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FALL
2017

Amherst



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MAMMOTH SKELETON IN
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BY KATHARINE
WHITTEMORE



*Inside the
College’s Beneski
Museum, a
local scientist
realized that this
Tyrannosaurid
jaw is different
from any other
he’s seen. (And
he has seen quite
a few.) Page 28*

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"We take pleasure in seeing the impossible appear possible, and the invisible appear visible."

Historian Thomas W. Laqueur, invited to Amherst as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, during his October lecture on how and why the living care for and remember the dead. PAGE 12



ONLINE: AMHERST.EDU/MAGAZINE

News

Jeffrey C. Hall '67 was named a winner of the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He and two fellow scientists were recognized for their discoveries of the molecular mechanisms controlling circadian rhythms.



JEFFREY C. HALL '67

Actor, playwright and scholar **Lisa Biggs '93** was part of the Five College Theater Alumnae of Color Residency this fall. In preparation, she reflected on her time at Amherst and the importance of making theater, then and now.



BENJAMIN GOLD '11

As **Benjamin Gold '11** answered questions from Amherst pre-med students, the young doctor remembered what drew him to the College in the first place.



LISA BIGGS '93

Video & Audio

What does a **mammoth sound like**? In anticipation of the unveiling of the new mascot logo, we filmed students doing their best (speculative) mammoth impressions. The results were... interesting.

Professor emeritus and Pulitzer Prize winner **William Taubman** discusses his new biography, *Gorbachev: His Life and Times*. The book is the culmination of 11 years of research and interviews.

"My job didn't exist when I graduated," says **Catherine Brownstein '97**. "But I was able to find it and succeed because Amherst taught me how to adapt, think critically and carve out a place for myself."

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WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Amherst welcomes letters from its readers. Please send them to magazine@amherst.edu or *Amherst Magazine*, PO Box 5000, Amherst, MA 01002.

Letters must be 300 words or fewer and should address the content in the magazine.

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Cover photograph by Dana Smith, Oct. 23, 2017, at 2:30 p.m.

I walk in the room. The young woman on the exam table gives me a brief smile. The crisp, white sheet draped over the round of her belly flutters as I shut the door. I put down her chart and introduce myself. Ms. M is halfway through her pregnancy. Her anatomy scan two days ago was incomplete. The fetal heart wasn't seen well. So she'd been referred to me, the pediatric cardiologist.

By Ismée (Bartels) Williams '95

I ask Ms. M some questions about her health. The fleeting smile returns as she answers. Her fingers tighten. I slide into my seat and take hold of the ultrasound probe. I want to reassure her. I can't until I've checked her fetus.

At a large referral center, roughly a quarter to a third of fetal echocardiograms, ultrasounds of the fetal heart, will be abnormal. When I come across a fetus with a heart that has developed improperly, where parts are absent or in the wrong place—think of a toddler's sketch of a person with only one eye and an arm coming out of the head—I put down the probe, flick on the lights and turn to face the parents.

I take them into a room with a table and comfortable chairs so I can draw, with colored markers, the heart of their fetus. I explain what can be done. Their baby's heart is sick. Their baby needs a surgery as soon as she's born. Without it, she will die. Even with surgery, there is a chance their baby might not make it. But we will do everything to fight for her if that is what they choose.

I hold their hands, pass tissues and wait for the question that every family, regardless of background, asks next: *Is my child going to be normal?* They want to know if their child will go to regular school, ride a bike, grow up and have a family. Every time my answer is the same: *We don't know.*

Advances in medical care allow most babies with severe heart defects a chance at survival. Yet more than half of these children will suffer neurodevelopmental setbacks. The spectrum ranges from minor learning disabilities and attention-deficit disorder to autism and severe intellectual handicaps. We often don't know why this happens. We don't know who will be affected. The only option is to watch the baby closely over the first few years of life and intervene as delays are detected. It is an entirely unsatisfactory situation. Which is why, in addition to being a clinician, I am also a researcher.

My probe sweeps from one side of Ms. M's abdomen to the other. I see that her fetus is tucked in a ball, arms and legs in front of the chest, hiding the heart. I ask Ms. M to turn onto her side. This does not help. I explain the situation and ask if she'd like to go for a drink of water.

Toward the end of my cardiology training, I went



back to school for a degree in biostatistics. I sought out mentors. I wrote grants. I ran a study investigating early predictors of neurodevelopmental outcomes in children born with congenital heart disease. I wanted more information so I could tell parents something other than, *We have to wait and see*.

Then I read a novel. I was on bed rest, pregnant with my third child. I loved fiction, but hadn't found time since Amherst to read beyond medical journals and statistics textbooks. Perhaps pregnancy hormones and my anxiety over a threatened preterm birth were partly to blame, but that novel opened a door to a room in my brain that had been forgotten. I felt awakened—and I wanted to write something that would make another person feel that way.

During the remainder of my pregnancy, I wrote a novel. Over the next few years, I crunched data from my research, scanned pregnant bellies and edited my manuscript in odd, stolen moments. I attended writers' conferences. I wrote and rewrote. I queried agents and editors—more than a hundred of them. Most never responded.

I was no stranger to rejection. I had written medical articles and grants and knew acceptance on first submission was rare. Perseverance was necessary. It

was a lesson from my grandparents who fled Cuba and had to start over, from my mother who applied three times to medical school and disregarded the letters that suggested she try nursing.

I realized I needed to tell a different story—one reflective of my experience being raised by *mis abuelos* while my parents worked, and of being a physician caring for Spanish-speaking families in Washington Heights. I put aside my first manuscript and wrote about a young Dominican-American woman pregnant with a baby with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, in which the left side of the heart is missing. Within the year, I sold this novel.

My main character is based on many patients I've treated: young women, some still in high school, each pregnant with one of the 40,000 babies born every year in the U.S. with heart defects—a number equivalent to roughly 1 in 100 births. Like my patients, this character has questions. Like her doctor, I don't have all the answers—but my research continues.

Ms. M is back on the table. She's fallen asleep; this is not uncommon in the dim, quiet ultrasound rooms. I squeeze more gel on her abdomen. The fetus shifts. Not a lot. But it's enough. The heart comes into view. I let out a sigh. It's normal. ●

WILLIAMS, a history major at Amherst, is a pediatric cardiologist and the author of the young adult novel *Water In May* (Amulet Books, 2017). Find her at ismeewilliams.com.

CURRENT CAMPUS

Thank you, *Amherst*, for showing (in the Summer 2017 issue) the reach, inclusiveness and diversity of today's College. I would have loved attending the school presented there.

JIM BENDER '61
Klamath Falls, Ore.

CHINA'S ONE-CHILD POLICY

Thank you for publishing "Only Time Will Tell," by Katharine Whittemore, about the research by anthropology professor Vanessa Fong '96 on the lives of only children born under China's one-child policy (cover story, Summer 2017).

At a reunion a decade or so ago, I had the opportunity to address my Amherst class on the topic of industrialization of the People's Republic of China, with the credentials of having developed an industrial markets strategic plan for my employer. This plan was implemented by the first wholly owned foreign company on the mainland.

In that presentation, I asserted that the one-child policy, by limiting population growth, was necessary for development, and that it would save China from having hundreds of millions being born into poverty. I pointed out that the policy would tip the gender balance in favor of males, would result in these children having to provide support for parents and grandparents without help from siblings, and would eventually create a labor shortage.

I was pleased to learn from your article that "singletons," as only children are described, are likely to go to college and hold profes-



sional jobs. I am pleased that the government has recently chosen to terminate the one-child policy; it has had the intended effect and now can be lifted.

ARTHUR E. HIGINBOTHAM '58
St. Paul, Minn.

As a psychoanalyst who has taught and done therapy with Chinese nationals as part of a psychoanalytic program using media like Skype, I am impressed by what Professor Fong's study of children reared under China's one-child policy revealed about changes in attitude about gender equality and the importance of high achievement among women. I am equally intrigued by what she did not study about the children but is implied. What are the psychological effects and relational consequences of being the center of parental aspirations ("a world of 'little suns'") and not having to share parental attention and an interpersonal world with siblings?

The single reference to this issue, clearly intended as a biographical aside to the important research itself, states that Fong decided not to get married and have children because her impressively successful career was more important, a decision couched as though it were a logical either/or choice. It leads me to speculate about another research project. Might it be, for example, that what

began as an onerous legislative restriction on parental freedom might inadvertently be perpetuated as a willful expression of freedom by the children of the very parents who wanted but were not allowed to have more offspring?

MICHAEL ROBBINS '55, M.D.
Amherst

"I wasn't surprised to learn that both Fong and Sufrin had taken a class with Deborah Gewertz early on. Their experiences chimed with my own."

THE GEWERTZ EFFECT

What a pleasure it was to read about Vanessa Fong '96 ("Only Time Will Tell") and Carolyn Sufrin '97 ("When Med School is Not Enough," Beyond Campus) in the latest issue of the alumni magazine. Each is doing important work—in very different contexts—to challenge assumptions and deepen understanding. I wasn't surprised to learn that both Fong and Sufrin had taken a class with Deborah Gewertz early on. Their experiences chimed with my own. I had little inkling of what anthropology was, or could be, when I found myself in Professor Gewertz's course on the anthropology of food. That class, and the path it set me on, gave me tools for thinking I still appreciate many years later.

KAYLIN GOLDSTEIN '92
Boulder, Colo.

MUTUALLY ASSURED DESTRUCTION

The article "Debunking the Bunker" (College Row, Summer 2017) opens with, "There are times, in higher education, when you wish for a lot *less* relevance" (emphasis in the original).

One day prior to the issue's arrival, I had mountain-biked past the Bunker, as I have previously done. Then, on the day of the issue's arrival, our nation's commander-in-chief threatened nuclear annihilation against North Korea, which I don't recall has been previously done (whether the threat or the actual annihilation).

Although the relevance of this piece on a long-decommissioned Post-Attack Command and Con-

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trol System facility was striking, also striking was the flippant inaccuracy of this condescending dismissal:

“That area? It held 175 cots and enough rations for 35 days: a laughable amount of time to expect radiation to disperse.”

That was hardly the expectation, though.

Instead, the expectation was that the top brass of the Eighth Air Force headquarters would be evacuated from nearby Westover Air Force Base to order a nuclear counterattack against whatever nation had attacked our nation with nuclear weapons.

Thirty-five days was, if anything, a laughably excessive amount of time. Even just three and a half days, or 35 hours, or three and a half hours would probably have been sufficient.

The Bunker’s purpose cannot be called laughable, as the Bunker was perfectly well-suited for its intended purpose.

You can instead choose to call it madness.

But, more accurately, it was “MAD” in all capital letters: an essential component of the “Mutually Assured Destruction” doctrine, which, despite the acronym, was predicated on the rational behavior of each adversary’s leaders.

We can only hope now the leaders of the United States and North Korea are—despite their various public pronouncements—at some level sufficiently rational to avoid the nuclear annihilation that the Bunker was expected to order.

JONATHAN S. SHEFFTZ ’89
Amherst

WHAT’S AMERICAN?

Katherine Duke ’05’s article on new courses in American studies (“What’s American?” College Row, Summer 2017), discusses a class trip to Washington, D.C., to learn about the 1942 executive order allowing the internment of Japanese Americans. As a political

science major under Professor Earl Latham, I wrote an honors thesis on Gordon Hirabayashi, who dared defy the executive order and was imprisoned. It took Hirabayashi four decades to overturn his convictions.

For my Amherst thesis, my roommate John Lyon ’61 helped me with the English. I was given a prize of \$50 for this thesis, and spent all of it to make a call to Japan to my fiancée, whom I had not seen or talked to in more than two years.

KOICHIRO “FUJI” FUJIKURA ’61
Kyoto, Japan

ECLIPSES AND ALIENS

I read with great interest Julie Dobrow’s account of David Peck Todd’s eclipse expeditions (“The Star-Crossed Astronomer,” Summer 2017). It is indeed a sad story, as she demonstrates. Todd’s undisciplined imagination and bad luck clearly undermined his efforts to learn more about the sun.

In the course of tracking down eclipses, Todd became a believer in the existence of extraterrestrial life on Mars. That issue, as Dobrow indicates, was very much under investigation around 1900. However, Todd might not have been drawn to it had he not fallen under the spell of Percival Lowell, an amateur astronomer and Boston Brahmin.

By 1895, Lowell had already built an observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., where he produced evidence that Mars was covered with a network of canals built and managed by technocrats to supply water for a dry planet. In so doing, Lowell launched a bitter debate on the subject among astronomers.

Under Lowell’s tutelage, Todd became an early supporter of the idea of intelligent life on Mars. Lowell, in turn, financed Todd’s 1900 eclipse expedition to Tripoli, but not before recuperating from depression at the Todd house in Amherst. And, at the onset of

the 1907 opposition of Mars in the southern hemisphere, Lowell chose Todd to head an expedition to view and photograph the planet from a high desert site in Chile. As a reward for his friend’s support, Todd arranged to have Amherst confer an honorary degree on Lowell.

So, as it turns out, there is an Amherst twist to the search for extraterrestrial life.

DAVID STRAUSS ’59
Kalamazoo, Mich.

The writer is a professor emeritus of history at Kalamazoo College and author of Percival Lowell: The Science and Culture of a Boston Brahmin (Harvard University Press, 2001).

MAMMOTH OPINIONS

Perhaps we could name the new mammoth mascot “Trumpie,” or, more formally, George W. Trump, as he was duly elected while losing the popular vote.

KEVIN CLARK ’78
Franklin, Tenn.

Really? You quote a survey of alumni who answered a December 2015 “poll” as if it were scientific and the data valid? Someone must have missed a few science, sociology and statistics classes.

WILLIAM S. SHAW ’67
Centennial, Colo.

THE POETRY CONTEST

I loved Alessandra Bianchi Herman ’86’s poem (Contest, Summer 2017)—the sort of poem *The New Yorker* used to publish when it still had pretensions to being a serious literary magazine. The poem makes a worthy companion piece to James Merrill ’47’s poem about the RCA Victor album cover dog.

JON PEIRCE ’67
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

See page 120 for the fall contest—an art history challenge—and answers to Professor Catherine Sanderson’s summer contest. —Editor

Corrections

Because of editing errors, the Summer 2017 class notes included an incorrect class year for Anne Ha ’93, and the Summer 2017 article “Lucky Soprano” omitted the first name of composer Aaron Jay Kernis.



PEOPLE

Espero que Esten Bien

“I hope they are well,” the College’s Puerto Rican staff, faculty and students told each other, as they sought to reach loved ones and found ways to aid their stricken island.



Dispatcher Lourdes Torres, above. At left, Eva Cordero '18 (in white dress) works the donations table.

Lourdes Torres knows how to get help to those in trouble. That’s what she does as a dispatcher for Amherst College Police—and that’s what she did after Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico on Sept. 20.

Indeed, she acted with dispatch, immediately reaching out to La Causa, Amherst’s Latinx student organization, to put out a donation box in their José Martí Cultural Center. Then she collaborated with another Amherst staffer with ties to Puerto Rico: her good friend Bulaong Ramiz-Hall, director of the College’s Multicultural Resource Center (MRC), who prepped a more elaborate donations table and quickly

got the word out to the College community.

Soon after that, Torres joined a 24-person email support group for staffers of Puerto Rican descent, jump-started by Eva Diaz, registration assistant/receptionist in the Office of the Registrar. The group was occupationally diverse—groundskeepers, professors, IT and HR staffers, prep cooks and more—with one overarching concern in common: each yearned to hear from and assist loved ones on the island.

“There is no worse feeling than coming to work and sitting at Dispatch, looking at a small TV, seeing live what was happening on your island, everything blowing everywhere,” says Torres, whose family is spread out from San Juan to Utuado to Corozal to Carolina. “My hands felt tied, like I was desperate.”

Torres’ fears, of course, were echoed among a huge diaspora; there are more Puerto Ricans living on the U.S. mainland (5.1 million) than on the island (3.5 million). Ramiz-Hall, who has family in Ciales, in Bayamón and beyond, explains the plight of her compatriots at the College: “We wanted to not just feel hopelessness.”

So, on Sept. 26 and 28, the MRC set up its disaster-relief donations table at Keefe Campus Center, focused on Puerto Rico, but also collecting for other locales reeling from recent natural disasters, from the Caribbean to Mexico to Texas.

As a “Made in Puerto Rico” playlist filled the air with the bright throb of salsa music, students streamed to the table with the *Terras Irradiant* logo. There were several draws: cupcakes for sale, topped with icing that was arranged to resemble the Puerto Rican flag, plus pins that Ramiz-Hall had bought to celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month.

Eva Cordero ’18 was one student who staffed the table, accepting money, batteries, flashlights and first-aid kits. On the

island, three of her aunts were unaccounted for. “It’s not an easy situation,” she said as she worked. “They’re running out of drinking water.”

D.J. Williams ’20 bought a cupcake and pin. “I wanted to find a way to help with disaster relief,” she said. “I figured I’d give up my usual bubble teas for a while, and be less consumerist and make at least a small impact.”

One student handed over \$100. Others who had experienced hurricanes firsthand offered their knowing empathy as well as donations.

The money (\$1,500 and counting) and goods went to two aid organizations. The MRC is also working with the swim team—they are known to train in Puerto Rico—to schedule more tabling around campus.

That same week after the hurricane, Chief Human Resources Officer Maria-Judith Rodriguez, whose office features a giant blue ocean-and-sky photograph of her native Arecibo, organized a lunch for Puerto Rican staffers. About a dozen attended, including Professor of French Rosalina de la Carrera; Juan Cruz, dining services assistant; Luis Hernandez, director of IT support services; and Yesenia Vega, custodian.

Many had not met except through the email group. But authentic emotions cut through any initial awkwardness. “Everyone was kissing on the cheek and saying, ‘*Cómo estás?*’” recalls Torres, smiling. Most were still in the dark about their families’ fates, with nearly all of the island’s cell phone service down. Rodriguez brought a large map of Puerto Rico, and they each marked their places of special concern.

In spite of the stress and sorrow, “it was great to have that sense of community,” says Torres. “It was like no titles mattered, no education level: You’re as human as me. You are affected the same way I am affected. There were no barriers.”

KATHARINE WHITEMORE

Why Classmates Matter

The people around you “will be instrumental in how you decide to live your life and contribute to the world,” the dean of admission—who’s been in their shoes—told first-year and transfer students.

Make yourself known. That was one piece of advice that Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Katharine Fretwell ’81 gave to the 489 newest Amherst students this fall. “This is not a passive environment,” she said. “Be prepared to participate.”

Out of a record 9,285 applicants for the class of 2021—known as the bicentennial class, because it will graduate when the College turns 200—Amherst admitted 1,198 students, and 473 enrolled. Of the 464 applicants for transfer admission, 34 were admitted and 16 enrolled.

These new students speak more than 45 languages. They have founded bird and philosophy clubs. They have worked with veterans and Holocaust survivors, served on fire rescue squads and competed in canoe polo.

Their average ACT composite score is 33—a record for a class at Amherst. Their SAT composite score (the “old test”) is 2232—also a record. And their average score on the redesigned SAT (first introduced with this class) is 1469.

Amherst teachers and peers will influence their “ability to make sense of the world,” Fretwell told the class, and “will be instrumental in how you decide to live your life and contribute to the world.” **CAROLINE HANNA**

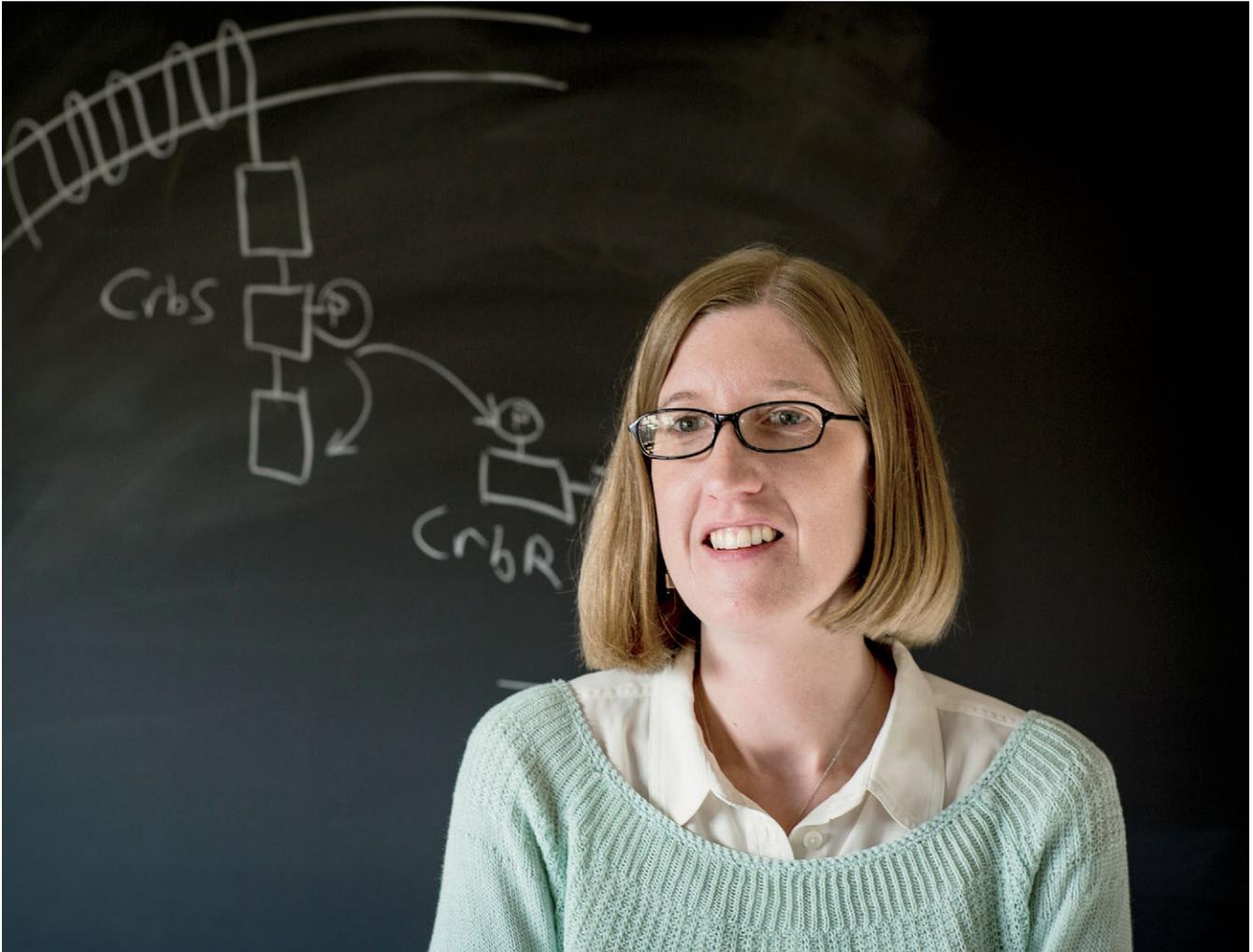


THE BICENTENNIAL CLASS, BY THE NUMBERS

38	16	43%	8%
U.S. states represented	Countries represented	Self-identified U.S. students of color	Non-U.S. citizens
55%	11%	16	32
Recipients of Amherst financial aid	First-generation college students	Youngest student's age	Oldest student's age

It's the Little Things

What's the connection between gut bacteria and good health?



There's a saying that goes, "Pay attention to the little things, because one day you may realize they were the big things." Assistant Professor of Biology Alexandra Purdy has devoted her career to uncovering the enormous impact of some very little things: the trillions of microorganisms that live on and in the human body and that influence everything—from our immune systems to our digestion.

Now, with more than \$500,000 in collaborative grant money from the National Science Foundation, she is studying how gut bacteria affect the health of their host organ-

Purdy is conducting research that may one day help improve treatments for cholera.

isms. The research by Purdy and colleague Josh Sharp of Northern Michigan University may one day help improve treatments for cholera, a disease that affects hundreds of thousands of people each year.

In the intestines, each human being naturally carries between 1 and 3 pounds of bacteria. Called the gut microbiome, this collection of bacteria is integral to staying healthy and alive. The definition of a "good" microbiome is still murky, but it's clear that helpful bacteria play a role in defending us against pathogens, which are disease-causing bacteria. Unfor-

tunately for us, pathogens have a workaround: if they are able to take up, or "eat," the molecules that our microbiomes secrete, they can wreak havoc and multiply.

Purdy's grant project focuses on what happens when a specific pathogen—*Vibrio cholerae*—eats the molecule acetate, "which is produced by our normal gut bacteria from the fiber or plants that we eat," she says. Acetate is one of a group known as short-chain fatty acids, which are associated with positive gut health. The health of the host organisms—fruit flies, in the Purdy lab—can suffer if the *V.*

cholerae consume their gut acetate in great enough quantities.

What does this research suggest about human health? “Cholera may be deadlier in people who are losing more of their acetate to the acetate-eating bacteria,” Purdy says.

Purdy and Sharp will also study other bacteria that are naturally “programmed” to eat acetate, including *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, which can be devastating to the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients and to burned flesh. The question in both labs will be how scientists might target the regulatory systems in disease-causing bacteria, to cause them to eat less.

Purdy and a colleague have found a biochemical pathway that appears to create the conditions for disease.

Already, Purdy and Sharp have discovered a special biochemical pathway in *V. cholerae* that appears to “flip the switch” on the bacterium’s gene and create the conditions for disease. Over the next four years, they hope to shed light on the role of the microbiome in causing organisms to thrive or decline.

Amherst students will take part in Purdy’s research. In addition, the grant project includes funding for mentoring and the creation of educational programming for elementary and middle-school students.

“I’m excited to talk about the role of microbiology and the role of microbes in our life,” Purdy says. “I feel like I’m revealing to people a world they didn’t know was there.” **MARY ELIZABETH STRUNK**

MARIA STENZEL



Q&A: Ray Suarez, PBS BROADCASTER, MCCLOY VISITING PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN STUDIES

THE REPORTER-TEACHER

Suarez has been a correspondent for *PBS NewsHour* and host of *Inside Story* for Al Jazeera America. Now he teaches courses that play off his reporting on faith and politics. One such course, “From the Moral Majority to the Rise of the ‘Nones,’” explores the growing influence of Americans with no religious affiliation.

Does that class contain a mix of religious and unaffiliated students?

I thought it would be mixed, because among people born between 1980 and 2000, the rate of unaffiliation is roughly 35 percent. That’s higher than it’s been in two centuries, but it’s not 100 percent. But my entire class is unaffiliated. Some were brought up in a household where there was a religious identity. Some never had one. Some bailed out in high school. It’s a mixed set of roads to a very common destination.

How are the class discussions?

Very interesting. They want to understand the country better, because they’re still a pronounced minority. Even if you’re secular, though, there are all these religious themes we don’t think of as expressly religious: calling somebody a “Good Samaritan,” “apple of my eye,” “brother’s keeper.” Our culture is suffused with that stuff, partly because of the grandeur of the King James Bible.

Since we’re speaking about faith, can you share a little about your own?

I am a lifelong, regular communicant and took my three kids to church every Sunday. One of them is now an Episcopal priest. And I live right around the corner from my new church, Grace Episcopal in Amherst.

What are you writing now?

I’m starting a book about the fight over what the country will be in 2044, when the U.S. Census Bureau says we’ll become a “majority-minority” country. These last couple of years remind us that the notion of this being a white, Christian country is not going to just quietly fold its tent and move on. **K.W.**

ONLINE More from the interview: amherst.edu/magazine

The Single Finest Graduate

The Rev. Phillip A. Jackson '85 inspired the class of 2021 through the story of Charles Hamilton Houston '15, mentor to Thurgood Marshall.

At this year's DeMott Lecture, the Rev. Phillip A. Jackson '85 made his deepest points by pointing. "That is our single finest graduate ever," he said, pointing toward the east wall of Johnson Chapel, to the portrait of Charles Hamilton Houston. "He is the finest that we have produced—and no one knows about him."

Jackson made sure the class of 2021 knew about him. Houston was the grandson of slaves and the only black member of Amherst's class of 1915.

After experiencing, in Houston's words, "the hate and scorn showered on us Negro officers by our fellow Americans" in World War I, Houston vowed to fight for his people by studying the law. He became the first black editor of the *Harvard Law Review* and a protégé of Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter.

Houston became a law professor at Howard University and launched a series of cases with his student Thurgood Marshall ("kind of a party boy" until Houston said "I need you," joked Jackson). In one anti-discrimination case, the plaintiff was Donald Gaines Murray '34. Houston groomed other compatriots, notably William

Henry Hastie '25, who became the first black federal judge in the United States—and whose portrait is displayed on that same wall in Johnson Chapel.

Houston died four years before Marshall famously argued *Brown v. Board of Education*. On his deathbed, Houston asked his friends to give his 6-year-old son a message: "Tell him I went down fighting that he might have better opportunities, without bias operating against



Jackson is the vicar of Trinity Church Wall Street. He is the 10th person to deliver the DeMott Lecture.

him." As he quoted Houston, Jackson wiped away a tear—as did many in the audience.

Jackson is a trustee of Amherst and the vicar of Trinity Church Wall Street in Manhattan. Born in Chicago and educated at Yale Law School, he has also ministered in Detroit, Houston and Phoenix. "Historically, he was brought into parishes that were in trouble financially and spiritually and turned them around," President Biddy Martin said in her introduction.

Jackson is the 10th person to deliver the annual DeMott Lecture. Given to first-year students at the end of orientation, it is named for the late Professor of English Benjamin DeMott.

Jackson's lecture pointed to two other greats besides Houston "who went to a sacred place of encounter, and open us to lives lived in deepest consequence with that state." To that end, he played off the readings he'd assigned the incoming students: a short essay,



The Big Reveal

The unveiling of the mammoth logo was one highlight of a successful homecoming weekend.

“The Sanest of Men,” on ancient Chinese poet T’ao Ch’ien, by David Bentley Hart, and a short book, *Rural Studio: Samuel Mockbee and an Architecture of Decency*, by Andrea Oppenheimer Dean and Timothy Hursley.

The reverend got a little irreverent about T’ao Ch’ien especially. T’ao was a master of *hsien*, which can translate as “idleness,” though not laziness. It’s more, Jackson said, “the sublime capacity for total contentment for doing nothing—when nothing needs to be done.” He teased the students that they don’t need to check their phones in “idle” moments, don’t need to fill everything up with busyness. “To get here to Amherst, you got good at doing,” he said, smiling. “Sometimes to do well is to do nothing.”

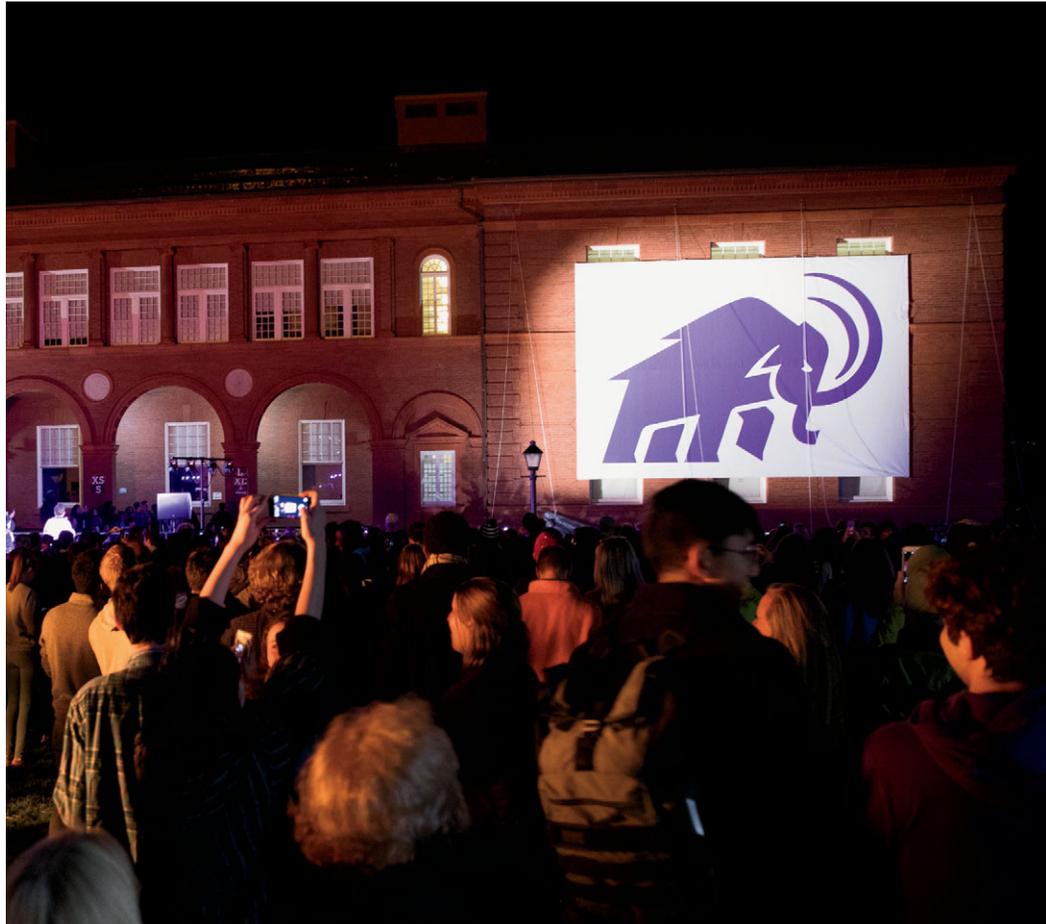
Jackson also mentioned the white Southern architect Samuel Mockbee, who quit his conventional architecture practice upon seeing the grave of civil rights activist James Cheney. Mockbee set off, with his students at Auburn University, to design and build remarkable homes out of salvaged materials for poor residents in Alabama.

Jackson shook his head in admiration. “Poor people deserve beauty,” said Mockbee. As architects, we are given a gift. The question to us is the same as it was for him.” Jackson pointed at the class of 2021: “Do you have the courage to make your gift felt on earth and felt for good?”

As Jackson came to the end of his speech, he again pointed up to the portrait of Houston, and all eyes rose to see the man now made known.

“He is the best we are,” said Jackson. “He’s Amherst College. And now you are Amherst College. Will you be the best you can be? Will you take his legacy and treat it like the gift that it is? Welcome to Amherst. Welcome home.”

The crowd jumped up and applauded for a long, long time. **K.W.**



Picture a huge silvery sheet, like a drive-in movie screen before the previews start. It drapes the brick façade of Fayerweather on the Friday evening of homecoming weekend. Nearby, hundreds of students and alumni are milling about.

At 8 p.m., President Biddy Martin takes the stage, and her voice booms: “After 2,000 suggestions and 9,200 votes... We. Are. The. MAMMOTHS!” Tugging on ropes, the facilities crew pulls down the sheet to reveal the new mascot design underneath. It is

purple, fierce, stylized but not cartoonish. Cheers fill the air, as a grove of raised smartphones capture this moment in Amherst history.

“I’m definitely proud. I’m so glad we have a symbol we can all rally around,” says Olivia Pinney ’17.

“I like it more than I expected to,” concedes Jon Ralph ’86. “I like that he’s a fighting mascot and not a ready-to-go-extinct mascot.”

Dominique Manuel ’20 smiles. “I am satisfied: it’s strong, not cheesy.”

Adds Ben Gilsdorf ’21, “It

looks like an animal that can bulldoze Wesleyan tomorrow.”

You got that right, Ben: In the last two minutes of Saturday’s football game, the Mammoths edged out the Cardinals, thanks to a thrilling 51-yard touchdown rush by Hasani Figueroa ’18. The final score was 21-17.

The team took the field by running through a large paper banner of the new Mammoth logo. And the stands were positively purple, full of fans wearing shirts emblazoned with the new College mascot. **K.W.**

Of Monsters and Memorials

A visiting expert spoke to students in an art history course, “Witches, Vampires and Other Monsters,” about how and why the living remember the dead.

Why do we create memorials, and why do they resonate?

Historian Thomas W. Laqueur posed these questions on a Tuesday in October to students in Professor Natasha Staller’s class “Witches, Vampires and Other Monsters.” The upper-level art history course explores cultural connotations of “the monstrous” and how people imagine evil.

Staller invited Laqueur to her class as part of the Phi Beta Kappa Society’s Visiting Scholars Program, in which undergraduates meet and exchange ideas with scholars in the arts and humanities. Laqueur, who specializes in the cultural history of the body, led a discussion with students about Holocaust memorials and the AIDS Memorial Quilt—and, more generally, about how and why the living remember and honor the dead.

In preparation, Staller’s students watched *Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt*, a 1989 documentary about the AIDS quilt. They also read Laqueur’s review of the 1996 book *French Children of the Holocaust: A Memorial*, edited by Serge Klarsfeld.

The class conversation on Oct. 3 explored both the vilification and the memorialization of Jews who died in the Holocaust and people who died of AIDS in the 1980s. “Like the witches we studied earlier,” Staller says, “they were despised and demonized by many in society, who believed they deserved every punishment and a hideous death.”

Laqueur suggested that memorials like the quilt, with its 48,000 panels commemorating people who died of AIDS, can change historical narratives: those who died were able to increase aware-



Laqueur specializes in the cultural history of the body.

Students in the class talked about how people have both vilified and memorialized Holocaust victims and those who died of AIDS.

ness of “a terrible disease that no one was really paying attention to at the time.”

One student wondered aloud to her classmates about the intention behind memorials, asking, “Are they for families and descendants, or a way to remember and not repeat history?”

Another spoke of the ways in which memorials feature people’s names. “I once saw a memorial where families were grouped together, which gave immense context to understanding the sig-

nificance of these deaths,” he said, “whereas a memorial of seemingly endless names feels more about the totality.”

The day after the class, Laqueur expanded on his ideas in a public lecture. He said caring for and remembering the dead can help us feel closer to them. Paraphrasing art critic Dave Hickey, he compared the notion of feeling close to the dead to watching a magician perform:

“If what magicians did were in fact real, we would lose interest,” Laqueur said. “We take pleasure in seeing the impossible appear possible, and the invisible appear visible.” Feeling closer to those who’ve died, he said, “is magic we can believe in.” **RACHEL ROGOL**

EXPERT ADVICE Digital Africas

By Rhonda Cobham-Sander / the Emily C.
Jordan Folger Professor of Black Studies and English

If you've read Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's novel *Americanah*, you know that her heroine, Ifemelu, uses satirical blog posts to comment on her experiences at home and abroad. Or you may have noticed that Adichie's TED Talk "We Should All Be Feminists" has been repackaged by everyone from Beyoncé to fashion designer Maria Grazia Chiuri. Ifemelu and her creator, Adichie, are not the only African writers making names for themselves in cyberspace. My course "Digital Africas" explores the myriad ways in which widespread access to smartphones in Africa has changed how writers circulate their work and how African readers access it. Online media in Africa are abuzz with new writing, some in English, some mixing English with African languages and hybrid forms.

LITERARY JOURNALS

Chimurenga (chimurenga.co.za, South Africa), *Jalada* (jaladaafrica.org, Kenya) and *Saraba* (sarabamag.com, Nigeria) lead the pack, carrying everything from flash fiction to sexting stories. A *Jalada* story in Kikuyu by the Kenyan writer Ngugi wa Thiong'o has been translated into 60 languages, 40 of which are African, and translations still flow to the journal's website. New online literary publications seem to spring up every month. One of the most sophisticated, *Enkare* (enkare.org), is co-edited by Alexis Teyie '16, now back home in Nairobi. It has snagged contributions from Junot Díaz and Taiye Selasi while also offering a platform to new writers.

SERIALIZED NOVELS

In southern Africa, online serialized stories are the rage. Mike Maphoto's *Diary of a Zulu Girl* (diaryofazulugirl.co.za) boasted 17 million readers at the peak of its popularity. Maphoto now employs a stable of writers to keep churning out his sensationalized page-turners. Copycat stories, like *Diary of a Single Mum* (by Juniah Ngwira, Malawi) and *Diary of a Cheating Husband* (by Thulani Lupondwana, South Africa), are published on Facebook and boast thousands of loyal followers.

POETRY AND ESSAYS

Work by African writers has found a continental and international audience via social media. When Binyavanga Wainaina came out in response to repressive new anti-gay laws in Nigeria and Uganda, his essay "I Am a Homosexual, Mum," published on africasacountry.com and chimurenga.co.za, triggered a cascade of stories, essays and poems about LGBTQ Africans. Some are featured in online journals like *Brittle Paper* (brittlepaper.com). The *ICC Witness Project* (iccwitnesses.tumblr.com), a chain of anonymous poems, gives voices to the witnesses who were disappeared before they could testify at the International Criminal Court about the violence surrounding the 2007 Kenyan elections.

SCIENCE FICTION

The online appetite for science fiction among African readers has boosted print work in the genre. The moment when aliens



and traditional spirits join forces in Nnedi Okorafor's *Lagoon* (Simon & Schuster, 2015) to declare, "We are the internet," excludes all the otherworldly frisson of Darth Vader announcing to Luke Skywalker, "I am your father." A. Igoni Barrett's *Black-ass* (Graywolf Press, 2016), about a black Yoruba man who wakes up white, combines the world-altering conventions of science fiction with the *roman à clef*. In it, a writer, also called Igoni, spends a lot of time on his computer trying to work out his relationship to the racially altered protagonist.

VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Kenyan photographers and poets created the *Koroga* project (koroga-blog-blog.tumblr.com), which produced chains of poems triggered by photos triggered by poems. After making the first African music video to go viral, Jim Chuchu made exquisite film loops foregrounding the male body, as a way to talk back to a society that has not embraced his films about the LGBTQ community as eagerly as it celebrated Makmende, the Blaxploitation hero of his viral video. And Ghanaian satirical duo Fokn Bois, which started out posting music videos and spoken-word poems on YouTube, has now graduated to full-length folk operas shot entirely with smartphones.

Fall from a Great Height

This photo, taken with an aerial drone in 2016, gives us a grand view of autumn at Amherst, from College Row to Stearns Steeple to the athletic fields and far beyond.

If you would like a reprint of this photo, email magazine@amherst.edu with your name and address, and we will send you a complimentary copy.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
DANIEL NUJO '20





What's in the Box?

One of Bruder's earlier articles went viral, won an award for social justice journalism and led to a deal for her second book.

She knew the sender's name was fake. She knew the contents were a secret. Without knowing much else, she helped to break one of the biggest news stories of our time.

BY KATHERINE DUKE '05

On May 14, 2013, Jessica Bruder '00 came home to her Brooklyn apartment to find a box in front of her door. She knew that the sender's name and return address, as well as the label that said the box held architectural materials, were likely false. What was actually inside? It was a secret, kept even from her.

As she had been instructed months earlier, Bruder took the box, unopened, to the Manhattan apartment of Dale Maharidge, a close friend from her days at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. Maharidge, in turn, handed it over to documentary filmmaker Laura Poitras, who finally opened it. And out leaked one of the biggest news stories of the decade.

The box turned out to contain instructions and data from Edward Snowden, the former Central Intelligence Agency employee and government contractor who had decided it was time to reveal thousands of classified documents related to the National Security Agency's many global surveillance programs. Starting in June 2013, Poitras and other journalists broke the story around the world. Snowden, who has since found asylum in Moscow, is condemned by some as a traitor and honored by others as a defender of citizens' rights to privacy.

Bruder and Maharidge opened up about their involvement in the NSA leaks in the May 2017 cover story for *Harper's* magazine, titled "Snowden's Box."

"I'd never been so close to something I knew so little about," Bruder wrote. "It was bewildering, like having a front-row seat to a play performed in a language I didn't understand." For the public to find out about this high-tech, high-stakes, international issue, she and a few others had to serve as physical links in a fragile human chain. This taught her "one of the great lessons of adulthood," she wrote: "that most of the institutions and endeavors we regard as ironclad—from parenting to politics—are actually held together with chewing gum and duct tape." She described this reality as both terrifying—"because it exposes the precariousness of the existing order"—and liberating, "because it

encourages the individual to act, to defy the ominous mythology of competence and control."

"Our hope in telling this story," she says of the *Harper's* piece, "is that it brings some huge, abstract issues—government surveillance, privacy activism—down to earth where ordinary people can more easily engage with them." Readers have told her the article "reads like a movie," and she and Maharidge plan to expand it into a book.

"Snowden's Box" is not Bruder's first feature for *Harper's*. Her 2014 feature "The End of Retirement: When You Can't Afford to Stop Working" went viral, won a James Aronson Award for Social Justice Journalism and led to a deal for her second book (the first being 2007's *Burning Book: A Visual History of Burning Man*). Bruder spent two years driving around the country in a van, getting the stories of aging Americans who are eking out livelihoods as itinerant workers. She is a longtime contributor to *The New York Times* and was previously the editor of CNNMoney's Innovation Nation column. She also teaches journalism at Columbia University.

Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century was published by Norton in September, and the author has spent this fall back out on the road, doing a series of readings. As I interviewed her by email for this article, the van broke down. Bruder blamed a fried battery and alternator, but I thought: *Chewing gum and duct tape*.

Jessica Bruder '00

MAJORS:
English and French

"Our hope in telling this story is that it brings some huge, abstract issues down to earth."

Duke is the assistant editor of Amherst magazine.



PUBLIC HEALTH

She's been studying Zika for nearly a decade—which made her research invaluable when the disease began to spread.

BY KATHERINE DUKE '05

When her biology lab started researching Zika in 2008, “nobody was interested in the virus at all,” says Kathryn Hanley '89. Since its discovery in monkeys in the 1940s, it had crossed over to infect very few human beings, all in Africa and Asia, and the symptoms weren't life-threatening. “A virus that gives you maybe a fever and a mild rash is just not terrifying, right? Given all the other public health problems in the world, why would you devote time or resources to investigating something that just doesn't make you very sick?”

Hanley's lab, however, was already investigating the genetics and ecology of other arthropod-borne viruses—including dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever—so they added Zika to the list. She and her colleagues at New Mexico State University and partner institutions screened mosquitos, monkeys and humans for infection in the jungle of southeastern Senegal.

Meanwhile, Zika went “on the march,” as Hanley puts it. It showed up in more than 100 people on Micronesia's island of Yap; a few years later, it broke out in even greater numbers on other Pacific islands. While usually spread by mosquito bites, it also proved

Kathryn Hanley
'89

MAJOR:
Biology

“A virus that gives you maybe a fever and a mild rash is just not terrifying, right?”

transmissible through sexual contact, through blood transfusions, and from mothers to infants before or during birth.

By late 2015, the whole world was growing terrified of Zika. It had reached numerous Latin American and Caribbean countries and triggered an official national emergency in Brazil. It was linked to a potentially fatal nerve disorder called Guillain-Barré syndrome, and the fetuses of Zika-infected mothers were found to be at increased risk of congenital microcephaly, a severe malformation of the brain. When the public health community realized the urgent need for Zika vaccines and treatments, they had Hanley's team to thank for much

of the existing preliminary research.

“But you can only test vaccines and drugs in model systems, and we didn't have any for Zika virus,” says Hanley. So, in partnership with colleagues at the University of Texas medical branch, she began studying it in mice with compromised immune systems, discovering that the virus replicates in their brains and testes, and that “the older the mice, the more likely they were to survive the infection.”

Now they're treating some of the mice with fluoroquinolones, in the hope that these antibiotics can be effectively repurposed to treat Zika. The team has also been comparing African, Asian and Latin American strains of Zika to see whether the virus is evolving to be more infectious to mosquitos and humans.

Hanley worked earlier in her career at the National Institutes of Health on a dengue vaccine (now in Phase III clinical trials). But she found her calling long before that. “I tell people I met my first great love at Amherst, and that was evolutionary biology,” she says. After her first course in the subject, she “never looked back.”

Indeed, she looks forward. A study she's leading in Manaus, Brazil, anticipates the possibility that Zika could “spill back” from humans into monkeys. Now that the disease has been confirmed in Mexico, her team hears it “knocking on the door” of New Mexico, so they've been monitoring mosquito ecology across the state. And her current sabbatical project at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in Millbrook, N.Y., focuses on the recent emergence of the tick-borne Powassan virus in New York and New England. Viruses evolve quickly, she knows, and it's vital to stay one step ahead.



Reibel interviewed all of these people. Among them: Andrew, age 5, who has cystic fibrosis (top left, with his mom); Carrie (middle, with her son), who reads her poem “No,” about chemo; and cancer patient Ron (bottom), who said “the most important thing is to share your emotions.”

In Illness, Finding Clarity



to highly personal. Reibel has found his subjects at the local Hope Lodge, a nonprofit that offers patients a free place to stay while traveling for medical treatment.

In one recording, for example, a mother talks about staving off death to attend her son’s high school graduation. In another, a caregiver reflects on the concept of “death with dignity”: When her time comes, she tells Reibel, “I don’t want to have a lot of tubes and Band-Aids and black-and-blue marks. I want it to be a peaceful death.”

In recording such stories, Reibel helps people speak openly and for posterity about their feelings at a time of peril. He sees this work as a way to put into action the humanistic philosophy and tradition of public service that he first learned at Amherst, from pre-med adviser Richard Aronson ’69. Underlying that ethos, Reibel says, is a quest to “create conditions

under which all people have the full equal opportunity to thrive in body, mind and spirit.”

After each interview, Reibel gives his subject a recording to keep as an heirloom.

For those willing to share their stories with a wider audience, he’s created three- to five-minute YouTube clips. “I pulled out the best anecdotes that I thought would be useful to other people,” he says. One key message is that patients handle serious illness differently—whether through humor, through anger or with a mix of emotions.

As for his own health scare, Reibel never thought he would die from testicular cancer—its survival rate is 99 percent if caught early. But he says that having to urgently reconfigure his routines to incorporate mentally and physically taxing therapies made him reevaluate aspects of his life. For him, a big lesson was realizing how much solace he takes from nature.

Reibel hopes the recordings and videos will be meaningful to patients and their families, as well as to strangers. He knows that having listened to these stories will make him a better doctor, too. ☺

Goldscheider, an Amherst-based writer, is a frequent contributor to the Beyond Campus section.

CANCER

Drawing from his own experience, a medical student is helping other people explain what it feels like to be a patient.

BY ERIC GOLDSCHIEDER

Thinking back to his own cancer treatment, Jacob Reibel ’10 wishes he had done more to record his thoughts and ideas.

Back then, he was applying to medical school after two years spent teaching English in France and two more doing research at Boston’s Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Today, he remembers the fear that came with a diagnosis of testicular cancer—but he also looks back on that time as one of renewed clarity and focus.

Now fully recovered and in medical school at the University of Vermont (where he is in the midst of third-year rotations), Reibel is helping other people record stories of their own illnesses.

His project, *Vermont Voices*, is based on the NPR StoryCorps model, in which people make audio recordings of conversations that range from whimsical

Jacob Reibel ’10

MAJOR:
French

His project, Vermont Voices, is based on NPR’s StoryCorps model.



VETERANS'

DAYS

**For nearly two centuries, Amherst has taught
veterans, and it's been a
triumphant, complicated, promising
march of setback and progress.**

**By Katharine Whittemore
Illustration by Adam McCauley**

I. The Readying

THE FORMIDABLE JOSHUA BUCK, AN EX-ARMY SNIPER AND DRILL SERGEANT who served three tours in Iraq, is debriefing a bunch of veterans on what's called the "de-greening" process. That's when you take off your Army greens, take up your GI benefits and take on the huge transition from the corps to the campus. Fifteen vets lean on his every word. They're sitting in Fayerweather Hall, a warm Monday in August. It's the first day of class for the Warrior-Scholar Project, an immersive, week-



THE ADMISSION OFFICE

IS STEADILY

INCREASING

ITS TROOP STRENGTH.

long “academic boot camp” for veterans going back to school, featuring rigorous support (gratis) from Amherst faculty and staff. I’m embedded with these veterans all week—a week that crushes my previous record of being called “ma’am.”

Buck is a psych major at Worcester State University. He’s also a Warrior-Scholar alumnus and the veterans’ guide to making it in an academic setting. “I was an authority figure for 10 years,” booms Buck. No kidding. He’s 31, a big, bearded guy whose arm is tattooed with the names of eight fellow vets who’ve died during or after their service. “I had to learn to be wrong in the classroom—and be wrong in front of people in the age bracket whose asses I used to kick.” That gets a good snort-laugh. “But I made an effort to get to know those students, work in study groups with them and break down that weird wall between us.”

Weird walls. It’s true that many loom between veterans and traditional students at small liberal arts schools like Amherst. There are several fear factors, I think: a) the age difference; b) the gulf in life experience; c) the military-civilian disconnect, even distrust. This week’s warrior-scholars range in age from 22 to 32, for example, and they carry a certain ineffable maturity. All week, I’ll flinch at their casually devastating comments during classes: In a discussion on the Gettysburg Address, an Army sergeant quietly mentions he knows what it’s like to see friends die. In a class on ancient Roman warfare, one vet speaks their shared perspective: “When we read history, we think about some poor soldier who caught a bullet or bomb there.”

Several of these warrior-scholars hope to go pre-med. Others want to study philosophy or marketing or international relations. This week, though, they’ll dive into the Warrior-Scholar Project’s own curriculum on democracy and liberty, tackling readings from Thucydides to Sojourner Truth to Walt Whitman to *Are We Rome?*, by Amherst board of trustees chair Cullen Murphy ’74.

They will also get a crash course on how college isn’t the military. Asking questions is imperative, for instance, not insubordinate. You order your own time, rather than follow orders. A distinct fighting tone invades the advice, with “battle plans” for writing well, or ways to master “ninja reading,” which is warrior-speak

for close reading. And the buck stops with Buck: He hectors these vets never to cut class (“I don’t care if you’re tired, sick or hungover”), because it takes twice as long to make up the learning lost. Use office hours, he says: “Professors are usually overjoyed to talk to someone who’s an adult.” And thoroughly research those faculty members so you don’t get one who “makes you fall asleep in class.”

No chance of napping as Austin Sarat bounds into the room that Monday. The William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Science is here to teach a seminar on the U.S. Constitution. He scans the veterans’ name plates: “Cameron! What’s a good thing about democracy?” he fires off. Cameron Wilson, a nuclear electrician’s mate who served on a submarine and was stationed in Guam, seems a bit taken aback. But he gives it a shot: “The people are free to do and think what’s best for them.”

Sarat pounces: “The people can do what’s best for them. OK, I want to go to Smith College. It’s a women’s college and I’m a man, but I think it’s best for me.” But Smith won’t let him in. “Is that democratic?” Marshall Roe, who worked on the Navy’s anti-ballistic defense in the Persian Gulf, cites *Federalist No. 10*, in which James Madison writes of protecting “different and unequal faculties.”

Sarat nods vigorously: “Now we’re cooking with gas! Smith is a private institution and so can decide not to admit men. In democracy, you treat like things alike—unless there’s a good reason not to.” The energy in the room is all but giddy—many gut laughs, and applause at the end—but also sometimes tense, since Sarat relentlessly calls on each warrior-scholar. When some can’t fetch up a quick answer, the professor never

scolds. Instead, he exclaims, “Fabulous, fabulous—I see you’re thinking!”

The Warrior-Scholar Project was launched in 2011 by two Yale grads, and has subsequently been hosted by some 15 colleges and universities. In addition to lessons by Sarat and Murphy, the Amherst stint featured classes with Geoffrey Sanborn from the English department and Rick Griffiths from Classics. This summer was the WSP’s first at Amherst, though the mutual ties go back longer, thanks to Mark London ’74, who has sat on the WSP board from its early days.

The WSP is not a direct recruiting tool, but it is splendid for alerting veterans to opportunities at Amherst—which are steadily expanding. President Biddy Martin has said she is “eager to bring more veterans into the Amherst student body.” It can only help that a *CBS This Morning* segment on the WSP was filmed at Amherst on Day 5 of the program.

“The Warrior-Scholars Project is very personal to me,” London told the veterans that vivid August week. “When I was at Amherst, we were an outpost of dissent against the Vietnam War. We were right to protest, but we were wrong to leave behind the people who fought that war, to make them feel like pariahs. We did a disservice to an entire generation, and failed to take advantage of their unlimited potential to do good things in civil society. It’s a goal of mine to make sure that doesn’t happen again.”

II. The History

MARSHALL ROE COULDN’T SLEEP. THIS Californian Navy vet was so adrenalized by his week at Amherst—“one of the best experiences of my life,” he’d told me emphatically—that he had to walk it

Rebecca Segal '18

A neuroscience major, she calls herself a “future veteran” and is Amherst’s first Army ROTC student in 20 years. She trains at UMass.



off. For days, I'd heard him speak up in class, citing the Magna Carta, Napoleon, the Spartans. As Thursday waned into Friday, there he was, pacing the campus under a big oblong moon, poring over various scenarios for his future.

I like to think he had ghostly company. For Roe strode the same ground where generations of Amherst men once geared for battle.

To begin with the Civil War: After Fort Sumter was fired upon in April 1861, the College's few Southern students left as fast as hell can scorch a feather, as the saying goes, and a clutch of Union-loving students lobbied to form an all-Amherst Army company. John Albion Andrew, governor of Massachusetts, essentially told them to cool their jets: "College men like you will be needed by your country as officers in new regiments ... where you can be much more useful than herded together in one company."

Somewhat reigned in, the students nonetheless took it upon themselves to train before they could even enlist, goading the Springfield Armory to supply them with muskets. (Condemned muskets: the College administration, wisely, would only allow guns that couldn't actually shoot.) A third of the student body ended up joining the Union forces, which was less than most colleges, many of which emptied out clean.

Though Amherst men did indeed get parceled off to separate companies, a number wound up together in the 21st Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, including Frazar Stearns, class of 1863, son of College president William Augustus Stearns. Frazar's commanding officer was Col. William S. Clark, class of 1848, who had taught chemistry at Amherst. In March 1862, in New Bern, N.C., some 300 Confederate soldiers rose up and fired at the 21st. Classmates to the left of him, classmates to the right, Lt. Stearns was killed in the first fusillade.

Emily Dickinson poured out her sorrow in a letter to her young cousins: "Tis the least that I can do, to tell you of brave Frazar—'killed at Newbern,' darlings. His big heart shot away by a 'Minie ball.' I had read of those—I didn't think Frazar would carry one to Eden with him." She added: "They tell that Colonel Clark cried like a little child."

The College felt the tragedy keenly. A cannon captured at New Bern sat in Mor-

gan Hall until 2015 (it's now on loan to a North Carolina museum). Of 344 Amherst men to serve in the Union forces, 38 died. Seven others served in the Confederate army, with two casualties. Nonetheless, to be candid, Amherst lay far from the battlefields and thus "continued serenely on its way," in the Civil War years. Or so wrote Donald N. Bigelow in a trenchant article in 1945 for the *Amherst Graduates' Quarterly* titled "Amherst in Wartime: A Contrast: 1865-1945."

There was nothing serene about the World War II years here, Bigelow reports. Amherst men left in droves to enlist but were replaced by other servicemen brought to campus for training. They packed dorms and fraternity houses at three times the usual capacity. Amherst was part of a consortium of schools retrofitted to train different forms of service. This included housing a Navy pre-flight school, prepping elite candidates for West Point and overseeing certain AST units, as in Army Specialized Training, though the grunts joked that AST stood for "A Steady Torture."

Indeed, all servicemen trained arduously. Between classes, they plunged into Amherst's 500-yard outdoor obstacle course (21 obstacles, including the deliciously named Thief Vault), said to be the country's most difficult campus training obstacle course, the devilish brainchild of physical education professor Albert Ernest Lumley. Meanwhile, professors worked overtime to teach subjects in and out of their wheelhouse. The Army's Unique Area and Language Program, with instruction in the languages and cul-

tures of France, Italy and Germany, was a good fit. Cryptography courses were a stretch, as was the "pre-meteorology" curriculum for the Army Air Corps.

These "pre-mets," as they charmingly called themselves, held raucous reunions at Amherst well into the 1990s. It was great fun reading up on them in the archives at Frost Library. They had to suffer through an intense, accelerated course load of physics and math, and "each quarterly exam was like walking on a slippery log over a stream of hungry alligators," as one alumnus recalled. In 1994, they had the best percentage reunion turnout of any Amherst class to date, and they belted out songs with made-up lyrics like "We had swell times at Valentine / At Uncle Sam's expense."

Frost has a haul of boxes labeled "War Materials," and I sifted through documents from the Civil War, the two World Wars and Korea. I read how the faculty voted to teach new military training courses for World War I's doughboys. I learned of "GI Village," built for married servicemen on the eastern campus after World War II, and of the dedication of the War Memorial honoring the fallen from both World Wars. How meaningful that it's sited at the most magnificent place on campus—where you can't help but take the long view.

III. The Difficulty

AND THEN, VIETNAM. THAT'S WHEN Amherst's veteran story becomes (words are weak) complicated. The College was famously embroiled in the anti-war

HIS WORLD WAS
ROCKED BY READING
FEMINISM AND WAR
FOR SOCIOLOGY CLASS.

Ryan Cotter '18E

His first year on a nuclear submarine, he was allowed to read only one thing: three huge binders detailing every system on the sub.



movement, serving as the bricked backdrop to manifold strikes, protests and fasts. In 1967, classmates linked arms to stop an Army recruiter from setting up a table at Valentine. In 1968, two students, one dressed as Death, the other as a Marine, strode together through Val to protest Navy recruiters on campus. In 1970, anti-war slogans were spray-painted on the War Memorial. In 1972, 400 Amherst students, 20 professors and President John William Ward and his wife, Barbara Carnes Ward, were arrested at a protest at Westover Air Reserve Base.

Two years later, though, Ward was regularly, cheerfully having coffee and cigarettes with Don Dietrich '76, a Vietnam veteran who'd served four years in the Navy. One of three vets on campus at the time, this Chicopee, Mass., native transferred from Holyoke Community College, where he'd been class valedictorian. While his wife, Rita, worked, Don would tow their little boy along to campus. Chris Dietrich (who would grow up to graduate from Amherst in 1991) crayoned in his coloring book, under the dotting eyes of staff members, while his dad studied—often, at Ward's standing invitation, in the president's office at Converse Hall.

Some staff and faculty were veterans in those days, and Ward himself had served with the Marines in World War II. "Like any good intellectual, he wanted to look at all sides," says Don Dietrich of Ward, a man who could protest the Vietnam War while mentoring one who'd fought in it. "The students didn't ostracize me, exactly, but they avoided me," Dietrich adds. "If it wasn't for those contacts with faculty and administration, Amherst would've felt very lonely."

Dietrich came back to work in the admission office after he graduated, and from 1977 to 1981 he coordinated and enhanced the College's transfer program: "We wanted more and more vets. In lots of ways, they are more responsible and motivated than traditional students, because education becomes a mission for them." At the time, he added, Amherst was "the envy of other small liberal arts colleges" for attracting veterans.

But as more transfer slots went to women in the early coeducation era, as most veterans tapped their GI Bill for state schools, and as a shaky peace stretched, in this country, from the fall of

Saigon in 1975 to Sept. 10, 2001, the veteran presence at Amherst became a kind of "soup sandwich," to use Army slang—it was impossible to hold onto.

Paul Rieckhoff '98 recalls his Amherst years: precisely one ROTC student there, plus himself, bent on joining the forces. Rieckhoff spoke to me from the New York offices of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the organization he founded in 2004.

"I had an Army recruiter meet me at the Campus Center my senior year," Rieckhoff says. "If he had been a 9-foot-tall pink Martian, he would have stood out less than an Army recruiter at Am-

the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs educational fund. The College also participates in the Leadership Scholar Program, in which the U.S. Marine Corps helps qualified Marines apply to four-year colleges, and in VetLink, which pairs high-achieving veterans with academic mentors. In 2015 and 2016, Victory Media recognized Amherst as a Veteran Friendly College. Last spring, the College started the U.S. Servicemember Travel Grant Program, an application-based initiative that provides travel funding for qualified prospective student veterans to visit campus. This year, Amherst's Community College Transfer Open House

"VETERANS ARE NOT A CHARITY," SAYS PAUL RIECKHOFF '98. "THEY ARE AN INVESTMENT."

herst College. When I joined the military, people thought I was a maniac."

After 9/11 he and his National Guard unit were called up to work at Ground Zero, and he later served as an infantry rifle platoon leader in Iraq from 2003 to 2004. New wars led to new ways at Amherst. In 2008, the Post-9/11 GI Bill rebooted funds for educating this new generation of veterans, and alumni have established five scholarships that give preference to veterans: the Richard '67 and Karen LeFrak Scholarship Fund, the Veterans Scholarship Fund, the Lloyd G. Schermer '50 Scholarship Fund, the Richard William Gustafson Scholarship Fund (in memory of Richard's brother Peter '70) and the David A. Read Memorial Scholarship Fund, named for a '47 alum who died in the Battle of the Bulge.

Since 2010, the College has enrolled 17 veterans, with five on campus this year, including Nathan Needham '18E. An Air Force vet and Spanish major who served as an intelligence liaison for special ops in Latin America, Needham was also the indispensable campus program coordinator for the Warrior-Scholar Project.

The admission office is steadily increasing its troop strength, as it were. In 2009, Amherst began taking part in

fell, significantly, on Veterans Day.

Alexandra Hurd '06, associate dean of admission, oversees applications from transfer students, the main pipeline for incoming veterans. "The reason why many join the service is to serve the public good, which aligns with the mission of the College," Hurd says. Or, as Rieckhoff puts it: "Biddy gets it. Veterans are not a charity—they are an investment."

IV. The Now

TO BRING IT RIGHT TO TODAY: I WISH I could bugle forth all the current vets' stories right here (but you can visit amherst.edu/magazine to read my interviews with them). As a decent enough synecdoche, though, I'll introduce you to Ryan Cotter '18E. We met at Frost on a mild September day and talked about everything from submarines to stress to sonar to spouses. Cotter, 33, a first-generation college student from New Paltz, N.Y., had to hack out a way to pay for his education—and his younger brother's, too. He worked in a lumberyard, detailed cars, taught martial arts and squeezed in classes at SUNY Ulster community college.

All the while, he hungered to go to a four-year school in the SUNY system but

didn't know how to make that real. "I can remember sitting in the lumberyard on a break, trying to get through Plato, or Greek classics, just something to tie me to what college kids were reading," Cotter says. "But, of course, it's not the same thing, reading it by yourself."

Friends had joined the Reserves and gotten GI Bill benefits to pay for college. Cotter took note, and upped for the Navy. He went on to train at Connecticut's Naval Submarine Base New London to become an electronics technician, graduating first in his class of 32. After that, he served on the USS *Hampton*, a 120-person nuclear-powered attack submarine that plied the oceans, maneuvering near Asia, the Middle East, Africa and beyond. (Cotter dropped the phrase "Somali pirates" while we chatted but, like all the veterans I met, he politely stonewalled me on sensitive aspects of his service.)

That first year on the sub was unremitting. You can't bring in outside reading, listen to music or watch TV. Instead, you are handed three huge binders that detail every system on the craft. "It's a brute-force way of learning," says Cotter. "You're trying to drink from a fire hose, basically, from day one. They're like, 'Here you go. This is what you have to know, but it's on you to get it done.' I'm studying all about sound propagation, and Pascal's law, and how pressure, temperature, salinity all affect sound. Then also how to network computers. Electronic troubleshooting, and what that looks like. How to rewire circuit boards. I'm drawing really detailed schematics over and over and over again."

At year's end you go through a harrowing three-hour test administered by your superior officers. Many wash out. But Cotter passed, and became a sonar tech, or "ping jockey." As he recounted all this (I blanched just at the thought of missing Netflix), I realized that most veterans who have come to Amherst are exceptional, yes, having studied hard both in the service and in community colleges, too. Yet they have also withstood circumstances that most undergrads cannot fathom.

After five years in the Navy, Cotter enrolled at City College of San Francisco, netted all A's, and got accepted into a Stanford summer program for veterans. He came to Amherst because he wanted to be in a small, liberal arts setting and

ended up majoring in sociology—Leah Schmalzbauer, professor of American studies and sociology, has been "absolutely fantastic," he says, and his world was rocked by reading *Feminism and War: Confronting U.S. Imperialism* in a class with Hannah Holleman, assistant professor of sociology. Following graduation, he expects to teach and coach at The Gunnery, the rural Connecticut prep school where his wife is dean of students.

Once I talked with Cotter, I reached out to Austin Sarat, who went to college, I should say for context, during the Vietnam War escalation. "We have flipped from wholesale denigration of veterans to wholesale veneration," he noted of today's era. "Neither of those positions is particularly healthy." What about teaching those veterans? "It's salutary for all of us to be in the company of real human beings who make abstractions come alive and complicate those abstractions."

Ryan Cotter and Nathan Needham, and their friends in the newly energized Amherst College Military Association, continue to complicate those abstractions—and break down those "weird walls" that warrior-scholar Josh Buck posed as an obstacle to push past. Here on campus, they've gotten creative, in part thanks to the pioneering Rebecca Segal '18. Segal is Amherst's first Army ROTC student in 20 years. She trains at UMass and will enter the Army as a second lieutenant after graduation. A neuroscience major, she transferred here from George Washington University.

"I wanted a school where education and teaching were prioritized, and where ROTC was available too," says Segal. "Amherst rose to the top of the list: at lots of schools, you have to drive as much as 90 minutes to get where the ROTC is. Bidy and Suzanne were all in for it, and there's been so much institutional support," says Segal, referring to President Martin and Chief Student Affairs Officer Suzanne Coffey.

Ever since Segal first stormed the Valley, she's been dreaming up ways to connect with her Amherst classmates. For instance, she brought her fellow ROTC members to campus to share their training regimen with the football team. "It was a chance to be side by side, military and nonmilitary," she says, smiling. "Nothing cements a relationship like getting through a brutal workout together."

Recently, the Amherst College Military Association ginned up the "MRE Challenge." This involved prodding various members of the Amherst community (including a very game Bidy Martin) to sample and react to the military's Meals Ready to Eat rations, aka Meals Rejected by Everyone. (Yes, there is a video.) Members also invited the entire football team to watch the Army-Navy game on a big screen at the Greenway dorms. Over pizza before kickoff, the students "just got a natural conversation going," recalls Segal. "People got to ask questions long on their minds—anything, like 'Why are your uniforms different?' It felt great to help bridge the gap."

When Segal mentioned this football gathering, I flashed on a memory. It was one of the last days I spent with my late father, holding hands as we watched a Patriots game on TV with all the other veterans at Soldiers' Home, in Holyoke, Mass. When I visited this remarkable veterans' care facility, I often stopped at one wall in particular. An anonymous poem was framed there. It's called "It Is the Veteran," and though these gentlemen were at the end of their lives, and Amherst's current veterans are near the beginning, its message transcends the divides of time. I'll quote it in part:

It is the Veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. ...
It is the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble. ...
It is the Veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.
It is the Veteran, who salutes the Flag,
It is the Veteran, who serves under the Flag,
To be buried by the flag,
So the protester can burn the flag.

On campuses everywhere, where assembly and protest infuse the youthful generations, where ages and life stories and outlooks differ, it demands great personal and institutional dedication to turn anyone—warrior or not—into a scholar. My dad's GI Bill years at a small liberal arts college changed, utterly, the arc of his life. At Amherst, I've learned how that trajectory can rise and fall and rise again. But right here, right now, students who've served are getting the education they deserve. ☉

Katharine Whittemore, senior writer at Amherst, wrote the Fall 2017 cover story about professor Vanessa Fong '96.

LOOMIS ILLUMI- NATED

He unearthed a mammoth skeleton and brought it to campus. Almost a century later, scientists are still making new discoveries among his finds.

**STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY
GEOFFREY GILLER '10**



Even on his year off, Frederic Brewster Loomis could not escape the dead.

The year was 1923, and this Amherst professor of geology, paleontology and biology—also a member of the class of 1896—was traveling south to Florida with his family, ostensibly “to enjoy the orange and grape fruit groves, the truck farms and sea beach.” But in Washington, D.C., the vacation morphed into a business trip when he visited the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. There he found a shipment of fossil reptiles from South Africa in need of a home. He promptly arranged for them to go to Amherst.

Nine hundred miles away and a year earlier, an orange grower in Melbourne, Fla., had discovered some unusual remains in a swamp on his property. He had reached out to scientists at the Smithsonian, where Loomis, during his stop in D.C., got wind of the find. On arriving in Florida, the professor got in touch with the grower, who invited him to stop by to have a look. At the

Loomis found this herbivore skull on a 1919 expedition. It's now in the Beneski's natural history collection.

Loomis in Patagonia, where his team dug up what looks like a cross between a rhino and an elephant. Page 31: Some of his U.S. specimens.

swamp, Loomis declared the specimen to be “the teeth of the Columbian mammoth,” and, as he later recounted, “We all got busy and dug out nearly a complete skeleton.”

They set aside the skeleton for a local museum and returned to the dig, uncovering a second mammoth. That one would quickly become the centerpiece of Amherst’s natural history collection, housed at the time in Webster Hall. Now, almost a century later, the specimen has found renewed fame as the inspiration for the College’s mascot. The new mascot solidifies Loomis’s skeleton in a place of prominence at the College—and perhaps it will, over time, make Loomis as familiar a name as that of Edward Hitchcock, Amherst’s third president and collector of the Beneski Museum’s dinosaur tracks.

With the mammoth’s star now on the rise, it’s a good time to reassess the contributions of Loomis—a forgotten figure in paleontology. Without him, science—and Amherst in particular—would have many fewer fossil specimens. One of them, the lower jaw of a dinosaur, is the subject of a current research project that may soon reveal a new species. So let’s take another look at the popular professor who chatted his way into homes in Patagonia, who took undergraduates on harrowing digs, and whose sparse record-keeping sometimes frustrates modern paleontologists, who, according to one, have found more evidence of what the professor ate for lunch than where he collected his specimens.

PATAGONIA

One of the best-known—and best-documented—Loomis excursions was to Patagonia in 1911. Charles Darwin and others had already demonstrated that the region, encompassing 300,000 square miles of Argentina and 131,000 of Chile, harbored rich fossil deposits, especially of early mammals. Yet the vast area remained largely unexplored.

“The Patagonia of our childhood geography was a no man’s land,” Loomis wrote in *Hunting Extinct Animals in the Patagonian Pampas*, his book documenting the trip. He wanted to determine whether the ancestors of modern

horses, elephants and possibly even humans had originated there, an idea first put forth by Florentino Ameghino, an earlier paleontologist who worked extensively in Patagonia.

To help answer this question, Loomis brought along Waldo Shumway, class of 1911, and Philip Turner ’12, along with Billy Stein, an experienced fossil collector. Loomis’s Amherst classmates provided the funding. Departing on a steamship in July



from New York, the professor and his team stopped in Rio de Janeiro, Montevideo and Buenos Aires to procure supplies. Next they bought horses near the coast in Argentina. On Aug. 20 they started their fieldwork.

Shumway kept a terse diary detailing the expedition. Of the first day in the field, he wrote: “Walked 17 Miles. Climbed 200 feet several times. Patagonia. Upper Cretaceous. Oysters. Shark’s teeth.”

As the expedition progressed: “Feeling rotten.”

And, later: “Rode Paddy.” (Paddy was a horse.) “Got thrown and dragged thirty feet. Sole came off shoe and saved my life. Bruised.”

Loomis’s diary gives a more harrowing account of the Paddy incident: Turner’s hat blew off, startling the horse, which responded by throwing Shumway, who caught his foot in the stirrup. “The horse turned 3 times around & then bolted,” Loomis wrote. “Shumway was dragged around & about 25 or 30 feet when the sole of his shoe came off & released him.” Amazingly, Shumway escaped with no major injuries.

Loomis and his charges wandered around Patagonia, camping near canyons in the scrubby brush and chasing down leads gleaned from the notes of earlier explorers. They ran into people who would tell them they had seen bones in some spot or other. Such tips were “exactly what we most wanted,” wrote Loomis. But many proved disappointing—until mid-October, when the team uncovered what turned out to be “a

After two fruitless months his team found fossils, and half an hour later, Loomis felt “fifteen years younger.”



Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 6330
Wyoming
vau Fragroc

Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 9507
Seneca, S.D.
mandible

Ac M 9009
Ac M 9009

Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 9009
Indian Creek, Wyo.
skull

Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 9009
Indian Creek, Wyo.
skull

Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 7834
Arnold Ranch, Seneca, S.D.
skull and jaws

Mericoidodon culbertsoni
Ac M 7834
Indian Basin, Seneca, S.D.
skull

ARTIODACTYLA
MERYCODOBONTIDAE
mericoidodon culbertsoni



skull thirty-eight inches long, with tusks in the upper jaw fully ten inches in length.”

It was a nearly complete skull of *Pyrotherium*. This ancient creature—which looks like a cross between an elephant and a rhino—was heretofore known only from a few teeth that an earlier paleontologist had found in the same region. Spencer Lucas, a curator of paleontology at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History, says the Loomis specimen remains “the best skull that’s ever been found” of the genus. Today it’s on display in the Beneski at Amherst.

