Professors of Economics Don Peppard and Rolf Jensen travel to Vietnam for this spring's Study Abroad/Teach Abroad program. This time they bring a convoy of students with them.
CONNECTICUT COLLEGE Magazine

Campus View
News and Happenings on the CC Campus

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Vietnam: a new vision

How a liberal arts education can build a bridge between New London and Vietnam

For most Americans, the word Vietnam is a Rorschach test of age and attitude. Beyond the once ubiquitous images of destruction, Vietnam is emerging today as a vibrant and hopeful young nation. Last spring we sent our first Study Away Teach Away (SATA) group to Vietnam. I hope you will enjoy, as I did, reading about their life-changing experiences, beginning on page 22.

Since 1994, 169 student and 20 faculty members have participated in SATAs in Egypt, Ghana, Greece, India, Mexico, Morocco, South Africa, Tanzania, and Vietnam; this year, groups will go to the Czech Republic, Greece, and Mexico. In the same time, the College community, and I personally, have engaged deeply in the economic rebirth of New London.

Like most colleges, Connecticut College has lived for much of its history at arm's length from the problems of its urban neighbors, just as Westerners have enjoyed immense ease relative to most of the world. Now we must forge a new sense of global community.

We, who are privileged in so many ways, must learn to hear with our intellects as well as with our hearts when much of the world's people say, "We suffer."

Regardless of your faith, the New Testament story of the Good Samaritan resonates, and even more so, the question that the parable was framed to answer: Who is my neighbor? We are all neighbors on this shrinking planet. Vietnam is New London. New London is Vietnam. And, I believe, liberal arts education will build the bridges between them.

The community of scholars merges with the community of understanding to help individuals envision a common future across apparently massive barriers.

Claire L. Gaudiani '66
President of the College
Reactions, flashbacks

Are cheerleaders a controversial topic?

At first I thought it was a joke, but a second look at the jubilantly perky uniform-clad, pompom-wielding, all-female Conn College cheerleaders in the spring issue of *Connecticut College Magazine* convinced me that this unexpected image was depressingly serious. I was at Conn when Title IX was passed in 1972, but even in the benighted pre-Title IX years we would not have dreamed of donning uniforms and shaking pompons to cheer on "the boys." What I can imagine from that era is cheerleaders in drag exploiting the sweet idiocy of the whole cheerleading phenomenon. That one picture made me ashamed, for the first time in my life, of being a Conn graduate.

Susan Krehs '73
York, Penn.

I cherish the memory of Lester Reiss, pausing in the middle of a discussion of James Blish's "Cities in Flight," overcome with enthusiasm for the work and the ideas it contained. "There's great stuff in here!" he shouted. All these years later, and a writer of science fiction and fantasy myself, the best hope I have for my books is that there is Great Stuff in them, too. Thanks, Lester.

Madeleine Robins '75
New York, N.Y.

First day as a freshman in her class, she launched into a recitation from memory of the prologue to *The Canterbury Tales* that bowled me over — the language, the work itself, and her obvious love for it were instantly contagious. My less than stellar showing in Spanish that semester is probably accounted for by the antithesis of academic detachment, but without a word for Lester Reiss, of the philosophy department. In my senior year I took an elective, Speculative Fiction and Fantasy, a high-volume blast of a class that examined the sacred, the secular and the profane in Science Fiction and Fantasy, my preferred leisure time reading. I cherish the memory of Lester Reiss, pausing in the middle of a discussion of James Blish's "Cities in Flight," overcome with enthusiasm for the work and the ideas it contained. "There's great stuff in here!" he shouted. All these years later, and a writer of science fiction and fantasy myself, the best hope I have for my books is that there is Great Stuff in them, too. Thanks, Lester.

H. Peter Young '84
Washington, D.C.

Kudos on Connecticut College Magazine in general, and on the alumni "Flashbacks" article (Spring 1999) in particular! I cannot think of a more appropriate way to honor the quality faculty members who have had such a profound impact on the lives of so many. I encourage you to continue or repeat this feature. There are many faculty members, past and present, who deserve similar recognition and praise.

H. Peter Young '84
Washington, D.C.

I was delighted to read Anton Malko's memory of Gerda Taranow, one of my favorite teachers at Connecticut. My she did, but by God, you could not be neutral, and she taught me that it was as honorable to dislike a work on its merits as to praise it. She was the antithesis of academic detachment, but with a mind as incisive as it was enthusiastic. Even on the dreariest of days I looked forward to her classes.

I cannot mention teachers who were invaluable to this writer's growth without a word for Lester Reiss, of the philosophy department. In my senior year I took an elective, Speculative Fiction and Fantasy, a high-volume blast of a class that examined the sacred, the secular and the profane in Science Fiction and Fantasy, my preferred leisure time reading. I cherish the memory of Lester Reiss, pausing in the middle of a discussion of James Blish's "Cities in Flight," overcome with enthusiasm for the work and the ideas it contained. "There's great stuff in here!" he shouted. All these years later, and a writer of science fiction and fantasy myself, the best hope I have for my books is that there is Great Stuff in them, too. Thanks, Lester.

I loved "Flashbacks: Alumni Authors Remember Their Favorite Professors." Warren Cohen's reminiscences of William Frasure reminded me of the fearsome and wonderful Miss Dilley who was head of the government department when I was a government major at Connecticut, graduating in 1949. Though sadly I do not remember incidents in class that I can relate, I do know that Miss Dilley felt squishy conservatism was infinitely worse than the squishy liberalism that bothered William Frasure. I wish Dr. Frasure and Dr. Dilley could have been in the government department at the same time! I remember cutting her hair when I was a government student some years later, and a keynote address at the 1948 Truman-Dewey election had not yet been decided or because I had been up all night listening to the returns. When I came to class the next day, afraid of what Miss Dilley would say to me, she nodded, and I knew I was forgiven, I hope you will hear from others about this wonderful teacher. I think you will.

Barbara Himmell
Springer '49
New York, N.Y.
Favorite Teachers

The article on favorite teachers reminded me of my favorite, Ruby Turner Morris, who arrived in the fall of 1952 to chair the Economics Department. I had chosen Connecticut College because Admissions Dean Cobblewick seemed very much of the current world when admissions officers at other colleges had seemed cobweb-laden. Dr. Morris took that currency to a new level.

In Dr. Morris' classes, my Economics major coursework included visits to people at the Carpenter's Union, Electric Boat and the New London political scene. One class met with public officials at Dr. Morris' home. My memory of a painting there—depicting rows of students with closed eyes in a classroom—has influenced my college teaching. Closed eyes can mean paying attention by removing other distractions. Dr. Morris also invited us to swim at a nearby pond, thereby giving us an environment different from home or classroom. During the comprehensive exam that determined whether or not we would graduate, faculty from the Economics department were available in a nearby classroom to feed us toast and coffee and other food to help relax the tension.

As a college faculty member, I drew upon my students' experiences by bringing real-world persons into the classroom and sending students to work in real-world organizations. I tried to inspire students as Dr. Morris inspired me. The wide variety of experiences she organized enhanced our book learning and gave us relevant experiences to draw on in our classes.

Patricia Mottram
Anderson '53
Madison, Conn.
Boosting the Mastery scores

Students make a difference in local school

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE STUDENTS in a work/study program at Edgerton Elementary School in New London are being credited with helping to raise the Connecticut Mastery Test scores of the school's third graders.

