had separately done books—I did one on *Breaking Bad*, he did one on *Mad Men*—that featured the same episode-by-episode recap format. The interviews with Chase were new; that was one of the things we wanted to do for the value added. We also knew we wanted to include some archival material from when we were at the paper together, which is in the back of the book.

In terms of the process, we split it up initially based on the seasons we covered at the paper. Matt wrote the first drafts of the recaps for seasons one through three; I did the first draft of the recaps from season four on. And then I would tweak his stuff and he would tweak my stuff. The interviews we did together with Chase, and then it was just a matter of editing them down. There was a lot that we talked about that there was just not room for in the book—or the book would have weighed 20 pounds and cost \$80.

***The Sopranos* is often credited with ushering in a new golden age of TV. What do you think made it so far ahead of its time?**

For 50 years before *The Sopranos* came on, television had a lot of these unwritten rules, about what the audience would and would not accept and what you could get away with. The main character of a show ultimately had to be likable; if you had a villainous character who was prominent, there had to be a hero put next to him; you couldn't tell super-serialized stories; you couldn't have narrative complexity; you couldn't have moral complexity. Basically all of the things *The Sopranos* did, we had been told for 50 years you couldn't do.

And *The Sopranos* became a big hit, a critical darling, and eventually an awards magnet. [Then] other people started copying it. Basically any show you just binged on Netflix owes some trace of its DNA to *The Sopranos*.

**For those who haven't seen the show, how well do you think it holds up today? And does it work well for people to re-watch, perhaps while using your book as a guide?**

The goal was to make a book where you could do a re-watch and after each episode you turn to that essay and you read it. But you can also read it without having to re-watch the show.

That was the one thing I was worried about when we agreed to do the proj-



ect—it had been a long time since I watched the show and would it hold up? Or would it seem like this dusty, old relic? But to my pleasant surprise, I really liked it better this time than I did back then. Obviously it's dated in some ways because of the fashion and technology, but it really holds up quite well, especially if you look at it as a turn-of-the-millennium period piece.

**“It feels like the growth is unsustainable. There’s just too many shows.”**

But also, if you're watching it a second, third, fourth time, you already know what happens, so you're not spending a lot of time speculating and imagining scenarios that are not going to come to light. And so you can focus on what the show really did moment to moment. There are other shows that came after it that are more consistent and tell better overall stories, but in each particular moment—thematically, character wise—I don't think there's been a drama that's ever been better than this one.

**What was it like to do a bunch of long interviews with David Chase, who it seems doesn't always love talking to the media?**

Oh, he never loves it. He is one of the three or four most challenging interviews I've ever had, and that was true for this as well. Most people are trained to give you some kind of answer, even if it's not exactly to the question you asked. Chase is not wired that way. Chase will interrogate you about your reason for

asking that, or what it means, or just dismiss your premise altogether.

Also, we were talking about a show that was made 20 years ago. A lot of stuff he just didn't remember. I came loaded to bear with a lot of nerdy questions, and a lot of times, he would just say, “I don't know. It's been a while.” But on the other hand, what he always really recalled well were the creative instincts behind it. So after a couple of interviews, I learned to steer towards that and away from the minutia.

**I think you've said that *Breaking Bad* and *Mad Men*, along with *The Sopranos*, are on your TV Mount Rushmore of dramas—what's the fourth?**

Almost certainly, it's *The Wire*.

But what's kind of funny is in the years since *The Sopranos* ended, there's almost been this TV-actor Mount Rushmore. Bryan Cranston [*Breaking Bad*] is on there, and Jon Hamm [*Mad Men*] is on there, and Elisabeth Moss [*Mad Men*, *The Handmaid's Tale*] or Claire Danes [*Homeland*] or somebody else is on there.

But James Gandolfini gets his own mountain. With all due respect to everybody else, including Edie Falco [who played Tony Soprano's wife, Carmela], Gandolfini is the best dramatic actor in TV history, and I don't know that anybody else is particularly close. It was amazing to go back and watch it again—and also sad because he's no longer with us.

**How much has changed in TV since you were writing recaps about *NYPD Blue* from your Penn dorm room?**

It's changed a lot. I looked at *NYPD Blue* and thought, “Wow, TV can't get any better than this.” Obviously it did. That's still a really good show, but it's a very conventional show in a lot of ways. Shows have gotten darker, less compromised, more complicated in a lot of different ways. It's funny, they're doing a remake of *NYPD Blue* right now. I don't know if it will get on the air, but I can't imagine that will be a show I would write about every week.

**Is it better or worse being a TV critic now, trying to keep up with all the great shows that are on?**

It is a very mixed bag. On one hand, there is never a lack of things to write about. And on the other hand, there is never a lack of things to write about. Back in the day, there were a lot of times I'd be scratching and clawing trying to find a subject for the column that day, particularly in certain months of the year when the TV business basically shut down altogether. Now there's always something but there's not enough time to get to it all.

**Where do you see TV—and writing about TV—going in the next 10 or 20 years?**

It feels like the growth is unsustainable. There's just too many shows—not only for someone like me to keep up with but for all of these different places to make money with. I'm not even 100 percent sure that Netflix is sustainable at this point, even though it's been cornering the market; there's so much stuff out there. How can anyone possibly be making a profit—knowing how expensive these shows are and how many of them there are and therefore how few people must be watching any one of them? So I feel there has to be an implosion at some point. But I've felt that way for about five years now, and it's yet to happen. The number just keeps going up and up and up.

I will say the one thing that's been interesting is there was a period of time, maybe 10 years ago, where mostly what people wanted from me were the recaps. They wanted me to break down episodes of *Mad Men* and *Breaking Bad* and everything else. But now because there's so much stuff, I've cut way back on the recapping because mostly what people want to hear from me is: *Is this show worth my time? What should I be watching?* So I'm doing a lot more of the traditional reviewing that I did back when I was a newspaper guy. Technology is not cyclical but something about this particular beat has turned out to be, weirdly.

# Penn Alumni Regional Clubs:

EXTENDING PENN'S REACH ACROSS THE WORLD

Over 120 Penn Alumni Regional Clubs around the world serve to bring the spirit of the University to their regions. Wherever you are, you're never far from another Penn alumnus or a Penn Club. In connecting the Penn community across the globe, clubs offer opportunities for fun and socializing, networking, learning, and collaborative initiatives that impact the people and communities where they live.

## Penn Club of Bucks County

Since its 2015 revitalization, the Penn Club of Bucks County has been a continuous presence in the northern suburbs of Philadelphia in both Bucks and eastern Montgomery Counties.

The Club is thriving—with eight well-attended events in 2018 alone. In addition to First September and Ben's Birthday Bash, over the last three years we have brought our membership and community a myriad of different programs, including culinary evenings, five professor lectures, Penn traditions, sporting events, and community service opportunities.

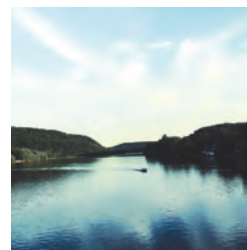
On a snowy winter evening we had a tasting dinner at Phi Vietnamese, a restaurant in Doylestown, PA owned by a Penn alum. And twice, in the Spring, we had sold-out whiskey tastings at Dad's Hat Rye Whiskey Distillery in Bristol, PA, a distillery founded by two Penn alums. Our membership also had the opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of beer and cider flights at Crooked Eye Brewery in



Hatboro, PA and an evening of Indian delicacies at Guru in Newtown, PA.

In taking advantage of our proximity to the University, our professor lectures have grown to large sell-out events, ranging from Professor David Eisenhower's insights on politics and elections to Engineering Professor Daniel Lee's expertise on robotics and artificial intelligence.

Club members also enjoyed giving back to their community by packaging and delivering food to those in need through the Jewish Relief Agency (JRA).



The Club partners with the local Penn Alumni Interview Program to host an annual summer send-off for all freshman students from our community and give the newest Quakers advice learned from across Penn-generations!

Join us for future events—the Club is always excited to see new faces! Be sure to check out our Facebook Group and website. You can reach the Club via [pennbucksalumni@gmail.com](mailto:pennbucksalumni@gmail.com).



Experience the impact of Penn in your community. See our listing of Penn alumni clubs and get involved: [www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/clubs)



Rozelle Radio-Television Award Winner  
Andrea Kremer.



## Hall Call

How a broadcaster broke barriers and made NFL history.

**A**ndrea Kremer C'80 was working on a story for HBO's *Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel* this past June when she missed a telephone call from David Baker, the president and executive director of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. "Give us a call when you get a moment," his voicemail said.

When she did, assuming it was about coverage of the year's induction ceremonies, and Baker instead told her that she was being honored with the Hall of Fame's prestigious Pete Rozelle Radio-Television Award, her immediate response was an expletive followed by asking if he was kidding. "I said I guess that it's good to have my reaction like that then, as opposed to later, and we laughed," she says.

Kremer is only the second woman—and first working mother, she proudly notes—to receive the award, which recognizes "longtime exceptional contributions to radio and television in professional football."

"Truthfully, I did not think it was going to happen," says Kremer, who has won two Emmys, a Peabody, and was inducted into the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame last year. "I've worked for four networks and don't have one network that has pushed me, and truthfully I'm not the lobbying sort. I think your work should speak for itself."

She also thought the NFL might not recognize her because she has done stories the league "isn't thrilled

about," such as on players' use of marijuana and abuse of the pain-reduction drug Toradol, as well as cheerleaders' very low pay. "I'm a journalist and my job is to tell important stories," she says. "That's what I've done over my career."

Last year also marked another milestone for Kremer, as she and longtime friend Hannah Storm became the first all-female team to call an NFL game when they shared the booth for Amazon Prime's *Thursday Night Football* broadcasts.

Though she's been reporting pro football for several decades, this past NFL season was the first time Kremer did analysis for a live broadcast. She says her best advice came from former head coach and famed sportscaster John Madden. "He said, 'Don't feel as if you have to cram for the test. You've been preparing for this for 30 years.'"

Kremer got into journalism after graduating from Penn, first as a sports editor at a suburban newspaper. From there, she worked as a writer and producer at NFL Films, a groundbreaking company devoted to producing commercials, television programs, feature films, and documentaries for and about the NFL. Before long, the late Steve Sabol, one of the founders of NFL Films, suggested Kremer go in front of the camera.

"He wanted to do something different to change our national show, *This Is The NFL*," Kremer says. "I didn't

## "I'm a journalist and my job is to tell important stories."

have any experience in front of the camera, but the 'deal' I made with them was, let me produce myself—the producer in me can bail out the talent that I didn't know how I would be."

She ended up having more talent in front of the camera than she thought, and her career soon began to skyrocket. In addition to her work on *Real Sports* and the Amazon broadcasts, Kremer also serves as chief correspondent for the NFL Network and co-host of CBS Sports Network's *We Need To Talk*, the first ever all-female nationally televised weekly sports show. She has also worked for ESPN and NBC's *Sunday Night Football* broadcasts.

Kremer has covered three Olympics, MLB All-Star Games, NCAA Final Four games, and many other sports. But football has always been her first love, nurtured when she and her parents spent many Sundays watching Eagles games at the since-demolished Veterans Stadium. And although, as an objective journalist who grew up in Philly but now lives outside of Boston with her husband and son, she didn't root for either team in last year's Super Bowl, she knew what the Philadelphia Eagles win over the New England Patriots meant for her hometown. And she's marveled at what

she calls the "explosion" of football's popularity since her career began.

"It is the quintessential television sport," she says. "And as we're seeing, it's going to be the quintessential sport to bet on, whether it's fantasy sports or legalized sports betting."

When being honored by the Pro Football Hall of Fame, Kremer had to give a speech. She's done reports on many topics in many fields related to sports, but she wanted her talk to be one of the most important events of her career.

"I think I wrote it in about two minutes," she says. "I knew what I wanted to say, knew how I wanted to say it, how to approach it, and I wanted to make it like a story. I wanted to avoid the laundry list of people to thank, and yet represent the people, whom I call my mentors. And truthfully, I wanted to nail it, like anything I've done in my career."

Based on the response, she succeeded in her quest.

"It was really amazing how strongly it resonated with so many people," she says. "It obviously resonated with a lot of working moms, who understand the struggle that you have, and the idea that, 'Mom goes away because she has to, not because she wants to.' This probably was the biggest stage that I've ever been on—and that's from someone who's spoken to 110 million people in front of a camera at the Super Bowl."

—Jon Caroulis



# Character Engineer

Designing robots with a touch of personality.

**So,** Mark Palatucci EAS'00 wants to put a robot in every home.

That might sound familiar. After all, you may even already have one. But Palatucci, a cofounder of the San Francisco-based robotics company Anki, isn't thinking about task-oriented automatons or self-directed vacuum cleaners. He's not even thinking about smart speakers. He's designing robots with "character"—enough to spark an emotional connection with their owners.



Cozmo

"People are much more willing to put a character in their home than they are just some smart cylinder or smart speaker that doesn't have any emotion or character built around it," he says. "It creates a sense of trust that a lot of other products don't necessarily have."

And if that trust leads to more engagement with the

robot—whether it's playing games with a robot called Cozmo, or getting Vector, another model, to take a picture when your hands are full—all the better.



Vector



Mark

Anki's aim in building robots is to enable people to "build relationships with technology that feel a little more human." Palatucci, who earned a computer science and engineering degree at Penn, is the company's head of cloud artificial intelligence and machine learning. Their products have been getting notice.

Cozmo—which *WIRED* called "the smartest, cutest AI-powered robot you've ever seen"—was the best-selling

toy by revenue on Amazon in the United States, the United Kingdom, and France in 2017, according to the market analytics firm One Click Retail. Its main feature is game playing, but you can also learn coding through Cozmo, which uses facial recognition to learn people's names.

In 2018, *Fast Company* named Anki as one of the most innovative robotics companies for the fourth year in a row. And late in 2018, Anki launched Vector, which *Robot-*

*ics Business Review* said is "straddling the line between pet robot and personal assistant." Like Cozmo, it runs around the room like a battery-operated toy, lighting up and making sounds. But it can also respond to voice commands to take a photograph or report the weather, or play blackjack with you. And it connects with Amazon Alexa.