Loomis, an affable man, was good at talking his way into homes and other forms of shelter. One rainy day in Patagonia, his team arrived on the property of a pair of brothers. Loomis talked to one

of them, ostensibly to ask permission to camp on their land. But after Loomis chatted him up for a while, the man invited the visitors in for “a cup of tea or something.” Loomis wrote, “‘Tea’ proved to be Scotch, and ‘something’ developed into a good supper”—surely preferable to a damp camp meal.

After getting word about a man “who had found a bone,” Loomis arrived at a small hill. “It did not take half an hour to be sure that the point for which we had been seeking for over two months was before us,” he wrote. “In that time I grew at least fifteen years younger.” Loomis and the students spent the next three weeks at the site, waking to calls of “Roll up your beds, boys!” from Stein, the fossil collector, before dawn, breakfasting at 5 a.m., and then setting off to find where their horses had wandered during the night. “By seven we closed up the tent and started heading for the hill, each man with his pick in his hand and a bag on his back, containing hammer, chisels, awls, brushes, cloth for bandages, flour, shellac, and a canteen of water,” Loomis wrote.

The shellac was for the fossils. “While perfect in form, they were soft and fragile,” wrote Loomis, and successive coats of shellac hardened and preserved them. (Today, scientists use more sophisticated compounds.) To keep skeletons safe on their long journey to Amherst, they used cloth and flour to create plaster jackets, from which they would have to again be painstakingly extricated.

Loomis and his students returned to campus just in time for the start of the spring semester. In total, they brought back nearly 300 specimens, mostly consisting of fossilized animal skulls and other bones.

Loomis published two books about his work in Patagonia: one a general account of the trip for a popular audience and the other a scientific look at the specimens he had collected. Ultimately, he

decided that the Patagonian animals were *not* the ancestral source of mammals elsewhere—a conclusion that matches current understanding. “A lot of these animals were unique to South America,” says Lucas. “They’re not the ancestors to groups we see elsewhere in the world.”

THE CRITIC

“Loomis was very important to Amherst College,” says paleontologist Margery Coombs, an emerita professor at UMass who taught vertebrate paleontology and served as an adjunct museum curator at Amherst for many years. Loomis’s influence, she says, is most obvious in the natural history collection, which contains thousands of his specimens, not only from the digs in Florida and Patagonia but also from a dozen or so expeditions that he took with Amherst students to the American West.

Among these specimens are holotypes of dozens of species: the first specimens collected and used to describe a new species. Also, by trading his own fossils for those at other museums, Loomis procured additional items for Amherst, including the saber-toothed cat skeleton that today slinks along near the base of the mammoth in the Beneski. “If you didn’t have Loomis, you wouldn’t have a lot of those specimens,” says Coombs.

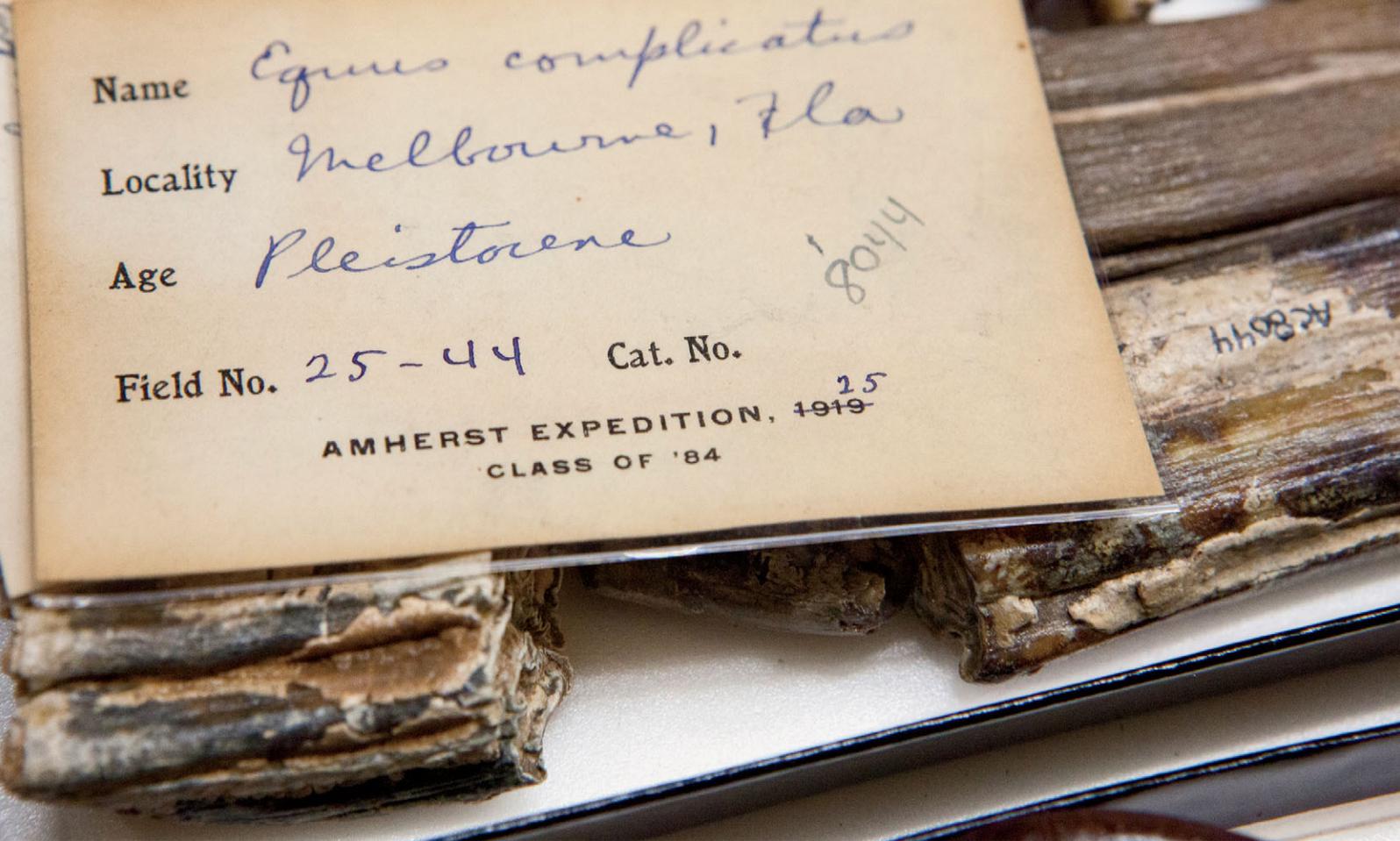
And Loomis’s tradition of bringing students into the field carries on today. For my own fieldwork for my senior thesis in biology, for example, Professor Ethan Temeles led me and another student on an expedition to the Caribbean to study hummingbirds and flowers. (Our lodging was a bit more comfortable than that of Loomis and his charges: we stayed in a small hotel.) The experience of going out and collecting data and specimens is an invaluable one, giving a deeper understanding of both the system

“He has more records of what he had for lunch than where he collected stuff,” says one scholar.

The Florida mammoth, now on display at the Beneski. Right: Shumway digging out an elephant skull in Patagonia.



COLLEGE ARCHIVES



A field label in the Beneski of fossilized horse teeth from one expedition Loomis took to Melbourne, Fla.

being studied and the vagaries of fieldwork. As Coombs says, “It’s no small thing to take a bunch of students out into the field and be responsible for them.” As the runaway horse in Patagonia proves, that was even more true in the early 20th century.

But while he was out there in the field, Loomis often neglected to write down basic information, including the locations and geologic formations where he found his specimens. In general, paleontologists of his era were less diligent about recording such details, Coombs acknowledges. And Patagonia and the American West were poorly mapped out back then, compounding the problem: “He was riding around with a wagon, going from here to there—he probably didn’t even know exactly where he was at times.” Still, his record-keeping has long vexed other scientists. “He sometimes has more records of what he had for lunch,” Coombs laments, “than where he collected stuff.”

Location records weren’t his only weak point. George Gaylord Simpson, considered one of the great paleontologists and evolutionary theorists of the 20th century, harshly criticized his elder in the field, writing in 1984 that while “Loomis was a sincere, industrious, and likable man,” his scientific accounting of the Patagonia expedition “is so replete with dubieties and with downright errors, both as to stratigraphy and as to paleontology, that it cannot be considered a real contribution to South American geology or paleontology.”

Take the *Pyrotherium* skull. Twentieth-century

scientists vigorously debated where exactly *Pyrotherium* fell in the tangled, branching bush of evolution. In his book about the Patagonia expedition, Loomis argued that it was most closely related to elephants and mastodons, but a few years later he changed his mind, concluding that the ancient beast was in fact a marsupial. Simpson disagreed, however, writing that, while the skull was important and impressive in its completeness, “Loomis’s description was inadequate and partly inaccurate and his conclusions definitely wrong.”

Simpson doesn’t elaborate on what he found lacking in the *Pyrotherium*’s description. As for Loomis’s incorrect conclusions, Simpson was writing with “the benefit of half a century of hindsight,” notes Spencer Lucas, the New Mexico paleontologist. “What Loomis wrote about *Pyrotherium* ... is perfectly good science for its day, considering what was known.” (Today, scientists tend to classify *Pyrotherium* on its own separate branch, remote from all recent mammals.) Simpson even objected to the fact that a later paleontologist, visiting the same area where Loomis collected the *Pyrotherium* skull, referred to the spot as Loomis Hill: “That,” Simpson wrote, “gave far too much credit to Loomis.”

Did Simpson’s criticisms go too far? Lucas thinks so. In his estimation, Loomis’s work in Patagonia remains “a substantial contribution to our knowledge of the South American record of Tertiary mammals.” And “considering that Loomis was one of the first to study the Deseadan rocks and fossil

mammals in detail,” says Lucas, “the ‘dubieties’ and ‘downright errors’ Simpson refers to are relatively few.” Lucas suspects that Simpson’s disparagement was driven in part by professional jealousy.

My take is this: Loomis was a talented professor and an enthusiastic field researcher. He could probably have been more assiduous with his field notes, but to completely discount the work he did in Patagonia is unfair, considering both the discoveries that have arisen from his finds and the differing standards for field notes at the turn of the century. And Loomis’s work extended beyond the field and the classroom: he was president of the Paleontological Society in 1920, and was partly responsible for adding the Section of Vertebrate Paleontology to the Society in 1934. The section would later become the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology. “He does have a place in the pantheon of American vertebrate paleontology,” says Coombs. “It’s not a huge place, but it’s definitely there.”

A NEW DINOSAUR?

Some Loomis specimens have led to contemporary discoveries. In 1992, paleontologists described a new species and genus of sauropod (the huge, long-necked dinosaurs that include *Apatosaurus*) based on specimens that Loomis collected in eastern Wyoming. But the name given to the ancient animal—*Dyslocosaurus*—is further evidence of the professor’s shortcomings: it combines *dys* (“bad”) and *locus* (“place”). “The provenance data,” the 1992 scientists asserted, “are unsatisfactory and raise a major question about the significance of

the specimen.” Despite a “thorough search” by the authors through Loomis’s field notes at Amherst, they found no mention of the fossil; the only information accompanying it is this frustratingly vague wording: “vicinity of Lance Creek, eastern Wyoming.”

More recently, in 2011, Robert Hunt, a University of Nebraska paleontologist,

named a new carnivore genus and species, *Delotrochanter oryktes*, based on material Loomis collected in 1908 at Stenomylus Quarry, now part of Agate Fossil Beds National Monument.

In 2012, Sebastian Dalman, then an independent researcher living in western Massachusetts, was doing research on tyrannosaurids. Hearing that Amherst had a tyrannosaurid specimen—part of a lower jaw—he paid a visit to the Beneski. Loomis had collected the fossil in New Mexico in 1924, during the same yearlong trip that yielded the Florida mammoth. Loomis had labeled it as coming from the Ojo Alamo Formation—which would make it around 67 million years old.

But something about the specimen looked off to Dalman, based on how the fossilization process of the jaw had occurred: it was darker in color than most of the other fossils from that geological formation. He thought it might instead be from the Kirtland Formation, making it a few million years older—and maybe a different species.

Dalman asked Kate Wellspring, the museum collections curator at the time, to take the fossil down from the display for a closer look. Bringing it to a room in the basement, Dalman was able to see the side of the jaw that was hidden when it was on display. Immediately, he says, he saw something that was “different from any other *Tyrannosaurus* that I have seen.” (And he has seen quite a few).

To the untrained eye, the differences aren’t huge: two openings instead of one beneath one of the teeth, and a distinct part of the jaw where a ligament would connect. But, to Dalman, it was clearly a new species. A paper describing the evidence for that conclusion, including a few specimens at other museums, is currently going through the peer review process; Dalman expects it to be published soon. And, yes: the new tyrannosaurid will be named after Loomis.

In July 1937, Loomis died suddenly from a brain hemorrhage while fishing with his family off the coast of Alaska. He was 63, and had been slated to chair the Section of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting later that year. A newspaper article in the *Springfield Union* noted that “about half of the entering freshman class had elected Prof. Loomis’ course on ‘Man and His Environment,’” and three other professors would be taking it over in his stead. In one memorial tribute, fellow paleontologist Walter Granger noted the contributions Loomis had made to the Amherst natural history collections. “Truly the Amherst Museum will be Fred Loomis’ monument,” he wrote.

Amherst’s magnificent natural history museum—considered among the best college natural history museums—would not be what it is today without Loomis. And while Amherst no longer focuses much on paleontology, it has a strong track record of turning out stellar geology majors, including the current head of the Smithsonian, Kirk Johnson ’82.

Loomis’s grave is about 2 miles from the Beneski Museum. To find it, I had to leave the main path in the cemetery, bushwhacking through mountain laurel and fighting off mosquitoes, then wandering around until I found the marker, overgrown with ferns and obscured by dead leaves. Doubtless it has few visitors these days. But Amherst has a new mascot, the world could have a new dinosaur, and Loomis’s legacy may, too, rise again from the layers of history. ☉

Geoffrey Giller ’10 majored in biology and French at Amherst. He is a science and environmental writer and photographer.

A recent study holds that Amherst’s tyrannosaurid may be a new species—to be named for Loomis.

“THE

SPLENDOR

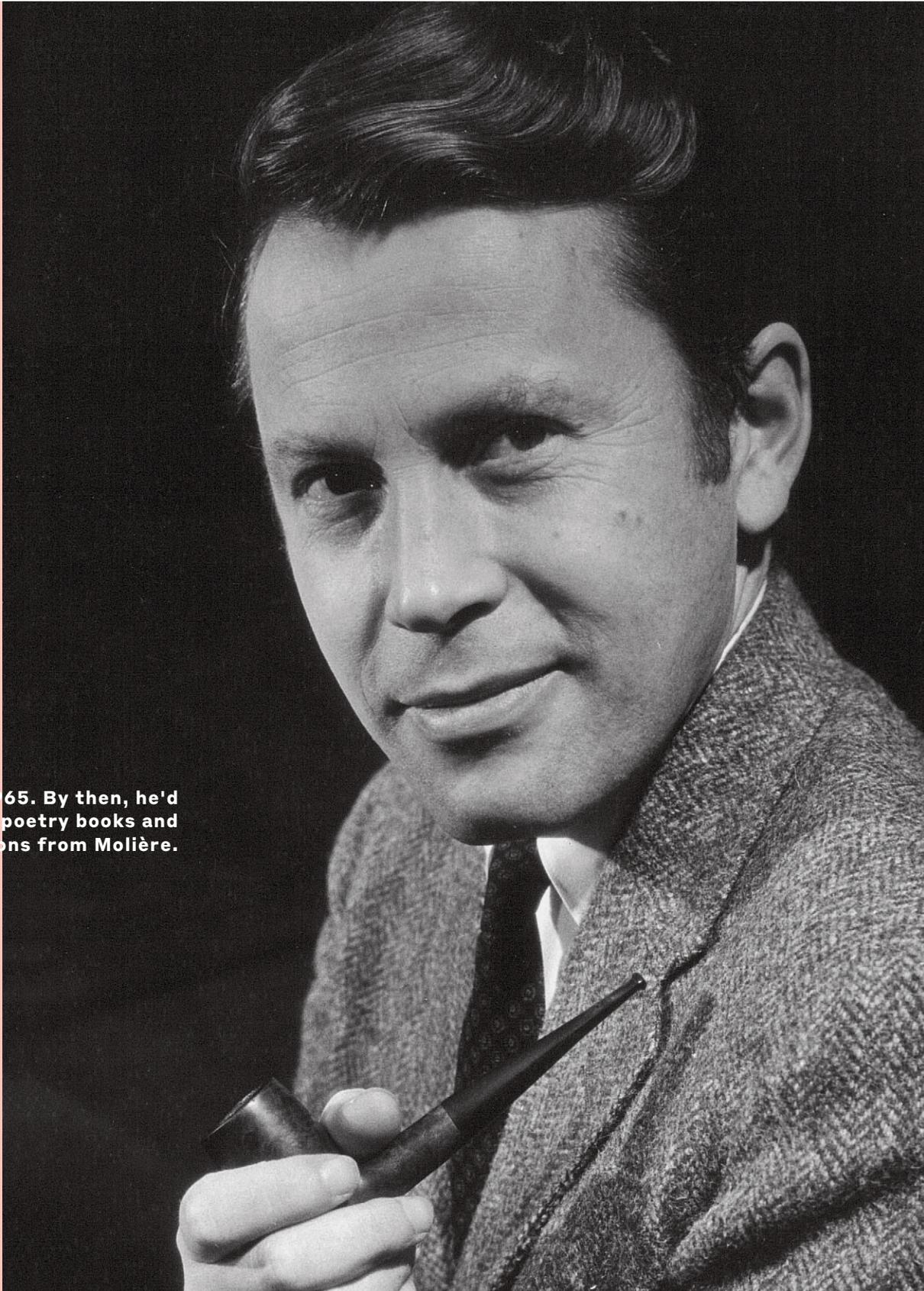
**Amherst remembers the late,
masterful poet Richard Wilbur '42**

By Katharine Whittemore

OF

MERE BEING”

Wilbur in 1965. By then, he'd published five poetry books and two translations from Molière.



IN 1947 THE POET LOUISE BOGAN REVIEWED, in *The New Yorker*, a young man's first book of poems. "Let us watch Richard Wilbur," she wrote. "He is composed of valid ingredients." Those ingredients could be contradictory—the college rebel later known for his traditional formalism, the man of utter modesty unchanged by so many glittering accolades. But these ingredients remained, to the last, valid and (to quote a 1956 poem) "keeping their difficult balance."

Richard Purdy Wilbur '42, one of Amherst's most distinguished and beloved alumni, died on Oct. 14 at age 96. He was the nation's second poet laureate, a peerless translator of Molière, Racine and Corneille, and the Tony Award-nominated lyricist for Leonard Bernstein's *Candide*. He also earned two Pulitzer Prizes for his meticulously passionate body of work that celebrated, to quote another poem, "the splendor of mere being."

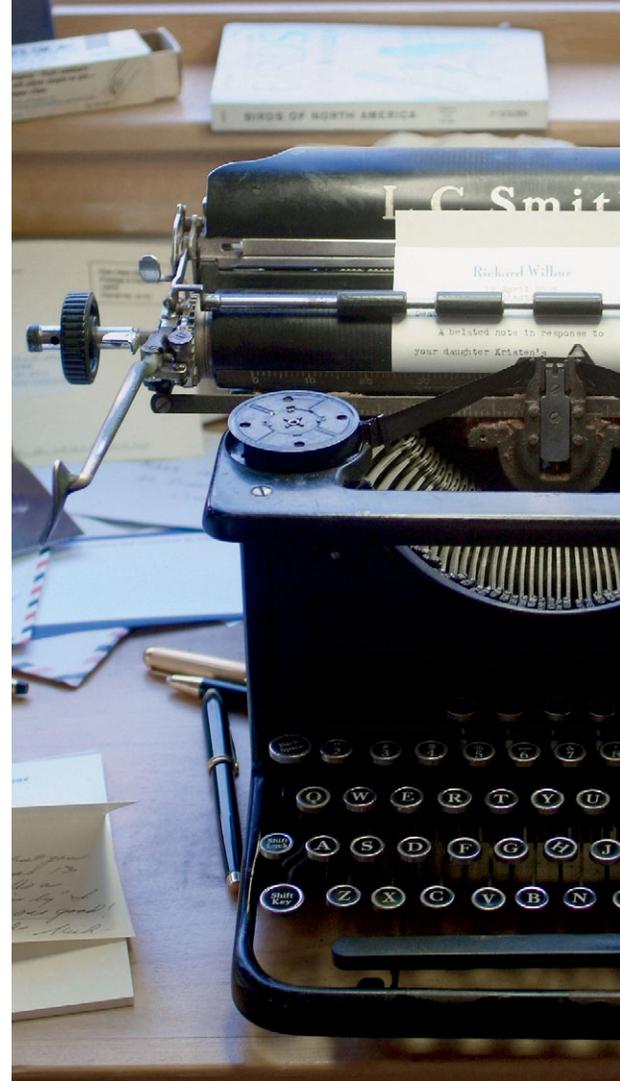
In summing up his life, it is impossible to resist citing his own verse. He died, for instance, in the manner he described at age 77: "in good time, the bedstead at whose foot / The world will swim and flicker and be gone." Wilbur was living in a nursing home in Belmont, Mass., and is survived by four children (including Nathan Wilbur '73), three grandchildren (including Liam Wilbur '14E) and two great-grandchildren. His wife, Charlotte, known to all as Charlee—a Smith student he met while at Amherst, regularly walking or hitching the 9-mile distance to see her—died in 2007.

"He was remarkable man whose decency and humanity are as memorable as his verse," said Amherst President Biddy Martin the day after his death. "These qualities, along with his wit and intelligence, live on in his work and in what we continue to learn from his example."

Born in New York City in 1921 and raised in rural North Caldwell, N.J., Wilbur started at Amherst as the famous Hurricane of 1938 struck. He never forgot witnessing the devastation from North dormitory as the maples of College Grove "lay down" one by one from the gusts, as he recalled to Samuel Williston Professor of English David R. Sofield, with whom he taught poetry courses at Amherst.

Over time, Wilbur shared many stories with Sofield about his Amherst years. An English major, Wilbur pledged Chi Psi, which was full of football players. Thinking he should also try athletics, Wilbur took up boxing. When he came to the Chi Psi house one day with a black eye from sparring at the gym, a fraternity brother (and the football team's center) pulled him aside and said, "We didn't pledge you to be an athlete. We took you into the house to raise our academic standing."

There wasn't so much raising at first: Wilbur's freshman and sophomore grades fell because he devoted excessive time to writing for *The Amherst Student* and *Touchstone*, the student literary magazine—which tagged him as "a pub-crawling, gamboling, cartooning humorist." In both words and pictures, he was bold,



From his home in Cummington, Mass., Wilbur wrote on a manual typewriter in a studio converted from an old silo.

often satirizing Amherst President Stanley King for bellicosity in the run-up to World War II. Wilbur was "vehemently anti-interventionist" before Pearl Harbor, explain Robert Bagg '57 and Mary Bagg in 2017's *Let Us Watch Richard Wilbur: A Biographical Study* (see review, page 48). Wilbur even compared FDR's lend-lease policy to a "runaway toboggan" racing toward U.S. military involvement.

But then came Pearl Harbor. Wilbur's most famous *Amherst Student* editorial appeared the day after the attack. It ran on the front page, the headline blaring in large type, all caps: "NOW THAT WE ARE IN IT."

Wrote Wilbur: "We needn't rhapsodize over our intervention like the editor of the *Williams Record*, but we should suppress our obstructing doubts ... confining our thoughts to the job before us, and to the post-war world, which it will be our great pleasure to put together. Now that we are fighting, what is needed is unanimity and determined action. ... If we feel any allegiance to the race in general, we will strive to make the post-war world more hopeful and less combusive than the world of the past twenty years, to which we are now bidding a noisy farewell."



AMHERST COLLEGE

HIS GRADES PICKED UP THE LAST TWO years at Amherst, with all A's his senior year. In a class with Professor of Philosophy Sterling Lamprecht, Wilbur skipped handing in the first several required papers and instead wrote a long essay about the evolution of Christianity from Luther onward. "This is an astonishing performance," wrote Lamprecht in the paper's margins. "In more ways than one, you leave me with nothing to say."

Wilbur particularly admired English professors Theodore Baird, George Armour Craig, George Roy Elliot and George Whicher. As he reminisced in a 2009 interview for the College's website, "They all, bless them, took me seriously as a writer of poems. They told me what was wrong with what I was doing and how I could make it better, as well as what I ought to read in order to be properly inspired."

In 1980, Wilbur wrote a recollection of the teachers who stirred him: "Like his great senior colleague, Theodore Baird, Armour Craig was forever asking the embarrassing question, 'What do you mean?' That demand for self-questioning/precision has been part

of my conscience for forty years now, and if I have ever written a true and clear line or sentence, there are two Amherst teachers to whom credit is due."

Outside the classroom, Wilbur "covered up a certain social awkwardness by carousing and being outrageous," as he told the publication *Between the Lines* in 2000. He met Charlee on a blind date in March 1941. She was poetry editor at Smith's monthly magazine, and the daughter and granddaughter of Amherst men. The pair fell fast in love, shared many plates of spaghetti at Joe's restaurant in Northampton and married just after he graduated in 1942. On their honeymoon in Maine, they practiced Morse code, because Wilbur hoped to join the Signal Corps Reserve upon their return. He trained at Camp Edison as a cryptographer, and did well—until the authorities resolved to dissolve his access to solving.

THE PROBLEM? HIS TIES TO COMMUNISM: IN a 1939 issue of the *Student* he unsobly used the byline "Lenin" in a Q&A with Earl Browder, then secretary general of the American Communist Party. And his fellow servicemen noted that he subscribed to the *Daily Worker*. Wilbur was a progressive, not a communist, but the distinction was too fine for the military. It didn't help that he acted "as if the army were just another educational institution willing to respect his exuberant free speech," write the Baggs. Politically grounded dismissals from the Signal Corps were commonplace. Wilbur was tossed out.

He ended up serving with the 36th Infantry Division at Cassio and Anzio in Italy, in the southern invasion of France and along the Siegfried Line in Germany. Most of his fellow soldiers were Texans. "He experienced heavy shelling, and often," says Sofield. "He lost many good friends." Poetry became a way to frame and escape the trauma of the foxhole. As Wilbur once said: "One does not use poetry for its major purposes, as a means of organizing oneself and the world, until one's world somehow gets out of hand."

After the war, Wilbur received a master's degree from Harvard, forged a friendship with Robert Frost and published his first book of poetry, *The Beautiful Changes*. Throughout his illustrious literary career—he published some 30 books of poetry, essay collections and translations, and won some 20 prizes, including the National Book Award for Poetry, the Bollingen Prize for Poetry and the Dram a Desk Special Award—Wilbur strengthened his already strong bonds to Amherst.

In the 1960s he began bequeathing some manuscripts to the College's Archives & Special Collections. Amherst has since acquired more than 60 boxes of original manuscripts, artwork, correspondence, business records and ephemera, and will now house his remaining papers. And once the family moved to nearby Cummington, Mass., in 1969—where he pecked on a manual typewriter in a studio converted



SAMUEL MASINTER '05

At his 90th birthday celebration in Cole Assembly Room, Wilbur read his poem “Out Here,” about a snow shovel still leaning against a house in July.

from an old silo—Wilbur often came to campus to read his work and to teach.

In 1989 he was named the College’s Robert Frost Literary Fellow. And in 2008 he returned to teach as the John Woodruff Simpson Lecturer—the same post once held by Frost. Wilbur also instructed at Wesleyan, Wellesley, Harvard and Smith. In the 2009 Amherst interview, he spoke of teaching poetry: “In every class of poetry writing, I imagine that only two or three out of the 15 will prove to be publishable poets, but that doesn’t matter. The important thing is to get oneself eloquently off one’s chest.”

W

HEN IT BECAME TOO DICEY FOR HIM TO drive, students ferried Wilbur the two-hour round trip between Cummington and the College. Roger Creel ’13, now a dancer with the Louisville Ballet, was one such chauffeur. “Professor Wilbur was a bear of a man, a tender bear,” Creel recalls. “And he would lumber out of his house and fold himself into my little Honda Fit. His capacity for conversation went

from the mundane to profound. Once we were driving through a dark patch of forest and I asked him what he was thinking about. ‘Oh, I was thinking about beeches,’ he said. ‘Beech trees hold their leaves longer any tree in the winter. I’ve always admired them for that.’”

Creel, an English major, took the Wilbur/Sofield class on lyric poetry. He memorized several Wilbur poems for these drives, including 1950’s “Ceremony.” He spoke the 18 lines, hands on the wheel as the scenery slatted by. Afterward Wilbur asked Creel what he thought of the poem. The student said he loved these lines especially:

But ceremony never did conceal,
Save to the silly eye, which all allows,
How much we are the woods we wander in.

Wilbur agreed those were the best lines, then casually added: “The rest of it I could take or leave.”

Creel was also Wilbur’s driver for Biddy Martin’s 2011 inauguration, at which he read his poem “Altitudes,” in which Amherst is domed by “a wild shining of the pure unknown.” It is worth emphasizing that Wilbur was an unostentatious Christian, a poet who believed his job was to observe and commend God’s

creation. As he told one interviewer: “I find sanctimony and cocksure atheism equally disagreeable.”

On the weekend of Wilbur’s death, Sofield was prepping for his class, English 240: “Reading Poetry,” about to launch the second week of a two-week unit on Wilbur’s work. “He is one of the small handful of best poets in the second half of the 20th century,” says Sofield. “And a lot of people who really live lives in and around poetry would agree with me. In this class, I’m teaching W.H. Auden, Elizabeth Bishop, Anthony Hecht, Philip Larkin, James Merrill [’47] and Richard Wilbur. All wrote in received forms and invented new forms as needed for each poem, and Dick was as much a master of poetry in his time as any of them.”

Anyone who met Wilbur was struck by his kindness, his cleverness, his courtliness. “He was never self-

regarding in the way a lot of writers are. He was generous to everybody,” says Sofield.

Adds Cullen Murphy ’74, chair of the College’s board of trustees, “Dick Wilbur’s voice, in life as in his poetry, was one of deep humanity—elegant, often playful and brimming with what he called the ‘glorious energy’ of creation.”

Wilbur died at the height of fall foliage season, and it seems fitting to conclude with lines from one of his autumnal poems. “October Maples, Portland” was read at Converse Hall, in 2011, for a celebration of his 90th birthday:

The leaves, though little time they have to live,
Were never so unfallen as today.
And seem to yield us through a rustled sieve
the very light from which time fell away. ☉

A TRIBUTE FROM

At first star-struck, an Amherst English professor became Wilbur’s tennis partner and, later, his teaching partner. / BY DAVID SOFIELD

I must have met Dick Wilbur at a dinner that Bill and Marietta Pritchard had for him after one of his periodic readings at the College, but I remember being too star-struck to say much to him. I’m afraid that my admiration for what Dick did with words, ideas and feelings was such that I could do no more than acknowledge that I was, well, a fan. By the 1970s Richard Wilbur was, by common consent, the dazzling virtuoso of post-World War II poetry in English. His third book, *Things of This World* (1956), won all the prizes, as it should have. And he was hard to imitate, although many tried: it is not given to more than two or three poets in a generation to have the education (Amherst!—in his case, and then the war and then Harvard), and the ear, and the inventiveness to carry off poems as rich, as profoundly satisfying as, say, “A Baroque Wall-Fountain in the Villa Sciarra.” There are numerous others.

Then two things changed. In his next books of poems he began to dampen the fireworks a bit, with the result that one’s admiration gradually deepened into gratitude that someone out there was fully experiencing a recognizable, an available world—the created world, of course, but also that of people closest to him and those who happened his way, like the Roman “Mind-Reader”

whom he evoked in a major long poem. For me the pivotal, or at the least the representative, poem here is “April 5, 1974,” a poem he could not have written had he not been an acute reader and a good friend of Robert Frost. It’s a small miracle of language, perception and music—and of analogy. In his great late poem “Lying,” Dick offers a defining line: “Odd that a thing is most itself when likened.”

The other change was the result of one of the happiest accidents to come my way: Dick’s beloved wife, Charlee, asked me, at another post-reading dinner, if I played tennis. I did. She asked if I would like to be Dick’s doubles partner in a game against two local attorneys. Sure, I said, and it came to pass.

Exactly what came to pass I could not have begun to foresee. We prevailed over the law, barely, and then we had post-match gin and tonics (mint from Dick’s garden in Cummington, Mass.), and then we swam in Dick and Charlee’s pool, and then we talked a bit about poetry.

And then, after years and years of more tennis and talk, Dick was invited to become the John Woodruff Simpson Lecturer at the College, the position created after World War II to bring Robert Frost back to Amherst a couple of times a year to give readings and to

A FRIEND

talk with the fraternity lads (Dick was a notably loyal Chi Psi). Dick told the College president that, yes, he would do it, if I would agree to teach with him. Of course I agreed, if not without some apprehension, knowing, for example, that Dick’s store of memorized poems was truly vast.

So for seven years, from 2008 to 2014, we did teach together. In time I more or less overcame my fear and trembling. Charlee Wilbur died in 2007—do read and reread Dick’s three late love poems, “For C.,” “The Reader” and “The House.” On her death Dick must have been—no, he *was*—at something of a loss; as many have noted, their marriage was a supremely fortunate one. So his returning to the classroom at age 87 turned out to be, I think, consoling. And it was useful, a word Dick used carefully. He once responded to the question—why did you start writing poems?—posed to him by his geology-major student driver, with this short sentence: “To be useful.” And he was that, to students at the five colleges where he taught—Harvard, Wellesley, Wesleyan, Smith, Amherst—and as he will be to those future readers fortunate enough to find his work. R.I.P.

Sofield is Amherst’s Samuel Williston Professor of English.

CULTURE

The Real National Pastime

In the 1990s, did a preoccupation with sex lay the groundwork for today? | BY RAND RICHARDS COOPER '80



I recall my surprise, sometime in the late 1990s, when a schoolteacher colleague of my wife's mentioned a sex-toy club she had joined, a kind of Tupperware group that met monthly to share ideas and products. Such matter-of-factness about long-taboo subjects, it turns out, was the hallmark of the United States in the 1990s—or so says *Vanity Fair* editor David Friend '77 in his aptly named new book.

Its thesis is that the decade's preoccupation with sex—from scandals, to sexual enhancements of all kinds, to the pornification of daily life—"laid the groundwork for our current age," as Americans, ensconced "in a giddy interregnum of narcissism, solipsism, and skyrocketing mutual funds," took their erotic obsessions public. Naughtiness, Friend holds, be-

“An excellent chapter on the R&D of Viagra is both informative and witty.”

came the dominant mode of *fin-de-siècle* American life.

The Naughty Nineties is nothing if not ambitious, moving from anthropological analysis of *Sex and the City* bus tours, to the hermeneutics of the Demi Moore pregnancy photo, to the politics of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," to the ordeal of the Anita Hill/Clarence Thomas hearings. The book is well-stocked with pithy insights—"Celebrity schadenfreude was becoming a national pastime"—and indelible quotations, like that from a breast-implant surgeon who comments that "Houston is a very overaugmented city."

An excellent chapter on the R&D of Viagra is both informative and witty, noting that the work took place in a Pfizer lab near Canterbury, England, "practically the birthplace of the ribald tale."



JUSTIN BISHOP

Friend offers reportage too, doggedly tracking down and interviewing such forgotten figures of '90s notoriety as Lorena Bobbitt and Heidi Fleiss. Participatory journalism acquires a whole new allure when the subject is, for instance, bikini waxing, but our author forays intrepidly into the arena. The pièce de résistance is his excursion to a therapy center in San Francisco, where he joins an audience observing a session of OM: orgasmic meditation.

Throughout this naughty book, the author's incorrigible punning—calling urologists at an erectile-dysfunction seminar "peers in the penile colony," to take one of many examples—challenges a reviewer to double down on his own saucy innuendo. Can I praise Friend's penetrating insights into American popular culture, or his blow-by-blow description of the Lewinsky scandal?

Friend's prior book, *Watching the World Change*, took on a serious, even grave topic, analyzing images of 9/11, and the new book's rollicking bawdiness sits uneasily with a more academic impulse, making for a curious hybrid. *The Naughty Nineties* is a 640-page tome that often sounds like a magazine essay, replete with the journalistic present tense and breezily transgressive chapter openings ("Let's talk about the '90s vagina").

Friend is a *Vanity Fair* editor. His new book argues that matter-of-factness about long-taboo subjects was the hallmark of the United States in the 1990s.



The Naughty Nineties: The Triumph of the American Libido

By David Friend '77

Twelve

Cheeky flippancy strikes an odd note in a book of this size and scope. How can a copiously footnoted cultural history, which cites Marcuse while promising "a codex for understanding," also include the chatty exclamation that "this is so not about Bill Clinton"? Perhaps Friend is trying to mirror the paradoxes of American culture itself, our ready mix of high and low, the solemn and the salacious. But it can make for uneven reading.

The amount of information synthesized in these pages is mind-blowing—OK, humbling—and eventually becomes overwhelming, as if Americans think, talk and act out about sex and sex only, 24/7. Anyone up for a game of chess, or a hike in the mountains?

I found myself wondering about Friend's ultimate take on the phenomena he so richly documents. At one point we visit a Manhattan sex emporium, where women admire handcuffs and penis-shaped sports bottles. When Tom Wolfe merrily skewered this sort of thing, he kept our vanities firmly fixed in the crosshairs of satire.

For Friend, dismay contends with delight, criticism with celebration. The results are scenarios where a reader both laughs and winces—as when, in his rather admiring take on Howard Stern, Friend interviews the controversial publisher (and Stern pal) Judith Regan, who offers a tribute to Stern's priapic powers and confesses to having once taken a pencil eraser and poked his penis through his pants ("and it was alive!").

We are more than halfway through this vast catalogue of American brazenness when Friend interviews a Florida local-news reporter who in 1995 was assigned to do a story on penis-enhancing underwear, and had to visit local bars to ask men if they would wear it. "I was ashamed," she recalls. Phew. Finally.

Cooper is contributing editor at Commonwealth magazine.

Ideals Man

Gorbachev boldly made his own history, but certainly not just as he pleased. | BY PAUL STATT '78



Who was the first president of the Soviet Union? The last?

The answer is Mikhail Gorbachev, who climbed to the top of the Kremlin leadership in 1985, threw open its windows to the world in *glasnost*, reconstructed its foundations in *perestroika* and finally brought it to ruin in 1991. The question we were all asking as the USSR collapsed haunts us still: How did that happen?

William Taubman's richly rewarding *Mikhail Gorbachev: His Life and Times* is a history of a tumultuous era and a biography of a fascinating statesman. As a biographer, Taubman's technique is to ask a lot of questions, and his rhetorical style of incessant interrogation is evidence of admirable humility and curiosity. Taubman wants to know everything about Gorbachev but has to accept that perhaps, like Russia, Gorbachev cannot be understood by the mind alone.

The book's first question is its

theme: "How did Gorbachev become Gorbachev?"

During a triumphant Western trip in 1987, the Soviet leader insisted, "I am just like other people. I am a normal person." How did a mere person become the historical personage remembered for negotiating peace in the Cold War, the ban—almost!—of nuclear weapons everywhere and the end of Communism?

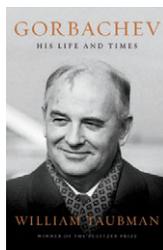
In answering that question, a dedicated historical materialist might note the role of agricultural production—grains and other foodstuffs. Working summers with his father on their collective wheat farm in the Caucasus, Gorbachev at 17 earned an Order of the Red Banner of Labor. It was signed by Joseph Stalin himself. Proudly wearing his medal, the young communist studied law at Moscow University, where he met philosophy student Raisa Titarenko, who

became his wife and indispensable helpmeet.

Their love story is one reason that Taubman's biography flows like a novel. The elegant, intelligent "Lady Dignity," as the Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* remembered Raisa at her untimely death in 1999, deserves a biography of her own, to judge from this one. With her help, Gorbachev rose to party prominence—and again, a good crop helped. Food shortages plagued the USSR, but in 1978 Gorbachev received another honor, for a triumphant harvest.

As a young minister in Stavropol, he visited a village with the Dickensian name Bitter Hollow (*Gorkaya Balka*). Taubman reports Gorbachev's impression: "low, smoke-belching huts ... desolation and horror, from the fear of being buried alive. ... How is it possible, how can anyone live like that?" Taubman explains Gorbachev's rise, "despite the most rigorous imaginable arrangement of checks and guarantees designed to guard against someone like him," as the result not so much of his political skills (which often failed him) as of his dogged belief in his ideals.

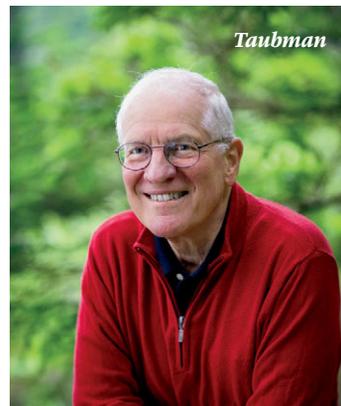
The story is far from simple. Taubman's research is prodigious, and his 880-page tale is surprisingly suspenseful. (Especially exciting is the 1991 coup d'état attempt.) "Gorbachev is hard to understand," Gorbachev himself



Gorbachev: His Life and Times

By William Taubman,
Bertrand Snell
Professor of
Political Science,
Emeritus

W.W. Norton



Opera

once insisted to Taubman in an interview. Taubman speculates that the leader came to be psychologically dependent on being lionized abroad. This is hard for those of us who still admire Gorbachev to hear.

Taubman avoids the American commonplace of joining Reagan and Gorbachev in an eternal handshake. Reagan has a role, but so do Kohl, Mitterrand and Thatcher. An apt American life to parallel Gorbachev would be not Reagan but Henry Wallace, the progressive farmer and vice president who was a champion of the “common man” and FDR’s New Deal but foundered in his utopian idealism.

“One thing Gorbachev rejected from the start was any attempt to recast the Soviet system by means of force and violence,” Taubman writes. “This was Gorbachev’s sharpest break of all with tradition.”

“ He avoids joining Reagan and Gorbachev in an infinite handshake.

His Life and Times achieves its epic sweep because Taubman skillfully demonstrates how Gorbachev, echoing a famous Marxian dictum, boldly made his own history, but certainly not just as he pleased. Gorbachev inherited the burdens of Soviet and Russian tradition; Taubman’s narrative integrates that nightmare with Gorbachev’s philosophical idealism.

Some of us will always remember the cameo that Gorbachev played in Wim Wenders’ strange film *Faraway, So Close!* (1993). Out of office, sitting at a desk in a reunited Berlin, already rejected by Russia, Mikhail Gorbachev—a guardian angel looking over his shoulder—recites these lines from the poet Fyodor Tyutchev: “Some say a country can only be forged with blood and steel. We shall try to forge it with love. Then let’s see which lasts longer.”

Statt is a Philadelphia-based writer.

AN OLD CRIME, A NEW OPERA Two Amherst professors teamed up with students and professional actors to dramatize the true, local story of a Smith faculty member’s arrest. | By Rachel Rogol



Sawyer, the opera’s composer, at a rehearsal. He says the story is “well-suited to the medium of opera.”

On an otherwise normal fall day in 1960, police arrested a Smith College professor named Newton Arvin. A nationally renowned literary critic, he was detained and publicly humiliated for possessing homosexual erotica, then a crime that carried a maximum five-year prison sentence.

This September, nearly six decades later, two Amherst professors brought Arvin’s story to life on stage in *The Scarlet Professor*, a new opera composed by Professor of Music Eric Sawyer and directed by Associate Professor of Theater and Dance Ron Bashford ’88.

“It’s part of our history,” Bashford says, “and resonates with things we are thinking about today.”

Based on Northampton writer Barry Werth’s book of the same name, the opera blends real human drama with scenes from the novel Arvin wrote about most passionately: Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter*.

“Having a literary critic as a central character calls for dramatizing the life of the mind,” says Sawyer, “a wonderful challenge and one well-suited to the medium of opera.”

A darkly comic mix of history and fiction, this new opera takes place in the days surrounding the professor’s detention. The setting is the Massachusetts state mental

[The Scarlet Professor](#)

Composed by Professor of Music Eric Sawyer, directed by Associate Professor of Theater and Dance Ron Bashford ’88

Smith College, September 2017

hospital where Arvin voluntarily committed himself following his arrest.

The Scarlet Professor was presented by professional performers Sept. 15–17 and by Five College students Sept. 23–24. The dual casting, Bashford says, allowed professionals to realize the premiere as fully as possible, while also giving students the benefit of rehearsing alongside professionals and having their own performances.

Several Amherst students were involved behind the scenes, too. Theater and dance major Julia Lauren Thompson ’19, for example, began assisting Sawyer last year, researching Arvin’s history and organizing auditions.

Thompson sees the opera’s themes as particularly relevant today: “Arvin was a brilliant, successful man trapped in a loneliness largely of his own making. The opera invites thinking about how to be a better friend and colleague in the face of hardship.”

Rogol covers the arts in the Amherst communications office.



TV SERIES

Authentically Fake

What if Sylvester Stallone were a proud Romanian communist? The result would be something like this buddy-cop parody. | BY JOSH BELL '02



Comrade Detective

Created by Brian Gatewood '00 and Alessandro Tanaka

Amazon Studios

The first episode of *Comrade Detective* opens with two members of the creative team explaining the concept of the show directly to the audience, but it's still tough to get a handle on what exactly is being presented. Of course, it doesn't help that the explanation provided by star/executive producer Channing Tatum and British journalist Jon Ronson is complete fiction.

They give a straight-faced account of a lost 1980s Romanian cop drama, a piece of Cold War propaganda produced by the government to promote communist ideals. Newly rediscovered, the show has been dubbed into English and is now being shown for the first time to Western audiences.

The show was dubbed into English by an all-star cast led by Channing Tatum and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, as well as comedy fixtures such as Jenny Slate and Nick Offerman.

None of that is true: *Comrade Detective* is an entirely original meta-narrative from creators Brian Gatewood '00 and Alessandro Tanaka, who wrote all six episodes in the show's first season. Shot in Romania with Romanian actors, it's been dubbed into English by an all-star cast led by Tatum and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, along with comedy fixtures such as Jenny Slate, Nick Offerman, Jason Mantzoukas and Jake Johnson.

Structured like an ultra-macho American action movie from the 1980s, *Comrade Detective* is less a parody of Romanian pop culture than of American ideas of what Cold War-era communist pop culture might have been. What if a Sylvester Stallone or Chuck Norris

Short Takes

hero were a proud Romanian communist? The result would be something like *Comrade Detective*.

Tatum provides the voice for Bucharest police detective Gregor Anghel (played onscreen by Florin Piersic Jr.), whose partner Constantin is murdered in the first episode. In classic buddy-cop fashion, Gregor is paired up with rural detective Iosef Baciu (voiced by Gordon-Levitt, played onscreen by Corneliu Ulici), who helps investigate the death. Although the reckless Gregor and the more measured Iosef clash at first, they move past their differences, thanks to a shared dedication to communism. The excesses of capitalism fuel the conspiracy behind the murder.

That gives the creators and director Rhys Thomas plenty of opportunities to indulge in ste-

SIT! STAY! And dog-ear these pages from Amherst alumni. | By Katherine Duke '05



With his book *Rescue Road*, Peter Zheutlin '75 provided the canine cover story for Amherst's Fall 2015 issue; now he follows it up with *Rescued: What Second-Chance Dogs Teach Us About Living with Purpose, Loving with Abandon, and Finding Joy in the Little Things* (TarcherPerigee). *Ebby's Tale: From Shelter to Stage*, by Bob Madgic '60 (River Bend Books), is also a literal shaggy-dog story.

Not a dog person? Try *Seven Birds*, by Amy Sargent Swank '84 (CreateSpace).

Megan Brown '95 discusses *American Autobiography After 9/11* (University of Wisconsin Press). And here are two examples of the genre: *This African-American Life*, by Hugh B. Price '63 (John F. Blair), and *News from Rain Shadow Country*, by Tim Wheeler '64 (BookLocker).

John M. Vine '66 provides *A Parkinson's Primer: An Indispensable Guide to Parkinson's Disease for Patients and Their Families* (Paul Dry Books). Will Creed '65 warns us, *Don't Report That Plant!: And Other Indoor Plant Care Mistakes* (Button Street Press).

Timothy C. Lehmann '90 considers *The Geopolitics of Global Energy: The New Cost of Plenty* (Lynne Rienner Publishers).

Norman C. Tobias '75 examines the *Jewish Conscience of the Church: Jules Isaac and the Second Vatican Council* (Palgrave Macmillan). Kathleen E. Smith '87 takes us to *Moscow 1956: The Silenced Spring* (Harvard University Press). Amy L. Stone '98 revels in *Cornyation: San Antonio's Outrageous Fiesta Tradition* (Maverick Books).

From co-editor Theodore Levin '73 comes *The Music of Central Asia* (Indiana University Press), and farther in the east rises the *Iron Moon: An Anthology of Chinese Worker Poetry*, translated by Eleanor Goodman '01 (White Pine Press).

For more poems, enjoy an *Italian Summer*, by Seth Frank '55 (Shakespeare & Co.); travel down *Water Street*, by Naila Moreira '00 (Finishing Line Press); or get *This Deep In* (Hummingbird Press) with *Skeleton, Skin and Joy* (Finishing Line Press), both by Charles Atkinson '66.

“Clues that lead to the culprit include a Monopoly board and Jordache jeans.

reotypes: clues that lead to the culprit include a Monopoly board, Jordache jeans and a Michael Jackson-style glove. “Everyone in the U.S. seems to have AIDS,” a diplomat says. Employees at the U.S. embassy sit around eating Twinkies. Meanwhile, in the bar that Gregor frequents, patrons are glued to televised chess matches.

The show remains remarkably faithful to its conceit, and while the humor is never laugh-out-loud funny, the creators find new layers to essentially the same joke as the case gets more and more complicated. Thomas shoots in a style closer to modern serialized TV than '80s Eastern Bloc programming, but the locations, costumes and performances give the show an alternate-universe verisimilitude. It's authentic in its fakery.

Bell is the film editor at Las Vegas Weekly.

Becoming the Grand Old Man

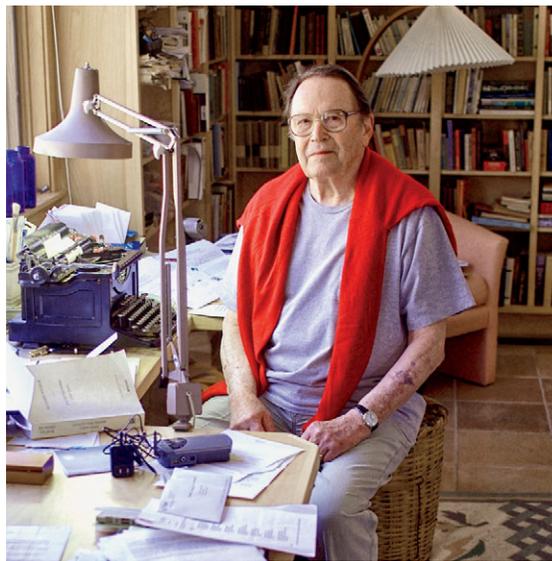
What made Richard Wilbur '42 the poet he was? | BY TESS TAYLOR '00

Amherst has a remarkable record as a poet's town, and one of its stateliest figures is Richard Wilbur '42, a standard-bearer of his generation, who died Oct. 14 at the age of 96. (See "The Splendor of Mere Being," page 36.) In his book *Shelf Life*, the critic William Pritchard '53, an early and ongoing champion of Wilbur's modern formalisms, recalls looking forward to Wilbur's readings in a 1950s Cambridge scene that included Graves, Moore and Lowell. Numerous poetry volumes, two children's books, two Pulitzers and many celebrated translations later, Wilbur rightfully earned critic David Orr's affectionate moniker "Grand Old Man of American Poetry."

Let Us Watch traces Wilbur's process of becoming grand, compiling a decade of interviews with the poet and his late wife, Charlee, as well as consulting Wilbur's reviews, diaries, letters and ephemera. We wend from his childhood as the son of a freelance artist in New Jersey, to Amherst years writing *Student* editorials at the prelude to World War II, often as a conscientious objector.

We follow his deployment to do radio work in the army in France and Italy. We follow trips to 1950s Paris, where he watched Molière plays and made friends with artist Alberto Giacometti. Wilbur's was a beautiful artist's life, perhaps quintessentially so, complete with years at the American Academy in Rome and letters traded with Elizabeth Bishop, James Merrill '47 and Ralph Ellison.

It was a lucky life in other ways as well. Wilbur earned a fair income from his translations of Molière plays, particularly one that became the era's standard. Royalties allowed the Wilburs



to live comfortably, while verse translation seems to have been a good fit for Wilbur's own sense of formal, courtly wit. Indeed, Wilbur espoused a gentlemanly ideal in his own life.

The life was not without hardships. These included having a schizophrenic brother and an autistic son—both in eras before accurate diagnosis and clear medical treatment options were available. Wilbur and Charlee went through a period of overwork and overconsumption of sedatives and alcohol. But all in all, Wilbur lived with greater luck than many of his poetic colleagues. This brings up a question: Might his gentlemanliness—in art, especially—render his poetry a bit "suburban," as Horace Gregory once charged?

Indeed, if Wilbur long served as a poetic grandfather to Amherst, there are also parts of this biography that now need some grandfathering in. It is hard not to hear tone-deaf moments in such phrases as, "He never felt an impulse to write confessional poetry; he sensed that the genre

was undignified for a man who believes that complaining, by its nature, is a weakness." (Is exploring the personal necessarily a form of complaint? What is wrong with *weakness*, in a literary sense?) It is harder still not to wince at a passage that describes Wilbur's mother as socially ambitious, noting that "her driven nature backfired" when "she was sidelined by exhaustion after a miscarriage."

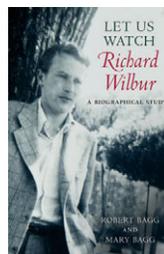
I felt the authors might protest too much in fending off criticism that Wilbur's work is lacking in emotional depth. Yes, Wilbur lived a certain kind of privileged life—and he also wrote good poems that are sure to endure among readers. He also embodied a life spent making—at a scale and with a consistency most artists never reach.

After reading the book I found myself thinking again of the conscientious objector turned poet whose first real sojourns to Europe were as a soldier, watching the world erupt. At Amherst, on the outbreak of war, Wilbur urged fellow students to suppress their doubts and confine their thoughts to "the post-war world, which it will be our great pleasure to put together." Perhaps his rootedness in lyric tradition had to do with a lifelong dedication to attempting to forge some version of a durable modernism, one that would never again need to shatter.

Sometimes we are of course shattered, and sometimes we do need to reinvent. But Wilbur's guiding charge to reassemble the durable is also deep: in life and in art we continue to need vessels that can last, sustain and hold. ●

Taylor is the author of Work & Days, which The New York Times named one of 2016's best books of poetry.

Wilbur in 2005 at home in Cummington, Mass. His poetry was rooted in lyric tradition.



Let Us Watch Richard Wilbur: A Biographical Study

By Robert Bagg '57 and Mary Bagg

University of Massachusetts Press

Classes

To reach your class secretary, go to the alumni directory at www.amherst.edu/amherstprofile (login required) or call (413) 542-2313.

1942

The Hurricane Class remnant (Amherst '42) still consists of eight survivors, as of the end of this last quarter (Sept. 1). Not all of these are in free communication with us; some are behind the doors of care facilities, a couple physically active but no longer mentally "with it." Life moves on.

Our star is probably **ALAN MILLER**, who is also the youngest of us. Alan misses his wife, recently deceased, but during 2017 has been through a season of family events. One grandson graduated cum laude from Wheaton. Another graduated from the Wheeler School and will start at Grinnell in the fall. That boy's father, Dan Miller '85, was Head of Wheeler for 11 years and has just retired. Alan continues to live alone in the house (since 1964). However, all five offspring, two of them Amherst graduates (Dan '85 and Matthew '68), and eight grandchildren,

two of them Amherst graduates (Katherine '96 and Nathaniel '01), all help a lot. That's impressive! Playing the viola in a chamber music group sustains him, and I enjoy talking with him about music, as I try to fulfill a longtime resolution to get to know the last Beethoven string quartets (Opus 127-135) before I pass on.

BURT HARWOOD struggles along with his macular degeneration, down to having only one good eye that he can read with, yet courageously keeps up with it. His wife's vision is similarly impaired, but she makes more use of gadgets.

DICK WILBUR has had a difficult spring with physical problems, ending with a hospitalization from which he is just now recovering. He was living alone in the house in Cummington, Mass., but has now moved to the Boston area, where he can be more directly supported by his children, especially daughter Ellen. We wish you, Dick, as much of a full recovery

as possible, and a continuation of enjoyable life in your new surroundings.

ERIC HAMP is living in a care facility; daughter Julie Love says that she would find it awkward to attempt to care for him full-time. Though Eric has some limitations in physical autonomy, his mind is clear, and he does a lot of reading, both for pleasure and as a partial continuation of his professional interests. He also maintains lively communication with colleagues, mostly former students.

Our supply of contributions from widows has been dwindling, as might be expected, as most of us are less engaged, these days, in travel and going out for social occasions. Marcelle Stuart, for example, now spends almost all her time at home in North Gardner, Mass. Mary Kneeland also stays home, but finds excitement in following the TV career of her grandson Chris Licht, who has recently been nominated for an Emmy. I checked

These dapper gentlemen were members of Amherst's crew team in 1872. (We assume they didn't wear these suits while rowing.)



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

Bill Whiston was the only '43-er at the 2016 and 2017 reunion, and he plans to attend our 75th in 2018.

in with Barbara Hastorf and Joan Gray at The Sequoias in California. Both are getting along well, though they have no particular news to contribute at this time.

Finally, myself: I have had a respite from medical complications since the last report. I am still working, though I think that I will officially retire from psychiatric practice this October; I will then be 97 years of age, and it seems to get increasingly incongruous for me to keep on practicing medicine. I have plenty of enjoyable hobbies to devote my attention to, or to be overwhelmed by. To be sure, I am constricted by an overhanging schedule of daily medications, as well as the need to work in three-times-a-day catheterization. This is like Benjamin Franklin in his old age, if I can choose whom to be compared to. But this all can be adjusted to, and goes more smoothly with practice. Life remains interesting and fun, and for that I am grateful.

> RICHARD S. WARD
RSWARD@EMORY.EDU

1943

A very cheerful note from **DAN HALL**. He thoroughly enjoys frequent visits from family and also the beautiful scenery of the Monadnock Region of southwest New Hampshire. He takes walks daily, and says that life is much more enjoyable after cat-act surgery.

BOB MCADOO is determined to get back to playing golf: "Still up and at 'em!"

BOB MERRELL says he is still hanging in there, and he and Lee are in great shape.

BOB MONROE celebrated his 96th birthday. His son says he is still an OK driver.

BETSY SHENK VANSAND sadly lost her husband, Dan, on March 29, at age 98. Her daughter, Amanda, lives nearby, her sister visits her about every six weeks, and her son visits two or three times a year.

BILL WHISTON was the only '43-er at the 2016 and 2017 reunion, and he plans to attend our 75th in 2018.

Here is a cheerful note from **DOLPH ZINK**: "Went through a rough spell about a year ago with two falls resulting in brain surgery, but have had a miraculous come-back, and they tell me I look more like 75 than 95."

> MONTY HANKIN '43

1944

PRESTON "ROGER" BASSETT is enjoying physical therapy sessions for good balance and strength. This is enviable to those of us averaging 96 with the best of retirement. Roger is still happy in their home of 47-plus years, along with free movies and popcorn at their town library. He sends best regards to all.

HAL SALZMAN reports that he and **BOB PREBLE** are still surviving, enjoying the warm Florida weather and the care at Fleet Landing in Atlantic Beach, Fla.

BILL BELLOWS, a retired basketball coach, has moved closer to his two sons

and a granddaughter and her three children. "No more driving and no more YMCA swimming, but much enjoying being taken to their school basketball, softball and track games."

BILL CLARKE and Penny, after 57 years, have sold their house and moved to Rivermead, a retirement home in Peterborough, N.H., where croquet is the big game and for which a background in billiards is helpful. Our congratulations on their 72 years of marriage, which indeed must be close to a class record.

I just learned of the untimely death of **BILL HART**, who passed away at The Summit home in Hockessin, Del. Bill was a member of Chi Phi, with an enjoyable sense of humor. He was a close friend of many classmates, including **JIM AMMON**, **AL EATON**, **KEN HARDY**, **JOHN PECK**, **BOB O'CONNOR** and many more. He played winning varsity football and baseball for three years and was a devoted supporter of Amherst.

In a few months, Tina and I will be moving to Indian River Estates in Vero Beach, Fla., and we'll keep you informed of our address and a possible phone change. Meanwhile, there are 20 or fewer 1944 members left, so many thanks for sending or phoning recent news, including those from our special widows.

> GORDON "PETE" COLE
GCOLEACL@AOL.COM

1946

AMOS PRESCOTT says, "We have put our home in Vero Beach, Fla., for sale and moved permanently to Maine, spending winter months in the Highlands of Topham and summer months in our home in Christmas Cove. My health is good. I would like to know how many classmates are still alive." The College reports 38 are still alive. There were 162 freshmen when we started.

I have had several conversations with **GEORGANN MASTIN** (Mrs. Charles). She hopes a grandchild will come to Amherst, so is keeping Charles' 1943 *Olio* in hopes. However, she forwarded me a book of Amherst songs, which includes "Old Amherst's Out for Business," which would be a good replacement for "Lord Jeffery Amherst" sung at football games. Also included was "You and Amherst"—how to give money to Amherst.

> DICK BANFIELD
RIJOBAN@AOL.COM

1947

I received a note from Claire (widow of **TOMMY O'CONNOR**): "Having just moved into a condo, I've been going through old papers and pictures from the past. Tom's graduation photo and his political career photos brought back a lot of old memories. The home Tom and I shared with our children just got too big for me. Both sons practice law and are raising families of their own. Daughter is a retired lawyer

living and raising her two boys in Maryland." So nice to hear Claire is well and to be reminded of Tommy.

BUD GORDON is still doing well in his super retirement community in Maryland. "Never bored. So many activities, concerts, theater."

CHARLIE WEINER: "We are very fortunate, as we are still standing up and mobile. We realize how lucky we have been! We are still living in Stamford, Conn., in the winter and at our other home on Shelter Island for about 3-4 months in the summer. We recently visited Machu Picchu in Peru, a great trip but a bit more walking than I needed! We have sold our big boat and now have a 22-foot outboard, which is easy to navigate and a hell of a lot cheaper to store. I have not been back to the hill, but one of our New York granddaughters is now at UMass in Amherst, so will probably get up there to see her. The to-do about Lord Jeffery Amherst is ridiculous!"

The **HOWARD GELIN** clan is all well. Now have seven great grandchildren. Amy is still living in Shanghai, and loves it. She and a friend have a business designing clothing, producing it, and selling at trunk shows and online in China. I also am far too occupied with friends, shows, visiting family across the United States.

Let's have more news, please, from spouses of our old friends and classmates.

> HOWARD GELIN
HLGEL@ATT.NET

1948

HARRY SIDERYS writes that he has been fighting metastatic melanoma for two years with OPDIVO. So far so good. Don't forget your sunscreen.

BRADLEE GAGE reports that he certainly enjoyed the recent reunion and conversations with fellow alums, and adds, "Yes, after 66 years in the fishing tackle business, I feel it is time to offer the business for sale. It is on the market and we'll see what happens. It is a fun industry. Got an opportunity to go to Europe, Australia and New Zealand with my wife for fishing tackle shows and to meet with sales reps and to be tourists. I see Jack Flynn '47 on occasion in New Hampshire. I am in good health—play nine holes of golf, but that is enough."

BRUCE BOENAU: "An enjoyable hobby I can do in the summer here in the midst of orchard country is to make jams and jellies. I immodestly claim that mine are better than anyone can buy in the store. And it solves a Christmas problem: what to give to friends and relatives. Try it—it's fun."

From **MARTY VOGEL**: "Returned to Amherst. Very few old-timers left. My reason for returning was that my daughter, Dr. Deborah Vogel '82, was speaking as part of a panel discussion, 'From Big Food to Big Disease.' Still hanging in. My wife and I go for walks; I read a lot and go on occasional trips. We live in a condo in Boston. Have

a vegetable garden on the patio. We are enjoying lettuce and tomatoes.”

BOBSCHLEIN: “Sorry I couldn’t make it to the 70th reunion. Still living the good life between Florida and Canandaigua, N.Y.”

Ruth, widow of **JIM BARKER:** “This June headed for London with three friends. After several days with my daughter, Vicki, we set off for the charming Cotswolds and stayed with friends in Shropshire, owners of a stately home. The walled gardens were glorious, and the stately home a picture of Downton Abbey. A good time was had by all.”

I thank all of you. And I look forward to hearing from you and others in the future.

I have learned that **NORMAN MONKS** died in November 2016. Please read the In Memory section for **BOB EISEN-MENGER**’s and **NORM MONKS**’ pieces. I am very sorry. They will be missed.

> CELESTE RINGUETTE W’48

1949

Summer 2017: The eclipse. Hurricane Harvey. Charlottesville. Barcelona. Naval collisions. But fairly quiet for our class. We have just one passing to report, that of **RALPH GOULD**. Please see In Memory.

Doffing his green eye shade for more suitable headgear, **JOE KINGMAN** is heading to Wyoming and Montana for his annual fly fishing venture. Joe has been doing this for 50 or 60 years and delights that he can still do it at age 90: “tight lines.”

Have exchanged several coast-to-coast communications with **BOB MARTIN** covering present reading suggestions, his experiences as a senior lifeguard at Jones Beach (on Long Island), his regular visit to their place in Arizona for September and then a 20-day cruise planned for December. No rocking chair for the old pilot.

My “label king,” **CHAN OAKES**, just turned 90 and, for some odd reason, is daily reminded that he is not quite the ever-youthful lad he was for so long, and wonders how this phenomenon came about so swiftly. Don’t we all?

From sunny California, **LEE REDFIELD** admits to some of this but stays “young” recalling his memories of Amherst. Were it all that easy.

One who thinks it might be is **DON RIEFLER**, visiting his Harbor Springs hideaway in Michigan before returning to his lush home in Florida.

Totally optimistic and young at heart, **LINN PERKINS** sends a reminder to all ’49-ers that our 70th reunion is just two years away, set for May 2019. No comment from your secretary, lest we jinx this occasion.

Recalling a bit of College history, **PETER TALBOT** remembered Professor Salmon’s role with the army in Europe and his advisory role for “cultural preservation” with Gen. Eisenhower. After fire-bombing Kassel, they chose not to bomb nearby Marburg, where Pete’s wife had gone to school.

Steady correspondent **DAVE MEGIRIAN** sent a note about a book tip from his daughter concerning the diary of a Dutchman, which was a very funny read. His family have all been great readers, having grown up without a television. Through the years, I have been struck by the virtual inclusion of all my college pals who continued to be very active readers. Intellectually curious indeed.

From our other president (the real one): **PETE MOYER** still exults in his Lake Tahoe hacienda with family visits and is planning once again to attend homecoming. At fall gatherings, **FRED GARDNER**, **LINN PERKINS** and yours truly usually get to Pratt Field.

And here is a blast from the past: A recent issue of *Sports Illustrated* had an article featuring famous boxing bouts and which writer covered the event or did the story. One was the fight between Rocky Marciano and Archie Moore—and the writer was our own **EZRA BOWEN**. Ez and I started college together in the summer of 1944 (along with **JIM YARNALL** and **DAVE KUNZ**), shortly before we all left for military service, and Ez had that terrible shipboard accident. (You may remember that both his mother and his aunt were famous writers).

To end on a high note (pun intended): Our illustrious mountaineer, **WOODY KINGMAN**, had long yearned to summit Mount Everest. He might make it after all. Claire advises that their grandnephew expects to summit mid-May and will carry a little bit of Woody in his backpack. Wow!

As the Brits would say: “Keep calm and carry on.” Hope all hands stay healthy and continue to support our friends in Texas.

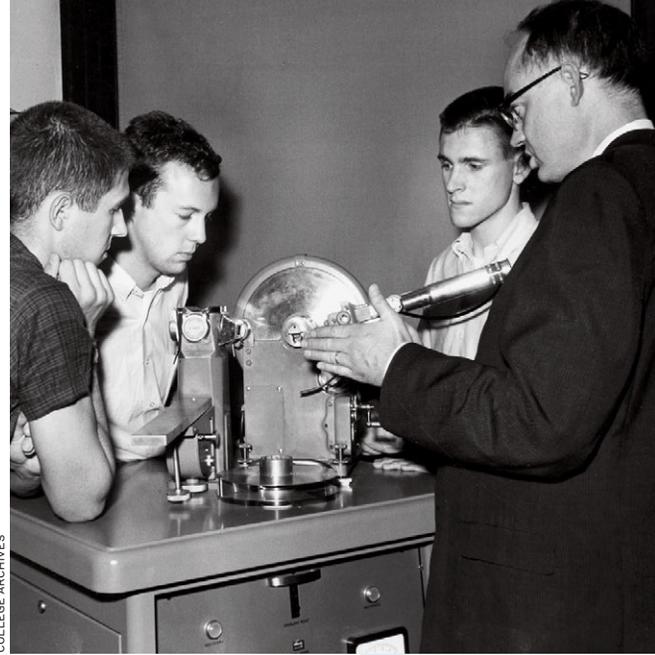
> GERRY REILLY
GDPR55@GMAIL.COM

1950

It’s not because Vera and **ED ROWEN** love the 120-degree heat that they are spending the summer in Arizona; Ed is unable to fly back to their Guilford, Conn., home on the shore “until he regains his strength from a stroke which was followed by five falls. Ed’s doctor diagnosed his problem as ‘a severe case of ‘TMB’ (too many birthdays)!”—a frailty all of us share with you, Ed, but that you both deal with it sets us all a model of equanimity.

This time around, I invited classmates to share “any lifelong grasp you value on some reality which you trace to your Amherst years.” I assured them also that “we’d all welcome your sharing any gratitude you feel for having focused on some method to ‘keep in shape’—physically, or mentally, or in spirit.”

From Montana, former tennis star **RICH GRANT** offered these answers: “Four fleeting magical years / Packard, Sprague, Salmon, Ziegler, Green—all developed in me a love of learning + teaching. Bless them! DKE House—joy! Working on guitar. Gym three times a week. Still in love with wonderful wife.”



From **JOHN TODD:** “I think often of my Amherst days and how they have fortified and enhanced my working life. My professional careers—with IBM (sales and project management), Cresap and Paget (management consultants) and the Todd Organization (development and installation of nonqualified retirement plans) have been especially focused on clear-thinking analysis, the basis of which was the study at Amherst. I think also of the many lifelong friendships I made there and treasure. Ann and I are about to celebrate our 10th anniversary living here at White Sands, a senior residence in beautiful La Jolla, Calif. White Sands has nearly 300 residents and is located right on the Pacific Ocean beach. There is lots to do: I have been on the Council, and am now the chair of the Finance & Budget Committee and also of the Benevolence Committee. It is quite a change from living at our home in Flintridge, Calif., (adjacent to Pasadena) very happily for 44 years. We have been visited here by **PAUL COONEY** and **CHUCK WINANS** and their spouses. **HARVEY** and Lucy **HOPKINS** live close by in Rancho Santa Fe, and we see them often. San Diego is a great place to visit, so give us a call when you are here and we will show you around.”

PAUL MARIER recalls “Amherst’s life goals: Perform with hard work and integrity, improve country and community, highest value for family and friends.”

RAY VIGNEAULT: “I treasure the memories of Amherst in the 1940s but greatly regret its departure from Judeo-Christian morality in the last 70 years. My greatest joy, [derived] from faith in Jesus Christ, has guided me for more than 30 years.”

JACK WALKER: “The good news here is that our grandson Henry Walker, the son of Will Walker ’86, is on his way to Amherst as a member of the class of 2020!”

REED STEWART: “Amherst led me to teaching overseas—first to Liberia and then to Kenya. That led to Clark University degrees in geography and anthropology and thus to a long-lasting college professorship. Who could ask for anything more?” (Astounding parallel to **EDGE**

↑ Mystery Machine

We know almost nothing about this 1943 photo. The device has a label reading “Caution: X-Rays When Open.” What is it? Where was it? Clue us in at magazine@amherst.edu.

“There will be a long but unimportant meeting of the Apathy League sometime after supper. Attendance is required but not urged.”

QUAINTANCE's professional career, which began with teaching English at Robert College, Istanbul, and ended five years ago with a professorship teaching literature to undergrads and, in noncredit courses, folks over 50, through Rutgers University.)

JOHN MUNN III: “Joann and I manage to keep busy with three children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren—with more on the way, probably. I do a lot of walking to keep in shape.”

DEAN WOODMAN: “My wife, Jane, and I are in good health and enjoying our new life in Palm Beach (moved here five years ago from California). Five children and eight grandchildren. Still investing in early stage technology companies—six—all are still alive! No new GoPros yet.”

KINGSLEY SMITH recalls “reading *Hamlet* in separate English classes from both Ted Baird and George Elliott, and learning how subjective great scholarship can be. Hearing enlightened and plausible religion from John Coburn and Robert Brown in chapel, and later from James Martin in a seminar on Niebuhr and William Temple. Learning both the depth and joy of scholarship from John Moore, the most winsome genius I’ve ever known. Joe Barber initiating me into modern literature with Joyce and Eliot. The cocktail party at Kappa Theta where I met Breezy Evans, blind date of a Williams friend down for the 1948 Big Game; she was Smith ’51 and became my wife 66 years ago.” And when Kingsley and **KELL SMITH** roomed in Pratt, they came upon a *Harvard Crimson* article about “The Student Apathy League” that sounded like a good idea for Amherst “as an alternative to the hyperactivity epitomized by **GEORGE ATHANASO**n of blessed memory. **BURT RANDALL** and **CHOLLY PENNIMAN** were among the charter members, Cholly arranging for this announcement in Valentine: ‘There will be a long but unimportant meeting of the Apathy League sometime after supper. Attendance is required but not urged.’ I later tried to open a branch in the Marine Corps, but we could never get onto the Plan of the Day.”

PAUL COONEY reports: “In 2015, just after reunion, I found out I had a cancer in my prostate gland—recurrent from 2002. I am receiving the latest chemotherapy and we will know in another month how much good has been done. I am very limited in my activities, and I resent being called an Amherst Mammoth.” Cheers!

> *EDGE QUAINTANCE*

> *REQUAINTANCE@GMAIL.COM*

1951

CARTAN CLARKE left Amherst after our freshman year, but still receives this magazine at his Sea Island, Ga., retirement facility. He uses a wheelchair, but hearing and eyesight are good, and he gets about with his wife, Helen, doing the driving. Cartan was in Morrow Dormitory near **AL**

BRAILEY (address unknown if still alive) and next door to **CHARLIE CHAPIN**.

Always the competitor, but with his Olympic yacht racing days in the past, **DON COHAN** decided to liven up last summer by acquiring a 40-year-old Etchells racing sailboat and competing in the Martha’s Vineyard Cup three-day racing event. One of his grandchildren, an Amherst grad, served as half of his two-person crew. Racing was canceled the first day due to rough weather. But with 65 boats competing, Don won the second day and was ahead the third until his boat’s mast broke! Deft use of jib and spinnaker allowed him still to place first in his boat class. (I didn’t ask how many!) Don figures he’ll do what he can as long as he can, but reported when we talked in August, and with racing a good month behind, that his hands had just recovered sufficiently from handling the boat’s lines, sheets, etc., so he could hold a glass of water without shaking!

DAVE FULTON remains the jovial personality we all recall, but was slowed down by a heart attack last April. Stents and related treatment have been quite successful, and he is back in full swing in his retirement community activities after spending last winter and early spring in Florida. Worn-out knee joints create walking problems. A cane helps, but golfing days may be over. Three of four children live in the nearby Cleveland area.

SKIP HUNZIKER is settled in with his wife, Norma, at their Martha’s Vineyard home year-round. They hoped to get to homecoming this fall. He has an aide each day who reads him the newspapers, etc. The availability of audiobooks is a big plus. Norma grew up on the island, so she has plenty of friends and relatives nearby.

RAY JONES remains active in his barbershop quartet, singing to civic, church and other groups in the central Oregon area. He was recently recognized by the National Barbershop Society for his 50 years of continuous performances. He plans to continue singing until they carry him off the stage. He also sings the praises of his home base in Bend, a town of some 100,000 about 3,400 feet above sea level, replete with skiers in winter and vacationers in summer.

I caught **ART LICHTENBERGER** as he and Anne were returning for a few days from their summer place in central Vermont to their retirement community villa in Southwick, Mass. Art sustained a slight stroke late in 2016. He has fully recovered, and his only recollection of the event is the long, bumpy ambulance ride from Vermont to Westfield, Mass. They try to keep up with the doings of their seven grandchildren, who live in seven different states. Two of their children live in the Charlottesville area of Virginia, while the third is in New Hampshire.