Linda Hall-Smalley '78, Edgerton's basic skills teacher, noted "Most kids are showing real improvement over a six-to-18-month period." Levels of excellence in reading among third graders went from 37 percent to 45 percent between 1997 and 1998. Whereas just 7 percent were reading at a level of proficiency in 1997, 10 percent were recorded at that level in 1998. In writing, excellent levels grew from 7 to 12 percent. Even in math, which requires reading skills, students went from a 0 percent rating in necessity to 49 percent; proficiency levels rose from 22 percent to 27 percent.

Bill Bassett '00, a secondary education major and member of the championship basketball team, signed up for the program hoping it would be an improvement over stuffing boxes in the post office, one of his previous work/study jobs.

During the first year at Edgerton, he worked with second-grade students and followed them right into third grade. "This was one of the most worthwhile jobs I've ever had," he said as the school year came to a close. "I could see that I really made a difference."

He and several dozen CC students have been part of the American Read's Challenge (ARC) program. The program was set up by the Office of Volunteers for Community Service (OVCS) in 1997 to meet President Clinton's challenge to colleges and universities to join forces with local elementary schools. The goal is for all children to read at grade level by the end of third grade.

The first year, 1997-98, CC sent 14 students to Edgerton; the following year 26 students were signed up. They work inside and outside the classroom, in large groups and small, and they work one-on-one, helping children improve their reading skills.

"They were extra hands, extra eyes, extra knowledge," said Patricia Edwards, a first-grade teacher at Edgerton, a satisfied smile on her face. The students bonded with their tutors, she said. "I had two or three students who could say, 'Now I get it.'"

It was a two-way street. "You could tell by the tutors' faces," she added, "that they were happy to be here."

Araceli Cirmay cried. The graduating senior found the experience bittersweet, having had to leave Edgerton to start her working life after commencement in May. "This is one of those programs of which I can say: Ah, it makes sense. This is why I came to Connecticut College," she said.

Bassett's own bittersweet experience with the program happened when one of his students, who came to bilingual Edgerton with no English skills, had learned to read and write English so well that he was transferred to an all-English elementary school.

Linda Hall-Smalley noted improvement even among the tutors. She found them very committed to the program. "They took their responsibilities so seriously that the teachers began to think of them as colleagues."

The children aren't the only ones doing the learning.

CC tutors use the experience as an opportunity to weigh their future coursework and careers.

"It is my impression that students who have participated in the program enter their student teaching with a better sense of a teacher's challenges in urban schools than do our students who have not had such experience," said Elaine Clift Gore, a visiting instructor in education at the college.

Bassett will be student teaching at ISAAC Charter School in New London this fall, but he's already signed up for second semester at Edgerton.

The next step is to get the children's parents involved. "The kids would skyrocket," predicted Bassett.

To that end, OVCS director Tracee Reier has been working with the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut on establishing a family literacy component.
New solar timepiece merges art and science

Sculpture’s shadow traces the history of Connecticut College

ON A SUNNY SUMMER MORNING A visitor stands on the pink-and-grey tiles of the newly constructed second floor in Harris known as the village square.

The convex back of the elevator shaft looming large under the skylight, its dark-blue tiles fading skyward into blue and green and then grey and white. Atop the shaft is perched a stainless-steel sculpture of vertical and horizontal rings that bring to mind a heavenly body.

Here in the “Circle of Days,” dedicated during Reunion 1999, the sun is literally spotlighting the college’s history. Shadows cast by the sculpture reach for one of nine metal plaques engraved with the dates of some of the college’s milestones: Alumnae Association formed, Dedication of the Connecticut Arboretum, Connecticut College goes co-ed. The plaques are set into larger, jacaranda-colored tile on the floor.

It is June 16, and astronomer Leslie Brown, assistant professor of physics, is here, camera at the ready as the time approaches 10 a.m., and the shadows are closing in on the tile engraved “10 am, June 18, 1919, First Commencement.”

It was Brown who created a computer program to predict where the sun would cast its shadow at any given time of any given day. Sculptor David Smalley, Henry B. Plant Professor of Art, was enlisted by senior designer Craig Saunders of the Hartford architectural firm DuBose Associates to develop a timepiece for the village square, a communal area designed to profit by the warmth and light provided by the sun. Saunders had been working with a gift from the Class of 1996, which had proposed a clock for the second-floor space. “We wanted to do something more interesting than a plain, old clock,” said Saunders. Enter sculptor Smalley, whose sundial graces the north end of the college green. His new sculpture, “Solar Timepiece,” was the result.

He had planned on using a wait-and-see method to determine where the sun’s shadow was cast on a given day. But with only a 40 percent chance of having sunshine, he relied instead on Brown’s knowledge of spherical trigonometry.

“We took the known coordinates of the sun and translated them into the height of the sun and its position around the horizon throughout the year,” she said. But first she had to set the meridian line.

She noted that campus buildings are oriented to magnetic north, but that “the sun doesn’t care about magnetic north.” Brown calculated the symmetry for the sun’s motion in the sky and the shadows on the floor. “We looked for where the shadows were shortest, at noon, and after several days we had the defining line for true north, which is 14 degrees off magnetic north,” she said. “But interesting to me is that we were using nature, which has a whole different set of rules than what builders have.” At 10 o’clock she had her photo as the shadow rings passed slowly over the First Commencement plaque.

As Brown worked out coordinates, Smalley called on Andrea Wollensak, associate professor of studio art, to handle the typographic component and to figure out how the plaques should be placed. It was she who placed them so that the viewer’s shadow isn’t covering the sculpture’s shadow rings. They are all readable by facing south.

The font she chose for the engraving is Gill sans bold. The magnesium-plated, 7 3/4-inch round plaques are hand-etched by a Massachusetts company from digital artwork provided by Wollensak.

Saunders, the project architect, said the solar calendar provides “an element of movement interacting with space. It made the space come alive.”

Smalley thinks the use of a solar device to commemorate an anniversary is rare if not unique.

“I don’t know of any other use of a sun marker like this,” he said.
Brazil to Japan: tracing a transnational phenomenon

Students switch from salsa to sushi

EIGHT STUDENTS AND TWO PROFESSORS went to Japan over spring break to look for Brazilians. They might have gone to Brazil, but the kind of Brazilians they were looking for aren't there; they're living in Japan.

That's the kind of irony the group studied when they went to Oizumi to research the Nikkei, Japanese-Brazilians who, when living in Brazil, are not considered Brazilian, but while living in Japan, are not considered Japanese either. The 400-level course in which the students were enrolled was called "Transnational Brazil/Multicultural Japan."

According to Jeffrey Lesser, associate professor of history and a specialist in Brazilian history, "The Nikkei realize their greatest nationalistic aspirations (in Japan). For the first time they are Brazilian."

The group traveled to Oizumi, a small factory town, where Nikkei make up more than 10 percent of the town's population.

"That is the highest (minority) population in Japan," said the other professor on the trip, Timothy Vance, Elizabeth S. Kruidenier '48 Professor of Japanese Studies and a specialist in phonology and Japanese linguistics.

Vance's experience in Japan reflects the essence of the research: He couldn't understand a word the Nikkei said. "Tim was frustrated," laughed Lesser. "Here he speaks Japanese perfectly, and no one would talk to him."