Which isn't to say that Anki and Palatucci have gotten only raves. The *Wall Street Journal's* personal technology reporter concluded that Vector "isn't a very good toy"—but added that it "feels like a beachhead for something bigger."

Palatucci's interest in robotics didn't peak until after he earned his bachelor's degree, but he credits Penn's Engineering Entrepreneurship program for preparing him to be a business owner.

"It fundamentally gave just a little bit of a hook into this world that I didn't know anything about," says Palatucci, explaining that there weren't entrepreneurs in his family. "Frankly, if I hadn't gone through that program, I never would have thought of starting my own company."

Another boost came just after Penn, when he headed to Silicon Valley to work on early mobile devices. For fun, he joined a team from Stanford University that competed in the DARPA Urban Challenge in 2004. (DARPA is the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the central research and development organization for the US Department of Defense.) The

contest required teams to build an autonomous vehicle capable of driving in traffic, performing complex maneuvers such as merging, passing, parking, and negotiating intersections. Palatucci has a vivid memory of his team's entry traversing its first mile on the 144-mile desert course.

"I remember it feeling very much like this moon shot," he says. "It was an epiphany for me that robotics and AI were going to have this absolutely massive impact."

That experience helped push him to pursue a master's and PhD in robotics at Carnegie Mellon University. Anki launched in 2011.

Palatucci and the company's two other cofounders—Carnegie Mellon classmates Boris Sofman and Hanns Tappeiner—felt that the robotics industry was focused mostly on industrial and government use cases, rather than on consumers, and they decided to fill that gap.

"When we started the company, it was really about, how do we take these technologies that are having a huge impact in all of these other domains, and can we make an impact on consumer applications?" Palatucci says. "For us, one of the long-term goals was to get to a place where robots are actually helping out people in their everyday lives."

But he thinks that calls for creating robots that make emotional attachments with people, not robots that just autonomously clean the floor.

Palatucci says Anki approached "character," as he

puts it, in a fundamentally different way from competitors. They were driven by the conviction that, as important as engineers and AI people are to the process, they don't know how to create a character. So Anki hired experts: people from the feature film industry, including some from the DreamWorks and Pixar animation studios.

"We've built out, I think, what is really the world's first pipeline from feature film animation tools to low-level robotic control," he says.

"The robot will feel much more alive and much more organic and much more believable as a character because it's able to perform a basic motion like making eye contact," Palatucci says. "That has a very, very huge impact on being able to create that sense of magic and really being able to create the sense that this character is alive and emotive."

Palatucci points to Anki customers who have written to the company praising the social benefits of their robots: families spending time together interacting with the robot, as they might with a board game; or a child who didn't have many friends now inviting other kids over to play with the robot.

"I definitely think that this is a space that is only going to continue to grow," Palatucci says, "particularly as the prices of these technologies come down and the features and the behavior get more and more sophisticated."

—Tom Kertscher

## Rush Job

How a film editor shaped the story of the Charlottesville riot—overnight.

It was supposed to be a routine Sunday edit for a three- to five-minute segment to run on Monday's *Vice News Tonight*. But when John Chimples C'80 started screening the footage from Charlottesville, Virginia, and got to the "infamous 'tiki torch' march," he thought, "Holy shit, what is this?"

Chimples and a team of fellow editors would end up crafting 30-40 hours of material on the fly into a gripping, disturbing narrative about the ill-fated "Unite the Right" rally. The white supremacist riot in August 2017 left one counter-demonstrator, Heather Heyer, dead and dozens of others injured when neo-Nazi James Alex Fields crashed his car into a crowd after authorities had shut down the event.

Mixing video shot by Vice film crews, surveillance cameras, and interviews by correspondent Elle Reeve, both on the streets of Charlottesville and in the gun-filled hotel room of Christopher Cantwell (aka "the crying Nazi"), who had fled the area in a van after pepper-spraying opponents, the eventual piece, titled "Charlottesville: Race and Terror," took up the show's entire broadcast time on HBO. It later won a Peabody and two editing-specific awards for Chimples and

three colleagues: the American Cinema Editors "Eddie" and an Emmy for News and Documentary: Outstanding Editing. The video has been viewed more than 3.5 million times on YouTube.



For Chimples, it's just the latest twist in a career trajectory he laughingly compares to the movie character Zelig, always popping up in different, unexpected places.

After graduating Penn with a major in art history, he moved to New York to pursue photography. He shared a loft



near the legendary CBGB music club, and a number of post-punk bands—including, on occasion, Sonic Youth,” he says—used the space for rehearsals. He ended up being employed by a company that staged multimedia presentations for corporate and theatrical events. “I got to work as a slide programmer and projectionist on the *Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular* and several on- and off-Broadway shows,” he says. Later he contributed images and operated projectors for the Talking Heads’ music video of “Burning Down the House” and concert film *Stop Making Sense*.

Chimples still mourns the passing of the “beautiful panoramic slides” and intricately timed projectors that were displaced by video displays—initially pretty crude—by the end of the 1980s. Those presentations “were really immersive, and it just had a great organic feeling,” he recalls. “It was just a real experience.”

For most of the next 15 years, he was involved in making commercials and corporate films, specializing in a genre known as “documentaries,” which involved traveling around shooting unscripted scenes with companies’ customers and others. Along the way, he says, he taught himself film editing and that became his main professional outlet.

Through a Penn connection, Karen Thorson C’82, he was assigned to edit several episodes of David Simon’s venerated HBO series *The Wire* in

the mid-2000s. He and Thorson went on to work together on the main title sequences for *Treme*, Simon’s series set in New Orleans, during its four-season run on HBO (and to get married in 2006). Chimples also did the editing for musical performances taken from the show that were made available as iTunes downloads. Other gigs included episodes of *The American Experience* on PBS, various TV shows, and what he calls “minor films.”

He started working at Vice Media in 2015, which “was just a dream come true for me,” he says. “It’s a weird kind of place, certainly for a scripted narrative editor ... but I had always been interested in news. I was a news junkie, kind of, even at Penn.”

Back then, he says, he’d often catch the network news broadcasts by anchormen Frank Reynolds and Peter Jennings and follow that up with the *MacNeil/Lehrer Report* (now *PBS NewsHour*). He briefly considered a career in journalism and even traveled to Grenada—where memories of the 1983 US invasion were still fresh—for a “really left-wing photo agency called Impact Visuals out of Chicago,” he says. “I found myself in some sketchy situations, and I just sort of decided my personality was a little too big to be a fly-on-the-wall photojournalist.”

And yes, he’s aware those references date him. “I’m twice as old as everybody I work with,” he says. “The head of the whole news division is 45.” (That would be

**“It was pretty clear how important it was—and that Vice was the only organization covering it in depth.”**

Vice EVP News Josh Tyrangiel C’94, who actually turned 46 in September.)

But Chimples feels very much in tune with the approach at Vice, which emphasizes “fully immersive,” “character-driven” storytelling, he says. “It’s definitely geared toward a younger audience, but especially left-leaning people my age watch it all the time.”

Initially he worked on a weekly show, *Vice on HBO*, loosely modeled on *60 Minutes*, where his first piece focused on “the Saudis using US cluster bombs in the war in Yemen.” After a couple of years, he transitioned to *Vice News Tonight*, which he describes as “a reimagination of a nightly news show made up of three- to eight-minute mini-documentaries.” Tyrangiel, formerly a top editor at *Time* and Bloomberg, had come to HBO “to kick-start the nightly news show,” says Chimples, who hadn’t known him before that.

On Sunday, August 13, 2017, Chimples arrived at Vice’s Williamsburg, Brooklyn, offices at 1 p.m., consulted with the producer on the Charlottesville story, and settled in at his editing bay. A few hours later, Tyrangiel “came in and asked how the footage was,” Chimples recalls. “I said it was insane and showed him a couple minutes of the march. It was pretty clear how

important it was—and that Vice was the only organization covering it in depth.”

Chimples kept working through the footage, with Tyrangiel returning a few more times to check in. At about 10 p.m., “Josh came back and said HBO was giving the story the full half hour of the next evening’s show,” he recalls. “I looked at him and said, ‘So I’m here all night,’ and he said, ‘Yes,’ and that another editor would pick up the edit in the morning.”

By 2 a.m., Chimples had reviewed the footage that had been sent back to Vice, “and I began to cut the piece for real,” beginning with the torch-lit march Friday night on the University of Virginia campus and working toward the aftermath of Heyer’s murder on Saturday. By 10 a.m., when he handed off the piece, “I ended up with six to eight minutes of pretty solid material through the point where our crew jumps in the van with Cantwell’s group and another 35 minutes of much rougher” material.

Three additional editors (“Tim Clancy, Cameron Dennis, and Denny Thomas,” Chimples notes) worked to finish the edit in time to air at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 14. “In about 30 hours we had turned around three days of some of the most impactful footage of the year,” he says. —JP

## REGIONAL CLUBS

Join us at a regional *Power of Penn* event near you! This spring, we will be bringing the *Power of Penn* nationwide. For more information and a list of events, please visit [powerofpenn.upenn.edu/campaign-events](http://powerofpenn.upenn.edu/campaign-events).

## METRO NJ

Spring brings a myriad of activities for our club. We will be holding a tennis night for players of all levels, getting together for a pre-Mask and Wig dinner, hosting a *Power of Penn* evening, and

having our annual members-only selective admissions event. In addition, on Saturday, April 27, we will help build a house for a local family in need as part of our Penn Cares Community Service Day. Please come out and join us as we are always happy to see new faces. Visit [www.pennclubmetronj.com](http://www.pennclubmetronj.com) to learn the latest information on these activities and register for events. To obtain more information about these and other programs, please contact club president

Caroline Huie WG'93 at [cyu\\_huie@yahoo.com](mailto:cyu_huie@yahoo.com).

## ORANGE COUNTY

The Penn Club of Orange County is hosting a fun-filled quizzo night on Friday, March 22, featuring Elise Betz, executive director of Penn Alumni! Join us for Penn-themed trivia and an opportunity to connect with local Quakers. Visit [www.alumni.upenn.edu/orangecounty](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/orangecounty) for more information.

## SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Join the Penn Club of Southwest Florida,

along with other Ivy League alumni, at Ivy Fest on April 7! We will meet at The Moorings Country Club (2500 Crayton Road, Naples, Florida 34103). Dinner will be at 4:30 p.m., but we will be playing golf beforehand at 2 p.m. The cost for dinner is \$38 per adult and \$18 per child (14 and under). It is an additional \$30 to play golf (including a golf cart). For more information and to RSVP, email Aditi Maheshwari W'97 at [aditi1818@gmail.com](mailto:aditi1818@gmail.com).

## UTAH

Join us for our 10th annual Day of Service in April! Connect with fellow Quakers and members of the Ivy-plus community while working with the TreeUtah. Full details can be found on our website, [www.alumni.upenn.edu/utah](http://www.alumni.upenn.edu/utah).

## WESTCHESTER AND ROCKLAND COUNTIES

Join fellow alumni in Harlem for a Penn professor-led tour of Alexander Hamilton's historic home and a cocktail reception at the neighboring home-

based art studio of Valerie Brown Grant W'88 and noted artist Garry Grant on Saturday, May 4, from 4 to 8 p.m. Visit our website for details and to join in the history of NYC's Hamilton Heights. Please check our website [pennclubwestrock.org](http://pennclubwestrock.org) for details as the date approaches. Sign up, join, or opt-in for notifications from our active Penn Community, follow us on Facebook at [@pennclubwestrock](https://www.facebook.com/pennclubwestrock) or email us at [communications@pennclubwestrock.org](mailto:communications@pennclubwestrock.org).

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For donations of \$100 or more, we'll send you a limited-edition *Gazette* tote bag just like Ben's, featuring an image specially created by the artist Martha Rich GFA'11.

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"I received some logistics support on the Appalachian Trail from my former Penn roommate, now in California, Mark Iwanowski ME'77. ... I would recommend against attempting it all at once. Instead, hike in sections, or follow the advice of my other roommate, Dr. Gary Stilwell W'77: do it 40 years ago."

— Tim Kelly W'77

## 1942

**Julian Hyman W'42**, a 98-year-old WWII veteran and author of *U Can Save Our World*, is offering a \$1,000 college scholarship to encourage students to protect the planet. Eligible applicants must submit a 1,000-word essay on their world-saving ideas, which will be judged by a panel of educators. Current undergraduate and college-bound students in the United States are invited to apply at [ucansaveourworld.com](http://ucansaveourworld.com). The deadline is July 1.

## 1955

**George Eaton W'55** has authored a new book, *Death of the Big Book: How Sears Ceded the Internet to Amazon*. He writes, "I was an NROTC student at Penn, and after graduation I served as a US Navy supply officer until 1960, when I joined the Sears catalog division. During my 33-year career at Sears, I moved from the ranks in catalog stores management and group and territory management to hold national catalog management positions in Chicago. My breadth of catalog experience offered me a

unique perspective on how the corporation's retail bias caused a continued erosion of the catalog company's influence that led Sears to abandon its \$4 billion catalog company in 1993 but failed to challenge Amazon for leadership in the internet marketplace. My *Big Book* story reveals the corporation's missteps that squandered a multibillion dollar business and lost a valuable synergism with its retail stores. Because the future of Sears and its remaining retail stores is currently in doubt, it has made my observations even more prescient and an important case study of a monumental lost opportunity by a major corporation."