CHUCK LONGSWORTH reports that he and Polly are in good health and spend most of the year at their 450-acre “farm” in Royalston, Mass.—mostly pine and

oak forest—with great views of Mount Monadnock north in New Hampshire. Polly works on her Emily Dickinson biography, and Chuck on his book on the founding of Hampshire College. As their 90s approach, they may move full-time to their Amherst condo. They enjoy August at their Cape Cod cottage, anticipating visits with **DAVE SHELDON** and **JOHN** and Nancy **KENDALL**. Traveling focuses on trips to visit daughters in Seattle and San Francisco. A third daughter is in Boston.

From his desk, **AL MOOG** can work full-time on the Moog Institute finances, but, due largely to breathing difficulties, he finds extensive walking a problem. In contrast to years past, he no longer seeks foreign travel or participates much in outdoor activities. The annual highlight now for him and his wife, Jean, is the Thanksgiving season and the arrival of their three children and a large percentage of their 10 grandchildren.

GEORGE SCANLAN and his wife, Barbara, remain comfortable in their retirement community home near Wilmington, Del. George’s eyesight problems are such that he leaves driving to Barbara and uses a Kindle for reading. They participate in duplicate bridge sessions with local friends. Long-distance trips are not on the agenda. They feel fortunate that two of their three children live close by.

DAVE SHELDON was packing for his annual trip east when we talked last summer. Among other stops on his itinerary, he visits **CHUCK** and **POLLY LONGSWORTH** at their Cape Cod summer spot. Fishing for striped bass (apparently known to fishermen as “stripes”) from shallow beach waters is usually on the agenda. During the year at home on Bainbridge Island off the Seattle coast, Dave keeps in shape with canoeing, swimming and running.

DICK SNODGRASS spent last summer at his vacation home on Mount Desert Island, just off the Maine coast. His place, plus that of one daughter, and another previously owned by his deceased parents that Dick still owns, all sit beside the island’s largest lake and provide lots of space for Dick’s four other children, grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of whom come and go at one time or another during the summer months. Dick has fully recovered from his physical mishap of last year. He appreciates his good fortune.

Last July, **VAN TINGLEY** and wife Lucie, at home in Yarmouth, Maine, enjoyed a two-week visit with two of their grandchildren, 9 and 11, traveling with their mom from the Denver area. This October they planned to cruise up the Rhone River to Switzerland and then down (or rather “up”) the Seine from Paris to the sea, with a side trip to Normandy. It’s Denver for either Thanksgiving or Christmas, and then skiing close to home this winter. No real health problems, so go while you can!

Both **ALLAN TULL** and his wife, Elaine, have been coping with heart problems this year. With medical appointments

at center stage, they postponed their usual cruise vacations until 2018. When I called in midsummer they had just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, with close-by daughter and also son from “back east” in attendance. Allan still drives around the Dallas area, but not like the Texas natives, who he says put “pedal to the metal” at every chance.

When reached last July, **JACK VANDEVATE** reported that he and his wife, Ann, were in the midst of preparing for their move to Marietta, Ga., in August to be closer to one of their sons. Another son lives near Athens, Ga. Like many of us, they figured the time had come to pack up after 51 years at their eastern Tennessee homestead and to move farther south, nearer two-thirds of their family. (A daughter lives in Iowa.) Jack’s devotion to his unpredictable golf game is giving way to more time at duplicate bridge.

The College advises that Beselot Birhanu ’17 from the Bronx, N.Y., was awarded the **THOMAS H. WYMAN** Prize last spring. Beselot majored in anthropology. She seeks a dual degree in medicine and public health and then to practice emergency medicine. I have her “thank-you letter” that I can email to those who would like to read more about her.

Last summer, we lost both **JOHN “MOOSE” MCGRATH** and **TED NUGENT**. **HOBIE CLEMINSHAW** has composed a piece for John found in the In Memory section of this issue, and this reporter, with assistance from **GARY HOLMAN**, has done the same for Ted.

> EVERETT E. CLARK
EVSU@TRIAD.RR.COM

1952

Mercifully, only one departure to report since the summer notes. **PAUL GEITHNER JR.**, a class stalwart, passed away on Aug. 1. A celebration of his life was held in Sarasota, Fla., on Oct. 27. An obituary will appear in *Amherst* in due course. **NICK EVANS** wrote, “Always a smile on his face and an upbeat approach to life.”

These classmates just missed the summer notes deadline:

TED BEDFORD writes, “One can still smile when observing a 65th wedding anniversary even if classmates who attended the ceremony unfortunately cannot join the observance, or be amazed when a great-granddaughter at 18 months recites the alphabet in song. Sorry to have missed the reunion.”

From **JOHN SIHLER** in Eugene, Ore.: “Still around. Wish I could get east to a reunion. My memories of Amherst are great! Bless you.”

“Sorry I couldn’t make our 65th reunion,” writes **SANDY SCHREIBER**. “I planned to, but a GI bug put me down for a week and it was too much. All better now. On to the 70th.” He added a P.S.: “In a retirement home and loving it.”

And from Australia’s **DAVE PFANNER**: “2017 did not begin well for me; I was

felled by a stroke, our dear little cat of 21 years died, I had to stop driving and sold my VW Golf, also gave up my bicycle, but now in rehab and counting my many blessings, which include 60 years of happy marriage, a comfortable farmhouse in a handsome city, frequent visits by beautiful parrots and a library of interesting books.”

Comments **DICK SODER**: “Still in North Carolina and reporting (from four daughters) eight grandsons and one granddaughter and now six great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter, scattered all over: France, New Hampshire, North

“Always a smile on his face
and an upbeat approach to
life.”

Carolina, San Francisco, Utah and Kentucky. A big female-to-male trend going on!”

GORDY HALL writes, “I’ve finally come to my senses. When I quit sailboat racing in 2014 I bought a motor yacht, thinking that I’d run around the NE coast visiting friends. Not only have I not done that, I haven’t used it for anything else either. So I’ve put it on the market and gone after a cruising, live-aboard sailboat, which is what I should have done in the first place. I’m in hopes it will be life-prolonging.”

From **ALASTER MACDONALD**: With pleasant memories of the 65th, he and Sue are “now creating new summer memories at our cottage in Small Point, Maine. One memory I can do without is a bit of Lyme disease I contracted gardening. The social pace picks up through August, and then we return to Chevy Chase [Md.], to prepare to cruise up the Danube from Budapest to Prague. (Got a good rate on a starboard oar.) Hoping to make the October class gathering.”

EARL TAFT’s miraculous lifestyle continues. He and Hessa are back in New York from a semester at UC Berkeley. This summer they were in Washington, where Hessa ran a symposium on water at a meeting of the American Chemical Society. Then back to New York for the US Open. Hessa continues at the Museum of Natural History.

Earl retired last spring but is still doing mathematical research, working with younger colleagues, and bridge and Hebrew conversation. Next January it’s the national meeting of the American Mathematical Society in San Diego. For Hessa it’s the first meeting of the Atlantic Basin Conference on Chemistry in Cancún, Mexico. Then back to NYC to prepare for a spring 2018 trip to Israel and Paris. They are hoping to attend the annual New York spring class dinner. As to family, one granddaughter is beginning her junior year at Tulane and will go to Austria for the second semester. A grandson is entering UC Berkeley. Boy-girl twin grandchildren are starting their senior years and visiting colleges.

The class is fortunate to have widows whose love for the class and the College continues. **CHUCK BEECHING**’s wife, Marie, writes, “Sorry to have missed reunion. It was the 25th for daughter Karen Beeching Giorgio ’92 as well! I am so grateful to **ALASTER MACDONALD** for recruiting her those many years ago! All is well here in Lexington [Mass.]. P.S. Karen bartended that 40th reunion in ’92!”

And from **BIRGITTA WILSON**: “My husband, **WILLIAM H. WILSON**, died Dec. 2, 2016. He was very proud to be an alumnus of Amherst.” We encourage Birgitta to attend the October class function at Amherst.

JOHN HERZOG, “Zog” to all of us, is writing an obit for **DAVE KEAST** in the In Memory section of *Amherst*. They were co-members of Kappa Theta, and roommates at Amherst and in Beacon Hill. Dave met his wife, Estelle, through a girl Zog was dating. The Keasts and the Herzogs are near neighbors in the Boston area and have kept in touch over the years.

Another blessed soul is **BOB ROMER**, who has agreed to do an obit for **NORM DOELLING**. This was a request from **JEANNIE DOELLING**, Norm’s widow, who is planning to attend the Oct. 6–7 mini reunion. She’ll be staying at the Romer homestead in Amherst.

The backstory here, Bob explains, is: “I can never fully pay back for the many times in the ’80s when I crashed at their house while my late wife was getting chemo at Mass General, and then in the ’90s when I was running marathons, spending about 10 marathon weekends at their house. They live at about the 16.5-mile mark, just at the start of the dreaded Newton Hills.” Yes, Bob has been running marathons and teaching physics all these years!

The customary kudos to **BOB SKEELE**, our president and treasurer, who not only organized the 65th but stepped right back in to put together the fall mini reunion. He does it all.

From your co-secretary: The citizens of Martin County, Fla., just defeated a proposition to increase the sales tax from 6 to 7 percent to finance various environmental projects. So much for the pocketbook bowing to socially responsible public works. All the best to this very special class.

> JOEL FAIRMAN
FAIRMANJOEL@YAHOO.COM

1953

Jazz was an important part of **ED BONOFF**’s life back in student days, and it still is. For some 30 years, Ed has gathered musician friends at his home every Tuesday for rehearsal. Last Jan. 17, they went to a studio in Greenwich, Conn., to record 11 of Ed’s compositions and arrangements under the banner of Ed Bonoff’s Rhythm Devils Jazz Band. If a description is needed, call it small-band swing. The resulting CD, a labor of love,

The College
advises that
Beselot
Birhanu ’17, an
anthropology
major from the
Bronx, N.Y.,
was awarded
the Thomas H.
Wyman ’51 Prize
last spring.

is called *Loon Walk*. Ed will generously provide a copy to any who drop him a line. Please see the alumni directory for Ed's address or call the alumni office at 413-542-2313.

A note from president **DAVE BLACKBURN**: "Sharon and I are doing OK. I don't walk too well anymore, for a variety of reasons, but that doesn't keep me from playing duplicate bridge several times a week. It's nice to have something I can still do reasonably well!"

BOB KIELY keeps going. He has the "emeritus" title in the Harvard English department, but he is still teaching. This

From Bozman, Md., on the Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay, **BOB MASON** writes: "We are still in the waterfront house we built over 30 years ago to retire into. However, with arthritis and many other things, we are about to move to a senior community where everything is done for you. We are starting to clean out the house—ugh!" Bob is still making boat models, for sale at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum.

After 20 years as a volunteer docent at the renowned Washington National Cathedral, **JACK CHAMBERLAIN** has stepped down, leaving behind such responsibilities as leading tours, taking money and answering questions. Jack and Marietje traveled to Iceland last year and take frequent trips to her native Holland.

TOM JOYCE and Barbara have been splitting their time between Florida and a home in the Connettee Falls community near Brevard, N.C., but they plan to put the North Carolina property on the market. They would then be living all year in a gated community called Ravinia Villas in Tampa, Fla. "I have no major health problems, but I'm starting to slow down a bit," Tom told me.

Also from North Carolina, **LARRY DECAROLIS** writes: "I'm happy to report Betsy and I continue to enjoy life in a continuing-care retirement community here in Durham. Health issues are well under control with the help of a top-notch medical center at Duke. My most fun activity at present is playing ping-pong (especially when beating someone younger than me). I'm looking forward to 'pickleball' coming to our facility next year." (Scribe's note: Pickleball is yet another of those hit-something-over-the-net games.)

STEVE JACOBSON writes that he has completed writing two full-length plays in the last two years. Steve has bought a new house in East Hampton on Long Island and sold the old one. He continues: "I am still collecting art. The collection is now in three houses—in Manhattan, East Hampton and Miami Beach. I'm doing it for the love of art, since I'm too old to worry about investment values. I travel to art fairs in London and Paris and found out on a trip to Russia before the election how much they love DT there, although a Senegalese doorman at a posh Russian hotel thought otherwise. I am happily married to Susan, who's spent her whole life in the art world and has a great eye for quality art."

This from **BLAKE CADY**: "Electric car in garage—now I don't have to apologize to children and grandchildren for not having done enough for their planet. There is still much to do in years to come."

From South Carolina, we have this upbeat note from **JACK WALTER**: "Life is good. Lucky with good health, good family, good golf. Being moved to this amazing city of Greenville 50 years ago has been a continuing delight."

Shuffling among old stuff, your scribe located a copy of the final exam of English

1 administered to us on Jan. 28, 1950. It's the Hostile Indians deal. Classmates who would like a copy can make a request to me via email and include some personal news.

> **GEORGE GATES**
GGHG53@AOL.COM

1954

Sad to say, we have recently lost two more classmates. **STEWART ANDERSON VERNOOY**, M.D., a well-respected and innovative physician in central New York State, died in his Venice, Fla., home on Feb. 20. An In Memory piece was crafted by **DAVE TAPLEY** and appeared in the summer issue, and, more recently, **WILLARD J. "PETE" MORSE**, M.D.'s death on Dec. 2, 2016, was reported to the College. He was a non-graduate, but subsequently did receive undergraduate and medical degrees from University of Vermont. He also had a long career in medicine, as an ob/gyn and FAA physician. **TOM BLACKBURN**, who had been in contact with him, has prepared his In Memory piece.

On May 27, son Bruce '89 and I, along with one of my grandsons, ventured over to Amherst for another off-cycle reunion visit. We missed connecting with co-secretary **BOB ABRAMS**, who had been there the previous two days, in part to attend an event presented by his daughter Anna '87 on the 26th, but again were rejuvenated by the visit and the programs that we attended.

For me, it was wonderful to have lunch and catch up with Mal Druskin '52, whom I also followed to NYU Med and hadn't seen in a very long time, and to say "Hi" to Mickey Schultz '57, whose brother Tony '55 had been my roommate junior year at Phi Gam. Mal and Mickey were there for their 65th and 60th!

Bob sent along a note from **HERRY CATTELL** that he received too late for the last issue. Herry wonders if there would be any interest in an informal 64th reunion, when he could also finally visit Emily Dickinson's house (!) and where we might have a small gathering of those who could make it to Amherst for the free lodging, reasonable meals and stimulating events. He reports that, despite two knee replacements, fused arthritic ankles and a repaired right rotator cuff—successful products of his orthopedic colleagues—he still plays golf several days a week. He also tells us that he and Bobbie, who is also well, attend frequent symphony events at the Kennedy Center, so well managed by **MARSHALL RUTTER**'s daughter.

Thanks to **DICK STURTEVANT** for reminding us what it was like "back in the day"! Lots of memories. **CARL APTHORP** calls our attention to an article in the July/August issue of (gulp) *Harvard Magazine* entitled "An Educated Core: Rethinking What Liberal Arts Undergraduates Ought to Learn and How." He opines on how it vindicates Teddy Baird's ideas that drove our core curriculum and notes that

On the Rhodes

1954: Jim Barnes, on his way with *Patience* to their summer cottage on Gull Lake, Minn., sent along the news that his memoir, *Unforeseen: The First Blind Rhodes Scholar*, will be published later this year. A must-read for '54-ers.

fall he is teaching a freshman seminar on "Beauty and Christianity" and a graduate seminar in "Rhetoric and Belief." Bob enjoyed the 25th reunion of Adams House Harvard class of '92. He writes: "I was house master of Adams (preceded by Reuben Brower) when they were students. I actually remembered most of their faces, though not all their names. It was a particularly talented group: doctors, lawyers, writers, a theater director, musicians, the poetry editor of *The New Yorker*, the founder-pianist of Pink Martini and the star singer."

And then there's **BILL PRITCHARD**, who is still teaching at Amherst despite emeritus status. His course this fall is "Great English Writers from Ben Jonson to Samuel Johnson." Bill has been doing lots of reviews lately and is planning to make another collection of them.

FRANK WURMAN, living outside Philadelphia, still practices law, but on a part-time basis. "I still serve some old clients when they have things that need to be done," Frank told me. In June, Frank and Nancy took a cruise on the Seine, starting in Paris and winding up in Normandy to see the beaches and grave sites of the D-Day invasion. There were great side trips to places like Claude Monet's gardens at Giverny, Frank said.

BOB CHIPMAN checked in from Fernandina Beach on Amelia Island in northeast Florida, where he and Edie are pleased with condo life. Still, the two have enough health issues to have chalked up "some 55" doctor visits this year through mid-July, resulting in "obscene" expenses. Bob writes: "One of our main activities seems to be 'restauranting.' We have, most days, reduced our meals to two and find breakfast and a second meal late in the day (name it what you will) to be quite adequate. The island has dozens and dozens of interesting restaurants of all stripes."

teaching with a focus toward employment has left the humanities a casualty. More memories!

SETH DUBIN and Barbara flew to London in mid-June for the memorial of Anthony King, a friend for 55 years and Britain's leading expert on British and American political structures and elections, for whom Seth gave one of the eulogies in the Houses of Parliament. In July, they spent three weeks at their annual visit to the chamber music festival in Marlborough, Vt.

DEAN LAUX checked in to report attending his oldest granddaughter's wedding in Denver. She has a Ph.D. in child psychology and her husband is about to receive his, so they will be a doctor-doctor couple. The book Dean has been working on, entitled *From Hell to Heaven*, has been published. I have ordered a copy and will give a review in a future column. In Florida, Dean continues to write a regular column called "Remembrances" for the *Boca Beacon* and to volunteer at Venice Regional Hospital. But he has also recently expressed some interest that he and Micki have in returning to Massachusetts, where they still have family. Amherst, perhaps, where **GEORGE WATSON** and Carly Jean already have relocated.

DAVE ESTY has forwarded the interesting saga in which he assisted Rebecca Segal to receive credit for ROTC courses she had taken before transferring to Amherst so as to graduate on time with the class of 2017—and become the first commissioned ROTC (Army) product in so very long. Apparently, Amherst had never taken steps to designate ROTC courses unaccredited after our AFROTC program ceased operating! As I recall, Rebecca had a table at Pratt Field during homecoming last fall for veterans (and others) to visit.

PETE ROGERS commented positively on the common-sense decision that the College finally made, **CARL PELLMAN** shouted, "Brava," and I only said, "Bravo." (How many of us have listed "Veterans" in the Affinities section on the Amherst website, as I have?)

Pete tells us that, in the early '60s, he and Betty spent seven consecutive Christmases in different homes. After Betty died in 2012, he moved from Scottsdale, Ariz., to Minneapolis to a rented condo with one kitchen drawer, then tried and flunked senior living and now is in a three-bedroom townhouse. He says, "Lessons learned: [moving] is more expensive and takes longer than you think."

RAY and Maria **TURNER**, also always on the go, took a three-week trip to Croatia and London and then returned for another visit to "adult summer camp" at Chautauqua in August. Hoping to connect with them when they come up from D.C. to see their grandson, who will be a freshman.

Your secretary isn't the only octogenarian doc still employed! **CARL PELLMAN** spends several days a week in his new position as a urologist at the Northport, N.Y., VA hospital. In July, he and Doris spent

a week in the old Borscht Belt Catskills town of Kerhonkson to attend the North American Jewish Choral Festival, followed by a trip to California to visit his daughter and a new great-granddaughter and also to visit an ill friend who is a mutual friend of **DON LINDBERG**. **BILL BRADFORD** and **GENE SPECTOR** are still at it, too. Any I have missed?

After receiving an Amherst News announcement on the new course called "Latinx," he suggests adding one called "Evils of the USA." **DAVE SIMPSON** responded, "Who needs a course? They're plain to be seen all around us. (Which is not to say there are no virtues.)"

Another recent traveling couple, Jan and **DEAN BUTTS**, enjoyed a nine-day Rhine River Viking cruise starting in Basel, Switzerland, and ending in Amsterdam. Those cruises are legendary.

Paula and **DAVID KIRSCH** made their annual visit to Truro, Cape Cod, in August with their four adult children and spouses and eight grandchildren, including granddaughter Allie, who has just received her MBA from Peking University in Shenzhen, China, where she has lived for five years, becoming fluent in both writing and speaking Chinese. The Kirsches will have had their annual reunion with **SAM GOTOFF** and his children and grandchildren—three generations of friendship!

Nice to receive a brief note from **STEVE WHITMORE**, who reports that he is "still kickin'!"

Bob has also passed along a message from **JON ROSENTHAL** that he suggested was not worthy of a class note—but it is, as all contributions are. He relates that he and Bernice have been spending the winter months in what was Bernice's studio in Amherst to avoid the dark Maine winters. This year they will be reclaiming the house and renting out the studio. Their architect son, who relocated from Oregon to Maine, only 40 miles from their home there, lures them back from Amherst in more favorable weather.

Congratulations to **RON COPSEY** and **MAURY LONGSWORTH** for getting 81.8 percent of our now 116 classmates to contribute to the recent record-breaking alumni fund drive!

Kudos to Biddy Martin for her message on the disastrous white supremacist march in Charlottesville, Va. We take pride in her communication. Her words befitted a president—and, thankfully, she is ours. Several of you sent notes about the day and words of praise for Biddy; I hope that I am remembering all who did: **CARL PELLMAN**, **TOM ARMSTRONG**, **TAD POWELL**, **DAVE ESTY** and **MARSH RUTTER**, who sent a recollection of being in Spain at another troubled time, in 1939, followed up by a lighthearted list of amusing insults.

Bob, who has alerted us to the multiple attempts to resurrect a mammoth (!), will be up for our next column at rabrams19@comcast.com. As always, we appreciate

any and all news and hope that all of you enjoy keeping up with classmates as our numbers continue to dwindle.

I'm looking forward to a nine-game NE-SCAC football season and resuming my reporting to all. And I continue to parrot the words of my son Bruce, class secretary for 1989: "With love for Amherst and the class of 1954."

> **HANK TULGAN**
HTULGAN@BHSI.ORG

1955

CURT BARNES is still building houses on Nantucket Island. Over the past two decades, he figures he has built over 150 houses. The construction business was an outgrowth from the real estate office he and his late wife had on Nantucket. Curt is a construction supervisor licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He spends about a third of his time as the appointed verger at St. Paul's Episcopal Church there.

For the past nine years, **TICK LITCHFIELD** has lived at a retirement center in Pompton Plains, N.J. He uses a battery-driven wheelchair to motor to the dining hall to pick up his meals and bring them back to his room. Tick is still a voracious reader, now reading about 25 books a year. Tick was a history teacher before he moved into administration, so most books relate to history.

Although **JAN FARR** is "partially retired," he still goes daily to the Syracuse office of the law firm where he has worked for over 20 years. He regularly arrives by 10 a.m., but rarely will stay after 3 p.m. Jan has a couple of clients, one a municipal group with health plans where he is the secretary. He gives some advice and attends meetings and conferences.

HANK COON lives in South Dartmouth, Mass., with his sister-in-law. They take annual visits to Florida and Arizona and usually have a couple of trips in the backlog. Hank has been researching and compiling a family history to pass along to his children. This now includes 16 family lines going back to the 1600s. Having moved to the Boston area, he had to convert to being a Red Sox fan.

FRAN and Maureen **RAINEY** live in Oklahoma City and are Oklahoma University football fans. Now that an NBA team is in their city, they often attend several of the Thunder games. This past winter the Rainey's went to Cabo San Lucas with their eldest son and spent the Christmas holidays in Florida with their youngest son. They returned east in February to see their actress daughter-in-law in a show.

RON TONIDANDEL and son Jeff, the number-one seeds, won the USTA National Ultra (over age 80) Father-Son Hard Court Championship in Claremont, Calif., on June 11. It was a hard-fought match in which the winners trailed 1-3 in the first set and 2-4 in the second set. The final score was 7-5, 6-4.

1955: The Lucie Awards named Steve Schapiro Photojournalist of the Year for 2017. Steve recently gave a talk and a show of his civil rights photographs at the new National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

When the route for a fundraising bicycling event in July had to be shortened to 77 miles due to washouts, Dave Lemal '55 added another 23 miles at the end, because he had trained for the 100!

CHARLIE KOPP still practices law in Philadelphia, although, he says, not as much as in the past. For 35 years he has been involved in the world of politics, primarily as a fundraiser. Charlie laments how much politics has changed—from just “contact sport” to vicious and full of anger. Charlie reports he enjoys sticking around the Philadelphia area, where he has many friends and a great “support system.”

Though **JOHN LEWIS** was “somewhat” reluctant to move into a retirement community four years ago, he now admits he likes it. He and Cathy enjoy the wide variety of activities there and interacting with other residents. John is able to continue his involvement with Cleveland’s Playhouse Square Foundation. He remains on the board of this organization, which is responsible for bringing good shows to over 1 million customers each year.

RICHARD BAUM is a retired pediatrician living in Denver. He reads about history and cartography. Richard has developed a late-life romance with a lady friend who lives on Sanibel Island on the west coast of Florida. On Sanibel, Richard participates in discussion groups, one of which he compares to our sophomore “American Studies” course. Richard also enjoys taking photographs of the many birds and alligators one finds there.

JIM and Nina **HANKS** live in Mashpee on Cape Cod and had a boat, which Jim enjoyed using and did his own maintenance on, primarily because he did not like how others did it! Recently Jim had a clamshell driveway installed. This was a disappointment, since he had visions of digging enough clams to pave it; what he had accumulated fell well short of the supply needed.

When the 100-mile route for a fundraising bicycling event in July had to be shortened to 77 miles due to washouts, **DAVE LEMAL** added another 23 miles at the end because he had trained for the 100! Although Dave was passed by a great number of riders, he finished sooner than in 2016. He raised the fourth highest amount among the cyclists. Dave’s son was there to cheer him on.

This past July **SHEP** and June **SHEPPARD** moved from their longtime home in Lake Leelanau, Mich., to an independent-living retirement community 30 miles away. The Sheppards are taking advantage of the many activities offered to residents, including concerts. Shep is a member of a monthly book club and hosted the group’s September meeting. June and Shep are starting the process of finding a new church for themselves in Traverse City.

Although **HOD MOSES** still has an active driver’s license, he has sensibly opted out from driving anymore. He enjoys watching golf on TV. He also reads a fair amount. Since Hod and Lela live on a lake in New London, N.H., they seem to attract family visitors more often in the summer! Their children and grandchildren partake

of water sports and also help Hod out around the house and yard.

When possible, **HUGH** and Katie **MOULTON** enjoy traveling—especially on “smaller” cruise boats. Two years ago, they flew to Greenland and then sailed on the long-sought Northwest Passage to Alaska, thanks to melting of the ice cap near the North Pole. The summer of 2016 found the Moultons spending two weeks on the Baltic Sea, leaving from and returning to Copenhagen. This year took them to Lake Como and northern Italy.

While in Paris recently, **ANDREW PIERRE** and his wife had the great pleasure of being invited by **STEVE KIRSCHENBAUM** to his most attractive and interesting art-filled apartment for an elegant Sunday lunch. Steve lives on the Seine in the center of Paris. The apartment is on the Avenue de New York, with a magnificent view including the Eiffel Tower. Andrew closes his report with “I’ll confess—I’m jealous.”

C.R. ROGERS rides his trusty three-speed bicycle all around Cambridge, Mass., and tries to walk an hour a day to keep his leg bones in shape. From a soccer player background at Amherst, C.R. follows English Premier League “football” and is a Manchester United fan. C.R. continues with jazz piano lessons. A former member of the Zumbies as an undergraduate, he is trying to learn to accompany himself on the piano.

We are sorry to report that **DON MACDOUGALL** died in June. See the remembrance for Don in the In Memory section.

> **ROB SOWERSBY**
RSOWERSBY@SCBGLOBAL.NET

1956

Pyongyang, Charlottesville and Houston don’t make it pleasant or easy to keep up with the news. The doings of the great class of 1956 should provide slightly better reading.

JERRY HARVEY reports that he has been expressing apologies and sympathy to friends and relatives in Texas for the damage caused by Hurricane Harvey. Jerry says, “Now I know how anyone named Katrina probably felt in 2005.”

Along these lines, I have been asked if any ’56ers live in or near Houston. None in my records. The College shows we have three Texans: **JOE DUNWOODY** in San Antonio; **JOE MOLDENHAUER** in Austin; **BOB TRIMBLE** in Carrollton, near Dallas.

The population of Sylva, N.C., is 2,644 souls, one of whom is **KY SYLVESTER**. Sylva was in the band of solar eclipse totality for about two minutes on that memorable day, Aug. 21. The experience far exceeded Ky’s earlier expectations. The influx of spectators swelled the population by a factor of 10 or 12, per Ky’s estimate. The weather was perfect, and the crowd was very mellow and respectful of the environment and each other. Totality itself was spectacular and much akin to dark twilight, an unforgettable two min-

utes, according to our man in Sylva.

Since the last notes, we’ve lost **JIM JENKINS**, whose short obit is in the In Memory section, along with one for **DOUG HAWKINS**, of whose passing last November we received a belated notification.

The 60th birthday of a volleyball teammate from **TED RODGERS**’ stay at the University of Cambridge, England, brought Ted and Barb recently to the Bay Area. “Yes! I played on the Cambridge University VB varsity during a sabbatical year, 1977–78. Beat Oxford in the varsity match in five sets at Crystal Palace to earn my Cambridge half blue tie.” Your secretary and bride joined the Rodgerses for an enjoyable meal in downtown San Francisco, where they spoke of an all-family (20 total) get-together in Seattle in August, including the Hungarian members of the family, who would be flying in from Budapest. While continuing at their digs on the backside of Oahu, Ted and Barb are looking into downsizing from their Seattle home into a retirement community in the area, where their three daughters and families reside.

IRV GROUSBECK comments briefly: “We love the trade.”

Your secretary had a nice lengthy chat with Weeza, **RUSS KNOWLES**’ widow. Russ was a nuclear submarine commander with more than three years logged underwater. Weeza was four years Russ’ senior, yet sounds like she is his daughter. Like Russ, she is an athlete and still plays an occasional set of tennis—not bad for a recent great-grandmother, courtesy of her youngest son, Russell III. All her children—Tim, Beth, Ginger and Russ—are on the East Coast with their families.

Easily the most mentioned subject among the class communications I have received recently is the questionable choice of the new College mascot. In honor of that event, our poet laureate, **ARNIE POLTENSON**, has risen to the occasion and delivered an appropriate opus. Originally your secretary wanted to include Arnie’s “Requiem” in the ’56 class notes in the summer issue of *Amherst*, but after consulting the secretary’s handbook I found a trifecta of guidelines with which it would run afoul: “Notes should be limited to news (1), and should not include editorials (2), essays or poems (3).” Thus it is available only via email and snail mail upon request.

ARNIE POLTENSON laments the passing of **DICK WOLFF**, his sophomore roommate (along with **LARRY YOUNG**). “We spent many vacation days with the Wolffs and the (**JAY**) **JACOBSONS**, often at the Wolff camp in the Poconos and other times at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario.”

In late April, on the president’s 100th day in office, **JOE DUNWOODY** joined more than 200,000 like-minded protesting citizens in Washington, D.C., for the People’s Climate March. He quipped that his favorite protest sign was attached to a dog and read “Alternative Cat.” Back

home Joe had his letter to the editor published in the June 14 edition of the *San Antonio Express-News*.

ED DIBBLE advises: "Still in good health; active in Springfield College's seniors' program, teaching and reading poetry in spring and fall semesters, plus organizing bus trips and luncheons for members. In August I preached on the 300th anniversary of the church on Long Island where I served in the '60s. Calista and I will travel to Cuba in January with Road Scholars."

From Bumblebee **BOB WEIL**: "We still go back to Santa Fe every 90 days. ... Still have the Restaurant and family to look at. ... My son Robb now has seven grandchildren, which gives me seven great-grandchildren, so try to see them once a year at least. Have a friend who owns a townhouse in Santa Fe—he & his wife live in Valencia, Spain—so I am able to rent when we come back and forth."

To supplement the formal obit for **DOUG HAWKINS**: memories of Doug were as a very crisp ROTC commander on the parade grounds as well as the center (at maybe a towering 6 feet, 6 inches) and captain of the Lord Jeffs basketball team. Doug amazingly *still* holds three Amherst College all-time rebounding records, career and season! Career rebounds: 844 (1953-56); season rebounds: 316 (1954-55); season rebounds per game: 16.4 (1954-1955). In those days Amherst played only about 20-22 games a year, versus upwards of 26 now, or 30 if in the playoffs, making his records all the more remarkable.

DICK WINSLOW went to his 65th Mount Hermon reunion, which **ART RENANDER** also attended.

Dick sent his article about his rafting: a two-week, 94-mile, 1,500-foot descent of the remote, "tumultuous" Firth River in the uppermost western corner of Canada's Yukon Territories, to the bone-chilling Arctic Ocean. Because of its location, the Firth receives scant attention—perhaps 100 people a year. Dick's four-boat, 20-person group had to endure torrential foul weather that caused swollen and impossible rapids. Five or six layers of clothing were the norm to combat chilly, wind-swept conditions. The water, though, was pristine and safely drinkable, as the main cause of pollution, beavers, find the area too cold even for them and thus do not venture that far north. One narrow river channel consisted of four successive Class IV+ rapids, through which only the guides rode in the specially designed \$8,000 rafts. The paying passengers had a treacherous enough scramble around and down the wet rocks to where the rafts were moored. The final optional ritualistic swim/plunge into the freezing Arctic Ocean was eschewed by many passengers, including Dick. Bush pilots arrived at the final camp the next morning for a routine flight back to civilization.

In a note, **DANIEL ROOS** recalls: "Upon arriving from France on my Guy Carlet Fellowship in September 1954,

I was greeted by **STEVE DAVIS** at the Northampton train station. Steve drove me cheerfully to Chi Psi. I was so surprised that such a young student could own such a big car! A few months later I joined Chi Psi. In April 1956 when I was putting final touches on my economics thesis for Professor Thorp, they decided I should offer a 'pin' to Marianne, a senior at Mount Holyoke. Together for 61 years, we have a wonderful family: Marianne and I, three daughters (one an engineer, one a neurologist and one an environmentalist), plus eight grandchildren and a 1-year-old great-granddaughter.

"The whole Roos family celebrated my 80th birthday, a surprise, on the island of Porquerolles, off the French coast near Toulon. This summer the weather on the Côte d'Azur has been beautiful but much too dry—not one drop of rain since May, probably due to climate change, which your Trump does not recognize. We enjoyed sailing in our wonderful 94-year-old traditional small wooden fishing boat, which recently was added to the list of boats with the French official 'Patrimonia' heritage/landmark status."

From **ROLAND KALLEN**: "My phase-out from the 52 years of professorship positions at Penn started July 1, when I entered a sabbatical year. This will be followed by four years half-time and finally emeritus, the end stage. It has been said that emeritus means 'without merit.' Steffi and I will travel during this period, to Cuba plus other undecided destinations.

"We spent the summer in Wellfleet, Cape Cod, our second home. This location allows the five grandchildren and their parents to spend time with us. The area alumni association met, and we heard Professor Ron Rosbottom discuss his next book. Happily, **TOM SWATLAND** was there also.

"A brief visit to Tucson in the middle of winter allowed us a most enjoyable few hours with **JACK FEINBERG** over an extended lunch. He is in great shape and looks almost the same as when he left the college in '56. And he is as curious about many things as always."

LARRY YOUNG writes that, last month, "en route to a NASA/National Academy of Medicine research review in Washington, D.C., I engaged myself in discussion with the guy next to me on the flight from Boston. I told him that I was having dinner with three Amherst classmates—and that, no, they were not scientists. In fact, one was a judge (**SANDY CHAITOVITZ**), one was a musician (**MIKE RITTER**), and one was a journalist (**ROGER WILLIAMS**). 'How lucky you were to have such diverse friends from college,' he said. And later, as I thought about it in relation to our panel at our 60th reunion on the value of a liberal arts education, I was in full agreement. How lucky we all were!"

JOHN STEPHENS writes: "Carolyn and I have just returned from eight glorious weeks with most of our family, including six of our grandchildren, in the absolutely

beautiful, soul-inspiring Champlain Valley. Early morning swims and lots of hiking provide all the stimulation I need. And now we are back home with the glorious Wisconsin autumn weather to keep us moving."

From **RANDY TYLER**: "To celebrate my 83rd birthday I spent five beautiful August days in the rural town of Westport, Mass., where my daughter and her husband had just bought a waterside cottage. A boat trip around the Westport harbor and an open-air luncheon at a local winery were just two of many memorable events."

A recent driving trip to Southern California found Ruth and **PETER LEVISON** as overnight guests at the Encino home of Marcia and **DICK VOLPERT** and their world-class, five-star hospitality, on the day of the solar eclipse. Truckloads of food, drink and conversation were consumed, dissected and resurrected far into the night, discussing totality, vitality, morality, mortality and equality in an attempt to solve a few of the problems of the universe.

With an assist from the magic of technology, Dick has been able to maintain his legal activities at roughly half-time, working a lot from home and going to his office only as necessary. He continues to make gains on his remarkable recovery from his spinal episode. Fiercely determined, he works through his rigorous rehab routines several hours daily, every day of the week.

Deep in the woods of Green Lake, Wis., your president—the sane one, **TIGER WEILLER**—together with **HENRY PEARSALL** (and unnamed others?), is plotting a '56 mini reunion at an as-yet-unknown time and location. As soon as he can get a mini reunion chairman approved by the Senate, we may learn more details.

A recent email from the College touts a live-streamed lecture by the Rev. Phillip Jackson '85, to the incoming class of 2021, titled "Some Thoughts on Meaning and Being (and Mammoths, Old and New)." This event is the annual Benjamin DeMott Lecture for first-year students, made possible by a gift from **ALAN LEVENSTEIN**, who established a fund in DeMott's honor. Good going, Alan. In your wildest dreams you never expected your name would be in the same paragraph as the Amherst Mammoths.

On Aug. 25 **EUGENE KLEINER** opined from Seattle that "Trump is not *all* bad." He refers to his 7-year-old grandson as his "emotional center, a real kick."

A nice conversation with **ART ELLIS** found him in good spirits a few hours before attending a Patriots game in Foxboro, Mass. His bypass procedure several years ago has served him well and given him peace of mind. He is very much in touch with **JERRY SOWALSKY**, his good friend since the seventh grade, through Thomas Weaver High School (Hartford, Conn.), Amherst and the 60-plus years since. Art also keeps up with the doings of **BEN BOLEY** and **MIKE RABBINO**. Art thought the 60th reunion was the best of

At the People's Climate March in Washington, D.C., Joe Dunwoody '56's favorite protest sign was attached to a dog and read "Alternative Cat."

the many he has attended, and he looks forward to our 65th.

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1957

We are sad to report the loss of three from our class: **CARL ANDRUS**, **GEORGE HACKER** and **STEVE FLOOD**. In Memory pieces for Carl and George appear in this issue. An In Memory piece for Steve will appear in a later issue. George attended our 60th reunion in May, and we are so glad that we got to talk with him then.

Following reunion, **REN** and Marilyn **HOLLINSHEAD** traditionally host fellow Phi Psi classmates at their home in Martha's Vineyard. This year **BOB** and Mary **BAGG**, **DAN JOHNS**, **JIM MOLLENAUER**, **BILL PATRICK** and **JIM** and Jeanie **SAVAGE** attended. It was very relaxing and enjoyable.

GEOFF and Theo **SHEPHERD**, **BARBARA BURGESS** (**JOHN DINKELSPIEL**'s widow) and **REN** and Marilyn **HOLLINSHEAD** were guests of **JOHN** and Ana **THOMPSON** at their home in Bayfield, Ontario, by Lake Huron. For a week they went to the theater in Canada's Stratford-on-Avon for Shakespeare and other plays. Ren reported that every morning they were fortified by John's homemade bread. The "Amherst at Stratford" series started years ago when the Thompsons discovered that the Hollinsheads were annual visitors to Stratford as part of a group of Shakespeare aficionados.

TED and Fran **KAMBOUR** have left Palm City, Fla., to become neighbors of **BILL DONOHUE** in Savannah.

DON NIGHTINGALE is a new member of the Amherst College Pilots Association.

JULIE DENNY CLARK spent three spectacular weeks in Japan, drowning her political sorrows in sushi and sake, came home to do laundry, took off for a week in Wyoming at a dude ranch with three good friends, riding every day, and then raced back to repack for a week in Argentina with son Toby and granddaughter Bianca, who is studying in Buenos Aires. After returning, she was at her Maine cottage, where she sees **ALAN** and Alison **SCHECHTER**.

AL and Judy **BURT** are fine, and busy with volunteer work. They are looking forward to the next Nashville Predators (ice hockey) season with great expectations after the team won the Western Conference last season. Al is still teaching part-time for the Tennessee Board of Regents. He is getting some fields ready at his farm for deer season. He is also in the process of selling his old bass boat and buying a new one. He doesn't need to run 60-plus mph down the lake in a 9,000-lb. boat; 40 mph in a lighter boat will do him fine.

BOB ASHER missed reunion because of a fall. As he was recuperating, he suffered a slight stroke from which fortunately there are no lasting sequelae.

ED GILBERT has had major surgery with a lengthy recovery. When Carl spoke with him, he sounded upbeat and was looking forward to attending the next AC/DC luncheon in September and getting back on the golf course.

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1958

The Summer 2017 issue of *Amherst* arrived three days after I started my calls for these news notes. I took the time to note that Mickey's news notes started pretty much at the front (page 9) of the total 55 pages of class notes. Yes, we're getting ever longer in the tooth! I also noted with some amusement the comment of scribe Nicole Krensky '11 of the sixth-year class, a year out from their five-year reunion, that they "are so old!" We were once in much the same place. I can remember. Can you?

BOB ARMSTRONG had a major September/October exhibition of 60 best puzzles at Briarwood Art Gallery. Displaying them vertically is a complex chore, and every one of them needs an explanatory "legend" explicating its uniqueness over a half dozen different dimensions—age, inspiration, cut, significance, etc. Bob's hobby began when, as a small boy, he first completed a checkerboard puzzle. I've known for years of his passion, but in 15 minutes on the phone learned a wealth of detail unknown to me until then.

Never got to talk with **HOWIE BONNETT**, just Judi. He was out doing emergency watering of their garden in Oregon's blistering early-August heat prior to their imminent departure to Kauai for a family vacation gathering.

BILL CANTOR reports things are well in New Jersey. Paula is turning out fabulous watercolors, and he recently did a short play about gay marriage titled *Standing on Ceremony*. They recently came to Old Orchard Beach, Maine, to be with family and will return in September for a Boothbay Harbor wedding. And, except when vacationing in Maine, he still "punches the clock" four days a week.

JOHN and Rose **FAISSLER** were just back from snorkeling in the British Virgin Islands on a catamaran with six others. The marine populations in the Caribbean are changing as a result of the release of lion fish now decimating native species. Last fall a hurricane took down eight of John's palms, which he's replacing with grass; cutting up the downed trees is a task he'd like not to repeat! As for grass under their feet, they'll be back in the BVI in a few weeks and are contemplating a visit to Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Two days before he and I talked, **LEE FOLLETT** had a 10-screw surgical treatment of a broken foot incurred at a retreat. He missed a ditch in the dark, and that was all she wrote! They stay close with

the Wielands, the Evers, the Jacksons, and **BARBARA ROUNDS**. Lee was reflective and mellow (no, it was *not* post-op meds!), clearly enjoying his life now that he's free of the boards and councils of his past consultancies for charitable organizations.

MARTIN GROSS remains busy at his law firm. His take is that one has to do something; it's essential to his health and well-being. He has resisted any temptation to immerse himself in computers, and he refused to get too excited when the school he helped build while serving as board president was recently entirely replaced because it had neither a pool nor an indoor track. He saw **JOHN GODDARD** recently and had a meeting with Bidy Martin, sharing with me how pleased he was with her contributions to Amherst performing a very demanding and sometimes difficult role.

HARVEY HECHT still works a day a week. This fall he'll be joining Gail at Hunter College, taking courses including continuing to upgrade their French. They're doing what they want to, playing tennis a couple of times a week, living in the same house for 45 years (just a train ride to Manhattan) and seeing their kids and grandkids who are in NYC and Boston.

ART HIGINBOTHAM, in Greenland in July pondering the effects of global warming, reports Disko Bay no longer forms ice during the winter, so the Inuit cannot use their dogsleds to hunt seals as they used to. The Jakobshavn Glacier now recedes at eight times the rate it did two decades ago. Moulins (look it up!) lubricate the flow of ice to the sea. In June, Art visited **TED EAGLES**, who's still teaching macroeconomics at St. Albans. They ate at the D.C. Army/Navy Club and explored diaries from the Third Army's movement from Normandy to Prague.

For eight years now, **HOWIE WOLMAN** and his partner, Dennis Hudson, have been living with Howie's Alzheimer's diagnosis. I spoke with Dennis (who had just come from breakfast with Howie) for details of their 2016 move from Key West to Sinai Residences in Boca Raton, a best-of-the-best facility for delivering appropriate care. By last November, Howie had been shifted to Memory Care from assisted living, while Dennis continues close by in Sinai's independent-living facilities.

PETE KUNZ said he and Mimi are both doing well and just came back from a junket to northern Wisconsin, Illinois and back to Michigan visiting their progeny. Their volunteer work continues, and Pete's enjoying baking bread twice a month, a no-knead sourdough and olive oil Italian. They are making 60th reunion plans to join us all.

I reached **BROOKS LOW** enjoying Vermont summertime life. He continues performing Dixieland at local restaurants and on the Fourth of July and other celebrations, reaping the reward of folks smil-

"Nicole Krensky '11 of the sixth-year class, a year out from their five-year reunion, [commented] that they 'are so old!' We were once in much the same place. I can remember. Can you?"

ing and tapping their feet. Like many of us, they're weeding out long-unexamined storage spaces and are looking forward to finding new homes for elements of a juke and music box collection at a coming gathering in Whippany, N.J. (Nearly 10 years of conversations and it's the first I heard of it!)

JOHN LAGOMARCINO would have been mentioned in the preceding issue, except the outreach card got ensnared in a stack of ads! Maureen and he are doing well, save for the usual aches and pains, plus he is pleased with his new left knee. Not so much, though, with the White House turmoil, but he's taking the long view, reading Philip Gorski's *American Covenant: A History of Civil Religion from the Puritans to the Present*.

JIM MAGID called me to say that, out of 16 messages he waded through, mine was the only one for him personally—not him as an abstract “customer” or a source of funds or a presumptive audience for some message without interest to him. He was at his ranch in Colorado. He's been corresponding twice weekly with grandsons at camp with “finish this story” writing prompts and, by golly, they're doing it! Ask him next time you see him where the family motto came from: “When you're about to give up, you succeed!” Cute story!

JOE McDONALD is contemplating a knee replacement to address discomfort and continue playing golf, with a possible stretch to resuming squash. We talked homecoming, 60th reunion, woolly mammoths and the appropriateness of neither minimizing nor overly dwelling on a sense of fear about national politics. You heard this next here first: The coming 14th anniversary of the annual McDonald/Hostetter/Greenman/Neihuss golf tourney will occur in September. (It will have been won, incidentally, by McDonald and Greenman, since McDonald keeps the score!)

NED MEGARGEE is another of the “weeders” among us. Even though he's deposited his papers at the History of American Psychology Collection at the University of Akron, there are still other four-drawer files of stuff to dispatch. Meanwhile, they wait for their greyhound to complete his life's journey until they can remove from their woods. Ned's carving space will be hard to leave behind, but in the meantime he keeps applying knives to wood.

DON MOORES reports that his men's tour group weekly visits a place of interest—for example, a branch of the Max Planck Institute or a marine biology research lab. He met up with a son and grandson in Scotland for a vacation and a European international golf tournament. He and Margery remain active professionally, she through a just-published book on neuropsychological assessment of deaf individuals and he through a couple of chapters on deafness plus a commitment to a text tentatively entitled

“Evolution and Revolution in Education of the Deaf: A 60-Year Perspective.”

Elusive (his word) **JAY MORGAN** “hasn't much exciting to report.” You judge. Spending the summer and fall on Nantucket with February in Naples and two weeks in March skiing in Colorado (or trying to, he said), the rest of the time he's in Connecticut, where he has an “easy-lift” job as treasurer and director of a local organization addressing the social needs and requirements for the town plus undertaking house and garden upkeep. Jay lost his wife of 46 years some time ago. “As luck would have it, and without

In the guestroom where they stayed: a previous occupant's copy of *Amherst*.

any contact for 50 years, I was fortunate to reconnect with my steady lady friend during all four years at Amherst, and so we spend considerable time together.”

A rotator cuff tear has led to **DICK NORCOTT**'s retirement from horseshoe pitching; they now fall 5 feet short. I caught him in the basement checking out numbers for a replacement blade for a pruning saw, so he's clearly not completely immobile. While they're not doing a Central American trip this year, there's a Catskill family reunion in August, and they're thinking about the Cape in October. They visited the North Fork of Long Island recently and, in a drawer of the guestroom where they stayed, didn't find a previous occupant's copy of *Amherst*?

BOB PARKER volunteered that the summer so far had been quiet but hot! Asked if “quiet” was a stand-in for “boring,” Bob allowed he'd at least been reading the newspaper headlines. He evened the score, though. When I mentioned my granddaughters' recent several-day visit punctuated by great curiosity and frequent laughter, he asked whether my cherubs were laughing *at* me or *with* me. I owned up to a little of both—and appropriately so!

ART POWELL didn't diminish much my sense of his predilection for the perverse. He opened, however, with a glowing description of the stunning view from his house in Gouldsboro, Maine, across Frenchman's Bay to the Porcupine Islands and the skyline of Mount Desert. So I asked if he'd heard yet about the proposal to build a half-mile pier out into that very bay capable of serving two 10-to-12-story mega-cruise ships disgorging circa 13,000 passengers into Bar Harbor at a time? He hadn't! (The mega-pier proposal is for real. Our governor is not the only absurd thing about Maine.) The highlight of a slightly belated 80th birthday celebration for Art up the cog railway to Mount Washington Hotel was a play staged by the grandchildren based on an interview asking Art to describe his typical day at age 10. Yes, the grandkids stumbled over “sarsaparilla,” but they gener-

ated high emotion! Art closed wondering where “the Mooch” was when Amherst was searching for a mascot.

RICK ROBINSON continues, with a walker now, at the assisted-living facility in Oyster Bay, N.Y. He does a monthly DVD presentation there (e.g., the Hindenburg disaster, the causes of the Civil War, the golden days of New York City baseball when we were on the journey to young manhood and, most recently, Charles Schulz of *Peanuts* fame). He recently changed his church affiliation, crossing the street from the Episcopal Church to the Presbyterian in pursuit of a less formal service, to say nothing of a single-level facility.

Adhering to the injunction that they'll “continue until health or wealth give out,” Susan and **MICKEY SALTMAN** did Panama, Cartagena, Thailand and London this year, plus requisite visits to Minnesota and New Hampshire to the kids and grandkids. Skiing in March in Utah was *free* for 80-year-olds; could it be that the left lateral meniscus tear he now reports was the result? (No, he said when questioned: it was definitely a softball injury!) It curtails *him*, but isn't stopping *them*; Myanmar and Laos are up this fall.

STEVE SCHWARTZ is either playing golf, or hard, or both. He and Dora both turned 80 this year, and they took the whole core family (kids and grandkids) to Aruba for the celebration. All the grandkids are finished with school and starting careers in psychology, physical therapy or a startup financial newspaper. The first one will marry in March. Dutch-treating Uber rides on dinner dates with other couples addresses the challenges of aging juxtaposed with night driving.

DAVE STOWE was just back from a couple of family weeks in Colorado, hiking and playing golf. No cruise this year, but they've traveled to the Quad Cities and the Chicago area, and they golf and boat back home in Longboat Key, Fla. He's got to get cracking on the family's fantasy football league (he's a two-time defending champ), but easily the peak bit of news was the arrival this past spring of his first great-granddaughter. Congratulations, Dave!

Warmly welcomed to Cary, N.C., a year ago, **GEORGE** and Peggy **VAN ARNAM** moved to be nearer their sons. George is enjoying tremendously working as part-time minister to a small congregation, preaching every Sunday and performing pastoral care. A recent trip had them in Amherst, where they had great conversations with **SKIP** and Carroll **ROUTH** and **MARSH** and Cindy **MCLEAN**, plus a brief stop at the Emily Dickinson house.

DAVE WALKER continues playing competitive bridge and tennis (he doesn't charge nets anymore, though it remains his favorite court location). They just came back from a Viking river cruise, the hit of which was the Fabergé Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia; a private collector, having bought eight of the 50 eggs

Brooks Low '58 performs Dixieland at local restaurants and on the Fourth of July, reaping the reward of folks smiling and tapping their feet.

crafted, decided to house them in an elegant museum in one of a former noble's refurbished homes. And then we ruminated on the reasons for the overall longevity of the class (166 of 262 still standing, and only one more left to turn 80): was it the care our parents lavished on us, Amherst's requirement we learn a sport we could practice throughout our lives, or the times we were ushered into? And how is all that different for young people growing up today? Etc.

HOWARD WOLF wrote a catalogue essay for an art exhibit at SUNY Fredonia in mid-September, "Harvey Breveman: Graphic Biography/Figures in the Field," and has a talk coming up at Buffalo's Twentieth Century Club on "Modern American Poetry: Frost's 'Vocal Reality' to Social Media Unreality." (!?) Howard says he's launching a project based somewhat on John Aubrey's 17th-century *Brief Lives*, titled "Brief Loves: A Generational Memoir." (Those who know a little about *Brief Lives* will ask whether Howard will allow himself Aubrey's decidedly sketchy documentation practices, or how the differences between lives [observational] as compared with loves [transactional] will affect the conventions and obligations of Howard's literary treatment. We all wait impatiently for answers!)

Finally, while the summer guest of John Merson '66 and in the same Nantucket pulpit as Frederick Douglass nearly two centuries before, **MOE WOLFF** spoke to an audience of summer residents about his past (and now renewed) Wallenberg efforts. He was pleased with the response. He played some tennis in the cooler-than-Florida breezes off Nantucket Sound and got to see his brother David Wolff '62 and family, sailing the Sound on their yacht.

And that's a wrap! Mickey's up next!

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1959

We have lost the senior member of our class, **BON WADORS**; see In Memory for a remembrance.

By the time this column arrives in our mailboxes, nearly all of us—except the overachievers among us who skipped a grade somewhere along the line—will have celebrated what is at least numerically a significant birthday. Despite this occasionally distressing milestone, it seems that most of us remain quite active in numerous ways.

At least four classmates have published books recently. **JOHN GARDINER**'s new historical novel, *Newport Rising*, is available as an ebook on Kindle and in hard copy from the publisher at johnrolfegardiner.com. John describes it as "an historical novel set in pre-Revolutionary Newport, R.I., the story of a despised newspaper man in that center of the slave trade and religious freedom."

The third edition of **ALLAN COHEN**'s *Influence without Authority* was published in October. Allan comments that "it seems to be more relevant than ever, so I am hoping that the ideas will last at least another 25 years. In addition to a chapter on influencing at a distance, my co-author and I added one on gender and influence, for which we added a female colleague as a co-author since it seemed that two old white guys writing about gender might raise a few questions. We ended up adding the subtitle 'Beyond Stereotypes' to the chapter title, which will probably raise its own set of questions. As the recent news has demonstrated, identity politics and groupings, in and out of organizations, touches many nerves."

Also out in the fall is **GILES GUNN**'s *The Pragmatist Turn*, which "looks back over more than 400 years of American writing and thought to explore what the religious and Enlightenment sources of our values have—and clearly haven't—taught us. An interesting experience at this moment in our history, it is an attempt to bring American intellectual and literary experience to bear on American political and moral perplexities."

Giles, who has spent most of the past 20 years teaching in the Department of Global Studies at UC Santa Barbara, which he helped develop, also highly recommends **JOHN DOWER**'s recent *The Violent American Century*. Describing John's "new study of war and terror since World War II" as extremely pertinent, Giles observes, "This is our century, as none of us need to be reminded, and no one has assessed its staggering costs in violence with more brilliance and daring than our classmate John." It prompts Giles to ask why Amherst hasn't nominated John for an honorary degree. Indeed!

TOM BENJAMIN remains "involved part-time at Harvard Medical School," but he is "moving gradually toward full retirement." He and Mary Jo split their time between Boston, where she teaches ESL in an adult literacy program, and Falmouth, Cape Cod. They enjoy "occasional reunions" with their two sons: Ari, who is pursuing a career in paleobiology, and Noah, who is doing the same in physics and math. Tom adds that, while he is in Falmouth, "I follow events at the nearby Woods Hole Research Center, which is leading the way on climate research and advocacy on policy, all in opposition to directions set by our leaders in Washington. Climate change is just one of many issues facing us as a nation and as a living species—issues we could not possibly have foreseen upon graduation. I wonder how these challenges will be met by the next generation."

Many classmates continue to travel the globe. Mary Ann and **GEORGE BETKE** took a Rhone River cruise in France in March, with a side trip to see the ancient Dordogne cave paintings. **STEVE CEDERBAUM** reports on an "unusual visit" he and Evelyn took "to the woman who

helped raise our children" in a town an hour from Durango, Mexico. She and her husband "returned to the small town/city where they grew up and resumed the life that they led previously, albeit with a modern home and conveniences." The town is small, "3,000 to 5,000 people tops, agricultural and with a slow and tranquil pace; it can be traversed on foot in 15 minutes. The residents each probably know 25–50 percent of the people in town, not much larger or different from Amherst when we attended. It was a most unusual four days and certainly different from any vacation that we had ever had." **DEESHIELDS** and **LOU GREER** crossed another entry off their bucket list with "an August trip to Edinburgh and the famous Tattoo." From there, they took a cruise around Scotland, landing in Dublin. Lou notes that "the name Greer came from a colonial misspelling of Grier, which originated as the Scottish McGregor clan." Before leaving on their trip, Dee and Lou "accepted the thankless task of distributing the 300 pairs of viewing glasses" they had on hand for the solar eclipse, which attracted a million visitors to their home base of Greenville, S.C.

Happy and **PETER ESTY** celebrated their significant birthdays in a cabin on Squam Lake in New Hampshire "with all our kids and grandkids," and then embarked on a two-month driving trip across the country, "seeing sights, friends and relatives, and stopping for three different weeklong sojourns in glorious summer spots." It is safe to assume that the "friends" included several classmates.

JOHN GARDINER belatedly tells of "a fine trout-fishing trip with **JERRY MORGAN** a year ago, on the middle fork of the Salmon River in Idaho." John reports that Jerry "is an expert fly fisherman, experienced on various waters from Alaska to the Florida Keys." More recently, in July, Mary Ann and **GEORGE BETKE** arranged a "pleasant on-deck waterside gathering" with Judith and **BILL JONES**, Karen and **AL PASTERNAK** and Bonnie and **STU BOWIE**; the Bowies were "on their way to intellectual stimulation at a Colby College literary symposium." According to George, "We had a good time trying to associate mammoths with any kind of collegiate athletic endeavor." George also admits that, although he officially retired in 2016, "It's difficult to cut the cord from a business that has been so personal over the past 36 years, and my successor 'students' humor me by calling frequently to see if the old 'professor' agrees with management decisions they have already made."

Mary Jo and **TOM BENJAMIN** see Yasuko and **JOHN DOWER** and **JOE TULCHIN** in Boston, where their encounters "frequently revolve around sushi dinners or symphony performances; and, in Falmouth, they have enjoyed recent visits from Linda and **DOUG BEHRENDT**, Karen and **WERNER GUNDERSHEIMER** and **JERRY MORGAN**.

1959: First prize for physical activity goes to Bill Jones, who, at the New England Masters Swimming Championships at Harvard University in April, billed as "the largest masters meet this side of the national championships," won 13 individual events, setting New England records in the six butterfly and individual medley events and Maine state records in nine. Characteristically modest, Bill observed that he has outlived most of his competition in the 80-to-84-year-old division; nonetheless, he won the meet's high-points trophy.

Many classmates continue to center their activities around their extended family. Typically, Joyce and **ALLAN COHEN** still derive enormous pleasure from interacting with and observing their now 4½-year-old grandkids. Oh, to be able to once again learn as fast as kids that age do! And with as much wit and joy. The Cohens' daughter Megan "is still working half-time as an organic gardener," and their other daughter, Sydney, a painter/teacher, "just completed a guest teaching stint at Anderson Ranch in Aspen and continues teaching at CCA in Oakland."

And Allan continues teaching at Babson College's San Francisco campus. Recently, artist Marilyn Levin donated her painting *Building Foundations* to Babson in honor of Allan, "who has long believed in teaching the arts to stimulate the creative core of leadership." Allan, who is distinguished professor of global leadership at Babson, served seven years as vice president of academic affairs and dean of faculty and two years as interim dean of the F.W. Olin Graduate School of Business. In 2008, he received Babson's highest honor, the Walter H. Carpenter Prize for distinguished service.

And from **ALLAN KEITH**: "Oldest daughter Lucy has started the African Aquatic Conservation Fund, an NGO operating in Senegal, where she lives with her husband; she got her Ph.D. from the University of Florida two years ago at the 'young' age of 49 and works for the conservation of West African manatees, and he does the same for African turtles and tortoises. Middle daughter Lesley works in the patient translation unit at Oregon State University Hospital in Portland. Youngest daughter Coral just got a new job as senior compliance officer for Santander Bank in Boston and lives in Portland, Maine, with her husband and two kids." Allan says that he is "finishing up a genealogical survey of six family lines (both of my parents, both of my wife's parents, and two related families) from the first person from each family in the United States, beginning usually in the late 1600s or 1700s to more or less the current day. Along the way, my wife and I both submitted DNA samples to Ancestry, and the results were fascinating, fun and surprising. For those of you who haven't done it, I recommend it."

Our intrepid class agent, **SKIP RIDEOUT**, extends his thanks to his classmates for their "superb contribution to the alumni fund." Jennie and Skip's Mill Street B&B "continues to thrive, even more so since the March 10, 2017, opening of the Harriet Tubman Visitor Center just 12 miles away. Tourism reports 45,000 visitors to the center since it opened."

If this column seems brief, if certain names are repeated and names keep appearing in each column, that is because we continue to hear from very few of you and because several of you do faithfully check in with us regularly. While we remain very grateful to these latter folks, we

continue to invite more of you to send us news of your activities, especially those who haven't been in touch for several years—or never. We have a 60th—and last official—reunion coming up in a mere 18 months, so keeping in touch will help insure a good turnout on that auspicious occasion.

> **JACK BRYER**
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 > **LOU GREER**
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1960

To save your secretary from "becoming a purveyor of false news," **CARLTON "RUSS" RUSSELL** reported that "a loving, playful and athletic Blue Roan cocker spaniel has joined our family. Blue is 6 years old, and has brought canine optimism and companionship back into our lives." They also had a visit from a classmate. **SCOTT** and Stephanie **MACCONNELL** noted that "the highlight of a few days in Maine was having dinner with Carlton and Lorna." But Russ need not have worried that I would resort to alternative facts, as several recently silent classmates have responded.

PETER GROSS exclaimed, "My middle son finally found the right girl! He is only 47 years old and will close the deal in October. Reggie and I are celebrating. I am still working on Medicare's Accountable Care Organization at Hackensack, N.J. It's been a successful run. In 2015, we saved Medicare \$33 million. The hospital received \$15 million because of our 96 percent quality score. Primary care physicians, not specialists like me, got a fair share of it. The ACO, while part of Obamacare, should survive, because the Bush administration idea was continued under Obama."

"Still working after all these years!" wrote **JIM ROONEY**. "Just finished a new album with my good friend Tom Rush. We met back in 1962 when he was an undergraduate at Harvard. He's been writing songs and singing classics ever since. Go to TomRush.com to find out how to get our album. Otherwise, Carol and I are enjoying our six grandchildren, loving life in Vermont and spending time with friends in Nashville, Tenn., and Ireland, where we are looking forward to multiple celebrations of my 80th birthday."

When **DICK HUBERT** realized that "our trip to France and later Holland included a stay on the Viking river ship *Delling* in Lyon, I contacted **ERIC BRITTON** to find out if he would be available for our one free afternoon. That led to a two-hour lunch. Eric confirms that this was the first time we had met since our freshman year, although there has been plenty of email correspondence of late. A wonderful reunion yielded the two posted photos taken by Jelma Hubert." Eric added, "What an agreeable afternoon and relaxed, free-floating exchange it turned out to be. France and I look forward to

spending some time with you on our next visit to the States. That will be the first time for France to see XXX or whatever the hell they have decided to call it after the decapitation of Lord Jeff." Dick has posted an interesting commentary on class news about his "late second career as a columnist."

"On a trip to western New York," wrote **ROY FITZGERALD**, "I had a great three-day visit with **STEVE BARBASH**. He's enjoying training dog trainers but misses Ann enormously. Then on to Syracuse for several music-filled days with Brenda and Mark Watkins '59. He was playing trombone in a large brass concert band. The three of us then reveled in two nights at the Skaneateles Music Festival. Thereafter I drove to Bennington, where Jennie had been participating for the 10th time in an intensive piano camp. She played a glorious Chopin 'Fantasie' in the final recital. We also spent two weeks in France with our two baby grandsons at their parents' renovated barn in Burgundy."

Although **PETE INSKEEP** claims "nothing exciting going on here in Parker, Colo.," he did have an "Amherst event." Katie Herbert '88 and her three sons joined Metta and me for four days at Keystone in the Rockies for swimming, shopping, gondola rides and too much good food. Our conversations took us back to our New England roots. We've planned an August road trip to Napa, Calif., where we will take the 'loneliest highway in America,' Route 50, the old Lincoln Highway, to avoid Speed Week at the Salt Flats along I-80." Pete's photo is from a ham radio event in 2015 where he and his grandson Matthew were at work stations using Morse code.

"We academics never retire; we just fade away," wrote **ANDY INGERSOLL**, echoing an icon of our vintage. "Actually, my present—grandchildren, students, wife who is dragging me into a triathlon—is crowding out my past: family and friends, including Amherst classmates, whom I grew up with. That's a little sad, but it's better than the alternative. I've missed the last two reunions. I hope to be there for the 60th. In the meantime, drop me a line." In the posted collage, "The lady on the bike is my wife, Sarah. The man on the right is me with an image of the Cassini spacecraft, and the people at the bottom are our children, our grandchildren and our children's spouses."



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

↑ Kindling Excitement

Students—many wearing green beanies to signify their freshman status—pile up lumber and cardboard for a bonfire on an autumn day in the early 1960s.

Steph and **SCOTT MACCONNELL** went to “Prince Edward Island for the opening of the second show that I designed this season, *On a First Name Basis*.” They had “an absolutely lovely summer to date— nice warm daytime temps with lots of sunshine and cool nights, great for sleeping. We also had the opportunity to see tall ships that visited, as well as hosting our annual fireworks party.”

STEPHEN KUNIAN’s son David “has become music curator for the State of Louisiana and runs the Jazz Museum in New Orleans. Call him for a tot if you go there.”

On our class news page, **STEPHEN**

versy at Amherst.” Though Hugh thinks that the monuments should probably go as “hurtful reminders,” he thought it “very chilling and sad” to see a protest group vandalize the Confederate soldier monument in Durham, N.C. Hugh noted that his son Toby ’91 “absolutely agrees with those who dislike historical revisionism.” **SANDY SMITH** wondered whether we should help Williams students start a “get rid of all references to Ephraim Williams” movement, since he was a slave owner.

PHIL POCHODA and his wife, Mary Kelley, had a “jammed week” while **HUGH JONES** was visiting. Phil commented, “It began with one of the four Canaan Meetinghouse summer readings I moderate. Then on Friday we had a party at my house for the newly formed Upper Valley Amherst alumni group.” (Hugh called it the Upper Valley Mammoth Society!) After dinner and cocktails, “Hugh, as alumni representative, led a lively discussion of Amherst past, present and future, with an eye toward policy proposals.” Hugh described the group as “all past their 50th reunions.”

Hugh reported that all participants appreciated Amherst’s increasing diversity. He noted a consensus that Amherst needs to create a “new shared academic experience appropriate for the diverse student body and faculty in the digital age and our changing world” (but nothing like the old core curriculum). Hugh also praised Phil’s spectacular Japanese garden, which he called “a tribute to Phil’s intellectual and physical energy.”

Bob Dwyer ’69 and **HUGH JONES** kept me informed about the travails **JIM CROWLEY** has encountered. Immediately following the death of his wife, Jean, after a long bout with cancer, Jim was broadsided by a police cruiser traveling at full speed; the driver was apparently blinded by the sun. Despite a fractured collarbone and severe bruises, Jim checked himself out of the hospital to attend Jean’s funeral. Hugh sat with Jim and Jim’s daughter, Deidre, at the service and attended the burial. Hugh had kept in touch with Jim for some time, “courtesy of **JOHN HENRY**.” Thereafter Jim entered rehab and has now returned to his home in Westerly, R.I., still, as Hugh put it, “devastated by Jean’s death.”

Well, hopefully, I avoided any “alternative facts” for the time being. If even more of you send material for the next notes, I will restrain my more imaginative impulses. Have a great autumn! (I almost said “fall,” but at our age that’s not a good word!)

> **DICK WEISFELDER**

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EDU

Charlevoix, Mich., last September. They hit it off immediately and were married in St. Louis this past May in the presence of Bob’s three daughters and Christine’s two sons, some of whom traveled from Australia and California. The “newly-weds” plan to spend most of the summer in Charlevoix and the rest of the year in St. Louis. In the meanwhile, Bob assures us, “Old-age love is great.”

While writing, **DAVE BRICKER** was trying to get his power washer started so he could do his annual deck cleaning. No rest for the wicked. Carol and Dave are enjoying their home in northern Michigan, and their trip to Norway last year was outstanding. It included three days on a coastal ship, plus time in Bergen, Oslo and the countryside. The Lofoten Islands were some of the most beautiful country they have ever seen.

DENIS CLIFFORD wrote: “Six of us and three spouses had a three-day mini reunion in St. Louis this past May. Attending were myself, **JACK BURSK**, **RICHARD WIRTZ**, **JAN BEYEA** and Vernita Nemeo, **DAVE HAMILTON** and Rebecca Clunse, and Ida and **FRED PERABO**, our gracious, generous hosts. It was indeed a lovely reunion: we six men have been friends since 1957—60 years. There is a deep pool of love between us, and Jack, Richard and Denis had been roommates freshman year.”

ROBIE FULTON wrote: “Got back a while ago from a trip to Charlottesville, to attend the wedding of **JIM BOOKWALTER**’s daughter Sarah. Betty and I wanted to see Bookie at least one more time. He’s amazing—in a motorized wheelchair with an incurable muscle disease, he zipped around, made apt father-of-the-bride speeches and danced the first dance with his newlywed daughter.... Well, he stayed in the chair and Sarah danced around him. Together, they made the wheelchair almost disappear. **BOB BARRETT** and his wife, Chris, were also there—a sort of mini reunion. Couldn’t help myself when we said goodbye the next morning—weeping like a baby. I am doing OK. Cancer (CML) at this point is ‘in major molecular remission,’ where it needs to be. Betty and I head for Costa Rica in a couple of weeks. In the words of those radio funny guys Bob and Ray, ‘Write if you get work, and hang by your thumbs.’”

JOHN LIEBSON stopped off to buy an accessory for his chain saw and met a woman wearing a T-shirt that said “Princeton Fire and EMS.” She recently had moved to Santa Fe from Princeton, Mass., and John knew her former volunteer fire chief quite well. Small world. Earlier, John taught himself how to install risers on his septic tank to make it easier to pump out. Said John, “Such is the life of a class of ’61 member who marches to a different drummer.”

Congratulations to **KEN RATZAN**, whose sixth grandchild arrived Saturday, July 22. Joseph was born to Jacob and Sara Ratzan, weighed in at 6 lbs., 10 oz.,

Extreme Iceland!

1960: On our annual pilgrimage to Sweden, Chris and I (**Dick Weisfelder**) took advantage of Icelandair’s free stopover policy in Reykjavik. We booked Extreme Iceland’s minibus Golden Circle tour that visits the most sights. We most enjoyed the Hellisheidavirkjun geothermal plant that provides most of Reykjavik’s hot water; Thingvellir National Park, where the North American and Eurasian plates separate; and the spectacular double Gullfoss waterfall. The blotches on our photo are from spray on the lens.

BALDWIN has posted commentary about his recent trip through Iran, whose people he found to be welcoming, outward-looking, deeply cultured and quite open in expressing their opinions.

SANDY and Barbara **SMITH** had visits from both sons: “Brian and his wife, Kristen, are Illinois residents. Older son Jeff, who lives near Sacramento, Calif., came with our grandsons Joshua and Ethan. The (posted) photo shows my brother, Ephraim; Barbara; Donna (Ephraim’s wife); and yours truly when we got together for three days at Pismo Beach.”

Family visits also occupied Elinor and **HUGH KNAPP**. They traveled with their daughter, Leonora, to Columbus, Ohio, where they saw their son Ethan, who teaches medieval English literature at Ohio State. “Then on to Madison Wisc., to see friends and visit Elinor’s hometown, Hillsboro. I slightly dreaded the lengthy car trip, but it went fine. In April we all shared in an 80th birthday dinner for Elinor, hosted by our son Toby ’91 and his family at the New York Athletic Club.”

Amherst’s mammoth mascot continues to generate a bundle of comments. Phil Pryde ’59 wrote to compare his revision of the fight song with **JON BAKER**’s version (in class news). **BILL CORBETT** enjoyed Pryde’s line “... extinct critter with no known redeeming virtues ...,” a thought seconded by **DAN DARROW**. **PETE INSKEEP** jested whether the Fairest College might become Mammoth University or the Inn would be Mammoth Inn. (I checked online, and it is still the Lord Jeff.) **HUGH KNAPP** saw the controversy over Confederate monuments as “very reminiscent of the Lord Jeffery contro-

1961

BOB BARRETT met Christine Cunningham playing at the Belvedere Golf Club in

and both Sara and Joseph are doing well. Given Ken's loyalty and long support of the College, Joseph may well become a member of the class of 2038!

Just before reunion weekend, **DICK KLEIN** returned from a wonderful two-week trip to Israel during which he met with the minister of justice, the dean and professors from Tel Aviv Law School and a supreme court justice. He then attended his 56th reunion and had a blast playing drums with Larry Weiss '62, with whom Dick had played at Amherst and law school, plus Larry Beck and Ed Johnson, piano and class of '62, plus Jamie Sandel, bass and class of '17.

Diane and "**TOM**" **THOMPSON** continue to enjoy living at Crystal River Ranch, 10 miles from Mount Rainier National Park, which provides them with gorgeous wild flowers, a resident herd of elk that mows their lawn and ample opportunity for hiking and bicycling. Having sold their condo in Seattle, they moved part-time to a continuing-care retirement community in Boise, Idaho, to be near one of their children.

PAUL STEINLE recently celebrated his 60th reunion from Culver Military Academy and his 40th reunion from Harvard Business School by revisiting cherished ground and sharing life-journey stories. In July, Sara and Paul completed an eight-day, 80-mile excursion on foot across northern England and along Hadrian's Wall, from Carlisle to Newcastle, amid lovely countryside: lots of cows and thousands of sheep.

MICHAEL VESSELAGO has closed his psychotherapy practice and is looking forward to enjoying the opportunities afforded by having time, such as volunteering at the local Immigrant Work Center, helping Central American and Middle Eastern immigrants develop ways to be self-supporting in their new homeland. In addition, he and Barbara are exploring downsizing and moving to an apartment in Toronto, where several friends live.

TED KRISMANN returned to Hudson, Ohio, for his 60th reunion at Western Reserve Academy, which was a great chance to reminisce with former classmates, including **ALAN KEENER**. Ted also visited the nearby farm where he lived from age 11 through Amherst years. The 66 acres are now in the center of Ohio's only national park—Cuyahoga Valley National Park. The house and barn are gone, and the front yard's acre of grass with a creek running through it is a wetland now, due to construction of the interstate nearby. Fortunately, the two waterfalls downstream have become popular attractions for hikers. Ted shared his old photos, verbal history and hand-drawn map of the farm with park rangers, capping off a worthwhile trip to another era.

JENS "NICK" TOUBORG retired in 2009 at age 70, after 40 years of private practice of internal medicine offered by the Jewish Theological Seminary in Wellesley, Mass., and a several-year stint running

an outpatient walk-in clinic in Waltham. Throughout that time, Nick enjoyed his relationship with his patients enormously. A men's book group has been a great source of enjoyment in retirement, but parting with his 17-year-old Toyota and eliminating most of the piles on his desk have proven to be a real challenge.

JOE RICHARDSON and Terry enjoyed their trip to Denmark, but their three-castle walking tour was a bit too much. Consequently, Joe has spent a lot of time at the gym with his trainer since returning. A brief trip to Block Island, R.I., is still on the drawing board but may be nixed because of all the walking. In the meanwhile, Joe and **BOB SHOEMAKER** continue to enjoy frequent lunches together.