The story of the Nikkei demonstrates the larger phenomenon of transnational identity. In the past 100 years, people have left their countries of birth in increasing numbers, creating multicultural nations around the world. Yet what happens when people whose ethnic identity is separate from their national one migrate to the countries of their ancestors? Vance and Lesser, who earlier worked together as associate directors for research in the Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, asked just that question. To find an answer, they devised a history course called "Transnational Brazil/Multi-Cultural Japan." For research, faculty and students went to Japan from March 14 to 26.

Several of the participating students graduated in May, including Amelia Carvalho, Jasmine Flores, Daniel Kline, Angelica Landauro, and Christina-Mai Takahashi. They leave behind a Web site, "Nikkei Identity in Oizumi, Japan," created with Luis Berenbau '01, Alina Guimaraes Konieczny '02 and Fred Yoon '01. The address of the students' site is http://camel2.conncoll.edu/academics/departments/transnat/.

The group attended three days of seminars with Japanese Latin Americanists at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. Then they went to Oizumi in the Gunma prefecture, where they interviewed and interacted with Brazilian and Peruvian in that town.

"The students participated in their learning," Lesser said. "They didn't just read about it."

Describing the research to alumni who attended their seminar "Transnational: Personal Identity in a Multi-Cultural World" at Reunion in June, Lesser emphasized the difference between the "melting pot" of the United States and Brazilian society.

"In Brazil, there is no hyphen. The insertion of ethnicity takes you out of being a Brazilian and puts you into a new category. A Japanese-Brazilian is a Japanese and a Jewish-Brazilian is a Jew, etc.," he said. "Japanese-Brazilians don't get to be Brazilian."

Students and their professors now are watching the Brazilian economy with renewed interest. What will happen among the Nikkei if the economy heats up, they wonder. Will they return to Brazil?

Alumni Newsmaker

Wald '48 to serve on war crimes tribunal

JUDGE PATRICIA McGOVERN WALD '48, at age 70, will be starting a new assignment overseas after 20 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

The first woman ever to serve on the appeals court, she is leaving her life-tenured judgeship for a two-year term on the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

A native of Torrington, Conn., Wald was a scholarship student at both Connecticut College and Yale Law School. After law school, she won a prized clerkship for Judge Jerome N. Frank of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and later landed a job with a prestigious Washington, D.C., law firm.

The mother of five children, she entered the law profession at a time that coincided with the birth of public interest law, and she became known for the landmark cases she handled involving the rights of women, children, and the poor. In the '90s, she was an obvious choice for a job in the Clinton Administration, but twice declined being considered for Attorney General. "I knew the job, and I knew how large the political component was; it was just not the right job for me," she told The New York Times recently. The appointment to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, a position for which the State Department recommended her, is a more apt choice. In the past decade, she has made 15 trips to Eastern European democracies to help build their legal systems by monitoring elections, setting up court systems, and reviewing constitutions.

"To get beyond the high abstractions of the rule of law has been immensely interesting," said Wald. She and her husband Robert Wald will move to The Hague this fall; her post begins Nov. 17.
New London’s dream: social justice for all

THE ECONOMIC RENAISSANCE OF New London is gaining momentum. Now business, civic, and government leaders are grappling with a key challenge: How to ensure that everyone in New London—not just a few neighborhoods or socio-economic groups—shares in New London’s success. To address this dilemma, the New London Development Corp. (NLDC) has launched an ambitious social justice initiative to bring about social transformation at the same level as the massive economic changes already under way. “Economic prosperity is only half the equation,” says Don Filer, vice president of community and public affairs for Connecticut College. “Social justice has to go hand-in-hand with economic prosperity.”

High-flown rhetoric is a standard component of late-20th-century urban development projects. What sets New London apart is the time, talent, and energy being spent to turn rhetoric into reality. NLDC has set up a social justice committee, chaired by Kathleen A. Crook, co-owner with husband Steven, of General Woodcraft, a New London business that sells imported wood, woodworking services, and kitchen and bath remodeling. Connecticut College’s representatives on the 20-person committee include Filer; Donald Williams, executive director of Connecticut College downtown; Jefferson Singer, associate professor of psychology and director of the Holleran Center for Community Challenges and Tracee Reiser, associate director of the Holleran Center and director of the Office of Volunteers for Community Service.

Team Effort

The committee is teaming up with other agencies and groups to define the problems, set priorities, and plan implementation. Besides subject expertise, Conn faculty and staff bring to the process important strategic planning expertise. “I am so thankful the [Conn] trustees have allowed this to happen,” Crook says. “It gives us a vehicle to get things done.”

Crook, who is also on the Board of the Visiting Nurses Association of southeastern Connecticut and a former president of Hospice of southeastern Connecticut, has plenty to do managing a bustling 14-employee company. But she couldn’t resist when NLDC president Claire L. Gaudiani urged her to head up the effort to improve social conditions for everyone in New London. “I’ve always been involved in a lot of community activities,” Crook says. “I can’t stay out of this stuff.”

With representatives from government, business, the public schools, and social service agencies, the committee is focusing its work on five interrelated areas: economic opportunity; health and wellness; early childhood development; kindergarten through grade 12 education; and art, culture, and public space. For example, job training programs will provide economic opportunity to individuals, while also expanding the labor pool for potential investors. School improvement initiatives will improve the quality of life for New Lavers. Crook points out—while at the same time making the city a more attractive place to live and work for...
people moving into the region.

Tackling deep social problems is, by definition, a long journey. Still, the committee can point to heartening milestones. Recently, for example, an anonymous donor provided $80,000 toward construction of a park at an industrial site at the corner of Hempstead and Home Streets. The project is being carried out by the Shiloh Development Corp., the economic development arm of New London's Shiloh Baptist Church. For Crook, the park is a perfect symbol of New London's rising fortunes and rosy future. "I remember New London when it was a wonderful place to come to," she says. "I think it's going to be vibrant again."

— Patricia M. Carey

Students’ work proves you can get there from here

$1.25 million walkway takes shape to link the college to downtown New London

A PROPOSED WALKWAY THAT WILL connect the college to downtown New London received a $1.25 million shot in the arm from the U.S. government.

CC students are working on the New London Vista Walkway, which will allow pedestrians to walk from the Science Center of Eastern Connecticut (located in the Arboretum), through the campus and on into downtown New London, ending at the site of a proposed waterfront park. The main route is not finalized, although the idea is to include several loops along the way.

Design work will take $140,000 from the grant, with the rest allotted for construction — including paving, lighting, benches and signs — of the more than three-mile-long trail.

The walkway project is being funded through the Trails and Rails Action Coalition that operates under the Connecticut Sierra Club.

Through the college's Holleran Center for Community Challenges (CCC), a new course called "Citizen and Community: Participation and Leadership" was created. Students are studying how change takes place in the community using the walkway as a model and performing service-learning internships relating to some aspect of the walkway.

Tracee Reiger, director of the Office of Volunteers for Community Service, said the students are divided into five study areas: government, history, design, neighborhood and campus. They are participating in the CCC's certification program, Program in Community Action (PLCA).

The students who worked with the Neighborhood Alliance in New London, recorded oral histories from people who live along the route of the proposed walkway.

Students have designed a web site, linked from the college's main site, at www.conncoll.edu/academic/center/commchallenge/walkway/index.html.
Have grant, will travel

Fulbright and Watson winners take on the world

DANIEL KLINE '99 is taking his Fulbright Scholarship and going to Argentina on a mission: to prove that there are indigenous communities, a fact often denied by citizens of the country.

The Kolla tribe, which lives in the northwestern region of Argentina, is that nation's largest indigenous tribe.