## 1958

**Dick Censits W'58**, president of the Class of 1958, writes, "I recently received information from the University, which I would like to share with the Class of '58. Our endowed scholarship has a current market value of \$375,000 and income in excess of \$19,000. Many classmates may remember that the fund was established in 1993 to provide renewable scholarships to freshmen with financial need. Also, a

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DEADLINES 7/15 for the Sep/Oct issue; 9/15 for Nov/Dec; 11/15 for Jan/Feb; 1/15 for Mar/Apr; 3/15 for May/Jun; and 5/15 for Jul/Aug.

special thanks to our 60th Reunion co-chairs **Julie Dill Williams CW'58**, **Cintra Scott Rodgers CW'58**, and **Buck Rodgers W'58**. At the last moment, a family health issue caused me to miss our reunion. I am happy to say this has been resolved and my retirement activities of golf, exercise, and volunteerism are back to normal here in Naples, Florida. I am also proud to report that three of our grandchildren have received degrees from the University, and a fourth has expressed interest. However, he is only eight."

**Celebrate Your Reunion: May 17-19, 2019**

## 1959

**Sig Cohen W'59** has released *Love's Way: Living Peacefully with Your Family as Your Parents Age*, written with coauthor and co-mediator Carolyn Miller Parr. Sig writes, "*Love's Way* addresses the impact that a parent's aging can have on families and how they can respond with love, understanding, and empathy. We show adult children and their parents how to repair and strengthen family relations, start and stay with hard conversations, make wise decisions about distributing assets, building trust, and planning their end-of-life care. Our aim is to inspire readers to grow in wisdom and the capacity to forgive and accept vulnerability."

**George Felbin Ar'59** was the architect for a barn renovation in Sergeantsville, New Jersey. The project was published in a book by James Garrison, titled *At Home in the American Barn*.

## 1960

**Dr. Roger B. Daniels M'60**, a clinical associate professor at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, has been awarded the Ralph O. Claypoole Sr. Memorial Award from the American College of Physicians for devoting his career to the care of patients.

**Dr. Richard Labowskie C'60** writes, "My wife, **Marilyn Sanborne L'81**, and I traveled to San Francisco recently to visit our son Mark (alas, Columbia '06), who teaches creative writing at Stanford. While we were there, **Mabel Miyasaki Ed'60** came up from San Jose, and we had a delightful day with lunch at the deYoung Museum in Golden Gate Park. Classmates can be assured that Mabel has lost none of her well-known effervescence. We reconnected at the 50th Reunion, stayed in touch, and seriously plan on attending the 60th Reunion, fast approaching. As for myself, I keep busy with some longtime antiquarian pursuits following a varied career in pediatrics, the pharmaceutical industry, occupational medicine, and 33 years commissioned service in the Naval Reserve Medical Corps, including 10 interspersed years on active duty."

## 1962

**Jay Bear W'62** writes, "Thank you for publishing the notes about our small class gathering in Las Vegas last fall in the Jan/Feb 2019 issue. Please note that the list omitted one of our distinct and beloved classmates, who was also in attendance. **Conrad Foa W'62** attended and also entertained us with his wonderful skills as a jazz pianist."

## 1963

**Irving Plotkin W'63** writes, "I graduated from Wharton in 1963, and then, thanks to strong recommendations from my professors, I moved on to MIT for a PhD in economics under Paul Samuelson. Upon my recent retirement from Pricewaterhouse Coopers as the managing director of National Tax Services, the *Marquis*

*Who's Who* published a summary of my career." Irving is best known for his work in domestic and international corporate tax law and controversies. As a philanthropist, he also serves on the boards of various arts organizations, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He adds, "My son, Joshua Plotkin, and daughter-in-law, Alice Chen Plotkin, both teach at Penn."

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## 1964

**Craig Kuhner C'64 GAR'70** has coauthored a new book with Alan Ward, titled *American Residential Architecture: Photographs of the Evolution of Indiana Houses* (Oscar Riera Ojeda Publishers). Craig writes, "The research and photography was done from 1973 to 1978, while Alan and I were teaching architecture at Ball State University in Indiana. Alan, now a principle of Sasaki and Associates in Watertown, Massachusetts, and I, professor emeritus in the College of Architecture at the University of Texas at Arlington, after 37 years, decided it is time to make a book of the photographs. The publication highlights the changing expression of architectural styles, both exterior and interior, of significant Indiana homes from 1804 to 1978—from Federal to Gothic Revival, Romanesque to Prairie Style, Art Deco to Late Modern—celebrating each period's distinctive architectural massing and design features, as well as interior spaces. The book explores the essence of Indiana homes through black-and-white photography, using large-format view cameras."

**Michael H. Levin C'64's** new book of poetry, *Man Overboard: New and Selected Poems*, met positive reviews in the December 12 online edition of the *Washington Independent Review of Books*.

## 1968

**Jay Robert Stiefel C'68 G'71** has released a new book, *The Cabinetmaker's Account: John Head's Record of Craft and Commerce in Colonial Philadelphia, 1718-1753*. From the book jacket: "John Head's

account book is the earliest and most complete to have survived from any cabinet-maker working in British North America or Great Britain. Thousands of transactions over a thirty-five-year period (1718-1753) record the goods and services by which Head, and the hundreds of tradesmen with whom he did business, sought to barter their way to prosperity in the New World."

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## 1969

**Jeffrey Jubelirer W'69** released a new book of poetry, titled *Awareness of Addictions and Recovery from Despair*, available on Amazon.

**Senator Tim Sheldon W'69**, has been reelected to the Washington State Senate. Tim is presently the longest-serving legislator in the State's house and senate. He writes, "My wife, Linda, and I live on the Olympic Peninsula, where we sell logs, gravel, and oysters from our tree farm." Tim invites alumni contact at [timothy.sheldon@leg.wa.gov](mailto:timothy.sheldon@leg.wa.gov).

## 1970

**Bob Anthony W'70**, already the longest-serving current utility commissioner in the nation, won election to a sixth consecutive six-year term on the Oklahoma Corporation Commission last November.

## 1971

**Dayton Duncan C'71** is the writer and lead producer of the 16-hour documentary series *Country Music*, directed by Ken Burns, which will be broadcast in September on PBS. He is also the author of the companion book, published by Alfred A. Knopf, to be released at the same time. Dayton writes, "This will be my 13th book and my seventh collaboration with Burns on a documentary film."

**Arnie Holland W'71 L'74** writes, "My company, Lightyear Entertainment, released the Australian crime thriller film *Goldstone* in 2018 to great American reviews. In 2019



we are releasing the exciting Irish prison-break film *Maze* and another fine Australian film, *Jirga*. *Jirga*, about a soldier who returns to Afghanistan to seek redemption, was Australia's submission to the 2019 Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film. Our 2017 Oscar nominee, *Tanna*, another Australian export, is streaming now on Amazon Prime, and a more unique and beautiful film would be hard to find. And, due to our 38-year relationship with Jane Fonda, we now have seven of the original *Jane Fonda Workout* programs, available on DVD and digital, as well as a collector's boxed set. Lightyear has released over 120 independent films and a whole lot of music since its founding in 1987 as a management buyout from RCA. I'm loving life in Studio City, California, with my wife, Carol."

## 1972

**Barbara Barbour PT'72's** photography was on display in the University Club's Burrison Gallery during the month of February. The show was titled *Here on Earth*.

## 1973

**Seth Bergmann GEE'73** writes, "On November 17, I ran the Rothman Institute 8K race in Philadelphia, finishing in 36:26, good for third place among men 65 and older."

## 1975

**Brad Borkan C'75 Gr'79** writes, "The audiobook for my book, *When Your Life Depends on It: Extreme Decision Making Lessons from the Antarctic*, was a finalist in the Voice Arts Awards' Best Audiobook—History category. Voice Arts Awards are like the Oscars for the spoken word. The red carpet event took place at Warner Bros. Studios in Hollywood, California, and was hosted by Sigourney Weaver and other celebrities. In addition, I was recently invited to give a talk on the life-and-death decisions made by the early Antarctic explorers (the subject of the book) at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, England."

**Gerald Grygo SW'75** is a retired social worker who served for 38 years with the Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency. He was also a member of the 1967 men's cross country team at Gannon University, during his undergraduate years. In February, this team was inducted into Gannon's Athletics Hall of Fame.

## 1976

**Dr. Ron Kaiser Gr'76**, a licensed psychologist in private practice, has authored *Rejuvenating: The Art and Science of Growing Older with Enthusiasm*. Ron also serves as a director of psychology at the Jefferson Headache Center at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital.

**Michael P. Malloy L'76** has written the first 2019 supplement for the three-volume treatise *Banking Law and Regulation*, published by Wolters Kluwer. In it, he offers up-to-date coverage of current developments in the regulation of depository institutions.

**David C. Singer C'76** is the editor and coauthor of a new legal treatise, *Arbitrating Commercial Disputes in the United States*, published by Practising Law Institute. David writes, "After 37 years practicing law as a civil trial attorney, including 28 years as a partner at Dorsey & Whitney LLP, I've opened my own shop as an independent arbitrator and mediator, specializing in complex commercial contracts, business transactions, employment, distributorships, telecommunications, real estate, and international matters."

**Joel Stone GCh'76** received the 2019 Thomas Champion for Industry Award from Thomas, a product sourcing, supplier selection, and marketing solutions provider. Joel is chief technology officer and board chair at the biotech company Fermentum.

## 1977

**Marshal Granor C'77** is the real property vice chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, and will be section chair in 2019. Marshal and his wife, **Tamar**

**Ezekiel Granor C'78 GEE'81 Gr'86**, have just completed 14 years as copresidents of the Hebrew Free Loan Society of Greater Philadelphia, a charity providing no-interest, no-cost loans to needy individuals and those requiring fertility treatments in the Philadelphia area, as well as to start-up businesses. Marshal is a fellow in the College of Community Association Lawyers and practices real estate law from his office in Horsham, Pennsylvania.

**Tim Kelly W'77**, along with his wife, Jane, recently thru-hiked the entire 2,190-mile Appalachian Trail (from Maine to Georgia) over a period of five and a half months. Tim writes, "I received some logistics support on the AT from my former Penn roommate, now in California, **Mark Iwanowski ME'77**. It was fabulous but more difficult than expected, and I would recommend against attempting it all at once. Instead, hike in sections, or follow the advice of my other Penn roommate, **Dr. Gary Stilwell W'77**: do it 40 years ago." Both of Kelly's children, **Geoffrey S. Kelly C'07** and **Laura A. Kelly C'09 Gr'16**, attended Penn.

**Louise I. Shelley Gr'77** has authored a new book, *Dark Commerce: How a New Illicit Economy Is Threatening Our Future*. Louise, who is a professor at George Mason University, writes, "I wrote this book while an initial Andrew Carnegie fellow, and I discussed it on NPR's *Marketplace* on Thanksgiving. It was also picked as book of the week by *Nature* scientific journal for the week of November 28."

**David van Hoogstraten C'77 G'77** recently began serving as associate general counsel of the Peace Corps at its headquarters in Washington, DC.

## 1978

**Michael B. Aronson W'78** was honored by the Penn Champions Club with the H. Hunter Lott Jr. Award during the Fall Athletics Board of Overseers Meeting, held during Homecoming Weekend. Michael, a member of the Penn Basketball Sports Board, was instrumental in helping Penn

Athletics raise the necessary funds to rebrand the Tse Center Atrium, which connects the Palestra corridor with Hutchinson Gym, as the Class of 1978 and Class of 1979 Atrium, where Penn's 1979 Final Four team was honored in January.

**Tamar Ezekiel Granor C'78 GEE'81 Gr'86** writes, "I continue to run my custom software business, Tomorrow's Solutions, from our home in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. Since the 2016 election, I have been involved in political activism, including creating the website Acts of Conscience (actsofconscience.com) to aggregate actions generated by others and allow people to filter based on their interests and abilities. My own activism included trips to Alabama, Pittsburgh, and Kansas to canvass for Doug Jones, **Conor Lamb C'06 L'09**, and Laura Kelly, respectively, as well as lots of canvassing in the Philadelphia area and phone banking for Democratic candidates around the country. My husband, **Marshal Granor C'77**, and I have just finished a long term as copresidents of the Hebrew Free Loan Society of Greater Philadelphia, which offers no-interest, no-fee loans to members of the Philadelphia Jewish community in need, as well as to local Jews seeking fertility treatment, and to people (of any faith or no faith) starting businesses in the area. We are being succeeded as president by **Amy Krulik GCP'91**."

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## 1979

**Mark Shwartz C'79 G'80** writes, "I've happily returned to Manhattan to join Ness Technologies as chief legal officer and corporate secretary of this global enterprise encompassing 25 companies and 4,000 employees focused on delivering customized digital engineering solutions across all industries."

**M. Kelly Tillery L'79**, a partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP, helped erect a historical marker in Abington, Pennsylvania, to honor the early Quaker abolitionist Benjamin Lay, also known as "Little Benjamin" because of his small physical stature. A dedication ceremony was held in September at the Abing-

ton Friends Meetinghouse. M. Kelly provided the introductory and concluding remarks, in which he stated, "To the extent that this small token on the roadside can educate and inspire others to act and speak as Benjamin Lay did in the face of gross injustice, what we do here today will have been well worth the effort."

## 1981

**Dr. Alyson K. Buchalter D'81** writes, "I have the honor of being the 2019 president of the Second District Dental Society. The SDDS is the local component of the New York State Dental Association and the American Dental Association, representing approximately 1,500 dentists from Brooklyn and Staten Island, New York."

**Dr. Gregg Coodley C'81** has published his fourth book, *The Good Monarchs: History's Greatest Kings, Queens, Emperors, Sultans and Caliphs*. It is his second book on a historical topic. Gregg is a primary care internal medicine physician at the Fanno Creek Clinic in southwest Portland, Oregon.

**Marilyn Sanborne L'81** see **Dr. Richard Labowskie C'60**.

## 1982

**Robert Carley C'82**, an artist based in Connecticut, shared letters and art with George H. W. Bush from 1989 to 2014. A few years ago, he had the chance to meet the former president and presented him with a couple of framed caricatures. Carley was recently interviewed by *News 12* about this encounter, following Bush's death, and the video clip can be seen at [bit.ly/2AKMHMZ](http://bit.ly/2AKMHMZ). Robert is also an increasingly busy background actor in movies and television, and in an episode of Netflix's *Jessica Jones*, he played a hostage with a gun held to his head.