BRUCE CUTHBERTSON continues to do arbitrations and mediations, serve as a director of several companies, travel and work on his "island" project. Earlier this year, he and Martha visited Jordan, loved the country, loved the people and were amazed by its history. Recently, they returned from their annual vacation to Round Key Island, which is part of the Cayos Cochinos archipelago—a marine-protected coral reef system off the north coast of Honduras: "Seventeen days of no news, no TV and no internet: life is good!"

RON DAITZ and Linda are thoroughly enjoying their new free time since Ron gave up his law practice and only serves on the Mead Art Museum advisory board and the board of his NYC co-op. Delighting in their three granddaughters; traveling to Paris, Capri and Israel; and taking adult education courses have been great. The newest chapter for them both began this September when they started a master's program in Jewish studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary. "Mazel tov" to you both!

JOSE FAUSTINO and Angela recently visited Japan and Australia and thought Japan was wonderful. The people were quiet, courteous and honest, and the cherry blossoms were still in bloom. Japan's 200 mph electric train, the Shinkansen, was very impressive, and one hardly felt any tremor. Australia was an enjoyable place to visit, and Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, were all interesting. However, the process for applying for a visa online was complicated and frustrating, and Jose found the security procedures at each airport intimidating.

Two feet of snow notwithstanding, **CHARLES BERRYMAN** and Jo celebrated their 50th anniversary with a New York visit to the Museum of Modern Art and a Broadway play. Next was a May visit to Colorado for their grandson's high school graduation and a late spring snowfall in Denver. Then back to La Jolla Beach, Calif., to celebrate with their sons and three grandsons amidst ocean waves, green fairways and no snow. Last but not least was three-week trip to Europe in September. Recalling Roger Sale, Charles added that "nothing could ever match the extraordinary blast of energy that

was Roger Sale beginning our education at Amherst."

On May 20, **CHARLES HUSBANDS** and Nan attended the memorial service for **CUSH ANTHONY**'s wife, Karen, and met Ellen and **PETER BEREK** and Sarah and **ANDY OLESKER** there. Afterward, while Cush hosted a dinner for his assembled family, the six of them dined on the Portland waterfront. Having hobbled around at our 55th reunion, Charles reported that, thanks to diligent PT, he and Nan were able to undertake the extended camping voyage originally planned for summer 2016, the 20th in a series begun in 1981. New key destinations included San Antonio, where they both have ancient family connections, and Big Bend National Park. They also visited sons Stephen in Santa Fe and Ken in the Bay Area.

PETER BEREK decided to stop teaching after working with a terrific group of students in a Shakespeare course at Amherst last fall, but the College generously agreed to let him hang around as a "visiting scholar" in the English department. Last June, he and Ellen traveled to Salzburg, Vienna and Prague after he presented a paper at a conference on Ben Jonson in Würzburg. Subsequently, they joined their children and grandchildren for a week at a guest ranch in Colorado.

Lastly, "notetaker" **DICK DIMOND** and Anne Welles had a wonderful two-week ocean cruise to the Baltic in May, visiting Stockholm, Sweden; Helsinki, Finland; St. Petersburg, Russia; Tallinn, Estonia; Gdańsk, Poland; the "East German" countryside; a Baltic seaside vacation spot; Copenhagen and Aalborg, Denmark; and Stavanger, Eidfjord and Bergen, Norway. Aside from the pampering of shipboard life and the food, they thoroughly enjoyed Helsinki, Tallinn, Norway and enough salmon and herring that a dorsal fin now protrudes from Dick's back.

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1962

As I begin my term as class secretary, I want to pay tribute to **LARRY BECK** not only for his excellent job as our secretary these past five years but also for his superb job as our program chair at our 55th reunion.

The three panel discussions were outstanding and well-attended, and his leadership was everywhere in evidence. Thanks to you, Larry, and to your fabulous steering committee. Congratulations to our other new class officers: **GEORGE CARMANY**, president; **LARRY BECK**, vice president; **PORTER WHEELER**, treasurer; **BLAIR** and **FRED SADLER**, program chairs; **CRAIG MORGAN**, webmaster; and **DAVID ROLL**, choregus.

DAVID SCHULTZ reports the sad news that his wife of 50 years, Harriet Sonja Schultz, died of breast cancer on July 15. He writes that he has been taking com-

Charles Berryman '61 and Jo celebrated their 50th anniversary with a New York visit to the Museum of Modern Art and a Broadway play.

It was good to hear from John Hazlett '62. His exciting news is the arrival on July 24 of a third grandson, who joins six granddaughters.

fort from family members and friends. Please join me in expressing condolences to Dave.

STEVE HERSH claims that his news is not news, but, of course, it is: "Having a grandchild who is starting college and my turning 77 force me to break through my denial about being a 'senior citizen.'"

MORTY BERMAN says he is still working full-time after being "self-employed" since 1971. The new "news" is that he has now become an employee, since his pediatric practice was recently purchased by Northwell. Quite proudly, he admits to having "eight wonderful grandchildren, seven boys. ... [We] spend much of our summer at the beach on Long Island—no plans for retiring yet."

It was good to hear from **JOHN HAZLETT**. His exciting news is the arrival on July 24 of a third grandson, who joins six granddaughters. James weighed in at 9lbs., 5 oz.

Our newly anointed class president, **GEORGE CARMANY**, reports that he and our newly minted class treasurer, **PORTER WHEELER**, had a board meeting without notice or quorum but with their wives, Judy and Mary, spending a delightful day in late July boating and beaching. George writes, "Like the walrus, we talked of many things, but not including how we might blow the sizable wad that the class has banked." Please also note a late-breaking news release from Marquis Who's Who that George has been named a lifetime achiever for his leadership in the finance industry.

CRAIG MORGAN, our class webmaster, with some editing by former class secretary **RICH LANDFIELD**, reports that "A week after our [55th] reunion, when **FREDSADLER** and Edi Matsumoto came through D.C., Sing-huen [Craig's wife] and I had them over to dinner with **RICH** and Lonie **LANDFIELD**, **DAVE** and Nancy **ROLL**, **FRED** and Anne **WOODWORTH** and **FRED GREGORY**. We had many reminiscences and laughs about our first year at Amherst. Also, in response to all our questions, **FRED GREGORY** recounted how his switch to the Air Force Academy led to a career of adventure—medevac helicopter pilot in Vietnam, test pilot, astronaut and finally deputy administrator of NASA. In addition to hearing about the space shuttle mission Fred commanded to the International Space Station, we heard from the other side of the table about an equally critical mission—**FRED WOODWORTH** being sent as a special emissary from Morrow to Stearns to obtain a copy of **DAVID ROLL**'s Physics 1 notes, necessary to rescue those in Morrow wallowing in confusion.

DICK NUGENT and wife Cathy still live in Little Rock, Ark. He retired in 2010 as (a) branch chief for family health at the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), where he directed the state's Maternal and Child Health Block Grant program, and (b) professor in the College of Public Health at the University of Arkansas. Dick

makes it clear, however, that he remains active in retirement. He has worked at small part-time jobs, one at the request of ADH, on whose behalf he negotiated a new set of state regulations for licensed lay midwives, and another at the request of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences' Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, which involved an evaluation of a statewide effort to develop a consultation and referral system for women with high-risk pregnancies. Currently, he is being paid by the health insurance companies Humana, Coventry and WellCare to make home visits to their members for the purpose of doing thorough histories, a brief physical and an assessment of medications, which is shared with the member's primary care physicians. His efforts often can delay or prevent future hospitalizations. Dick and Cathy (also retired) enjoy their small cabin in Petit Jean State Park, an hour away, where they have wonderful friends. Their three grown children—Erik, Stephanie and Ben—live in Arkansas, Indiana and Oregon, respectively. All have jobs or interests that involve music. Dick and Cathy have three grandchildren.

PHIL LILIENTHAL writes that his most recent exciting news is that Global Camps Africa (GCA) have "formed a strong South African board of directors, composed of business people, fund managers and entrepreneurs. This could lead the way to transitioning financially to local control, as they want to raise the money needed to fund the operation." This may enable GCA, which uses camping as a vehicle for social change and self-empowerment among underserved youth, to export its work to other countries. Phil is recuperating from a broken kneecap accompanied by some recurring infection, which seems now to be gone.

JOHN KIELY checked in on his way to Omaha, Neb., to participate in the age-group triathlon nationals, where he hoped to see **DEAN PAXSON**. John's wife, Pam Oatis, is writing a book about early childhood development entitled *The First Thousand Days*.

DAVE NICHOLS wants those of us who think that it is always raining in the Seattle area to know that Bellingham, Wash., his summer venue, has just set a new record of 55 or so days without rain. Dave explains that "summers here on the lake give me [and wife Dot] lots of opportunity to scull in 75-degree weather." They head south in November to a new condo in Scottsdale, Ariz., for the winter and welcome any '62-ers who get down that way.

LARRY and Joan **BECK** have been on the move with travel, family and friends. At the end of the school year, they took two grandchildren (ages 12 and 14), the daughter and son of their daughter Kathy '92, on a 12-day Alaskan trip that included a cruise up the inland passageway and a visit to Denali National Park. Larry reports that they experienced breathtaking Mount Denali without its usual cloud

bonnet. Additional trips were made to a mini family reunion on Block Island, R.I.; two visits to their favorite getaway, a house they built on Eagles Mere Lake in the Poconos, including one weekend with friends Jamie and Geoff Stoudt '64; and finally a trip to Keuka Lake, N.Y., with his best friend from medical school and wife. On tap were trips to Hilton Head Island, S.C., with son David '07; his wife, Tori '07; and 9-month-old Greyson, and to Boston to see Larry's sister Sally and the Becks' first son, Larry Jr., and wife Catherine. In mid-October the Becks are back to Florida, where Larry sings in two chorales.

LARRY MIKE reports on more exciting trips. On the horizon are visits to India, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. He continues his work as a hearings officer for the State Water Resources Commission in Hawaii, including contested cases on stream diversions, which involve over 30 streams and 40,000 acres in central

"My wife keeps imploring me not to climb trees."

Maui. He says that, now that the last sugar company has gone out of business, everybody wants the water and is concerned about what will happen to all that land. Larry says he continues to go to his gentleman coffee and fruit farm in Captain Cook on the island of Hawaii every other week. "As old age creeps up, I can no longer keep up with my tree pruning and have to hire help for the bigger limbs," he says. "My wife keeps imploring me not to climb trees."

BRIAN CRISTALDI honed his painting skills this summer in Connecticut. Samples of his work with watercolors and oils and the subject of cows may be seen by following a link found on these 1962 class notes on the Amherst website. Brian adds that his summer was also dedicated to environmental protection: installing a new septic system.

At the 11th hour, I got several emails from **BOB HARBISON**'s wife, Esther. Many of us have waited years to get news of Bob. Esther writes that, after getting his doctorate in English at Cornell and teaching at Washington University in St. Louis, Bob has been living in London most of the time since 1971. He is the author of seven books. His first, *Eccentric Spaces*, was published in 1977 and, incidentally, was reviewed by Dick Todd. Esther states that Bob's English editor said that she needed to wrap a wet towel around her head when she attempted to read *Deliberate Regression*. Bob's interests are books, paintings and buildings (architecture). Bob and Esther plan a trip to Belize with her son and family over Christmas—the beach for the grandson and the ruins for Bob. Please note that Bob will be giving a lecture on May 3, 2018, at Drexel University in Philadelphia entitled "Detail and Perception."

The Shorts have been on the move since the 55th reunion. Patricia and I spent a couple of delightful weeks in June in Finland and Norway, including a cruise down Norway's coast on a Hurtigruten coastal ferry from Kirkenes to Bergen, missing **GEORGE ROUSSEAU** by a few days (George lectures there from time to time). In July and August we visited the Chautauqua Institution in western New York for a couple of weeks (themes were "A Crisis of Faith?" and "Media and the News: Ethics in the Digital Age"), where we bumped into John Wessner '60. We spent a delightful mini week at Harrington Harbor on Chesapeake Bay with our son Justin, wife Annie, and Hudson and Clark (ages 5 and 2), and capped off our summer trips with a wedding anniversary celebration in Rockport, Mass.; attendance at a Camp Dudley reunion on Lake Champlain; and a short cruise on Squam Lake, N.H., with our eldest son, Joe, wife Liz, and Maddie and Lily (ages 9 and 6).

I look forward to and welcome news from you at any time. Within the rules set by the College, I will edit minimally. Let's stay in touch, please.

> SANDY SHORT

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1963

BOB APLINGTON from London, writes that "the daily Trump and Brexit comedy show is keeping me entertained this year—hopefully neither will end in tragedy. ... All is well with me except for a strained ACL in my left knee. It's not good for my squash game but otherwise no real problem." He plans to cross the Atlantic for our 55th reunion, May 23–27, next year.

BEACH CONGER writes that he "thought I would have had the hang if it by now, but afraid not, so I'm still practicing [medicine]. Mostly those with addiction disorders. They are more accustomed to being treated by the incompetent and the infirm." He said he is writing another book about his medical adventures, but it is taking a while. "When is a long time too long? Hopefully it will not be posthumously published."

TOM DIEHL and wife Dorothy continue to live in New Hampshire on a 15-acre farm during the warm half of the year and go south to Florida for the cold months. "In both places we entertain visiting kids, grandkids and friends, and we get in a lot of ballroom dancing, bridge and tennis. A Naples friend and I won the gold in the 75-to-80-year-old men's doubles at the National Senior Games held in Birmingham, Ala., this past June. ... I haven't been teaching for years now, and Dot too is retired, but she still teaches some Pilates training classes."

RICK FRIED and wife Barb toured Cuba last January and played slow-pitch baseball in Remedios. "I managed to embarrass myself (a Ruthian swing that put me

on my back). Fun otherwise." Rick's two oldest grandchildren are off to Penn and Rice. "No Amherst takers," says Rick, adding: "I don't think 'Mammoths' was the dealbreaker."

JOHN HAY reports he and three other classmates headed for this year's Octoberfest in Germany: John, **TOD HOUGHTLIN**, **KENT FAERBER** and **HANS BERGMANN** (with spouses) spent 10 days in Berlin. Besides beer, they enjoyed Wiener schnitzel, *The Magic Flute* and a tour of the city's architecture.

DEWITT HENRY's latest literary project involves a series of what might be called prose poems, or essays, or meditations, which have been published on the web and will be published in book form next year. One, entitled "On Time," has appeared on Juked.com; another, "On Handshakes," was featured on PlumePoetry.com. DeWitt continues to write for and serve as a contributing editor for The Woven Tale Press, a free online arts-and-literature monthly.

MAL JOHNSON in October visited Parris Island, S.C., for his grandson Andrew's graduation from Marine boot camp. Mal gets in a couple of games of golf weekly when it isn't raining. In August, his home in Texas experienced 52 inches of rain during Hurricane Harvey, but it was built on land with enough elevation to escape the flooding, and the only damage to Mal's property was to a section of fence.

ANDY LEADER writes: "Aside from an ongoing cardiac issue and a couple of other health bumps in the road, Janet and I have been enjoying our woodsy home [in North Middlesex, Vt.]. We've had several visits from son Nick, an IT security specialist, and our beautiful 3-year-old granddaughter, Adeline Therese (Addie). We visited our son Isaac in New York, along with our bright and sturdy 18-month-old grandson, Louie, who was visiting from Japan with his mom, Ai (Isaac's long-distance fiancée). I continue to play fiddle, occasionally in public, and Janet and I enjoy singing for friends. I've also been doing some math tutoring and substitute teaching."

WILL LEE continues full-time at the University of Texas Southwestern and Parkland Hospitals in Dallas, specializing in liver injury and hepatitis, and investigating drugs and viruses that impact the liver. Wife Elizabeth is finally fully retired after serving as an interim head at several schools throughout the country. Before that, she spent 14 years as head of Hockaday, a girls' school in Dallas. The Lees celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a trip to Greece and Venice that reprised their honeymoon. Sons Matt and Ted '93 are food and travel writers, and daughter Caroline is a sociology professor at Lafayette College.

PETER LEFFERTS and wife Jane returned to the Eastern Shore of Maryland to host their annual family crab feast in Grasonville, just across Chesapeake Bay from where they both grew up near Bal-

timore. The couple settled this summer into a high-rise condo unit in downtown Minneapolis. During cooler months, the Lefferts live in Tampa, Fla. Peter is continuing volunteer board work with two national affordable-housing enterprises. He also plans to spend more time with his two sons and their families based in Minnesota, Florida and Virginia. Peter now plans several rail trips. He writes: "Since age 7, I have loved trains. We have schlepped the family legacy Lionel model trains across much of the northern hemisphere. They are now safely set up and operating in my brother's Chicago basement, which I visit several times each year."

ALLAN OLIVER and his partner, Gary Simundson, went to Europe in July and August as part of a tour with the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral choir of Portland, Ore. They both sang in the choir at a Mass at Notre Dame and at the American Cathedral in Paris. The choir then went to St. Paul's in London for a week and sang six settings of the "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis," including the St. Paul's Service by Herbert Howells. With choir, spouses and companions, all numbered 103. "Paris was wonderful, but this was my first time in London, and I fell in love," Allan writes. Before the tour, Gary and Allan spent five days in Reykjavik, Iceland, visiting Gary's relatives, and then a week in Belgium to "see great church art by van Eyck and Rubens, a quirky museum dedicated to Jacques Brel, the Antwerp Pride parade, and to eat a lot of *moules et frites*."

LAURIE OSBORN says he and wife Wendy are working more than they really want to and thus have little time for much beyond their four children, their spouses and now eight grandchildren. The latest, Ivy, was born on Eclipse Day, Aug. 21, to son Kris and Betsy Osborn in northern Virginia. Laurie and Wendy's older son, Erik, a medical doctor in the Army, is close to retiring to civilian medicine. Holyoke, Mass., some 15 miles south of Amherst, remains home to Laurie and Wendy. Wendy is still working and running a large health careers program at Holyoke Community College. "Anyone in the Amherst area, anytime, please give us a ring or email," writes Laurie.

HUGH PRICE reports that his memoir, *This African-American Life* (Blair, 2017), continues to get good reviews. "Chock full of self-deprecating humor and tongue-in-cheek reflections."—*Chicago Crusader Weekly*; "His choices and success indicate a degree of self-knowledge and self-reliance to hit the curveballs in the high-stakes game of public life."—*Martha's Vineyard Times*; "[Price is] that friendly uncle who has all the answers and incredible stories to share."—*USA Today*; "It was fun and exhausting to read about the challenges Hugh faced and to enjoy the successes he achieved."—**ALAN BERNSTEIN** on the class listserv. Alan did wish that Hugh had written a bit more about his life at Amherst, but then, one book can't contain everything.

DeWitt Henry '63 writes for and serves as a contributing editor for The Woven Tale Press, a free online arts-and-literature monthly.

STEVE SALKEVER participated in a conference in Oxford, England, on the recent work of the philosopher Alasdair MacIntyre. His presentation was on the philosophical and political overlaps and differences between MacIntyre (still active at the age of 88) and Leo Strauss, Steve's principal teacher in grad school. Following the conference, Steve and wife Jane Hedley led a Bryn Mawr alumnae tour of various places in Britain. "Most exciting of all, our grandson Courtney Scott has just been hired as assistant coach of the men's and women's tennis teams at Drexel in Philadelphia," Steve writes.

BILL STRONG went on an East Coast "Alma Mater Tour" with his grandson Jordan, visiting "Amherst (me), Brown (daughter), Penn (me/grad school, my dad/Wharton) and William and Mary (son)." At Amherst, after info session, campus tour and interview, the group enjoyed a delightful long lunch in Valentine with Scottie and **KENT FAERBER**. "No visit is ever complete without a visit with the two of them," says Bill. "You would not believe how great the food is now in Valentine—no 'mystery meat' to be found anywhere."

TOM ZUCKERMAN and wife split their time between rural life in Acampo, Calif., and urban life in Fukuoka, southern Japan. The couple will celebrate 10 years of marriage next June. In the United States, Tom is active in efforts to keep the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta "from thirsty farmers and land developers" and continues to help manage some closely held businesses. In the fall he spent some time in Japan's northern island, Hokkaido, on outdoor pursuits such as golf, fly fishing and hunting.

It is with sadness we learned that **ALEX SIEGEL** died July 31, and we send condolences to his children and wife Sandy, who celebrated with him their 50th wedding anniversary three years ago. The class website has a tribute and memorial from his friend and Chi Phi fraternity brother. An In Memory piece for Alex will appear in a future issue.

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1964

One event eclipsed the others. **DOUG LOWY** was one of two recipients of the Lasker Award. Since 1945, the awards program has recognized the contributions of scientists, physicians and public servants who have made major advances in the understanding, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of human disease. After sharing Amherst with us, Doug received his M.D. from New York University School of Medicine. With his postdoctoral fellow and co-recipient, John Schiller, Ph.D., he began studying the human papilloma virus (HPV), inspired by Professor Harald zur Hausen, Ph.D. (University of Freiburg, who received the Nobel Prize for his research in 2008), who had

demonstrated that HPV was a causative agent of human cervical cancer. Lowy and Schiller discovered that, when a key protein of the HPV virus was "expressed" (manufactured) in insect cells (instead of bacteria), it formed stable particles that would become the basis of a commercial vaccine. Doug has been the acting director of the NCI since 2015. Congratulations from all of us, Doug!

Unfortunately, we lost two classmates, **DAVID PELLEGRIN** and **BILL LEWIS II**. Please see the In Memory section.

About the other eclipse, **RIP SPARKS** writes, "We hosted friends from Wisconsin and our daughter, son-in-law and 4-year-old granddaughter. We drove to the southwest side of St. Louis, where granddaughter Margaret was well prepared with her book, *Someone Is Eating the Sun*. We had over a minute of totality, and the experience when the sun's disk was finally blocked was like someone suddenly threw the light switch to off. We could see the planet Venus. There was a rosy glow all around the horizon. The crickets and other summer insects began chirping and continued for several minutes after totality. For me, memorable events included the diversity of families excitedly sharing expectations and views through homemade devices each had brought. A collective outburst of cheering occurred prematurely when a cloud momentarily shaded the crescent sun, but then the real event happened. Marvelous!"

AL FURTWANGLER and wife Virginia were joined in Salem, Ore., by **JOE** and Sally **FOSTER** (Leeds, England) and **BOB** and Arleen **LEIBOWITZ** (L.A.). The two scientists were stunned by the climactic halo in a dark sky. "I was more attentive to variations of light around us, and the responses of neighbors in our street. Afterwards, we sat on our porch to talk over the event and to recall Amherst classmates and courses. Bob described his quest to find a deep rationale behind the New Curriculum; he concluded that it was designed to ask, "What do you know, and how do you know it?" Science 1-2 enlarged his appreciation of science as a pursuit and led to his major in chemistry. Joe and I discovered that we had overlapping experiences just to get to Amherst from the West Coast. It took days to cross the continent by train over the Rockies and the High Plains, change in Chicago and again at Grand Central and in Springfield to arrive in Northampton and emerge into a whole new world."

TOM GUILBERT wrote from Portland, Ore., which was near but not in the path of totality of this eclipse. "Our home is roughly halfway up the north slope of the tallest hill in Portland, and on Monday morning, the day of the eclipse, my bride and I walked the roughly 1½ miles up our hill to the summit, elevation 1,073 feet, where there is a nice park. From Council Crest, one has a view of no fewer than six Cascade Range volcanoes that host living glaciers. On the morning of Aug. 21

there were about 1,000 to 2,000 people gathered in the park's open spaces to view the eclipse."

JOHN PERKINS in Kensington, Calif.: "It was a foggy, gloomy day. At eclipse time, about 75 percent here, the gloom became gloomier. That was it. We had our ISO-certified glasses, but in fact we couldn't even tell where the sun was through the fog. Still, we enjoyed watching the shadow race across the country via TV and a live stream from NASA. Kensington, by the way, is absolutely the most foggy and chilly part of the entire San Francisco Bay area. August, as a rule, is the time to flee town to avoid the fog, but this year we didn't."

From amateur astronomy buff **CLARK DEEM**: "It was on my bucket list! Julie and I decided to go inland, cutting south through the beautiful Willamette Valley (Pinot Noir country), ending up in the small town of Independence, Ore., ground zero for the central eclipse path. Rheostat-like gradual dimming of the sun, eventually down to darkness except for a pink 'sunset' at the horizon, but not just in the west, rather a 360-degree sunset, with a 15-degree temperature drop. The corona is an amazingly bright, feathery halo, scalloped, pure white or blue-white (at 10,000,000 degrees, it sure isn't yellow), with a central black dot, like a dark pupil—the moon. A huge shout-out from the crowd and finally applause when the sun beaded through. We found a local restaurant and declared the day a success."

The degree of shadow was 58 percent in midcoast Maine, where **DOUG** and Dotty **REILLY** observed it. Doug had seen eclipses on Antigua in 1998 (almost missed as he fussed with his telescope and camera) and another just south of Vienna, and chased an annular one in New Mexico in 2004. He may well be our "eclipse guy."

PETER MANUELIAN attended a memorial in Seattle for Roger Sale, who died recently after a long career at the University of Washington post-Amherst. A very moving event, as these things often are. What was a pleasing surprise were the speakers, who were his students, and who appreciated the praise and encouragement he offered on their efforts, including a class of '62 Amherst English major whose comments were similar to the ones some of us have made, but whose work with Sale after 1-2 provided a rather different experience.

STEPHEN MITCHELL and wife Byron Katie have two books coming out this fall: they coauthored *A Mind at Home with Itself*, and Stephen wrote a new verse translation of *Beowulf*. According to Yale University Press, "Stephen Mitchell's marvelously clear and vivid rendering recreates the robust masculine music of the original. This new translation—sparse, sinuous, vigorous in its narration and translucent in its poetry—makes a masterpiece accessible to everyone."

On a roller-coaster ride with **BRADCOL-**

1964: From Peter Easton: "Wife Zohre and I have been greatly enjoying senior living down here in Tallahassee, Fla. I retired from faculty duties at the Florida State University College of Education in June 2015. Principal occupations nowadays are tending our backyard orchard and hiking the trails of the Deep South. Some international travel (including a second trip to Zohre's native heath of Iran) and visits to family and national parks with our two adult children, Nasimeh and Naveed."

LINS: “In November our first grandchild was born. In January, Ali, her husband and our new grandson moved back to Columbia, and lived with us for three months while they found a house, all while [my] wife Stacey was filming the first season of her ETV show, *Yoga in Practice*. In May we spent 17 days in Croatia with our other daughter, Zola, and her boyfriend following their Peace Corps service in Senegal.”

JIM and Sue **DONHAM** made their annual trek to Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire in August, and hosted **DAVE** and Pru **LAKE** and their granddaughter Avery for dinner at the Donhams’ rental cottage in Moultonborough. Dave has been energetic at the gym, even taking up gloves and punching a bag.

Dr. **DAVID PEARLE** and **DICK BARTH** got together in Lenox, Mass., and chatted about **GIL SCHMERLER**’s new book, *Henrietta Schmerler and the Murder that Put Anthropology on Trial*. This story is about the 30-year pursuit by a niece and nephew of Gil to find the “truth.” It includes a lawsuit against the FBI and shapes a more accurate portrayal of his aunt and her murder on an Apache reservation in Arizona. “This labor of love has produced a fascinating story, intricately researched and beautifully told.” Dick is the author of numerous mysteries, including a series of Margaret Binton stories. David is a professor of medicine at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. He is board-certified in internal medicine, cardiovascular disease and interventional cardiology. He has repeatedly been recognized by multiple organizations, including as one of *Washingtonian* magazine’s Top Doctors since the list was first developed. He is the author of more than 45 research publications in the fields of heart failure, acute coronary care and interventional cardiology.

STEVE SMITH is still enjoying his very casual work life, serving on three medical device boards and on two nonprofit boards—one a marina on Lake Superior and the other the reality documentary entitled *The President and the Poet*. “Happy to not be on the firing line of any of the commercial undertakings, and more than very happy not to be practicing law any more. Enjoying our summers in Bayfield, Wisc., and portions of the winter on Amelia Island, Fla., our two nearing-50 daughters and our seven grandchildren.” Hope there isn’t too much damage to Amelia from Hurricane Irma’s visit.

In collaboration with several others, **CHUCK LEWIS** has been working for the last six years to modernize Amherst’s career center, which most of us remember as a rudimentary undertaking, at best. Now it is named the Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning, which aptly describes its new mission. It now has four specialized career programs (Amherst Careers In Education Professions, Health Professions, Business and Finance, and Arts and Communications), with three more on the way. In addition, it

is mounting a strong internship program. All of this will better support every Amherst student, beginning upon their arrival on campus, but most particularly first-generation and low-income students, who arrive with less social capital than others.

DENNIS RIDLEY’s latest adventure was a visit to friend and former Amherst professor Bob Birney and his wife, Margaret, now both 92. Bob was a popular psychology teacher, and those who knew them will be glad to hear that both are reasonably well and mentally very sharp. One of Bob’s memories of our class was serving on an honors thesis committee of someone who surprised everybody by his serious and creative scholarship that wouldn’t fit into any known category at the time. Bob was amazed then and still talks about it today. Here’s the mystery: who was it? He was a football player, although a rather small man. The work dealt with existentialism. Do you have any clue?

> **VINCE SIMMON**
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1965

There is a current running through some of our conversations, a disappointment that Amherst has shifted so seismically that walls have cracks wide enough that our memories leak out, nor does the College seem to have interest in many classmates’ hopes for a future that aligns with our experience. But one can pick up a remarkable book that celebrates so much of what many of us hold with such affinity.

Tragically, we lost **PAUL RUXIN**. In his memory, and even more to Paul’s honor and credit, **SAM ELLENPORT**, **RON “LABORDAY” GORDON** and **GORDON PRADL**, with the support of **DON MACNAUGHTON**, **MARK PERRY**, **CHUCK BUNTING**, **BRUCE WINTROUB** and **LEW MARKOFF**, have brought out a book of Paul’s writings titled *The Past as Present: Selected Thoughts and Essays*. If I have read a book more upholding of high levels of thought and expression, that experience belongs to the future. It is also, this book, miraculously, an entertainment. The contents range from book collecting, to Shakespeare, to a legal examination of the Amish people’s desire to keep their children out of public education. But the wide range of subjects that both demanded and rewarded Paul’s mind and literary talent read like a love letter to the value of history, and to the functions of an active and intelligent mind that we cherish. This volume is a visual and tactile pleasure, bound and printed with a commitment to quality to match the contents. Limited printing, so, should you want one, chase down the swift and agile **SAM ELLENPORT**.

WALTER KASELL and wife Eva are just heading out for a family reunion in her homeland, Denmark. Children are flying in from New York, Puerto Rico and Kathmandu (yes, that one!). They look forward

to a relaxed stay along the sea, with lots of good company and good food. Here’s hoping that no Scandinavian equivalent of Hurricane Harvey interferes with the Kassells’ reunion plans. My own daughter (who just got her Ph.D. at Pepperdine) had to cut short her visit to beat the storm and fly out when it was still possible. But I think that Denmark is far removed from those tropical depressions that generate hurricanes. Tropical depressions? Sometimes experience them myself.

ROGER and Claudia **SIEMENS** have “retreated” to their house at Lake Tahoe. “Always beautiful here. One just hikes and swims and ignores the news, and life seems fine.” Claudia is from Charlottesville and was certainly upset but, as do many of us, understands there can be value in truthful education about the past, not to be forgotten or ignored. (Whether it is statues, vocabulary in *Huck Finn* or wishing one could have stopped French revolutionaries from smashing irreplaceable stained-glass windows, one wants to be deliberate rather than mob-righteous.) Roger’s retirement is going well after 40 years of surgery. He keeps active with golf and cycling and teaching the scrub tech students with mock surgery at a vocational tech school in Tulsa. Roger is happy to be a liberal Californian in Oklahoma.

I think of **MIKE ALCIVAR** daily as I look at the 50th-reunion cup he selected for us that rests on my mantelpiece. He and Ximena continue to travel on a shoestring, appreciating people, sights, history and culture. Mike finds himself expressing opinions of key figures’ actions. He has come to appreciate the dangers of ingrained bias and complacency (especially by people who have had the privilege of a good education plus sufficient economic security). Mike suspects the answer may lie in supporting good works with time, money and trying to be a more visible example. On the Alcivars’ last trip to Minnesota, they had a very pleasant dinner with Peter Lefferts ’63. (**TOM POOR** and Mike washed dishes for Peter when he was a “grey coat” in Valentine.) After a distinguished career in financial services, Peter seems ready to reallocate time to local community and political involvement. Mike will take that example, and perhaps, our classmate hopes, make a difference in helping our country come out on the right side of history.

DAVE GARRISON puzzles over what to do with the current deep disconnect between the Donald and his narrow band of supporters and, seemingly, the rest of us. Dave and his wife are slack-jawed with the Prez’s latest madness: Will Trump goad the North Korean Dear Leader sufficiently to prompt a preemptive strike on Seoul’s millions? Like the Alcivars, Dave and Loretta are doubling down on foreign travel as one way to keep their minds open to the wide world around us. This fall they will travel though Palestine, Egypt, Jordan and Israel for a month. Close to home,

“Always beautiful here. One just hikes and swims and ignores the news, and life seems fine.”

Dave volunteers at the local food bank, helping unload the weekly early morning delivery by semi-truck of foodstuffs from the Boston Food Bank. (He is now a “certified” forklift driver!) We could have, concludes Dave, done better than “the Mammoths.”

GEOFF PHILLIPS finds the real “fake news” is what comes out of the president’s mouth and, for reasons that escape him, the media considers it news and reports on it endlessly, rather than reporting on what’s actually happening in Venezuela or Sudan or China. What would be news would be to report crisply on what Trump

1957, the last true road race for Formula One cars was held. Stirling Moss won, while 46-year-old Juan Manuel Fangio was second in a Maserati, a car that I sat in the next year. I now regret ever relinquishing my grip on that slender, wood-rimmed steering wheel, as I never found a way back.

After a series of false alarms, **MIKE WHEELER** is retired from his Harvard Business School teaching for real, but he has found another arena for his unquenchable pedagogic energy. (If you count back to “found” and go to “energy” of that phrase, **JOHN BOE** would remark on proximity to the iambic. Not exactly, but to quote John Wayne, whom I met in the Warner Brothers commissary, “I’d hate to live on the difference.”) Mike has developed an online course, accessible to all, in his field of negotiation. In so doing, he gained insights into the ways that knowledge is most effectively transmitted.

The Wheelers’ daughter Callie is married to **DUNCAN MCDUGALL**’s son, Jesse, and they are now farming on land that has been in the family for years. Mike occasionally provides unskilled agricultural labor. Does he keep his papers with him in case our Whoopie Cushion in Chief sends the INS up to southern Vermont to verify citizenship?

BRUCE and Marya **WINTROUB** embarked on a different sort of ocean voyage than the Richters’. Beginning in Ho Chi Minh City, their cruise ship made its way back to our own West Coast. Every night, a Broadway show was presented with the original cast, including artists of the stature of Patti LuPone. And best of all were conversations with these actors offstage, as they were part of the regular passenger list by day. Bruce characterizes the experience as “wonderful.”

AVI STACHENFELD went to Cuba with Amado in July—had wanted to visit since all the way back in the days of the Venceremos Brigade but waited until the revolution had so completely failed that it needs a museum to remind people it happened. Something special about doing a discovery trip with one’s son. Next, Avi went to Croatia on a cycling tour in August, since apparently there are not enough hills around Berkeley. He started in Zagreb in the north and weaved back and forth until his group got to Trogir at about midpoint south to Dubrovnik. Now, with a taste of Eastern Europe, Avi is thinking of a trip—not on a bicycle—next summer to Romania, where his mother’s people came from. There is, for Avi, a self-discovery progression here that includes his current photographic project with the Chasidim in Brooklyn.

Since some of you called, concerned, let me return to the weather: It was just the edge of mighty Hurricane Harvey that caught us here in Austin. Rain, winds to buckle trees, but nothing like the flooding and devastation that engulfed the Texas coast 150 miles from here. Images

of flooded care facilities and people leaving their ruined homes with nothing but their lives evoke pity and charity. And brought back a memory of walking across the quadrangle with Professor Baird and listening to him describe the hurricane of 1938 that hit Amherst.

> PAUL EHRMANN

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1966

BOB HORNICK is the author of a second book, *What Remains: Searching for the Memory and Lost Grave of John Paul Jones*, published by the University of Massachusetts Press. In the book, Bob explains how the Revolutionary War hero and father of the American Navy’s celebrity vanished and was subsequently reconstructed. He explains “why Jones was forgotten, the subsequent recovery of his memory and remains, and the much delayed commemoration of his achievement.” The book also describes “the extraordinary moment when Theodore Roosevelt utilized Jones’s commemoration to proclaim America a global power.” In 2012 Bob was the author of another book, *The Girls and Boys of Belchertown: A Social History of the Belchertown State School for the Feeble-Minded*, from the same publisher. The retired lawyer is an adjunct professor of law at the University of Arizona.

In 2016 the University of Alabama published **STEVE MURRAY**’s book, *The Battle over Peleliu: Islander, Japanese, and American Memories of War*. Along with **PAUL DIMOND**’s *The Belle of Two Arbors*, it’s one of the two most recent ‘66-authored books in the Amherst College Reads catalog (www.amherst.edu/alumni/learn/bookclub/authors). Steve and his wife, Fermina, are residents of Goleta, Calif.

In Greenfield Village in Michigan on Sept. 14, after dinner at the Eagle Tavern, Paul read from his latest book and talked about Robert Frost’s time in Michigan in the spring of 1929. This was part of “A Literary Feast: An Evening of Frost & Food,” which started at the Robert Frost House. During dessert, Paul participated in a panel discussion on how to make the house a living center for American literary creativity going forward. Greenfield Village is part of The Henry Ford, a museum complex that provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, stories and lives from America’s traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness and innovation. Its purpose is to inspire people to learn from these traditions to help shape a better future. Paul is a member of The Henry Ford’s board of trustees.

In July a *Boston Globe* Letter to the Editor was written by **DAVE MCCANN**. He disagreed with one of the newspaper’s columnists who had asserted that the blame for Harvard’s investment policy was a consequence of President Drew Faust’s administration. Dave pointed out that the lousy returns began under President Larry Summers.

West of Wesleyan

1965: Jim Gutmann’s long tenure at Wesleyan is ending. His field was volcanology—volcanoes—and, while Jim has a few manuscripts to finish, he and Peggy are moving to Broomfield, Colo. This is not far from Boulder, where I grew up, and has that spectacular view of the front range of the Rockies from Mount Evans, reached by, I think, the highest drivable road in the country, which is labeled “not for the faint of heart,” past Indian Peaks to Longs Peak behind Estes Park. Both of the Gutmanns’ sons are hydrologists, close enough to the family’s geologic tree. They live in the area, and of course Jim and Peggy look forward to proximity to four grandchildren. Jim, who grew up in Maine, graduated with us and taught for decades just down the Connecticut River, will miss New England. But, Jim, in Colorado the sun shines through the winter!

actually has done (executive orders, pardons, signing legislation, firing a nuclear missile). Wouldn’t it be refreshing, speculates Geoff, if the president held another political rally in Arizona and nothing about it got reported, since the president hadn’t actually done anything?

I try not to mention a classmate in consecutive notes—this toward including more of us. But I’m glad I phoned **JOHN BOE**, since our blood alcohol levels on that evening were nicely compatible. We talked of Professors DeMott, T. Baird and Roger Sale, swapped a few Shakespeare passages—John is strong in that iambic arena. We recalled rooming across the hall from each another—was it sophomore year?—and generally agreed what splendid fellows we and the Woodford Reserve family truly are.

DALE RICHTER is prevailing over his joint pain. I boasted of my new hip. Dale raised me one, plus two knees, and he is actively gardening again. The Richters have enough land to plant between trees, English estate style. A favored tree is the Heptacodium which, at this writing, is swirling with small white blooms that attract an enormous cloud of nectar-seeking bees. The Richters have taken several canal trips through Europe—the Rhine, the Danube—and shortly they are off to the Greek islands and up the Adriatic coast of Italy. They will pass but not necessarily note the town of Pescara, where, in

Retired surgeon **SID SCHWAB** writes a weekly column for his local Everett, Wash., newspaper. “Cutting Through the Crap” (sidschwab.blogspot.com) is limited to 700 words per column. It first appeared in 2008. According to Sid, “his credentials as a political blogger are only that he reads a lot, is deeply interested and genuinely believes that the issues facing us in the dawn of the 21st century are the most existentially important ever.” The liberal blogger began by writing for a number of sites, before he started his own blog, *Surgeonsblog*. It attracted a number of readers in its prime.

PAUL MILMED retired from White & Case, a New York City law firm, two years ago. The NYU graduate is now doing volunteer work at the Hertzberg Palliative Care Institute of Mount Sinai School of Medicine. The program was developed as a response to the physical and emotional needs of hospitalized patients and families facing serious and life-threatening illness. Paul is also a mediator for the U.S. South District Court. He is the recipient of a bronze medal from the Environmental Protection Agency and a special commendation for outstanding service from the U.S. Department of Justice.

In 2009 **WESLEY PITTMAN** retired as a mover. He and wife Elizabeth reside in Brattleboro, Vt. He continues to be active on the Brattleboro Food Co-Op Board. Elizabeth is also retired. She was the Bereavement Care Coordinator at the Brattleboro Area Hospice. They had previously lived in Atlanta and Carrolton, Ga.

Anesthesiologist **JIM SAKLAD** retired at age 62 after an attempt at age 50. He has been with his wife of 25 years, Bonnie Dalzeli, for 42 years. She is a 1966 graduate of UC Berkeley. The Maryland residents have a website that deals with Borzoi, also called Russian Wolfhounds. They are large hunting dogs specialized for chasing down fleeing prey (“coursing”).

RICHARD and Lindy **GROSSINGER** spent a summer month in Ireland and Northern Ireland. *The First Bad Man* is the 2015 debut novel of their daughter, Miranda July. She was a recipient of a Creative Capital Emerging Fields Award.

At the end of July, **JOHN FORRY** stepped down from the academic and part-time legal roles that had occupied him for the past five years, and returned to a full-time multidisciplinary practice in international taxation, finance and investment structuring. His new position is managing director with CBIZ MHM Inc., a company with more than 4,000 personnel in over 30 U.S. offices (www.cbiz.com).

LARRY MEAD was at Amherst during the last academic year, invited to speak by a student group. 2016 saw Larry participate in two events. The first was the AEI 2016 Values & Capitalism Summer Honors Program, in which some students studied “Poverty and Welfare Policy” with Larry, an NYU professor of politics and public policy. In September as part of “The 20th Anniversary of Welfare Re-

form: Lessons and Takeaways,” hosted by the University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research and the Center on Children and Families at the Brookings Institute, Larry was on a “Work and Poverty” panel. After work and family, Larry is an offshore sailor, who has crewed on ocean racers and sailed numerous long races.

DAVID GREENBLATT was profiled as a dedicated member in the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (ASCPT)’s journal. Initially, presentation of research findings at ASCPT annual meetings was of primary importance to him as a young, developing investigator. As time has passed, although he remains invested in and focused on research, the organization has become increasingly important as common ground for developing and sustaining personal/professional relationships. David explained how he ended up in the field of clinical pharmacology due to his parents and their colleagues. His specific areas of research have been the clinical use of the benzodiazepines, the clinical applications of drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics and the understanding of drug interactions. He explains how leadership in the field of clinical pharmacology has moved from academia to private industry. His parting advice was, “As you grow older and professionally mature, help young people [and] avoid making enemies.” David is the recipient of the ASCPT Rawls-Palmer Progress in Medicine Award.

In August **JOHN MCKENZIE** met his first Doshisha University alumnus, Mariko Takagishi, at the Joint Statistical Meetings. Doshisha, one of Japan’s oldest private institutions of higher learning, has approximately 30,000 students enrolled on four different campuses in Kyoto. It was established by Joseph Hardy Neesima, an Amherst graduate, in 1875. At the same meeting, Amherst Professor of Statistics Nicholas Horton was announced as the recipient of the American Statistical Association’s highest honor for service.

JEFF HOFFMAN was pictured in the Amherst Voices feature of the College’s homepage (<https://shar.es/1SMusW>). Below the photograph was a quote from Jeff’s 1985 spacewalk: “You’re surrounded by the universe.”

LINDA HOWARD, KEN HOWARD’s widow, has continued their work with the Onyx & Breezy Foundation as a member of its executive board. Providing financial support to credible organizations and individuals that benefit the welfare of animals is the mission of the foundation. Ken was its national spokesperson.

Finally, congrats to class agent **DICK KLEIN** and his 13 associate agents for their work on the 2017 Amherst Annual Fund, which set a record for dollars raised.

> **JOHN D. MCKENZIE JR.**
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1967

I guess late-summer lethargy afflicted



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

most of our class, and I have little to report this quarter.

BUTCH HAYES sent me a harrowing but sometimes funny story of his close encounter with a table saw in June. While cutting wood for shelving, he managed also to cut off most of the top joint of his thumb. His wife being in New York with their daughters, he sought help from neighbors and eventually ended up in surgery and then with something that looked like a cast for a broken wrist. Ever thoughtful, he did not want to spoil his wife’s weekend, and surprised her with the news when he picked her up at the train station. He received excellent care and seems to be recovering well.

The 50th reunion excessively exceeded expectations for **BILL NEWMANN**, and also for his wife, who took advantage of several of the presentations as well as having a fascinating conversation with Bidly Martin. They send Mammoth thanks to those classmates and the alumni office for the grand efforts involved in the planning and execution! In other news, Bill decided to embrace his former life and will reopen a Bill’s Bait Shop, this time in the mall; he has sworn off using electronic devices (not sure why); he began a campaign to promote lawn and garden welfare by passing local laws outlawing the cutting or trimming of anything green; and he has discovered that Bon Ami is a pretty effective toothpaste substitute for tooth powder, which is much harder to find these days.

The reunion was the highlight of the year for **RICK GOULLAUD**. He loved meeting classmates whom he never knew as a student, and he found the seminars stimulating and educational. He learned more from the health seminars and “100 Days of Trump” than he could ever find in weeks of reading. Rick has outlasted several recent health issues (hypertension and serious neck injury) that cropped up in the weeks prior to his Ironman race in Lake Placid, N.Y. It was not his best race, but he felt it was almost a miracle that he was able to race and finish his fifth IM on July 23. He will likely finally retire from the event. It was a tough day, and he suffered big-time but found his way across the finish line. He is planning to run a marathon in September to try to qualify for Boston in 2018.

↑ Lonely Lab

Amherst’s chemistry laboratory appears well-equipped but devoid of students and faculty in this shot from 1966. Share your memories of working in the lab at magazine@amherst.edu.

If you haven't already watched the '68 Classmate of the Month videos that Doug "Foggy" Pitman and Jack Widness have been producing: I do so.

JASON VICTOR (NASSBERG) SERINUS and his hubbie headed to NYC in June to see Bette Midler in *Hello, Dolly!*. For him, the high point was neither that silly show nor Eötvös' opera, *Angels in America*, at NYCO, but rather the Florine Stettheimer exhibit at the Jewish Museum and a historical revival, by Charles Ludlam's surviving partner, of one of his hilarious late plays.

Then, in July, they headed to the Music Critics of North America Conference in Santa Fe for three operas and a chamber music performance. There, Jason spoke on a CD/DVD reviewing panel and reviewed *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs* for *San Francisco Classical Voice*. Back home, Jason previewed Seattle Opera's *Madame Butterfly* for *The Seattle Times* and discussed issues of racial stereotypes, sexism and cultural appropriation. Boy, did the fur fly on that one. As the dust settles, he works on his latest audio product and recording reviews for *Stereophile* and looks forward to a trip to the Bay Area for the opening of the fall opera season, and to teaching about opera and art song in Port Townsend come October.

FRED LUNDAHL wrote me from Whidbey Island, Wash. He is sorry he missed the reunion. He was in Morocco, and it was too darned hot! Usually they go in April, but this year they went with professor friends from Laval University in Quebec who couldn't go until school was over. It was a big mistake, with temperatures 105 degrees every day and no air conditioning. Fred is still planning on flying up to Prince George for a visit, probably in the fall, since the worst wildfires in British Columbia's history have caused problems for pilots.

My wife, Sylvia, has just returned from Zambia, where she was doing a feasibility study for a field course. The course will be offered for the first time this coming May, and the whole family will go. Lots of elephants there, she reports.

Finally, there is talk about a possible off-year mini reunion with a golfing theme. It is too early for details, but **STEVEN HANNES** is looking into it.

> LEE KEENER

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1968

If you haven't already watched the Classmate of the Month videos that **DOUG "FOGGY" PITMAN** and **JACK WIDNESS** have been producing to summarize some of our thoughts about Amherst, to relate a bit of what we've been doing, and to encourage us all to come to our reunion next May: do so. **TOM CLIFF** observed after watching the first one (of **CHRIS BROWN**), "I was touched. No puffing here about career and offspring triumphs, only honesty. I'm looking forward to the next one." At this writing, Foggy and Jack were scheduled to be in New York in mid-September on their COTM barnstorming tour; an impromptu gathering

of the reunion committee was being organized by **ED SAVAGE**, to include other Big Apple classmates. A complete report will follow. And, by the time you read this, you no doubt will have heard from **ED LYNN** who, assisted by secretaries **DAVID GLASS** and **JOHN STIFLER**, will be assembling the reunion book. Ed's letter will contain information on how to enter your reminiscences online; if you can't figure it out yourself, your youngest grandchild can help you.

In August, Ed and secretary Glass made a pilgrimage to the Orange County, N.Y., home of **WALTER** and Louise (Weezie) **SIMONSON**, upshot of which was Walter's agreement to do another amazing cover for our reunion book. For those who don't remember: Walter's cover for the 25th featured a youthful superhero, Amherst Man, flying up out of the campus with diploma in hand, vowing to fight for "truth, justice and the liberal arts!" (a caption, BTW, thought up by one Andrew Glass, then 11 years old). Walter is not tipping his hand regarding the new cover, except to assure us that it will be more, ahem, age-appropriate. We spent a delightful afternoon with Walter and Weezie; their home is a museum, if not indeed a hall of fame, for comic book art, including a treasure trove of Walter's amazing artwork. Weezie is herself a legend in the field; around the time of our 25th, the famous "Superman is Dead" issue came out, written by Weezie and drawn by Walter.

Although not appearing in the video series, **CHRIS NIELSEN** was definitely the Classmate of the Month in May, as far as Secretary Stifter is concerned. Two months along on his Appalachian Trail hike from Georgia to Maine, John got a visit from Chris at a lean-to shelter in Shenandoah National Park. Having hiked almost all of the Trail himself over the course of a few summers, Chris thought it would be fun to drive across Virginia from his home in Yorktown, park at a trailhead, and walk a couple of miles to the shelter carrying not only a backpack but a cooler containing four superb microbrews on ice.

As it happened, this particular campsite was crammed with hikers, who were impressed that one of their number has a friend who would make such a purposeful excursion. They call this kind of event "trail magic"; Chris is now regarded as one of the great magicians of the forest.

Earlier, the drive to Georgia to begin the hike was punctuated by an inspirational stopover in Hampstead, Md., home of **MARC** and Nina **DAMASHEK**. Marc and John drove to meet **DAN CONRAD** and Paul Stumpf '67 for lunch at the Baltimore Museum of Art's restaurant, followed by a visit to Red Emma's left-wing bookstore and coffee shop. Dan plugged in one of his light boxes and set it on a table where browsers and latte drinkers might notice how the colors on the box's screen are constantly, subtly changing as they shift across the spectrum.

Marc and John also called on **DAVID SETH MICHAELS**, who moved from upstate New York to Baltimore a couple of years ago and is now at home with his high school friend Lori Gladstone in a magnificent house on Charles Street.

Slow-forward five months, and the selfsame secretary would be walking out of the Vermont woods, across the Connecticut River and into Hanover, N.H., thence to Lake Sunapee to visit **JIM** and Ellen **LYNCH**, whose house offered the prospect of spending a night in an actual bed instead of a sleeping bag. A particularly delightful part of the evening's entertainment was Jim and Ellen's highly articulate 3-year-old granddaughter, Zahra.

A week later, where the trail passes through Franconia Notch, John snagged a ride to the nearest hostel with a motorist who happened by. The driver, Ben Myers, turned out to be an Amherst High School and UMass alumnus who now works in Boston with a real estate firm that specializes in LEED-certified and environmentally progressive building. Your hitchhiking secretary asked, "By any chance, do you know **BILL HOLLAND**?" "Yes indeed," Ben replied. "He's a legend in the field—one of the real pioneers in green building."

There were several more pieces of trail magic, including one that coincided with the hour when he was to participate in a conference call about next year's reunion. The trail crossed a road in Pennsylvania where people had set up folding chairs and were handing out fried chicken, watermelon, cookies, potato chips, soda and beer. Stifter loaded the plate, opened a can, took a seat, and punched the numbers connecting him to Widness, Pitman, **BOB HALDEMAN**, **BOB HOLLOWAY**, reunion chairs **MIKE MULLIGAN** and **ED SAVAGE**, and **ED LYNN**.

An update came last spring from **ALLEN ZIPKE**, whose long career in secondary education has led to part-time work for Pearson, the dominant testing and publishing company in the business. Allen also works part-time for Western Governors University, an online university based in Utah. He wrote, "As part of their teacher education program, I've been supervising student teachers in New England, worked with talented students and enjoy visiting a variety of schools." Allen's wife teaches English part time at Great Bay Community College.

Living near the University of New Hampshire, in Durham, the Zipkes enjoy the splendid concentration of restaurants and activities in nearby Portsmouth, and Boston is close. Last winter included a visit to Amherst for the College's Christmas Vespers concert ("always an amazing performance") and lots of skiing; summer means scuba diving, which Allen says is quite good in the waters around Boston and Gloucester: "Always looking for dive buddies."

Elsewhere in the Granite State, **JOHN TEAGUE** sings in the Concord Chorale,

which performed Brahms' *Deutsches Requiem* last May. John remarked modestly, "I managed to nail the low C two out of three times."

As reported in our last issue, Professor **DAVID NYE** is retiring from his long teaching gig at the U. of Southern Denmark. David clarifies that he will continue to live in Denmark "for the foreseeable future," notwithstanding an arrangement with the U. of Minnesota, where he will be in residence as a senior research fellow a few weeks each semester: "In this way, I can keep alive the illusion that I am still working!" This is hardly Fake News, as demonstrated by the impending publication of two more books: *American Illuminations* and *The Environmental Humanities, a Critical Introduction*, both from The MIT Press. David pledges nonetheless to be at the 50th.

Also pledging to be at the 50th are **ELDON "BILL"** and Patsy **BALL**. Always an avid skier, Bill received his 40-year Certified Ski Instructor pin and 30-year National Ski Patrol pin this last year, "both of which are making me feel very old." Bill is fully retired from the commercial real estate appraisal business but still maintains his state certification ("just in case!"). He has been learning about physical training for the past 15 years and now teaches a class for the ski patrol. Grand Master Shin, Bill's mentor, "is a ninth-degree black belt and just celebrated his 80th birthday! He still works out with me (or should I say punishes me?) twice a week."

Another promised attendee at the 50th is **GLENN LUX**, who brings much welcome news from the Great Northwest: "I still am regularly in touch with **PETER HARVARD**, who also lives in Seattle." On Sept. 3, Glenn presided at the wedding of Peter's oldest daughter, Maile, "so I had to get one of those online ordinations. Apologies to the actual ministers in our class." On the personal front, Glenn is "not satisfied with drifting into retirement to do nothing, so I am still working. And I am in the middle of a 19-month viticulture certificate program at Washington State University (all online except for three weekends)," as he pursues his passion for wine and wine-making.

After Amherst, Glenn got his M.D. from the U. of Rochester, then finished his residency in pediatrics at Seattle Children's Hospital, joining a local pediatric practice after a stint in the Navy. The practice grew over the years ("along with Microsoft, Boeing, Costco, etc."), resulting in Glenn's taking on more of an administrative/leadership role. Today the group has 90 pediatricians in eight offices. Reflecting his new role, Glenn added an MBA from Seattle U. in 2006.

Today Glenn shares a house with older daughter Hannah, her boyfriend, her 9-year-old son and "Pearl (our dog), where, among other things, we cook dinner almost every Monday night for anyone who shows up (that's an invitation to you all!)." Younger daughter Emma is a

cultural dancer and a second-year physical therapy student at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., and "one of the most caring people I know." Apart from viticulture, Glenn's hobbies include choral singing and Italian language study; he has sung in the Cathedral Choir of St. James in Seattle for the past 21 years, "and I am presently on sabbatical in Italy with my favorite lady, Martha."

Two of the terser items we've received in recent times: **BILL DOMB** writes that he heard **JIM RYTUBA** speaking on *Science Friday* on NPR in conjunction with the solar eclipse. And from the UK, **BOB**

"Retired. Didn't much like it. Went back to work."

SATHER writes: "Retired. Didn't much like it. Went back to work." Gentlemen, brevity may be the soul of wit, but we eagerly await further details.

A.C. CUDA has written to us regarding the article that appeared about him in *Amherst* earlier this year, which reported on his life as a Buddhist monk and his work for those in need around the world. The gist of A.C.'s message is that the article does not sufficiently feature the kindness and generosity of "many Amherst people who do far more than I do," nor does it "adequately describe to the reader the extreme poverty and desperation that many live in who I have contact with on a daily basis." More generally, A.C. expresses the hope that the article will lead the "Amherstwell-off" to reevaluate their relationship to those less fortunate.

DAVID FUNNELL reports that he remains in remission from the Stage 3 colorectal cancer diagnosis he received in 2014. "While on the subject, the progress of biology that I wanted to study in 1966 has come around finally to justify Professor Yost's emphasis on genetics and cytology."

David cites a recent report from the Max Planck Institute regarding "a completely new area that we have discovered—definitive proof that metabolism occurs engaging mitochondrial DNA by epigenetic signaling to activate nuclear responses with the kind of histone-tails that I've been learning about since 2013." David also expresses appreciation that the Massachusetts General Hospital surgeons and oncologists have allowed him to keep the nutritional regime "that had previously knocked down my prostate cancer to zero."

Some sad news has traveled slowly. We learned recently that **PETER DORLAND** died of cancer two years ago. **BILL SMEAD** will write a tribute to Pete that will appear in a future issue of *Amherst*.

And a final thought, from **GLENN LUX**, regarding his reasons for undertaking intensive study in viticulture (reported above) at this stage of life: "I have this uncontrollable urge to move in different

directions at various times in my life and learn about new things that fascinate me."

> **DAVID GLASS**

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> **JOHN STIFLER**

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1969

Newly retired from his third profession —1. Coast Guard officer, 2. small-town lawyer, 3. cybersecurity analyst—**ELLIS DAVISON** wrote that he was looking at some long-overdue work on his 85-year-old farmhouse on the Delmarva Peninsula. The house is located on an 80-acre grain farm that was purchased as an investment by his grandfather in 1902. "My longer-term goals include documenting the local Underground Railroad," he wrote. "The Harriet Tubman Byway runs by our house, and she probably actually did go by our property at least a couple of times on her way to Philadelphia shepherding runaway slaves."

BARRY KEATING was in London in August with **LARRY DILG** and Bob Sather '68 for the final performance of **JIM STEINMAN**'s *Bat Out of Hell*. "The rave reviews and full houses pretty much guarantee a Broadway production," Barry wrote. An unlimited London run is already scheduled for 2018. In our senior year, Larry and Barry both starred in *Dream Engine*, *Bat*'s easily recognized parent. In London, Larry sat next to a couple who had already seen the musical 14 times. Barry was headed to Toronto in September to be Jim's "eyes and ears" for a production scheduled to open Oct. 14 at the Ed Mirvish Theatre. Jim was in lousy health through the summer and was unable to get to London for the show.

FRED HOXIE celebrated his 70th birthday exploring the Civil War battlefield at Shiloh, Tenn., with wife Holly, son Steve, daughter-in-law Katie and grandson James. Fred reported finding the location of the battery commanded by Col. David Stuart (Amherst 1838) at Pittsburgh Landing, April 6, 1862. Fred noted that the casualty total for the two days of fighting at Shiloh amounted to more than the combined total of American casualties in all previous wars. "Killing on an industrial scale would characterized the war from that point forward," Fred the historian wrote. "Sort of an odd birthday field trip, but it did put things into perspective."

West Virginia lawyer/lobbyist **KIT FRANCIS** planned to retire in October on his 70th birthday. "It's just time to turn this work over to others," he wrote. "Golf game continues to improve as I move to the forward tees. Shot within 11 of my age last year." His wife, Nancy, has also retired after many years directing financial education for the West Virginia state treasurer.

STEVE DIAMOND, who left following freshman year, wrote that, after 45 years as an information technology executive and consultant, he had started a second

1969: Inveterate theater-goer Alan Blum wrote that he was looking for a home for his collection of playbills and other documents about Pittsburgh playwright August Wilson, whom Alan literally bumped into while running across 47th Street a few years ago. No one was hurt. Alan has had a long career of running into and conversing with notables—from Tommy Tune to David Mamet—but admitted to "almost" knocking over just one: Mel Tormé. We can't say why that made us giggle.

“Not clear if I should be happy about modern medicine or annoyed that I need so much of it.”

career. Last year, he founded a company, More Than Mindful, in Tucson, to offer mindfulness classes and coaching.

BOBSAUER, who runs the aptly named Bob Sauer Lab at MIT, reported a humbling four-day encounter with the White Mountains this summer. Bob is an experienced hiker and considered himself in good physical shape when he started out. “Didn’t matter,” he wrote. “Younger folks, some not looking very fit, cruised by us. ... Despite stretching and massive doses of ibuprofen, I still hurt in places I didn’t know existed,” he wrote after getting home. Bob’s lab is in the biology department at MIT. He can explain what the lab does. We can’t.

ROB KLUGMAN wrote that he and his wife, Kathy, were planning a September river cruise in Portugal. “It is my belief that being on a small boat will mitigate my tendency to get lost,” Rob wrote. He also reported that his daughter Maura Humann ’05, a lawyer, was working for the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law in Washington, D.C., which advocates for the mentally ill.

Retired country doctor **JOHN MCDOWELL** reported that he and his wife, Kathy, were planning an October cruise from Venice to Athens and that he was looking forward to seeing 70 percent of the sights. That’s because he’s lost 30 percent of the vision in his right eye due to non-arteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy. “I’m a doctor, and I don’t know what it is either,” John wrote. He and Kathy were also traveling to Colorado to see their son in Steamboat Springs. “Retirement is OK,” he said.

BILL MANN reported that he was continuing to run a clinic for the uninsured and underinsured in Virginia. “Since passage of the Affordable Care Act, our uninsured rate for our approximately 5,000 patients has risen from 62 percent to 80 percent,” he said. “Go figure.”

JOE SELLIN has retired as a practicing gastroenterologist, and he and his wife, Rena, have moved from Houston to New York, where they have a lake home in the Adirondacks and a small apartment across from Lincoln Center in Manhattan. Joe and Rena took three weeks and logged 3,462 miles to travel from Houston to their place in the “Dacks.” Joe said there were “many delightful twists and turns to the trip. Perhaps the most notable oddity was the Tuba Museum in Durham, N.C.”

Semiretired cardiologist **JON TOBIS** wrote that he took his son Matt, 25, to a medical conference in Japan in July and that they had a “wonderful week together exploring Tokyo and Kyoto.” Among other things, Jon and Matt took a one-hour lesson in samurai sword fighting with katana blades. Jon said he continued to work “pretty hard” and to “proctor physicians in Europe and Australia on how to do a new procedure for treating mitral regurgitation.”

JAY SILVERMAN wrote that he had taught his last class at Nassau Com-

munity College in New York and had ended his career “feeling good, for the most part, about getting to read and talk about books, getting to know my students, getting to help them to create a space for thoughtful conversation.” He said he was still feeling “unmoored part of the time” as he began his retirement, but was “looking forward to getting past the uneasiness.”

JONATHAN STEINHART, PETER SARGENT and **BOB BERGLUND** gathered in Seattle in June for a Mastersingers reunion. The group is led by former Glee Club director Bruce McInnes. “Bruce is 81, and we are not getting any younger,” Jonathan wrote, “though we think our voices sound young.” Jonathan and Peter also caught up over lunch with Seattle pediatrician **HOWARD UMAN**, who attended the Sunday morning concert. “Please pass along that we have some great Indian food in Seattle,” wrote Howard, an infrequent contributor.

PAUL MACHEMER and his wife, Pam, spent time this summer with **JIM GIBBONS** and his wife, Judy, at the Gibbons’ summer home overlooking Castine Harbor in Maine. “We enjoyed a copious supply of local lobsters, a ride on our lobster boat and much chatter,” Jim wrote. Paul teaches and coaches at the George School.

More visitors: Denver attorney **TOM KELLEY** reported that **BILL HART** and his wife, Vicki, traveling in a “well-appointed RV (kitchen, complete bath, etc.),” pitched up at Tom and wife Linda’s lake cottage in Ontario—“one waterfall up from the north shore of Georgian Bay.” Tom wrote that the only new news was no news: “Bill hasn’t changed since I knew him at Amherst.”

BOB IHNE reported that his long running career (Penn Relay medals in four decades and a win and a second in the Millrose Games) had been sidelined for the last six years by a series of hip and spine surgeries. “Recovery is going well,” he wrote. “Not clear if I should be happy about modern medicine or annoyed that I need so much of it.” Bob said he was continuing to stay active in the Uniform Commercial Code/equipment financing arena.

Guitarist **HOWARD CONN** wrote that he had retired from his medical practice in October of last year and was playing three gigs a week with his aptly named Howard Conn Jazz Ensemble in Laguna Beach, Calif.

Former pilot **BILL RHOADES** wrote of adventures in many lands: hiking the Royal Inca Trail to Machu Picchu; Paris for the Trump election, “which was surreal”; back to Peru to rescue a friend whose plane had broken down in Lima and then flying it 4,000 miles back to Durango, Colo.; and finally rafting with his wife down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. “I’m just getting recovered from 18 days of rowing through the biggest water I’ve ever been in. Good fun, though.”

DICK ARONSON reported that participants in the Amherst Amigos program, who performed community work in Mexican villages in the summers of 1966–67, gathered for a 50th reunion during reunion weekend this summer. Participants included Terry Ellen ’67 and Jack Hailey ’67. **JON STEINHART** took part over the phone.

DAVE EDIE wrote in praise of wife Diane’s 25 years of work with Opera for the Young, which he described as a “preeminent presenter of opera for children.” Diane is the organization’s artistic director, reshaping well-known operas into 45-minute shows for children. She directs each production.

BOB JONES wrote that he held a mini reunion of sorts with his son Robert III ’92, daughter Emily ’96, Jeremy Rosenholtz ’91 and Drew Tagliabue ’91. Bob also reported that getting a crown on an upper molar, making it the fourth in his mouth, produces a sparkling gold smile that delights his grandchildren. He also reported dressing like a pirate—eyepatch, three-corner hat, sash and sword—and yelling “Aargh!” The things we do for the grandkids.

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1970

Well, based on the minimal output of information for this quarter, it seems that, as a group, our class is still digesting the current political reality of the Trump administration and consequently has been rendered almost speechless. The other possible cause for the limited turnout of news is that we as a collective body were so involved in our activities over this summer that we did not have time to submit information for our class notes. I’m assuming that the latter of these reasons is the more accurate, so we can look forward to a much more robust report for the quarter ending in December.

DAVE DORWART reports, “It’s taken me six months to find a healthy equilibrium: to take the longer view that the disaster of the Trump administration, too, shall pass, while at the same time remaining active in the resistance. Needed to be more philosophical so I could focus on my writing and not have a constant rage/stress headache.” Dave has contemplated reactivating his Canadian citizenship or moving back to England. But then he realizes how much he would miss the climate of places like St. Croix and San Diego. He takes solace from great minds like Thoreau, who said, “If it is necessary, omit one bridge over the river... and throw one arch at least across the darker gulf of ignorance that surrounds us.” So he plans on building that arch and tearing down walls.

JOHN MEIKLEJOHN writes that, after retiring two years ago from a practice of psychotherapy in Westfield, Mass., he’s been happily engaged in several endeavors: integrating and researching mindful-

ness in a local public school system; managing a couple of research orchards on their property for the American Chestnut Foundation; leading a local meditation group; and recently co-founding an Indivisible grassroots group. John and his wife raised their two children (Kate and Tony) to be New England “hardy” but overshoot the mark, and they now both live in Rocky Mountain territory out west. It’s a good excuse for travel, and they recently spent 10 days canoeing the Green River, visiting Anasazi ruins and having some time with both Kate and Tony.

We also received an email from **REEVES CALLAWAY** updating us about the awesome Callaway Corvettes, the new Callaway AeroWagen and a listing of shows that will include these beautiful vehicles. For more information and a list of upcoming shows, search for “Callaway Cars” on the internet.

Believe it or not, that’s all we have for the fall quarter. We all need to step it up so our class notes can keep up with the listserv for the winter quarter on Dec. 1.

Since we have a lot of unused space, I thought I would include an update about my family, as we have had quite an active year. First and foremost, the **JEFF ZIMMERMAN** clan now includes four grandchildren, two boys—Owen, age 6, and Leo age 4—from our oldest daughter, Lauren, and her husband, Jordan; and two girls—Sutton, age 18 months, from our second daughter, Leslie, and her husband, Ryan; and Harley, age 10 months, from Lauren and Jordan. The boys were totally immersed in day camp this summer until they came to visit Mimi (Luana’s grandparent name), Pop (my grandparent name) and Aunt Lindsey (our third daughter). The high point for the boys’ visit to us in Washington, D.C., was the day we spent at the Smithsonian’s Air and Space Museum, located near Dulles Airport, not to be confused with the other half of this museum on the Mall in downtown D.C. Among the breathtaking items on display are the Discovery Space Shuttle, an SR71 Blackbird and a Concorde SST. I was just as overwhelmed as the boys were with the hundreds of different airplanes and rockets on display. Next time you are in D.C., you have to plan at least one day for this museum. It is awesome. Lauren and Jordan are expecting to move into their new home in the next two weeks following completion of a 10-month “renovation” that removed all walls from the main floor and the upstairs. Mimi and I are looking forward to helping them make this house into a home.

> **JEFF ZIMMERMAN**
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1971

JEFF HALEY and a co-author have just brought out a book entitled *Sharing Reality: How to Bring Secularism and Science to an Evolving Religious World*. According to the notes, Jeff’s argument is that religions

are in a continuous state of evolution, changing beliefs, values, and practices over time. All religions, including Christianity and Islam, can evolve to accept the scientific way of knowing and secularism, becoming agnostic and even atheistic without losing their essential value.

Citing its increasing dysfunction, **TOM DAVIS** left Congress in 2008 to join DeLoitte as director of its Government Affairs & Public Policy practice. More recently, Tom has been teaching at George Mason University (Virginia’s largest), and was recently re-elected as rector (board chair). Tom is also a co-author of *The Partisan Divide: Congress in Crisis*.

LEIGH MACKAY has been splitting his retirement among three continuing ventures: (1) writing feature stories for *New England Golf Monthly*, a second vocation and a most rewarding one; (2) playing golf around the country, but especially in the Port St. Lucie area of Florida in winter and in New England in summer; (3) scratching off bucket-list trips, recently to Machu Picchu, to South Africa and on a Danube cruise from Budapest to Regensburg, Germany. Leigh visits classmates **DAN GERMAN** in Pennsauken, N.J.; **JOHN HENDRICKS** up the road in Vero Beach, Fla.; and **LEN BICKNELL** in Marshfield, Mass., the old hometown. John and Leigh were instrumental in returning the Amherst-Williams golf trophy to the Amherst side this year in the annual Treasure Coast match.

KIRK DUFFY and **CLIFF HOGAN** traveled to Farmington, Maine, to have lunch with Bruce McInnes, legendary former director of the Amherst Glee Club. At 81, Bruce is still sharp, remembering many stories about his former singers. He has retired from playing the organ, but continues to direct a co-ed singing group on the Farmington campus of the University of Maine. Notwithstanding the recent mascot kerfuffle, the director of hundreds (thousands?) of renditions of “Lord Jeffrey Amherst Was a Soldier of the King” continues to “stand fast for him.”

JOHN BEESON writes, “I’ve entered the second year of my ‘downtrottling’ plan, which calls for one-half time doing paid consulting work, more pro bono/volunteer work and more golf (the latter for reasons that are not readily apparent). Still on the board of the Emily Dickinson Museum, so get back to Amherst frequently for that. Am also taking online MOOC classes, which I very much enjoy. My wife, Jane, and I spent a weekend with **MICHAEL SIMKO** in Florida this winter and will attend the wedding of his oldest daughter in October. I was recently able to connect with **JOHN HENDRICKS** and wife Maureen on a business trip to Florida.”

CHRIS DORRANCE assumed responsibility for the class of 1967 reunion at Phillips Exeter, and did a superb job. One of his innovations was called “Show and Tell,” designed to be a mini TED Talk program that enlisted classmates who wanted to share an adventure, an experience,

a passion or a story that was meaningful to them. Each talk lasted 10 minutes, and most were excellent. Folks our age have largely transitioned out of workaday jobs, and most of our avocations reflect true passions, which can hold an audience spellbound for 10 minutes at least. (50th reunion planners, take note.)

EDWARD “SKIP” STODDARD has been retired from North Carolina State University for more than 10 years. “I continue to work part-time as a field geologist with the N.C. Geological Survey. That involves walking in the woods when I feel like it and the weather is great. Am also keeping busy writing geology guides for hiking trails and greenways. Recently got the chance to swap stories with **ROGER RHODES** and **FRANK CUSHMAN** at our 50th high school reunion. Nancy and I just returned from a road trip to the Southwest, and are looking forward to more traveling.”

JOHN RICHMOND has also been traveling. “I’ve been taking an annual summer cross-country motorcycle trip every year since 2010, and was thus eager to get my gastrostomy tube placed as early in the summer as possible so I could get used to it and then book. Yup, the 2007 head and neck radiation caught up with me, and I can no longer swallow!” Kudos for John for refusing to give up what he loves. John proudly related the motorcycle and trekking adventures in Nepal of daughter Ellen ’12, who is pursuing medical and academic doctorates.

SAM OZERSKY writes from Toronto: “Despite making the clear transition from marijuana to Metamucil, I am not even considering retirement—that is for senior citizens. As a psychiatrist, I never gave the defense mechanism of denial enough credit. My 68th birthday party theme was ‘almost immortal.’” Sam is in the process of introducing his mobile mental health platform (feelingbetternow.com) to the U.S. health care market. Sam saw many ’71 classmates at the memorial service for **DAVE RIMMER**. **HARRY SERNAKER** has been teaching Sam to sail at his cottage in Northern Ontario.

Class vice president and Italian Renaissance scholar **ELLEN LONGSWORTH** is not retiring from her teaching post anytime soon. “This spring I offered a course—‘The World of Michelangelo’—as one of two courses taught as part of Merrimack College’s San Gimignano Program, some six years young. Last May I married John Smolens, a former beau (going back something like 35 years), who has made his life as a novelist and author of historical fiction, living in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.” John and Ellen will be exchanging visits between Michigan and Massachusetts.

To the inevitable question about retirement, artist **JIM FRAZER** denied it. “I remain excited about new projects, at the moment trying to teach myself something about philosophy to do some writing about my artwork. Have been on

To the inevitable question about retirement, artist Jim Frazer ’71 denied it. He says that at the moment he is “trying to teach myself something about philosophy.”

some beautiful hikes this summer in the local canyons and the Uintas around Salt Lake City.”

Jim recalled playing a role in **DAVID RIMMER**'s *Peter Pan*. “My minuscule backstage part was to man a rope which was attached somehow to a harness on Artie Wilkins ’72. On cue, my job was to run like hell from one mark on the floor to another, thus ‘flying’ Peter (Artie) from one side of the stage to the other.”

DAVID RIMMER's wife, **ELLEN SANDHAUS**, thanks the many classmates who helped make David's service so moving for her, particularly the words of **DICK**

since the last time we caught up with him. He retired from practicing law at WilmerHale, and his son, Christian, graduated from Claremont McKenna and is now working at an ad agency in Los Angeles. Ken joined the board of a public company and spends his free time reading and attempting to learn to play golf. In July, he saw **TIM FORT** in Weston, Vt., and was privileged to see a truly beautiful play Tim directed.

Starting in May, **ERIC HENRY** went on a six-week trip to Vietnam, with a 10-day side trip to Australia. In Vietnam he gave a talk in Vietnamese at the Hu Music Conservatory on the social history of popular music in Asia. In Australia, Eric visited Vladislav Zhukov, Ukrainian by birth, who lives in a wild area west of Sydney and makes English versions of books written in Vietnamese, Indonesian, Italian and Russian.