About a decade ago, some members of the Kolla tribe began migrating to Buenos Aires, and Kline plans to spend his 18-month Fulbright project conducting an ethnographic analysis of their assimilation to this new world, where electricity, automobiles, and television are commonplace.

"No one really knows what is going on with the indigenous tribes in that country. In Argentina, they are viewed as a hindrance," Kline noted.

Before the Kolla abandon their traditional customs for a more modern society, Kline's mission of researching their old way of life will begin.

According to his Fulbright proposal, he will analyze the Kolla's transition to urban living, "collect oral histories ... aimed at capturing the complexity of the transition and the formation of a new identity."

"I'm in a race against time," he says.

CYNTHIA GORDON '99, a Fulbright teaching assistant grantees, traveled to Germany, where she worked at a camp, reviving her fluency in German as she prepared to teach English to Berlin high school students next year.

Gordon says she's glad to be going to Berlin, where she can continue her gender studies, the subject in which she earned her B.A.

The track and field athlete also hopes to be able to coach a sports team while she's there. Athletics "improve girls' self-confidence and give you strength," she said. Gordon was a member of the German Advisory Board, a student activities council member, and a Lawrence Fellowship recipient.

Already lined up for her return is a job as a counselor with Eckerd Youth Alternatives, with programs on the East Coast. Gordon hopes to gain experience in preparation for graduate school in psychology.

SHARI DARMAN '99 has seen the German education system's methods of discipline, and she's also experienced the American education system's more tolerant attitude. Now she wonders if there isn't a middle ground.

The winner of a Fulbright Teaching Assistant grant left for Germany in September to teach English at the high school level. Darman plans to examine how educational institutions reinforce social learning.

"Contrasting the important aspects of education in both cultures will show the differences and similarities in how the social order is structured," she wrote in her proposal. At CC, she was a Center for International Studies scholar, a member of the German Advisory Board, environmental coordinator for Smith House, and a Theater One Club member.

A member of CC's NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Team, she hopes to be involved in the German school's sports as an assistant coach or trainer.

Darman's already lined up a job with MassPIRG (Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group) for her return from Germany.

Thanks to a Watson Fellowship, ARACELIS GIRMAY '99 will travel to Puerto Rico and Ghana to discover the history of women in her family. She will then write an epic poem based on what she discovers in those cultures.

She will explore her own vision of what West Africa is now and what it was like years ago when some of her ancestors were forced to leave their homeland.

Throughout the year, and beyond, she will collect oral histories, focusing on older women. Girmay, whose first name means "heavenly child," is already an accomplished poet. She was profiled in the Spring 1999 issue of Connecticut College Magazine.

ANDRIS ZOBS '99 can't believe his luck in being awarded a Watson Fellowship.

"It's like winning a year-long game show," he said.

Zobs hopes to experience smooth sailing when he ventures out later this year. He'll go on a three-stage trip, traveling to selected maritime communities by boat to observe wooden boat-builders. His proposal to the Watson Foundation is titled "Understanding a Modern World Through Traditional Boats."

It's not just the physical nature of boats that he plans to study. Boats "represent spiritual connections with the surrounding world and record generations of trial and error ..." Zobs wrote.

The government major notes that the environment of the culture is a major factor in how people design their wooden boats. "The way people build boats was an indication of how they relate to their environment."

To discover more about those environments, Zobs plans to travel on the boats as a temporary volunteer deckhand. His first stop will be the coastal region of Belize, where tabruse wood is used to build canoes up to 60 feet long.

From Belize, Zobs will travel to the Lesser Antilles to be a deckhand during the heavy winter boat traffic. The final stage of the journey will bring him to the Aegean Sea. He wants to visit Greece and Turkey, where wooden boatbuilding is integral to the local economy.
Sushil Bhattarai, a senior doing summer research, works with a Topcon Autolevel.

When rivers are moved

Students channel talents into research

IT IS A HOT JUNE MORNING ON THE Blackledge River in Marlborough, Conn. Sierra, a golden retriever, scurries through the brush. She laps at the water as her owner guides his fellow “landscape detectives,” three students from Connecticut College who are halfway through a nine-week summer research project.

Kim Hoffman ’00, Sushil Bhattarai ’00, Sailesh Tiwari ’02 and Assistant Professor of Physics Doug Thompson are measuring the effects of the state’s relocation 40-odd years ago of the waterway, which feeds into the Salmon River. They are examining how channel and other restoration can foster successful reintroduction by the state of salmon and other fish species.

Thompson was awarded a $232,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) grant in the spring to support his research titled “Characterization of Channel Morphology and Hydraulics for Stream Restoration Design.” He is researching channel movements in order to improve the habitats of local waterways. His NSF grant will fund an “indoor river” or flume that will allow Thompson and students to study rivers in a controlled setting. They will then apply their findings to a stream restoration project on campus. The grant provides funding for two student research assistants for each of the next four summers and during the academic years. Students will assist with high-level research on channel maintenance processes — expected to become a national model — and can use the project as a basis for continued independent research as part of a senior project or honors thesis.

Hoffman and Bhattarai are employed this summer because of the NSF funding. Tiwari has funding from the Mellon Fund administered through the college’s Goodwin–Neiring Center for Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies.

Hoffman, a native of northern Vermont, is an environmental studies major, having chosen the field because it encompasses the many different courses she wanted to take at Connecticut College. Bhattarai, a physics major who may go on to study electrical engineering in graduate school, and Tiwari, a sophomore still undecided about his major, are both natives of Nepal.

Monday through Wednesday the students come to the river and measure its channel bed, the distance between its banks and the height of those banks. They also study the trees. The trees, Thompson said, show researchers the location of the original banks as compared to the banks created by the Department of Transportation (DOT) in 1956. They also show how the Blackledge, reluctant to follow the DOT plan, took advantage of a flood in 1979 to ease its way through uncharted territory and rejoin itself downstream.

Thompson is working with the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on waterways that are eroding or are suffering damage to their fisheries. Both problems exist at the Blackledge River, where the DOT rerouted the water to make room for the construction of Route 2. Professor and students are researching what went wrong with that design. The Stonybrook River in Montville may be next.

Development of Route 2 in 1956 caused the Blackledge River to be reshaped. Thompson credits the DOT with having done a “progressive job” for the time. “They were trying to create places to fish,” he said. Today, the state DEP also is eager to improve the fish habitat and make the area attractive to fishing enthusiasts and is looking for ways to improve the river’s habitat for the spawning of Atlantic salmon. “It’s not functioning as well as it could,” said Thompson.

Tiwari’s project is in its preliminary stage. He is studying the rate at which a disturbed channel bed responds. All the students are working on different projects, all related to channel restoration.

Every 10 meters the students measure the DOT-created channel, from the top of the rip-rap to the riverbank opposite. They believe their research will show the DOT made the channel too narrow. In the process they have discovered things about the river that the DEP did not know. For example, logs were sunken into the channel bed at intervals, designed to provide grade control.

In August, Thompson expects delivery of the “indoor river” or flume. The 25-foot-long, 3-foot-wide model channel will be installed in the Olin Science Center. There, the researchers will study how pools and riffles, areas of shallow and fast-moving water, develop. The Blackledge River will have “moved” to campus.
A Thousand Words: Monk by the Sea speaks volumes

For my 1999 introductory course, Western Art from the Renaissance to the Present, I devised a paper assignment on the most extreme example of Romantic landscape painting: Friedrich's "Monk By the Sea" (1809). The assignment included three short Romantic texts on nature: Goethe's Sufferings of Young Werther, Wackenroder and Tieck's Outpourings of an Art-Loving Friar, and Chateaubriand's Atala. I asked students to define uniquely Romantic ideas about nature and human nature as seen in Friedrich's painting and in the texts.