**David S. Weiss C'82 W'82 WG'90** has obtained a PhD in English literature from the University of Birmingham (UK) and the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford-Upon-Avon. His doctoral thesis was titled "Samuel Daniel's First Four Books of the Civil Wars and Shakespeare's Early His-

tory Plays." David can be found online at [davidweiss.academia.edu](http://davidweiss.academia.edu).

## 1983

**Jerry Epstein W'83 L'86** writes, "In October, I retired after 25 wonderful years practicing law at Jenner & Block. I'm excited to begin anew as a litigation consultant for the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington, DC. I'll be helping NRDC's talented and dedicated team fight for safe drinking water and clean air."

## 1986

**Ben Bell WG'86** writes, "I am pleased to announce that I have recently accepted the position of president of the Southwest region for the Signatry, a global Christian foundation whose mission is to inspire and facilitate radical biblical generosity. The Signatry was founded in 2000 and has assets under management of about \$800 million. We seek to be a conduit between donors and charities using donor-advised funds to maximize giving. I am the first and only employee in Texas, and I look forward to penetrating the Southwest to facilitate giving in this region."

**Charles S. Marion C'86 W'86 L'89**, a partner at Blank Rome, has been appointed cochair of the Franchise Law Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Business Law Section.

**Dr. Rodney Sherman C'86** writes, "I just achieved a milestone in my career, becoming the US regional director of medical affairs, Lung Cancer, for Merck Oncology."

## 1987

**Greg Adler C'87** and **Marilyn Schwartz Adler WG'91** celebrated the marriage of their daughter Samantha to Daniel Schub in November. Greg writes, "In addition to maid of honor Melissa Adler, who is a rising freshman at Penn, Penn attendees included **David Brail W'87**, College senior Anna Cappell, **Jacob Doft W'91**, **Suzanne Weiss Doft C'92**, **James Godman C'87**,



**Eric Green WG'91, Clint Greenbaum WG'83, Elisa Fishbein Greenbaum WG'83, Marko Issever G'84 WG'84, Richard Linhart W'83, Morris Massel C'94, Michael Moffson WG'87, Laura Siegel Rabinowitz C'86,** Wharton senior Sophie Rose, College senior Aerin Rosenfeld, **James Shenwick W'79, Nancy Tepper W'87, Jeffrey Tepper W'87,** and College senior Jeremy Wilson."

**Dr. Michael A. Balk M'87 GM'90** writes, "After 20 years at Northside Hospital, culminating as medical director of the Heart and Vascular Institute, I left and joined Emory Health Care as chief quality officer of Emory St. Joseph's Hospital. In my current role, I oversee all aspects of patient safety and hospital quality of a large tertiary medical center."

**Mary Jo Pauxtis Daley WEv'87 G'01** writes, "On January 1, I was sworn in for a fourth term to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives."

## 1988

**Jennifer Goldman Abadi C'88** will give a public talk about her new cookbook, *Too Good to Passover: Sephardic and Judeo-Arabic Seder Menus and Memories from Africa, Asia and Europe*, on March 28. The event, which takes place on Penn's campus, is sponsored by the Penn Jewish Studies Program and the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies. More information can be found at [bit.ly/2DcjTPo](http://bit.ly/2DcjTPo).

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## 1989

**Lynch W. Hunt Jr. EAS'89** writes, "Thanks to all of my friends and work associates who have mentored me, inspired me, and worked with me over the years in several professional and personal groups! I just found out that I'm a 2018 winner of a Bank of America (BoFA) Global Diversity and Inclusion Award for starting and running a mentoring program for a BoFA employee network, the Black Professional Group (BPG)! The program has been up

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and running for two years and now has 20 mentors mentoring 30 mentees! I'm blessed and humbled to be among 135 award recipients selected from more than 1,750 nominees from across the company's 200,000 employees! My title at BofA is assistant vice president, retirement product manager. This leadership award demonstrates my passion and advocacy for inclusion while leading professional development! For those of you who actually know me, you've heard or read my professional and personal mottos: Each one reach one! Spread the word! Onward and upward!"

## 1990

**David J. Glass C'90** has authored, *Moving On: Redesigning Your Emotional, Financial, and Social Life After Divorce*. David writes, "The book details the steps a newly divorced person should take in the year after their divorce is finalized to help them achieve their 'second chance at happiness.' It is available on Amazon." David has worked as a therapist and divorce attorney, and he is also an adjunct instructor of law and ethics at the American College of Professional Psychology.

**Jennifer Goldstein WEv'90**, a skate instructor, has authored a series of comic

books under her pen name Jenny Jen, the Skate Woman. With titles such as *My First Skate Book* and *My First Skating Rink Adventure*, the books teach both children and adults how to "roll with control" on inline and quad skates. Jennifer wrote her thesis for Wharton on skating and was profiled in the Nov/Dec 2005 *Gazette*. She writes, "My focus is promoting education, skating, and safety." Her books can be found on Amazon.

## 1991

**Marilyn Schwartz Adler WG'91** see **Greg Adler C'87**.

**Amy Krulik GCP'91** see **Tamar Ezekiel Granor C'78 GEE'81 Gr'86**.

## 1995

**Dr. Kenneth N. Sable EAS'95** writes, "Just wanted to share that as of October 1, I was promoted to regional president, Southern Market for Hackensack Meridian Health, where I oversee Jersey Shore University Medical Center and K. Hovnanian Children's Hospital in Neptune, New Jersey; Ocean Medical Center in Brick, New Jersey; and Southern Ocean Medical Center in Manahawkin, New Jersey."

## 1996

**Rabbi Yered Michoel (Jared) Vidors C'96** has authored a new book, *Seize the Moment! Finding Meaningfulness in the Here and Now*, published by Feldheim Publishers.

## 1998

**Janice Ferebee SW'98** has been elected as the Ward 2 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner (ANC) for Single Member District 2F08, in Washington, DC. Janice writes, "I am excited to serve my two-year term as one of 296 ANCs in Washington, DC, each serving approximately 2,000 residents, as well as public space, business, education, and religious neighbors. I continue to dedicate myself to the service of others."

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## 1999

**Caryn Beth Lazaroff Gold W'99** writes, "Benjamin Gold and I welcomed our son, Shane Bernard, to the world at 8:20 a.m. on January 1, weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces, and measuring 19 inches long. Ben, Shane, and I live in Holden, Massachusetts, and wish everyone a very happy new year."

**Vanessa Hernandez Vance Nu'99** has founded a parent coaching company called Parent Heroes. Vanessa writes, "I am a certified child sleep consultant, working with children ages four months to five years old. I provide virtual coaching to parents, helping them teach their little ones how to sleep. I work part-time at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas, in the newborn ICU, as a registered nurse." In September, Vanessa received the Austin (Texas) Birth Award for Best Sleep Consultant.

## 2000

**Sammy Y. Sugiura Jr. W'00** has joined Edgar Snyder & Associates as an employment law attorney.

## 2001

**Montana Butsch C'01** is founder and CEO of Spotivity, a mobile app catering to high school students that helps link them with extracurricular activities, tutors, and mentors. The free app launched in Chicago but will soon expand to other cities.

**Elizabeth Tabas Carson C'01** has joined Reed Smith as a partner in its Financial Industry Group. Liz is dually qualified to practice in New York and Pennsylvania.

**Kira Rosen Dabby C'01** has been promoted to partner at her law firm, Archer & Greiner, P.C., based on her work in litigation and government affairs. She writes, "I am very excited to begin this new chapter in my career."

**Ariel S. Glasner C'01 W'01** has been elected partner at Blank Rome LLP. Ariel works in white collar defense and investigations in the firm's Washington, DC, office.





**Jon Hoffenberg W'01** is president of YellowTelescope, which owns SEOverSite.com, iScreamSocialMedia.com, and YellowTelescope Consulting. YellowTelescope, which provides medical training, staffing, and long-term oversight for hospitals, was named one of *Inc.* magazine's "5,000 Fastest Growing Companies in America" and was named the "No. 7 Fastest Growing Company in South Florida" by the *South Florida Business Journal* in 2018.

**Ray Valerio C'01**, assistant district attorney in Bronx County, New York, was recently honored with the Thomas E. Dewey Medal from the New York City Bar Association. Ray, who is also president of the Class of 2001, led the implementation of the NYPD's body camera program. He writes, "It has been my great pleasure to serve Bronx County as a prosecutor for nearly 15 years."

## 2002

**Dana Klinek Pinter C'02** writes, "My husband, Jason, and I welcomed our second daughter, Lyla Sage, into the world on November 14. She joins big sister Ava in Hoboken, New Jersey, where I am a content development manager at Pearson and Jason is the founder and publisher of the book publishing company Polis Books."

## 2003

**David Gringer C'03** was named partner at WilmerHale on January 1. David is a Washington, DC-based member of the firm's Litigation/Controversy Department and Government and Regulatory Litigation Practice Group.

*Celebrate Your Reunion: May 17-19, 2019*

## 2004

**Shahnaz Radjy C'04** writes, "My husband and I are renovating a little piece of paradise in rural Portugal and plan to open a B&B-style farmstay in 2020. Follow our progress on Instagram @TheCramooz."

**Kate Jay Zweifler C'04** writes, "My husband, Jon, and I, along with big broth-

er Bear (four), welcomed Zoey Jay Zweifler to our family in October. We live in Center City, Philadelphia, where I am a Realtor with BHHS Fox & Roach."

## 2006

**Stephanie Gantman Kaplan C'06** has been elected partner at Blank Rome LLP. She concentrates her practice on labor and employment litigation in the firm's Philadelphia office.

**Georgee Thevervelil C'06** has joined Blank Rome LLP as an associate in the Corporate, M&A, and Securities Group.

## 2007

**Rachel Friedman C'07** has been elected partner at Burr & Forman LLP. She is a member of the firm's Financial Services Litigation Practice Group.

*Celebrate Your Reunion: May 17-19, 2019*

## 2009

**Andrew Todres C'09** and Laura Kornhauser were married on October 20, at Bryant Park Grill in New York. Andrew writes, "I am a litigation associate in the New York office of the law firm Ropes & Gray LLP, and Laura is a success consultant in the New York office of LinkedIn. A very large Penn contingent was in attendance, including my parents, **Susan Molofsky Todres CW'75 WG'77** and **Michael Todres WG'73**; my brother **Stephen Todres C'14**; groomsmen **Adam Sherman W'09**, **Joshua Wilson C'09**, and **Jonathan Zane C'09**; and many other friends and family."

## 2010

**Barbara Wei C'10** writes, "I married my childhood sweetheart, Cyril Lan, in September at Herrington on the Bay, in Maryland. Bridesmaids included **Rosie Li C'11 G'11** and **Erin Li C'11**. The large Penn party consisted of **Omar Khan C'12**, **Celine Kosian C'10**, **Andres Velazquez EAS'11 G'11**, **Melody Chan W'11 WG'19**, **Sandy Sun**

**EAS'13**, **Lucy Medrich C'11**, **Jason Joo EE'10**, **Gabrielle Matouk Gilliland C'08 GFA'09**, **Jason Gilliland C'12**, **Jacinda Li W'11**, **Jeff Thesien W'09**, **Xavier Yang W'09**, and **Peter Hua EAS'08**. Cyril graduated in 2001 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology."

## 2011

**Julia McWilliams GED'11 Gr'16 Gr'17**, a lecturer in Penn's Critical Writing Program, has written an ethnographic study of one of Philadelphia's chronically underfunded neighborhood schools. The book is titled *Compete or Close: Traditional Neighborhood Schools Under Pressure* and will be released in late March.

**William F. Moen Jr. G'11** was elected to a second term as a member of the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Additionally, William continues to serve as the Southern New Jersey director for United States Senator Cory A. Booker.

## 2013

**Jason Gui EAS'13 W'13** is founder of Vigo Technologies, makers of Bluetooth headsets and smart glasses. Jason was named to MIT's "Innovators Under 35" list for 2019. In addition, in 2018, he was featured on the *Forbes*' "30 Under 30" list for the same work.

## 2017

**Benjamin "BJ" Jones LPS'17**, president and CEO of Battery Park City Authority, was named one of Manhattan's 50 most powerful people by *City & State* magazine. The list recognized "key players in the world of New York politics and government ... based on their achievements, economic clout, philanthropic efforts, their influence with powerful politicians and the constituencies they represent."

**Meredith L. Mill L'17** has joined Blank Rome LLP as an associate in the firm's Corporate, M&A, and Securities Group.

## 1933

**Edna Mazer Rosenberg FA'33**, Pikesville, MD, a retired public relations director for an insurance company; Oct. 24, at 106.

## 1938

**Mary "Ruth" Bassett Ed'38 GEd'40**, Drexel Hill, PA, Nov. 4, at 101. At Penn, she was a member of Alpha Xi Delta sorority.

## 1939

**Mary Elizabeth "Betty" Barlow Quintavalle Ed'39**, New York, a retired public school kindergarten teacher in New York City; Sept. 29, at 102.