RICH WAILES retired in July from United States Pharmacopeia as chief operating officer. During his 18 years there, he met with customers throughout the world, helped grow revenues from \$30 million to \$300 million and “enjoyed the adventure.” Rich and his wife, Kathleen (Smith ’73), live in Ashburn, Va., where Rich is avidly pursuing an improved USTA senior tennis ranking (currently #27 in the mid-Atlantic region in the 65-and-over group).

TOM BRADY's latest painting exhibition just wrapped up at the Chestnut Hill Gallery in Philadelphia. Tom has exhibited in galleries and museums throughout the East Coast, and his work is held in the permanent collections of several art museums, including the Mead. His three kids are doing fine—one works in social services, another in fashion, and the youngest is a professional poker player. Tom's wife, Anne, retired from teaching and, according to Tom, “seemingly immediately broke her ankle to begin her long-deserved retirement from supporting us all.”

DAVID BRAILOW “retired” as vice president for academic affairs and dean at Franklin College in June 2016 after 15 years. He now works at the Council of Independent Colleges as vice president for development, “so I live and work in D.C. and commute back to Indiana every few weeks.” David's daughter Anna graduated from Transylvania University this past May and is doing graduate work at American University. David and his wife, Vita, got together with **DAVID LEE** and wife Marjory Rinaldo-Lee (Mount Holyoke ’72) in July in Ithaca, N.Y., The Lees are enjoying their new grandchild.

GARY CLAMURRO claims that he and Susan “have blown through so much money on our travels in the past four years” that Clams has had to go back to work. He adds, “Actually, I enjoy getting out of the house and back into the business world with younger folks as my colleagues. They all seem to wear earphones throughout the day, or they are

texting. This brings me to observe that we of the ‘Old Guard’ are similarly out of touch with the recent grads from Amherst here in the 21st century. I mean, imagine what we thought of the old men of the class of 1922.”

Speaking of the Old Guard, **JIM FOX**'s father, George ’49, is 91 years old, and Jim looks forward to becoming a member of that revered cohort “beginning with our next reunion in 2022, for those who can believe that!” Jim helped move his daughter, Amanda, out of her NYC apartment. She had just finished four years in fundraising at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, and recently started MBA studies at Duke's Fuqua School. Jim's son, Willie, graduated in June from UCLA's Anderson School (also MBA). Jim and his wife, Jane (Wellesley ’75), took a 10-day river cruise in Europe and are planning separate weeks in Aruba and Scottsdale before the end of 2017. He recently spoke with **JIM PATES**, who planned to be in Amherst for homecoming weekend, as well as **GARY CLAMURRO**. Foxy adds, “As many of you know, after Amherst, Gary and I went through two navy schools together, as well as the same graduate school.”

The news from **LOU BERNSTEIN** is mostly related to his and Barbara's kids. Their eldest, Michael ’08, ASU Ph.D. ’16, recently moved to Tromsø, Norway, 200 miles above the Arctic Circle, for a four-year project managing pan-European sustainability research for a nonprofit foundation. He is, in Lou's words, “probably the world's northernmost nice Jewish boy from New York.” Younger son Ben (Trinity ’10) is getting married in October to Kimberly Barasch (Cornell ’07), for whom he's yearned since their middle and high school swim and water polo team days. And daughter Rachel (Cornell ’14) is an account manager for a digital-ad-analysis startup that was just acquired by Oracle. According to Lou, “The fact that I apparently did not impede our children's accomplishments renders my life one of consequence.”

DAVID HELFAND spent much of the summer in the UK, where he is advising two teams working to establish the first new UK universities in 45 years—an engineering school in Hereford and a liberal arts college in Wales. He took a 10-day break in July to lecture on a National Geographic cruise circumnavigating Iceland, “the way to see the country whose interior is a little boring but whose coast is spectacular.”

Recently retired class secretary **JIM BITTMAN**, his wife and his daughter took a three-week vacation this summer in France and Germany, where Jim visited the gravesite near Normandy Beach of his namesake (who died in World War II), and where his daughter reconnected with the German exchange student who stayed with the Bittmans for a month last summer. Jim's now officially retired after

Some Measure of Justice

1971: Peter Fels left Amherst for Berkeley well prior to graduation and has been an attorney in Oregon and Washington State. His legal career has been about helping individuals get some measure of justice against bigger entities or otherwise managing their way through the legal system. He now enjoys backpacking in Oregon.

SANDHAUS and **HENRY GOLDMAN**.

The class recently lost another member: **STEVE GUNNELS**. **TOM SMITH** has written a piece about Steve in the In Memory section. A more extensive obit is available for Steve and other deceased classmates at www.amherst.edu/amherst-story/magazine/in_memory/1971. You can post your own memories to any individual In Memory article by selecting “Add New Comment.”

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1972

What's up with the class of 1972 these days? Turns out that many of us are retiring, but we're not really the retiring type. When we're asked to define the current stage of our lives, we increasingly turn to describing what our children are up to. More of our kids are getting married and grandchildren are sprouting all over the place. Some of us are intent upon proving we can still compete with the best in our sports of choice. We're also traveling overseas quite a bit, but vacationing isn't always our purpose. Bottom line is that many in our class are continuously reinventing themselves, to wit:

PAUL SCHARF splits his time between a 24,000-acre cattle ranch in New Mexico and a horse ranch in Vero Beach, Fla., where he trains high-performance quarter horses. Daughter Sofia is finishing high school and beginning to look at colleges. Paul says his “job” these days is roping steers competitively in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. Paul accepts that it's “a crazy sport for an old man, but I would rather die in the saddle than in a rocking chair.” He adds, “Otherwise generally healthy and well.” *Otherwise, Paul?* Much has changed for **KEN HOXSIE**

28 years in his dream job at the Chicago Board Options Exchange, although he continues to study the financial markets and strategies involving the use of call and put options. He reports, "All is well here in the northwest corner of Chicago!"

On May 21, 2017 **HAPPY MANSTEIN**'s daughter, Arielle (Skidmore '10, Temple Dental '16), married Isaac Garfinkle, whom she has known since they were 6 years old and lived four houses apart. Also in attendance for the wedding were **TED** and Anne **PETERS**. Happy and Marla are heading to London to attend the wedding of his nephew, the eldest son of Happy's sister, Joanne Manstein Levin '83. Happy's son Max (Hobart '12, Temple Med '18) is applying for cardiothoracic surgical residencies throughout the USA. His youngest boy, Ely (Johns Hopkins '16), is applying to medical school, so Happy is still working to help pay tuition.

CHRIS ROBERTS and his wife, Mary, have a new granddaughter, Emersyn (Emy), who was born in early June to their son Kevin and his wife, Meggin. Their daughter Sarah is engaged to Brian Piernikowski, with a wedding planned for next year. Chris adds, "Our son Morgan and daughter Rachel have graduated from college and are gearing up for fulfilling futures of their own." Chris is still practicing business law in suburban Maryland.

OK. I'm still getting my feet wet, so to speak, in the role of class secretary, but some of you are more difficult to reach out to than others when I go poking around for news. In fact, 62 of you do not currently have emails listed in your online profiles on our class website. That works out to one-quarter of all those in our class who *have* online profiles. So, if you'd like to be reminded when the call goes out for news a few times a year, please take a minute to update your profile. That's where my email contact list comes from. I'd love to be able to broaden the field of coverage to include classmates who are currently "off the grid." To update your profile, please visit www.amherst.edu/alumni/classpages/1972/classmates.

> ERIC CODY

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1973

This is an interesting time in the lives of our classmates, as a number of us have retired, while others continue to work, and the arrival of grandchildren is becoming a regular occurrence.

ED ROSENTHAL continues as managing partner of his law firm in Old Town Alexandria, Va., while his bride, Pam, has retired from practicing law at Reed Smith. Ed also continues as a member of the board of the ACLU of Virginia, chairing the statewide legal panel. Ed and Pam have sold their home in Reston, downsizing to a condo near the office, and have moved into a splendid waterfront home on Lake Ontario, near the Thousand Is-

lands region, with 200 feet of water frontage on Three Mile Bay in Chaumont, N.Y., north of Syracuse. Ed notes there is reliable Wi-Fi service on Lake Ontario, so working remotely is an option. Ed also connected with **RICK MURPHY** in Boston for a lengthy session of reminiscing and stories, and he follows the adventures of his roommate **FOSTER "BUTCH" BROWN** on Facebook with emails and phone calls. Ed and Pam attended a baby shower for their youngest daughter, Samantha, who in early July delivered a baby boy, Ezekiel ("Zeke"), their third grandchild. All four of their "kids" made it for the celebration, including eldest daughter Amy '02, fresh from her 15th reunion at the hallowed home of the Mammoths.

ART BOOTHBY played golf in August with **BOB LAVIGNE**, **BILL KEENAN**, Mike Marino '71, Bill Nardi '76 and Bob Pace '76 in Newington, Conn. All are retired except for Art, and they enjoyed the day and beer and dinner afterwards. Lots of Coach Thurston stories were told, as they all played either baseball or football and Thurston was involved with both programs for so many years. Thurston is a hero to Amherst alums who are Red Sox fans like your class secretary for many reasons, including his close relationship with our former GM Ben Cherington '96.

PAUL ZINK's daughter Isabella graduated with honors in history from Boston University in June, and is now on her way to Scotland, where she will attend the University of Glasgow for her master's in museum studies, preparatory to getting her doctorate and then professionally pursuing her interest in the history of medicine. Paul maintains "Wendy," his 47-year-old MG, when he can spare time from lolling on the beach, piña colada in hand, watching the sunset. He did make time to do some pro bono work for the nonprofit New England Seafood Consortium (NESC), an organization dedicated to promoting better, fact-based science regarding New England fisheries and ground-fish stocks. At a July fundraiser for NESC, Paul met Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, who, after viewing Paul's attempts to shoot a selfie of them, grabbed Paul's iPhone, saying "Give me that!" and proceeded to take advantage of his 6-foot-6-inch height to get a good photo of them for posterity.

It was great to see **MARK GERCHICK** and his lovely wife, Lisa, for cocktails and dinner on Nantucket in late August. Mark and Lisa and my wife, Theresa, and I have an annual tradition of spending time on Nantucket every summer. Mark shared the news that son Adam '13 has started his first year at Georgetown Law, and daughter Charlotte, a graduate of Tulane, has started her first year at Washington & Lee School of Law. Brother and sister are comparing notes about being 1Ls and no doubt will be debating the finer points of torts and civil procedure with their Dad on vacations at home.

I spoke with **PETER SCHEER**, who had

surgery on his lower back in August to repair bulging disks that were causing a lot of pain. Peter posted a comment on Facebook that, as he went under, he was sure he saw the anesthesiologist wearing a red "Make America Great Again" hat. Peter is recovering nicely from both experiences. Soon after his surgery, and following the events in Charlottesville, Peter was interviewed on CBS TV commenting wisely on protections afforded under the First Amendment even to those whose comments may be offensive.

STEVE SCHOEPPER's daughter, Lauren, graduated in May 2017 with a B.F.A. in graphic design, magna cum laude, from the University of Central Florida. Lauren now works full-time at one of Orlando's leading print shops and is the marketing director of Duran Learning, an up-and-coming educational platform.

It was a pleasure to hear from **FOSTER "BUTCH" BROWN**, who, with his wife, Vera, continues to live in Brazil's westernmost state, working on societal responses to extreme climate events. Their region has been hit with increasingly severe floods and droughts, and adaption to their impacts is proceeding slowly, so Butch has a project to speed up the process, integrating Brazilian, Bolivian and Peruvian efforts in the southwestern Amazon. Butch writes, "As wisdom has yet to take root, I continue to train with our local rugby team, **AND LAST YEAR**, to my surprise, I scored a try."

MIKE GUMPORT has been cycling in Norway with his wife, Pam, and he is now back in New Jersey. We got together for coffee on Nantucket in September.

It was a pleasure to hear from **TOM BRENNECKE**, who reported that his investment firm in Boston hired their first Amherst summer intern. The College's Career Center—now called the Loeb Center for Career Exploration and Planning—worked with Tom on the placement. I hear that the center has really stepped up their success in placing new graduates. Tom recently enjoyed a weekend with his sophomore roommate **WEBSTER BULL** that included some good hiking and reminiscing, as well as looking expectantly at the years ahead.

Tom also spent nearly a week with **LEE EWING** and family in New Hampshire, hiking, swimming and sharing memo-

COLLEGE ARCHIVES



↑ Library Loveseat

A couple cuddles up on a bench in front of Frost Library. As you might be able to guess from the hairstyles and fashion, this photo dates from 1973.

John Nerbonne '73 was knighted by the king of the Netherlands "in the order of the Dutch Lion" for his multifaceted work in science.

rable dinners. Sounds like a great time for all!

JOHN LACEY and several of his fraternity brothers gathered in Wisconsin in June to attend the U.S. Open at Erin Hills. The mini reunion included **ROSS READ** (and Mary, Smith '75), **KIM ANGELO** (and Mary, U. of Wisconsin—Madison '76), **ALISTAIR CATTO** (and Bonnie, Mount Holyoke '76) and Dr. **JOHN BLACK**. Despite the blazing heat, all enjoyed watching great golf and telling stories. Kim capped off the last dinner with a half hour of magic hands on the first (Steinway) grand piano to have crossed the Appalachian Mountains back in the late 1800s. Numerous College songs were played with no reliance on sheet music: "Lord Jeffery," "Paige's Horse," "Hand Me Down My Bonnet," etc. Sounds like a great time!

JIM MIXTER is a dedicated railroad buff who spends a lot of time on trains riding across the American continent. Jim writes that he had a "mammoth (yikes!) summer of family fun, riding trains as a Park Service volunteer, a bit of fishing and other great retirement stuff." He spent Labor Day weekend on Squam Lake, N.H., one of New England's treasures. Jim is rooting for the Washington Nationals, who are having a stellar season. Jim also spent a week with his wife, Lolly, and a New Jersey choir, singing daily services at Guilford Cathedral near London.

JOHN NERBONNE recently retired from his role as a distinguished professor of computational linguistics at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands. John has become a grandad twice, and he was also knighted by the king of the Netherlands "in the order of the Dutch Lion." This award was given in recognition of John's service, in particular his interdisciplinary scientific publications, his work as the director of a large research institute, his many successful Ph.D. students, and his activities in international scientific societies and in projects involving the Third World.

Photos of John's retirement ceremony at the University of Groningen can be seen at www.let.rug.nl/nerbonne/afscheid. John recently moved to southern Germany, near Freiburg, where he will stay active as an honorary professor in German linguistics. John would love to hear from old friends.

PAUL KOWAL, chair of our reunion next May, is hard at work on programs for members of our class. Please get in touch with Paul if you have ideas for programs.

JESSE CARR is living in Walpole, N.H., with his wife, Kathy, and her children: Lucy, 13 and Nicholas, 18. Jesse writes that "she is the soul of our small breakfast/lunch place (the Mazziott Bake Shop—find it on Instagram, Yelp, etc.). After graduation, Jesse did timber framing and made frame models, setting up a design/build woodshop with projects in New York and New England. From 2008 to 2010, he supervised fine home

construction inside the Sundance resort, and came to love Provo's high desert landscape. In the '80s and '90s, Jesse worked with Ken Burns, writing, researching, arranging and performing music on his first eight films.

Jesse's Civil War band toured in support of the Grammy-winning soundtrack. Jesse and his first wife, Camilla, raised their son, Galen, who grew to follow his dream into baseball scouting. Three Red Sox World Series rings later, Galen now scouts worldwide for the Dodgers and lives in Burlington, Vt., with wife Jenni, son Miles and daughter Zoe. In the early 2000s Jesse formed a jazz trio, an opportunity to write, arrange, sing and play tenor sax. The band has a monthly date in the Bake Shop for dinner, and has played in various configurations throughout northern New England. Jesse visits Amherst when he can and hopes to see old friends at the reunion.

AZKI SHAH continues to work as an attorney in a small town not that far from home. He finds it far too exciting to retire, and adds that he wouldn't know what to do if he did retire! I'm sure many of us feel the same way.

GEORGE SHULMAN continues to write fascinating pieces of political, social and cultural commentary on Facebook and elsewhere, and to teach in the fields of political thought and American studies at New York University.

In the world of academia, **TED LEVIN** continues to teach in the music department at Dartmouth College, **PETER RACHLEFF** is a professor in the history department at Macalester College, **STEVE GOFF** is a professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and microbiology and immunology at Columbia Medical School, **DAVID KESSLER** is a professor of medicine at UCSF, **CARL KESTER** is a professor at Harvard Business School, **DON WALLER** is a professor of botany at the University of Wisconsin and **PAUL YOCK** is a professor in the medical school and professor of bioengineering at Stanford University.

It was a pleasure to hear from **SCOTT WHEELER**, who reports that, when he was at Amherst, he and **PAUL SALERNI** regularly wrote music that appeared on the same concert program in Buckley. This Oct. 13, Scott and Paul will again be on a program together, having written for the Bowers-Fader Duo for a performance at the Tenri Cultural Center in New York. Each has set some interesting poetry for this husband-wife team of mezzo-soprano and guitar.

It is my sad duty to report that **CHRIS TOPHER TOTH** died in 2013. The College learned of Chris's passing recently. I would appreciate it if anyone who knew Chris when we were students would please contact me or the College about writing an In Memory piece for an upcoming edition of *Amherst* magazine.

Please keep your news and letters coming. It is great to hear from everyone.

Please add our reunion dates to your calendar: May 23-27, 2018.

> **WILLIAM H. WOOLVERTON**
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1974

CHARLES "CHUCKIE SOUL" DONALDSON recalls living in Pratt freshman year with **KEN GLOVER**, a terrific guy who passed away of pancreatic cancer. He and **RON WYNN** were the lone black students in the dorm, and the two shared classes, Afro-Am meetings, jazz concerts, dollar movies and lots of parties at Phi Psi, Smith and Mount Holyoke.

At Ken's memorial service in New York City, attendees included Walter McEwen '65, George Johnson '73 and wife Linda Morris, Stephen Keith '73 and wife Helene, Bob Wilson '73 and wife Rosalind (Smith '74), **RICHIE AMMONS**, **TER-**

"I believe I've found a new career that will last until the day I die."

RY MEDLEY, Atif Harden '75, Stephen Abramson '75 and wife Janice Roberts, and Laura Jarrett '07. Ken told George near the end, "I can beat this." Maybe he did.

ANDY FORT, now a retired academic, is still involved with the emerging field of contemplative studies and doing a lot of travel, from Indonesia to Banff to Vermont. His daughter Meredith will make him a grandfather in October.

ROBERT FELDMAN and **PAUL LA POINTE** met over dinner in San Francisco while Paul was at a geology conference. "It was great catching up, since we had not seen each other since graduation. I must say the years peeled quickly back, and [we returned to] all the great memories of skiing Mount Tom, wandering around campus with dates and taking geology classes together."

DUNCAN NOYES of Amesbury, Mass., bought the farm, but did not kick the bucket. "My parents bought the house I grew up in in 1954, when I was 1. It sits on 12 acres, has 500 feet of frontage on the Merrimack River and is designated as Ch. 61A agricultural-use property. I bought it in May, so now I'm a dirt farmer! I believe I've found a new career that will last until the day I die. We're renovating the 175-year-old (plus or minus) house, which our daughter and her family live in, after which we plan to append a large addition. We hope to make the addition our summer home, sell our existing home and continue to live in Florida in the winter."

From **RALPH BENKO**: "As president of the Alinsky Center, I, along with our chairman (Saul's son) David Alinsky, had the privilege of debating Dinesh D'Souza, a recidivist Alinsky detractor, at FreedomFest in Las Vegas last month on a panel moderated by Project Veritas'

James O'Keefe (an Alinsky admirer)." Search for it at c-span.org/video.

If you need golfing tips in Iceland, call **DICK LIPTON**. "Jane and I just got back from a tour around Iceland, which was delightful—and I even managed to find two golf courses while we were there. And I'm still working at Baker & McKenzie for the foreseeable future."

For this edition's seventh-inning stretch, we inform that **CRAIG FURBUSH** went "road-tripping down from Maine to Philly in August to spend a long weekend with **TOM HICKEY** and his wife, Sharon, although it was really so that we could watch Pete Rose take his place on the Phillies' Wall of Fame."

BUZZ DOHERTY's son Hugh (Colby '17) is working for the Carlyle Group, and, as he wrote, Buzz was preparing for daughter Maura's wedding in Bermuda. "I am maintaining an even strain, even as the sizes of the checks get larger."

HANKEAKLAND might make some envious. He says, "I've changed my OOO message to read: 'I am out of the office forever.'"

Oh, finally, thanks to one and all for the nice words about yours truly's piece in *Vanity Fair*, overseen by **CULLEN MURPHY**. The *New York Times-Washington Post* competition in covering the president provided ample diversion amid a classic caricatured longer-than-imagined, more-expensive-than-contemplated home renovation in Chicago. Cheers.

> JIM WARREN

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1975

We are saddened to report the death of **JOHN SULLIVAN** on May 6. Our sincere condolences to John's wife, Andrea Kaufman, and his family. An In Memory piece for a future issue of this magazine is in the works.

CHRIS WEBSTER has also reported the sad news of the passing of **TOM THALER**'s mother, Victoria Sears Thaler, at age 97. Our deepest sympathy to Tom and his family.

Congratulations to **DAVE ANDERSON** on his Ph.D. "In a magnanimous show of compassion and pity this year, the University of Nevada, Reno, conferred upon me a doctor of philosophy degree. I'm sure that **MARK HUDAK** and **ROB GIBRALTER** are now convinced that pigs can fly. I'm also fairly certain that Professor Kennick (God rest his brilliant soul) is turning over in his grave. After 10 years of struggle and a three-hour dissertation defense, I'm finally done with academia."

DAVE HIXON, taking a break from his duties as head men's basketball coach at Amherst, traveled with his wife, Mandy, to Budapest this summer to watch their second son, Michael, compete in the World Championships (1M, 3M and 3M synchro). After the competition, Michael toured Europe and had a nice meeting with Albert Grimaldi '81 in Monaco.

While in Budapest, Dave and Mandy saw Jon Albert '83 and Rachel Cohan Albert '84 (who own restaurants there) and dined with Jeff McLellan '83 and his wife, Darcy.

WALLY MARTIN hosted **ANDY LAWRENCE**, **MARK JORDAN**, **BOB KIRKWOOD**, **NED MULLIGAN** and **BOB POWERS**, along with their wives/significant others (Tammie, Chris, Kiki, Florence, Pam and Sally, respectively), for a long weekend of boating, whitewater rafting and reminiscing at Lake Rabun in Georgia from July 19 to 23. Andy's description: "While there, not only did we eat well, but we imbibed plenty of nourishment furnished by fermented grain, fruit, legumes, etc., which sharpened (blurred?) our memories of long-ago gaffes committed by others while we were young scholars."

MARK JORDAN is a financial analyst working out of his house in St. Louis for a Florida-based firm. He plans to retire next spring. **BOB KIRKWOOD** continues to work in his family's insurance business in Westchester County, N.Y., with no definite retirement plans. **BOB POWERS** and **WALLY MARTIN** are both doctors (emergency medicine and general surgery, respectively), like what they do and are also without plans to pack it in. **NED MULLIGAN** has multiple teaching and pastoral duties as director of spiritual life at St. John's School in Houston and is also without retirement plans. **ANDY LAWRENCE**, who has been working at the U.S. Department of Energy in the environment, safety and health area since 1990, is, like Mark, planning to retire in early 2018.

Andy reports that "while we were forbidden, of course, by recent College dictates from singing about the exploits of Lord Jeffery Amherst, we decided that 'Woolly Bully' would be the appropriate fight song for the newly minted Fighting Mammoths. However, the lyrics we came up with are not fit for a family publication."

Four classmates and three spouses spent a great four days in a rented waterfront house on California's Monterey Peninsula in early August: **EITAN FENSON** and wife Barbara Weinstein (who found the house), **LARRY GOLD** and Susanne Slater (Smith '75), **BOB MCCARTNEY** and wife Barbara McCartney (U. of Maryland '75) and **BOB LURIE**. They enjoyed walks on the beach, visits to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Salvador Dalí museum, and fine dining in Carmel and elsewhere. **BOB MCCARTNEY** reports that, after the first two days, a moratorium was declared on discussions of current politics, "on grounds that the subject was just too damned aggravating."

RICK PORTER is celebrating the great news of his remission from multiple myeloma by cycling: he completed his second Pan-Mass Challenge in early August, riding 80 miles from Bourne to Provincetown. This huge event raised over \$40 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

in Boston, where Rick was treated.

JOHN REILLY sent in a detailed report: "Ran into **DON HORSTKOTTE** and **ANDREW VON SALIS** while attending **DAVID KIRKPATRICK**'s Techonomy production in Manhattan on May 16. The focus was on technology disruption in the medical field, and it was so much more entertaining and informative than the usual fare, which can pass as continuing medical education, for professionals in the medical field. Fellow physicians may want to take note of future productions by **DAVID KIRKPATRICK**. Subsequently, on June 17, here in Washington D.C., I was the guest of **LARRY GOLD** and his wife, Susanne, at a 'When I'm 64' theme party, co-hosted by **BOB MCCARTNEY** and his wife, Barbara. **PHIL HECHT** was also able to attend. We all had a great time reminiscing about our *Sgt. Pepper*-era exploits. There was a birthday cake for those of us who turned 64 this year, and instead of 'Happy Birthday,' we all sang, you guessed it, the Beatles' 'When I'm 64.' Alzheimer's not yet having set in, we remembered the words and sang all verses in toto."

JEFF SMITH is practicing law in Washington, D.C., with his own firm, specializing in Native American law. He plans to travel to Amherst frequently over the next few years, because his son, Kyland, is a member of the class of 2021.

GREGORY SPECK writes: "I have spent the summer mainly around NYC, often going to the Hamptons or Fire Island for marvelous beach adventures as well as weekend parties, which I have sometimes written up in the *New York Post* and *New York Social Diary* columns (from Rockefeller scandals to Ann Coulter encounters), as well as attending vintage rock concerts around town, so far seeing the Beach Boys, Three Dog Night, America and Average White Band; all of these nostalgic experiences were wonderful." Gregory's Virginia home, El Dorado, is not far from Charlottesville, and he has been following developing events there this past summer very closely.

BOB STEWART sent a detailed report: "After my retirement as executive director of the Alabama Humanities Foundation, my wife, Lida (Sewanee '78), and I moved in 2014 from Birmingham to St. Augustine, Fla., where we had lived when we were first married. Sadly, we lost our son, Jonathan, later that year. So we decided to relocate again, this time in 2016 to Nashville, Tenn., to be near our daughter, Lisa, who is a school counselor in the Metro Nashville Schools. I keep up regularly with Jim Barton '74 in Birmingham. **WILL KITTS** and his wife, Karyn, traveled to St. Augustine for a visit in 2015. We returned the favor by visiting them in Albuquerque and Santa Fe in 2016, followed by dinner in Denver with fellow Tuscaloosan **RIK WILLIAMS** and his wife, Terri Williams. This May we had the pleasure of a long-overdue visit with **JACK O'DONNELL** and his wife, Pam (Wellesley '75), at their home in Barrington, R.I. We also enjoyed

"There was a birthday cake for those of us who turned 64 this year, and instead of 'Happy Birthday,' we all sang, you guessed it, the Beatles' 'When I'm 64.'"

dessert at Bo Salem [’74]’s iconic Salem Cross Inn in West Brookfield, Mass., on the way to a couple of days in Amherst. (The proprietor wasn’t there that day.) The inn was a favorite special-occasion destination for all of us Chi Psis. We also enjoyed coffee with Cullen Murphy ’74 at the Lord Jeff before he had to run off for commencement duties. All in all, it was a wonderful tour of New England after a decade-long hiatus.”

PETER ZHEUTLIN met **ROB CARVER** and **STEVE KRAMER** for dinner in Westwood, Mass., in late August. Peter wrote: “As happens at our age, we compared

prompted, in large part, by our choosing to have kids well into our early 40s.” Not to put too fine a point on it: “We are still paying for college tuition.” If all goes according to plan, the last payment will be made this spring as Dave and Anne’s daughter Maggie finishes up at Kenyon College. “Further plans are for Anne and me to continue working until age 97 or thereabouts.”

In August, **DAVE BLENKO** graduated from the master’s program in organizational development at Peppredine. “The program, which was primarily about leadership and change management, seemed a good way to prepare for the next season of life, which I expect to involve pro bono consulting but not employment. My thesis research involved a process called appreciative inquiry, which emphasizes building on an organization’s strengths versus more traditional problem-based approaches to organizational change. Fortunately, we began with readings about neuroplasticity, a fancy way of saying ‘an old dog can learn new tricks!’”

STEVE YAKE and wife Harriet (Smith ’76) have reached a new milestone: “We became grandparents on July 1—twin daughters, Charlotte Louise and Madeline Gray, born to our younger son, Davis, and his wife, Chrissy. Everyone is happy and healthy.” In early August, Steve took a weeklong bicycle trip around the Finger Lakes with **HENRY MUNDT**. “The weather was nasty at times and the hills were challenging, but a grand time was had by all. To any of our cycling classmates, I highly recommend going on one or more bike tours with Henry. It’s a blast.”

On a far less happy note, **DAVE BLENKO** sends news that **SOCHUA MU**, the widow of **SCOTT LEIPER**, risks arrest as part of the recent repression of the opposition Cambodian National Rescue Party (CNRP). In early September, the head of the party was arrested on trumped-up charges of treason, which most analysts see as an attempt to damage the party in advance of Cambodia’s national elections next February. As a CNRP member of the Cambodian parliament and one of the party’s three deputy leaders, Sochua may face legal jeopardy as well. Never one to be intimidated, in a recent interview with Reuters she urged the international community to speak out against the Cambodian government’s increasingly anti-democratic actions.

Your class secretary hereby declares that **LEE WILSON** is the official “Zelig” of the class of ’76—the individual who keeps popping up in other classmates’ mentions. The latest Lee citing: Berkeley, Calif. “The Lovekin family in Berkeley was happy to have a visit from Lee last April,” writes **JIM LOVEKIN**. “It was a good time to get caught up with activities since the 40th reunion.” Meanwhile, Jim’s oldest, Arthur, has entered his senior year at Berkeley High. “His current thoughts on college tend toward engineering schools, so Amherst does not appear to be in his

future,” writes Jim. “Wherever he decides to go will, of course, be fine. I tell him he’ll have plenty of time to make changes in his course of study—even if he doesn’t take his father’s approach of getting two bachelors’ degrees.” Jim, you may be working even longer than **DAVE DOYLE**!

After navigating a sea of health problems, **MALCOLM EWEN** is finally back to work at both Steppenwolf and his summer gig at the Weston Playhouse in Vermont. This summer, however, he and his two codirectors at Weston (including Tim Fort ’72) announced that, after 30-plus years at the helm, they will be stepping down at the end of the 2018 summer season.

Let’s pause to take in the scope of Malcolm and his colleagues’ achievement, with a little help from Jim Lowe, Vermont’s foremost theater critic. “Malcolm Ewen, Tim Fort and Steve Stettler were college theater students when they first started spending summers at Weston Playhouse,” writes Lowe in the *Rutland Herald*, “where they worked under the direction of Walter Boughton. In 1988, the three took over the reins, turning Weston Playhouse Theatre Company into a respected Equity professional theater—soon drawing some of the best actors, directors and production people from throughout the United States.... Now they are leaving—but they are leaving the most artistically, professionally and popularly successful theater in the state.”

“Clearly, retirement is a mixed bag of emotions after such a long run,” adds Malcolm, “but my health and the health issues of my third partner had a great deal of influence on our decision.”

We conclude this issue of class notes with a new feature: the “Corrections” department. **TED IACOBUIZI** kindly points out that his new office at Mercator Consulting is in Maynard, Mass., not in Shrewsbury, as I mistakenly indicated in the last edition of notes. No excuses, Ted. All I can say is that the Internet had something to do with it. I found a Mercator office in Shrewsbury and jumped to the conclusion that it was *the* Mercator office. Getting old; losing my touch; need to hire a fact-checker. Any takers?

> **BOB HOWARD**
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Both Beautiful and Sad

1976: In July, Mike “Bubba” Blenko and his wife, Sonia, went to Havana “after many, many years of waiting. ... We found it both beautiful and sad,” writes Mike. “The years of socialism have left the infrastructure crumbling and most everyone hustling to eat well. We did hear some great music, and I got to check Hemingway’s home and boat off my bucket list (which is getting alarmingly short!).”

some health notes, and though Rob and I are both cancer survivors, all is quiet on the western front. I have to say that occasions like this remind me how fortunate we were to go to school with smart, curious people and how our common experience at Amherst keeps us tied to each other.” Peter’s niece, Lisa ’21, started her first year at Amherst in September.

JEFF DYKENS reports from Cape Cod that his oldest son, Andrew ’08, a lawyer at Arent Fox, married Stephanie Wu (Michigan, Ross School of Business ’09) in Brooklyn on July 7; daughter Abigail (Mount Holyoke ’11) works at a fashion brokerage in Manhattan; and youngest son, Joshua, is a senior at the business school at Georgetown.

Jeff’s wife, Julie (Smith ’79), is an artist who owns Local Color, a gallery in West Chatham. Jeff continues his long tenure in senior management at Cape Cod Healthcare and was reelected last year as a selectman in the town of Chatham. He has recently gotten together with several classmates, including **ANDY MANN**, **PETER HUNTER**, **PETER HAMILTON**, Art Murphy ’76, **JEFF CLOPECK** and **STEVE KRAMER**.

> **BRIEN HORAN**
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1976

A smattering of news in these class notes about summer vacations and various life changes, experienced, announced or merely anticipated. Let’s get to it.

“Given all the exciting news about classmates ‘retiring,’ I’m pleased to announce that my wife, Anne, and I have removed the word from our vocabulary,” writes **DAVE DOYLE**. “The decision has been



DAVID FRIEND ’77 INVESTIGATES A DECADE OF AMERICAN CULTURE’S PRE-OCCUPATION WITH SEX IN *THE NAUGHTY NINETIES*.

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1977

Talk about your self-fulfilling prophecies: My wide-eyed invitation to classmates in August to send along tales of failure and calamity was greeted with varying expressions of gratitude and bemusement. At the end of the day, however, it was an unqualified bust. But for one rather desolate report of a wayward colonoscopy, respondents presented a united front in their exuberant affirmation of success, fellowship and the attainment of happiness. What’s a malcontent secretary to do?

The one exception, bless him, was the effortlessly chill and unfathomably youthful **RICHARD STOLZ**, who relayed

the phoenix-from-the-ashes backstory behind his percolating business communications operation out of Rockville, Md. “How can I spin a failure into something that makes me look heroic?” he inquired, then rose to the challenge. “About 20 years ago I lobbied successfully for a promotion from writer/editor to group publisher at a business magazine publishing company ... cracking the whip over a team of money-driven ad salesmen and playing along with the CFO’s monthly accounting tricks to create the illusion of smooth and steady growth. When the ‘internet bubble’ burst and the venture-capital-fueled ad revenue I was getting from unprofitable startups evaporated, guess who was out of a job? And that’s how my career as a freelance writer began—best inadvertent career move I ever made!”

Devotees of sorrow and misfortune should read no further. More uplifting news poured in from several expats residing in Western Europe. The peripatetic **BRAD PEPPARD** reiterates that he is “happily” divorced and resettled in Geneva, Switzerland, where, among other new pursuits, he is boldly diving into the waters of short-filmmaking. Brad was in ebullient spirits at last June’s 40th reunion, where he was contemplating a jaw-dropping journey westward. “Somehow,” he reflects, “my recent tour of National Parks (Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Antelope Canyon, Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce and Zion) strikes me as at once excessive and essentially ephemeral. Which is not to say that I didn’t have a fantastic time.”

Everything’s coming up rosé for Paris-based writer **ALEXANDER LOBRANO**, who has cultivated an extraordinary career as a food and travel authority for *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Architectural Digest*, *Saveur*, *Bon Appétit*, *Food & Wine*, *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. “I’ve never been busier,” says the author of *Hungry for France: Adventures for the Cook & Food Lover*, who is wrapping up a new book proposal for “something more introspective, personal and memoir-like.” Last summer in New York, Alec married his partner of 20 years, Bruno. Though the event was motivated at least in part “by preemptive caution before elections in both France and the United States, it’s opened up an even greater sweetness and happiness between us.” Add to the mix a Sarasota pied-à-terre and a recently acquired house in the south of France, and life doesn’t get much sweeter.

Due east, in the commensurately savory region of Alsace, **RAYMOND BACH** has been running Syracuse University’s study abroad program in Strasbourg since 2000. “At our 40th,” Ray writes, “**JIM VAGIAS** and I discovered that he had attended the study abroad program. This past weekend, he and his lovely wife, Sally, spent a couple of days in Alsace, and he had a chance to rediscover the city after more than 40 years. It was wonderful to see the city through his eyes, and it cer-

tainly reinforced my belief in the importance of study abroad. Oh, and in just a few days, two Amherst students will be arriving to participate in our fall program, though it’s doubtful that I’ll be around in 40 years to hear them reminisce about their days in Strasbourg.” Never underestimate the life-sustaining powers of Gewürztraminer and *choucroute*, Ray.

The aforementioned **JIM VAGIAS**, a practiced magician when is he not laboring as producing artistic director of the American Theater Group at the SOPAC in South Orange, N.J., wrote independently to say that he managed to parlay a magic gig in Europe in tandem with his imminent host-family reunion in Strasbourg, a prospect that inspired a mix of excitement and anxiousness. “When I last saw them, I was relatively fluent in French,” Jim admitted sheepishly, “and now I can barely order a croissant.” Having watched him put away a farmer’s breakfast at the Lone Wolf in Amherst last June with **JAN SARAGONI** in attendance, I have little worry that Jim will ever go hungry.

Among the other distinguished alums six degrees from **JIM VAGIAS** is dramatist **SAMUEL KERRLOCKHART**. Sam sounded psyched about his latest play, *Page Count*, which was about to receive a staged reading directed by Jim and starring Jim Brochu, whom the theater-savvy classmates might recall from his Drama Desk Award-winning solo turn as Zero Mostel in *Zero Hour*. We look forward to a Broadway production, Sam. May it spin the scalpers of StubHub into a frenzied rush for tickets.

The entreaty for news brought out the father in **G.A. FINCH** (remembered in his salad days as Gregory), who would appear to have passed along the kind of discipline and focus that has propelled his law career at the Chicago-based Hoogendoorn & Talbot LLP. G.A. brimmed with “happy summer news” of his three lyrically named children: “Daughter Marisol obtained her MBA from Washington University in St. Louis and got married; daughter Gabriella received the highest Girl Scout achievement, the Gold Award; and son Maximelio earned his Eagle Scout Award.”

Another Amherst legal whiz, Renaissance man **NOEL PARA**, writes that he continues as a partner at Alston & Bird and as chair of the firm’s legal opinions committee and several ABA committees and subcommittees, where he often runs into **JIM SCHULWOLF**. Noel, a penitent Amherst Glee Club dropout and inveterate jazz fan, speaks effusively about his son, Sean Logan, recent Oberlin grad and history buff who aced his Foreign Service Exam, and his wife, Susan, an accomplished art historian currently teaching at SUNY Cortland. “She is the best person I could imagine going with to any museum, church or historic site. She’s a fantastic traveler and has planned wonderful trips to Europe, Indonesia and China.” Among the three, the wayfaring family Para owns 11 bikes, which means

that, should they ever give up their day jobs, they could always pull together a peloton for the Tour de France.

JIM BERTLES activated all my “what’s wrong with this picture?” buttons with his sybaritic account of “several great golf and dinner outings and enjoyable conversations in the past two months with fellow alums **JOHN MIDDLETON**, Fran Kelly ’78, Ted Beneski ’78, Drew Casertano ’78, Dave Wray ’78 and Tom Mitchell ’78. Other than that, an enjoyable spending time in Palm Beach and Rowayton, Conn., with my wife of 36 years while still working full-time at our wealth management/investment advisory firm, which has now grown to six offices in the United States. Kids are now 33, 30 and 27, all gainfully employed (even the one in business school), two married and one grandson.”

Before I wrap this up, may I offer a final ovation for **GERRY BROWN**, the class of ’77’s resident Puck and blithe spirit behind class news for the past five-plus years? My personal thanks to Gerry for keeping us all in the loop with such unflagging vitality and for passing the baton with such generosity and great good humor. May your life be nothing but pool floats and umbrella drinks from here on in.

> JAN STUART
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1978

Our class has been a bit reticent these last few rounds, and I’m going to have to think up some greater provocation. While on a trade delegation to Namibia and Botswana in the summer, I wrote to the class asking for news, pleased to have discovered while in Windhoek that the U.S. ambassador to Namibia, Tom Daughton ’83, and his wife, Mindy Burrell ’91, were both Amherst alums.

I was happy as a bee that **DAVE WHITMAN** and his wife, Lynn, who had been hiking around the circumference of Mont Blanc in France, Italy and Switzerland, were able to visit us in the Aveyron in southwest France.

“Just returned to the Big Hot Sleazy after a month mostly in France keeping active and cool,” writes **RANDY SMITH** from New Orleans. “Maggie starts seventh grade—I know: ‘Look out, look out.’ Plan on being back in Western Mass paradise for reunion and hope many others will as well. Glad I am not in Guam.” [Editor’s note: a new biography was just published on Randy’s mom, *Sally’s Genius*, and it’s getting great reviews.]

JEFF NEUSTADT and his wife, Susan, and their dog, Lucy, were camping out in Jeff’s St. Pete medical offices while Hurricane Irma was wreaking havoc outside.

JIM HAMILTON, the class of ’78’s Lin-Manuel Miranda, has taken another shot at writing new lyrics to the Lord Jeffery Amherst college song: “I took out all the bio war references.... I’m leaning toward

1977: I had a heartening phone catch-up with *Olio* year-book photo-mate and longtime amigo *Judy Pansullo*, who is giddily transitioning into a new career with the Piedmont Talent organization, booking engagements for rock groups out of her home office in Kent, Wash. “I’m digging it,” *Judy* said in her best retro-rock lingo. “Artists are primal, and I’ve always been more drawn to the primal than the intellectual. I love taking care of them. They bring out the mother in me.”

“Sossusvlei (south and west of the [Namibian] capital, Windhoek) may have been the single most exquisite spot in a month of breathtakingly beautiful landscapes.”

scrapping this and focusing more on a creation myth for the Mammoth, but I have not been able to get my brain around that idea yet.”

Jim’s lyrics to “Oh Lord, We’re the Mammoths!” begin like this:

“Oh Lord, we’re the Mammoths! And the song we used to sing

Is now a relic of history.

But the tune is such a classic, only lacking one big thing:

We need new words to set it free, we need new words to set it free.

Coming to the rescue is a skeleton of might,

Herbivorous beast both noble and true, A very fierce competitor, unafraid of any fight,

And some tusks for our new logo too!

Oh, Mammoths! Brave Mammoths!...”

(You’ll have to ask Jim for the rest!)

JOHN BENDIX sent in this stream-of-consciousness piece from Europe: “Just back from the United States. Saw Roger Pines ’79 in Chicago, also saw Amish-run auction in rural Kentucky (after passing through many Indiana corn fields on the way to see my old professors from 30 years ago in Bloomington), but the actual reason for the trip was to go to a Jewish-Chinese wedding in North Carolina (steamy, oppressive weather not cooled by afternoon daily downpours) of violinist whiz nephew, with a second ceremony in two weeks to be held in small Chinese city of only 2 million (where violinist whiz bride is from).”

DAVID WRAY shared: “As I write this, Deidre (Shanahan) Wray ’81 and I are sitting on a plane, heading for Florida and then to the mountains of North Carolina for our son Trip (’11)’s wedding to the adorable Claudia, whom he met in NYC. BFFs **TOM MITCHELL** and **FRAN KELLY** will be joining us for the glorious event. Spent a terrific day last weekend at the Weekapaug, R.I., home of **DREW CASERTANO**, also with Tom and Fran and Jim Bertles ’77 and all spouses. Golf, beach, cookout—a great summer day with great friends. And a shout-out to our reunion chair **ED PITONIAK**, who is already saddling up to run a spectacular 40th for all of us next May. Please all make that sacred on your ’18 calendars, and we will see you then!”

DAN RITCHIE, English professor at Bethel University in Minnesota, and his wife, **JUDIE (CALVERT) RITCHIE**, “are probably in Britain as you read these notes, having been asked by my university to lead a fifth (and final!) semester-long literary tour with 18 English majors. (You can follow her blog at judieritchie.wordpress.com.) Biggest impediment to the trip: having to leave behind our first two grandchildren, born in late 2016. Hope to see many of you at reunion.”

JOE EDELBERG started his summer vacation in Leverett, Mass., just north of Amherst, then moved on to Northampton, “then by Amtrak and car to the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake, and now I

am lying on a bed in my hotel room on Capitol Hill in D.C. with my 15-year-old son on his bed next to mine. His first visit to this city makes it more exciting for me. Having lived in Northern California for decades now, I am happy to bathe in the classical and colonial architecture, the solidity of structure and form, the heaviness of the air. We stopped at the National Arboretum on the way in and visited the breathtaking bonsai collection. Truly beautiful. Regarding concerns—I have none while on vacation, but I know when I get back to work I will face one that has been nagging at me: how to cut back on work while still needing the income. Anybody else wrestling with this one?”

ERIC FORNELL at Wells Fargo has reported on the status of the class of ’78’s current balance, as we head into our 40th reunion season. **MARK PARISI** is scouting out the grub and booze. Should be a classy lineup.

If you have any cool ideas on how we should celebrate the big 40th next May, send ’em on over. I was thinking of creating a class of ’78 app for tracking each other and sharing prescription meds, good poetry and irreverent jokes.

Keep writing. Hugs.

> **DAVID APPLEFIELD**

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1979

As I write this, my 60th birthday is fast approaching. I agree with **RICH HORWITZ** (see below) that turning 65 will provide more angst.

In what has become an annual affair, I met up with **JIM STILL**, **JAMIE BRIGAGLIANO** and **RICH HORWITZ** for a thoroughly wonderful round of golf and nostalgia this summer.

DAVID TURETSKY reports: “Turning 60, interested in changing to more service-oriented work, wanting to be nearer family and with wife finishing seven and a half years in Obama Administration (followed by a replacement show for which a ringside seat is not a plus), we left D.C. after 24 years, in which I served in government, law and business. Moved to Albany, N.Y., where I am now a visiting prof at the University at Albany in their College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity (part of SUNY).”

RICH HORWITZ weighs in on the new age milestone: “Turning 60 just wasn’t a big deal—maybe 65 or 70 will be different! Over the summer I’ve been fortunate to see several classmates, including our own class secretary, **SAM D’AGATA**, plus **JAMIE BRIGAGLIANO**, **JOHN GULLA**, **JIM** and **NANCY SHEPARD**, **JIM** and **JILL STILL** and Jeff ‘Harpo’ Gilfix ’77 (honorary classmate). Also had a chance to travel around Scandinavia for my daughter Emily’s Amherst graduation present. The nature scenery in Norway is amazing, and I’d highly recommend the train from Bergen to Oslo for anyone considering going to that part of the world.” He hoped to see

other classmates at homecoming.

BRENDAN O’SULLIVAN reports: “Running up to some forest fires in Canada (having just been among some in Wyoming—have to get a better smoke detector!). I turned 60 earlier this year and didn’t really think it was that big a deal. What *was* were the number of folks who try to make it a negative and impactful. Remember, in countering them, ‘Childhood after the age of 60 is vastly underrated!’ Events this year: became a granddad in January—Tristan is healthy and happy, as are his mom and dad. They are in Durham, and, as first year resident (he) and neurology PA (she), both are now sleep-deprived. My son just started golf, though, and hits a 270-yard drive in the fairway. Not fair! Still accumulating high points of the 48 [contiguous] states. Combined seeing the total eclipse in Wyoming with some caving and bagging South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas (yes, those latter

“The total eclipse was superb and exceeded any and all of my expectations.”

two are pretty boring). The total eclipse was superb and exceeded any and all of my expectations. Also, Wyoming itself is pretty neat, and, after spending time in three different towns with populations under 250, don’t underestimate those natives!”

JOHN GULLA had quite a summer experience: “My wife; our older son, Ben; and a nephew had a summer odyssey as we drove in a 4x4 Ford Ranger double cab all tricked out for camping on a 9,000-kilometer adventure in a counter-clockwise circle from Cape Town, along the South African coast (including several glorious days at the perfectly named village of Bulungula on the Indian Ocean along what is known as the Wild Coast and way, way off the beaten path) up to the border of Mozambique, then north and west through Zimbabwe, stopping in Bulawayo and Victoria Falls, then south and west through Botswana, with stops along the Chobe River and near the Okavango Delta, then farther west and south through Namibia, with an extended time in the Namibian desert. Sossusvlei (south and west of the capital, Windhoek) may have been the single most exquisite spot in a month of breathtakingly beautiful landscapes. A month later, we pulled back into Cape Town. We mixed camping with some nights in lodging, following an itinerary that Ben, who had been living in South Africa for four years, and my wife devised. We buried the truck up to its hubs in sand more than once, had a flat in the middle of a game park and changed it with water buffalo and warthogs looking on with minimal interest, and paid bribes to a dozen police along the roads in Zimbabwe, a 21st-century tribute that has always been paid by travelers passing through the territory of others.”

MIKE ACHEY writes, “Feeling like a dinosaur in more than one way. Kids all grown and out of the nest, leaving 4,000 square feet quiet. I’m also a primary care doctor in Massachusetts. No takers for the job opening when I want to retire. I still love the job, but who knows what will happen to this slice of the medical profession when we’re gone? One child going to neurosurgery, one to something pediatric, one going into computer sciences via Gtech and one in art school in Baltimore. What an eclectic life we have lived through our children. I’m sad about the political times in which we live, when a minority of angry voices elects leadership with no concept of governance. I’ve never felt so powerless despite my educational pedigree.”

Finally, I’m sorry to report that our class lost two of its own this year. **RICHARD J. “JUICE” KELLY** and **ROBERT T. WILLIAMS** passed away this past summer. Our heartfelt condolences go out to their families. An In Memory piece about Richard can be found in this issue.

Hope everyone had a great summer. Looking forward to hearing from you in December.

> **SAM D’AGATA**
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1980

One of the world’s problems, as we see it, is that not enough of it is currently being run by Amherst people. We wondered which prominent public figures with no connection to Amherst should have gone there (assuming they could get in), and what aspects of the place would have made them a better influence on the world. This blatant attempt to beat on the woolly mammoth in the living room with a baseball bat elicited exactly one direct response, from **RICH READ**: “It’s not too late. The College could admit all current Cabinet members. Full-time.

“I’ve been reporting amid 100 shades of green along the Costa Rica-Nicaragua border,” Rich continues, “aiming to bag a story on fruit fraud, one of the sweeter assignments I’ve had. [It’s] almost as interesting as the drug trade: a scheme involving imported produce, potentially harming U.S. consumers. A puzzle of a story, actually. Each person I encountered appeared to have stepped out of Central Casting to play the role. Truth continues stranger than fiction, which is why I stick to it, I guess, other than not being smart enough to make stuff up.

“Oh, speaking of people who pursue the truth, I have a **TED CONOVER** sighting to report. I enjoyed breakfast with Ted recently in 119-degree Phoenix, where he was a speaker on an investigative reporters and editors panel on immersion reporting. He has a terrific book out explaining that topic.” Check out *Immersion: A Writer’s Guide to Going Deep* (University of Chicago Press, 2017).

Medical news occupies a lot of our

attention these days. “The past three months or so have been unlike any in my lifetime (I know I have been fortunate in that regard),” writes **DAVESWIFT**. “In late April, as a result of a routine annual physical, my personal physician (and spouse, Dr. Martha Hodgkinson Swift) suggested that I get a prostate biopsy because of the increase in the rate of change of my PSA test data. I did, and it turned out that I had prostate cancer, even though I had not exhibited any of the typical symptoms. Martha and I then went into ‘research mode’ and met with experts at MD Anderson, Baylor, Mass General and Dana-Farber. While there was slight variation in the ranking of the severity of my cancer, they all agreed that surgically removing my prostate was the preferred course of action. So we signed up for a robotic prostatectomy at Dana-Farber on July 13. In order to get myself ready for this surgery, I started exercising even more than I normally do (which is a fair amount). On July 5 in a tennis tournament in upstate New York, I broke both my wrists after hitting an exquisite shot, if I do say so myself. So I went to cancer surgery with two broken wrists. After surgery, I had a catheter for a week, which made taking showers interesting (and painful, when I accidentally stepped on the bag).

“Anyway, I am now cancer-free! The incidence rate of prostate cancer is higher than breast cancer, but very treatable if caught early. Men, get tested annually. I just had surgery on my left wrist this past week. I am optimistic that I am on the mend and that my new bionic wrist (I’m a lefty) will dramatically improve my tennis game.” Now living in Boston, Swift still has a home in Houston, which he’s made available to neighbors fleeing Hurricane Harvey. “So Houston is the third bad thing of what has been a tough summer for me (and my family). I am hoping that bad things are limited to threes.”

Less alarming forms of *tsuris* include **BILL MILLARD**’s bicyclically popped gastrocnemius muscle—the ‘80 souvenir cane, the NYC scribe observes, was a huge practical boon to someone almost never found in motor vehicles—and **TIM MCKENNA** joins Bill on the disabled list for similar reasons. “I suppose it sucks growing old,” Tim notes, “but, as far as I know, there’s only one alternative (that I’m not interested in...). I completed my fifth consecutive Pan Mass Challenge ride in August (with a ton of support from classmates—thank you, all) but, while training for my second Closer to Free Ride for Yale New Haven Hospital and riding around town with my 5-year-old daughter, Catherine, in tow, I tweaked something in my left knee and also put my great class of ‘80 cane to good use! I’m walking around fine, but biking is definitely limited for a bit.”

Baltimore scribe **TREI MASSIE** weighs in, citing **BRIAN** and **KEVIN CONWAY**: “We’ll give the IMNBDD award to the Conways for [funding] the canes. I also

want to give the real Dr. **DREW PINSKY** an honorable mention, as he allowed [my son] Sam and me in the studio during his radio show. He also gave Sam some quality air time. ... Pretty awesome.”

MICHAEL LEVIN is “running my eighth Boston Marathon for Dana-Farber this April, and this year running in honor of the class of 1980. Looking to surpass \$100,000 in lifetime fundraising for Dana-Farber. Learn more by searching at www.runDFMC.org. And yes, I’m too old for that s’!@.”

PETER FRITZINGER “recently found an opportunity that combines a for-profit business with helping residents living in HUD Section 8 affordable housing. We acquire existing Section 8 properties (20–100 apartments) that have expiring contracts and might become conventional rental properties. We extend the contract with HUD, improve the property management, renovate if necessary and then locate partners to help the children find better schools, and the adults job training and educational opportunities. It has brought a purpose to my days that I think we all need.”

SUE DAHL is “happy to supply [news] that is diagnosis-free (for now). I am in my third year with a group practice of expressive therapists based in Watertown, Mass. My clients are all ages and diverse cultures. Right now, I’m witnessing the full impact of immigration policies on individuals and families. I’ve been seeing how hard it is to hold on to sanity in an environment where basic safety and respect are eroding. To maintain my own sanity, I cleave to the spirit of our undergraduate years: hard work must be balanced by hard play. I am happy to say I completed a triathlon last week in semi-hurricane conditions. Let’s just say no one stuck around for the post-race beer. My husband, **BILL COHN**, is on the same work-hard/play-hard plan, working long hours at a software company and raging around the woods on weekends with his mountain biking buddies. He’s also really developed his ceramic art, with several current installations of his sculptures,” recently including an Open Studio tour at ArtSpace Maynard on Sept. 23–24. We are both enjoying having our daughter Charlotte (University of Vermont ’16) back home, working full-time for a solar power company, and probably also ‘playing hard,’ but she’s not saying.”

GERRY FINE reports, “I am privileged to report a **BOBBIE (BISHOP) GOLLAN** sighting at the Blue Ribbon Bar in Red Lodge, Mont., a favored old haunt of geology majors. Apparently, Bobbie, myself, and Chris French ’81 all visited the venerable establishment within a 24-hour period this summer, proving only that there are some constants in life.”

GEOFF MOULTON made it through the primary to become a Democratic nominee for the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Cheers for everyone in the class who’s been supporting his campaign.

“Truth continues stranger than fiction, which is why I stick to it, I guess, other than not being smart enough to make stuff up.”

"For the voyeuristically inclined of our classmates," says cybersnooper **MATT WEEKS**, "here is a very cool webcam link for the College (www.amherst.edu/visiting/amhcams). I hope they post more cameras so we can see more of the campus, the seasonal changes and even the fun peek at the to-and-from of busy students. Not sure if I would have appreciated being beamed like this in my full bushy-haired (yes, you will recall I had a big shock of hair back then) late-to-wake-up self rushing to class in the morning. Hopefully we won't be able to 'zoom-in' too much on these webcams. Enjoy! (Note to self: Ask **NEAL SWERDLOW** for a webcam of the surf break down there in San Diego.)"

Your scribes hope that no one in harm's way of the recent rash of natural disasters has been adversely impacted. **DENISE FRANCOIS**, who spent Hurricane Irma in the Virgin Islands with her parents, says, "I may have found religion, because I finally made it to my house (every electrical pole on the island is snapped in two) and I have minimal damage." We pray our classmates located in and around Texas and Florida can say the same.

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1981

A shooting star crosses the sky over Amherst, while you stand atop Memorial Hill. You close your eyes and make a wish. What do you wish?

BONNIE FRANK: "I wish I was entering Amherst College freshman year, bringing all my wisdom (ha!) and life experience in my back pocket. I wish I could come up with a more clever and humorous reply."

CHRIS HALL: "I wish for good health and happiness for all our classmates."

DAVID MIX BARRINGTON: "There can really be no other answer than 'that Donald Trump would no longer be president.'"

DAVE PHILLIPS: "So many wishes. Just spending a day with the Dalai Lama would be more than enough for me. However, I have to be selfless, and so ... if Amherst gave me one wish in the entire world ... our son (along with other children of Amherst) with addiction problems would spend two or three months in dual diagnosis care, with the promise that good behavior would earn them an apprenticeship in any field of study they chose. Either sponsored by elites like Amherst or taking a leadership role around the globe with it. Amherst has, after all, touched the entire world in so many ways. If there were a wish that can change lives and the world, maybe we should talk about this. Example: our son's passion (hence extreme motivator) is clearly movies. Plug him in to the right program that ties his success and reward to his greatest passion, and I think we've got a winner. I truly

do. I think there are programs out there that many of them would succeed at with the right incentives. We try to deal with their suffering, but we forget their great ambitions. I'm far beyond pride on all this. Just want to help."

GINGER HOWARD: "1. That Hillary Clinton won the presidency. 2. That Al Gore won the presidency. 3. That the U.N. had been able to bring about the return of land to the Palestinians after the Wars of 1947-48 and 1967. 4. That I was an art history or sociology professor and not an attorney. 5. That my dog was house-trained."

JENNIE (DIGGS) MAKIHARA: "A million U.S. dollars."

JEROME DE BONTIN: I wish I was a freshman knowing all that I know today with the power to "make Amherst great again!"

JOHN MOSES: "I wish... I am back on the pitch at the bottom of Memorial Hill, breaking out of a rugby scrum quickly enough to take a pass from my leaping scrumhalf **ERIC MILLER** on a weak side rush with my fellow Lord Jeff rugger **BRENDAN PATTERSON**, **SCOTT SWANSON**, **DAVE WILSON** and **BILL ALDEN** all in hot pursuit as we seek the ecstasy of touching the ball down (again) in the Ephmen's in-goal. Thanks for the memories, Eric. Not exactly world peace and social justice, but many fond and muddy memories at the bottom of that hill."

LARRY AXELROD: "Do I get two wishes? If so, selfishly I wish for a nice head of hair for myself. Globally, I wish for an end to greed. Please don't make me pick just one!"

LIZ (SCHUPF) LONSDALE: "Well, that depends on the type of wish: can I make a godlike wish for mankind to be a (much) better steward of Earth? Or it this a fairy-godmother-type wish? Those always seem to focus on beauty or romance. Can I wish for more wishes?"

LIZ SLOAN: "For our country: a change in leadership. I wish for a world that values a liberal arts education and which believes in science! My husband's work is being directly affected by the executive branch's narrow and shortsighted perspective. Another wish: to choose diplomacy over war to solve problems."

MARTHA BARRY-PLOTKIN: "I wish for each of my three children in their 20s to be happy in their work and personal lives, especially my son Sammy, who works passionately and tirelessly as a songwriter-singer in the very competitive Los Angeles music entertainment business. I miss him!"

MIKE PRICE: "Flashback: I wish I'll get an A on my upcoming 'American Diplomatic History' written final. And I wish my paycheck for showing movies in Merrill will arrive in time for me to take a nice friend for a good Italian dinner before she leaves for the summer."

NANCY (REHNQUIST) SPEARS: "I wish all the citizens of our embattled world could somehow get on a spaceship to view the Earth from a distance to recognize our

shared responsibility to protect and preserve this tiny blue and green sphere, our mutual home."

PAUL FAXON: "I wish to be teleported back to 1981 for one last Valentine lunch meal of a greasy double hamburger and sit down at my favorite corner table to shoot the breeze with my classmates on topics consequential and inconsequential."

SHERRI (WASSERMAN) GOODMAN: "I wish the world would wake up and recognize climate change as a threat multiplier and one of the most important forces shaping society. We have the power to decarbonize and create resilient futures, if we bring American innovation, ingenuity and capital to bear on both the greatest challenge and greatest opportunity of our lifetime."

THOMAS RANDLEMAN: "I wish that I had lived on campus while at Amherst. Because I was a few years older than the typical student, it seemed that living on campus would put me in an 'odd man out of sorts' situation. But, on reflection, I think it would have been a wonderful experience and been more 'out of the box' than 'out of sorts.' As a result of my choice, I do not have the close ties with fellow class members that might have been fostered by living on campus. When I read about other classmates retelling interesting or funny stories, I really don't have much in that spectrum. I also didn't have the kind of warm, close friendships that are engendered along with the daily sharing of campus life. So that would be my wish: to have lived on campus. Any 'genies' nearby that need to do their thing?"

CAM HUTCHINS: Thanks to everyone who wrote back this time. I wish we could figure out the next steps to make every one of these wishes (at least the future-looking ones) come true. Please stay in touch!

> **CAM HUTCHINS**
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1982

It was wonderful to see everyone at our 35th reunion. I had a great time catching up with lots of people and hearing all about their lives. Ironically, **DANA (CURRY) LORWAY** is now living in my hometown of Worcester, Mass. It was great catching up on what has happened in the city. My freshman-year roommate, **LAURIE MAFFLY-KIPP**, and I caught up and I shared tips from my trip to China to help her prepare for her upcoming trip there.

At the reunion, **MONTY CLEWORTH** provided a great presentation on the places he has visited in his quest to visit every country in the world. He recently wrote to let me know he visited Malawi in July, which is country number 135. He swam in the bilharzia-infested Lake Malawi but, so far, no symptoms. He wants to know: If this changes, which classmate specializes in infectious diseases? He also said he is planning Bangladesh (136) and East Timor (137) with his brother in Octo-

1981: Kevin Kearns says: "I wish I could do it all over again. Get to know my friends more deeply. Get to know more classmates and call them friends. Attend more office hours to chat with the OGs that I was lucky enough to call professors. I'd play more Ultimate (props to John Torpey!) and less Freestyle (no offense, Andy Kuchins!). I'd read Walden one more time, digging a little deeper. Finally, I'd wish to live through it all (often seriously in doubt!) as I did the first time."

ber, with a stopover in Singapore to have dinner with **MICHELE DEITCH**. Good luck, Monty! Hopefully we won't have to find out who in the class is the infectious disease specialist.

DAVID QUINN wrote with big news about a book he has written that will be published next year. Between that and an active 11-year-old, he has been keeping himself rather busy and was sorry he could not make the reunion. We look forward to seeing your book on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Let us know when it is published.

BEVERLY (MAJTELES) FLOER-SHEIMER wrote to say: "Although it has been a tumultuous summer for our country, things are moving along chez Floersheimer. We now have two kids working/living in NYC. Carolyn works for the Private Client Group at Sotheby's, and Will works in asset management for J.P. Morgan. Andrew has loved working for the Nantucket Project this summer and will soon be headed back to Amherst for his sophomore year. Dan is still consulting, and we have both become angel investors, among our other interests. Am still in touch with **ANN (MUNTZNER) ROSS**, **ALLISON MOORE-LAKE** and **GEORGETTE (COULOUCONDIS) MALLORY**. Most of us have reached the empty-nester phase and are reorienting ourselves. Dan and I also enjoyed attending our very well-run 35th reunion at the Fairest College (and especially reconnecting with longtime friends) with the hip new woolly mascot! I did read somewhere that scientists are working on engineering/bringing back the woolly mammoth in order to negate some of the detrimental effects of climate change. Kirk?"

I had dinner recently with **ANNETTE (SANDERS) SANDERSON** and Bev Allen '83. It was great catching up and hearing all about Annette preparing for the empty nest as her son starts at the UConn engineering program.

Speaking of empty-nesters, for our next edition of the class notes, I would love to hear how everyone is going to celebrate their empty nest.

I am still looking for a co-secretary and would really appreciate the help.

> **ANGELA SCOTT**
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1983

I enjoyed hearing from **LEE RALPH**, who wrote to say that his oldest daughter, Julia, would be entering the bicentennial class of 2021 at Amherst. Lee's other children are Olivia, a high school junior, and Spencer, a sixth-grader. He also wrote that he continues in a family medicine/sports medicine group practice and served as president of the California Academy of Family Physicians recently—quite a learning experience." Lee invited classmates going to San Diego to contact him, and said he's looking forward to our reunion next year.

Speaking of that reunion—and yes, it's our 35th next spring—our class officers are making plans! Here's a message from our reunion co-chairs, **FRANCESCA MORSELLI-SINNOTT** and **GLORIA (BRACKMAN) NUSSBAUM**:

"Why not catch up with Amherst classmates face-to-face rather than just through the class news? Planning for our 35th reunion is well under way, with some enthusiastic classmates already lining up some fantastic programs, recreation and entertainment! Be sure to mark your calendars for May 23 to 27, 2018, and book accommodations now (unless you want to stay on campus). Our headquarters will be the newly renovated former AD house. If you already know you are coming before registration opens on Jan. 5 (and want to get involved in any way), please let our attendance co-chairs, **DHUANE (GEBAUER) STEPHENS** (dhuane.stephens@sgcib.com) or **JOHN SNOW** (john.snow@quabbincapital.com) know of your plans. Hope to see you there!"

FRANCESCA MORSELLI-SINNOTT also added some of her own news: "Most of my news pertains to my kids rather than me—as they have been a full-time job for so long. Our daughter, Olivia, 16, is a day student at Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Boston. She will be in full college search mode soon, driven to pursue her passion (and talent) in acting, singing and dancing in both theater and film." Francesca added that her son, Charlie, 14, will head off to Deerfield this fall, where **JOHN SNOW**'s son, Cameron, is a rising senior.

LISA OSOFSKY wrote to say that she would be going to California this summer (from her home in London) to attend the wedding of **DANA KORNFIELD**'s daughter Arielle to Zach Stein. Lisa's daughter will play violin at the event. Lisa said Arielle is "as lovely and charming as her mum—as beautiful inside as out!" Lisa wrote that her son, Gilbert, will be a senior at Harvard and spent the summer at Morgan Stanley in the institutional equities division. As for Lisa: she and her family have been in London since 2000, and she is the Europe, Middle East and Africa chair of Exiger, a company set up four years ago to assist companies worldwide with global governance, risk and compliance. "Our head landed the job as corporate compliance monitor of HSBC bank. We grew by developing automated systems to support compliance and risk officers and lawyers that service institutions and corporations around the world. It's been hectic but super interesting," Lisa wrote.

It was great to hear from **RALPH GILDEHAUS**, who is senior program developer for MDC, a nonprofit in Durham, N.C. MDC helps organizations and communities by connecting people with financial supports, education and training, or, in Ralph's words, "I lead projects to improve social determinants of health and well-being." In addition, Ralph wrote, he is living a dream by coaching his daughter's tennis team for the second straight



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

year at Research Triangle High School, where she is a junior. Ralph's son is a junior at UNC at Chapel Hill, although he's studying this semester at the UNC Coastal Studies Institute on the Outer Banks.

LYNN WILKINSON wrote to say that she has just finished a three-year stint at the Gates Foundation, which was rewarding and challenging work in their global health group. "I really enjoyed living in the Pacific Northwest for a while. Big-city living in Seattle was a very big change from the backwoods of Connecticut!" Lynn also visited **PATTY WARE** in Alaska a couple of times. "Patty is doing well, and really enjoying a productive focus on writing and poetry projects (she is now a published poet!)." Lynn is enjoying another sabbatical, starting up some volunteer work and looking forward to our next reunion.

JULIE EKLUND reported in late August that she'd had a busy week at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, where she and colleagues have been helping institutions of higher education sort through some of the administrative challenges caused by Hurricane Harvey. The Austin area, where she lives, saw relatively minor damage compared to Houston and the coast. Earlier in the summer Julie caught up with several Amherst friends: she had brunch with Cape Cod residents Julia (Haven) Malloy '84 and Greg Malloy '84 while vacationing in Massachusetts; dinner with **PAM HAZEN** while in Washington, D.C.; and breakfast with **KATHY (FOYE) MACLENNAN** while in Minneapolis for a conference. All were great visits, and she is looking forward to seeing more classmates at reunion.

I saw a few Amherst friends in the last few months. Doug and I took a trip to California and stayed with **TINA VILLADOLID** in Santa Barbara before driving up the coast and ending up visiting our daughter Rose, who is a programmer in San Francisco for a small game design

↑ Gathered on the Grass

Once again, we don't know much about this 1980s scene. Does it depict a professor teaching a class outdoors? Whatever he's showing the students, they seem fascinated.

company called Shiny Shoe. Tina took us around Santa Barbara to show us some of the public art projects she has made with her students at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art's program for underserved and low-income youth, and also told us about the art component she's been providing to LitWorld, Pam (Krupman) Allyn '84's organization whose mission is to bring literacy and other tools of independence and empowerment to girls and women worldwide. I also saw **PAM HAZEN** and

came a grandmother for the third time with the birth of Isabella Rose in April.

GLENN POWERS estimated that he last wrote in about a decade ago, when he "retired" from financing tech companies, met a girl from Vancouver and became Canadian. Seven years ago, he went back to work, making investments for a big Canadian pension plan on Vancouver Island. This fall he and his wife are happily moving back to the city of Vancouver, where he will teach finance at Simon Fraser University. They'd love to catch up with anyone going through Vancouver en route to happy places such as skiing at Whistler, Asia, etc.

The Kugagami Lake region of Ontario was a happy place this summer during a (Chi) Phi and Friends canoe/camping reunion chronicled by **STEWART ANDERSON**. The first trip took place in '85; this year's group included **DAVE CHAMBERLAIN** and wife Ann, **KATIE HOLBROW** and Andy Casler '85. "Katie won the Culinary Award by cooking the most sensuous blueberry pancakes I've ever had," said Stewart. "DC was a close second with mustard and pepper bass. Best of company and best of times." When not canoeing, Stewart is a neuroscientist and psychiatrist at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and UPenn's Perelman School of Medicine. He and his wife, Alexandra Gulacsi, have two children, Yunyi and Elliot—the former visited Amherst with Stewart on a college tour this past June.

When I heard from **SUSANNAH GRANT**, she was anticipating the happiness of dropping her daughter Olivia at Amherst for her freshman year. Susannah planned to keep an eye out for **GEOFFREY UNDERWOOD**, "who I gather will be doing the same thing (which makes the Underwoods and Grants triple-Amherst-classmates; our dads were both '54's). Eager to hear what other '84's I might run into."

There were at least a few. Geoff's wife, Dede, told me she spotted **LIBBY LIGHT** and daughter Willa, **HEIDI GILPIN** and son Andreas and Ruthanne Deutsch '83 with son Benji. There may be others—let us know!

On the subject of offspring who attend Amherst, **CHRISTINE PETRECCA WEINTRAUB**'s daughter Sarah '20 is trying to jumpstart the ski club. "If any of our classmates have kids at the Fairest College who might be interested, they should contact her before the snows fall." Christine, a breast imaging radiologist at Montefiore in the Bronx, lives in Scarsdale with husband Joshua but looks forward to moving out/downsizing as soon as their youngest, Joe, finishes high school next June.

ALEX SOSNKOWSKI is also parent to a high school senior, which meant heavy-duty college touring this past summer. Her daughter liked Amherst, "but it wasn't love at first sight like it was for me in 1979." Alex, meanwhile, "was smitten all over again. The message our fair college delivers remains consistent—about

teaching us to be mindful, thoughtful and knowledgeable citizens of the world."

STAVROS LAMBRINIDIS posted a photo on our Facebook page of the Pomona College class of '21, which includes his daughter, Chloe. "Helping her move in and bidding her farewell was one of the happiest—and toughest—moments of my life." Then it was right back to work for Stavros, who returned to Brussels for the 2017 EU Ambassadors Conference.

It was good to hear from **LISA GOBAR**, who sent a succinct list of what's going on in her life. Number 1 was that she "re-connected with **INGER DAMON** after far too long apart." Numbers 2–7: "toward the end of child-raising years ... son off to college, daughter high school; sandwich generation for sure ... parents in another state is a challenge; playing a lot of tennis—wish I had played at Amherst; working part-time from home—I highly recommend it; Costa Rica trip; took up scuba diving."

This fall is a watershed moment for **DEAN SCHRAMM** and his wife, Wendy Greuel—son Thomas is starting high school at the Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles. Wendy's many commitments include chairing the Los Angeles City/County Homelessness Commission. Dean produces theater, film and television and manages writers and directors. Currently he is producing a feature documentary film about Gustavo Dudamel, the young Venezuelan conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic: "for a lapsed fiddle player, a great treat. And made all the more great because it is being directed by Ted Braun '82, a wonderful filmmaker and former Amherst bassoonist with whom I played music when we were together. Look for the film in about 18 months; I'll keep you posted!"

I plan to get happy by catching **JUSTIN SPRING** on his upcoming book tour for *The Gourmands' Way: Six Americans in Paris and the Birth of a New Gastronomy*. ("Lots of good wine will be enjoyed along the way!") Justin will be in Houston; Dallas; Washington, D.C.; Miami; and Minneapolis, as well as New York, where the book has its official launch Oct. 19 at Albertine Books. For the San Francisco leg of the tour (which will include a themed dinner at Chez Panisse), Justin hopes to be joined by Patricia Mason Beaury '86. Patty juggles dual careers as an engineering specialist and independent film producer, but Justin said he sees her regularly now that her children, Cameron and Eve, have left home. Justin also recently hosted **KATE SEELYE**, her husband, Andrew; and their 2-year-old son, Dylan, whom Justin described as "a high-energy guitarist and drummer in the style of Flash and **JEFF THOMPSON**" and also "a budding gourmet cook—he arrived with a play kitchen and promptly made us all play pancakes with play strawberries and play syrup."

Finally, **BRADLEY CLEMENTS** wanted to set the record straight re: the Skype calls with **DIANE SALTOUN**, **LINDA VOLP-**

Almost Empty-Nesters

1985: Congratulations to **Brian Robbins** and **Kim (Switzer) Robbins**, who celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary! Kim shared that happy news and added: "We are almost empty-nesters, as we only have our youngest son, Kevin (a sophomore in high school), still at home. Our son Stuart '20 enjoyed spending the summer as an intern in the Amherst admission office, where he saw several of our classmates."

son Drew on their way to Sewanee: The University of the South, where Drew is a freshman. I'm hoping to see her much more on her way to and from Sewanee, outside Chattanooga and thus not far from me in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Thanks so much to all who wrote in!
> **BETSY (HAUSER) ABERNATHY**
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11984

I don't know if it's the season, or where we are in our lives, or the state of the world, but the theme for this batch of notes is people making it a priority to get to their "happy place." Let's take a tour!

KEITH MCALLISTER wrote in from his family's happy place, "a funky big old house on Chappy we've rented with another family for years." Keith and wife Megan's three sons are in management consulting (Amherst '14), advertising (Wesleyan '14) and high school (GFA in Westport, Conn.). Megan is a foundation grant-maker in NYC, and Keith, after becoming an executive recruiter three years ago, just moved firms to SRiCheyenne, also in NYC. "I place C-suite execs in early-stage as well as mid-cap companies, mostly media-related. After a long time as an operator, I'm loving this more consultative mode."

MARGARET (COHEN) VENDRYES' happy place is her home in Queens. Margaret chairs the Department of Performing and Fine Arts at York College, CUNY. Her painting *Guro Ntozake* has been traveling with the exhibition *i found god in myself*, a 40th-anniversary celebration of Ntozake Shange's *for colored girls...*, and can be viewed at the City Without Walls Gallery in Newark, N.J., Oct. 12 through Nov. 12. Margaret wrote, "I owe my love of painting to what I learned in Fayerweather Hall at Amherst." Most happy: Margaret be-

ERT, LAURAMACLENNAN and **LISA GARRISON**. “Diane wrote that we drink wine and talk about our hopes and dreams, which made me laugh. In fact, the first 10 minutes of each call go like this:

Hello?