Among the many fine papers I received, Amy Hunter's essay stood out above the others for its depth and beautiful writing. As I noted in my comments, it left me, monk-like, on the shores of something large, mysterious, and profound. While all good undergraduate writing turns professors into fellow students, Amy's paper went beyond this with its insights into the painted, contradictory soul of Friedrich's painting and its larger place in modern European history and culture. It is one of the three of four best papers I have read in 15 years of teaching. I am particularly pleased that it came from someone majoring in another field (anthropology) since this confirms my liberal arts prejudice that intellectual breadth generates creativity and insight that can be applied anywhere.

— Robert Baldwin, Associate Professor and Chair of Art History

Emerging around 1780, the principles of Romanticism brought with them a re-imagined relationship between the individual's secular and spiritual existence. "Rational understanding" of the world was admonished and deemed illusory. Simultaneously, the act of creation was held up as the origin of all universal truths; real comprehension of the world and one's existence in it stemmed from the daunting task of confronting the meaning of creation directly. While the mind of man was said to be ill-conceived for this activity, his soul's innate senses — which were issued from God himself — were to be followed, since their direction would lead to a path of revelation. In this context, art was seen as one of the means to guide this merging of the secular mind with the spiritual senses God spoke through the artist's souls, and their images tried to project this eternal spirit rather than their own god-like minds. Casper David Friedrich's painting "Monk by
the Sea," c.1809, embraced these complementary ideals by mysticizing nature. His boundless landscape embodies fully the new Romantic quest to grasp "heavenly mysteries."

Compared to landscapes painted in the prior three centuries, Friedrich creates a virtual cultural vacuum. There is no architecture, no agriculture, nor any abundant natural life to speak of. Four-fifths of the painting is taken up by sky alone, which looms over the sole person depicted — a monk. Friedrich's nature is completely disassociated from any identity of place. Self-conscious refinement of nature's pastoral tranquility is replaced by an especially foreboding use of shadowed clouds receding into a dark night sky. Far from welcoming, this natural space has become almost incomprehensible with its indeterminate dimensions and structureless composition; it's a world which, at any moment, could dissolve into the vast abyss straight ahead. Nature, in Friedrich's painting, becomes a metaphoric glimpse into the "Allness" of the heavens, which the soul experiences as "an immense, hazy creation and chasm yawning at [its] side" (Chateaubriand: 1802).

To retreat from the world into this nature is to acknowledge not only the existence of a higher spiritual soul, but one's own insinificant place in the cosmos as well. The secure footing provided by "illusions of youth and country" must be left behind in order to open oneself to the uncertainty of solitude. Friedrich's handling of the monk reflects this profound response to nature. The figure is diminutive and painted with only a suggestion of physical form. Even more telling, the monk is shown with his back towards the viewer. This indifference to the viewer's presence mirrors nature's indifference to his own presence (the latter indicated by scale). With this double inaccessibility Friedrich underscores the limitations of the viewer's world view — which the monk has rejected — pushing the viewer to question his connections to the world and ultimately, to reflect on his mortality. The monastic ideal of voluntary exile is used here by Friedrich to redefine man's relationship to nature in Romantic terms.

In its most basic sense then, this painting is about a Romantic artist asserting the power of the sublime. Yet in another sense, framing the immensity of God's power in such terms inverts and challenges the notions put forth in the Age of Reason. When the world was looked at through mechanistic absolutes, everything seemed explainable; even the secrets of the universe could be uncovered by a rational mind. But reason did not prove as useful when it came to the task of reconciling all the upheaval which accompanied the 18th century and swept Europe with several economic and political revolutions at once. The rhetoric of man's control over nature was no longer so defensible in the 19th century. Too easily replaced with violent turmoil, man's models of control were riddled with doubts that left the age of Romanticism with a set of anxieties to be resolved.

If the philosophers of the 18th century were convinced that reason could transcend the limits of nature and bring the secrets of heaven "down to earth," as Wakenroder writes, thinkers of the 19th century were armed with a history which proved them wrong. Intellectual reasoning alone was dismissed as faulty and woefully inadequate; truth was put beyond the reach of reason, which having devalued the "indistinct" and "vague" was doomed never to understand them. Friedrich's handling of the monk reflects this profound response to nature. The figure is diminutive and painted with only a suggestion of physical form. Even more telling, the monk is shown with his back towards the viewer. This indifference to the viewer's presence mirrors nature's indifference to his own presence (the latter indicated by scale). With this double inaccessibility Friedrich underscores the limitations of the viewer's world view — which the monk has rejected — pushing the viewer to question his connections to the world and ultimately, to reflect on his mortality. The monastic ideal of voluntary exile is used here by Friedrich to redefine man's relationship to nature in Romantic terms.

For a society feeling increasingly imprisoned within its own outlook, whose shortcomings could no longer be ignored, creating a nature free of these social boundaries represented a hopeful projection that what had been lost could be regained by returning to a more pristine state of being, before mankind had become blind and indifferent to God's presence.

Friedrich's nature, which takes these ideas to their extreme, is no less narrow, however, than the absolute ideals it intends to refute. By adopting a new minimalist manner of representation in order to maximize the spiritual potency of his painting, Friedrich reduces the entire nature-culture dichotomy to the monastic cultural ideal of retreat from the world. The act of shunning the outside world is romantic only because it can unlock the secrets of another. Yet the alienation of the "monk" creates new limitations. The uncompromising vulnerability of this individual's position seems in danger of eventually becoming just as tired and useless as the material world. Further pictorial possibilities of this nature do not exist; the monk has retreated as far as one can.

As a Romantic painter Friedrich needed a subject to communicate "inexpressible feelings." He painted nature to humble the viewer and succeeds in making the viewer, through the monk, consider nature's power, the ultimate source of which is easily interpreted as God. So in actuality, nature in this landscape is not even representing a physical reality; it's more of a medium through which a hidden spiritual communication passes. Nature is subordinate to the real subject of the painting, which is culturally defined as beyond human representation.

This painting is about transcending the visual, but is itself beholden to finding a visual subject to communicate this. Not until the abstract expressionists would paintings about the senses eliminate identifiable subject matter altogether, and thus temporarily solve Friedrich's problems of limitation by declaring that art could be anything.
Nothing but blue skies...

Class of 1999

The numbers for the Class of 1999 add up to a student body filled with diversity, enthusiasm and ambition.

- Number of graduates: Bachelor of Arts: 417; Master of Arts: 23
- Number of states represented: 34, plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia
- Number of international graduates: 14
- RTC graduates: 15
- Graduates who are related to Connecticut College alumni: 31
- Percentage who gave to the Senior Pledge: 65
- Pledges as of May 25: $12,737.30
- Students who volunteered for community service on an on-going basis: 255, or 61 percent of the class
- Number of hours the entire class gave to community service over four years: more than 20,000
- Student who studied abroad: 223, in 30 countries
Professor Mulvey honored

A s a freshman, Jean Hewitt Thomas ’52 walked into Helen Mulvey’s European history class two years after the professor started her new Connecticut College job. “I was in the palm of her hand,” recalls the student who nominated her teacher for the College Medal, the college’s highest honor.