## 1940

**Raymond G. Perelman W'40 Hon'14**, Philadelphia, a philanthropist who, with his wife, the late Ruth Caplan Perelman, made numerous gifts to Penn, and for whom the Perelman School of Medicine is named; Jan. 14, at 101. The son of a Lithuanian immigrant, Perelman became a partner in his father's company, the cardboard-tube maker American Paper Products, expanding it into the metals business. Over the course of his career, he bought, grew, and sold dozens of companies, continuing to do business into his 90s. He was president and chairman of RGP Holdings, a private holding company comprised of a vast array of manufacturing, mining, and financial interests. The Ruth and Raymond Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine opened in 2008, thanks to the Perelman's \$25 million gift. In addition, the couple made a historic \$225 million gift that created a permanent endowment for Penn's School of Medicine in 2011, and they established the first endowed professorship devoted to an active, full-time clinician, the Ruth C. and Raymond G. Perelman Professorship in Internal Medicine. He also served on the Perelman School of Medicine's Board of Trustees. "His impact on the University of Pennsylvania, the Perelman School of Medicine, and our city was nothing short of transformative, and it was an honor to have his partnership," said President Amy Gutmann. Beyond Penn, the Perelmans made

generous gifts to the Philadelphia Museum of Art and its adjacent Perelman Building, the Kimmel Center and Perelman Theater, the Perelman Jewish Day School, and many other Jewish cultural and welfare organizations. Both the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Drexel University have honored his extraordinary support by naming areas of their campuses in his honor. He served as a flight officer in World War II. His sons are Ronald O. Perelman W'64 WG'66 and Jeffrey E. Perelman W'71 WG'73, whose wife is Marsha Reines Perelman GCP'74. His grandchildren include Joshua G. Perelman C'93, Steven Golding Perelman WG'93 L'94, Hope G. Perelman C'95, Samantha O. Perelman C'12, and Alison Perelman Gr'13.

## 1941

**Betty Brodsky Garfield CW'41**, Jupiter, FL, a former bookkeeper for a wallpaper company; Oct. 31.

**Judith Zander Gross CW'41**, Bala Cynwyd, PA, a former teacher and civil rights activist; Nov. 1.

**Robert M. Taubman W'41**, Baltimore, retired CEO of Taubman Properties, which owns and manages shopping malls; Nov. 5, 2017.

**Amy Markovitz Zeckhauser CW'41**, Buffalo, NY, an artist, poet, and community volunteer; Dec. 8. At Penn, she was a member of the women's swimming team. She returned to Penn in 2016 to attend her 75-year reunion, writing to the *Gazette* that it was a "highlight of my long life."

## 1942

**Carroll Warren Bennett G'42**, Apex, NC, a retired supervisor at Dupont; April 18. He served in the US Army Air Corps during World War II.

**Mildred "Milly" Brill CW'42**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired employee at Penn's School of Education and Wharton; Nov. 1. She started at Penn as a stenographer in the School of Education in 1941 and went on to become chief clerk before transferring to Wharton as an administrative assistant for the S. S. Huebner Foundation for Insurance Education. In 1974, she be-

## Notifications

Please send notifications of deaths of alumni directly to: Alumni Records, University of Pennsylvania, Suite 300, 2929 Walnut Street, Phila., PA 19104

**EMAIL** record@ben.dev.upenn.edu

Newspaper obits are appreciated.

came assistant to the chair of the foundation, and then business administrator in 1984 before retiring in 1987.

**Mary Hurd Goodwillie DH'42**, York, PA, a former dental hygienist; Nov. 15.

## 1943

**Edward L. Fenimore ChE'43**, Berwyn, PA, retired president of the Philadelphia Chewing Gum Corporation; Oct. 30. In over 50 years of manufacturing bubble gum and other confectionery products, he worked with his father, former Penn chemical engineering professor Edward P. Fenimore, to improve the flavor and chewability of bubble gum by adapting products and processes originally developed for wartime use. He served in the US Navy during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. Two sons are David H. Fenimore C'73 and Richard L. Fenimore C'75, and his daughter is Carol Fenimore Gerson CGS'78.

**Leo Phaff W'43**, Albany, NY, a retired business executive and volunteer for several Jewish causes; Nov. 19. He served in the US Army during World War II.

## 1944

**Dolores Grote Kelty Ed'44**, Yardley, PA, Nov. 8.

**James C. Lurba W'44**, Farnham, VA, Sept. 15, 2017. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and the lightweight football and wrestling teams.

## 1945

**Alice Farr Cowles DH'45**, Savannah, GA, a retired dental hygienist; Nov. 4.

**Bertha Watts Gerrard GEd'45**, Short Hills, NJ, a professor of education at Virginia State College; June 1, 2016.

**Dennis E. McLellan W'45**, Ormond Beach, FL, a retired funeral home director;



Nov. 2. He served in the US Navy during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of the heavyweight rowing team.

## 1946

**John A. Carluccio W'46**, Wayne, NJ, a retired packing engineer for Avon Products; Nov. 7. He served in the US Army during World War II. His son is John M. Carluccio W'76.

**Charles G. Fickes Jr. W'46**, Cornwall, PA, a retired business instructor at Penn State University and former insurance executive; Nov. 27. He served in the US Army during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.

**Frederick E. Welte W'46 GEd'51**, Glen Mills, PA, a retired school district business manager; Nov. 16. He served in the US Navy during World War II and the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of the baseball team.

**Dr. Milton M. Yarmy GM'46**, Youngstown, OH, a retired physician who maintained a practice for 53 years; Dec. 11, at 107.

## 1947

**Charles B. Hedrick WG'47**, Cincinnati, Feb. 4.

**Frank E. Kohlenberger Jr. W'47**, Albuquerque, NM, a retired business administrator and accountant; Oct. 20. He served in the US Navy during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, the wrestling team, Friars, and Mask & Wig.

**Betta Zuzan Hirko Kriner EF'47**, State College, PA, a retired high school business teacher and former instructor at Penn State; Nov. 14.

## 1948

**Sanford A. Bookstein W'48**, Albany, NY, a retired real estate developer; July 14. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity.

**John R. Boyer W'48**, Moorestown, NJ, a retired real estate executive; Nov. 22. He served in the US Army during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**Robert W. Devonshire W'48**, Mercer, PA, retired director of Spanish operations for US Steel; Oct. 31. He served in the US Army Air Forces during World War II.

**Caroline A. Hetzel Ed'48**, Media, PA, a retired kindergarten teacher; Nov. 12. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Herbert S. Kalish G'48**, Manchester, VT, a technical engineer who developed machine cutting tool technology for Adamas Carbide; Aug. 1, 2016. He served in the US Army during World War II.

**Jane H. Kesson Mu'48 G'50**, Jenkintown, PA, a retired music teacher in the Abington School District; March 5, 2017.

**Robert P. Murray W'48**, Waterbury, VT, a retired real estate executive; Oct. 27. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity.

**Dr. Richard D. Rettew C'48**, Lancaster, NY, a retired pastor at Lancaster (NY) Presbyterian Church; Oct. 29.

**Dr. Maurice J. Smith V'48**, Mercerville, NJ, a retired veterinarian who owned Quaker Bridge Animal Hospital in Hamilton, NJ; Oct. 15. One son is Dr. Mark W. Smith V'79.

**Jerome W. Stedman W'48**, River Ridge, LA, a retired developer who was heavily involved with the Louisiana Restaurant Association; March 29. He served in the US Air Force during World War II.

**William K. Weakland W'48**, Laguna Hills, CA, a retired aerospace executive; Nov. 11. He served in the US Navy during World War II and the Korean War.

**Alfred Weissenbach Jr. W'48**, Lincolnshire, IL, Nov. 27. He served in the US Army during World War II and the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity.

## 1949

**William R. Chapin W'49**, Reading, PA, retired head of a lumber and supply company; Nov. 13. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

**Hope Pauline Cramer CW'49**, Union Township, NJ, Feb. 19, 2018. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority.

**Henry J. Devuono WEv'49**, Southampton, PA, a retired steel company executive; Nov. 22. He served in the US Army during World War II.

**Raymond S. Drain EF'49**, Reading, PA, a retired bank comptroller; Dec. 6, 2017.

**Forrest "Rod" Farrow Jr. C'49**, Mill Valley, CA, a retired advertising executive and consultant; Nov. 15. He served in the US Army during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, Penn Players, Sphinx Senior Society, and the cheerleading team.

**Charles Kirschbaum W'49**, West Palm Beach, FL, Oct. 27, 2017.

**Wesley A. Radcliffe W'49**, Trumbull, CT, a retired banking executive; Oct. 26. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Donald J. Ross C'49**, Pensacola, FL, Nov. 2. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.

## 1950

**William B. Davidson WG'50**, Wheaton, IL, a retired real estate broker and former American Motors executive; Nov. 17. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Stanley B. Disson EE'50**, Broomall, PA, a retired engineering company executive; Nov. 16. He held five patents and co-edited a popular engineering textbook. He was president of the Philadelphia chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and helped to create a chapter in Washington, DC. As a young man, he served in the US Air Force. His son is Stephen L. Disson W'75 WG'76.

**Edwin H. Gessel G'50**, Newtown, MA, retired head of an employment agency in Dayton, OH; Nov. 14. He served in the US Army Signal Corps during World War II. One son is Michael D. Gessel C'76.

**Dr. Claude Brooks Henderson M'50**, Gainesville, FL, a retired psychiatrist who maintained a practice in Ocala, FL; Oct. 11. He was the only psychiatrist practicing in Marion County, FL, in the 1960s, when there was more of a stigma on mental health issues.

**Mary Gilmore Huey HUP'50**, Homosassa, FL, July 4. She served in the US Army Nurse Corps during the Korean War.

**Anthony R. Lipkin W'50**, Delray Beach, FL, a CPA; Nov. 29.

**Edward F. McGinley III W'50**, Villanova, PA, a retired investment banking executive and vice president of Goldman Sachs; Nov. 11. He served in the US Navy during World War II. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, Friars, and the football team under legendary coach George Munger, remaining one of the most active "Mungermen" until his death. One brother is Richard D. McGinley C'58. His late father, Edward F. McGinley Jr. W'25, and late brother, Gerald H. McGinley W'52, were both former Penn football standouts.

**Dr. William J. Murtagh Ar'50 Gr'63**, Sarasota, FL, a leader in historic preservation and retired keeper of the National Register of Historic Places; Oct. 28. Once called the "beloved pied piper of preservation," he also served as vice president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and helped establish preservation programs as a professor at Columbia University, the University of Maryland, and the University of Hawaii. He wrote the textbook *Keeping Time: The History and Theory of Preservation in America* (1988).

**Allan M. "Pete" Peterson W'50**, Savannah, GA, a retired healthcare executive; Nov. 24. He served in the US Army during World War II and the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and Friars.

**Gladys Young Pollack G'50**, Montreal, a retired editor at *Reader's Digest*; April 17, 2017.

**Rolf Valtin G'50**, Alexandria, VA, a retired labor mediator and arbitrator; Aug. 1. He was a member of the US Olympic soccer team at the 1948 Summer Games after an All-American soccer career at Swarthmore College. He served in the US Army during World War II as an interrogator of German prisoners of war.

## 1951

**Doris Cafeo Bugnolo Ed'51**, Westminister, MA, a retired schoolteacher; Nov. 2. Her sister is Marie Cafeo Manna Ed'49.

**Jane Gladfelter Chrstos Ed'51**, Willow Grove, PA, a retired teacher; Oct. 4.

**Samuel E. Dennis W'51 L'54**, Bala Cynwyd, PA, a former managing partner at the law firm Fox Rothschild; Nov. 12. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, and the *Law Review*.

**Charles D. Gangemi Mu'51 G'55**, West Chester, PA, professor emeritus of music at West Chester University; March 13.

**C. Lester Kinsolving C'51**, Vienna, VA, a former Episcopal priest who went on to become a nationally syndicated columnist, talk radio host, and White House correspondent; Dec. 4. He served in the US Army during World War II.

**Edwin L. Levy W'51**, Marlton, NJ, Sept. 30, 2017.

**Mary Jane Tobin Schillinger Ed'51**, Phoenix, Sept. 3.

**Inez Coleman Terry CW'51**, West Chester, PA, a former accountant with AT&T; May 18, 2017.

## 1952

**Grace Verratti Defeo CW'52**, Glen Mills, PA, Nov. 27. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

**Dr. John Z. Delp C'52**, Willingboro, NJ, a retired pediatrician; Oct. 28.

**Dr. Victoria Donohoe GFA'52**, Bala Cynwyd, PA, a former artist, historian, and *Philadelphia Inquirer* art critic; Nov. 21.

**Peter W. Franck W'52**, Hockessin, DE, a retired systems engineer at IBM; Nov. 16. He served in the US Air Force as a fighter pilot. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the men's lacrosse and swimming teams.

**Robert P. Levy C'52**, Bryn Mawr, PA, emeritus trustee at Penn and a well-known businessman and philanthropist; Nov. 7. A decorated Philadelphia sportsman who spent decades mentoring young people at Penn through athletics, he founded the Little Quakers, an all-star youth football team for boys in the Philadelphia region that still exists today, three years after graduating. He was chair of DRT Industries, a Philadelphia-based conglomerate

with industrial holdings in the Delaware Valley, and was extensively involved in thoroughbred racing, operating the Robert P. Levy Stable, serving as chair of the Atlantic City Racing Association, and owning multiple champion racehorses. He joined Penn's Board of Trustees in 1971 and also served on the board of overseers for the School of Veterinary Medicine, the School of Dental Medicine, and Penn Athletics. He and his family made possible the Robert P. Levy Tennis Pavilion, the Levy Center for Oral Health Research, the Paley Professorship for the Dean of the School of Design, and Blanche P. Levy Park in the center of campus. In 2003, he received the Alumni Award of Merit. Outside of Penn, he served as chair of the Philadelphia Sports Congress, helping to bring many high-profile sporting events to the city, and was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. As a student at Penn, he was a member of Friars, WXPB, Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, and the men's tennis team, for which he was later inducted into Penn's Tennis and Athletics Halls of Fame. He served in the US Army Reserve Medical Corps during the Korean War. One son is Michael T. Levy C'90, and two daughters are Angela Levy Beck C'87 and Kathryn Levy Feldman GGS'09, whose husband is David N. Feldman C'68 WG'80. Three grandchildren are Alexander P. Feldman C'05 GAR'08 GFA'08, Peter H. Feldman C'07, and Ryder S. Finney C'13.

**Harry E. Mueller Jr. W'52**, North Fort Myers, FL, a retired real estate appraiser; Nov. 8. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity.

**Anthony Panico Jr. ME'52**, Linwood, NJ, a retired engineer as well as a physics and mathematics teacher; Oct. 29. He served in the US Army during the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of the men's heavyweight rowing team.