Hello?

Oh, I see you!

Is Lisa there? It says she is on, but I can't see her.

I'm here, but the video isn't working.

Hit that little thing on the bottom of the screen that looks like a video camera.

Oh, she's gone.

I think she hit the “hang up” icon.

Hello?

Hello?

Wait—Linda is calling my cell. Can you send her your Skype name?

What's a Skype name?

Now I see everyone else, but Bradley is gone.

No, I'm here! I see you. Maybe I turned my video off.

Hello?

Does anyone have a kid at home? I can't figure out how to show all of you on my computer screen at once...

At some point we get around to drinking wine and talking about our hopes and dreams!”

Thanks for staying in touch, class of '84!

> **DIANE SCHWEMM**

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> **TONY QUINN**

TONY@TANTHONYQUINN.COM

1985

When was the last time you served yourself milk from a row of udderlike plastic tubes, or toasted a bagel on a conveyor belt? Unless you frequent college cafeterias, it may have been a while. I felt like I had time-traveled back to Valentine when I spent a week on campus for my new full-time admissions position at SUNY Oswego. College food offerings have changed dramatically, but I will still be covering all of Long Island in my new job, just as I did for SUNY Geneseo.

In addition to meteorological and political upheaval, Facebook has been alight with photos of alumni dropping their children off at college—including the fairest of them all. What fun that must be. But it's always fun to get back to Amherst, and there are many ways to do it. Undoubtedly, one of the most august ways is as a trustee. Congrats to **PHIL A. JACKSON**, who is, I believe, the sixth and newest member of our class to hold that honor.

MARK KAUFMAN has been “touring colleges with our younger son, awaiting graduation from Brandeis next year for our older one. Did/doing two half marathons, a marathon and six triathlons (from sprint to half Ironman distances) this year. Thank God for age-group results. Saxophone on the back burner, but still simmering. Also passed the 10th anniversary of starting a law partnership.”

As of November, **ZENA MARTIN** is back

on the East Coast. She wrote, “After living in London for 19 years (actually, one of those years was in Paris), I am moving back to the U.S.! I have absolutely loved the experience, but it's time for a new chapter, and to spend more time with family and friends on the other side of the pond. I will be moving to St. Simons Island, Ga., where my family and I have been spending vacation time for the past 15 years. I will remain a dual citizen, but am looking forward to reconnecting with my birth country and U.S. friends in person!”

MARIA (VITA) CALKINS is a faculty member in psychology at Becker College in central Massachusetts. “I just got promoted to full professor last spring; it's been a long journey! I teach primarily undergraduate psychology, specializing in social psychology and research methodology. I also do some mentoring with our graduate students who are working on research-based theses, and teach in our CORE program. This five-course sequence takes students from freshman to senior year, and is part of our general education requirements. The program focuses on agility and divergent thinking to facilitate their career success no matter what the future brings.”

Maria also sent news about **MARGIE CURRIE**. “She is a writer and communications strategist for colleges and universities, based in Chicago. After a number of years at Elmhurst College, she struck out on her own with Margaret Currie Communications, doing content, design and marketing strategies and campaigns, both print and digital. She is doing well!”

After reading **DAVID SKAGGS'** email signature, “Professor and Chief of Orthopedic Surgery at Children's Hospital in Los Angeles and Endowed Chair of Pediatric Spinal Disorders at University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine,” I was impressed that he had time to send a note, but I'm glad he did: “I am living in Los Angeles, and all is well in this vacuous, happy metropolis. Just got together at the Santa Monica beach with **PETER DAMON**, Bill Warden '86 and Jen Malloy '87. My daughter Kira graduated from Amherst in 2016 and is applying to medical school.”

In other impressive career news, I follow **HENRY WOOSTER'**s online posts from his position as chargé d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy in Jordan. Henry sent this update: “One more year remaining to my Amman assignment, and, at this stage, I've no idea where I'll be next, come summer 2018. Jordan has been a terrific tour. Perched at the crossroads of Armageddon, with Syria 45 miles from the embassy, the same distance to the Israeli border, Iraq to our east and Saudi Arabia on our southern border, we work issues at the top of the U.S. policy agenda for the Middle East. It has been especially satisfying to bring together a lifetime of experiences—whether working with Russians on a cessation of hostilities in

Syria, keeping tabs on Iran or building on previous service in Iraq—and on my previous military service. Our oldest child graduated from college in 2016, two will be seniors this fall, and our youngest will be a freshman. My wife, Laura, is finishing her Ph.D. while taking care of my parents in Virginia, plus hers in North Carolina. I shall never be able to repay my debt of gratitude to her. Allow me to renew my offer to welcome any classmates passing through Amman.”

JACK LOHRER reported from Alexandria, Va.: “The great Dr. **KEN LANGA** was in Washington, D.C., to deliver a lecture/be part of a panel. Ken and I had a meal, a snort or two of wine and some ice cream before Ken returned his hotel. It is always good to see Ken; he's just about the best combination of smart, steady and solid that I've ever come across. We laugh about how his son (Dan '18) and **TOM PARKER'**s son (Andrew '18) have been four-year roommates at Amherst, on track to graduate this coming spring. Ken and I even went over how it came to be that Ken would room with Tom back in the fall of 1981.

“I am also in touch with Bob Weston '86 and **JACK JOHNSON**, who both work at secondary schools in New England. I hope to get up to North Attleboro[, Mass.] and see Jack and his brother Don coach a game. Bobby, Jack, Ken, Tom and I can never seem to get together at Amherst, even with Parker and Langa fils on campus. ... I will report again if I can get a quorum of the group to make it to an Amherst basketball game this year. That would also give me a chance to ask **TOMMY PARKER** how it was that he came to room with Ken freshman year, the details of which I seem to forget from time to time, for whatever reason. Right now, the Amherst Men/Coach Hixon (2007, 2013) and Amherst Women/Coach Gromacki (2011, 2017) are sitting on two National Championships apiece. (Gromacki's winning percentage at Amherst is .924 ... Auriemma-esque. ... For the Lohrers: Maggie is back at BU for sophomore year, some more classes and a lot more lacrosse; Lizzie is a senior at Bishop Ireton High School, committed to Virginia Tech '22 for lacrosse; I am president of the BI Booster Club this year; and Jackie is an eighth-grader at Carl Sandburg Middle School, committed to West Potomac High School for baseball.”

My first trip to visit colleges with my children took me to Providence, R.I., and so did my last. Both times I got to connect with **NEELTJE HENNEMAN**, this time on Victory Day. Neeltje had recently returned from an amazing trip to Paraguay and Argentina and was just beginning the new academic year at the Wheeler School, where she is the head of upper school. One week later, on Aug. 21, I was nowhere near the path of totality; that was my first day at SUNY Oswego.

Please don't wait for the next eclipse to write. Whether you are moving on or moving someone into a dorm, whether

Facebook has been alight with photos of alumni dropping their children off at college—including the fairest of them all.



THE REV. PHILLIP A. JACKSON '85 DELIVERED THE ANNUAL DEMOTT LECTURE TO AMHERST'S NEW STUDENTS IN SEPTEMBER.

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you are a mover and shaker or not, let us know what path you are on.

> KATE FOSTER-ANDERSON
KFOSTER404@YAHOO.COM

1986

STEVEN WEINBERGER, writes from Charlottesville, Va., that he spent a lovely evening with **MICHAEL SIMON** and his family in Manhattan at the end of July—the first time they had seen each other since 1996! They caught up over an excellent vegan meal at Blossom, and then relaxed with Michael’s wife and daughter (both new since last they met) at their home in Chelsea. Stephen is teaching literary Tibetan this semester at UVA for the first time since 2013, while continuing to work on two projects translating Sanskrit and Tibetan Buddhist texts into English: “Charlottesville and the university seem to be rebounding slowly from the invasion by neo-Nazis and others in mid-August, but the sense of shock and disgust is still never far away.”

ANNA CHOI is still teaching and still singing. She sang backup this summer for The Who during their *Quadrophenia* production with the Boston Pops! “Sometimes singing with the BSO has its perks!”

CHRISTOPHER BRAGDON reports that in late August he and **WILLIAM HANNUM** made their semiannual IOMRT to see “**RADICAL JON**” **WEBSTER** in North Carolina. “The annual IOMRT (Ides of March Road Trip) started after our 25th reunion and has continued, albeit not entirely annually or necessarily in March. RJ, though limited to a wheelchair and/or his self-professed ‘love mobile’ (a golf cart to mere mortals), continues to provide uplifting, lively, at times raunchy metaphors describing anything from the current political climate in America to various characters in *Oriental, N.C.*” Will and Chris enjoyed (or survived, depending on how you look at it) Will’s first long outing in his self-driving Tesla. During their time together, all were glad to read in these notes, regarding **TED DONAT**’s change of career, that “climate change had been canceled,” that we all don’t have to worry about that anymore! After the IOMRT, Will prepared for his next meeting as part of his law practice at Schwartz Hannum PC, while Chris flew back to Bosnia, where he has spent the last 21 years implementing humanitarian/development projects.

JOHN ALIPERTA looks forward to hearing good news from classmates and friends from 1986 and other neighboring classes. Since last notes, his son Stephen, now 28, is happily married (Erin!), and enjoying his sound recording business. “Daughters Kristen, Jacqueline and Katherine are equally pursuing their dreams, and I love them all so much. Joanne is now working at the Emerson Hospital, and I am taking to culinary endeavors after 20-plus years for professional achievements.” John is taking off a few unneeded

kilos via the new cuisine, which includes watching gluten and carbs. “Life is what we make of it, and I am proud to have brought forth so much life!” John sends a shout-out to our many classmates and friends whom he misses: **MARK VALLADARES** and Penny in the heartland. **JONATHAN** and Alanna **KLINE**, Noah and Annabelle, in New Zealand. **GABOR BURT**, **JONATHAN HIRSH**, **STEVE STRAUS**. Friends from North, Chi Psi and Zumbies!

CYNTHIA (PADDOCK) DOROGHAZI reported in as Harvey was fast upon her in Houston, while waiting for the floodwaters to come in. “Not to sound corny, but times like this make you appreciate and celebrate the small things in life.” Here are Cynthia’s top three: “1. My mother passed away on Aug. 24 after a five-year battle with Alzheimer’s. It is a blessing. 2. I am alive. Many people I know in Houston have been flooded out of their homes. My home is still dry. 3. I live in the United States of America, which, despite its many flaws, is still the best country in the world where people can demonstrate on the streets about a policy or a president they do not like and no one will shoot them. The same cannot be said for other countries.”

I, your class secretary, had the extraordinary pleasure, with a timely assist from **OWEN KING**, of being the guest of science-of-consciousness thinker and tennis professional **MARK VALLADARES** at the 2017 US Open. We watched an evening match on Arthur Ashe Stadium court played by the greatest exponent the sport has ever known. We channeled Mark’s Amherst doubles partner David Foster Wallace ’85, and his call to “just look at him down there.” Mark is deeply involved with his investigation into the nature of human consciousness, reaching from physics through philosophy, which he also integrates with tennis instruction at the yearly Science of Consciousness Conference. We had a wide-ranging discussion in which Mark covered a universe of ideas while we enjoyed the grounds at the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. It was a perfect moment. My brain, heart and tennis game are much improved! It brings a smile to my face recalling the entire evening. Thank you, Mark and Owen!

News from our class officers: **MIA R. BARRICINI**, **ANNA (PASTORE) SOMMERS**, **WILLIAM E. HANNUM III** and **BONNIE BARSAMIAN DUNN** report that we had an exciting end to the alumni fund this June, and they are grateful for our support of Amherst and of our extraordinary community. “Together, we raised \$180,032 from 162 donors, or 45.8 percent of our class. Overall, the Annual Fund set a new record in total dollars raised, at just over \$10.7 million, and 52 percent of alumni participated, the highest number in four years. It is a testament to our strength as a community and to Amherst’s excellence, and it is an important signal to the College and others that we care. Our gifts

support everything that we value about our time at Amherst: small classes, exceptional faculty and classmates and friends who challenged us and helped us grow in every way (and still do). Those years were transformative for us. Thank you for making them possible for those who follow. Thank you for making it a great year for Amherst, and special thanks for your commitment to our class.”

> JORDAN LEWIS
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1987

In the whirlwind of months since gathering for our 30th reunion, more than the just the seasons have changed, and we welcome a new slate of class officers and a proverbial changing of the guard. Our warmest thanks to **TABITHA (ESTABROOK) CLAYDON**, **KEITH LAEZZA** and **ROSS BUCHANAN** for their constant stewardship over the class notes these past years. That said, please keep the notes coming to your new class co-secretaries; update the class Facebook page with its master, **JOHN TUCCI**; and post to the class news page, where photos of your adventures and endeavors can be uploaded: amherst.edu/alumni/classpages.

MAYRA (PENA) LINDSAY, now mayor of Key Biscayne, Fla., was instrumental in providing critical guidance and warning to her fellow residents and urging all to evacuate ahead of Hurricane Irma. It was not until the storm was in the final hours of bearing down that Mayra and her team evacuated. She reports that she and her family are safe and are now beginning recovery mode in the aftermath of the storm. We wish her and her constituents well in their recovery effort.

STUART RATZAN writes, “Our family are currently evacuees from our home in Miami. Hurricane Irma was a vicious storm that has our community lacking power, obstructed by fallen trees and truly a disaster area. But we are hopeful and confident that we will get things cleaned up and power will be restored soon. We went through this in South Florida 25 years ago with Hurricane Andrew, but Irma was massive, causing damage across Florida and the southeast.” Luckily, his daughter Baylar was not home to witness the storm, as she had begun her freshman year at Amherst, class of ’21—Amherst’s bicentennial year. Stuart reports that he and wife Mycki moved Baylar in after three days of big-box store trips to set her up in her new room in Charles Pratt, with views of the Holyoke Range. Stuart spent a day fishing on the Arkansas River near Leadville, Colo., this summer with **JOHN HEREFORD**, who caught a “giant rainbow trout.” Check the class page later for photographic evidence that it’s not just a “fish story”!

FOX SMITH took a break from his artist’s canvas to write that he’s been experiencing a “new parental world of high school freshman son and middle school (sixth-

Anna Choi '86 is still teaching and still singing. She sang backup this summer for The Who during their *Quadrophenia* production with the Boston Pops!

grade) daughter. Great kids in a new world. Art going really well—diving into the realm of geometric abstraction with a touch of visual psychology in response to our present world.” Check out Fox’s work through the class Facebook page or on Instagram, where he sometimes posts visual updates of his most recent and always inspiring projects.

CHRIS MARTIN, on the other hand, is experiencing what he describes as “death by carpool” from his sons Tyler (ninth grade) and Alex (seventh grade). He writes, “I am becoming more jealous of the empty-nesters as I age.”

He and Fox have a way to go yet to catch up to the likes of **LEE (SALOT) WEBSTER**, who is partway to an empty nest, having just sent her oldest son, Stephen, off to Hope College. Her twins—seniors in high school—are busily working on their college applications, while she and husband Steve have just finished building a cottage on Lake Charlevoix in Michigan.

JEFFREY WRIGHT updates that he’s back to commuting from Brooklyn to Los Angeles to film *Westworld*. Unfortunately, no spoiler alerts here, as he’s keeping all reveals to himself, except to say, “At this point, I’ve avoided all rattlesnakes, surfing when I can in snake-free parts of the Pacific.” He reports that his son and daughter came to L.A. over the summer, but are now back in school (although his son Elijah kindly agreed to be his date for the Emmys).

CHUCK BARTLETT tied the knot! He and Kristen DeAmicis got married Oct. 8 in a small family ceremony. In Chuck’s words: “Update complete!” Congratulations, and then some!

MARY (HIGGINS) DUNNE, BEA (TROWBRIDGE) SANDERS, DYLAN SANDERS, LISA MILLER, LISA PECK and Paul Spinale ’85 gathered in July at Mary and Matt Dunne’s “camp” at Lake Winnepesaukee, N.H., where they valiantly tried to outnumber the “Williams purple cows” also in attendance (courtesy of Mary’s husband, Matt Dunne, Williams ’86) and tried to recapture their college days in “feats” of skill (i.e., catching a football off a water trampoline, swinging off a rope into water and creatively synchronizing themselves off a high-dive jump). Needless to say, that was our 30th reunion they just celebrated... and none of them are in college anymore.

Shortly after our preview of her new work at reunion, **SARAH BIRD** installed her portraits of California redwood trees at Main Window in Brooklyn, N.Y. Her solo show, entitled *the fullest measure of you, is you*, was previously exhibited at Chandra Cerrito Contemporary in Oakland, Calif., and is described by Sarah as “life-size black-and-white photographic portraits of giant California redwoods, equating their significance, their magnificent equal footing and their essential role in our web of being to that of human subjects.” Like the trees themselves, Sarah’s work is both moving and breathtaking.

Sarah and “twin” **BERIT ASHLA** visited in September when Berit was in Brooklyn from her hometown of Berkeley, Calif.; their FB photo posting says they are still confusing folks after all these years....

PAUL TARR FB-posted in response to offer Berit and Sarah an intercept in Lower Manhattan (where he lives) in case anyone was really confused about who was who. Other sightings caught Berit and **POLLY (WINOGRAD) IKONEN** catching up and showing their red, white and blue during their hometown Fourth of July parade.

FREDDIE BRYANT HOLLISTER gave

Jeffrey Wright ’87’s son Elijah kindly agreed to be his date for the Emmys.

news of his latest collaboration: “As some of you might know from the screening at our last reunion, Freddie had an exciting new musical challenge doing the soundtrack for his wife Heather (White) Hollister ’80’s documentary, *Complicit*. It’s a powerful film about the struggles of workers in Chinese electronics factories and had its world premiere in London and a sold-out U.S. premiere at Lincoln Center. This fall there will be screenings and discussions at the EU parliament in Brussels, the House of Lords in London and the U.N. in Geneva, and a night at our own Amherst Cinema on Oct. 30! Check it out at www.complicitfilm.org.”

An addendum from the **LISA MILLER** camp: “I, too, have had a whirlwind last few months at a new job, with nonstop traveling.” Just a few additions to Peck’s notes would include an impromptu viewing of **SARAH BIRD**’s installation in NYC, where I also ran into **LISA THALER**. Beautiful art installation, and great to see old friends.

I’ve seen many posts of our classmates’ children on their first days of school and those who are heading off to college. I was thrilled to see that the daughter of my former freshman-year roommate, **LISA (MASHIHARA) WESTLEY**, has graduated from The Branson School in Marin, Calif., and is now heading off to Stanford. May her years there be as wonderful as her mother’s and mine at Amherst.

Apologies for the brevity this go ’round. More detailed notes next time. Keep posting, Instagramming, texting, and emailing—or just put a stamp on it and send us some news the old-fashioned way.

> **LISA PECK**

> **LISA MILLER**

AMHERST87.NOTES@GMAIL.COM

1988

In the breakout hit of their expansive 1982 opus *Spring Sessions M*, Missing Persons asks, “What are words for, when no one listens anymore?” As I reach out for notes, I can’t help but ask “What are emails for, when no one reads them anymore?”

Lately I’ve been thinking a lot about Missing Persons, the seminal pop band of the early 1980s (whom I saw live at Magic Mountain in 1983 with Bryan Behar, Keith Ash and Ed Curry). Are they missing persons, ones who cannot be found? Or simply people we are missing? And what is notes for? To find those who are missing, or those we are missing? For me, those who are missing include **PETER ANSPACH**, the only person who could outmath me while at Amherst, and **JAMIE NICHOLLS**, who rocked the upper-arm bracelet and graduated summa cum laude. Those I am missing include **BONNIE FRANZ**, quietly educating on Staten Island, and **VICTOR HO**, with whom I had a nice catch-up at the last reunion.

So, like Dale Bozzio desperately begging for attention on the cover of *Hustler*, I shouted a pleaful “Do you hear me? Do you care?”

And a few of you did!

The elusive **DAN KAHN**, he of the mysteriously blackened tongue and unparalleled Ultimate Frisbee skills: “After nearly four years in D.C. as national field director for the Peace Alliance, I returned to north-central Florida last year to work directly with court-referred teens using restorative justice practices and empathetic communications training in the Community Connections program (in Tallahassee), and also to take over executive director duties at the Florida Restorative Justice Association. I am still coaching and networking peacebuilding advocates and organizers nationwide with the Peace Alliance and RJNet, and doing some international consulting with a promising young organization called Ayeish. I enjoy Facebook contact with about a dozen Amherst friends. In recent years have had a few conversations and occasional random meetups with the likes of Ben, Julie, Adam, Harriet, Deb, Hali. ... There is a chance of a reunion showing from me this year. (Would be my first!). Fun to think of folks I might see. Wishing y’all the best.”

WRIGHT MOORE and husband John Gasdaska purchased a home in Garrison, N.Y., this past March and are working on basic renovations. Wright shares: “Although I am still part-time on staff at Cleary Gottlieb, I am also on the part-time roster of the Met Chorus, preparing for the Verdi *Requiem* and *Parsifal* in the upcoming season.”

“It’s been a while since I chimed in,” **SARA MIERKE** writes. “After all that time I think I have enough news to help fill some of your column. First off, my husband, Matthew Young, and I have been living in Johannesburg, South Africa, for the past two years (why stay in the empty nest?). We both work for African Leadership Academy (www.africanleadershipacademy.org), a pan-African two-year high school founded in 2008 that’s developing a network of leaders from across the continent. Matthew is dean of learning and innovation, and I’m program director for global programs. I develop and

Shortly after our preview of her new work at reunion, Sarah Bird ’87 installed her portraits of California redwood trees at Main Window in Brooklyn, N.Y.

manage mission-aligned social enterprises that reduce the academy's reliance on philanthropy: a summer camp for 14–18-year-olds, a study abroad/gap year program, Model African Union, educator trainings and custom programs for schools, NGOs, donors and corporates (so all you parents of high school students, check us out!). All are rooted in ALA's core curricula, entrepreneurial leadership and African studies. ALA is an amazing place that sets young African leaders on a trajectory to attend top colleges and universities around the world (including Amherst!), then return to the continent to lead in their areas of expertise.

"There's too much to say about life in South Africa, so I'll sum it up as fascinating, beautiful and challenging.

"Our big news is that I'm moving to NYC in September (I'm continuing to work for ALA for a while, traveling back and forth; Matthew to follow eventually), where I'll be living with our youngest, Cloe. She's taking the year off from Tufts University to work and focus on photography. Once in New York, I'll be a lot closer to our oldest, Oliver, who interned with Congressman Adam Smith (D-Washington) this summer and will be a senior at Miami University (Ohio), where he's studying political science and philosophy. We have another daughter, Sally Madiba, who is from Botswana and came into our lives as a high school exchange student in 2010. After a fellowship at Harvard these past two years, she's just entered UC Davis School of Medicine.

"There have been a few Amherst connections here in SA. In 2015 we had dinner with **JABU MAPHALALA**, **JED MILLER** and Katie Benner, Jed's partner (now wife) when Jed was attending a conference (sorry, old news). And, I have a new colleague, Dexter Padayachee '13, who's a University Guidance Fellow. In May, on a trip back to the States, I spent time with Hall Kirkham '87, **AMY (SIMON) HOPWOOD** and **JEN (CODY) EPSTEIN**. Once I'm settled into our tiny apartment in Brooklyn, I'll be seeing lots of Amy and Jen and hope to connect with other Amherst friends living in the NYC area and along the Eastern Seaboard.

"Recently, I listened to the 'Embrace the Chaos' episode of the *Hidden Brain* podcast. I'm definitely embracing the opportunities and unexpected joys that come with the chaos that life throws at you sometimes! I hope you are as well."

I will see a bunch of freshman Stearns friends for a mini reunion this coming weekend, including **JIM BRADY**, **NEIL SULLIVAN**, **SCOTT WILSON**, **JEFF GUIEL**, **NICK KENYON**, **DAN RUBE**, **DAVID QUIGLEY**, **DAVE GELLMAN**, **BING ZHU**, **PETER MCCARTHY**, **TODD LYONS** and **JIM PERKINS**. The news has not yet been made (it will be). I mention them all to create space for Sarah's lengthy update above.

HELEN SHEPHERD writes: "I met **TIM ERIKSEN** and his wonderful kids when he came through the Washington, D.C., area

to play several events, including the opening of an exhibit at the National Museum of American History on the Mall. He had the packed-to-the-rafters crowd hanging on his every note."

From **SANDRA (STERNLIEB) EFFRON**: "All's great with me and my family. Have been busy interior decorating ... for my mom, my sister and myself. They are keeping me busy, which is fun. My best clients ever! I also do a lot of volunteer work at my children's school here in NYC. I'm a tour guide, a grade rep and also run the Community Service program for the entire grammar and middle school, which is a big job, but very worthwhile. Had a very nice time getting together with **KATHERINE FREEDMAN**, **JULIE GALDIERI** and **FLORA STAMATIADES** here in NYC in August. Fun reconnecting with Amherst classmates. Looking forward to our 30th next year!"

NOREEN JOHNSTON-BROWN said, "Unfortunately I do not have good news. My husband, Jim, passed away suddenly a few weeks ago (Wesleyan '86).

"On a happy note, we moved a year ago to Chatham, N.J., and had just bought a house. We are very happy here. My oldest son Connor goes to high school at the Hudson School in Hoboken, which is a long commute, but it is a great environment for him. I will have my hands full raising three kids on my own (I already had my hands full), but hope to be in better touch with Amherst friends and make reunion next year."

On a separate sad note, I saw that **JULIE ENGELSMAN** passed away. Never knew her well, but always quite liked her. Very sad and a somber reminder that we are not so young anymore—not that you need me to tell you that.

It all brings me back to Missing Persons, and their 1982 pop anthem "Destination Unknown": "Life is so strange ... when you don't know ... your destination. Something could change ... it's unknown. And then you won't know. Destination unknown."

> **STEVE SPECTOR**
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1989

Let me start with an appeal for more '89-ers to send me news. This quarterly report is a bit scant, as my beloved classmates have sent fewer updates. Here we are, all turned, or on the verge of, 50. How do you like the big life-stage transition so far? Please send a few words about how you are tackling 50—or not: changes in life, career, thoughts. Your classmates want to hear from you!

Never the slouch, my wife, **DEBBY APLEGATE**, had this to share: "I spent the summer secluded in artist colonies in New Hampshire and upstate New York, but even here the '89-spottings were rich. I almost overlapped with the inestimable **SONYA CLARK** at Yaddo, where **MATT ZAPRUDER**'s new book, *Why Poetry?*,

was a lively topic of conversation among the poets at the dinner table. The topper was spotting **ELLEN WAYLAND-SMITH** on the list of National Endowment of the Humanities grant recipients for 2017. It was fun to bask vicariously in their accomplishments." Thanks, Deb!

Regarding **MATT ZAPRUDER**, **ROBBIE LANDON** added this sighting: "There is a 300-word piece in the *New York Times Book Review* by our class' preeminent poet, **MATT ZAPRUDER**.

Matt writes about how best to read (and write) poetry, noting, 'But it turns out that the portal to the strange is the literal.' This simple line offered a portal through time to more than one class with Professor Pritchard."

And further regarding **SONYA CLARK**, from Sonya herself: "Our good news is that we are back at Amherst for the year, walking the grounds where Darryl Harper '90 and I first met back in 1986. Darryl is the Valentine Visiting Professor in Music, and I am a visiting artist-in-residence in art. We'll be teaching a class together during the spring semester. It's nice to be 'home' for this academic year."

SUZANNE STEINBERG writes: "I'm looking into grad schools. I'll be pursuing a master's in either clinical psychology, mental health counseling or social work, with the goal of becoming a mental health counselor."

Speaking of graduate school, **ELEANOR LEGGETT SWEENEY**, in hot pursuit of her Ph.D. in linguistics, reports: "My semester has been delightfully geeky." Right on!

Here is an update from one of our '89-er classmate-couples, **JAMES DARROW** and **SALLY DARROW** (courtesy of Dr. Jim): "Sally finished her executive M.B.A. at UConn in 2016 and is now enjoying working as the senior director for membership and wellness for all the Wallingford, Conn., YMCA facilities. Our daughter, Katie, is entering her senior year at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., and is leading wilderness expeditions for high schoolers in the outback of Alaska for the summer. Apparently, as she related to us, bear faces look much like large dogs up close (not the best news to hear from your kid).

"She'll be exiting college as our son enters, so the payments will continue. David unfortunately had mentioned Williams as a choice, because of its strong math program, so we're steering him toward schools in the Boston area instead in the hopes of avoiding a stain on the family legacy (grin). He's interning with the applied math department at Yale so we don't see him all that much this summer. I am now working as a senior compliance manager in environmental health and safety consulting at HRP Associates while I finish up my executive M.B.A. next spring, also from UConn School of Business. Hey, it worked for Sal, so why not? Never too old to learn new tricks!"

JULIBERWALD writes: "I've got a book coming out Nov. 7. It's called *Spineless: The*

1990: Great medical advances from cardiothoracic surgeon Seenu Reddy: If you Google Nashville's TriStar Medical Group, you can find the link to a video clip explaining a fascinating new technology for sternum reconstruction, pioneered by Seenu. We are lucky to have such a kind and caring doctor in our midst.

Science of Jellyfish and the Art of Growing a Backbone. It's about jellyfish—thus the spinelessness, which is what makes them supremely adapted to today's damaged oceans—but it's also about hitting middle age and giving myself permission to grow a spine and become an author. And it's about our collective spinelessness toward the seas. What I really want to say about it to our class is that it's a science book, but it's written for people who never read science. There's a bunch of carbs thrown in with the veggies. And I feel like, now more than ever, we need to be thinking about this amazing planet we share.

“Besides that, I'm still happily living in landlocked Austin with my husband Keith, my nearly-driving-aged Ben and my 13-year-old Isabelle. I've been able to see **ELIZABETH BEEBE SMITH** once in a while when I've come to the East Coast for jellyfish research and **MARGIE STOHL PETERSON** when she comes through Austin on book tour. I also had a quick cocktail with **ABBEY GARDNER** last spring in New York.”

And a bit of College real estate gossip from our Amherst-resident classmate **JONATHAN S. SHEFFTZ**: “At a loss initially for how to reply to your email solicitation for class news. Fortunately, only several hours later, we went on a self-guided tour (i.e., convinced a summer camp resident to open a locked door) of the new Greenway Dorms. I think they really do live up to their hype! I was especially impressed at how both the little common areas interspersed throughout the individual rooms and the various courtyards outside would seem to be conducive to more mature and civilized low-key socializing, as opposed to, say, beer slides. I concede, though, that this dorm design could be criticized as coddling college students, maintaining them in an infantilized state with so many rumpus/romper rooms sprinkled throughout their living quarters.”

On the classmate rock-star front, **BEN GUNDERSHEIMER**, alias “Mr. G,” working away on his multi-book contract and still producing music at a steady pace, seems to be performing everywhere you look, from Alaska to New York City, and that's just the North American tour!

And rock-star-when-she-feels-like-it **DEB PASTERNAK** writes: “I'm living with my husband, Rich, in Westborough, Mass. Over the past couple of years, we have become complete empty-nesters and are really enjoying being a couple only, as we started dating when his three kids were teenagers living at home! I had a great visit earlier this summer with Andrea Martin '90 and **RANI ARBO** [rock-star], but have to admit that Facebook is the way that I am in contact with the majority of Amherst friends. I am now working with the Massachusetts Sierra Club to train and activate citizens to advocate for clean-energy legislation and solutions here in Massachusetts to fight climate change. Anyone in Massachusetts looking to get

involved, feel free to contact me!”

Until next time, please send news. Please! With love for Amherst and the class of 1989,

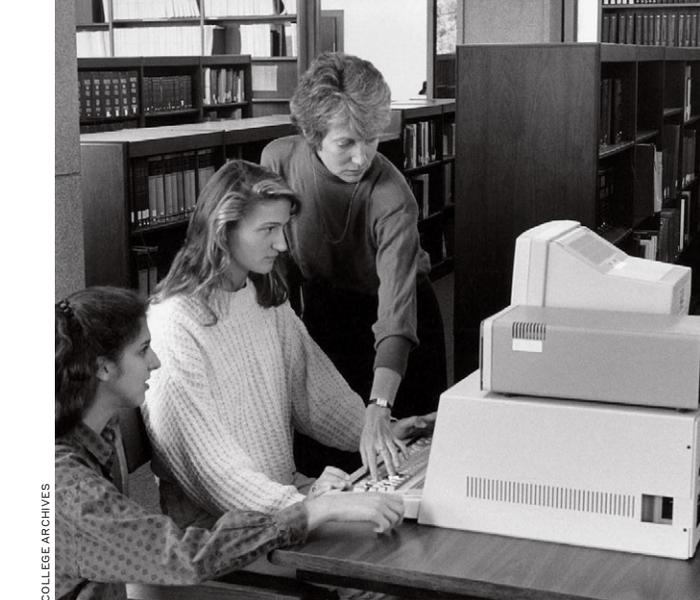
> **BRUCE TULGAN**
BRUCET@RAINMAKERTHINKING.COM

1990

I hope this finds you happy, healthy and safe, especially if you live in the path any hurricanes. Houston resident **STEPHANIE JONES** is “hanging in there. Luckily, safe and dry, but Harvey was horrible for our city and our people.” It is surreal and depressing to see the images. I'm not sure who else from our class has been in the path of destruction, but we will continue to send thoughts and prayers in your direction.

In need of directions to Texas or anywhere in the United States? **ARI DYBNER** is the guy to ask. “Earlier this month (August), my mammoth family took a mammoth road trip, driving from New Jersey out to Yellowstone, south to Sedona [Ariz.] and back east to New Jersey. On the trip, we visited five national parks (Yellowstone, Arches, Canyonlands, Mesa Verde and the Grand Canyon), two national monuments (Mount Rushmore and the Gateway Arch), three fantastic state parks (Custer State Park in South Dakota, Dead Horse Point State Park in Utah, and Slide Rock State Park in Arizona). We saw more corn and soybeans than I thought was possible, as well as an encouraging number of windmills. Total mileage was just over 7,000. On the way back east, we had dinner and dessert in St. Louis with **DAVID TRUMAN** (and his wife, Amy, and daughter Elena) and **TIM GUTKNECHT** (and his wife, Linda). I was lucky enough to go with them to Ted Drewes, apparently, a St. Louis landmark and just as much a tourist attraction as the Gateway Arch.”

DAVE TRUMAN chimes in: “It has been a busy summer for me and the family. Happily, it included lots of get-togethers with fellow Amherst alumni. In June, we used the occasion of my cousin's wedding in Oregon to schedule a very nice family vacation on either side of the nuptials. We traveled from Portland through Eugene (where my daughter, a rising junior in high school, toured the U. of Oregon to see what a big state school looks like) and over to the Pacific Coast, before arriving in Medford for the wedding. But for my son breaking a bone in his foot on a hike the day after the wedding, it would have been an utterly perfect vacation. In early July, I traveled back to my hometown of Washington, D.C., for the wedding of a dear childhood friend. While there, I grabbed a drink with **ANDY LEVITZ**, and, thanks to the wedding being scheduled for the evening of July 4, took in the Nationals-Mets game earlier that day with **BOB SCHARNBERGER** and his son Charlie. Later in July, **CHUCK HORTON**, along with his son Justin; Chuck's



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

significant other, Gabi; and her son, Attila, paid us a visit in St. Louis as part of his annual summer vacation to the States from Hungary. We all had a fantastic time despite record-high temperatures which, considering the kind of weather we get in St. Louis during the summertime, is saying something. (One week later, the high temperature was about 25 degrees cooler. Go figure.) After leaving us, Chuck and the gang paid their customary visit to **DANIEL BANYAS** in the Twin Cities before joining the rest of the Horton clan at a resort in northern Minnesota. In early August, we made our regular summer trip to my family's place in Hillsdale, N.Y. While there, we had lunch with Doug Battema '91, his wife and adorable 3-year-old son. My wife and I also made a side trip to Boston to see the James Taylor-Bonnie Raitt concert at Fenway Park in belated celebration of her 50th birthday. On our way home, we stopped by **ANDY WINCHELL**'s new house in Easton, Pa., for a tasty lunch and a nice visit. Finally, just a few days after we returned home, **ARI DYBNER**'s audacious multistate family road trip passed through St. Louis. We met the Dybner clan for dinner, and **TIM GUTKNECHT** and wife Linda crossed the Mississippi River from southern Illinois to join us. We had good food, good conversation and lots of reminiscing, capped off by the practically obligatory trip to the landmark Ted Drewes frozen custard stand.” **ANDY WINCHELL** also sent me a note about his visit from the Truman clan, lamenting the fact that “we forgot to take a selfie!”—which, we agree, would never have happened if **DANIEL BANYAS** had been there.

Speaking of **DANIEL BANYAS** and selfies, he reports, “It's been a fairly normal summer: Y day camp for the kids, a couple of camping excursions, the pool—just your basic American summer. I am looking forward to this fall, when **DAVE TRUMAN**, **ERIC SCHULTZE** and I will be traveling to London and France for 10 days to cheer for the Vikings, drink beer and wine and take selfies with confused locals. Should be epic. Here's to turning 50 in December.” Absolutely!

CYNTHIA SUCHMAN checked in with

↑ Big Data

When this picture was taken, that enormous computer was probably state-of-the-art. Do you remember using it? Use your 21st-century device to email magazine@amherst.edu.



KATHRYN HANLEY '89'S LAB WAS AMONG THE FIRST TO STUDY THE ZIKA VIRUS, BEFORE IT BECAME A WORLDWIDE THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

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the following funny update: “Nothing fancy here, but just had a drink with **TOM CIRILLO** in Portland and afterward he took me to my first-ever legal pot shop. The Left Coast knows how to live. It was good to see him. Life rushes on.” So true.

Elsewhere, the adventures continue. **ANDREW THOMASES** “spent 10 days in Chile with a high school buddy to help celebrate his 50th birthday. We skied seven of those days in four different locations, including on an active volcano, as well as some cat skiing. We also enjoyed the amazing people, food and wine of Chile. Definitely a bucket-list trip!”

At the Lake with Lake

1991: Homer Robinson reported that he, wife Lisa, and kids Theo and Felix spent an afternoon hanging out with Ellen Lake and her daughters, Josie and Ruby, up at Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire in August. (Ellen’s husband, **Chris Green**, and their son, Sam, were already back in California for Sam’s first day of high school.) “We had such a great time we forgot to take pictures.”

From a different part of the world comes this update from **STEPHEN KAMPMEIER**: “**OLAV BLASBERG** and his family, now living in a newly restored farmhouse southeast of Munich, hosted **STEPHEN KAMPMEIER** and **ERIC WOLF** for a rejuvenating week of Alpine hiking, swimming and general *Gemütlichkeit* in early July. It was the first time the three of us had been together since graduation. This part of Bavaria is known for its hospitality, mountains and lakes, and hearty country meals, and we had several high points in each category. Olav’s wife, Anja Rosengart, and three boys, Valentin, Moritz and Anton, were great hosts and very accommodating as we borrowed Olav to travel through the mountains and into Salzburg and back.

“I was on a sabbatical from Intel this July and used the time to visit friends and family. My wife, Susie Taylor, and I had a great meal with **MEGAN BEARDSLEY** and David Blackburn ’91 at their house in Montclair, N.J., at the end of my trip. Their children, Maddie and Max, picked right up with my two, Lilli and Claire. Now, we’re back in San Jose, Calif. (and I’m planning my next sabbatical in 2020).” Well, I guess as we approach 50, it is time to think about bucket lists and sabbaticals!

It sounds like many of our other classmates also enjoyed some wonderful time together over the summer. **MEREDITH CABE** wrote: “James Taylor and Bonnie Raitt on the same stage sounded too good to miss, but my husband Peter and I couldn’t go the night they played in D.C. We found out the show at Fenway Park wasn’t sold out, and called **DAVE HOSFORD**, who is thankfully still up for last-minute planning. It turned out we could both see Dave and have our three daugh-

ters join us, so we loaded up the van and drove to Boston. It was a beautiful night at Fenway Park—much better weather than a rainy night we spent on the lawn at a James Taylor concert at Great Woods sophomore year. We were sad to miss Dave’s wife, Melissa Carr ’91, and their daughters (I would never have believed that between us we would have six), but were so happy to see Dave, take in a great concert and get to know Dave’s adopted hometown of Concord a bit. Plus, our girls were singing along, so we had a fleeting moment of feeling like good parents.”

Also feeling like a good parent must be **Laurilee**. “The most exciting news in my life is that our daughter Jessica is getting married in September at Camp Manitou in Maine. Our son, Lewis, is going into his senior year at New College in Florida. I’m also still pretty excited over the fact that our class smashed another fundraising goal, breaking a 30-year-old record held by the class of 1960. Go, class of 1990! Last but not least, while I was in D.C. in June visiting friends and family, I got to see **ANDY LEVITZ**, so that was a treat. And I often run into folks here in Rhode Island who know **DAVE LINDQUIST**, although I still need to schedule a dinner with him and his wife, Dotty—so maybe he’ll see this and we can finally get something on the calendar!”

(Dave: if this is a game of tag, you are now “it”—time to call Lauri and get a dinner planned!)

I know that **ANDY LEVITZ** has been casually mentioned in passing already twice, but the third time is really the charm. Seriously! “My wife created a small creature named Sofia Mina, already smiling and charming everyone while howling like a foghorn to us in the small hours of the morning. Her sister and we love her to pieces and will start placing her in Amherst onesies. I’m also retiring after 24 years of active duty with the Navy, starting a new job in the intelligence community, buying too big of a house, and I have a newly minted teenager who knows everything. If I could arrange to get audited or have a tree fall on my car, that would nicely close out this year!” We send our biggest congratulations on all the exciting other news.

Also rightfully proud is **ABIGAIL GOLDEN-VAZQUEZ**: “2017 has been a busy year. I moved my father from Florida to D.C. I am officially embodying the sandwich generation. The program I launched at the Aspen Institute three years ago on the growing demographic of Latinos in America seems more relevant than ever in current times. In March I had the great honor and privilege of interviewing Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Sonia Sotomayor, who discussed our civic responsibility to be active participants in democracy. The most amazing part was having my family there and seeing my son beam with pride at being Puerto Rican for the first time. Looking forward to seeing **BETH GRANT** in September. I

remain in touch with **LEANDER GRAY**, who introduced me to my husband, and **KATHARINE LANDFIELD**, who both live in the D.C. area, but I never seem to see them enough. This year I celebrate 10 years of marriage and eight of parenting, and I am preparing for the big 50 next year with heaps of gratitude. If any fellow Amherst classmates come to D.C., I would love to see you.” It makes me happy to see how many of you are reconnecting with each other—even though time is flying by, we are lucky to have made these friendships 30 years ago, which are still so strong.

JILL LUCIANI also has a proud American summer item to share: “I was so happy that **JENNIFER BUTLER O’TOOLE** and **KATHY BURKE** were able to attend my husband Tom’s military promotion ceremony at the State Capital Building in Providence, R.I. We were all living together in Alexandria, Va., when I first met Tom, then a lowly lieutenant. Now he is

“It makes me happy to see how many of you are reconnecting with each other.”

the Army’s newest brigadier general in the Rhode Island Army National Guard. It was great catching up with them. Kathy leads a busy life, and Jenn works in the area of student assessment at the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.” Congratulations to Tom!

Also deserving of a double pat on the back is author **CATHERINE NEWMAN**. “I am writing to crow about my new books, because I’m crazily excited about them! The first is a middle-grade novel called *One Mixed-Up Night* (coming out Sept. 5 from Random House), and if you picture *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, but at IKEA instead of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, you’ll get a pretty good sense of it. OK, but also? My friend Nicole and I wrote a different kids’ book called *Stitch Camp: 18 Crafty Projects for Kids & Tweens—Learn 6 All-Time Favorite Skills: Sew, Knit, Crochet, Felt, Embroider & Weave*. Storey is publishing it Oct. 17. I’m not going to tell you that our oldest is looking at colleges or that our baby is starting high school, because that would be too crazy. Happily, **MICHAEL MILLNER** and I are still in Amherst, and still getting to see lots of you as you pass through, reuniting and college visiting and vacationing. We love it.”

Happy to see that so many of you are reconnecting with classmates—I have been blessed to visit with a few myself! **JON MASOUDI** and I represented Amherst at a college information night last month, singing the praises of attending a small liberal arts college as well as talking about the advantages of going to school in a place such as the Pioneer Valley.

A week later, **ANABELA PEROZEK**, husband Mike and college-bound senior Max came to Colorado to look at

schools. We all had a delicious dinner with **EMILY WEY**, who is a newly certified yoga instructor in addition to being a busy attorney. And then, to top it off, **AMY SPEACE** was in town for a concert downtown. It was just like old times on the third floor of Stearns!

I am going to close with something that has been on my mind as many of our 50th birthdays have just recently been celebrated or are rapidly approaching. As I hope is the case for most of you, I look forward to reading these notes and seeing what our classmates are up to. When I received the last issue, however, I turned the pages all the way back to the class of 1942. There are tales of inspiration and words of wisdom to be found there, as they too look at the difference between “getting older” and “being old.” They are playing new instruments and learning Chinese! The Old Guard should be an inspiration for us all to live our lives to the fullest, and to stay as connected with each other as we possibly can. And just think: only 32 more months until our next reunion—which, at the rate that time is currently flying by, will be here before we know it.

> SARAH WADE SWANK
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1991

A big “Thank you!” to **JEREMY LEWIS** for giving me the great idea for the lightning round we used to gather these notes. Despite this contribution, I failed to get any updates from Jeremy. He said that, while there is always news in the Lewis household, his wife, **JENNIFER PREHN LEWIS**, is in charge of their external communications.... So we’ll have to await updates from Jen.

MARK DEFANTI reported, “It was a year of highs and lows for me. A high point was being elected chair of the marketing faculty at Providence College, and a low point was going through an amicable divorce. Fortunately, our 12-year-old fraternal twin daughters are faring very well. Another high point was catching up with my roommate **JOHN SGROI** after several years.”

With highs and lows of her own, **MARGARET PRICE** wrote, “Broke my neck, got back on the bike, rescued a kitten.” For the full inspirational kitten-rescue story, you can read an article all about it at cancer.osu.edu/blog (see the Aug. 15 entry).

In the true illustration of highs, **GEORGE MATHEW** sent news: “My wife, the Rev. Bowie Snodgrass (Vassar ’99), and I are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our daughter (and second child)! We have just completed our first year in chipmunk-rich Short Hills, N.J., where Bowie is the curate at the Episcopal Church in town. I’m still busy as ever with Music for Life International, the NGO I founded, which works to create global social impact through music. In February this year, we had our seventh big humanitarian concert at Carnegie Hall, this time to end cataract

blindness....” I’m thrilled to report that on Sept. 1, just before these notes were due, George’s daughter, Kavita Eszter, was born.

ELEANOR KIM also shared exciting baby news. “Rob and I gave birth to a baby girl (Isla Rosa) in April. She is a long-awaited child. We had given up for a number of years, but returned to the process last summer, and we’re so happy. So, while many of you may be on the verge of being empty-nesters, you can laugh at what’s ahead for us!”

In more baby news, **BETH PLUNKETT** responded to my email call for notes (which included the question “Kids off to college?”) with this reply: “Ha! We just had a baby! My husband, Sangtae Park, and I had a beautiful little girl, Jamie, in November. She is 8 months now and doing all those things 8-month-olds do (crawling, laughing, waving and clapping), which all seem incredibly cute to us and thrill her enormously. She has an adoring audience. Our two older girls (Hannah and Grace, 14 and 11) are thrilled to have a little sister, and we spend much of our time as a family laughing together as Jamie shows off her new tricks. It has been an incredible treat to start this adventure all over again. Somehow it all feels so much easier. I was at a very different stage in my career 14 and 11 years ago, and life just feels calmer and smoother now. Having two fabulous older sisters around also adds to the ease. Jamie has truly been a wonderful and fun addition for all of us.”

I had a fun weekend visit with **SARAH TAYLOR** and Cassia, her youngest of three daughters, this summer. They were on the tail end of an East Coast visit, and they took the train down from Connecticut to meet me at Newark Airport (where I was returning to from a work trip). Like Beth, Sarah also had a third child when her daughters were tweens/teens, and it seems she would agree that it has added much to their family life!

SUSAN GILMER wrote in that she and husband, **MATT GRINNELL**, “had a fantastic time in East Hampton, N.Y., with **CORI (REEDY) BURNS** and her children, Maxine and Milo; **DREW MCMULLEN** and his wife, Claire; **CHRIS TAYLOR**, his wife Kathleen and their children, Emily and Alexander; and **ANDY BOOSE** and his brood (whom they saw several times throughout the summer). An all-Amherst ’91 summer!” Chris wrote in to share that he especially enjoyed having a chance to spend evenings reminiscing while their kids had a chance to get to know each other: “It was a great time and a reminder of what awesome friends I made at Amherst.” Susan also reported: “Our twins, Jezebel-Grace and Marlowe, start reception [the British equivalent of kindergarten] this September in London, where we have been for 11 years. Despite this geographic challenge, Matt just joined the board of the *Oxford American*.”

RACHEL RADWAY has now “been living

in Portugal for more than a year, and it’s been almost three since I left my corporate life in Silicon Valley, and I couldn’t be happier about the decision. My life is different from anything I could have imagined—and yet, when I was a child, my dream ‘job’ was to live in every country in the world for a while, so I could learn the language and help people communicate with each other. I’m far from fluent in either, but I’ve done a pretty good job learning Spanish and Portuguese in less than three years. I also formally relaunched my freelance editing business (www.rainwaves.net). So I’m back on a track I veered off of 25-plus years ago.” Rachel added, “I’m planning to rent out my beautiful little apartment in northern Portugal for at least one month next summer. It’s a two-minute walk from a gorgeous stretch of beach in a popular resort town, five minutes from the lovely centuries-old fishing village.” Be sure to contact her if you’re looking for your own adventure.

JENNIFER EDEN is one of several classmates who enjoyed recent overseas travels. “I went to Greenland this summer with my family (including my 89-year-old mom). We spent a week on a small schooner in the biggest fjord system in the world. Unbelievable mountains, glaciers, icebergs, musk oxen, polar bears (!) and the company of a brilliant geologist for the inner scientist in all of us. Truly a trip of a lifetime. I also loved watching **KAREN FOX** enlighten us about the eclipse. Fabulous example for my daughter of what you can do with a love of writing and science.” Karen was a featured correspondent for both NASA and C-SPAN, reporting on the eclipse from Charleston, S.C.

DON HOFFMAN worked in Hamburg for a German software company for the summer. He was taking a week off to tour around Scandinavia when he wrote in his update, and sent everyone “Greetings from Stockholm!”

MIKE WOODRUFF took a nice trip this summer to visit friends in the Spanish Basque country, and he got to bring along his wife, Kenwyn Derby ’93, and his three kids. “¡Muy divertido!”

BOB FOX caught up with **ROD THOMAS** for dinner in London this summer, an annual tradition for them. He also wrote that the last reunion led to a bunch of Facebook friend requests. “It’s been nice to continue seeing FB updates from various friends, after reconnecting with them at reunion.” I think we would all agree with that sentiment!

JOHN CARIANI wrote, “**SUSAN BANKI** took me out to dinner for my birthday when she was in NYC last month. Her mom is amazing and funny. Too bad Susan isn’t. **WENDY STETSON**’s daughter, Cate, caught a shark while fishing at the family cabin in Virginia. And a flounder, which they ate. That’s cool. A kid in my building will be going to the Beacon School in Midtown Manhattan. I told her to look out for Mr. **KEVIN JACOBS**.

“... when I was a child, my dream ‘job’ was to live in every country in the world for a while, so I could learn the language and help people communicate with each other.”

“By day practicing orthopedics and forming a statewide merge of orthopedic groups, and by night playing rock music with my daughters in our basement.”

LAUNA SCHWEIZER brought her beautiful daughters, Abigail and Grace, to see a play I was in downtown. Launa's in a band, and her daughters are super-smart and super-interesting. I'll be in a show uptown this year with Tony Shalhoub. If anybody wants to come, let me know. It's called *The Band's Visit*."

I'm thrilled to note that **DEB COX LECATES** and **BILL LECATES** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in August! It is fun to see the remarkable number of marriages that resulted from our time at Amherst. If you scan these notes, you'll be amazed at the impact Amherst had on our minds... and our hearts.

JOSH JACOBS shared news on behalf of himself and his wife, **AMY BEHRENS**: "This year we have a daughter in high school, another in middle and another in elementary. Three times the parent nights: lucky problem to have. Our ninth-grader, Anna, is playing field hockey (as Amy did in high school), and so I played her the Pixies song 'I'm Amazed,' which, as we all know, begins with Kim Deal talking in the studio about how 'there were rumors he was into field hockey players,' surely the most famous reference to the sport in all of alternative rock. Sadly, the girls were completely unimpressed by that and every other Pixies song, though we do all love 'Push It' and 'Tainted Love.' Did you know the '80s are back, big-time? Previously sanctioned high-waisted shorts are now mandatory."

I spent a night catching up with **HEATHER CRISTOL** this summer. She reminded me that her daughter Etta would have **KEVIN JACOBS** as both her teacher and her soccer coach in high school this year, and her son, Milo, attends middle school where **LAUNA SCHWEIZER** teaches. Glad to hear Heather and **JON GOLD**'s children are in such good hands!

LAUNA SCHWEIZER is back to school for the 42nd time. She and husband Bill Lienhard '90 dropped off their older daughter, Grace, at Smith College on Sept. 1, which, she wrote, is the definition of the word "bittersweet." **DAVID BLACKBURN** happened to be in town that weekend for a bike race (David's wife is Megan Beardsley '90). David reported that it was "great to catch up [with Launa] over ice cream at Herrell's, and then she and the girls hung out the next day while I was out riding." Launa also shared the news that she has finally finished the novel she has been working on, *Amateur Night*, and it is now available on Amazon.

LEE RUDERMAN also dropped his daughters off for their freshman year in the Pioneer Valley. According to Lee, "I just spent the day at Amherst College moving in my daughters Rachel and Lindsey for their orientation into the class of 2021. An exciting, emotional and nostalgic day!"

COREY GRAY reported that he "had a chance to visit Amherst in August and go on a campus tour with my 12th-grade daughter. Scary to think of it from a par-

ent's perspective, but the presentation and the campus made me want to go back. I'm also celebrating my 20th anniversary today (Karen went to Cornell—we visited there too!) and 26th year working at Fourth Presbyterian Church (currently as pastor of administration and interim youth pastor). And, for the full notes record, we also have a 10th-grade son and an eighth-grade daughter."

JASON HORNICK and Harmony Wu '93 (still) live in Needham, Mass. Remarkably, their twins, Hazel and Oscar, are entering high school this year. Jason was promoted to professor of pathology at Harvard Medical School in January. The second edition of his textbook, *Practical Soft Tissue Pathology: A Diagnostic Approach*, is in press; publication is expected in early 2018.

WIN ALFORD wrote: "Life in Rhode Island is good. By day practicing orthopedics and forming a statewide merge of orthopedic groups, and by night playing rock music with my daughters in our basement. Looking forward to helping my oldest daughter enter high school as a ninth-grader this year."

LAUREN (NEUMER) WHITEHURST is "finishing a summer of lots of travel and just started my kids in their sophomore year in high school, which is mind-boggling. I still live in Durham, N.C., in the shadow of Duke, and work with entrepreneurs in our thriving startup community. As many of our classmates' kids start looking at colleges, know that we are a contact in the Durham/Chapel Hill area for people taking college visiting trips. Would love to catch up with fellow classmates as they tour!"

ROBERT OWEN WILLIAMS '91E wrote: "My big news is that my church, Franconia Community Church of Christ, no longer has a pastor and we now have lay-led services. As the chair of the deacons, I have been coordinating all of our speakers. We have had enough involvement from the members of the congregation that each speaker interested in leading worship only has to speak about once every two months or so. We have been using this system of lay-led services since the end of February, and it has been going well enough that it may well last indefinitely."

For those keeping track of the passage of time through our class notes, **STEPHANIE TURNER** and her husband Charles just celebrated their six-month-iversary in Denver in May, then bought and moved into a lovely little house in July. She'll be starting a new job teaching French part-time in a private high school at the end of August. They're loving their new neighborhood in their new city.

JENNIFER JANG and I were exchanging emails, and, while she explained that she and husband **SAM BECKER** didn't necessarily have any interesting news to report, she did share one great tidbit: "My kids are just now getting into the show *Suits*, and one night I caught the end of an episode and saw **CHRISTOPHER TYNG** listed

under the music credits. Probably really old news to everyone else, but I hadn't heard a peep about 'Topher' in decades!"

So, Topher—and everyone else we haven't heard from in a long time—we'd love to hear from you. Please report in, so we can stay connected.

> **RISA SACKMAN**
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1992

Greetings! As I take up my first attempt at putting together our class notes, my mind travels back to our spectacular 25th reunion a few months ago. As some of you know, I arrived early to meet with the student assistants and discuss their responsibilities for the weekend. After that initial meeting, a young woman from that group approached me and asked, "Were you **ANDY SHELDON**'s roommate?" This not being a question I had anticipated, I paused for a few seconds, responded in the affirmative, and then connected the last names. Yes, Zavi '18 is the daughter of Andy, one of the James 201 trio, and, as far as we can tell, will be the first child of the class of '92 to graduate from Amherst. A few days later I introduced Zavi to **BRIAN ADAIR**, the third member of our room group, and he was much quicker on the uptake than I was. We got together for a room-group picture, and Zavi reports that Andy has been enjoying life in Williamstown, Mass., where he has been teaching at the college level (but not, fortunately, at the more famous college in town).

Speaking of the next generation matriculating at Amherst, **PAM (COWLES) CRUM** and Jeff Crum '93 have just dropped off their youngest for the start of her first year at Amherst. Pam reports: "Drop-off day for Katie '21 went very well! She is living in North (I don't think I had set foot in North before) and likes her roommate very much already. It felt a little strange to be on the other side of things throughout the day, but it was also uniquely comforting, in the end, to leave her in such a wonderfully familiar place. And there are still recognizable faces among the faculty. ... On day two, Katie texted that Professor Call helped her register for classes, and he was *my* adviser back in the day!"

Staying in the New England area: **JON SPELKE** relates that all is well for him and Amy (Mulholland) Spelke '93 in Topsham, Maine. He purchased the Androscoggin Animal Hospital two years ago and lives next door to the practice, so neither he nor Amy (who works for a consulting firm from home) has excuses to be late to work. Their children (16-year-old Max and 14-year-old Cora) do not have the same excuse for Mount Ararat High School.

From India, **ABHISHEK PRASAD** announces the sad passing of his father, but that his son is now a "loquacious" kindergarten student and his wife has finished training as a nursery school teacher. As with all of us in our 40s, he is dealing with health issues, but they are under control.

As we work on these notes in the final days of August, the thoughts of our nation are on the tragedy of Hurricane Harvey, and on our classmates who live in the affected areas.

KEITH MILLNER reports, “Harvey made for a harrowing few days, with fears of an emergency evacuation, and constant news from friends and neighbors of losses and danger ahead. Though our neighborhood did experience flooding, we were incredibly fortunate to come through the storm with very minimal damage, and with our family safe and well. We are heartbroken for the trauma and upheaval that some of our friends and so many others have suffered. But we are also so proud of how Houstonians, and people around the state and country, have responded and supported each other, and we take comfort in a feeling of confidence that the city will recover and thrive again. We also want to say thanks to all our Amherst community who reached out to us during the storm.”

MATT PAPANIKOLAS and **KATHY VENEMAN** likewise feel very grateful to have come through Hurricane Harvey without flooding in their home or neighborhood, other than temporary street flooding. In Kathy’s words, “Right now the full effects of the storm are still unfolding, it seems, hour by hour, and though overwhelming, already it is inspiring to me to see such resilience and community spirit in Houston.”

The other participant in the new class secretary system, **JOSH MORA**, adds, “It was mind-blowing to catch up with so many great friends on campus in May. I know that Nate and I are both enamored of the stories of your lives, and we look forward to hearing your next chapters over the coming months and years. We hope you’ll respond to the calls for notes and allow our class to stay in touch.”

Yours truly followed up reunion with the annual Adirondacks weekend at the cabin of **DOUG BURTON** and Connie (Megaro) Burton ’90. Joining us was the usual crew of **JASON CHICIRDA** and Tara (Gleason) Chicirda ’94, **ANNE (SAWYER) FORD** and Rob Ford, assorted future Mammoths ranging in age from 6 to 15 and (for the first time) my wife, Jillian Humphreys. The usual amount of water skiing, hiking, Oreo judging, and ice cream eating took place; fortunately, we did not have to pull out Doug’s extensive collection of duct tape to repair any cars or body parts.

Well, that is it for our first set of class notes. We hope to have more to share in the future! But we’d be remiss if we did not thank **JEANNE HERRING** for the excellent work she did over the past five years. It will take two of us to take her place, but we look forward to serving as the class secretaries for the run-up to the (gulp) 30th reunion.

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> **JOSH MORA**
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1993

I had grand designs this quarter on doing another round of long-losts and haven’t-been-heard-froms, but then the Equifax breach took over my work life, and Hurricane Irma required parachuting into Florida to move my disabled dad around the state. (He’s fine, his house is fine, but... sheesh. Aging parents. I know many of you know.)

So instead we’ll do a lightning round of folks I ran into in person, plus some hurricane updates. (Spoiler: All are safe.)

I had a fantastic dinner/catch-up with **MARTA HEILBRUN**; her husband, Ron; **KENWYN DERBY** and her husband, Mike Woodruff ’91, in August in Salt Lake City. (**JACKIE PANKO** was off on a river trip and could not join us.) Marta is off for a vocational adventure at the Emory hospital system in Atlanta and will commute back and forth. At reunion, ask her about her Delta super-titanium elite status. Kenwyn still gets back to San Francisco from time to time but has taken to Utah life and often camps in the desert with Mike and his kids.

ELIZABETH (GROSSMAN) BESCH and **HOLGER BESCH** dropped by my office this summer with their three kids, who were a total delight. We talked politics, food and Manhattan tourist strategies, among other things.

While I saw neither **JENNY ROSENSTRACH** nor **TED LEE** this quarter, I was thrilled to find them both on the list of the 100 greatest home cooks of all time that *Epicurious* published recently. Williams had three people from a single class. Not. Seriously, so much pride. Let’s have them oversee the caterers for reunion again and dictate which of their own recipes to use.

NICHOLE RUSTIN-PASCHAL’s book, *The Kind of Man I Am: Jazz masculinity and the World of Charles Mingus Jr.*, came out in October. Congratulations, Nichole! Pushing one of these things out into the world is so hard. Can you please set up a Mingus playlist for us and share it on Spotify? I’ll post the link next quarter, or maybe you’ll program dinner music to accompany the Rosenstrach-Lee feast in May?

Now, hurricane updates—two, alas. From Houston and Harvey, **BRIAN BEEBE** reports that he is fine, though many friends were flooded for the third time in three years. Schools there started a week or two late, too. He sent word that **JIM VESTERMAN** escaped unscathed as well.

And Florida and Irma: **JILL BASSETT** left Miami days ahead of time, and her ground-floor residence did not flood. At the last minute, the storm shifted west, and it looked like **BRENNER GLICKMAN** would take a direct hit in Sarasota. He and his family left for Houston (of all places) to ride out the storm, and their house was not damaged. Whew. Should make for some excellent Rosh Hashanah sermon fodder though—right, Rabbi G?

As for me, my dad lives in Boca Raton, and we got him up to Orlando days



COLLEGE ARCHIVES

early. Our hotel maintained power, and his home wasn’t damaged, save for the beloved mango tree. It had been an amazing season for fruit, as my 2-year-old can attest (she got mangoes shipped in to Brooklyn). Given that this was our only loss, however, we were intensely lucky.

Here’s hoping you’re all feeling lucky or at least safe right about now in this nutty world. Keep an eye out for more 25th reunion updates coming soon.

> **RON LIEBER**
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1994

Fall 2017. No mention will be made of the conspicuous absence of a class of 1994 contribution to *Amherst* magazine except that “to the best of my actual knowledge” I received no updates....

My family, like many, spent the summer in typical fashion, but among the sports camps and other sundry activities was a rafting trip in Dinosaur National Monument, which crosses parts of Utah and Colorado. What an amazing time we had, and my father, Alan Bernstein ’63 (aka Opa), joined us. I can’t recommend more highly ditching the electronics for starry nights, whitewater and campfires. In late August, before the threat of Hurricane Irma (everyone is fine, incidentally), we traveled to Guatemala to visit Tikal, an expansive Mayan city nestled in the north of the country near the Belize border. I’m not certain my 7- and 9-year-old boys were terribly interested in the finer points of the site’s history, except for its inclusion in *Star Wars* (Pyramid IV was the rebel base pictured in several of the films). Like Amherst, years from now my sons will reflect on how much more they might have appreciated their Tikal experience had they only....

DEBBIE STEINIG says she and her family traveled to Illinois in August to see *Hamilton* in Chicago, the eclipse in Carbondale and, in between, her Valentine roommate **RACHEL (SUNLEY) TYSON** and family at their home in Urbana-Champaign.

↑ Eyes Front

One student looks straight at the camera, but the other two seem focused on this 1995 physics class with Professor Kannan “Jagu” Jagannathan.

Hamilton lived up to the hype but was awfully expensive. The eclipse lived up to the hype but was an anxiety-provoking nail-biter, with all but the last five seconds of totality clouded out. Visiting Rachel was wonderful! “Hostess extraordinaire, she forgave our lateness, accommodated our varied dietary needs, and, knitter that she is, picked up the stitches of our conversation where we’d left off on our last visit a few years ago. She even volunteered to knit my kids Möbius strip yarmulkes.”

FERNANDA BRESSAN emailed that she and her family were wrapping up their year of world schooling with a month in

the guidance of my in-house Salesforce mentor (my husband, Michael Kolodner ’96), rewriting a load of documents and generally scurrying around to get us ready to open in September.

“Many Amherst visits this summer: We see **LINDA LEE** weekly, who is practically family at this point (and a favored babysitter, perhaps because my boys call her ‘Double Dessert Linda.’) We had a quick visit with the amazing **AMY (RYDELL) WERNER** and her boys, who dropped in after a baseball tournament in Hershey, Pa.]. I send thanks to **MIKE BOGOMOLNY** for connecting us with Shreeyash Palshikar ’95 and his lovely family, who are now living in our neck of the woods and part of our regular circle of friends. We’re heading off in a few weeks to see Christopher ’95 and Catherine Mirick ’95 in Plum Island, Mass., to squeeze as much summer out of August as we can.” Wow, and I thought I was busy!

DOUG NORRY, who just began his fifth year as head of Triangle Day School in Durham, N.C., a small (200 kids) TK-8 independent school, writes that he loves the job, the school and the location—lots of family in Chapel Hill. Doug mentions that he, **JEREMY KUGEL**, **STEVEN PEARL** and **YUTAKA TAMURA** got together in NYC, as has been their custom each summer. Ever the entrepreneur, Yutaka now dabbles in the life-coaching business, so the provocative questions and insightful advice were free-flowing. Quite conspicuously, Doug’s brief missive didn’t include any of the pearls of wisdom we all crave. Pardon the pun, Steve, but I’m middle-aged, so you should expect some generous corn in my notes.

MARIA (CHRISTENSON) BERNIER writes that “it’s a depressing time to be an employee of the state of Connecticut, as the governor and legislature try to close a multibillion-dollar budget gap. Since work is more like work these days and less like fun, I ramped up my volunteering to add more fun to my life. The gig that’s become most interesting is co-producing a program on ‘Naughty Children of Literature’ with the Friends of Westerly Library. I’ve been writing and editing poems, which I’ve never done before, except maybe in seventh grade. I’m relieved to find many online rhyming dictionaries, because I am unable, as one friend advised, to ‘channel my inner Lin-Manuel!’”

No class of 1994 notes would be complete without a mention of our artsurdist [sic] extraordinaire, **JONATHON KEATS**. A bold-faced name often (and cheaper than Google AdSense), Jonathon appreciates his classmates who appreciate his unique brilliance. I certainly do. He writes of his latest project—an imagination of the car as wearable tech. Jonathon’s concept car is a “vehicle that operates as an extension of ourselves—making us excited as it goes faster, and hungrier as it needs gas” (as written in the *Fast Company* article I cribbed, no room for the footnote!). Jonathon’s vision, in collaboration with

Hyundai, is part of his residence at Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s Art + Technology Lab. Should you go, please pick me up a Superego Suit, Keats’ current work in progress to blend neuroscience, fashion, and the ego. What would Jung do with such a garment? Jonathon’s fertile mind is inspirational (and aspirational).

Enjoy the weather, stay optimistic, and write me.

> **LEO BERNSTEIN**
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1995

It is not easy to get updates from such a busy group of people—especially at the end of summer. But, luckily, we did hear from a couple of you who had news to share.

CRAIG JOHNSON shared that wife **RHEA PARANDELIS JOHNSON** assembled a relay team of female/physician/mothers/Latinas. She trained for and competed in the National Track and Field “Masters” Championship in Louisiana in July... and won gold! *Runner’s World* interviewed Rhea and her team and published an article that mentions Rhea’s running career at Amherst College. Craig and their kids, Silas (11), Rosario (9) and Soren (7), are all extremely proud of Rhea!

It’s been a busy spring and summer for **WELLS BLANCHARD**. He bought a new house in Needham, Mass., and started a new job as product manager at McGraw-Hill Education. According to Wells, “We are loving the new house, my first backyard ever; our 2-year-old is rocking the trampoline and the swing set, and, while it’s overwhelming to get up to speed at the new job, the people have been supportive and welcoming.”

Wells also caught up with **RAVITHAKUR** and **STEVE MCAVEENEY** at a Red Sox game. Ravi was visiting from New York City. Wells mentioned that Steve and his wife, Julie, have been busy having barbecues at their place in East Cambridge, Mass., and they recently got back from a honeymoon in Greece. **EDUARDO MARTINEZ** was in the United States at his house on the Cape this summer, and Steve got to catch a glimpse of him and his two sons in Boston. Steve and **DOUG SMITH** recently got together for a Social Distortion concert in Worcester, and Doug was recently spotted out on his boat with his wife and 10-year-old son, Travis.

SERGE SIMPSON checked in to let us know he is still living in Philadelphia, where he has been since attending medical school at the University of Pennsylvania. Serge is married and has two boys, Gabriel Tosh (9) and Jacob Winston (nearly 6). He is working at Albert Einstein Medical Center as an emergency physician and medical toxicologist. Serge writes, “As work and kids get more demanding, I have gradually simplified my life. These days I am content to spend what little free time I have either mountain biking or getting lost in DIY projects

Master Multitasker

1995: My trusty co-chair, **Emá Naito**, provided a quick update. Emá stepped down as editor of a monthly magazine for expat parents after a rewarding year of volunteering for the position. She will continue as deputy editor, while also assisting at husband Sebastian Bhakdi’s biotech company, XZELL Inc., which has developed and is launching its early pain-free cancer detection test. Also managing their three kids’ schedules and household matters, Emá is kept running at multitasking capacity.

Portugal before returning home to Miami, where their daughter Luciana would start kindergarten. “Our goal to share cultures, people and places with her far exceeded our expectations.” Central to her experience was sharing the adventure as a family—living and working together, appreciating different cultures, not simply as a tourist but as a traveler. “Fortunately, our coaching and advisory business benefited and grew as much as we did personally. ... Our experience helped exemplify that work-life alignment is possible when we make choices that are right for us. Every family and business is different, but discovering what you desire and taking the necessary action steps towards it will pay off in countless ways.”

Well said. I’m terribly envious of Fernanda’s family adventure. I’ve concluded too that shared experience with family and dear friends serve as the greatest gifts we can give our children (and ourselves). No one remembers stuff the way they remember experience, no? Enough cheap homily. Let’s march onwards.

JENNIFER (BALTAJE) KOLODNER writes that in May she “became the director at Jewish Children’s Folkshul (www.folkshul.org), a program for families in the greater Philly area who want to provide their children with a strong and joyous foundation in Jewish culture and ethics, within a secular humanist framework.” [Ed. note: that program sounds strikingly similar to the Society for Ethical Culture.] “(Incidentally, **GEOFF KLEIN**’s sister and her family are members, which is a nice coincidence.) So far, I’ve hired two teachers, put all our registration forms online, am building a membership database in Salesforce with



ISMÉE (BARTELS) WILLIAMS ’95 WRITES FROM THE HEART ABOUT HOW HER WORK WITH EXPECTANT MOTHERS INFORMED HER NOVEL, *WATER IN MAY*.

Page 2

around the house. I may have peaked two years ago when I made this bike out of bamboo to help me run errands around my neighborhood."

We also heard from **MARK KUHNLE**, who reported that he is a customer service representative in upstate New York, where he is active in the community at Emmaus United Methodist Church.

ILYA SOMIN, a professor of law at George Mason University, recently took a trip to Israel to give a talk at a conference at Tel Aviv University. As a constitutional law scholar in our current political environment, Ilya has found that he is spending more time than usual talking to various media, both U.S. and foreign. Ilya also has a 2-year old daughter, Lydia, who is "learning the names of various animals in both English and Russian."

Ilya mentioned that he has been in touch with **JIM MCLAUGHLIN** and **STEVE WIIST**. Jim is deputy general counsel of *The Washington Post*, and Steve is still working as a dentist and is active in a variety of sports leagues in North Carolina (where he has lived for the last decade or so).

CHRIS SANTANA and I had the opportunity to take our kids, Thomas (13) and Alice (11), on a whirlwind trip through Europe with their cousins. Although an art history major at Amherst, I have to say I was rusty, but it was great to visit some of my old stomping grounds from when I studied abroad junior year.

Best wishes to everyone and remember, please send us any and all updates!

> WRITTEN BY MARGARET SANTANA
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1996

I appreciate the responses to my rather pathetic appeal for notes this go-round. As usual, your notes are such fun to read and to share.

SUSAN REKLIS KOLOZSVARI wrote as she was preparing to take kids to college. She and her husband took their oldest back to Oklahoma for a second year at OU a few weeks ago, and their daughter is a freshman at Mount Holyoke this fall. While Susan was sorry that Amherst said no to both of them, she is glad her daughter will be in the Valley. She said the house is very quiet with just one kiddo left at home.

EMILY LAKDAWALLA received an honorary degree of Doctor of the University from the Open University (in the UK) in September "as a result of the exceptional contribution that she has made in communicating planetary and space science, and for her enthusiasm and achievements in public engagement with science." Kudos, Emily! She says that she's "happy that *technically* it'll no longer be something I'll have to awkwardly correct when people address me as 'Dr. Lakdawalla.'"

BRIAN BUTLER wrote to say that, with the help of many friends and fam-

ily, including job search support from classmates **KARIM HUTSON**, **KWAME BRATHWAITE**, **PRESTON SCHELL**, **MIN CHOI**, **PETER MAY** and **JIM HAMILTON**, he has joined the development office at Brooklyn Law School. He is living with his immediate family in Westchester County after his recent move from Boston—for now—with an eye toward living in Brooklyn. In addition, he is thankful for his former colleagues at the College (in the office at Smith House on Hitchcock Road), who have been supportive and generous with their time as references and friends. While Brian will miss Boston and Amherst, and valued his time on staff at Amherst, including overlapping with our 15th reunion in 2011, this is a great opportunity to continue his major gift work and take the next step in his institutional development career. Brian was sad to miss our 20th, but plans to help with 25th reunion fundraising efforts down the road.

ERIK WASSON wrote that he and his lovely wife, Moryvan, were attending the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and caught **DEANNA FLEYSHER**'s *Butt Kapinski* show. Eric reports that it was hilarious, and the audience ate it up. He is still busy as a reporter trying to cover all the political she-nanigans in D.C. these days.

Congratulations to **GREG SCHNEIDER**, who has been named head of school at Belmont Hill School in Belmont, Mass., beginning on July 1, 2018. Greg and his wife, Amy, and daughters are looking forward to relocating back to the Boston area for an exciting professional challenge and great proximity to family and friends.

ROB SWEENEY has moved to Dallas to take an in-house counsel role at Holly-Frontier, a petroleum refinery and transportation company. He bought a house in East Dallas, where he hopes to put down some roots, which is a big statement for someone who, since we graduated, has moved around and back and forth across the Atlantic Ocean more times than I can count!

BETSY VILETT wrote to report that she and husband Chris Maguire '94 (and their kids, Annie and Charlie) are enjoying their second year of living in Switzerland. They have loved their time in Zug and have met a lot of great people from many different countries. The hiking and skiing have been amazing, and they have been lucky to travel to some great places: "In August we had a fantastic visit from **HEIDI MOHLMAN TRINGE** and her family, including several beautiful days in the Bernese Alps. That made up a little bit for having missed a couple of room group gatherings!"