The College Medal was presented to Brigida Pacchiani Ardenghi Professor Emeritus of History Helen Mulvey before an audience of 4,500 during Commencement exercises.

For a historian, Mulvey is remarkably focused on the present, eschewing what might be seen as boastful reviews of her 37-year career at CC. She is now completing the last chapter of a book about an Irish journalist of the 1840s.

After earning her B.A. from Brown University and her M.A. from Columbia, Mulvey came to Connecticut College from Russell Sage College in Troy, N.Y., as a visiting teacher for one year and stayed for 36 more. She finished her graduate thesis while working at Connecticut College and received her Ph.D. from Harvard.

Mulvey taught British and French history but centered her research on the history of Ireland. She is considered a specialist in Irish history in the U.S. and abroad. Since 1970, she has been co-editor of a bibliographical volume on The New History of Ireland, and she has written several major articles and many reviews that have been published in scholarly journals.

Her teaching career lives on in those who sat before her for nearly four decades. Said Thomas, “From the towns of the English Cotswolds to Bosnia she is there as a counterpoint in my life and I’m sure in the lives of all.”

Honorary degrees

A former college president, a creative arts leader, a Harvard researcher, an advocate for community service, and an award-winning author all received honorary doctorate degrees at the college’s 81st Commencement.

The recipients were: Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of the University of Notre Dame; Ellen Stewart, founder of La MaMa, a New York City arts center; Howard Gardner, a research psychologist and Harvard professor; and Michael Brown, president and co-founder of City Year, a volunteer and community service program.

Frank McCourt, author of Angela’s Ashes, gave the keynote address and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. (See story page 16.)
Irish eyes are smiling on author Frank McCourt

Dressed in a blue suit and looking proud, Frank McCourt could be any parent visiting the Connecticut College campus for the 81st Commencement. He is holding a paper cup of coffee at this early hour, still more than two hours before the ceremony.

But it is soon apparent that he is as patient as any of the parents already staking out prime seats on the College Green. They have waited four years for this day. McCourt has waited decades. It is obvious that the wait has been worth it.

On May 29, the best-selling author stepped up to the podium and listened along with 4,000 in the audience as President Claire L. Gaudiani ’66 conferred upon McCourt an honorary doctorate of humane letters. He was genuinely touched by the honor, he said in a pre-commencement interview in Horizon House.

“I used to read about it in the newspapers and envy all those people,” McCourt said of other honorary degree recipients. CC’s degree was the fifth he received.

“The first was in Limerick, which was very sweet. I was the first local to get an honorary degree from the University of Limerick. That was a very moving experience,” he said in his lilting Irish brogue.

Moving, perhaps, because throughout his growing up years, the city of Limerick seemed to look unfavorably upon McCourt, his family and his poverty. If you are one of the million of people around the globe who has read his Pulitzer Prize-winning memoir Angela’s Ashes, you know the prejudices he encountered, the cruelty he endured and the humiliation he experienced growing up in the Irish city. He was the oldest son in a family of four boys whose father seemed to be more concerned about keeping the Guinness family together than his own.

McCourt’s haunting details and honest, direct writing style force readers to shuttle between tears of laughter and tears of sorrow. Beginning with his conception during a “knee trembler” in New York, through the deaths of three younger siblings, and his growing up years in his parents’ native Ireland, McCourt survived with an undeniable gift as a master storyteller. How did he remember all of those incidents from the first two decades of his life?

“There was nothing to do but remember,” he said matter-of-factly. “There was nothing to remember but memories. We didn’t have television or radio or things like that, so... We had our lives and I think our lives were fairly dramatic. We had the streets. We had my father being an alcoholic, coming and going and drinking.

“Also, when I was a teacher for 30 years, kids would ask me about my life and they seemed to be interested. That led me to writing, partly,” he said. “But the more you think about something, the more you reveal, peeling the onion. Anybody can do it, I think.”

His first opportunity to achieve anything in the field of writing came in sixth grade. He had just spent nearly four months in the hospital recovering from typhoid fever and when he returned to Lenny’s School, he was put back into fifth grade, although he should have been in sixth. Assigned to write an essay about what it might be like if Jesus had grown up in Limerick, he titled his composition, “Jesus and the Weather.” The composition provided a touching and all-too-real view of Jesus and the city as seen through the eyes of an 11-year-old. The work got him reassigned to the sixth grade.

“It was easy (to remember the essay) because it got me promoted. It was my first feat of writing so that stuck in my mind. It was indelible.”

Angela’s Ashes was published in 1996 with a modest first printing of 27,000 copies. Great reviews and word of mouth have resulted in numerous literary prizes and sales worldwide of three million copies. Visitors to a Web site maintained by fans of the book have debated its title, which includes the name of his mother. When asked about it, McCourt says the answer is simple.

“It’s called Angela’s Ashes because I was going to bring it up to her death and cremation, but I didn’t. I had the title and I wanted to keep the title because the title sticks in people’s heads, its alliterative,” he explains, sounding like the English teacher that he was.

“I ended the book at (age) 19 because it seemed fitting. To be born in the States, go to Ireland, grow up and come back at 19; that was the end of one episode. And then I wrote the rest, which I’ve just finished,” he said, referring to This, his memoir about his life in America, set to be published in September. “The second book should be called Angela’s Ashes. But I didn’t expect to be writing a second book, so I thought I’d use this title.”

McCourt says he is “astounded” by the success of the book.

“I think it had to do with the relationships and how we dealt with adversity. We just kept going and we all had the dream of escaping. We knew this was not going to be forever,” he said of his life of poverty.

“There was a humor and a richness in our lives that came from the poverty. That’s what it was, the humor and our way of dealing with religion because religion is crazy. We were amateur theologians. But all in all, with all these ingredients mixed in, I think that made it popular. Also, I wrote it in a straightforward style from a point of view of a child. And I think that was one of the main reasons for its popularity, the child’s perspective, the child’s voice.”

The phenomenal triumph of this memoir by a former teacher was unexpected.

“It seemed to be a sweet little book to people, somewhat depressing. They’d print 27,000 copies and that would be it, and I’d go back to teaching or something cause I wasn’t able to survive on a teacher’s pension. But it got out of hand,” he said, shrugging.

The author, whose boyish face is topped with a thatch of white hair and who possesses an easy laugh, was asked if he had any trouble dealing with success.
"No, I've had no trouble at all. I've spent my whole life preparing for this," he replied with an immediate silly grin and a lighthearted laugh. "I don't know what success consists of anyway. I just wrote a book, it was successful, and I had the urge to write another one."

A great triumph for a man who never earned a high school diploma. McCourt did, however, graduate from New York University. He did eventually go to high school — but as a teacher, not a student.

"Teaching was very hard because I was in a vocational high school and that's the worst place in the world to be when you start teaching."

Waving his hand and referring to Connecticut College, he said, "I used to dream of places like this, where you walk into a classroom and they're all bright eyed and sitting there waiting for your words. No, it wasn't like that at all. I had to yell at them to sit down. 'I don't have paper. I don't have a pen,'" he said, imitating voices of former students.

"You had to deal with all of that, and kids fighting. So that was very hard, that was eight years at McKee Vocational. And I was young, but it exhausted me. I had five classes a day. The college professors here, I mean, this is the life. This is a scam. They (the professors) should pay to be able to teach here," he said with a hearty laugh.