**Morton Poloway W'52**, Palm Desert, CA, a retired partner at an accounting firm; Sept. 12.

**Dr. John L. Wilkins V'52**, Willow Street, PA, a retired veterinarian; Nov. 11.



He served in the US Marine Corps during World War II. One son is Dr. David Wilkins V'86, whose wife is Elizabeth Song Wilkins WG'86. One grandson is John S. Wilkins, a rising freshman.

## 1953

**Dr. Robert G. Collmer Gr'53**, Waco, TX, professor emeritus of English at Baylor University; Nov. 21.

**Edward F. Fritsch EF'53**, Pottstown, PA, a retired lead company executive; Feb. 21, 2018. He served in the US Navy as an aviator during World War II.

**Dr. Murray "Murf" Klauber GD'53**, Longboat Key, FL, retired founder and CEO of the old Colony Beach & Tennis Resort, which used to draw famous athletes, politicians, and celebrities to Longboat Key; Nov. 22. He was also a former orthodontist.

**Hugh B. Parsons WEv'53**, San Bruno, CA, a retired employee of ICI Americas, a manufacturer and distributor of chemical products; Nov. 12. He served in the US Army during World War II, earning the Bronze Star.

**Nancy Hall-Kirwan Rinehart CW'53**, Dallas, TX, a former financial planner, tennis instructor, and author; Dec. 4. At Penn, she was president of Delta Delta Delta sorority and a member of the women's lacrosse, field hockey, and tennis teams.

**David N. Savitt L'53**, Philadelphia, a retired senior judge for Philadelphia's Court of Common Pleas; Oct. 23. He began serving on the Common Pleas bench in 1974 and attained senior judge status in 1998, presiding over 800 homicide cases. He previously worked as a trial lawyer, court administrator, and Democratic legislator for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

**Edwin P. Stauffer C'53**, Lewes, DE, Dec. 15, 2017.

**Constance "Connie" Szmidt HUP'53**, Blackwood, NJ, Nov. 10, 2017.

**Dr. Morton S. Weinstein C'53 D'56**, Mountainside, NJ, a retired dentist; Dec. 5. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity. One son is Eric Scott Weinstein W'92.

## 1954

**Dr. Donald M. Bergen Jr. C'54**, Summerville, SC, a retired dentist; Nov. 7. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**John Boyd Bert Jr. W'54**, Fort Pierce, FL, a retired insurance executive; Nov. 23. At Penn, he was a member of Kappa Alpha Society and the men's lightweight rowing team.

**Dr. Eugene A. Hildreth GM'54**, Reading, PA, professor emeritus of medicine at Penn; Jan. 5, 2018. After first serving as an instructor of medicine in the Perelman School of Medicine, he went on to become an associate professor in 1961 and associate dean in 1965. He also worked as a professor of clinical medicine as well as a professor in the department of allergy and immunology at Penn, while serving as the chief of medicine at Reading Hospital.

**Stanley A. Iniewicz W'54**, Oxford, OH, a retired manager for Visteon Corporation; Aug. 8. He served in the US Army during World War II and the Korean War. At Penn, he was a member of the men's track team. One daughter is Patricia Iniewicz Schuman W'87, and one grandson is Isaac S. Schuman W'18.

**Claire Brown Kaiser CW'54**, Wilmington, DE, Oct. 27. She worked in advertising for a number of years and later studied horticulture at the Barnes Foundation.

**Dr. Harry S. Riley D'54**, Norfolk, VA, a retired dentist; Nov. 26. He served in the US Navy during World War II and the Korean War.

**Adolph O. Schaefer Jr. W'54**, Washington Crossing, PA, an advertising executive; Aug. 31. His sister is Gretchen S. Jackson CW'59, whose husband is M. Roy Jackson Jr. C'61.

**Sanford L. Schniebolk C'54**, Great Neck, NY, a retired light consultant; Aug. 7. He was president of the Penn Club of Long Island from 1975 to 1976 and acted as an alumni recruiter for over 20 years. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Alpha fraternity. His wife is Sonia Brandt Schniebolk Ed'60, and one daughter is Beth M. Schniebolk C'84.

**Ruth Levitan Segal CW'54**, Philadelphia, Oct. 19. She was a longtime volunteer for the Center City Residents' Association in Philadelphia. Her cousins are Stephen R. Levitan C'54 and Ralph S. Levitan W'58.

**Virginia Sudjian Tatarian CW'54**, Moorestown, NJ, Dec. 7.

## 1955

**Dr. Ann Craver Andrews Nu'55 GrD'71**, Mechanicsville, PA, a psychologist; Nov. 27.

**Dr. William Feldman Gr'55**, Warminster, PA, a retired clinical chemist; Sept. 30. His wife is Rhoda Litt Feldman Ed'51.

**Theodore E. Grzelak C'55**, Ewing, NJ, a retired IBM programmer; Oct. 21. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**Dr. E. Ralph Heinz M'55**, Chapel Hill, NC, professor emeritus and chief of neuroradiology at Duke University; Nov. 11. A leader in the neuroimaging community and a pioneer in the subspecialty of pediatric neuroradiology, he previously ran departments at Emory University, Yale University, and the University of Pittsburgh, building at Pitt one of the most prestigious neuroradiology sections in the country.

**Wilmer "Bill" Loomis Jr. PT'55**, Edgewater, MD, a retired physical therapist; Nov. 2.

**S. White Rhyne L'55**, Kensington, MD, a retired attorney who practiced in Washington, DC, for nearly 50 years; Feb. 28, 2018. At Penn, he was editor of the *Law Review*.

**James H. Shelton C'55**, Mount Laurel, NJ, a retired editor at McGraw Hill; Oct. 13. He served in the US Army and later coached many youth sports teams.

**Morton Stupp WEv'55**, Tampa, FL, a retired CPA; Dec. 4. He served in the US Army during the Korean War.

**Frances Emanuel Tobin CW'55**, Haverford, PA, Oct. 24. She started the Flyers Wives Fight for Lives Carnival, raising millions for Hahnemann Hospital. She was also instrumental in raising funds for the Wistar Institute. One daughter is Sharon Tobin Kestenbaum W'83 WG'88, and one grandson is David T. Kestenbaum C'20.

## 1956

**Harry N. Bloch W'56**, Stamford, CT, a retired financial executive; Dec. 29, 2017. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Epsilon Pi fraternity.

**Robert L. Eichelberger C'56**, Baton Rouge, LA, a retired sales manager at IBM; Nov. 15. He later worked as a career services coordinator at LSU. At Penn, he was a member of the football and baseball teams.

**Dr. Natalia Isachuk Pazuniak Gr'56**, Philadelphia, a former Ukrainian language and literature professor at Penn; Oct. 12, 2017. She also taught at Manor College and Macquarie University in Australia.

**Neil D. Zaentz W'56**, New York, a retired investment manager; Dec. 16, 2017. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Delta Phi fraternity.

**Dr. Irving Zieper M'56**, Greenacres, FL, a retired physician; Feb. 8, 2018.

## 1957

**Margaret "Peggy" Davidson PT'57**, Lewisburg, PA, a retired pediatric physical therapist; Oct. 28. At Penn, she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority.

**Robert E. Dymsha W'57**, Rio Rancho, NM, a retired investment manager; April 5, 2016. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

**Marilyn Chaskin Gordon HUP'57**, Hazleton, PA, a former dress shop owner and camp nurse; Nov. 17.

**Seymour Kurland L'57**, Philadelphia, a retired attorney who practiced for over 50 years specializing in antitrust law; Nov. 23. He was also a former chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association and a city solicitor.

**John J. McGarry W'57**, East Stroudsburg, PA, a retired CPA; Oct. 25. At Penn, he was a member of the men's lightweight rowing team.

**Lawrence T. Messick GEd'57**, Rehoboth Beach, DE, a retired music educator and director of the Wilmington All-City Orchestra who later owned a construction company; July 23, 2016. He served in the US Army during World War II. One son is L. Thomas Messick, Jr. C'89.

**Charles T. Morrow W'57**, Medford, NJ, a retired financial executive; Nov. 7.

**Thomas F. Wilber W'57**, Endwell, NY, retired owner of a family-run jewelry store; Dec. 5. At Penn, he was a member of Beta Sigma Rho fraternity.

## 1958

**Arthur W. Allen W'58**, Seattle, Jan. 1, 2018. At Penn, he was a member of Tau Epsilon Phi fraternity.

**Dr. Ronald S. Grober C'58**, Port Saint Lucie, FL, a retired orthopedic surgeon; Nov. 5. He built the Grober Center into a sports medicine hub, resulting in a 20-year relationship with the New York Mets. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity and was instrumental in establishing the University's ice hockey program.

**John Litzinger W'58**, Bradenton, FL, June 27.

**Dr. Ruth Addis Marcucci GM'58**, Chalfont, PA, a retired pediatrician; Sept. 17.

**James E. Taylor WG'58**, Gibsonville, NC, a former CPA and owner of Discharge Machining; Nov. 20. He served as an officer in the US Army's Finance Corps.

**Dr. Kenneth W. Werley GD'58**, Camp Hill, PA, a retired orthodontist; Nov. 18. He served in the US Navy Dental Corps during the Korean War.

## 1959

**Warren B. Bastian WG'59**, Hammondsport, NY, retired head of a sales agency; April 27. He served in the US Navy during the Korean War.

**Joseph M. Bernstein W'59**, Milwaukee, a retired attorney specializing in real estate and corporate law; Nov. 28. He held leadership roles at a variety of Jewish nonprofits. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Alpha fraternity, the marching band, Mask & Wig, and the *Daily Pennsylvanian*. One son is Robert A. Bernstein W'87, and one daughter is Stephanie B. Wagner C'89.

**Dr. Evelyn J. Bowers CW'59 G'75 Gr'83**, Drexel Hill, PA, a professor of anthropology at Ball State University; Nov. 27. She previously worked at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

**Eugene C. Capaldi C'59**, Newtown Square, PA, a retired environmental health and safety manager at ARCO Chemical Company; Jan. 21, 2018. One son is Robert E. Capaldi W'91.

**Joseph J. Carlin L'59**, Philadelphia, an attorney; Oct. 21, 2016.

**Mitchel B. Craner W'59**, New York, a retired attorney who maintained a practice for over 55 years; Oct. 19. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity and the *Daily Pennsylvanian*. One son is Matthew Lawrence Craner C'94 L'97, and his brother is John A. Craner W'56.

**Edward A. Janse III C'59**, Harwich Port, MA, Oct. 20. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity.

**Kenneth G. Keith GEd'59**, Corning, NY, a retired physics and engineering sciences professor at Corning Community College; Nov. 3.

**Dr. Charles Kenneth Koster GM'59**, Rocky River, OH, a retired ophthalmologist; Sept. 19. He served in the US Air Force through the World War II, Korea and Vietnam era, retiring as a captain.

**Conrad W. Lach WG'59**, Bethlehem, PA, a retired computer salesman; Oct. 23.

**Josephine W. March GEd'59**, West Chester, PA, a former elementary school teacher; Oct. 30.

**Muriel Coward Schroeder GEd'59**, Reidsville, NC, a former computer applications teacher at Rockingham Community College; Nov. 7.

**Michael B. Tischman C'59**, Scotch Plains, NJ, a retired attorney and founding partner of what is now called Sills Cummis & Gross, one of New Jersey's largest law firms; Nov. 7. At Penn, he was a member of the men's track team and WXPB.

## 1960

**Dr. Anthony Louis Angello M'60**, Denver, a retired obstetrician-gynecologist; July 21, 2017.

**Gerald I. Brown W'60**, Sherman Oaks, CA, a retired retailer; Oct. 6. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Mu fraternity. One daughter is Sara B. Brown C'89.



**Sylvia J. Charlesworth CW'60**, Rochester, NY, a former clothing consignment shop owner; Nov. 16. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. One son is Gregory W. Schafer EAS'86.

**John Philip Diefenderfer W'60**, Lake Ariel, PA, a retired civil attorney; Nov. 22. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**Robert J. Hastings L'60**, Danboro, PA, a retired attorney; Feb. 25, 2017.

**Susan McInnes Howard CW'60**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired schoolteacher; Nov. 20. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**Joseph F. Montgomery G'60**, King of Prussia, PA, Aug. 16.

**Donald L. Pierce GEd'60**, Ocala, FL, a retired registrar and math professor at Lincoln (PA) University; May 8.

**Ronald C. Scott L'60**, Punta Gorda, FL, a retired trial attorney in Philadelphia specializing in aircraft accidents; Sept. 6. He served as a fighter pilot in the US Navy and retired as a captain with the Navy Reserves.

**Thomas J. Ward W'60**, Lafayette Hill, PA, a retired CPA; Nov. 25.

## 1961

**James Richard Briscoe WG'61**, Naples, FL, a retired executive at the old pharmaceutical company Schering-Plough; June 30.

**Dianne Hankin-Boyer HUP'61**, Frederick, MD, April 24.

**Dr. W. David Kay C'61**, Urbana, IL, professor emeritus of English at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Sept. 2.

**Frederick Klutey Jr. WG'61**, Greenville, NC, a retired DuPont executive; Nov. 30.

**John D. McCarron C'61**, West Chester, PA, Oct. 12, 2017. At Penn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi fraternity.

**Joyce Bauer McGanka Nu'61**, Pittsburgh, a retired registered nurse; May 24.

**Frank W. Miller W'61**, Brooklyn, a retired CPA; Nov. 23. At Penn, he was a member of the men's heavyweight rowing team.

**Dr. Elliot W. Salloway GD'61**, Worcester, MA, a retired dentist; Oct. 31. He served in the US Air Force during the Vietnam War.