Clever **MOLLY (WASOW) PARK** arranged her summer travel plans around visiting Amherst roommates. From seeing **LARA BERKOWITZ** in London, to a family Fourth of July trip to Maine to see **ALYSSA (EARLE) GOODWIN** and Chris Goodwin '97, Molly is making good use of her vacations!

I had the pleasure of a too-short visit with **EUGENIA CHOW** in Chicago while she was in town on business. She is on the road a ton, and I was a lucky stop along the way. Incidentally, a few weeks later she found herself seated next to **GRANT INGERSOLL** on a plan to Raleigh-Durham, N.C. Grant co-founded a tech company that does the search for a lot of companies' websites to enhance consumer experience. It sounds like they had a nice opportunity to catch up. I was also lucky to see **BETH FOLEY SWANSON** and her husband, Brian Swanson '94, and two of their kids this summer. We had a nice visit, and their son John tried really hard to help my (at the time) 7-month-old crawl, only to recount the story later to Beth that he was teaching her to twerk. The hilarious humor apple does not fall far from momma's tree in that family. And lucky me: as I type this, I am getting ready to see Beth again this weekend with **HEIDI MOHLMAN TRINGE**, who will be in Chicago for a meeting.

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1997

Let me be the first to say how delighted I am to be taking over as class secretary. It only took half a handle of bourbon and some dedicated 20-year-reunion-style peer pressure to convince me I wouldn't be the worst secretary in Amherst history (this is also why I nominated **ERIKA BRACAMONTE** and **SANDY SMITH** as co-secretaries!)

Anyway, as a quick update on myself, I write to you from Charlottesville, Va., where I am faculty at UVA in the department of microbiology, engaged in pre-clinical cancer research. However, that is not nearly as exciting as the fact that I finally earned my fitness trainer certification this summer—not sure what I am going to do with it yet, but it's been on my bucket list for a while. If nothing else, it will help me keep my kids, Kieran (9) and Charlotte (5), in line working on soccer and football agility drills!

I know reunion was back in May, but I have to say what a great time I had chatting and reminiscing with friends I hadn't seen in years. I managed to catch up with **SUSANNE (SANTOLA) MULLIGAN** and her husband, Greg, an avid sports fisherman. She continues to work at Guggenheim Partners in NYC and writes that she spent the summer working and going to the beach. Her girls, Finley and Hayden, were busy with swim team, trying to emulate the great **BRYAN LUKE** and **PETE GROSSI** (whom they immediately idolized upon hearing that they both swam at Amherst back in the day!)

I was also able to spend some time with **DARCY (FORRESTER) CARR** and her wonderful family. She writes that she is still

1997: Anne Penner was very sorry to miss reunion. She writes from Denver, where she spent time this summer performing with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival in *Julius Caesar*. This fall she will perform a play adaptation of Joan Didion's memoir, *The Year of Magical Thinking*. After that, she is looking forward to a six-month sabbatical from teaching in 2018, during which she plans to do some writing about acting and teaching, and possibly get involved in additional performances.

Tim Aubry '98, associate professor of English at Baruch College, wrote a sharp-eyed defense of the liberal arts, sort of, in a delightful *New York Times* book review in August.

living outside Boston, in Arlington, with her husband, Jonathan Carr '96, and daughters Ellie (11) and Dalia (9). She says, "We are predictably overscheduled with sports practices, music lessons and the classic middle-aged hobby of training for half marathons, but we very much enjoyed the trip to Amherst for reunion." After spending the past 11 years at Partners HealthCare in strategic planning and hospital administration, Darcy recently accepted a job at Boston Children's Hospital overseeing nonclinical operations (financial management, regulatory oversight and policy) for their work with the State of Massachusetts, specifically the Medicaid population.

PETE CLARK also answered my mass-email call for news. He writes that he recently received a second master's degree from Middlebury, an MLitt specializing in identity and modality in modernism. Furthermore, he says, "It was special to have my kids there at graduation, but now it's back to Orange County, Calif., where I teach English and run the internship program at St. Margaret's Episcopal."

SANDY SMITH continues as faculty at the Nichols School in Buffalo, N.Y., where she teaches science at the middle and high school levels, and is currently the director of an initiative to connect the Nichols community to the themes of water and place. She spent a lot of time outdoors this past summer in an effort to cultivate relationships between place-focused education in the Great Lakes basin, the greater Yellowstone ecosystem and other natural resource corridors. Sandy's first port of call was a canoe trip on Source Lake Algonquin Park, Ontario, and later backpacking in the White Mountains in New Hampshire while on a Leadership Academy retreat.

Sandy also managed to get out to Colorado, meeting up with recent D.C.-to-Colo. transplant Sarah Fabian '98, where they hung out at Red Rocks Amphitheatre and drove around in a "vintage" yellow Suzuki Samurai. Man, I'm sorry to have missed that!

ERIKA BRACAMONTE is currently in Tucson, Ariz., with John, her husband of 10 years. She is an associate professor of pathology at the University of Arizona and, in fact, was recently promoted to division director of anatomic pathology! In addition to her diagnostic and teaching responsibilities, however, she has also had to make peace with the fact that life now includes an increasing list of administrative duties.

In her own words, "The world would be a much better place if we could reduce 'mandatory' meetings by half." Truth! And if I shed a few tears this fall while watching my "baby" Charlotte get on the school bus for the first day of kindergarten, that's nothing compared to Erika dealing with the reality of celebrating her stepson's 21st birthday! Stress relief takes the form of hiking, camping, sunset-watching and, of course, periodic trips to

Arizona wine country (they do make great wine in Arizona—I have firsthand knowledge of this), plus regular CrossFit sessions. Erika plans on making a trip this fall to NYC to hopefully catch up with **SANDY SMITH, JACK AARONSON** and **SUSANNE (SANTOLA) MULLIGAN**.

So that's it from me. Thanks so much to those of you who sent me an update. I will be harassing you all again in the near future! Wishing you all a happy and safe fall.

> KATE (STAAF) OWEN
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1998

Here's all the news I have permission to print. (Ahem—some of you are doing amazing things, but won't sign off on getting accolades here. I respect your right to privacy, but still have to say that, when it comes to class notes, sharing is caring.)

TIM AUBRY, associate professor of English at Baruch College, wrote a sharp-eyed defense of the liberal arts, sort of, in a delightful *New York Times* book review in August. While the books he reviews suggest that liberal arts majors will make bank in a tech economy, Tim rightly reminds readers that some of this "liberal arts marketability" is based on the privilege on which elite liberal arts graduates often bank, postgraduation. Public scholarship FTW, Professor!

BETH DELL is a producer of upcoming romantic comedy *Destination Wedding*, starring Keanu Reeves and Winona Ryder.

COLIN BARNACLE is a partner in top 100 U.S. law firm Akerman LLP (Labor & Employment Practice Group).

Professors and producers and partners, oh my! What else have we been up to, dearest classmates?

Babies. Getting babies. Lots of babies, especially July arrivals.

MANISHA RANKA and husband Max Pinigin welcomed their daughter, Maya Lakshmi, in November. Maya was born in D.C. (Max and Manisha, a political science major at Amherst, moved to D.C. from L.A. last summer.)

MIKE LEVY and his family welcomed new addition Wynne in March, and then took the baby and the big brother off to Japan for sabbatical from Penn.

NATE CLAY and wife Georgia managed to birth Bodhi Stillwater not only at home, but with only minimum midwife help over the phone. You'll be glad to know the midwives bravely fought through Santa Barbara-area traffic and made it to the Clay house in time for the afterbirth. Big brother Leo was not home for any of it. Nate and Georgia are also partners in an educational services business.

Amherst '98 figures big in Santa Barbara, it seems (two alums counts as "figuring big," right?): Nate reports that **HAYDEN FELICE** just opened a new restaurant, Somerset, in town, and Hayden also welcomed a July baby: Clío.

Oh—I had another baby in July too.

Amherst mag scooped up, so I assume you saw mention of **MARTI DUMAS'** children's book series, *Jaden Toussaint, The Greatest* in the summer issue. If not, check it out: the warm, witty adventures of a 5-year-old black genius in New Orleans. Maybe she'll deign to do a reading at our upcoming reunion (it's a big one—2018; you do the math).

In our composers' corner, **GREG BROWN** writes, "Lots of music things happening at present: rereleasing some music in conjunction with my brother Dan '86's latest book; and two new CD releases this autumn (cantata and song-cycle)." Greg put on an Amherst homecoming concert on Oct. 20 at the new Center for Humanistic Inquiry in Frost Library. "For the spring semester I'll be taking over the Amherst College Choral Society in an interim capacity as Mallorie Chernin begins her phased retirement." Continuing the hometown report, Greg informs us that the downtown Amherst Bart's is no more.

Fellow Amherst-based composer **RICHARD BEAUDOIN** writes that he composed two new works for vocal ensemble Roomful of Teeth. He, Lea and their teenaged children have been seeing a fair amount of moving around: Richard finished a visiting research fellowship last year at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and began teaching at Dartmouth College this fall.

MARGARET SEILER and **BEN CHANG** had a meet-up of the Louisville, Ky., Amherst '98-ers club at a Chuck E. Cheese in upstate New York. Pretty sure these two won all the Skee-Ball tickets—but what did they exchange them for? [Yes, I'm ending a sentence in a preposition. Check out my elegant phrasing up top in re: **TIM AUBRY** to see how versatile this humble social scientist can be in her use of formal and colloquial idiom, though. Chalk it up to the power of liberal arts!]

BARNEY SNIDER has some bell-ringing news. He and his business partners transitioned from a real estate private equity firm based in the Washington, D.C., area to a public REIT, JBG Smith, listed on the New York Stock Exchange. He writes that, a week after going public, "We continued the excitement by participating in our company's ceremonial bell-ringing on the floor of the NYSE. It was an amazing experience for our entire company and certainly something that I will never forget. I am serving in the role of executive vice president and head of commercial asset management for the company. My wife, Keeley, and I are still living in Chevy Chase, Md., with our two incredible daughters, Katherine (9) and Maeve (7). Looking forward to the 20-year reunion next year!"

And with the plug for the big 2-0, I'll bid you adieu. Stalwart class president **DAVE NARDOLILLO's** organizing a wonderful party, so do get in touch with your ideas for reunion plans.

> CAROLYN CHERNOFF
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1999

Our little plea from the last issue worked, and 11 of you reported on yourselves and several classmates. By far, these are the most updates I've encountered in my three years working the notes. As my favorite *Paw Patrol* pup, Zuma, says, "Let's dive in!"

We will start at the bottom, so to speak. **KATIE RUBIN** has decided to make her life "weirder," as she puts it, and is considering getting certified to perform colonics to complement her energetic healing services. She also snagged an online Comcast commercial that she hopes bridges over to television, so be on the lookout for her. Ever busy, Katie is teaching acting, improv and stand-up comedy writing, while working on a new writing project as well. If you get a chance, ask her about her new dog!

PAM (DIAMOND) ROCK moved from Dunwoody to Brookhaven, Ga., 10 minutes from her old home. She loves her new place, and her girls, Sara (10) and Jordyn (8), are excited to be in a new school. In August, Pam and **LEAH RICCI** celebrated their 40th birthdays with **ARLENE SILVA**, **JILL SAUNDERS** and **ALISSA SAUNDERS** with a mini reunion in Bermuda.

Arlene also reported in about the trip to Bermuda, noting that they snorkeled, swam in caves and jumped off cliffs. If you were in the Northeast in the summertime, you might have run into Arlene. Her family and **AMANDA PASCHKE**'s visited New York City in May, hitting the Statue of Liberty, Central Park Zoo and M&M Store. Arlene also continued her summer tradition of renting a house on Cape Cod in July. This time, she stayed at an estate owned by the family of former Amherst College President Calvin Plimpton '39. Accompanying her family were Leah, Alissa and Jill, as well as **ALLAN PETERS-EN** and **JAMIE (SCHULKE) SCHULIN**.

GABRIELA (GIL) SNYDER and **ANDREW SNYDER** tag-teamed for their update. Andrew is celebrating his 10th anniversary with Graham Partners, working in private equity. Gabriela left her position in M.B.A. admissions and leadership development to pursue a master's degree in marriage and family therapy part-time at La Salle University. She hopes to be licensed within five years. The Snyders reside in Devon, Pa., with their three boys (ages 10, 9 and 6). For their 40th birthdays, the celebrants included **ELIZABETH (WOLFF) ROGERS**, **EMMA RADIN**, **ALLISON (KIENKE) WERT**, **AIMEE (CARROLL) FLYNN**, **ANNIE (BERTKAU) RILEY**, **KEVIN ORPHAN**, **CAITH CHAPMAN** and Chris Smith '00.

In August, **DAN RICHENTHAL** completed a month-long trial against a real estate developer in Macau charged with bribing two United Nations ambassadors. I feel like I should have added exclamation points to that one. Dan provided a few links in his email. You can look up Ng Lap Seng to learn more about the trial.

ANNA HOLTZMAN is on the move. She left her career as a television editor and her home in Brooklyn, N.Y. She's now living with her partner, Paul Kim, in Queens, N.Y., and has started a practice as a life and career coach. In September, she began a master's program at NYU for a degree in mental health counseling. If you'd like to check out her business, please visit annaholtzman.com.

We can thank **ALICE FAIBISHENKO**'s mom for her update. Her mom read the joke in the previous notes and thought all diplomas would be threatened if alumni didn't provide an update. Luckily for everyone else, only Mina and I will suffer that fate. Since her days at Amherst, Alice's work and studies have taken her around the world. She started in New York's banking sector before moving on to Johns Hopkins for a master's degree in international affairs, economics and finance. She has worked at the U.S. Treasury and as an advisor to the former vice president and finance minister of Spain. Alice and her husband have settled in Madrid and run a financial advisory firm. Their daughter, Catalina, goes to the American School there.

We're obviously getting older. We've gone this far without yet mentioning newborns. So let's mention a newborn! **NEELY STEINBERG** and her husband, Dave Sullivan, welcomed Lila Anne in January. With a baby and 2-year-old Stella Rae running around, Neely admits she's exhausted and finds tremendous fulfillment in naps. Outside of momming, she runs her dating- and image-consulting business, which is second to naps in fulfillment as she helps women create confidence in themselves and find love.

DAVID KIM spent his sabbatical from teaching and writing about Italian Renaissance art at Penn in Washington, D.C., where he saw **LAURA MOSER**, **MICHAEL SACHSE** and **ERIN SEGAL**. Mr. Sachse held his 40th birthday "blowout" at a possibly haunted Victorian house. They partied with **EDGAR ORTEGA BARRALES** and **ELLIOT GREENEBAUM**. This summer, David traveled to Cambridge, England, to see **MIKE BECKER** and family.

Finally, **JULIA VITARELLO** has spent the past year fighting for her daughter Mila's (age 6) life and helping Harvard fund gene therapy trials at Boston Children's Hospital. Mila was diagnosed with Batten Disease, a fatal condition with no cure. She has gone from riding bikes, skiing and playing in the pool, to losing all her abilities and having a few years left to live. The burden of funding the \$4 million clinical trial has fallen on Julia's family. Scientists believe a trial could serve as a blueprint for ending hundreds of rare genetic diseases. You might have seen that we posted Mila's story to our class' social media pages. I urge you to watch the videos posted at www.stopbatten.org. It is as heartbreaking as Julia's work is uplifting.

We appreciate the uptick in news from our class. Please note that the handbook

for the notes allots 70 words per contributor, but that we have a word count for class secretary commentary that we can pull from. If you think your contribution has been pared down, that's why. We do our best to maintain the integrity and meat of your entries. And don't worry—I will be hashing out the rule against using the Oxford comma with the alumni office.

I'll close with this nugget from Arlene's update: "The older we get, the more we appreciate the enduring bonds of our college friendships, despite the miles and daily life tasks that separate us." I hope these updates have brought you closer to your classmates and that we'll be seeing you in these pages next time around.

> **CHRIS WEBB (WRITING THIS TIME)**

MINA SUK

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2000

The theme for this edition of class notes is "happy news," since there's so much of the opposite these days.

We start in San Francisco with **GAY HEIT**, who has transitioned out of her career as a personal chef to launch a new business as a potter. "It's a completely new world for me," she writes, "so I'm figuring it out as I go. Seems as if I'm destined to be my own boss for the rest of my life." (Insert sound of jealousy here.) Her art found a big fan in **AMY LYSTER**, who recently visited Gay in the Bay Area. "I got to see her work all around her home and took with me some special pieces for my own home that sit on my mantel," Amy writes. "Gay really is an amazing artist, whether it's photography or cooking or pottery/ceramics. She's always finding new and interesting ways to express her talents." Amy and Gay also caught up with **RACHEL BOBRUFF** in San Fran.

On the other side of the country, **LIAM O'ROURKE** is immersing himself in history on Staten Island, where he lives with his partner in the caretaker quarters of the Alice Austen House. "Austen was one of the pioneers of American street photography in the latter half of the 19th century and on into the 20th century," he writes. "She grew up in the house and then, for over 50 years, lived there with her partner, Gertrude Tate. In June, the Alice Austen House received landmark status as a place of LGBTQ significance, making it only the second national historic site dedicated to a woman to receive such a designation and the first dedicated to a visual artist."

We end with a second classmate who is making a career transition—**REBECCA PUCK STAIR**. Rebecca is now an events manager for a Franciscan friar in Albuquerque, at the Center for Action and Contemplation, which she describes as "a mini Harvard focused on mysticism." Very cool.

I don't know about you guys, but I'm adding Staten Island and Albuquerque to my vacation wish lists!

With baby Lila Anne and 2-year-old Stella Rae running around, Neely Steinberg '99 admits she's exhausted and finds fulfillment in naps.



IN A FEATURE FOR *HARPER'S*, **JESSICA BRUDER '00** REVEALED HER SECRET ROLE IN BREAKING A GLOBAL NEWS STORY.

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BRIAN GATEWOOD '00'S SATIRICAL FILM STARS **CHANNING TATUM**, **JOSEPH GORDON-LEVITT**, **JENNY SLATE** AND MORE.

Page 46

My co-secretary, **SHIN-YI LIN**, will be providing our next update. 'Til then!

> **BETH SLOVIC**
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2001

It is with great sadness that I write to share news of the passing of **NICK RIESER**. His passing was sudden and unexpected, and, while we don't know many further details, we do know that he was living in New York City and is survived by his wife and two daughters. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends. A full In Memory piece will follow in a later issue.

On a lighter note, **KIMBERLY PALMER** wrote in to share that she joined NerdWallet, a personal finance website, earlier this year as a writer and credit cards expert. She still lives in Bethesda, Md., with her family, including Kareena, age 7, and Neal, age 4. Whenever she visits the NerdWallet offices in San Francisco, she catches up with **ALISON COMFORT**, who lives there with her family.

TOM BIGGINS wrote that "the Naval War College's most eligible bachelor is off the market. **ANDREW ERICKSON** married Dr. Emily Wang (Harvard '11) in a beautiful ceremony in Newport, R.I., attended by all of Andrew's Cohen roommates: **KENNY LEE**, **JED HORWITT**, **JAR-ED FORD**, **TOM DEWIRE** and me.

"Separately, I am filled with both joy and sorrow to report on the birth, short life and passing of my sixth child, William Peter, this summer. Although William's time here was brief, he was able to meet all of his older siblings, and was surrounded entirely by love throughout his life."

KAREN (CHAU) PELLETT's third baby, a boy, arrived June 27: William Christopher Yong Yu ("extra courageous"). Daddy Jack, big brothers Jack and Alden and mom are all very happy and settling in, "although, if the past few weeks are in any way predictive, this household will be extremely loud for at least 10 more years." She's still in the Bay Area and at Genentech, although trying not to think about work until her maternity leave ends in November. Congrats, Karen!

KEVINSOLTAU reported that he won an award at work in August. Although Kevin was too humble to share details, I looked it up: it was the Goizueta Foundation Faculty of Distinction award, given to "a colleague who exemplifies what it means to partner with colleagues in order to best serve students." The next day his second son was born, a few weeks earlier than planned; Kevin writes that everyone is all good. Then, a week later, he started his 10th year teaching art in Atlanta. He's also working on figuring out how he's going to find time to make his own art and share it. Congratulations on the many milestones and life events!

NED FRIEND has been at Microsoft since graduation, now doing strategy for Office, which has included meetings with Bill Gates, a bucket-list item. He

also became an informal spokesperson for the Washington tax justice campaign. He writes that Washington State has the most regressive local tax system in the country, so it's had a progressive tax movement since the 1930s. It's been his primary social justice focus for the past decade, building on his economics major at Amherst. He helped spur public opinion through local news outlets such as *The*

"... this household will be extremely loud for at least 10 more years."

Seattle Times and our NPR station, as well as *The Christian Science Monitor*, which helped achieve the first major victory of passing a Seattle income tax on high earners to more equitably fund the city and pave the way for statewide change. Ned said he was inspired by "the great social work of so many other alums!" Congrats, and glad to hear your classmates inspired your work!

NOAH T. WINER started this year with the birth of his first child, Isaiah. "It was a strange time to feel such joy and to be momentarily on the sidelines of the resistance. My parental leave offered a rare opportunity to step back and admire the robust, principled movements for justice that we are building together.

"Meanwhile, my team at Dragonfly has been moving full-speed-ahead to fuel the resistance by supporting: 1. *Individual leaders*: with coaching, with managing staff and managing up. 2. *Teams*: with facilitation, with having difficult conversations, with managing conflict. 3. *Organizations*: with strategic planning, with disrupting structural racism. 4. *Movements*: with multi-stakeholder coordination, with interest-based negotiation, with evaluating risks, with getting unstuck, with building power—with winning! This year, we're engaging more leaders to do better work in a racist world.

"We're helping newly mobilized resistance groups come together. We're advising longstanding social change institutions as they wrestle with the way forward. Our 2017 clients include groups like the Women's March, Mobilisation Lab, Philadelphia Student Union and MADRE." Noah encourages you to reach out if Dragonfly can support you, your team, your organization or your movement. He's grateful to be back "working for the world we know is possible."

BECKY (SACHER) WOODS wrote to share that she recently joined ADP as their Global Mobility Director, which has been keeping her busy, in addition to her twins, who are now in kindergarten.

DAVID AZOULAY reported that he is writing a show and doing erotic massage in Asheville, N.C. His travels continued well past his expectations, and he is exploring what it means to ground, while keeping freedom.

After seeing a letter circulating on

Facebook with the resignation of over a dozen members of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, with **JOHN ABODEELY**'s name toward the top of the letterhead as acting executive director, I had to Facebook-stalk him to find out the details. While he's still a government employee and thus can't share what went down, he did report that he is "finishing up a tenure with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, which will expire under the new president. It's been a great ride, helping to run programs like the National Student Poets and Turnaround Arts, both launched under the Obama White House. My partner and I are looking at a move to San Francisco, L.A. or Houston, as part of my job change. He works with the press in the House of Representatives to provide them access to the Capitol."

John was in L.A. recently for a couple days and got to catch up with **AMBER YOUNG MEDINA**.

RYAN VACCA has moved to Concord, N.H., where he accepted a faculty position at the University of New Hampshire School of Law, after having spent the past seven years on the faculty at the University of Akron School of Law. He's excited to be back in New England, and is looking forward to exploring other parts of it, beyond New Hampshire, in the months and years to come. Now that he and his family are only a couple hours from Amherst, he suspects they'll make it back more frequently. We hope so, Ryan!

JOHN PETTEY and **NATALIE (WEBER) PETTEY** are looking forward to the birth of their second child in September. They continue to live in John's hometown of Memphis, Tenn., which Natalie has grown to love.

ILANA FOSS got married on March 19 in Baltimore to Raphaël Franck, a French-Israeli economist and all-around lovely person. **DAN TAM DO** was in attendance. She left her congregation in Brockton, Mass., and moved in October 2016 to Jerusalem, where Raphaël has joined the faculty in the economics department at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. She's now working at the Schechter Institutes, a nonprofit promoting pluralistic education in Israeli society, doing development and social media.

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2002

This update contains a smattering of career developments, new offspring, weddings and a word jumble that, when rearranged, spells out a recipe for chicken pot pie.

Kicking things off, **AMY ROSENTHAL** just started a new job at Chicago's Field Museum, where she will be "trying to take over the world." [Didn't that already happen, Amy?] She has joined the new Of-

Atlanta art teacher Kevin Soltau '01 won the Goizueta Foundation Faculty of Distinction award, as "a colleague who exemplifies what it means to partner with colleagues in order to best serve students."

fic of Strategic Science Initiatives, which creates new programs, partnerships and dialogues at the museum that advance solutions for a future rich in nature and culture. I'm a fan of both nature and culture, so keep up the good work!

Also in career (and Amy) news, **AMY (SUMMERVILLE) WOLFRAM** is at the start of a yearlong sabbatical after finishing up a grueling but rewarding two-year term as associate chair of the department of psychology at Miami University, which she caveats as "the one in Ohio, not the one that would entice people to visit me!" She was sorry to miss reunion, but was celebrating her first wedding anniversary with her husband, Mike, in western North Carolina. For her sabbatical, she will be around campus for most of the fall with new graduate students and ongoing research about how thoughts about "what might have been" could be used to help students in engineering classes get back on track after initial academic setbacks. Around the holidays, she will be heading to the Netherlands for six months, where she will be a visiting scholar at Tilburg and Groningen Universities. She has been using the Duolingo app to learn Dutch and can now say "the horse eats a sandwich," which she assumes "should cover most of [her] conversational needs." Quite frankly, I've gotten by on much less, Amy, so I think you're fine. Also, that would explain what happened to my sandwich.

Speaking of academic stints abroad, **ETHANKATZ** just returned from spending an entire year in Israel for his sabbatical. While he was there, he did some research for his next book, learned Talmud three mornings a week, spoke more than a little Hebrew, ate a lot of falafel and chased his small, adorable children constantly. He found new friends and mentors and reconnected with old ones and said it was a wonderful, intense year. Ethan writes, "Returning to Cincinnati has been challenging, but we've enjoyed the comfort of stepping back into the great community we have here. We might be relocating in a year to one of the coasts, but I will keep you and the entire class in suspense on that one until a decision has been made." Best of luck wherever you end up, Ethan!

ELI BROMBERG and his wife, Tiffani Hooper Bromberg '06, just got back from vacation in Bermuda. He says, "It was really nice, and I didn't get sunburnt, so Vegas probably lost a lot of money on those bets." [Myself included. It seemed like such a sure thing at the time.] Eli is trying to get an article written and then will start trying to finish up his dissertation revisions. Good luck, Eli!

LAUREN KOPYT CHASE and her husband, William Chase, recently had their second son, Benjamin. She writes, "His older brother, Samuel, is still not sure what to make of the situation. Hopefully, he will adjust in the upcoming months." Lauren is taking time off from her pediatric practice in West Hartford, Conn., and is looking forward to spending the

autumn with her family. Congrats on the new addition to the Chase family, Lauren!

Also in baby news, **JAMES PATCHETT** and his wife, Candace Taylor '01, just welcomed their daughter, Caroline. He writes that "everyone is happy and healthy, and even her older brother seems excited so far (although that may be because she 'gave' him a scooter)." Wait, really? How come he gets one and I don't? Some friend you are, Caroline.

JORGE PESCHIERA is still living in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, with his wife, Alexis, where they have been "watching artists and hipsters get chased away by realness for the past 12 years." They had a baby girl about a month ago and are elated/exhausted. Back in January, he took a dream job as a creative director at Trollbäck+Company to help pay for all of the above. He writes, "The downside is that sometimes, when I sit cross-legged for too long, my legs fall asleep and I have trouble standing back up."

Rounding out the baby news, **MONICA (KAITZ) TILLY** gave birth to a little boy, Zachary Walter, on July 11. She and her husband, John, have moved to Los Gatos, Calif. She graduated from UCSF as a fellow in environmental medicine and will be getting a job once maternity leave is over. She writes, "We would love to meet up with any alumni who are in the area!"

WIN SMITH is also a fan of meeting his fellow alums, particularly around NYC and New England. He is still married and is still a father. He writes, "I still have my hair, and my spare tire seems to have deflated some from last year, which is always nice." I think I speak on behalf of all follically challenged alums when I ask: Did you have to rub it in about the hair? Honestly.

MARTIN KECK got married in May in Rhode Island to the lovely Allison Felkner with a smattering of Amherst folks in attendance, including **BEN KOZYAK**, **RUSSELL RYAN**, **DIANA RANCOURT**, **MEGAN DUNCAN SMITH** and Brian Larivee '01. He is living in Boston and working in investment banking, focused on the education technology space.

Also on the wedding train, **JES THERKELSEN** married Kerry Klein on a mountaintop in the Sierra Mountains near Huntington Lake, Calif. [As a guest, I can confirm that it was every bit as picturesque as it sounds.] **ELI MORALES** officiated the ceremony, **JACOB COOPER** gave a great toast and DJ'd, and **ARI KAHN**, **GAURAV SUD** and **CAETIE OFIESH** represented the Mammoths on the dance floor.

The only downside of this event is that it set the bar very high for my own wedding, which, as of this writing, will take place in a few weeks. Sara Mariska (University of Virginia '03) and I will get married in Eastern Market, Washington D.C. Julie Ajinkya '03 will officiate, and a number of Amherst alums will represent the class of '02. Unless, of course, they decide to ditch the wedding for the Juggalos rally that day instead, which is quite possible.



MARK YARCHOAN '07

Thanks for writing in, and I hope everyone is safe in light of the recent catastrophic events in Houston.

> **RAJIV D'CRUZ**

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2003

As I sit down to write these class notes, it's mid-September and Hurricane Irma has just disrupted the normal routine (and electrical grid) in Miami. By candlelight and carrier pigeon, I'm writing the latest edition of class notes. Hold up, I smell burning feathers... OK, by candlelight and roasted squab, here are your class notes.

ANDREW SCHNEIDER writes to announce the release of his video game, *Nocked! True Tales of Robin Hood*, for iOS, after four-and-a-half years of development. Andrew adds that he came out of Amherst with a toolbox of critical thinking and an independent work ethic that served him well through a process that included writing, the learning of several coding languages, contract negotiations, art direction and project management. The game is available for purchase in the iTunes store.

From NYC, **CHRIS CONDLIN** reports that he is still an M&A attorney at Cleary Gottlieb, where he has been since 2009. Chris married his longtime girlfriend Lisa Hin of Los Angeles in March of 2015, and he adds that the couple is excited to welcome into their home each summer Chris' son, Nikita, who is now 12 and lives in St. Petersburg, Russia, during the school year.

In late June, **ELIZABETH (HAWKINS) VOYNOV** returned to Amherst along with **DANIELLE WILLIAMS**, **HEIDI ALEXANDER**, **KRISTIN HARRISON** and **KATHERINE RYAN** ("Left the partners and kids at home!" Elizabeth notes).

The group of friends spent the weekend hitting all their favorite spots and finding some new ones. ("Somehow none of us had hiked The Notch while at school. Probably too busy crafting Teletubby costumes for Halloween or sawing the tops off of traffic cones for 'anything but clothes' parties.") Elizabeth reported that the crew capped off the weekend with a

↑ Pulling Strings

Resident counselors appear to play tug-of-war during their 2004 new-student orientation show in Keefe Campus Center's Friedmann Room (then just called the "Front Room.")

Saturday night at McMurph's, "trying to decide if everyone thought we were the 'old moms.' I think that was confirmed after we played 'The Thong Song' on the jukebox."

Also this past summer, **AARON BRITT** and **DREW HIMMELSTEIN** moved their family to Brooklyn, N.Y. "After 10 lovely years in San Francisco living beneath **PENELOPE VAN TUYL** and Mikiya Matsuda '04—and a charming if unexpected nine-month detour in Grand Rapids—Drew; our boys, Harvey (17 months) and Nate (5); and I (36) have taken up residence right next to Prospect Park." Aaron works in Manhattan for Herman Miller ("Aeron Britt? No? No."), Drew is writing and young Nate is about to start kindergarten. "Harvey, well, Harvey walks around, enjoys shouting and is a real raspberry partisan." Aaron adds that "it's been lovely getting to New York and immediately hanging out with old Amherst chums" like Athmeya Jayaram '04, **AMBER BRAVO**, **ANDREW UNGER**, Sarah Kooperkamp '05, Tom Kingsley '01 and Cristina Septien '01. "Oh, and we ran into Noah Winer '01 this summer in a hippie café in a really small town in rural Maine. Love that dude."

Finally, **JOSE ABAD** announces that he is joining Kaiser after five years at UC Davis Medical Group to start working at a culturally sensitive Latino clinic in a family medicine module next to the new Golden 1 center in Sacramento, Calif. Jose and his wife also purchased a second home, located in Tahoe, and are enjoying spending weekends in the mountain air.

Well, the winds have died down to a gentle sneeze and the flooding has receded, so time to wring out the clothing and return to normal life here in Miami, where the rain is replaced by a rainlike humidity. Until next storm...

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2004

We've got some baby news and mini reunions to share!

BRIAN STOUT shares: "Jennifer (Yale '03) and I were delighted to welcome Lucia Simone to the world on July 8. As befits a Pacific Northwest baby, she enjoyed her first camping trip at 4 weeks, and will soon be heading out again to catch the solar eclipse down in Oregon. Along with big sister Viviana, we'll be doing the requisite East Coast tour in October to see friends in Boston and NYC, and to celebrate **AMY HENES'** nuptials in North Carolina." Congrats to the Stouts! And cheers, Amy! Can't wait to receive the update!

ELAINE EWING is also enjoying her second maternity leave. "My husband, Christopher Viapiano (Hamilton '02), and I welcomed our second daughter, Eve Elizabeth, in June. Big sister Caroline Margaret is adjusting well and (somehow—time flies!) getting ready to start kindergarten this fall. We're living

in Arlington, Va., and I'm still enjoying life as an antitrust partner at Cleary Gottlieb in D.C."

As the babies grow up, we're starting to get next-generation news. **ALISON (SQUIRE) SOWERS** checks in: "I wanted to report that we (Tucker '03, Lane and Teddy and I) just returned from a vacation in San Diego with **POLLY HALL** and Andrew Barkan '02; their 3-year-old son, Izzy; and newborn baby Alice, aka Gertie. Jenn Salcido '05 and her wife, Gaby Aguilera (non-Amherst), also joined us, and we had an impromptu visit from **GABI ARONOW** and her new baby, Stella Rose, down from San Francisco. It was a West Coast Amherst reunion and so fun for all the kids to meet!"

I am happy to report that nobody was harmed during my family's two-week trip to Switzerland. Both kids (Chase, just turned 1, and Helen, 4) were happy campers, hiked incredibly well and ate massive quantities of cheese. **NICK ECH-ELBARGER** and I are looking forward to two Amherst weddings this fall: **CHRIS EATON** is getting hitched in Roche Harbor, Wash., and then the weekend after that, my sister, Shannon Farrell (Yale '07), is marrying Brian Baskauskas '09 in Carmel, Calif. It's really convenient to be able to have family reunions at the same time as Amherst reunions!

Here's to a wonderful fall!
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2005

For most of us, spread out as we are around the globe, returning to the old alma mater requires an act of imagination. And with memory as the mise-en-scène, the film always seems to open with Amherst under leaf, suspended in what feels like the natural order of things as the rest of the world spins and withers. It's a fine corner of the mind for escape. But, from the look of things, many of you seem scarcely to need it, having built strongholds of your own.

Take, for example, **THOM BENNETT**, who, after traveling to Cuba and then through Southeast Asia this spring with his wife, Rachel, landed a residency in the New York-Presbyterian Cornell/Columbia Emergency Medicine Program. The couple lives close to campus and, fortuitously, to **BRAD** and **CARTER BACKUS** who recently welcomed a daughter, Brook, into the world. Amid the rigors of residency, T consoles himself with plans to spend spring break on a catamaran in the Virgin Islands with friends.

While some of us are planning romantic getaways to remote islands, many are enjoying the fun and foibles of first-time homeownership. Such is true of **MAURA (KLUGMAN) HUMANN** and her husband Adam, who have moved—with their two cats—from NYC to a townhouse in the Bloomingdale neighborhood of Washington, D.C., where Maura has joined

the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, a nonprofit that advocates for the civil rights, full inclusion and equality of adults and children with mental disabilities. She is joined at the center by Alyssa George '10, who is on fellowship.

Back in New York City, **ALEX FLEISS** writes in to report that he became engaged to Ariel Silverstein in July with plans to be married at the World Trade Center, which was developed by Ariel's family, in October. Alex also notes that **JK STURGES**, whose wife recently had a baby boy named William, will be moving to New Haven this fall, and that **JED DOTY** moved to D.C. to be a general counsel in the West Wing of the White House for President Trump.

Meanwhile the result of the 2016 election prompted **KATE STAYMAN-LONDON** to return to the world of fiction after 18 months spent working as the lead digital writer for the Hillary Clinton campaign. Kate's new novel, *Pretty Follies*, about a prominent plus-size fashion blogger recruited to star in a reality show, will be published by Random House.

Kate's not the only one with a new gig in a new town. **ROB LANE** writes to report that, after marrying Jill Jones in Dayton, Ohio, this summer, with **ANDERS** and **JEN MEYER** (plus daughter Isabelle), **JACK MORGAN**, **ADRI SHOWLER** and **EMILY COLLIER** in attendance, he's moved from Virginia to Boulder, Colo., for a job at the Dawson School, where he is teaching choir and coaching soccer. He and Jill are looking forward to a lot of hiking and skiing in their new place and, if all goes well, perhaps a new dog.

Back east, **MARIA JONES** and **DOUGLAS NORTON** were married on July 2 in the bride's hometown of Belfast, Maine. They were thrilled to have a good, loud showing of Amherst friends: Rishidev Chaudhuri '06, **DEVIN LOPRESTI**, **JENNIFER BROWN**, **JOSEPH CAISSIE**, **LIZ CHIANG**, **ANDERS MEYER**, **JENNIFER (WERTHEIMER) MEYER**, **JACK MORGAN**, **ADRIENNE SHOWLER**, Elana Safran '06 and Emmalie Dropkin '07. Potential future alums Isabelle and Caroline and Julianne were also present. **NATHANIEL MAHLBERG**, who gets matchmaking credit for reconnecting Doug and Maria in 2013, was there in spirit, contributing a blessing to the ceremony.

Elsewhere in the North Country, **LIZ ANGOWSKI** was feting Jen Cotton '07 and Paloma Herman, who were married in Concord, N.H., with auspicious signs, including a pair of rainbows that cropped up during the day and a veritable horde of Amherst alums, including Jasmine Eucogco '06, Hanna Campbell '07, Caitlin Rhodes '07, Marcie Rome '07 and Mary T. Voter '07.

We began by nostalgizing on the autumnal Amherst of memory, but Liz reminds us that not much has changed since we were there last. Now in the final year of her doctoral degree at Harvard, she spent the spring semester teaching a course on

2005: Christian Sanchez reports that he attended Amherst's NorCal summer send-off, where he had the opportunity to catch up with a great number of alums and new students in Portola Valley. Since last writing in, Christian has been promoted to principal of the Santa Clara County Budget and Policy Office, which provides health and social services and seeks to develop innovative ways to address crime and homelessness in Silicon Valley.

Buddhist ethics in Amherst's religion department. "It was great to be back," Liz remarks, "and great to see that Amherst students are as smart and as kind as ever."

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2006

Thank you for coming through with news for this edition! You've saved us (and yourselves) from having to hear all about our unglamorous, very hot summer in Los Angeles, as well as our respective trips to

We bring you updates from India, London, Hawaii and the south of France.

New Jersey to see family (Sarah) and St. Louis and New Jersey (no offense, Christie denizens!) for depositions (Nick). Instead, we bring you updates from India, London, Hawaii and the south of France, among other good news.

Lots of fitting exclamation points arrived from **LINDEN KARAS**, who just finished her fellowship in advanced laparoscopic and bariatric surgery at the Cleveland Clinic and is beginning a new job, building the Avita Center for Bariatric Surgery at Avita Health System in Ontario, Ohio. She added, "I couldn't be more excited! Oh, and I'm writing to you from India! I'm taking a long-awaited one-month tour of Asia that includes China, India, Hong Kong and Macau!"

MARK KRAFFT and his wife, Brooke, welcomed their second son, Weston Harding, in mid-July. Big brother Jamie, 2, is both intrigued and excited by the new baby, constantly asking "what baby doing" and giving him hugs and kisses. No eyes have been poked out yet. The Krafft family is nearing their third year living in London, where Mark works at Bain & Co. "Life is great here, and we're eager to continue exploring Europe with our latest addition," wrote Mark. "We also enjoy being nearly 4,000 miles away from Donald Trump, though it often feels like that's not far enough..."

TERESA SPENCER sent her update from the Big Island of Hawaii, where she was vacationing with Honora Talbott '07 and Bree Barton '07. At the end of August she was heading back to the D.C.-Baltimore area to start her appointment to the faculty of Towson University's Department of Theatre Arts, where she'll be teaching acting, voice and movement in the B.F.A. acting program. She'll also continue to perform professionally on Washington, D.C.'s stages.

ALEXANDER MAASS got engaged to longtime girlfriend Camila Da Silva while on vacation in France in June. They were there to attend the wedding of one of Alex's host sisters from junior year study abroad in Paris. The wedding was in Dordogne, also known as the Périgord region, which is known for confit de canard, foie

gras and truffles. (Sounds terrible.) From there they did a tour of southern France, making stops in Toulouse, Carcassonne, Arles, Marseilles, Aix-en-Provence, Saint-Tropez, Antibes, Nice and Monaco. ("Unfortunately, Prince Albert '81 was not able to meet us for dinner that weekend," wrote Alex.) He proposed toward the end of dinner at a restaurant in the Vieille Ville of Nice. It was a lovely trip, and they'll definitely be going back.

Shortly after their return, Alex joined your co-secretary, **ANDRE DECKROW**, **KENT ESCALERA**, **KATRINA HAZLETT**, French TA Simon Mosbah, Katy Kennedy Rivera '05, Preston Scheiner '04 and Justin Sharaf '05 near Wall Street for **RUSSELL KORNBLITH**'s wedding to longtime girlfriend Elizabeth Rosen. (The wedding was actually a multigenerational Amherst affair, thanks to Russell's dad, Gary Kornblith '73.) Russell and Liz tied the knot at India House, then headed to Nantucket for a brief "mini-moon." Russell promises intrepid scooting photos from Indonesia, Malaysia or whatever other exotic locale with lax scuba diving certification standards he and Liz end up visiting on next year's belated honeymoon.

More news from New York City, where **IAN SHIN** "spent a couple of very happy months reconnecting with Big Apple vizeb and with Amherst friends" thanks to his husband, Peter's, internship there. Ian spent time with New Yorkers **MARGARET** and **MATT MO** and **TAAMITI BANKOLE** as well as **PEM BROWN** and **MATT VANNEMAN**, who both came down from Boston to visit. "Everyone is kicking butt and taking names," wrote Ian. "Special shout-out to Matt and Margaret's darling daughter, Charlotte, who let me paint with her." Ian is kicking butt as well, including on *Jeopardy!*, which he spent a morning taping in Los Angeles as a contestant at the tail end of summer. His episode airs on Dec. 12, and at press time he was not at liberty to reveal any more details.

Ian also shared the news that he is joining the departments of American culture and history at the University of Michigan as an assistant professor in fall 2018, after finishing the second year of his postdoc at Bates College in Maine. "I've lived on the West Coast and the East Coast, and am excited to try my hand at the Midwest. I'm still debating whether to live in Ann Arbor or Detroit, but would love to reconnect with folks in both places." Mammoths in either city, make your case to Ian now!

Also from the island of Manhattan comes an update from **MIKU DIXIT**, who is currently teaching architecture at Columbia University after starting his architectural practice, Kamara Projects, which has projects in New York and Kathmandu.

Last but definitely not least: **MEREDITH (MCNITT) BASSETT** and her husband, Zach Bassett, added two new members to the Amherst family: Dorothy Marie and Theodore James. The twins were born on May 31, they love wearing purple and



GEOFFREY GILLER '10

white, and they hate purple cows. They all hope to make it to Amherst for a reunion sometime soon!

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2007

First, some baby announcements are in order. Congratulations to **BRANDI (FLOURNOY) SINCLAIR** on the birth of her son, Jackson Arnold, on March 11. **TOM CHEN** also has some big news: his wife delivered their son Oliver in May.

Dr. **DAVID BECK** is finishing his fifth and final year of orthopedic surgery residency in Philadelphia and will be heading to Baltimore for a fellowship in foot and ankle surgery. Greyson, class of 2038, loves his giant stuffed mammoth and also pancakes.

JAKE MAGUIRE is living in Atlanta and recently bought a small home. He continues to work under the leadership of Rosanne Haggerty '82 at Community Solutions, where he co-directs much of the organization's work to end homelessness throughout the United States and internationally. Of the roughly 125 communities Community Solutions currently supports, the first 10 have ended either veterans' or chronic homelessness outright, and another 30 are now driving measurable monthly reductions. He is more optimistic than ever that America can achieve an end to homelessness of all kinds in the next 10 to 15 years.

STEPHANIE BROWN finished her first year working as a staff clinician at Edgewood College in Madison, Wisc., and also graduated with her Psy.D. in clinical psychology from Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University, this past May. She got engaged to Keegan Kyle last year, with plans to wed this December. Stephanie enjoyed meeting up with **DI-SHA PATEL**, **ROHAN MASCARENHAS** and **PRIYANKA JACOB** in Chicago in July.

ALEX SOMMER founded a company in NYC called Dine Offline, which organizes private dinner parties for singles to meet in an intimate and relaxed environment. Guests are handpicked to meet each other's dating preferences, and dinner party hosts ensure each guest has one-

↑ Spartan Spirit?

At Homecoming 2007, some students sported T-shirts with an amended line from the epic war movie *300*. "This Is Sparta"? No, "This Is Amherst."

one-on-one conversation time with each of their matches. Signups are now open in the NYC area, and Alex is offering a discount to the Amherst community.

After spending eight years in the Boston area, **CAITLIN (SHAW) HAMOOD** and her husband, Albert, have moved to California, and while it has been a big change from the East Coast (and the Midwest, where they both grew up), they are loving it out there! They have settled in the Bay Area, where Caitlin works remotely as a program officer for a Boston-based philanthropic consulting firm, and Albert is a data scientist at Facebook. This coming

The night was even more special because her dad, John Rasmussen '74, was able to reunite with his Amherst roommates Tom Quinn '74, Kevin O'Brien '74, Tom Ritter '74 and Craig Martin '73. It was wonderful to bring together two generations of Amherst alumni!

We love hearing from you. Keep saving the world!

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2008

I wrote these notes earlier today, and then they were eaten by my computer. Let's hope these notes live up to my memory of that draft, which I recall being perfect and lovely. If I missed your update, I apologize!

Speaking of perfect and lovely, you know what will be just that? Reunion! **KATHLEEN BOUCHER-LAVIGNE** and I (**GU DRUN JUFFER**) are already starting to plan. Are you interested in helping? You should let us know! As **ANNE-CLAIRE ROESCH**, our class president, wrote in her update, "It's an exciting time for Amherst as they invest in many long-awaited building projects (Ace was particularly impressed with the sustainability aspects of these plans!) and continue to think through how to prepare Amherst students for the rapidly changing world around us while staying true to our liberal arts roots."

Just to keep the perfect and lovely train chugging down the tracks, the perfect and lovely **KATHLEEN** and Abby **BOUCHER-LAVIGNE** got married this summer! Kathleen and Abby had a truly magical wedding in Rehoboth, Mass. There were llamas and alpacas, an RV, a rollicking dance floor and zero dry eyes during the vows. The wedding was an absolutely moving demonstration of love, kindness and partnership, and it was a privilege and a joy to be there. **LINDA MCEVOY**, Jack Grein '09, **SARAH TRACY**, **KYLE SCHOPPEL**, Louise Stevenson '09, Jane Mostue '09, **DAN MCGEENEY** and Ali Armour '07 were all in attendance.

Linda and Jack have moved back to NYC from Chicago and are having a great time being back on the East Coast, closer to both of their families. Jane and Dan are living in Louisville, Ky., where Dan grew up, and report that it is a truly lovely place to live. Louise and her husband are moving to the Midwest (Ohio!) from sunny California to follow academic careers. Sarah and Kyle are expecting a baby girl and are out of medical school and practicing in the Boston area.

Another gorgeous wedding that I was lucky enough to attend this year was **ANDREW SLUTSKY**'s. He married the wonderful Arisa Isayama in a sunset ceremony in Honolulu. Attending this wedding felt like a great warm-up for reunion. On the guest list: **BENJY MEREWITZ** and wife Jill, **RACHAEL GROSS**, **SPENCER ROBINS**, **BILL NAHILL**, **STEF REIFF**, **ANDREW**

DYKENS and wife Steph, **JACK LENEHAN**, **AUSTIN LEACH**, **ANNE-CLAIRE ROESCH**, **RICHARD MILLS**, **RYAN SHIELDS**, **JASON PAUL KUNG** and girlfriend Astrid, Sarah DeGraaf '05 and husband Jon (Horrible College '08), **JUDD OLANOFF** and fiancée Alyssa, **DEREK PRILL**, **JUSTIN EPNER**, **MIKE MINTZ** and I am sure that I have forgotten someone and I feel terrible, but blame it on the maitais. The wedding was a gorgeous affair and just dripped with love. Anne-Claire is enjoying the start of her third year back in New York City since graduating from business school. She is starting her eighth year at Deloitte Consulting after taking two years off for business school. She has been staffed on a project helping a global bank think through what they'll look like in 2030, which has taken her to London with great frequency, as well as to Krakow (where she ate pierogi that were better than the ones in Val: believe it?) and Hyderabad (where she learned how to Bollywood dance in a sari, which she'd love to wear again but has no idea how to reconstruct). On one flight last fall, Ace was landing at O'Hare in bad weather while reading pp.118-122 of Dan Cluchey's *Life of the World to Come*, in which the main character talks through his extreme anxiety about flying: "There is nowhere on Earth I am less comfortable than thirty thousand feet above it ... it would invariably occur to me ... that cavernous hunks of metal simply were not meant to remain aloft." The timing was impeccable, and Ace had a giggle texting Dan after she landed. When Ace is not traveling for work or shamelessly finding excuses to get to Amherst, she lives in Greenwich Village with her boyfriend and is pacing herself to cook at least one meal out of each of her 11 cookbooks (she's at six so far!)

The past few years have offered many opportunities for Ace to see fellow '08s, whether in New Haven, in New York or at the onslaught of weddings that have gathered so many of us together. Most recently, Ace saw **JUSTIN EPNER** marry Tamar Hellman in January (greatest hour ever), followed by **ANDREW DYKENS**' marriage to Steph Wu, where she had the pleasure of hanging out with **BENJY MEREWITZ**, **JACK LENEHAN**, **JUDD OLANOFF**, **AUSTIN LEACH**, **ANDREW SLUTSKY**, **ELLIE TARLOW**, **MIKE MINTZ**, **KERIMCAN ORAL**, **JASON PAUL KUNG**, **DAN MCGEENEY**, **BILL NAHILL** and **STEF REIFF**. As previously mentioned, Ace was also in Hawaii for **ANDREW SLUTSKY**'s wedding. Sadly, it's been a little hard for **TAL AVRAHAMI** to show up to some of these events now that he lives in Tel Aviv, but he keeps Ace updated on the latest Spotify hits from afar on WhatsApp.

Ace also reports that the baby mammoths are coming. By the time of this publication, we will have suited up **KATELYN (KIERNAN) BROOKS**' new baby, born in August, in an Amherst onesie, with **LIBBY (MARTIN) MORENO**'s daughter following shortly thereafter.

Exchange for Change

2007: Adeline Oka teaches several different classes in the local prisons as part of an organization called Exchange for Change. The local NPR affiliate in Miami highlighted an "exchange class" she taught, wherein her students in the prison exchanged weekly letters with students at the University of Miami. Adeline writes, "I became involved in this work in large part due to my experience in Amherst's Inside/Out program, a political science class then taught by Kristin Bumiller composed of half Amherst College students and half Hampshire Correctional inmates, and held at the jail."

year Caitlin is excited to be participating in the third cohort of the Harmony Initiative, a leadership development program for professional grantmakers run by the Bay Area Justice Funders Network.

Caitlin writes, "This past summer, it has been marvelous to spend time with **TINA BAO** and **JANET HA**, plus Janet's (and **MATT MASCIOLI**'s) adorable daughter, Jiyon, before the Ha/Mascioli family moved east. It was also lovely to relax at the beach and dine in San Francisco with **CHRISTINA RYU**, **DENISE MARTINEZ** and **MELISSA ULLOA**! We're happy to be here and looking forward to exploring Northern California and all of its charms."

MATT MASCIOLI and **JANET HA** recently moved from the Bay Area to Pittsburgh, about an hour from where Matt grew up in Morgantown, W.Va. Janet and their nearly-3-year-old daughter, Jiyon, spent a few months in Seoul, where Janet is from, before getting life under way back in the United States. They ask you to please let them know if you're ever passing through their new area of the country.

EMMA JASTER has a 2-year-old child and somehow continues to make work; now that includes work about motherhood (you can find her by searching #MamaIsAMaker). In addition to her many art mediums, Emma also started making short 360 films.

ZOE RASMUSSEN got married on June 9 in Barre, Mass., and was lucky enough to have many dear friends celebrate with her, including **JASMINA CHEUNG-LAU**, **KATHERINE WILLIS**, **JAY BUCHMAN**, Jane Fung '06, **DENISE (KITT) MARTINEZ**, **ASHISH BHATT** and **EMILY ROSENBERG**.

One person who has inadvertently signed up for a reunion planning committee spot is **MIKE DONOVAN**, the recently installed brewmaster at The Oozlefinch Craft Brewery in Fort Monroe, Va., near Virginia Beach. Mike commutes down from Northern Virginia for the work week, which makes him feel like a real adulting-hard consultant type, but he still makes beer for a living and wears a hat and Dickies to work, which seems surreal. It's an odd dual existence, but the reception to the beers has been good, and Mike is enjoying the freedom he has to create in his new role. Mike has a 22-year-old working for him now and spends more time than he'd like to admit explaining references he just takes for granted that she will understand. That and the gray (OK, white) hairs cropping up in his beard are making him feel pretty old. Another thing making him feel old is spending time with **CHRIS GILLYARD**'s new baby, Grant. Mike and his wife, Sarah, try to see Chris and his wife, Anne, once a week, and they've had the good fortune to see some of Grant's firsts, including his first dip in a swimming pool. He is as awesome as one might expect, knowing Chris and Anne.

DAN CLUCHEY spent time with Grant '39 during his great visits to D.C. this summer. Dan also got to sample some of Mike's beers! Dan and Miriam Becker-Cohen '11 are entering their last year in New Haven before their triumphant return to the Swamp next summer to fight Nazis. Dan is looking forward to three excellent Amherst weddings in September, and otherwise trying to stay off of Twitter.

JACK ANGIOLILLO reports that **BEN LOCKWOOD** and his wife just welcomed their young daughter into their family. He's now matched **EDDIE RAMOS**, who's living in Sapporo, Japan, with his adorable family of four. **GEOFF CEBULA** and his wife just moved to South Bend, Ind., after he published his novel *Adjunct*—she'll be a new Russian studies professor at Notre Dame. At the time of writing, Jack had just seen **NAZIR SAVJI** on lunch break, during which they devoured Holy Donuts from Portland, Maine. Nazir is applying for cardiology fellowship. Jack also reports that **ALAN KWAN** has just started cardiology fellowship at Cedars-Sinai. **MIKE BADAIN** is getting hitched to Jessica, who all men and brothers say is instrumental to his happiness. Jack has been playing phone tag with **CASEY GUENTHER**, who is out in the Bay Area, crossed between neuroscience and computing. While Jack awaited his call back, he was vacuuming in anticipation of **KATHERINE (CHEN) ABRIKIAN**'s visit! Through the magic of class notes timing, I heard from Katherine after she visited Jack, and she had a great time! Katherine also caught up with **NICOLE KINSLEY** over lunch in Boston. Katherine is enjoying Jamaican life and looking forward to seeing people at our 10th reunion in May.

KEITH ERZINGER took the family, in-

cluding his parents, out to St. Joseph, Mich., for a triathlon in August. He peer-pressured his dad into joining the race, and they had a blast competing against each other. In Chicago, Keith has had fun catching up with friends from Amherst who were in from out of town: **MIKE LARIVIERE** and his wife, Amanda, in July, as well as Matt Mascioli '07 in August. Keith and his wife were awaiting little Erzinger number four in October. Keith is excited to learn if there are package deals on Amherst tuition—maybe he'll be able to stop by the Financial Aid office when he's back for reunion.

LAWRENCE HAMBLIN exceeded his travel quota for the year. He went to Toronto for work in March, Amherst for reunion in May, and Orlando and Las Vegas for fighting game tournaments in June and July (if you've never heard of Evolution Championship Series, look it up). Last but not least, he is off to Japan for another work trip in November.

MIRAH CURZER and **JOSH STANTON** have had a huge spring! After exploring the cultural riches of New Jersey for four years, they moved back to the great state of New York and are getting settled in Brooklyn. People are welcome to come and visit! Mirah spent a lot of April and May in Hartford, where she was working nonstop in a criminal trial. Josh is getting used to a more senior role as the rabbi of East End Temple in Manhattan. Life is pretty wonderful now, and they love spending time with Amherst people around town.

MATT GOLDSMITH only has one update, but it sure packs a punch! He got engaged to Laura Poore. They met while they were both working in the athletic department at Amherst.

KRISTIN BENESKI has some big news: in July, she married her all-time favorite person, David Stearns. Up there with her in the wedding party were **BRENDAN HORTON**, **CHRIS GILLYARD**, **PAWEL BINCZYK**, Richard Mills and Ellen Ferrin '07. Surya Kundu '09 did a reading during the ceremony. (It was a very awesomely Amherst wedding.) In other, not-new news, KB bought a house last year and is still practicing as a litigation attorney at the Seattle firm of Lane Powell PC. Her long-term project is convincing everyone she loves to move to this beautiful and amazing city—come visit, at least!

MARINA WEISS lives in Brooklyn and just enrolled in a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at Adelphi University's Derner Center for Advanced Psychological Studies, where she will train as a therapist and continue to research trauma and recovery as well as the neuroscience of learning and unlearning implicit racial bias. Marina pretends that she's going to continue writing poetry during this degree, as well as keeping up with her activism around immigrants' rights with Make the Road NY and Aliadxs and seeing amazing friends like **ASHLEY FINIGAN**. Ashley has just moved back to NYC

from Chicago (I am in mourning) and is surrounded by loved ones, including some of the cutest nieces and nephews in the world. Ashley is teaching high school in New York while finishing up her dissertation for her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, both of which sound very hard to me on their own, but Ashley is a wonder and is doing both!

S. ALEXANDER ZAMAN recently participated in his first hackathon. S got out of bed early one Saturday morning and waited in line surrounded by a slew of early-bird strangers. In the crowd of hackers, one stood out as uncannily familiar. S ended up chatting with him and realized that he actually went to Amherst—it was Auloke Mathur '07! S said that it was really interesting that, even though he never spoke or hung out with Auloke at school, Amherst is such a tight community that you'll know people that you didn't know you'd know.

S's story got me thinking about the Amherst connections I have made through the years, both as a student and now as an alum. When I graduated from high school, my parents gave me a book of quotations from Mr. Rogers. One passage that has stuck with me is actually a line from his mother, who told him to always look for the helpers in a scary situation, because there are always people helping. I am so heartened to hear via social media and your updates about all of the ways that you are able to be helpers in your own communities and around the globe. May you all continue to use the strength of your Amherst education and the powerful Amherst community to be helpers when you are able.

Mammoth love to you all.

> **GUDRUN JUFFER**

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2009

Another season, another set of notes! Our class continues to surprise and intimidate with reports of incredible travels, reunions and career milestones. You guys rock!

JANE MOSTUE started graduate school at the University of Louisville this summer, studying higher education administration. She is working as a graduate assistant in the academic services center for student athletes. She's also running her third half marathon in September! Never stop, Jane!

GRAHAM MCKEE just got a pet bunny!

SAM GRAUSZ and wife Sarah Cannon recently became parents with the birth of young George Salomon. "Some people don't believe in the Force, but we do, and we think George is very strong in the Force. He will be a tremendous power in this universe—for light...or for darkness."

My co-secretary, **RAJ BORSELLINO**, returned home to Des Moines, Iowa, where he will serve as a local culture and food correspondent for Breitbart Media.

MONTGOMERY OGDEN moved to Costa

In the crowd of hackers, one stood out as uncannily familiar. S. Alexander Zaman '08 chatted with him—it was Auloke Mathur '07!

Rica with his wonderful fiancée, Christine Cerruti, to teach at a Quaker school for the next two years. Monty explains: “We love our friends, but they took advantage of us financially and we had to leave.”

As for myself, I’ve had the great fortune to spend quality time with many of our classmates over the last few months. I recently attended the inimitable **BILL TAYLOR**’s bachelor party with **SAM CUTLER**, **JEFFREY GROVER** and members of other classes like Andrew Segoshi ’08, Darryl Weimer ’11 and Luke O’Brien ’10. Bill gave a moving thank-you speech that was light on words and heavy on frontal nudity.

I also recently saw **HILARY HAIMES** and **JON SALIK** at a mutual friend’s wedding in Stanardsville, Va. They had just returned from celebrating a long overdue honeymoon in Connecticut, where they whiled away the midnight hours at the Mohegan Sun casino. “I think she has a gambling problem!” Jon wrote in. Other highlights of the trip included seeing a local production of the musical *Oklahoma!* and Cheetos for breakfast.

Life for me is moving forward in lovely Philadelphia. Psychiatry residency continues apace, and my girlfriend, Emma, and I recently moved into an amazing new apartment in Queen Village. **EMILY MOIN** took a break from her busy third year at Penn’s med school to come over and hang out with me and Andy Segoshi ’08. We spent roughly six hours trying to learn how to play *A Game of Thrones: The Board Game* before Emily left in frustration, muttering something about “white walkers” and “awful, awful people.” As for my music, please visit www.panvmusic.com for updates—there are going to be some exciting new releases over the next few months!

> **AYYAPPAN VENKATRAMAN**
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2010

Greetings from Central Square, Cambridge, Mass., where I have the results of the second-ever class notes poll! A resounding 60 percent of respondents hoped to sing Gogol Bordello’s “Start Wearing Purple” at the next homecoming, while only 20 percent would like to headbang along to Crobot’s “Plague of Mammoths.” Another 20 percent had their own suggestions, including “Boy with a Coin” by Iron & Wine. Guess we should all start wearing purple!

To start, I recently had the pleasure of some impromptu encounters with fellow Amherstians: in July I shared dumplings with **ASHLEY RIVERA** and **CHRISTINA (OETTEL-FLAHERTY) FALK** while the latter was in Boston for a medical school rotation. Ashley, by the way, is still in the death game and recently took a new funeral director position in the Boston area. Christina, who has been based in Milwaukee for the last few years, is about to enter her final year at the Medical College of

Wisconsin. Then, in late August, I was delighted to run into Ivonne Ortega ’12 at a Harvard Graduate School of Education orientation event. Ivonne spent her post-grad years in Pittsburg and has now made her way to Cambridge to start a master’s program in learning and teaching.

Also beginning a brand-new adventure is **MIRIAM BERNSTEIN**, who just finished up a month-long training in Michigan to prepare for the next nine months in Thailand, where she will be working for Adventist Frontier Missions. She would love to see anyone who happens to be in that area of the world!

SEGUIN STROHMEIER is similarly on to a new gig: in August she joined the newly formed law firm Kaplan & Co., LLP. “I’m thrilled to be a part of this small but mighty team of lawyers—one of whom is Rachel Tuchman ’11!” she writes. “We don’t have phones or ‘real desks’ yet, but the views from the 71st floor of the Empire State Building are incredible. Come say hi!”

JOSEPH SMEALL-VILLARROEL has had an active summer traveling between Boston and Los Angeles, where his brother Arthur is currently based, to re-record and mix a new version of an original musical arrangement. The arrangement is a medley comprising “Star in the East” (a New England folk song popularized by Tim Eriksen ’88) and “Mary, Mother of God” (an anthem to the Blessed Virgin Mary sung the world over by Maronite Catholics). The arrangement is for organ and tenor voice, and features influences from electronica, space rock and Andean charango music in its instrumental coda. Exciting work, Joseph!

Nuptials abound for the class of 2010: **YANA YUSHKINA** got married on Sept. 30 to Robb Ponti in Paso Robles, Calif., with **AMEERAH PHILLIPS** in attendance. **GINA RODRIGUEZ** also recently got hitched, marrying Adam David ’06 on May 20 in the Hudson River Valley. Their lifelong friends **SHARON KIM** and Evan Guiney ’06 served as maid of honor and best man, while **WEN ZHANG** was among the bridesmaids. Later, in August, Gina and Adam visited Amherst’s campus for the first time together and had fun touring the much-changed landscape.

It’s baby season! **MAKENA RINGERA**’s baby boy, Maleki, arrived on June 16, weighting 6.4 lbs. **HANNAH (WALKER) MIRACOL** and her husband, Dan, welcomed their son, Caleb John, into the world on Dec. 4, 2016, and so far Caleb has had the privilege of meeting his Amherst aunts **TANIKA VIGIL**, **TYLER TORY-MURPHY**, **JULIA MERRILL**, **CAMI FARKAS** and **LIZ (TEPE) KNEELAND**.

Finally, **JENNIFER RYBAK KIERNAN** writes that in addition to recently enjoying a fantastic visit from **AMANDA MCGINN**, she’s also had the opportunity to spend some wonderful time with **CAIT** and **SPENCER HAUGHT** and their baby, Ellery—“Amherst class of 2039.” Congratulations to all the new parents!

YASMIN NAVARRO had an “amazing time” at my Bay Area bachelorette party this past July with fellow bridesmaids **ANGELICA (BRISEÑO) WISE**, **SINDHU BODDU** and **SARAH FARRON**, among others. We rented a cottage in the winding Santa Cruz Mountains, where we spent our time grilling meat, watching *Clueless* and warming up in the hot tub. We rounded out the weekend at the pungently delicious Gilroy Garlic Festival. Yasmin is excited to be starting her second and final year of graduate school in counseling at the University of San Francisco.

As for me—well, I’ve had a pretty busy summer of traveling. In addition to two gender-specific bachelor/ette parties in both California and New Hampshire, my fiancé, Nick, and I also visited **JONATHAN THROPE** and **SARAH GELLES** at their palatial new apartment in Baltimore. We were joined by **ALEX WECKENMAN**, who drove up from Washington, D.C., and spent the weekend eating crab, admiring beautifully weird creations at the American Visionary Art Museum and stumbling into a free Gogol Bordello concert at a local summer arts festival.

Much love from your friendly neighborhood yenta,

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2011

In honor of the ascendant mascot, a couple of mammoth facts:

1. Mammoths had mysterious flaps of furry skin about a third of the way up their trunks. Scientists call them “mittens,” and think they may have used them to melt snowballs for drinking water.

2. They were also probably pretty greasy, due to oil-producing glands in their skin that protected them from the cold and damp.

And now, a mammoth dose of couple facts:

ERIN DOWNEY and **CHRISTOPHER TEMERSON** recently became engaged, and are planning a wedding for next July. Congratulations!

JIMMY and **JES-C (BRANDT) FRENCH** have left Texas for Colorado. “Jimmy started his first year as a junior-high math teacher, and Jes-c is working as a reporter at the local newspaper, *The Holyoke Enterprise*,” Jes-c reports.

A few months after their small City Hall wedding in April, **TRACY HUANG** and husband David threw a big party at Hampshire College’s Red Barn. “The theme was Starwed Valley, which fit in with the venue and is our favorite computer RPG!” writes Tracy. Amherst attendees included **EUNICE LEE**, **KAREN NYAWERA**, **MINGZI SHAO**, **TANYA XU**, Britt Calder ’12, Ethan Edmondson ’13, Sharon Kim ’10, Yeji Kim ’12, Ian Nanez ’17, Celia Ou ’13, Gina Rodriguez ’10, Matt Ruark ’12, Audrey Tiew ’14, Evelyn Ting ’17, Kim Wilkes ’13 and Wen Zhang ’10.

MIRIAM BECKER-COHEN spent the

Erin Downey
'11 and
Christopher
Temerson
'11 recently
became
engaged, and
are planning
a wedding
for next July.
Congratulations!



JACOB REIBEL '10
WENT THROUGH
CANCER AND LIVED
TO TELL ABOUT IT.
NOW HE HELPS OTHER
PATIENTS TELL THEIR
OWN STORIES.

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summer working in civil rights litigation in Washington, D.C. “I kept busy watching weekly episodes of *The Bachelorette* with Kat Loomis ’09, celebrating the upcoming nuptials of Garrett ‘G-Spot’ Snedeker ’09 and reliving the Ultimate Frisbee glory days with Erin (Simpler) Kellett ’08, Mike Kellett ’10 and Joanna Wasik ’08,” she writes.

She and Dan Cluchey ’08 also managed an anniversary trip to Amherst, which featured them devouring tea rolls and Antonio’s, and Memorial Hill views when the moon devoured the sun. “Mammoth gear was sought at Hastings in vain (we’re told homecoming will be the big reveal),” she writes. Also worth looking forward to: “a series of Amherst weddings in September.” I’ll bet a limited-edition Amherst Mammoth Mitten Koozy™ that **NICOLE (PANICO) KRENSKY** is more than ready for the rush.

Various friend crews have also been hanging out. **SAMUEL HUNEKE** is heading back to San Francisco after a productive year of dissertation research in Berlin, but first he’ll meet **NINA BERNARD**, **CASEY BRENNAN**, **ISAAC GENDELMAN** and **CHELSEA AMEGATCHER** in Cape Cod for Labor Day weekend—“our seventh such gathering since senior year!” he writes. **TYLER CHAPMAN** and Dan Carrizales ’14 recently hung out in Madison, Wisc., where, he writes, they “learned some skills from grill-master **ALEX CHANG**.” Tyler will use said skills to refuel after he runs a half marathon in October.

JARED CRUM also has food updates: “I spent the summer in D.C. working at a law firm called Hogan Lovells,” he writes. “It was a really good professional experience

that also involved going to lunch a lot.” (Hot tip: D.C. is apparently full of meals—**TRACY HUANG** also caught Jared at a potluck brunch there.) He squeezed in a trip to Michigan, Philadelphia and then New York, where he “grabbed Chinese food with **RYAN DROST**, **ALVARO MON CURENO** and **ERICA DEANE** and saw **MIKE DOLMATCH** at his amazing tech workplace, Yext, at which I ate all his company’s snacks.”

Jared is heading back west for his third year at Stanford Law, and sat on a panel at San Francisco State’s “Constitution and Citizenship” conference in September. “Anyone in the Bay Area should contact me and come out to see it!” he writes. Bring provisions.

Two brave souls are seeking old friends in new cities. After five years at the World Bank, **CARLOS SABATINO GONZALEZ** “finally bit the bullet and started a master’s in public policy at Duke,” he writes. “Would love to meet any alums in the area!” **DANIEL SILVERMAN** is moving on from San Jose, Calif., where he spent three years teaching fifth grade. “I’ll be teaching English at primary schools in a couple of small but smashingly scenic Alpine towns,” he writes. “So if anyone happens by Albertville, France (host of the 1992 Winter Olympics), that’s where you’ll find me this year.” A perfect place for a newborn mammoth!

Many thanks to everyone who sent updates. I’ll bug you all again in the spring. To close out, we have some short fiction (?) from **CHRISTOPHER SPAIDE**, a long-awaited response to the provocative work that closed out the spring 2017 notes:

“In August I went to Jefferson City,

Mo., to see the total solar eclipse,” he writes. “Totality started: the sky turned the color of television tuned to a dead channel. Where the sun and moon once were was now the spectral, luminous, perfectly circular face of **MAX SUECHTING**. I looked for what felt like eons; then it became blindingly bright. Ever since, nothing has felt quite right.”

Turn around, bright eyes...

> **CARA GIAIMO**

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2012

Thank you to all five-to-10 people who cast a vote for me in the uncontested race for secretary. Having an official excuse to harass you all for news on a quarterly basis has been a lifelong dream of mine.

In response to my question about serendipitous postgraduation Amherst run-ins, one of our most far-flung ’12s, **EJ MITCHELL**, wrote to say that he once encountered **TAWANDA TASIKANI** at a rooftop bar in Beijing. (Can anyone top that?) EJ also recently hosted Eugene Lee ’16, whose visit “marked the first and only time to date that there have been four Zumbyes in China (me ’12, Eugene ’16, Daniel Shwartz ’11 and Ding’an Fei ’06).” He added that “**SIOBHAN MCKISSIC** and I are planning for her first visit to Beijing (TBD 2018)!” Book your flight, Siobhan! And then make sure you send us a video of you guys singing a duet, for the web version of these notes.

In Chicago, **JAVIER CHAVEZ CHACON**’s most recent Amherst chance encounter happened when he was eating his customary breakfast croissant and drinking

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a cappuccino and suddenly spied Julia Vrilek '15 through the window. She came in and kept him company for the last few drops of his coffee.

Javi is an analyst at Mars Inc. by day and coaches ballroom dancers by night. He's also back to designing (remember "living and moving art"?)

Elsewhere in the Midwest, **TIM BUTTERFIELD** spent a full day hiking this summer in Ohio's Cuyahoga Valley National Park, "where I *completely randomly* encountered **LIZA SCHALCH** and Henry Rouse '13." Tim is a director in Denison University's enrollment management division. **TRICIA LIPTON** also saw classmates in the great outdoors, although the meetings were less unexpected. She hosted both **CONNOR MORRISON** and **KAYLEIGH O'KEEFE** this summer when they were passing through Portland, Ore., and gave them each a world-class tour of the Columbia Gorge. Be prepared for me to stop by on a whim, Tricia.

KATIE ALLYN, who is in her third year of medical school at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, recalled running into **CHRIS LIM** on the 6 train once: "I think it was about two years ago. The doors parted. And suddenly there he was, a beautiful vision right in front of my eyes. To this day, I still look for him whenever I step onto the 6 train." Subway kismet is real!

PIR GRANOFF remembers that he "once ran into **MICHAEL NG** in the library at Amherst College our senior year." Did anyone else witness this? **OPHELIA HU KINNEY**'s Amherst run-in was arranged: "Hayli ('14) and I had the pleasure of seeing Profs Benigno and Karen Sanchez-Eppler at our wedding last summer, since Benigno was kind enough to serve as our officiant." Happy first anniversary, Ophelia!

JUSTIN PATRICK and Adam Garmezy '11, Ben Garmezy '11, David Vaimberg '11, Andreas Shepard '11 and Khan Shoieb '13, among other Amherst alums, attended a wedding together in Scottsbluff, Neb. "After the wedding, we road-tripped to Boulder, Colo., a picturesque journey through the Big Sky states interrupted only by the need to loop back into Wyoming to furnish the brothers Garmezy with gas after they ran dry 20 miles north of Cheyenne. ... While the ceremony and reception took top honors, everyone agreed that the second-best part of the trip was hiking the Bluff with Larry Garmezy '76, the groom's former youth soccer coach." These are the ties that bind.

On the subject of sports, **EZRA VAN NEGRI** wrote to say that, after four years of reading about basketball online while working at Analysis Group, he left last fall to pursue a master's in statistics at Stanford. "After I get my degree this December, I am excited to start my new career in basketball analytics, working as a data analyst for the Oklahoma City Thunder. I will be moving to Oklahoma in January, so make sure to wave as you fly over." Save us all seats courtside, Ezra!

An accidentally recurring theme for this edition was road-tripping. **ZOHAR PERLA** sends in this update: "I just finished my master of public policy at UC Berkeley, focused on education policy and equity. After three years of living in Oakland, Calif., Joe Taff '13 and I spent the summer driving across the Southwest before moving to Rochester, N.Y., so that he can begin his graduate studies." Nice to have you back east, Zohar! **PHILIP MENCHACA** was also in transit when he ended up on the same bus as Tania de Sousa Dias '13 this August, and he was "pretty certain I saw **GRACE BOOTH** out the window of a bus in Hartford." Grace, can you confirm?

It will surprise no one that **BENJAMIN LIN** drove 16 hours to experience the two-minute total solar eclipse near Nashville, Tenn., with a group which included **ELIZABETH CARBONE** and **REBECCA HU**. He described it as "surreal," and he took an equally phantasmagorical video of the event from his GoPro. In real life, he's in the midst of applying to business school.

As for my best moment of serendipity, last year I ran into **ALEXANDER HURST** at an Australian café in Paris. I was jetlagged enough not to be able to remember where I knew him from, but I sat down at the next table anyway, and he figured it out first. I've also had the great good luck to live with **REBECCA EPPLER-EPSTEIN** for the last two and a half years in an apartment in Harlem that played host to almost exclusively Amherst roommates (and the occasional Amherst couch-surfers passing through). She's moving to Boston this fall.