Although McCourt is retired from teaching, he has not slowed down. He has been on the road almost constantly since the publication of *Angela's Ashes* three years ago, doing countless lectures, readings and book signings. Having just purchased a house in bucolic Roxbury, Conn., he looks forward to more time at his new home and the challenges of writing a novel.

Asked to provide a preview of *Tis*, McCourt doesn't hesitate.

"It covers ages 19 to 55, up to the year my father died and we brought my mother's ashes back to Limerick. And in between there's teaching and education, finding my way through New York, various menial jobs, women. And the Army. So it's all these ingredients.

"It's an immigrant's story, and from what I know now, I could call it 'The Road to the American Dream' because this is what I'm experiencing. It's beyond any scriptwriter's imagination."

— *Cathleen Loffredo Hingsh*
"What I was learning was something about myself ... and the human heart"

to end too soon. They sent me to Germany — that was really the beginning of my teaching career. They had me training attack dogs, German Shepherds. I had to train them to be mean. We used Russian uniforms and hit the dogs on the noses with the Russian uniforms so that the dogs would hate Russians. So my first introduction to teaching was the teaching of hatred to German Shepherds.

When I was discharged from the army, I think the best thing that ever happened to me was the gift of the GI bill. I don't know if you are old enough to know anything about the GI bill, but at the end of the Second World War and the end of the Korean War, the government provided educational benefits for veterans. I didn't have a high school diploma, I had never been in a high school, so how could I go to college? I'll tell you how. I used to live in Greenwich Village, not far from my mama. I would go to a tavern called the White Horse where Dylan Thomas drank himself to death. I wasn't proposing to do that myself. I went into this bar one day when I was working on the docks, and I was a bit weary of the laboring life. I was having a beer and a knockwurst. And I did something that no young Irishman should ever do. I began to ask myself - what is the meaning of it all. And that is a dangerous thing to do when you are having a beer and a knockwurst. The most dangerous part of it, and the saddest part of it, was I got slightly depressed and got off my bar stool. I walked away from my half-empty beer and my half-eaten knockwurst and walked to Washington Square, and there was New York University. Maybe it was because of the half beer I had, but I said to myself, I think I will go there. And I went to the admission office to get me a form. I filled out the form, and they said "What about the high school? You didn't fill out the high school part." I said "I never went to high school, but I think I am very intelligent." That was a very arrogant thing to say, but I was desperate to get into NYU, or to any college. There was a dean passing by, and she said, "Well, what is going on here?" And they said "Well, he claims he's very intelligent." I had told them that I had read a lot of books, and they wanted to know what books. I trotted out an impressive list of books, whether I had read them or not. I emphasized Voltaire very heavily. He's a big one. He said, "Cultivate your garden." That is one of my favorite sayings. So they let me in on probation for a year. I didn't sail in the way you sailed into Connecticut College. Not that I sailed out the way you are doing. I had to work during my years as a student. And along the way I decided to become a teacher because there wasn't anything else that appealed to me. I think the life of a writer appealed to me, but I didn't have the courage nor did I have the skill at the time. So I thought combining my love of books with my love of kids would become the perfect life for me, so I'll become a teacher.

In the 30 years that I was teaching in various high schools in New York, I started at one of the hardest in the city, a technical high school for the kids who were not interested in listening to me babble on about Silva Mariner, which they call the dirty old man book. They would not listen. There were kids in auto mechanics and machine shop and all these different trades, and I had to hold their attention. That's the kind of skill you have to develop as a teacher and as an actor — finding a way to hold the attention of the audience the way I have you now — in the palm of my hands — by describing this journey. Nobody told me how to teach. Nobody can tell you how to teach. Actually nobody can tell you anything. You have to find it out for yourself. I know you have a college degree, or you will in a few minutes, as soon as I stop talking. In the long run, I have discovered, you have to struggle along as a teacher, or an actor, a writer, or anything else.

But I look back at the 30 years of teaching and know that was the best thing I ever did in my life. I think. I had to deal with the young people of all economic levels, of all shades of intelligence. I had to struggle. I had to learn about the American teenager. I had to learn about literature. In the long run what I was learning was something about myself, and above all, about the human heart. My experience as a teacher was the experience as a student. I became a teacher and I began my education in the classroom. I began to know something about myself. That's the main thing you have to know — thyself. "... presume not God to scan; the proper study of mankind is man." This is what I discovered, and I think the kids helped me. As soon as I opened my mouth they would ask "You Scotch or something?" and I had to admit that I was Irish. They regarded me as kind of an exotic and they wanted to know about my life. I told them. They wanted to know about my education, religion, sports and girls and everything else. You are told by other teachers, "Don't tell the students anything about your private life." But they wanted to know. And because I was telling them, stories were forming in my head. Students would say to me "Hey, Mr. McCourt, you should write a book." And I did. I do what I'm told. That was the main thing about teaching. I don't know how many of you are intending on becoming teachers. I used to ask the senior high school class every year, "How many of you intend to become teachers?" In 18 years only two hands were raised. The possessors of the two hands were not a very likeable pair. Only one of them, I think, was a potential serial killer, and I don't know what the other was, but I wouldn't have them in the classroom. Unfortunately, the teaching profession was not glamorous enough nor was it well paid enough. But for me, it was glamorous, for me it was well paid. I know you know that teachers salaries are very low compared with starlets on soap operas and jobs like that. I know you know that and maybe not too many of you are drawn to teaching, but I have to thank all those years in the classroom, I have to thank approximately 11,000 students that I had and 33,000 lessons that I taught. I learned; I learned over the years. But although I learned, I wondered if I knew anything in the long run. I've written about II and I have finished another book. Now I have to write another one. I don't know what you get this itch and you don't know what to do with yourself so you have to write a best seller. Which is to be made into a major motion picture, with all — and I might even be surrounded by all — I might even meet Sharon Stone. How higher can you aspire to than that?

I stand on the stage with the graduates of Connecticut College and the distinguished members of the faculty and the recipients of honorary degrees and all I can tell you is that I am living the American dream, and you have contributed to it. Thank you very much.
Like father, like sons

Chris Cooper '77 reflects on new grad
Chris Cooper '99

Events in the life of Chris Cooper '77 have a way of orbiting around to the place where they began.

After graduating from high school in Manchester, Conn., he enlisted in the Navy, thinking of exotic ports, but his assignments eventually led him back to New London and his home state.

Later, Cooper's English and government double major at CC qualified him for a job as an aide to Conn. Gov. Ella Grasso. He spent the next 20 years in government service, also serving on Gov. William O'Neill's staff, and for the last eight years as spokesman for the state's Department of Economic and Community Development. But in February the fate steered him again to the governor's office as deputy director of communications for John Rowland, and now he sits at a desk in the very same room of the state Capitol where he started in 1978.

And then there's the life's circle that is the subject of this story. On Commencement day in 1977, Cooper's two-month-old son Chris was present — in a backpack, recalls Cooper — to hear graduation speaker John Kenneth Galbraith and see his dad collect his parchment. At Commencement this past May, the two Chris Coopers reversed roles. This time it was Chris, senior in the audience and Chris junior in mortarboard and robe, picking up a Connecticut College diploma. The event was perhaps the final landmark in the college's two-decade-long transition to coeducation: Chris Cooper junior is the first male graduate who can say his father is also a CC alumnus.

"I never envisioned this path," says the elder Cooper.

In fact, it was serendipitous that he found Connecticut College at all. While still in the Navy he was looking around for evening courses, and a friend told him about an excellent college in New London. Cooper signed up for two courses in the evening session: "an anthropology class with June MacKlin," he says without having to think about it, "and Introduction to American Politics with Wayne Swanson."