**Thomas H. Segal C'61**, Baltimore, former head of a well-known art gallery on Boston's Newbury Street; Oct. 9, 2017. At Penn, he was a member of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, Sphinx Senior Society, and the men's soccer and track teams. His wife is Clair Zamoiski Segal CW'75 G'75, and his son is Jonathan Michael Segal C'93

## 1962

**Robert F. Aldrich WG'62**, Lake Waccamaw, NC, a retired manufacturing executive; Oct. 19.

**Dr. F. Gene Braun GM'62**, Dallas, a retired ophthalmologist; Oct. 28.

## 1963

**Richard A. Carrick L'63**, New Hope, PA, a retired banking executive; Aug. 1. He served in the US Army. At Penn, he was a member of the Sharswood Law Club.

**William S. Clarke L'63**, Princeton, NJ, a retired corporate attorney; Aug. 21.

**Thomas H. Conway WG'63**, Concord, MA, retired founder and head of the private equity firm Commonwealth Venture Funding Group; Nov. 4.

**Robert B. Gordon W'63**, Seekonk, MA, a retired teacher and guidance counselor; Sept. 5.

**Roy A. Kull Jr. WG'63**, Dallas, Oct. 28. He worked in commercial real estate, banking, consulting, and construction.

**Dr. David B. Schaffer M'63 GM'67**, Blue Bell, PA, professor emeritus of ophthalmology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Nov. 4. While in residency at Penn, he was named the first director of pediatric ophthalmology at CHOP and he remained the department chair until his retirement in 1999. A lifelong educator and scientist, he published extensively on clinical topics, including retinopathy of prematurity and ophthalmic manifestations of systemic diseases. He contributed to research that led to the reduction of blindness in premature babies by 50 percent. His son is Edward B. Schaffer C'88, his daughter is Dr. Nicole A. Schaffer C'89, and his brother is Dr. Lewis A. Schaffer M'60 GM'64.

**Barry L. Whitsel G'63**, Chapel Hill,

NC, a retired researcher and professor at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine's physiology department; Nov. 1.

**Raoul Yochim L'63**, Kalamazoo, MI, retired general counsel for the Upjohn Company; Nov. 4.

## 1964

**R. Jan Carman EE'64 GEE'65**, West Falmouth, MA, a retired engineering company executive; Nov. 13. At Penn, he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity and the Penn Band.

**William H. Curtis WG'64**, Lakeway, TX, a retired bank executive; Oct. 21. He served in the US Navy for 20 years, retiring as a commander.

**Dr. Ruby Taylor Davis GEd'64**, Orangeburg, SC, a retired professor of education at South Carolina State University and Claflin University; Nov. 27.

**Dr. Malcolm B. Polk Gr'64**, Decatur, GA, professor emeritus of textile engineering at Georgia Tech; May 22, 2017.

**Nicholas Settanni GCP'64**, Haddonfield, NJ, a retired engineering planner and architect for the Delaware River Port Authority; Oct. 18.

**Dr. E. Armistead Talman GM'64**, Richmond, VA, a retired surgeon; Oct. 31.

**Darrell G. Torgerson GEd'64**, Carmichael, CA, a retired high school science teacher; Oct. 31.

**Dr. Paul F. Zizza Jr. D'64**, Fresno, CA, a retired orthodontist; Nov. 27.

## 1965

**Albert H. Jacobs III W'65**, Boyertown, PA, retired head of a paper distribution company; Oct. 23. At Penn, he was a member of the men's squash and tennis teams.

**William S. May G'65**, Parrish, FL, a retired engineer; Sept. 12, 2017.

**Dr. Luther B. Sowers GrD'65**, York, PA, a retired school superintendent; Oct. 28. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

## 1966

**Crawford "Corky" G. Allison III WEv'66**, Centennial, CO, a retired insurance executive; Sept. 21.

**Mabel Herr Bagenstose Nu'66 GNu'68**, West Reading, PA, a former nursing administrator and director of public health for the Southeastern district of the Pennsylvania Department of Health; Oct. 21.

**Regina Cox Fernandez CW'66**, Fort Lauderdale, FL, a retired financial analyst; Aug. 27.

**Sally Bennett Green SW'66**, Wilmington, DE, a retired social worker; March 30.

**Edward B. Kozemchak EE'66**, Spring Lake, NJ, a retired electrical engineer and former director of Bell Labs; Dec. 8.

**Dr. Virginia Anding La Charite Gr'66**, Hoschton, GA, professor emerita of French studies at the University of Kentucky; Nov. 7. Her husband is Dr. Raymond C. La Charite G'65 Gr'66.

**Dr. Charles J. Olney G'66**, Dataw Island, SC, a retired surgeon; Nov. 26.

**Joseph E. Slawek Jr. GEE'66**, Philadelphia, a retired physicist; Dec. 7, 2017. One daughter is Kimberly A. Slawek WG'89, and one stepson is Dr. Paul A. Heck M'81.

**Dr. David C. Ulmer Jr. GEd'66**, Longmont, CO, a retired educator at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Jan. 2, 2018.

## 1967

**Dr. Gerrit J. Blauvelt M'67 GM'69**, Larkspur, CA, a retired psychiatrist who maintained a practice in San Francisco for nearly 50 years; Nov. 11. He served in the US Navy.

**Helen Patterson Brandt GEd'67**, Doylestown, PA, a retired teacher, counselor and chemist; Oct. 24.

**Antonio Genovese WEv'67**, Cherry Hill, NJ, Feb. 25.

**Pamela Procuniar Goldberg L'67**, Silver Spring, MD, a retired attorney, law professor, and civil rights activist; Nov. 24. Her husband is Ira M. Goldberg C'58 L'67.

**Dr. Patricia Hughes Gulbrandsen M'67 GM'71**, Virginia Beach, VA, a retired occupational medicine physician; Dec. 9.

**Beverly Schwartz Held CW'67**, Macon, GA, a retired middle school teacher; Nov. 11. Her son is Jonathan S. Held C'93.

**E. Ronald Hlatky C'67**, Oakhurst, NJ, a retired insurance executive; Dec. 5. At

Penn, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

**J. Steven Lempel W'67**, Fresno, CA, an eminent domain, land use, and municipal law attorney; Oct. 26.

## 1968

**John M. Garrison PT'68**, Clearwater, ID, a retired physical therapist; Oct. 24.

**June C. Krinsley Nu'68**, Columbus, NJ, a retired nurse; Sept. 19. One daughter is Amy L. Huang Nu'97 GNu'06 GNu'10.

**John E. Millett WG'68**, Hanover, PA, retired executive director of Pennsylvania's State Civil Service Commission; Nov. 15.

## 1969

**Deborah A. Greeby Bogdan HUP'69**, Fairfield, CT, a retired nurse; Aug. 5, 2016.

**Suzanne P. Cleaveland GEd'69**, San Leandro, CA, June 22.

**John T. Crocker C'69**, Concord, MA, a former teacher; April 27, 2017.

**Steven R. Derby W'69 WG'73**, Springfield, PA, a retired vice president of development at Riddle Hospital; Nov. 4. He previously worked in development at Penn and Temple. He served in the US Army's Defense Language Institute. At Penn, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

**Joseph M. Juhas L'69**, Litchfield, CT, a former attorney and founder of an investment banking firm; Nov. 28.

**Glenn H. Landis GEd'69**, Lititz, PA, a retired physical science teacher at Delaware County Community College; Dec. 1.

**Dr. Barton L. Mackey D'69**, Wilmington, DE, a retired dentist; Oct. 3. One brother is Dr. David L. Mackey M'62.

**David A. Rubenstein W'69**, West Allis, WI, an owner and operator of several retail stores; Oct. 26.

## 1970

**Lynne Goodstein CW'70**, State College, PA, a professor of sociology, psychology, and women's studies, as well as an administrator, at a number of schools, including Juniata College, Simmons College, Penn State, and the University of Connecticut; Nov. 5.

**Marie J. Hall G'70**, Delanco, NJ, an English translator of Polish and Russian texts; Aug. 8, 2016.

**Zenon Mazurkevich GAR'70 GCP'70 GFA'70**, Elkins Park, PA, an architect known for designing beautiful churches; Oct. 26. One son is Dorian S. Mazurkevich C'95.

**Dr. Bowmer Preston Thomas M'70**, Louisville, a retired pathologist; Nov. 18, 2017. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War, earning a Bronze Star.

## 1971

**Franklin T. Barrett SW'71**, Huntingdon Valley, PA, a retired pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church and prison chaplain; Dec. 7.

**William R. Bloom Jr. WG'71**, Mooresville, NC, a retired furniture company salesman and executive; Nov. 4.

**Paul D. Rehal GEE'71**, Hazle Township, PA, a retired aerospace engineer for the US Navy; Nov. 4.

## 1972

**Allen W. Counts WG'72**, Muskogee, OK, former head and cofounder of an investment banking firm in New York; Oct. 28. He later worked as an attorney.

**Donna Broker Epstein CW'72 GEd'72**, Wynnewood, PA, an attorney; Aug. 2. At Penn, she was a member of Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, the *Daily Pennsylvanian*, and Penn Chorus. One son is Eric J. Epstein C'01, whose wife is Rebecca Ingis Epstein C'98. Her nieces and nephews include Sandra Epstein C'87, Rachel Broker C'91, and Jason Epstein C'92.

**Hilton O. Garnes Jr. WG'72**, San Antonio, a retired manager with the Air Force Audit Agency and retired colonel in the US Marine Corps Reserves; Jan. 21, 2018.

**Louise Chaffee Kuklis CW'72**, New Rochelle, NY, a retired middle school and high school teacher in Edgemont, NY; June 28. At Penn, she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority.

**John J. Lorden Jr. WG'72**, Punta Gorda, FL, retired head of a management consulting company; Nov. 29.

**Dr. Paul A. Messaris ASC'72 Gr'77**, San Francisco, the Lev Kuleshov Emeritus



Professor of Communication in Penn's Annenberg School for Communication, Dec. 1. After teaching at Queens College, he was hired at Penn in 1977 as assistant professor, where he remained until his retirement in 2017. He was one of the preeminent scholars of visual communication and how people make sense out of visual language. His books *Visual "Literacy": Image, Mind, and Reality* (1994) and *Visual Persuasion: The Role of Images in Advertising* (1997) are classic texts in the category. In 1998, he worked with the School of Engineering and Applied Science and PennDesign to develop the Digital Media Design interdisciplinary major, one of the early programs to focus on computer graphics, animation, and games.

**Dr. Daniel A. Nesi GM'72**, Furlong, PA, former chief of staff at Doylestown Hospital; Sept. 14. He served in the US Army as a surgeon.

## 1973

**Lee A. Brown W'73**, Liberty, MO, a real estate executive; May 8. He served in the US Marine Corps. At Penn, he was a member of the sprint football team.

**Alan B. Peoples PT'73**, Newark, DE, a retired physical therapist; Aug. 6.

**James L. F. Waddell Gr'73**, Naples, FL, a biology professor at the University of Minnesota; Jan. 31. He previously taught at Penn, Drexel, Cabrini, Cornell, and the University of Maine.

## 1974

**Rose Walsh Landers OT'74**, Iowa City, IA, Feb. 5, 2018.

## 1975

**Edward W. Jones WEv'75**, Manahawkin, NJ, a quality assurance manager at Automotive Rentals; August 16, 2016. He served in the US Army.

## 1976

**Joe Ann Dupard Akpan SW'76**, Vach-erie, LA, a retired social worker; Nov. 21.

**James H. Davis W'76**, Centerville, MA, a human resources manager; Oct. 16. At

Penn, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity and the Sphinx Senior Society.

**Dr. Eric Lewis D'76**, Chula Vista, CA, a retired captain of the US Naval Dental Corps; Sept. 29.

**Neal S. Loeb W'76**, Watertown, WI, Nov. 4.

**Constance R. Roberts-Pydych SW'76**, Philadelphia, a former librarian; Nov. 1. Her husband is Charles P. Pydych WG'61.

## 1977

**Michael W. Gery C'77**, Marblehead, MA, head of a parking company; Nov. 21. He previously worked as a consultant to the Environmental Protection Agency and the United Nations, creating a chemistry model to assess air pollution that is still used today. At Penn, he was a member of the sprint football team.

**Dr. Joseph Neustein M'77**, Boca Raton, FL, a retired orthopedic surgeon who maintained a practice in El Paso, TX; Jan. 29, 2017. One son is Michael S. Neustein W'04, and one daughter is Dr. Shira G. Fishman EAS'98.

## 1978

**Janice M. DiGiovanni OT'78**, Kalamazoo, MI, a former occupational therapist, special education supervisor and school principal; April 14, 2017.

**Guy L. Irwin WEv'78**, Oreland, PA, co-owner of G&F Systems Incorporated, a manufacturer of food processing equipment; Nov. 30. His wife is Gail Hood Irwin CGS'78 Nu'82, and one daughter is Jeanne Roig-Irwin C'07 L'10.

**Stephen A. Marder ME'78**, Birdsboro, PA, Nov. 1, 2017. He worked in the utility industry and published a book on railroad and canal history of northeastern Pennsylvania. His mother is Nancy A. Marder CW'44, his brother is William Z. Zarder ME'70, and his sister is Ellen Marder Pries CW'71.

**Susan Thayer Wilmerding PT'78**, Bryn Mawr, PA, a retired pediatric physical therapist; April 11, 2018. Her daughter is Amy Wilmerding Manny C'82, and one son is J. Christopher Wilmerding C'88.

## 1979

**Elizabeth Sherman Swing Gr'79**, Concord, MA, professor emerita of education at Saint Joseph's University; Oct. 23. Her son is Bradford Swing L'88.

## 1980

**Dr. Sally Archer Gr'80**, Roxbury, VT, a former psychology professor at the College of New Jersey; April 3, 2018.

**Alese Rubinroit Garner C'80**, New York, an administrative law judge at the City of New York Department of Finance; June 20.

## 1981

**Dr. Thomas Francis Burns Gr'81**, Millington, MD, former assistant professor at Wharton and group director at Penn's Fels Institute of Government; Aug. 3. He joined Wharton's faculty in 1981 as an assistant professor in the department of social systems sciences and also served as a senior research associate for Wharton's Management and Behavioral Science Center for several years. After leaving Penn, he went on to become the founding director of the OMG Center for Collaborative Learning in Philadelphia, a national evaluation and strategy firm committed to innovation and shared learning in the social sector, and then served as president of Urban Ventures Group, a national community development consulting company.