Keep an eye out for her, those of you who have settled down in Massachusetts!

Write to me, or I'll write to you! See you on the flip side.

> **OLIVIA CHASE**
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2013

JEAN RENÉ SANTIAGO CRUZ finished a clerkship at the Supreme Court of Puerto Rico. As of September, he is pursuing a master's in law and finance at Queen Mary University of London, where he hopes to concentrate on financing development in emerging economies. Jean welcomes anyone who drops by London to hit him up!

ROGER CREEL spent the summer doing geoscience field work on Anticosti Island, Quebec, which will eventually lead to a model of sea-level change 450 million years ago. He also choreographed an evening-length gender-reversed *King Lear* ballet, titled *Lady Lear*, which premiered Aug. 9 on Kentucky Shakespeare's outdoor stage. If anyone wants a place to stay in Louisville, Roger invites you to come on down!

HENRIK ONARHEIM and **ANNE PIPER** traveled around Scotland at the end of May, tasting (and buying!) lots of whiskey on Islay and relaxing at Andrew Carnegie's old estate at Skibo Castle. Toward

the end of the trip, they met up with **GINNY WHEELER**, who was running the half marathon in Edinburgh.

At the end of June, **ASJA BEGOVIC** and Henrik went hiking and spa-ing in Switzerland. They climbed around Adelboden and Kandersteg, occasionally getting lost—and very often getting tired—but remained happy and safe throughout.

GINA RINGELBERG, **LINDSAY GRUSKAY**, **CAROLINE RICHMAN**, **SARAH ALBERT** and **KATE BLUMSTEIN** had some much-needed togetherness, reuniting on Martha's Vineyard. They had a romantic sunset picnic on the beach, eating and drinking extremely well... until a group of skunks tried to join the party. Friendships were tested that night as everyone sacrificed one another to escape the scene. They laughed about it later while working on some original songs with original lyrics and harmonies. Stay tuned for the album drop.

RILEY RICHARDS is in his fourth year of medical school at SUNY Upstate Medical University. He's just completed the rural medicine program and he's decided to go into pathology.

RISALAT KHAN started his master's at Columbia University. It is a one year M.P.A. in environmental science and policy, which has been quite intense, but also fun. He thinks it'd be super fun to have an Amherst get-together in New York, so contact Risalat if you would like to have a picnic in the park!

> **CHLOE FICO**
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2014

We'll start off this round of class notes with an exciting announcement from **JACOB WITTEN**—in the form of a haiku, as is his wont: "I've gotten engaged! / To **LISA WALKER** '14! / Better than science." Congrats to both of you!

DANIELA GARCIA reached a few important milestones: in June she reached her one-year mark of working at Mount Sinai, and in July she and Gene Garay '15 celebrated their three-year anniversary! Daniela enjoyed seeing close friends like **ROB EDNEY**, **NICOLE CLAY** and **DAVID KAGULU-KALEMA**. She also spent a wonderful weekend in Shelter Island with Sarah Bessa-McManus '16 and Taylor Wallace '15.

JOE HIGGS met up with **MAIA COLE**, **AUBRIE CAMPBELL** and **MELISSA LANG** in Barcelona last April. He had been living in Menorca, Spain, but planned on moving to Madrid in September.

NICA SIEGEL attended a critical theory seminar and wandered around Paris in search of poetry with Jeff Feldman '15 before reuniting with **MEGHNA SRIDHAR** in London and Laura Merchant '15 in the Pioneer Valley. Nica is also looking forward to welcoming critical-theory poet Lindsay Stern '13 to New Haven this fall.

EMEKA OJUKWU ended his three-year run in Singapore and made it back state-

2015: Alex South-mayd finished his second year of Teach For America this past June, and he's on track to be awarded his master's in education by the end of the summer. He has since begun a new role as business development lead at Lyft, where he oversees driver growth for Lyft's markets in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Wishing you well in your new role, Alex!



ROGER CREEL '13 REMEMBERS POET **RICHARD WILBUR '42**, WHOM HE USED TO CHAUFFEUR TO AND FROM CAMPUS.

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side for the foreseeable future. He's back up in the cold north getting his master's degree in industrial and labor relations from the ILR School at Cornell University.

MATT DEBUTTS and **NIK NEVIN** met up in Jerusalem for "mango dax and *Apollo 13*," consisting of mango daiquiris and a certain Tom Hanks movie. Then Matt continued to Ethiopia to caffeinate with **NICHOLAS SCHCOLNIK**. A blessed summer of Ni(c)ks.

HAYLI HU KINNEY was very surprised to read in the past edition of the class notes that she had moved to New Mexico! Alas, that was a ghost ship of a different life. Instead, "my wife and I decided grow our roots in Portland, Maine, where I am hoping to make less of a mess of my middle school teaching now that I've finished my M.Ed."

CECILIA PESSOA got married in August. She and her husband, Toby, were happy to have Amherst friends at the wedding, including **HAYLI** and Ophelia '12 **HU KINNEY**, **CAITLIN** and **ANDREW KAAKE**, **COLBY JANTZEN** and Alex Coston '15. They spent a few weeks in Guatemala for their honeymoon. Congrats, Cecilia and Toby!

This summer, I saw the aforementioned **CECILIA PESSOA** and Toby, **HAYLI** and Ophelia '12 **HU KINNEY** and Alex Coston '15 at **COLBY JANTZEN**'s wedding! It was beautiful, and many tears were shed.

There was also a mini Amherst reunion in Washington, D.C., this summer for the housewarming party of **CONRAD KARSTEN**, Rohan Mazumdar '12 and Shannon Young '15. I had the pleasure of hanging out with **JOSEPH KIM**, **IAN HATCH**, **MELISSA LANG**, **SOOKIM**, **ZACK GERDES** and Ian Rockwell '13.

I have a new job as a seventh-grade English teacher in Lexington, Mass. It is hard work but I am loving it so far.

See you all on the flipside!

> **MARIA KIRIGIN**

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2015

As the seasons change, so do our lives. It was a pleasure hear about your summers and your plans for the rest of the year. Looking forward to on-campus reunions this fall, and many congratulations to the newly matriculated class of 2021!

CHRISTINA WON spent the summer traveling to her favorite destinations: Vegas, San Francisco, New York and Atlantic City. She was delighted to see many alumni throughout, including **KATHARINE RUDZITIS**, **KANE WILLIS**, **CLAIRE JIA**, **SELENA ALONZO** and Servet Bayimli '16. At the end of August she will go abroad for a few weeks—Spain, Israel and Jordan are on the agenda—before returning to D.C. to begin a new job at the Discovery Channel. In her spare time, she has been reading some good books and trying and failing to utilize the KonMari method.

Despite a wonderfully sunny and blue-skied summer back in the desert, **KYRA ELLIS-MOORE** looked forward to the shift

to fall that the smell of green chili roasting on Albuquerque, N.M., street corners signifies. She enjoyed some detours on the campaign trail to visit family on Cape Cod, and to welcome **WILL KAMIN** and then **LAURA GERRARD** on their inaugural visits to the Land of Enchantment. Thank you for visiting! She is looking forward to more travelers—including secretary extraordinaire **CHRISTINA WON** later this year—and loving the opportunity to share her home with her Amherst family.

MEGAN ROBERTSON has had an exciting few months: "I completed my master's of statistical science from Duke University in May and celebrated by traveling around the world and seeing old friends. I spent a few days in Bali before heading to Australia to snorkel the Great Barrier Reef and visit a friend in Sydney. From Australia I hopped on over to New Zealand, where I drove around the South Island. It was absolutely gorgeous but very cold. On my way back to the States, I briefly stopped in before heading to California, where I got to see some Amherst friends. I spent a few days with **ANNA YOUNG** and **KELSEY AYERS**, going to the beach and wine tasting in Napa Valley. I also got to see Thomas Matthew '16 in Berkeley, and we went to the Gay Pride Parade in San Francisco. My last California stop was Pacific Grove, where I got to catch up with **MORGAN (BROWN) VENEZIA**, and she showed me around town as well as Monterey. I moved to New York, where I am currently applying and interviewing for jobs."

Sounds like an amazing trip, and good luck with job hunting!

MICHAEL LA HOGUE is serving in Korea for the next year, and if anyone comes to the country, they should definitely let him know. **JOHNO GIBBONS** is in his first year of medical school and commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Navy. Congratulations and all the best! **SCOTT MERGNER** writes that he has been listening to "Lord Jeffery Amherst" by James Shelley Hamilton, class of 1906. Thanks for the throwback, Scott! **ROBERT GAFFEY** started his second year of med school at Rutgers. Over the summer, he visited **ALLEN KRIEG** and **AMAR MUKUNDA** in Virginia along with **RAINER LEMPERT**: "We played lots of games (tennis, basketball, spikeball) and visited **ANDERS LINDGREN** in Baltimore. Some things never change."

CAMILLE YOUNGBLOOD shares her opportunities to connect with alumni this summer: "Luckily I didn't have to travel too far, as there are quite a few alums at Skadden as well as NYC. I coordinated the first 'Amherst @ Skadden' luncheon, which was a wonderful success and will continue as a tradition. In addition to connecting with alumni at Skadden, I hosted quite a few rooftop reunions this summer in Brooklyn, where we had a great turnout of Mammoths. Alumni in attendance included: **NIA JAMES**, **SHEBA BROWN**, Niahlah Hope '16, **ASHLEY FELIX**, **FRANCESKA SANTOS**, **DUSTIN**

INCLE, **GABRIEL GONZALEZ**, Whitney Beber '16, Roshard Bryant '14, John Riggins '12, Shyloe Jones '14, Caroline Feeley '18, Sydney Watts '17, Elizabeth Turnbull '18, Jensen Bouzi '14 and Joelle Comrie '14 (just to name a few)."

Lastly, a sweet joint submission from **JAKE TURRIN** and **CHRIS TAMASI**: "Jake was recently promoted to account executive on LinkedIn's sales solutions team. He also completed his first triathlon in June, against all odds. Chris did not run a triathlon, but did finish an entire book—against all odds. Both Chris and Jake still live happily together in San Francisco."

> **CHRISTINA WON** (WRITING THIS TIME)

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> **KYRA ELLIS-MOORE**

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2016

It is with great sadness that we write to share news of the passing of **JESSE ROWLAND**. His passing was sudden and unexpected. He is survived by his parents and sister as well as aunts and uncles, cousins and dear friends. A full In Memoriam will follow in a later issue, and an In Memory page has been created for Jesse where you can log in to post comments: www.amherst.edu/amherst-story/magazine/in_memory/2016/jesserowland. Our deepest condolences go out to his family and friends.

GABY MAYER tells us, "In a somewhat shocking turn of events, most of my friends from senior week have settled far away from New York City. Luckily, they've taken pity on me and breeze into town on occasion. Based on these brief vacations, here are some updates on their lives:

"**TIERNEY WERNER** continues to live in Lancaster, Pa. Her slow but inevitable conversion to Amish culture and customs is well under way; she has been recently sighted on horse farms, shopping for her next pet/mode of transport.

"**LEXI BARBER** couldn't bear to visit me alone, so she roped **ERIN BROUSSEAU** into a Big Apple sojourn this August. She's starting a new teaching job in D.C., but we all know this is really just a back door for her big political ambitions. 'I want to be the next Elizabeth Warren; I have to do something with that blonde wig and sensible pantsuit'—Lexie

"Erin herself is gearing up to travel to Russian Siberia for the next calendar year. Fellas, she enjoys long walks in the tundra, a good cup of borscht and sensible remedies for frostbite.

"**TESSA MCEVOY** has made big steps toward her lifelong dreams of being a mountaineer, primarily by moving across the country to Colorado and forcing **LEXI BARBER** to go on a road trip to the Grand Canyon.

"**OLIVIA TRUAX** has made a brief but grand return to the United States from her home in New Zealand to visit family.

Emeka Ojukwu '14 ended his three-year run in Singapore. He's now getting his master's degree in industrial and labor relations from Cornell University.

When not succumbing to the indolence of American culture, she runs approximately 34 miles a day, wrestles dodo birds and spends the remainder of her spare time perfecting her Kiwi accent.

“Real talk: has anyone seen **SASHA BURSHTEYN**? She’s reportedly back from the Watson, but hasn’t gotten used to traveling with other people around. Rumor has it she waits for the Q train to be completely empty before initiating her commutes around the city. As for me? I survived my first year of medical school, but have clearly suffered some sort of brain trauma, as I’ve agreed to run the

DIEGO RECINOS just moved to Bogotá, Colombia, after a year in Washington, D.C. He is excited to be back in Latin America, and he expects to be in Bogotá for the next year and a half to two years. Diego writes: “Come visit!” He will be working with the same consulting firm, doing financial and economic advisory for water and energy companies and projects.

Other than that, Diego recently attended a Social Innovation Lab in Denmark, together with 1,000 people from over 130 countries. It focused on finding innovative solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

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Butterfly Whisperers

2016: Rosy He and Tabeth Nkangoh ’15 visited Lindsey Bechen and Chan Park in Chicago from Boston in July. Lindsey and Rosy subsequently became butterfly whisperers at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Unfortunately, Tabeth and Chan couldn’t tame any butterflies.

NYC marathon. I’ve listed future neurosurgeon **ELIZA HERSH** as my emergency contact, so at least I’ll be in good hands.”

After a year of working at the Andrew Edlin Gallery in New York City, **TARYN CLARY** has begun her master’s in decorative arts, design history and material culture at Bard Graduate Center on the Upper West Side.

In July 2017, **KELVIN CHEN** met with fellow Stearnsies **JH HOON LEE** and **NATHAN YAO** in Pasadena, Calif. After a short reunion in Southern California, they embarked on an epic escape to the Far East, spending a week in Suzhou, China. There, in “the Venice of the East,” they enjoyed a ritual of morning tea followed by leisurely strolls through the beautiful tea terraces and flower gardens that festoon the city’s many waterways and foot bridges.

ALEXANDRA JAMES is writing from Buenos Aires, Argentina! Alex is there to participate in the 24th Annual Visible Evidence Conference (Amherst professor Pooja Rangan is there as well!). Alex presented a paper on a Puerto Rican film called *Mala, Mala*. When not participating in the conference, she has been sightseeing, thanks to the suggestions provided by a fellow rugby teammate, Tanzania Brown ’18, who studied abroad in Buenos Aires last semester.

Other than traveling to Buenos Aires, Alex has been living in New York City going to Columbia University and pursuing a master’s in film and media studies at the School of the Arts. When not stressing herself out in Butler Library and running into **TOMI WILLIAMS**, she is working at film festivals (most recently Tribeca Film Festival and currently the Hamptons International Film Festival) and making sure that **RALPH WASHINGTON** and **KHALIL FLEMING** never forget her half-birthday celebration. Alex adds: “They’ll know what I mean.”

2017

Even for those working in Amherst, college seems far away. We asked our classmates, “How does living away from Amherst make you feel?” Out of the 33 people who responded, four missed the sense of independence they felt at Amherst, and five felt stressed by the cost of paying rent. Still, many expressed nostalgia for Amherst that had nothing to do with money. One person responded, “Money is nice, but friends are better.” Another wrote, “I miss my housemates, my professors, my friends, my classmates, the staff. The family of Amherst. And most of all the energy of the place, the cerebral intensity, the precious responsibility of freedom and valuable time.” Still, many were excited by the journey ahead. One person felt “anonymous for the first time and *happy*,” and five people felt “like Indiana Jones.”

Speaking of adventuring, **NICK KAFKER** is traveling in the foothills of Romania to visit the town where his great-great-grandfather purchased a strange wooden idol. He searched the artist who signed the original piece when he was a first-year at Amherst and found that her grandchildren still sculpt in the same style. He resolved to voyage and meet the new generation of sculptors and show them some of their great-great-grandmother’s work. He hopes that this experience will connect his family and the family of the artists to their shared history.

However, not all adventures happen outside the United States. **SEANNA MCCALL** has been experimenting in the kitchen, preparing everything from hot water to sourdough bread—the latter of which was remarkably unsuccessful. After she allowed a homemade sourdough starter to stink up the entire kitchen for all of six days, her homegrown yeast proved to be unyielding (literally), and alas, her bread aspirations were dashed. Fear not, classmates, for she has not given up; she has merely redirected her energies to simpler tasks, such as slicing pineapples without cutting her finger off.

In mid-June, **TAYLOR HALLOWELL** started her southbound thru-hike on the Appalachian Trail. She passed through the dreaded Williamstown, and hates how pretty it is there.

Taylor was not the only one on the Appalachian Trail. **LUCAS ZELLER** also hiked the famous mountain range this summer. However, he took a break to catch up with **KARTHIK CHETTY** and **KEVIN GOLDBERG** in Amherst. Kevin is working for Wayfair in Boston.

SIRAJ SINDHU augmented his winter wardrobe to prepare to start work at the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault as a legal research fellow and educator. He’s also learning to play the uke and is currently halfway through *Infinite Jest*.

ELAINE JEON cried out her contacts on commencement day, but has since recovered by making an impromptu trip to Chicago to see her five suite mates, visiting Korea and traveling in Europe—all thanks to her 2016 tax refund. She’s moving to Singapore for work in September, and will accept all friend introductions as she only has three friends there, one of them being the mother of **MARGO CODY**.

SOHAM GUPTA is living and conducting research in Udaipur, India, until summer 2018. He would love to have Amherst visitors!

The past several weeks for **TOMAL HOSAIN** have featured constant language learning, cheap eateries and tons of good musical vibes in the cheapest place to be in Central Java, Solo City. Tomal will continue living nomadically as a Watson research fellow studying music in five other Muslim-majority countries in the coming months.

LINDY LABRIOLA landed in Bodø, Norway, to start her 10-month Fulbright adventure in the Arctic Circle. If you want to read more about what she’s doing, you can find her Fulbright blog on her website: lindythevegan.com. *Det er alt for nå!*

CLARQUE BROWN, another Fulbrighter, is in South Korea teaching at an elementary school.

Closer to home, there are several members of our class adjusting to life in Amherst as part of the staff.

LAUREN HORN spends most of her time working as the arts coordinator for the Arts at Amherst initiative, watching *Claws* and making smoothies. Sadly her smoothie game may be too strong. She accidentally broke her blender with a frozen banana. RIP, spinach banana smoothie.

TAKUDZWA TAPFUMA can’t seem to get enough of Amherst! After the summer spent as a digital scholar intern with Frost Library post-graduation, he joined the Office of Communications as an assistant photographer. He’s excited to see Amherst through a different lens in the coming year.

AMIR HALL marveled at a bounce dance in New Orleans and is still in the throes of trying to learn it for his next visit. He also house-sat and pet-sat two dogs and

two cats in Northampton. He learned that he is not, in fact, a pet person. He also got to spend a whole month with **NAYAH MULLINGS**, who was in the area for the beginning of her master's program at Smith College. In the fall, he'll be working as a graduate design assistant with the theater and dance department at Amherst.

Joshua Ferrer '18 is going back to Amherst. He says someone's got to keep an eye on the place!

We also have several new teachers in our class:

BENJAMIN FIEDLER is teaching this year at a primary school in Madrid, sponsored through the Council on International Educational Exchange and the Spanish government. Let Ben know if you would like to meet up in Madrid.

JEREMY PAULA joined Teach For America and will be a third-grade teacher at Harlem Prep Elementary, a school under the charter network called Democracy Prep Public Schools, which he briefly attended in middle school. It seems like life is coming full circle.

This summer **SCARLET IM** was getting ready to be a high school math teacher in Springfield, Mass. Cooking for herself has been both bothersome and fun, and she (and her bank account) were waiting quite earnestly for her first paycheck.

This summer, **ROBERT KWARK** worked at Amherst as a SURF postgrad fellow. He also went on a road trip with **DAVID WANG, SEAN MCHUGH** and **JD NURME**. He is totally excited to start teaching physics in Westport, Conn. He'd like to thank Rachel Duong '16 along with the other Amherst peeps that have shared this transition summer with him, and to send positive vibes to everyone else who actually ends up reading this.

It was exciting to read about all the Amherst get-togethers this summer.

Since graduating, **PAUL GRAMIERI** visited **ADAM SMITH** in Chicago and **EMILY GOORE** in L.A., and in New York, he shares an apartment with **TOMO LIMANTO** and Hao Liu '16. He most enjoys the convenience of being able to walk only a block to get a bagel and a slice of pizza.

JESSICA MAPOSA bought a car and feels very adult. Ninety percent of the mail she receives is bills, sadly. Soon, **VALERIE SALCIDO**, one of Jessica's dearest friends, is moving to the Boston area; Jessica wonders if Boston is ready for V+J.

CLAIRE CARPENTER and **MEGAN ADAMO** are settling down in New York City together. Claire is working for J.P. Morgan, and Megan for Cornerstone Research.

SARA SCHULWOLF moved to Providence, R.I., right after graduation to start a position as a research assistant for a study on adolescent responses to trauma. In July, during a trip to Boston to see Ned Kleiner '16, she got together with **SAM SHORT, CHRISTINA HANSEN, KENNY KIM**, Helen Montie '18 and Chelsea Pan '18 for Kenny's birthday. If there are any other Amherst grads in the Providence area, let Sara know.

DAKOTA MEREDITH, ALINABURKE and **KALAYA PAYNE-ALEX** drove to Oregon with three Amherst underclassmen to watch the solar eclipse.

In August, **ELAINE VILORIO, AMIR HALL** and **JOSH THOMPSON** visited **LOLA FADULU** in D.C., where her journalism career has taken off. Some (just Elaine) call Lola the next Ta-Nehisi Coates. The weekend was full of laughter, improv and watermelon (Josh's idea).

JOSH THOMPSON also visited Alicia Lopez '16 for a month in Costa Rica. He said goodbye to four longtime wisdom teeth in an excruciating farewell in early

Josh Thompson '17 bid four wisdom teeth an excruciating farewell in early August.

August. He is excited to sell his soul to the capitalist machine this fall.

CHRISTIN WASHINGTON and **CHRISTINE CROSDALE** are both back in NYC, working for remarkable nonprofits in the education space—DonorsChoose.org and Prep for Prep, respectively. They also remain invested in morphing their former WAMH radio show into a podcast focused on reacquainting themselves with NYC through music, media and, of course, black girl magic! If you're interested in following their next moves, follow them @TheTakeoverCC on Twitter and Instagram.

Also in the nonprofit space is **IRMA ZAMORA**, who is working with Orange County Human Relations. In this role, she supports and promotes inclusivity across Orange County, Calif. Irma is looking forward to going back to snowless winters and hearing about/supporting her friends' endeavors.

Irma's former roommate, **LAUREN CARTER**, still talks to her Amherst friends every day (probably more than when she was at school). Over the summer, she started an art project called *Behind Closed Eyes*, where she went outside during various weather conditions, looked toward the sun, closed her eyes, and then painted what she "saw." In Professor Gloman's class, she learned that she was drawn

toward the colors that create everyday life. Instead of one color, everything exploded into a multitude of colors for her. That became a driving force behind her art. Lauren also started working as an analyst at S&P Global. There she helps provide ratings for local governments in the United States.

Another analyst, **CARINA CORBIN**, is working in NYC at a tech consulting firm called Avana. She is excited to see where she'll run into Amherst students next.

GABRIELLA SELOVER is also excited to meet up with other Amherst graduates. She recently moved to Boston to start work at Parthenon EY as an associate consultant.

DIEGO MAGANA is currently working as an operations manager for an e-commerce company based in his hometown, Scottsdale, Ariz. Over the summer, he reunited with half of the Amherst men's basketball team and other alumni in Philadelphia.

After graduating, a few members of our class decided to go back to school right away.

SHAUNPAUL JONES is an M.D. candidate at the University of Rochester School of Medicine. During orientation, he remarked that the feeling of being around a bunch of brilliant people is surprisingly similar to how he felt during orientation at Amherst four years ago.

MELISSA SHETH is working toward obtaining her veterinary professional degree at the University of Wisconsin—Madison School of Veterinary Medicine. She is most interested in conservation medicine and exploring intersections between animal health and human health.

ALEX FARTHING is at the University of Michigan Medical School. **DAVID RUTH** stopped by on his way back to Amherst. All in all, postgrad life is pretty great!

Best wishes to all in this autumnal season. While many of us have scattered, we hope this serves as another platform to keep supporting each other. We're excited to hear more from you.

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In Memory

Visit the interactive In Memory site at www.amherst.edu/magazine to post remembrances of fellow alumni, view a listing of alumni who have recently died and read unabridged In Memory pieces well before the print obituaries appear.

Robert Waltz "Bob" Eisenmenger '48

Robert Waltz "Bob" Eisenmenger died on May 24 at age 91.

After graduating from Amherst High School, he joined the U.S. Navy, serving as a navy radio technician at Pearl Harbor during World War II. He returned and entered Amherst College, receiving his undergraduate degree in economics. At Amherst, he belonged to Theta Xi.

Bob received his first master's from Yale in 1951 and then joined the U.S. Forestry Department in Oregon. There, he met and married Carolyn Slaver. He also developed a timber appraisal system in Oregon.

Bob, Carolyn and a baby daughter returned to Massachusetts to attend graduate school at Harvard. Bob received a master's degree in public administration in 1955 in preparation for a career with the forestry service in Washington, D.C. Instead he was hired by the Federal Reserve Bank as research economist. He returned to Harvard, receiving a Ph.D. in economics in 1963.

His doctoral thesis, published as a book, is *The Dynamics of Growth in New England's Economy 1870-1964*.

Carolyn and Bob moved to Natick in 1955.

Bob spent 36 years at the bank, ending as first vice president and chief operating officer. He retired in 1992.

Following retirement Bob worked as a consultant. Projects included work in banking reform for the Republic of Russia after the breakup of the Soviet Union and reviewing the payment system in Bosnia for the U.S. Treasury.

Bob also spent several years on the board of the Five Cents Bank in Cape Cod, the Natick Planning Board and the New England Board of Higher Education, which he served as chairman. He was a trustee of New England Natural Resources, the Educational Resources Institute and the Massachusetts Congregational Fund.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Carolyn; three daughters, Anne, Katherine and Lisa; and eight grandchildren.

He will be missed. —*Celeste Ringuette W'48*

Norman J. Monks '48

Norman died suddenly on Nov. 16, 2016, at age 90.

Born in Worcester, Mass., he attended Worcester South High School. He was a champion in track, field and cross country, accomplishments earning him a scholarship to Amherst.

After one year at Amherst, he was offered a full scholarship to Rhode Island State College (now the University of Rhode Island). As co-captain he led his team to the track and field championships in 1948. He ran in the 1948 Olympic Trials and was added as an alternate to the Olympic Track Team. He graduated from Rhode Island State in 1949.

He served in the U.S. Army as a sergeant during World War II and in U.S. Army counterintelligence during the Korean Conflict.

In the 50th reunion book, Norm reported, "Hired as boys' physical director at Worcester YMCA in September 1949, then joined an automobile dealership as salesman in 1951, becoming general manager, then owner. Closed the business in 1966. In September of that year became a junior high science teacher and coach in basketball, track and cross-country.

"Later coached high school track and cross-country, winning many class, division and state championships. Also won five junior high basketball state championships in my 27 years of coaching."

Norm received an M.S. from the University of Rhode Island in 1974.

In retirement, he became a national official for track and field and cross country and spent time with his family and the family business, Dapper Dan Farm, managing horse shows for 42 years. He was a member of the Rhode Island Horseman's Association and the New England Horseman's Council for more than 50 years.

He did horse show night watch at shows from New England to Wellington, Fla. In 1966 he was asked to join the night watch for the U.S. Equestrian Team at the Olympics in Atlanta.

He will be missed. —*Celeste Ringuette W'48*

Ralph E. Gould '49

We have just learned that Ralph died

in July 2015 and regrettably have little information about the sad event. He played freshman football, received his '49 numerals and served on the *Olio* and the HMC. He joined Kappa Theta and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a senior. We believe that he had military service from 1943 to 1946 and after college earned an M.B.A. at Harvard.

He joined the family company and spent most of his life in the New Haven area. He was married in 1951 and had two children and one granddaughter. His wife, Isabelle, predeceased him.

He died in the Connecticut Hospice in Branford from complications of Alzheimer's disease. We are endeavoring to gather more information about Ralph, who was age 90 and living in Woodbridge, Conn., prior to his illness. —*Gerry Reilly '49*

George C. Pendleton JR. '49

Perhaps quieter than some and brighter than many, George died Jan. 13 at age 92 after a distinguished career as a petroleum geologist and independent producer.

He came to Amherst after serving in the U.S. Army Airborne Division from 1943 to 1946. Some of you may have heard him discuss his military experience. Regrettably I did not, but I would imagine that he saw his share of action. A European history major, he graduated with a B.A., magna cum laude, and continued his education at the Harvard Business School, earning an M.B.A. in 1951.

Next he went to the University of Oklahoma from 1954 to 1956 to attain his degree in petroleum geology and was a scholastic geological member of Sigma Gamma Epsilon and then settled into his career. By the time of our 50th reunion, he had already logged 43 years in the oil and gas business, centered mainly in southern Oklahoma and northeast Texas, where his work led to the discovery of several very significant fields, and he had an equity position in some of them.

He was very active overseas, primarily in the United Kingdom, where he again made prominent discoveries including a few in the coalbed and methane gas fields in North Stafford-

Death notices received by the College since the last issue of Amherst magazine

John D. Corder '39
Laurence C. Griesemer '40
Arno R. Kassander '41
Thomas F. Mahoney '43
William C. Hart '44
Howard W. Dellard '45
William Krauthoefer '45
Arthur J. Ourieff '45
Merritt C. Bragdon '46
Addison B. Green Jr. '47
Norman J. Monks '48
Ralph E. Gould '49
Nicholas B. O'Connell Jr. '49
Theodore G. Walker III '49
John W. McGrath '51
Frederic T. Nugent '51
Paul H. Geithner Jr. '52
George F. Hibbard '52
David Chaplin '53
Bertram W. Justus '53
Alexander L. Munson '53
Jefferson W. Keener Jr. '54
Willard J. Morse Jr. '54

William B. Funnell '56
James S. Jenkins '56
Carl H. Andrus '57
Stephen B. Flood '57
George L. Hacker '57
Boniface Wadors '59
Theodore Schuker '62
Alexander W. Siegel '63
William J. Lewis II '64
David M. Pellegrin '64
Maurice R. King '65
Bruce C. Leopold '66
William J. Eisen '70
Stephen H. Gunnels '71
Christopher K. Toth '73
Kenneth E. Glover '74
Richard J. Kelly '79
Robert T. Williams Jr. '79
Julie R. Engelsman '88
Nicholas A. Rieser '01
Jeffrey B. Young '03
Jesse L. Rowland '16

shire. He traveled in Western Europe more than 250 times and along the way collected English 18th-century furniture and additional pieces from the Biedermeier period in central Europe.

During these sojourns, he developed a particular fondness for the art, music and cuisine of Vienna. He lived a wonderful, successful life with genuine achievements in his chosen field. I wish that I had gotten to know him better along the way. A real plus for our class. —*Gerry Reilly '49*

G. Alan Steuber '50

Al Steuber died from complications of prostate cancer on Feb. 19 at age 88. Thanks to the wonders of the Internet, his moving memorial service in Savannah, Ga., was available online.

Al came to Amherst from Brighton High School in Rochester, N.Y. He joined Alpha Delta Phi and had many friends in the class.

Al was a fine lineman on the Amherst football team. He was good enough to be drafted by the Baltimore Colts.

Al, the late Fred Hollister '50 and I toured the West one college summer in an old car, with sleeping bags and little money. You could not have had a more companionable traveler than Al.

After Amherst he went to Harvard Business School and served as a gunnery officer on a destroyer in the U.S. Navy. —*John W. Priesing '50*

John W. "Moose" McGrath '51

During our first afternoon in 1947, I heard the shout "Go, Moose!" from a group of classmates throwing a football in the freshmen quad. Little did we realize at the time that Moose would become an icon in our class, with multiple letters in football, wrestling (New England intercollegiate wrestling champion) and baseball (captain). Other achievements include: Sphinx, Scarab (president), Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude, Mossman Trophy and class president.

After graduating from Yale Law School and serving two years in the U.S. Navy, he decided to give up law as a career and join a law school friend with the successful development of a resort, Sea Pines Plantation, in South Carolina, located on 4,500 acres on Hilton Head Island. In 1963 he worked for a company of Laurence Rockefeller's as director of land development, designing and building resorts.

In 1969 he joined International

Management Group, which was headed by a law school classmate, Mark McCormack. With this new position he became heavily involved in the design and construction of golf courses, including some for Arnold Palmer.

During the '70s and '80s Moose had several periods of employment in the resort and real estate field with a Denver company and the Rockefeller Foundation. His fine reputation in the fields of resort and golf course design and development led to an honorary membership in the Urban Land Institute.

In retirement he enjoyed gardening, golf, travel and welcoming classmates and relatives to Hawaii.

We will remember his many qualities, including that warm smile, his modest manner, his ability to connect with people and his passion for Amherst.

Moose died at his home in Honolulu, on June 27. He is survived by his wife, Mary Philpotts; a sister; seven nieces and nephews; and a godchild. —*Hobie Cleminshaw '51*

Frederic T. Nugent '51

Ted Nugent died peacefully on July 23 at a hospice facility in his hometown of Holland, Mich. He had fallen several times in previous months, the last of which occasioned what proved to be fatal head injuries.

Ted came to Amherst from Brooklyn, N.Y., where he graduated from Friends School along with Will Weeks '51. Following Amherst, Ted matriculated at Columbia University School of Architecture, graduated in 1955, married and moved to Madison, Wis. That year, Ted received his registration as an architect and started a small firm with two others, designing buildings for Wisconsin and its university. His marriage failed in 1965.

Ted moved to Michigan to join an architectural firm in Grand Rapids. Now being not far from Lake Michigan, Ted acquired a cruising boat and participated in local and long distance races, including several "Chicago to Mackinac." Ted remarried in 1971 and moved that year to Holland, Mich., where his new wife lived, and started his own one-man firm designing residences large and small, industrial buildings and a large marina complex.

Ted displayed his love of automobiles during his days at Amherst, where he drove his Cadillac the long way to Mount Holyoke by way of the Connecticut River roads to avoid the potholes of Route 116 at the top of the Notch.

His lifelong hobby was restoring older Mercedes-Benz sports cars

and convertibles, which he drove to antique car shows or for fun on bright sunny days.

He is survived by Donna, his wife of 46 years; a son; two daughters; two grandchildren; two stepsons; two step-grandchildren; and two pet pooches. —*Everett E. Clark '51, with input from Gary Holman '51*

David Chaplin '53

Dave Chaplin died July 27 at a nursing home in Freeport, Maine, at age 86. Dave, who had his home in Brunswick, Maine, had been ill for several years. He reported in 2015 that he had survived a bout with bone and blood cancer but had mostly lost the use of his left arm.

Dave came to Amherst from Portland, Maine, and Millbrook School in the Hudson Valley area of New York State. On campus, he took part in the Christian Association, the Foreign Student Committee, the Outing Club and the Square Dance Committee. He was a member of the Lord Jeff Club and majored in American studies.

Mike Palmer '53 remembered Dave as a "studious, serious and conscientious" person and as an avid sailor who enjoyed taking his boat out on Maine's Casco Bay. He was deeply interested in the history of transportation in Maine and wrote several articles about its once-thriving trolley systems.

After Amherst, Dave earned a doctorate in sociology from Princeton. He worked in the sociology department at the University of Wisconsin from 1964 to 1972 and headed the sociology department at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo from 1972 to 1989. He returned to Maine in 1992.

Dave is survived by his wife, Joyce; three children, Duncan, Scott and Alexandria; and four grandchildren. —*George Gates '53*

Alexander Lee Munson '53

Lee Munson, who combined a career in business finance with major civic responsibilities, died in his sleep in San Francisco on July 9. He was 85.

Lee was born in Hempstead, N.Y., and came to Amherst from Port Washington High School. On campus, he majored in American studies, was a member of Phi Gamma Delta and served as editor of the Sabrina humor magazine.

His fraternity brother, Bob Kiely '53, remembered Lee as "handsome, but not vain or self-conscious, always affable, easy-going and ready for a good time. I often wished I could be as suave as he was without even trying."

After service as a U.S. Coast Guard officer, Lee went to Harvard, where he earned a master's degree in business administration in 1960. Subsequently, he used his talents in finance and management positions with Cresap, McCormick & Paget, Mobil Oil and Fairchild Camera, followed by a decade as vice president-treasurer of Crown Zellerbach.

Finally, he opened his own management consulting firm, A. L. Munson & Co., specializing in finding management solutions for troubled firms. He also taught finance at Golden State University.

In San Francisco, Lee was an important contributor of the municipal government. He was a member of the Mayor's Fiscal Advisory Committee from 1976 to 2007. He served on the San Francisco Civil Service Commission for 16 years, including terms as vice president and president. As an eight-year member of the Library Commission, he helped oversee major renovations of San Francisco's libraries.

Lee loved to sing and ballroom dance. He traveled extensively, had a great interest in his Norwegian roots, was an avid photographer and enjoyed fishing.

He is survived by a son, Eric; two daughters, Genevieve and Anna; and three grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Merla Zellerbach. —*George Gates '53*

Willard J. "Pete" Morse Jr. '54

Though Pete was with our class for only one year, once he reestablished contact with the College in 2010, he affirmed his regard for classmates and remained in touch until his death on Dec. 2, 2016. Pete is survived by three children and one grandson.

After leaving Amherst, he served for two years in the 82nd Airborne, and then earned a B.A. from the University of Vermont, moving to its medical school for his M.D. He interned at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City and held residencies at St. Luke's and at the Hartford Hospital while becoming board certified in obstetrics and gynecology.

For several years, Pete practiced all over the Key West archipelago, piloting his own plane. His interest in flying led him to become an FAA examiner, and to include flight medicine in the practice he later opened in Pembroke, Maine.

He lived with his life partner, Helen Swallow, on a saltwater farm on Cobscook Bay.

At Amherst, I knew Pete as an enthusiastic fellow member of our freshman football team and as a fellow pledge to Psi Upsilon. In the last

few years we corresponded about a number of things, including a mutual interest in Shakespeare. In one of his class letter contributions, Pete mentioned sharing a phone call with Jeff Keener '54, talking about their experiences with Parkinson's and their success in living a full life despite the diagnosis.

I regret my failure to make good on a plan to get to Pete's corner of far northern Maine to extend the conversations we had on email and to learn more of what had clearly been an adventurous and accomplished life. —*Thomas H. Blackburn '54*

R. Donald McDougall '55

Don McDougall died unexpectedly on June 17 at his home in Vero Beach, Fla.

Don came to Amherst from the Haverford School. He was an excellent squash player, ranking number one on the squash team and winning almost every match he played. He pledged Phi Psi, where I was fortunate to be his roommate. Don had a cheery smile, always looking at the positive side of life, and was a true friend and loving person. He loved to play bridge. He was also an excellent tennis player and loved classical music.

Dixon Long '55 writes: "Don gave me something I never thanked him enough for—the love of classical music." He had a large selection of Bach, Beethoven and Brahms recordings in his diverse collection. That was part of my Amherst education that was never recorded in the dean's office but has lasted just as well as Charlie Morgan's "These Great Sights."

After graduation Don entered Navy OCS at Newport, serving for three years. He spent his business career at Towers Perrin Foster and Crosby, much of it in management positions, until his retirement in 1990.

Don was active in the Episcopal Church, serving as warden or vestryman in every parish where he and his wife, Leigh, lived. He was chairman of the personnel committee and the insurance board for the Diocese of Connecticut for 20 years, as well as several other boards for the diocese. He also served as treasurer for 10 years for the Overseas Ministries Study Center.

In 1993 he was on the search committee for the bishop of Connecticut. At St. Augustine in Vero Beach he was lecturer and on the finance and outreach committees.

Don is survived by his beloved and devoted wife of 62 years, Leigh, and two children, Donna Leigh and James Andrew. —*Ted Ruegg '55*

Douglas W. Hawkins '56

Douglas Hawkins of Parsonsfield, Maine, died on Nov. 21, 2016, after a long illness. Military honors took place Dec. 5 of that year at the Southern Maine Veterans Cemetery in Springvale.

He was born in Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27, 1933, to Frank and Margaret Hawkins. Doug came to Amherst from Winchester (Mass.) High. After graduating from the College in 1956, he received a master's in education from the University of Southern California.

He served 24 years in the U.S. Air Force, retiring as a colonel. In Vietnam he was an air commando, flying combat.

After his time in the Air Force, Doug moved to Parsonsfield in 1980 and commuted to work for 15 years at the Mitre Corporation in Bedford, Mass., where he was a project head for R&D. Doug always enjoyed flying and even had a flight simulator in his home.

Surviving him are his wife of almost 50 years, Joan Hawkins of Parsonsfield; three sons: Stephen Hawkins and wife Kristina, of Sugarland, Texas; Gregory Hawkins and wife Bernadette, of Rocklin, Calif.; and Robert Jeffrey Hawkins (retired U.S. Marine Corps) and girlfriend Erin Washburn, of South Portland; and four grandchildren.

He was well-informed on world issues and town politics, as well as on the Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox.

A Theta Delt at Amherst, Doug will be remembered as a very crisp U.S. Air Force ROTC commander on the parade grounds and as (at maybe a towering 6 feet, 6 inches) the center and captain of the Lord Jeff basketball team.

A check of the College's website reveals that 61 years later Doug amazingly *still* holds three Amherst all-time rebounding records. Details are in '56 class notes in this issue. —*Peter Levison '56*

James S. Jenkins '56

Jim's wife, Carole, advised me of his passing on June 26 in Plymouth, Mass., after an undisclosed serious illness. Jim was a very private person and thus evidently did not want an obituary, so this short summary will have to suffice. He had four kids and nine grandchildren. One son is a general in the U.S. Army. Jim worked his entire life at IBM. He and Carole married before graduation and, in fact, had their first child prior to graduation, in April of 1956. Jim came to Amherst from Hingham (Mass.) High School.

He was a member of Alpha Delt and

a four-year outstanding running back on Lord Jeff's football teams, which can forever boast four straight victories over Williams. He was called Amherst's most consistent ground gainer in our senior season. —*Henry Pearsall '56*

Peter M. Saybolt '56

Our dad, who pursued his passion for new and evolving technologies throughout his career as salesman, commodities broker and IT expert, died of cancer May 21, at his home in Ruxton, Md.

Pete grew up in the Drexel Hill section of Philadelphia, graduating from Episcopal Academy in 1952 and Amherst College (Theta Xi) in 1956. His father was president of Saybolt & Cleland, Philadelphia furniture manufacturers. Pete elected not to join the family business, attending the Wharton School instead, then leaving to join the U.S. Navy in 1958 as a navigator, patrolling the Pacific from Hawaii to Midway Island to Alaska.

He married Frances H. Patton (Smith '60). The couple lived in Honolulu until his discharge from the Navy in 1962. After short stints elsewhere, they moved to their current home in Ruxton in 1966. There they raised three children: David '85, Rebecca '87 and Robert (Bates '92). Strong family traditions included annual trips to Fenwick Island, Del.; family sing-alongs led by Pete, an accomplished pianist; and backyard fireworks.

Trained as a chemist, Pete delighted in assisting customers with the formulation of new products. In 1971, he changed careers—becoming a commodities trader specializing in volatile markets. As he developed programs to predict market moves, Pete fell in love with computer technology.

He became an early aficionado of Apple Computer and invested astutely in the company, following with more early investments in Google, Tesla and other emerging firms. In his later years, he monitored friends and family on all matters technological.

Pete retained his love of music, traveling widely to hear Dixieland jazz. He was devoted to his family and never missed an opportunity to visit with cousins at the family cottage in Fenwick Island.

He is survived by his wife, Frances; three children; five grandchildren; and a sister. —*David Saybolt '85, Rebecca Bainum '87*

Carl H. Andrus '57

We are sad to report the death of Carl

Andrus on July 11 in Rochester, N.Y. At Amherst Carl was a Renaissance man, majoring in English and singing in the Glee Club and DQ, in addition to completing his premedical requirements.

Classmates will remember his quiet intelligence and friendly, modest demeanor. His interest in music was lifelong. He loved classical and opera, played many instruments, built a clavichord in his 40s and took up cello at 70.

After Amherst Carl attended the University of Rochester Medical School. Next he interned in surgery at Columbia-Presbyterian in New York City.

In 1963 he volunteered for the U.S. Navy and spent a year in Antarctica. (In recognition of his service as officer-in-charge of Byrd Station, an Antarctic volcano was named Mt. Andrus.) In 1965 he returned to Rochester for his surgical residency and remained there for the rest of his career, except while holding an immunology fellowship at Duke from 1968 to 1970, where he received a master's degree.

At Rochester Carl met Noelle, an R.N. completing her bachelor's degree. They married in 1966 and enjoyed 50 rich years together. They had two children: Michael '91 and Jennifer (Rochester '92).

After his residency Carl entered private practice but eventually shifted to full-time academic medicine due to his love of teaching. He enjoyed a superlative reputation as a caring, expert physician, teacher and mentor.

Carl was also an avid outdoorsman. On one European trip shortly after Amherst, he combined visits to the great museums with a climb of the Matterhorn, not a trivial endeavor back then. He continued to climb in the Adirondacks, eventually becoming a 46-er, and loved to canoe, fish and birdwatch, particularly at his beloved summer place in northern Vermont.

Carl confronted his final illness with grace and courage and remained active professionally until the end—an inspiration for us all. —*Mike Andrus '91, Len Prosnitz '57*

George L. Hacker '57

George L. Hacker of New York, London and most recently Scottsdale, Ariz., died on June 11 while on holiday in the United Kingdom. A proud graduate of Amherst, he enjoyed a full and successful life both personally and professionally.

His career included roles at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, as a newspaperman, as adjunct professor at Columbia University, as di-

rector of research at Blyth Eastman Dillon in New York and as partner/senior managing director at Bear Stearns in London. George was a generous and genial man, loved and admired by many and large in both heart and spirit. Travel, cruises, poker and model trains were among his interests.

He will be greatly missed, especially by his five children: Mark, Laura, Scott, Neil and Georgina, as well as his daughters-in-law and son-in-law and two grandchildren. At George's request, a celebration of his life will be organized for later this year.

George always spoke fondly of his time at Amherst. In May he attended his 60th class reunion and enjoyed time in the dorms with his classmates. He commented at the reunion that he thought he still has the class record for the youngest offspring (twins).

One of George's favorite quotations was from Teddy Roosevelt, which George wrote in his 50th reunion book: "The credit belongs to the man who was actually in the arena, whose face is marred with sweat, and dust, and blood, who tries and fails and tries again, for this man, when he wins, knows the most glorious of triumphs; and when he fails, can at least take solace in the knowledge that his place will never be with those cold and timid souls who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory or defeat." —*The Hacker Family*

Boris Baranovic '58

Boris Baranovic lived a noteworthy life, ending in his native Yugoslavia (Serbia) in 2016. The exact date and cause are not known. Boris joined our class junior year but remained something of a mystery to most of us then and after.

Born in Sibenick, Yugoslavia, he studied at the University of Zagreb (philosophy) and specialized in history and art history. In September 1952 he went on a student excursion to Italy and decided to defect to the West. He ended up in Naples in a center for defectors and started taking courses in scene design and art history at the University of Naples.

Boris loved Naples, where he "learned how to live and grow differently from the patterns of Communist rule." Setting the stage for his life to come, Boris said, "Music and laughter and culture were part of my every moment; in the freedom of those four years, I grew into a young man with a new sense of future and possibility."

A small exhibition of work for a display at the American Consulate serendipitously led to a scholarship to Amherst. Kirby Theater Masquers and the Glee Club became his family. He later attended the Yale University School of Drama and earned a master's degree.

His first job was at the University of Buffalo, where he met American composer and critic Virgil Thompson. Boris designed sets for one of

Thompson's operas. Thompson also helped Boris study with the Wagner family in Bayreuth and at Spoleto festivals with Giancarlo Menotti. Thompson composed one of his *Piano Portraits* about Boris. (It is titled "Whirling.")

From 1966 to 1993 Boris was in the performing arts department at American University in Washington, D.C., designing more than 100 productions.

Retiring as professor emeritus, he moved to Baltimore, where he housed a large collection of paintings and sculpture. For our 50th, Boris donated 128 caricatures by Honoré Daumier to Mead Art Museum. —*Allen M. Clark '58*

Boniface Wadors '59

Bon Wadors died in December 2016. Bon's path to Amherst was very different from that of almost anyone in our class. He came from a modest immigrant home. He was "signed" in 1948 to play football for then powerful Tulane, but, after a semester of football and not seeing much in the way of academics, he left.

During the three years he spent in the U.S. Army, he became a driver for a general and traveled all over Europe. After his discharge he worked as a big band singer and later sold used cars. A chance encounter with a high school classmate and Amherst graduate led him to become a freshman at age 26, older and certainly more worldly than the rest of

us. Bon played freshman football and later took soccer as his fall required PE class; he was referred to as the "siege gun" for the power of his kicks. He became a member of the DQ. He roomed with Rick Abeles '59 and Stan Lelewer '59 as a freshman, and they became roommates again when all three joined DU. He was a great roommate and companion.

Following graduation he went to work for IBM and roomed with Stan in Greenwich Village. He worked for IBM for 35 years, and in 1989 he was a senior manager in Paris. Eventually he moved to Walnut Creek, Calif., where he and Rick reconnected. Rick reports that "he still had the same wonderful outlook and sense of humor."

He contracted liver cancer and relocated to the West Bay, nearer to son David. He was there for a year and stopped driving two months before his death. Bon left three children—two daughters and one son—all three in California. He was a wonderful friend and will be greatly missed. —*Rick Abeles '59*

Harry Talbot Neimeyer '61

It is my sad duty to report that Harry Talbot Neimeyer died on May 23. Harry was a Minnesotan through and through. He spent his whole life there except for four years at Amherst.

Harry was born in Duluth on May 25, 1939, and graduated from St. Paul Academy and Summit School in 1957. At Amherst, Harry was a beloved fel-

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low brother at Alpha Delta Phi and was on the College's varsity hockey team, serving as co-captain with John Turner '61 our senior year. Harry majored in American studies.

He had a dry wit and was known as "Night Train Harry." This came from his being in a car returning from a night hockey scrimmage with Dartmouth; while crossing railroad tracks, he was awakened by a train to see its light bearing down upon him.

Harry practiced law at the St. Paul law firm of Stringer & Rohleder for more than 40 years, specializing in probate and litigation. He served as mayor of the city of Afton, Minn., in the early 1970s. Harry was an avid tennis and hockey player. His loves were long walks along the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers, Duluth and Lake Superior, where he was a master at skipping stones.

He is survived by former wife Helene (Lenie) Smith, whom many of us remember; daughter Sarah Neimeyer; sons Slater Tai and Charlie Neimeyer; and five grandchildren. John Turner attended Harry's memorial service and reports that Sarah spoke, attesting to the close and wonderful relationship Harry had with his grandchildren. —*Ted Ells '61*

Philip Edward Gossett '62

Philip Gossett died on June 13 at his home in Chicago. *The New York Times* described Philip as "a musicologist whose shoe-leather detective work in musty archives and Italian villas helped bring long-lost operas back to the stage."

Many have said that Philip was the world's leading authority on the performance of Italian opera. The University of Chicago published Philip's book *Divas and Scholars: Performing Italian Opera* in 2006, truly a treasure for opera lovers.

In June, Riccardo Muti devoted the final series of the Chicago Symphony 2016-17 subscription concerts to excerpts from Italian operatic masterworks and dedicated them to Philip, his late friend and colleague.

Philip grew up in New York City. He studied piano at age 5 at Juilliard's preparatory division. At Amherst he studied physics and math for three years, changing directions as he approached his senior year by taking a year off to study music at Columbia University. Returning to Amherst, he changed his major to music and graduated summa cum laude. He earned his doctorate from Princeton University and immediately joined the faculty of the University of Chicago.

At retirement, he was both a distinguished service professor in music at Chicago and professor of music at the University of Rome, Italy.

The Andrew M. Mellon Foundation awarded Philip its lifetime achievement award, and the Italian government gave him its highest civilian award in 1998.

Philip is survived by his wife, Suzanne; sons David and Jeffrey; and five granddaughters.

My wife and I spent several wonderful days with Philip and Suzanne in Rome in 2006. Perhaps the first classmate I met at Amherst, he was a brilliant man whose scholarship will be a lasting legacy to music and opera. I will miss his personal notes and his friendship. For other tributes, see www.amherst.edu/amherst-story/magazine/in_memory/1962/philipgossett. —*Sandy Short '62*

Theodore Schuker '62

After graduation, Ted earned a master's degree and a Ph.D. in comparative literature, then settled in France, where he taught at the Sorbonne and became a highly sought-after freelance interpreter, working for international organizations, major companies and European world leaders. Francophile and francophone, world traveler, violist and pianist, distance runner and spiritual seeker, Ted was far more than the sum of his parts. His intellectual curiosity and lively conversations with friends and relatives continued until his death from a heart attack on May 31, 2016. —*Sandy Short '62*

William Jackson Lewis II '64

William Jackson Lewis II died on Aug. 19 after a long illness. An obituary has been posted at www.amherst.edu/amherststory/magazine/in_memory/1964/williamlewis.

Terry Segal '64 remembers, "Bill was bigger than life: at 6 feet 4 or 5, with a very athletic build (he was an outstanding defenseman on the Amherst lacrosse team), Bill looked right out of central casting. He came from Harlan, a small town in Iowa, where his father was president of the local bank. Not surprisingly, he spent most of his career in banking. After freshman year, Bill stayed at our house in Newton as we sought summer employment.

Years later, he and his wonderful wife, Kathy, came to my house in Gloucester to celebrate my 65th birthday. Bill got up and recounted how he had stayed at our house that summer for "two weeks" more than 40 years ago. My mother, then 87, chimed in "Two months, not two weeks." My sense is she was more accurate than Bill.

Bill was from a solid Protestant Midwestern family; his son Chris married a Jewish woman who as-

pired to be an opera singer. She did not succeed but has had a great career as a temple cantor—something Bill was very proud of. "Bill was always a lot of fun to be with." This latter sentiment of Terry's was confirmed by Ray Battocchi '64: "Bill and I were fraternity brothers at DKE. He was intelligent and likable, had a good sense of humor and loved to laugh. We spent many hours together, along with other friends, either discussing serious issues or just having fun." —*Terry Segal '64, Ray Battocchi '64*

David Pellegrin '64

David Pellegrin, for decades a media institution as chairman and owner of Honolulu Publishing Co., died Aug. 5 of cardiac arrest following knee surgery. He was 74. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; a son, Adam "Konti" Pellegrin; and a brother, Jonathan Pellegrin.

He was born in Woodstock, Ill., and had a lifelong ambition to be a journalist. His dream of becoming a foreign correspondent in China brought him to Hawaii for postgraduate Asian studies via an East-West Center grant, and he later got a job with the *Honolulu Advertiser* as an editorial writer and then a reporter.

In 1977, together with the Wisconsin publishing company where his father was president and minority owner, David purchased the magazine established by King David Kalakaua in 1888 as *Paradise of the Pacific*, and Honolulu Publishing Co. was born.

Over the years David improved the magazine, built circulation, added titles and eventually acquired sole ownership. His staff grew from six to more than 90. "Dave helped raise the bar for journalists in Hawaii," wrote Richard Borreca, whom David hired in the early 1980s.

In 1991, David's first-born son, George, was killed in traffic at age 18. The Compassionate Friends, a national nonprofit bereavement support organization, provided the help David needed, and he became a volunteer for the group. "He was at one point the president of the national board of directors, and he also started the Compassionate Friends Foundation and was Honolulu chapter leader.... He did it all in memory of his son." David was also a jazz enthusiast and drummer. "We went to the Monterey Jazz Festival every year," said Kathleen.

Going back perhaps 20 years, he played in a band, the Psychedelic Relics, composed of daytime professionals and wannabe musicians when they could find a gig. —*Kathleen Pellegrin*

Brian Taylor '65

Brian Taylor died April 15. I learned this through a mutual friend, Tony Schuman (Wesleyan '65), who knew him fairly well during the latter part of his life.

Brian and I lived on the second floor of Morrow our freshman year, and, while memories can be slippery things when looked at 56 years later, I remember a bright, engaged person who enjoyed some antics but seemed serious about the intellectual side of our daily pursuits.

Brian always sought the interesting challenge—the challenge that might bring an additional insight or new way of looking at the world. This was true academically as well as personally. I remember that he convinced Bill Kates '65 to join him during the summer after freshman year on a drive across the country to Alaska, where they fished salmon commercially.

Brian received a doctorate in architectural history from Harvard and was a professor in Paris and New York. Tony Schuman adds: "Brian was a longtime professor of architectural history at New York Institute of Technology, where he was a beloved figure. He was widely respected as a scholar, notably of the works of Le Corbusier.

His knowledge of French language and architecture led to his role as associate editor of *l'Architecture d'Aujourd'hui*, the preeminent French architecture magazine, and a teaching position at the École Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Belleville."

According to Tony, Brian was a scholar of Pierre Chareau, who designed the Maison de Verre ("Glass House"), an iconic early modern residence in Paris. Brian played a significant role in the recent sale of the house to new owners dedicated to its preservation. "His interests in world culture led to his cofounding of *Mimar*, a magazine devoted to the architecture of the developing world. He was the author of several monographs on non-Western architects."

A resident of Montclair, N.J., Brian is survived by his wife, Teresa; two sons, David and Leith; and a brother, Kerry. —*Chris Reid '65*

Stephen H. Gunnels '71

Steve Gunnels died June 22 of a heart condition complicated by Parkinson's. He leaves his wife, Claire; three children Patrick, Barbara and Rebecca; and his mother, sister and brother.

Steve was proud of being born in Port Arthur, Texas, Janis Joplin's hometown. He grew up across the

West and Midwest, learning to make new friends easily.

I met Steve in Baird's freshman English course. Baird once printed up his essay on the dark sun in the College logo. Steve imitated Baird hilariously and affectionately: "Now, boys ..." and "Mr. Gunnels, what do you *mean* by that?" I got to know Steve better sophomore year in Valentine and appreciated his empathetic laughter at others' foibles. During our last two years, Steve lived in Phi Psi and majored in English. His senior thesis with Professor Pritchard concerned a Ford Madox Ford novel (I believe *The Good Soldier*).

In fall 1971, Steve married Claire Braunstein (Mount Holyoke '71). He graded papers at Harvard Business School and sold gold and silver while Claire earned a library degree from Simmons. He was assaulted in Cambridge in 1976 for wearing a Reagan button. I remember Steve's delivering gold to a client in a briefcase that was chained to his wrist.

In 1978, Steve, Claire and the newborn Patrick moved to Houston. We kept in touch by mail and very occasional visits. In the 1990s, Steve got into web hosting early and initiated the class's discussion list, allowing for new—virtual—friendships.

Patrick praised Steve's optimism, positive attitude, mental toughness and unfailing support for family. After evening dinners, he and Claire regularly announced three things they were grateful for.

Amherst was significant in Steve's life. He was an important part of my Amherst experience and that of several classmates. He was one of us, and we will miss him. —*Tom Smith '71*

Kenneth E. Glover '74

Ken Glover died July 2 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer. At his funeral, George Johnson '73 described him as: "Smart. Brash. Loyal. Funny. Confident. Stubborn—all the things Amherst thought it taught you. Truth be told, Kenneth was all those things long before he came to Amherst."

Ken graduated top of his class at Fairmont Heights (Md.) High School. He and I were among those to enroll in the Common Studies program, the last gasp of a core curriculum at Amherst. Ken took his studies seriously. He also played basketball and regaled us with many stories in the Annex at Valentine. Tom Leach '74, Ken and I were roommates in Pratt sophomore year. Joined by Chuck Donaldson '74, we spent many nights strolling into town on pizza runs.

Ken spent his senior year in Washington, D.C., and wrote his thesis on

home rule for the District of Columbia. This laid the foundation for a robust career in urban finance, politics, governance and economic development.

He was deputy campaign manager for Harold Washington's historic campaign as Chicago's first black mayor and campaign chair for his re-election.

He advised several first-time African-American mayors and was principal financial adviser to the Washington Convention Center Authority. In Prince George's County, he was chief administrative officer and chair of the Hospital Authority, playing a pivotal role in reorganizing how healthcare is delivered.

The highlight of Ken's life was his family. He always felt lucky to have met and married Lauren Dugas. He was very proud of their two sons, Evan Joseph Glover and Jonathan Taylor Glover.

My last conversation with Ken was when he called in May to wish me a happy birthday. In the end, he was chiding, encouraging and generous. Grateful for all that life has brought his way. We will miss him. —*Richard Ammons '74*

Richard J. Kelly '79

Little did I know when I last saw Richard "Juice" Kelly at the celebration of the life of Tom Barquinero '79 that ALS would take him from us just over a year later.

Juice was fondly nicknamed by Coach Ostendarp for his steadfast and enthusiastic role as manager of the Amherst College football team, which included the daily provision of mixing many gallons of "juice" to keep the team hydrated!

His hyperkinetic enthusiasm for all things Amherst created a larger-than-life persona that endeared him to so many in our college community. It was quite common to see Rich in the stands at many sporting events boisterously leading the cheers by spelling out AMHERST with his body. Juice bled purple and white!

We became fast friends freshman year and were roommates at the DU fraternity house sophomore and junior years.

After college, we kept in touch regularly, and while he would always enjoy updating me on his investment banking activities, he really was most enthusiastic and proudest about updating me on the growth and progress of his beloved children: Brian, Meghan and James. He loved to attend their many athletic activities, and I'm sure he led the cheers.

One of our most enjoyable moments together was meeting up with his son Brian after an Amherst event

and hearing about his impressive college football experiences.

We can all be comforted that the pain and sadness of saying goodbye to Juice way too soon will ultimately be replaced by the fond and enduring memories of a wonderful person, a great guy with an infectious zest for life and a passion for the people and things that he held dearest! —*Russell Isaac '79*

Professor John Pemberton III

John "Jack" Pemberton, the Stanley Warfield Crosby Professor of Religion, Emeritus, died on Nov. 30, 2016. An expert in the art and rituals of the Yoruba of Nigeria, he published and lectured widely in this area.

Born in 1928, in New Brunswick, N.J., he received a bachelor's degree from Princeton in 1948. He went on to receive a bachelor's in divinity in 1952 and a doctorate in 1958 from Duke University. Before arriving at Amherst, Pemberton was an assistant professor of religion at Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Virginia.

He was a professor of religion at Amherst from 1958 to 1998, serving as the Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities from 1985 to 1998 and the Crosby Professor of Religion from 1975 to 1998.

He was an associate fellow at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, from 1981 to 1982. He was a visiting research associate, Ife, Ile-Ife, Nigeria, in 1986. During 14 research trips to Nigeria, his research continued in Ila Irangun, Nigeria.

Pemberton served on the board of advisers at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art. He was consulting curator of African art at the Smith College Museum of Art from 2000 to 2015.

He chaired the Working Group in African Studies in the Humanities, Social Science Research Council/American Council of Learned Societies. He also served on the Smithsonian/Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship Committee of African Art and on the council for International Exchange of Scholars' Advisory Committee in Religion.

Pemberton was a longtime member of Grace Episcopal Church in Amherst. He is survived by his wife, Jane; two sons, John Pemberton IV (Marilyn) and Robert Barker (Karin); four daughters, Nanci Church (Thomas), Susan Winslow (Daniel), Debra Reehorn (Robert) and Lynn Barker (Mark); 12 grandchildren; and two sisters, Barbara Smith and Jane Buckley.

Mary Carlson

Mary Carlson died on Sept. 16 after a long illness. She was 80 and lived in Amherst. She came to the College in 1978 and worked as a staff assistant and admissions specialist in the admission office. She retired in 2005.

She graduated from Upsala College in 1958 and settled in Amherst in 1964. Very active in the Lutheran church, she was a member of Immanuel Lutheran in Amherst since 1967, where she held several leadership positions. Also an accomplished musician, she was a singer and played the trumpet, organ and piano.

She is survived by her husband, David; four children; five grandchildren; a brother; a sister; and many nieces and nephews.

Lorraine Tully

Lorraine Tully died on March 25 at Mont Marie Health Care Center in Holyoke. She was 74. She came to the College in 1978 as the secretary to the librarian and became the library's business manager in 2008. She retired from the College in 2010.

Born in Holyoke, she received her bachelor's degree from UMass in 2004. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, reading, gardening and traveling. She is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

Francis "Jim" Osborn

Francis "Jim" Osborn died on Dec. 13, 2016. He was 85. He came to the College in 1959, joining the buildings and grounds department, and worked at Amherst until his retirement in 1994.

Born in Northampton, he was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving in Korea from 1952 to 1954. He enjoyed traveling and spending time with his family. He is survived by his beloved Dorothy Andrew; a sister-in-law; a nephew; a niece; and extended family and friends.

Elizabeth "BettyAnn" Kelly

Elizabeth "BettyAnn" Kelly died Dec. 9, 2016. She came to the College in 1977 as a slides curator in the fine arts department. In 1983 she became the fine arts librarian, and in 1987, she combined that position with head of circulation. She retired in 1996.

A 1970 graduate of Boston University, she moved to Amherst with her family in 1970. She later received her M.L.S. from the University of Rhode Island.

In retirement she was active in the arts community in and around Amherst. She is survived by a son, three nephews and four grandchildren.

FINANCIAL AID

Expanding Our Reach

In 2007 Amherst resolved to replace loans with grants in its financial aid packages. Ten years later, that decision is paying off in spades.

Amherst arose out of a spirit of generosity. In the years before its founding, local residents pledged donations to a Charity Fund to support the fledgling College. The pledges came in many forms—from watermelons and turnips, to pennies a week for life, to half a yearly salary—as Amherst’s early patrons gave what they could to make the College a reality. Amherst’s mission may have moved beyond “the education of indigent young men of piety and talents for the Christian ministry,” as it was in 1821, but the College has continued to uphold that spirit of generosity throughout its history. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Amherst’s decision to replace all loans in financial aid packages with grants and scholarships, allowing students to graduate with little to no debt.

For Peter Mack '15, Amherst's diverse student body was a draw and an advantage, because he could hear points of view far different from his own.

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Amherst

FALL
2017



“Today, 55 percent of Amherst students receive College financial aid. Perhaps most important, the policy has been a rousing success in what it has given the College: every marker of student excellence has risen in the past decade.

The policy is only the most recent step taken to make Amherst affordable for a wider range of students. In 1965, the College adopted a need-blind admission policy. Twenty years later, “Amherst was among the first colleges and universities in the country to reduce the loans for low-income students,” says Dean of Admission and Financial Aid Katharine Fretwell ’81. In 1999, the College eliminated loans for students with family incomes below \$40,000 a year. In 2007, the trustees voted to eliminate them for everyone.

Amherst now meets 100 percent of a student’s demonstrated need without the use of loans. Some students still choose to borrow to fund other expenses or as part of their family’s share of tuition.

While Amherst is one of 16 U.S. institutions with such a policy, it is one of only four—and the only

small liberal arts college—that is need-blind, that has eliminated loans and that meets the full demonstrated need for not only U.S. students but international ones as well. One key reason the College is able to do this is the extraordinary generosity of its alumni: as of 2016–17, there were 618 dedicated scholarship funds for 839 students.

The impetus for the policy came in 2006, when the Committee on Academic Priorities recommended extending outreach to lower-income students, eliminating loans and becoming need-blind for international students. In “an expensive decision to be made at a critical time,” as Fretwell puts it, the faculty approved all of these initiatives, and the College decided to increase enrollment to help achieve them.

Those decisions have paid off. Last year, 55 percent of Amherst students received College financial

aid. The policy has allowed admission officers to reach populations who would not otherwise have had Amherst in their sights. “When you can wave a financial aid flag with that kind of generosity, people pay attention, and I think that’s made a big difference in the kind of students now considering Amherst,” Fretwell says.

Perhaps most important, the policy has been a rousing success in what it has given the College: every marker of student excellence has risen in the past decade.

Ten years in, it’s clear that Amherst’s more diverse student body is a draw and an advantage. This was certainly true for **Peter Mack ’15**. A Cape Cod native who came from Tabor Academy, Mack learned about Amherst “accidentally,” and it was love at first sight. He made friends quickly, and they made his experience. “The opportunity

Silvia Wu ’11 says Amherst gave her the opportunity to take classes and pursue careers that fit her particular interests. She is now a lawyer.



*Photographs
by Jimell
Greene*

to hear points of view that are so drastically different from mine, whether it's because the person came from Asia or Africa, or California or Florida, or because their families are made up differently, was invaluable," says Mack. At Amherst, he joined the squash team, majored in history and wrote a thesis on desegregation and urban planning.

Now a consultant with Censeo in Washington, D.C., Mack wishes he had more opportunities in his day-to-day life to engage with others the way he did at Amherst.

Silvia Wu '11 came from a large high school in San Francisco. Her two priorities for college were that it be far from home and small. Wu calls her experience at Amherst "eye-opening," and the opportunity to freely explore her academic interests was paramount.

"I am thankful for the financial aid package," Wu says. "It gives students across different back-

grounds—whether you're middle-class or from a working-class background like I was—the opportunity to experience a liberal arts education." This opportunity otherwise might have been unaffordable.

"So I'm grateful," she says. "I could take classes that were interesting to me and pursue careers and professions that fit my interests." A recent graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, Wu is a new associate at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C.

For **Mari Crook '13**, Amherst was an option only because of the financial aid package, which made the College more affordable than the University of Illinois, where she would have been an in-state student. She was impressed with the interest Amherst took in her, beginning with flying her to see the campus once she'd been accepted. That sense of care continued throughout her time at Amherst: the College

funded her internships in India and Costa Rica and her semester abroad in Paris. That Amherst subsidized more than just her tuition allowed Crook to think more globally.

Now, Crook is in her third year of teaching math at a bilingual school in southern Thailand. While she originally considered teaching as a temporary occupation, she is now pursuing certification, with the goal of eventually working in an international school abroad.

"Because I was able to leave college basically debt-free, I don't feel as much pressure to make money right away," she says, "The fact that I don't have loans made a big impact on what I thought I *could* do after college."

Crook plans to stay longer in Thailand, where she now teaches all of the math classes at her little school. "I really love it here," she says, "and I don't think my work is done yet." ☀

Amherst was an option for Mari Crook '13 only because of the financial aid. Her ability to graduate without loans had a major impact on her career choice.

*Photograph
by Paul
Elledge*

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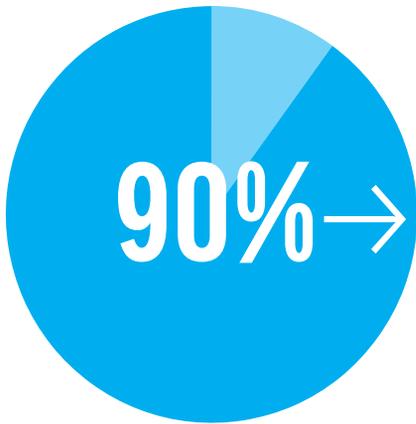


THE NUMBERS

Sources of Financial Aid

Amherst is need-blind in the admission process, does not package loans and meets the full demonstrated need for all students regardless of citizenship.

Amherst 2016–17 Financial Aid Budget



\$50.9 million, or 90%, of Amherst’s financial aid budget is from College grant funds.

90% → \$50.9 million

THIS INCLUDES:



\$15.3 million from endowed and current-use scholarships

\$35.6 million from unrestricted sources

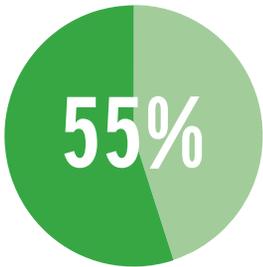
And the rest?

\$3.12 million, or 5.5%, comes from federal, state and private scholarships and grants.

\$1.7 million comes from student employment.

\$1.04 million comes from other sources and can include loans that students (rather than the College) initiate.

Financial Aid Facts



55% of students received need-based financial aid in 2016-17.

The average Amherst aid package was **\$51,775**.

618 scholarship funds provided aid to **839** students.



At Amherst, students can graduate debt-free. In many cases, this opens up their career options.

PICTURE IT

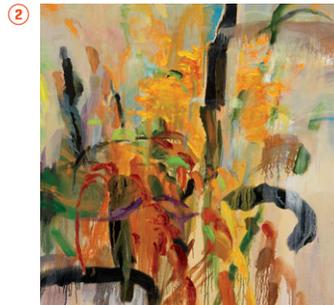
BY DAVID E. LITTLE, Director and Chief Curator, Mead Art Museum

At the Mead, we like to say that our collection spans continents and centuries: here you can find more than 19,000 cultural artifacts from Africa, Asia and the Americas, as well as European and Russian art, representing thousands of years of history. In fact, our collection is a physical link with human history, or at least a portion of it. Some works demonstrate how people ate food or decorated drinking vessels,

YOUR CHALLENGE:

For these three objects in the Mead's collection, identify the time period in which each was created; the medium; and what it depicts (for #2 and #3) or what 19th-century French painting it references (#1). Send your answers to magazine@amherst.edu or *Amherst* magazine, Box 5000, Amherst MA 01002. Anyone who answers correctly will be entered to win one poster of a Mead artwork. Details about the three objects will appear in the next issue.

while others reveal how artists grapple with the beauty and wonder of nature. Art helps students contemplate the picture of human activity through the ages, providing clues and context for grand historical events and offering glimpses of everyday lives. At its core, the Mead's collection tells us about ourselves: where we've come from, how we've changed (or not) and where there's room to improve.



LAST QUARTER'S ANSWERS

BY CATHERINE SANDERSON, *Manwell Family Professor in Life Sciences (Psychology)*, who wrote the psychology contest

① Why do Olympic bronze medalists show higher levels of happiness than Olympic silver medalists? This finding is explained by counterfactual thinking, meaning people's tendency to reflect differently on an outcome depending on how easily they can imagine a different outcome. Silver medalists can easily imagine doing just a bit better and winning a gold; bronze medalists can easily imagine doing just a bit worse and not winning a medal at all.

② Why are people who get hugged regularly less likely to develop the common cold—even when they've all been directly exposed to a cold virus? Hugging stimulates pressure receptors under the skin that trigger the release of oxytocin. Higher levels of oxytocin lead to decreases in heart rate, blood pressure and the stress hormones cortisol and norepinephrine. Higher levels of oxytocin also lead to improved immune function, which in turn increases the ability to fight off a cold.

③ Why do couples who meet online experience higher levels of marital satisfaction than couples who meet in more traditional ways? Although research finds that couples who meet online have happier marriages and are less likely to get divorced, the specific factors that explain this finding are still under debate. One possibility is that couples who meet online are more motivated to get married (they've invested time, effort and money in finding a partner). Another is that they benefit from having access to a larger number of potential dating partners, which increases their likelihood of finding the right match.

④ Why are professional baseball players more likely to get hit by a pitch in August than in May? Numerous studies demonstrate that as the temperature increases, so does the incidence of aggressive acts, including murder, rape, domestic violence and assault. In turn, batters are much more likely to get hit by

pitches on hot days (August) than on cooler ones (May), especially when more of the players on the pitcher's own team have already been hit by the opposing pitcher (which suggests that retaliation is a driver for aggression).

⑤ Why do college students who take notes by hand perform better on exams than students who take notes using a laptop? Research shows that students who take notes using a laptop tend to transcribe lectures verbatim rather than processing information and reframing it in their own words. When students hand-write, they are engaging in deeper learning and processing, which leads to better retention of the information.

*WWW.AMHERST.EDU/MAGAZINE:
A selection of responses from
readers who correctly answered the
psychology questions*

WHO WERE YOU AT AMHERST?



8 a.m.

You woke up in:

- a.** Stearns Dorm
 - b.** Deke House
 - c.** the Zu
 - d.** Frost Library (because, you know, your thesis)
-



8:30 a.m.

You changed into your:

- a.** Brooks Brothers jacket
 - b.** Nehru jacket
 - c.** Laura Ashley dress (the horror)
 - d.** skinny jeans
-



11 a.m.

You took a class with:

- a.** Professor Baird (who crawled in through the window)
- b.** Professor Olver
- c.** Professor Corrales
- d.** Professor Jaswal



1 p.m.

You ate at Valentine and had:

- a.** pheasant under glass (or was it mystery meat?)
 - b.** cheesy potato soup
 - c.** buffalo chicken
 - d.** Lucky Charms
-



4 p.m.

You wrote a paper on your:

- a.** papyrus scroll
 - b.** manual typewriter with the stuck "e"
 - c.** Apple IIe
 - d.** laptop
-



8 p.m.

You went to:

- a.** sing with the Zumbyes
- b.** practice for the Amherst-Williams game
- c.** grab a slice at Antonio's
- d.** work in the lab (ah, formaldehyde)

Whenever you were at Amherst,
whatever you did at Amherst,
wherever you are now...

**Your gift of any amount makes an Amherst education possible for students today.
Please consider a gift to the **Annual Fund**.**

Visit <https://engage.amherst.edu/give/> or call 413-542-5900.