**Janet Berney Hunt L'81**, Charlotte, NC, senior vice president and associate general counsel for Bank of America; Nov. 10. At Penn, she was a member of the *Law Review*. Her husband is H. Thomas Hunt L'81.

**Dr. Daniel A. Laurent M'81**, Herndon, VA, a retired urologist; Nov. 27.

## 1983

**Dr. Cynthia Lee Ketterer C'83**, Houston, a general surgeon at El Campo Memorial Hospital; Dec. 5. At Penn, she was a member of the women's squash and tennis teams. Her brother is Frederick D. Ketterer W'91, and her sister is Gwyneth M. Ketterer C'86 W'86.

## 1984

**Dr. William W. Vernon G'84**, Carlisle, PA, professor emeritus of geology at Dickinson College; Oct. 30. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

## 1985

**Dr. Celeste Clement GEd'85**, Radnor, PA, an art therapist, teacher, and children's books author; Feb. 25, 2018.

**Philip Eugene Marshall WG'85**, Winter Park, FL, a financial executive; Dec. 8. His wife is Caroline Bensabat Marshall GL'85.

## 1986

**Jeffrey H. Fischer C'86**, Germantown, MD, a deputy assistant director of the Federal Trade Commission; Nov. 19.

**Dr. Constance Ryskamp-Schipper GEd'86 GrD'86**, Holland, MI, a retired elementary school principal and reading specialist; Nov. 27.

## 1987

**Dr. Eric A. Richard EAS'87**, Pittsford, NY, a doctor of internal medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital and a professor at the University of Rochester Medical Center; Oct. 24.

## 1988

**Katie Melynda Loeb C'88**, Philadelphia, a restaurant manager and bartender known for making specialty cocktails; Dec. 8. She authored a cocktail book *Shake, Stir, Pour* (2012) with a foreword by famous chef Jose Garces.

## 1989

**Janice Grisan WEv'89 G'95 WEv'97**, Berlin, NJ, Aug. 5. Her sons are Richard Grisan ChE'83 and Daniel Grisan W'85, and her daughter is Bonnie Grisan C'92.

## 1990

**Eugene J. Dooley WG'90**, Frazer, PA, the police chief of East Whiteland township and former Philadelphia Police chief in inspector; March 13, 2018. He served as actor Harrison Ford's guide into the life of Philadelphia's police homicide unit in prepara-

tion for the 1985 movie *Witness* and later briefly worked in film development for Columbia Motion Pictures. He served in the US Army during the Vietnam War.

**Edward R. Eisenlord Jr. GEd'90**, Alpharetta, GA, a retired US Army captain; Nov. 19.

**David Sanborn Hunt C'90 GCP'91**, Wilmington, DE, a founding partner of Green Line Business Group, whose signature product, Danio Diary, is part of a larger technology suite designed to securely connect individuals receiving health care with family and friends; March 2, 2018. At Penn, he was a member of the Penn Band and the comedy group *Without a Net*. His parents are Chase S. Hunt C'52 and Suzanne Mahn Hunt Ed'54.

## 1991

**Brian J. Gordon C'91**, Weston, CT, Nov. 18. He owned his own strategic consulting business and served in Weston's local government. At Penn, he was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity and Sphinx Senior Society. His parents are Ronald B. Gordon W'64 and Claire Israel Gordon CW'64.

## 1996

**Michelle A. Roybal WG'96**, Portland, OR, a former consultant and finance executive; Jan. 16, 2018.

## 1997

**Dr. William R. Brennen CGS'97**, Wynnewood, PA, emeritus associate professor of chemistry; Nov. 9. He joined the faculty in 1966 and was promoted to associate professor in 1970, which he remained until retirement in 2005. He was the principal investigator of a 1970 project, titled *Excitation of Atomic Nickel in the Reaction Between Nickel Carbonyl and Active Nitrogen*, which was sponsored by the Advanced Research Projects Agency of the US Department of Commerce.

**Owen Seaton WAM'97**, Castle Rock, CO, a retired US Army colonel and founding officer of the United States Investigations Services, a security services firm; Nov. 17, 2017.

## 1998

**Dr. Thomas Williams Adams Gr'98**, New Hope, PA, former director of Penn's English Language Programs and a professor in the Graduate School of Education; Oct. 21. He served two years in the Peace Corps in Togo, West Africa. Then, after receiving his master's of education from Temple University in 1977, he took a position with Bell Helicopter International in Iran, where he taught English to helicopter pilots in the Imperial Iranian Army. In 1987, he began teaching at Penn's English Language Programs, moving up the ranks to director. He subsequently taught at the Graduate School of Education and was awarded a citation for outstanding teaching in 1996. He retired in 2012.

## 1999

**Jane E. Hinkle GEd'99**, Philadelphia, a former business writer and teacher; Oct. 21. Her wife is Abbe Fay Fletman L'88.

## 2001

**Robert A. Koons WG'01**, Columbia, SC, an attorney; April 13, 2018.

## 2003

**Dr. Debra L. Wiegand Gr'03**, North Wales, PA, an associate professor at the University of Maryland School of Nursing; Nov. 13.

## 2009

**Roy W. Wyss C'09**, Millvale, PA, a senior business analyst at PNC Bank; Nov. 16. At Penn, he was a member of Pi Lambda Phi fraternity and the men's swimming team.

## Faculty &amp; Staff

**Dr. Thomas Williams Adams.** See *Class of 1998*.

**Dr. William R. Brennen.** See *Class of 1997*.

**Mildred "Milly" Brill.** See *Class of 1942*.

**Dr. Thomas Francis Burns.** See *Class of 1981*.

**Dr. Dorothy Cheney**, Devon, PA, emeritus professor of biology in the School of Arts and Sciences and renowned primate re-



searcher; Nov. 9. She and her husband, Dr. Robert Seyfarth, professor emeritus of psychology, joined Penn's faculty in 1985 and cotaught a popular animal behavior class. She and Dr. Seyfarth produced groundbreaking research on the communication and social structures of baboons and other monkeys living in the wild. One of their most notable experiments found that monkeys are able to warn each other not only when a predator is present but also what type of predator is approaching. She received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1995 and was elected to both the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Academy of Sciences. She received the Biology Department Teaching Award in 2009 and retired in 2016.

**Dr. Eugene A. Hildreth.** *See Class of 1954.*

**Dr. Georg Nicolaus "Nico" Knauer,** Haverford, PA, emeritus professor of classical studies; Oct. 28. After teaching at the Free University of Berlin, he joined the faculty at Penn in 1975, where he remained until his retirement in 1988. He was a Guggenheim Fellow, a Fellow of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a Resident of the Rockefeller Foundation in Bellagio, Italy, among other appointments. He is best known for the book that originated as his 1961 Habilitationsschrift on Vergil's imitation of Homer in the Aeneid, *Die Aeneis und Homer*. His study of Vergil and Homer remains one of the most frequently cited books in the field of classics.

**Robert P. Levy.** *See Class of 1952.*

**Dr. Arthur W. "Drew" Mellen IV,** Cherry Hill, NJ, an obstetrician/gynecologist at Pennsylvania Hospital and clinical associate professor at Penn's Perelman School of Medicine; Oct. 27. He earned his degree in medicine from Jefferson Medical College in 1980 and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at Pennsylvania Hospital. From 1984 until his death, he was a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Perelman School of Medicine.

**Dr. Paul A. Messaris.** *See Class of 1972.*

**Dr. Murray Griffin Murphey,** Bala Cynwyd, PA, emeritus professor of history in the School of Arts and Sciences; Dec. 6. He received a two-year appointment at Penn as a

School Abbreviations					
		GEd	master's, Education	Hon	Honorary
		GEE	master's, Electrical Engineering	HUP	Nurse training (till 1978)
Ar	Architecture	GEng	master's, Engineering and Applied Science	L	Law
ASC	Annenberg	GEx	master's, Engineering Executive	LAr	Landscape Architecture
C	College (bachelor's)	GFA	master's, Fine Arts	LPS	Liberal and Professional Studies
CCC	College Collateral Courses	GGs	master's, College of General Studies	M	Medicine
CE	Civil Engineering	GL	master's, Law	ME	Mechanical Engineering
CGS	College of General Studies (till 2008)	GLA	master's, Landscape Architecture	MT	Medical Technology
Ch	Chemistry	GME	master's, Mechanical Engineering	MtE	Metallurgical Engineering
ChE	Chemical Engineering	GM	Medicine, post-degree	Mu	Music
CW	College for Women (till 1975)	GMt	master's, Metallurgical Engineering	NEd	Certificate in Nursing
D	Dental Medicine	GNu	master's, Nursing	Nu	Nursing (bachelor's)
DH	Dental Hygiene	GPU	master's, Governmental Administration	OT	Occupational Therapy
EAS	Engineering and Applied Science (bachelor's)	Gr	doctorate	PSW	Pennsylvania School of Social Work
Ed	Education	GrC	doctorate, Civil Engineering	PT	Physical Therapy
EE	Electrical Engineering	GrE	doctorate, Electrical Engineering	SAMP	School of Allied Medical Professions
FA	Fine Arts	GrEd	doctorate, Education	SPP	Social Policy and Practice (master's)
G	master's, Arts and Sciences	GrL	doctorate, Law	SW	Social Work (master's) (till 2005)
GAr	master's, Architecture	GrN	doctorate, Nursing	V	Veterinary Medicine
GCE	master's, Civil Engineering	GRP	master's, Regional Planning	W	Wharton (bachelor's)
GCh	master's, Chemical Engineering	GrS	doctorate, Social Work	WAM	Wharton Advanced Management
GCP	master's, City Planning	GrW	doctorate, Wharton	WEF	Wharton Extension Finance
GD	Dental, post-degree	GV	Veterinary, post-degree	WEv	Wharton Evening School
				WG	master's, Wharton

Rockefeller Fellow, and was appointed an assistant professor of American civilization in 1956, moving up the ranks to full professorship in 1966. He served as chair of the history department for long periods, and for a time edited *American Quarterly*, the journal of the American Studies Association. He was instrumental in restructuring Penn's American Civilization department as its own discipline, by applying the concepts of social sciences to the data of the nation's history. He retired in 2000. He is the author and coauthor of many books on the history of philosophy. In early 2018, after two months in the hospital and shortly after his 90th birthday, he published *Thorstein Veblen: Economist and Social Theorist*.

**Dr. Natalia Isachuk Pazuniak.** *See Class of 1956.*

**Raymond G. Perelman.** *See Class of 1940.*

**Timothy Burgess Powell,** Philadelphia, senior lecturer in the department of religious studies in the School of Arts and Sciences; Nov. 1. He taught at Kenyon College and the University of Georgia in Athens before joining the faculty at Penn in 2006 with his wife, Eve Troutt Powell, the Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of History and Africana Studies. He devoted his career to the preservation and revitalization of Native American and in-

digenous language and culture, and was a consulting scholar at the Penn Museum. He founded the Educational Partnerships with Indigenous Communities (EPIC) at the Penn Language Center, which digitizes texts in indigenous languages before returning them to their cultural homes; and he served as EPIC's director until his death. One son is Jibreel J. Powell C'16.

**Dr. David B. Schaffer.** *See Class of 1963.*

**Dr. Donald J. White,** Philadelphia, emeritus professor of archaeology and curator-in-charge of the Penn Museum's Mediterranean section for more than 30 years; Nov. 21. He taught at the University of Michigan before joining Penn's faculty in 1973 as a professor of classical archaeology. He was especially well known as a field archaeologist, directing excavations in central Sicily, coastal Libya, and Egypt. In Libya, he and his team excavated an enormous amount of the Cyrene sanctuary, with discoveries ranging from the 7th century BCE to the 3rd century CE. He was fluent in Latin, ancient Greek, Italian, German, and French, and he also spoke some Arabic. An avid competitive rower well into his 50s, he served for several years on the Committee on Recreation and Intercollegiate Athletics at Penn.

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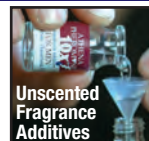


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## ‘A Sea of People’

**O**f all the best moments in the 125-year history of Franklin Field, one of the most memorable didn’t involve a football game or a relay race. It happened 40 years ago when, leading up to the Penn men’s basketball team’s trip to Salt Lake City for the 1979 NCAA Final Four [“The Outsiders,” this issue], a wild pep rally was held for the Quakers inside the stadium.

Just before that, there was something equally as wild: a march of students slowly progressing down Locust Walk to get to the Franklin Field rally. “It was like a sea of people the whole way,” recalls Sharon Harmelin Alpert W’82, a

freshman at the time. “It almost felt like the whole school was there.”

Alpert is featured prominently in the photo above, happily sitting atop a classmate’s shoulders, a camera dangling from her neck. “But I don’t have any pictures,” she laughs. Luckily, her classmate Robert Oringer W’82 was there to capture the moment and provide this photo to the *Gazette*.

Oringer—who has an album of Final Four celebration photos stored on his phone—also created a collage of newspaper headlines and photos from Penn’s run [“Final Four, Plus 20,” Mar|April 1999] that he’s distributed to members of the team. And he designed the “Show No Pity

in Salt Lake City” T-shirts you can see at least one student wearing in the photo—and that he sold to others on Locust Walk. “For an Ivy League campus to be into a sports team [that] way, it was unheard of,” Oringer says. “It was amazing.”

While support naturally intensified during the NCAA Tournament, with watch parties organized throughout campus, Oringer and Alpert were among the many students to start going to basketball games at the beginning of their freshman year after camping out at the Palestra for season tickets, an annual ritual at the time. “And lo and behold, the team was just unbelievable,” Alpert says. “They were like celebrities, those guys.”

“It was just a great, really memorable day,” she adds of the rally that galvanized Penn’s campus, “and a great, really memorable time.” —DZ





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