That impulsive decision began a new and life-altering circle in his life.

"For an enlisted man, this was a strange and wonderful new world. Sitting in stuffed chairs and drinking tea during the breaks was not something we did a lot of in the Navy."

Cooper found himself seduced by learning. He continued taking classes part-time until he was discharged from the Navy, then matriculated — with a scholarship — as a junior with an ambition to become a writer.

"The teachers were so anxious to help. The first time I got a grade I wasn't satisfied with — I think it was a C from George Willauer — I went to him and asked if I could rewrite the paper. He said if I was willing to do the extra work, of course. I realized that, unlike what we were told in the Navy, there was more than one way to do something."

Cooper says Professors Robley Evans and William Meredith were strong influences, inspiring him to write and publish several poems and a short story. He also earned a master's degree at Trinity College in Hartford, where he still goes daily for a noon-time run.

"After 20 years, I've got it down to a science," he laughs. "I'm unbuttoning my shirt as I walk in the door. Three miles in 26 minutes. A 10-minute shower. Then back to the office."

Another path in Cooper's life that has come full circle is a passion for civic engagement. As an undergraduate, his government professors implored their students to exercise the privilege of living in a participatory democracy. "That really hit home for me," he says.

It is one of the things that drew him to his first job — combining his skills as a writer with the chance to serve others — but Cooper says he lost sight of it over the years. He experienced a re-awakening recently when he learned of the college's initiatives to reinvigorate the city of New London and when he heard President Gaudiani speak about the need for a renewed civil society.

"In her talk to the freshmen, Claire emphasized so many ideas I had come to think of as mine. But then I realized that I had learned most of them at Connecticut College."

When his eldest son, Chris, began thinking about college, Cooper confessed to exerting a little influence on the decision. "I told Chris that unless things had changed remarkably, he was going to love it there."

That turned out to be good advice. The younger Cooper completed an honors thesis in chemistry, worked in the undergraduate summer research program and co-published a paper in structural chemistry with Associate Professor of Chemistry Marc Zimmer. He has been accepted to a Ph.D. program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute — all fine accomplishments. But one other distinction he holds, that of being part of the only father/son camel, won't last long. Cooper's second son, Jonathan, a math major, is in the Class of 2000.

— Chuck Luce
Thoreau lives next door

Thoreau's Country
David R. Foster '76, 1999, Harvard University Press, 270 pages, non-fiction

David R. Foster '76 traveled to northern Vermont in the summer of 1977, built a cabin with his own hands, and set about to live off the resources of the land, much like Henry David Thoreau had done more than a century before on Walden Pond. Reading Thoreau's diaries for companionship, Foster soon found that the writer's observations were strangely foreign to Foster's own experiences in the woods. Specifically, the overwhelming sense of quiet and solitude Foster found was completely absent from Thoreau's writing. Foster explains that his chance hearing of a church bell one day in the woods reminded him of "...the regularity with which their [Thoreau's journals] passages described the sound of church bells, locomotives shrieking across the far end of his pond, wagon wheels on the Lincoln road, and townspeople wandering through the woods of Walden. I was struck by the sudden recognition that the sights and sounds and nature that Thoreau encountered on his daily walks through the 19th-century countryside of Massachusetts were not those of the deep forest that I was currently living in, but rather more like those I had experienced as a child in the agricultural hills of Connecticut." Thoreau's New England was one of rolling pastures separated by stone walls and fences, a place where the largest wild animal to be found was the muskrat.

Foster's "Thoreau's Country" is an attempt to understand why and how the New England landscape has changed since Thoreau's time. Foster's primary source is Thoreau's diaries. More than two million words long, the diaries represent two decades of Thoreau's observations, anecdotes, and descriptions of his surroundings. Foster suggests that the encyclopedic scope of the diaries makes Thoreau an invaluable resource to ecologists trying to understand the dynamics of landscape evolution. Thoreau noted the activities of the animals around him, the agricultural procedures of the local farmers, the link between railroads and forest fires, the dispersion patterns of pine tree seeds — in short, a lifetime's worth of careful observation. Foster uses Thoreau's commentary to answer questions puzzling ecologists and suburban homeowners: Why are encounters with moose and deer increasingly more common in New England? Why are pine forests so hard to maintain? Why are meadows disappearing? Why do stone walls run through the middle of many woods?

Foster organizes Thoreau's massive diaries into comprehensible excerpts of related material. Each section deals with a topic such as daily life, railroads, stone walls, chestnut trees, or the extinction of the passenger pigeon. Whether he expounds on a subject in a three-page essay, or briefly comments with a one or two-line passage, the literary quality of Thoreau's prose shines through. Each section is preceded by Foster's own well-written commentary, which reveals the author's knowledge of both New England history and New England ecology. The author admirably shows Thoreau's common sense and awareness of his surroundings to be powerful scientific tools. On the subject of deforestation, Foster notes, "More vividly than any statistic, Thoreau's journal writings capture the reality of incessant woodland cutting that characterized the nineteenth century New England landscape."

Moreover, Foster points out ironies perhaps not apparent to the common reader of Walden: Thoreau, regarded as the consummate naturalist, lived in a New England more tamed and altered by human exertion than at any other time in its history. Thoreau read enough local history to realize this, and he tempered his admiration for his contemporary landscape with the knowledge that it was largely the result of human management. The lesson to be learned is that if we seek to "preserve" or maintain the New England landscape, we too must learn the history of the land. We will then realize that the landscape is constantly in flux, and that "we live in a cultural landscape that we can appreciate for its natural qualities as well as for the full story of human history that it contains."

David Foster is Director of the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Mass., and teaches ecology at Harvard University. He majored in botany and religion at Connecticut College.

— Greg Foran

Greg Foran is a 1999 graduate of Connecticut College. An English major, he was the recipient of the 1999 James R. Bain Prize for the best critical essay in an upper-level English class.
An Ordinary Woman


BEST-SELLING HISTORICAL NOVELIST

Cecelia Holland '65 tells the fascinating and true story of Nancy Kelsey, the first American woman to set foot in California. In the spring 1841, Nancy carrying her infant daughter — and her husband set out from their home in Missouri on a hazardous trek over the Rocky Mountains. The journey, which lasted more than seven months, took the family and a small band of pioneers through thousands of miles of uncharted wilderness, including the Great Plains, the Rockies and the High Sierra.

Holland is adept at retelling the story — in straightforward prose — without exaggeration or sentimentality. "This is Nancy's story," writes the author in the book's introduction. "I have dramatized it here and there, piecing together a single thread of narrative from many varying accounts, and presenting it as it might have looked to Nancy. Nothing is made up." Drawing on the personal memoir and private letters of Nancy Kelsey, Holland recreates the remarkable journey of an ordinary woman who helped to change American history.

Cecelia Holland is the author of 23 previous historical novels. A mother of three, the former history major lives in Eureka, Calif.

Eve's Longing


WINNER OF A National Fiction Competition, Eve's Longing — which is in its second printing — is the story of a modern fictional saint in making. Eve, the novel's central character, is a young woman possessed with longing for "The Infinite Possibilities in All Things." Her journeys, which take her from New York City to an Italian monastery, lead her to sexual excesses, hallucinations and transforming spiritual visions.

Deborah McKay, a philosophy major while at Connecticut College, teaches English at the Lawrenceville School in New Jersey. Eve's Longing is her first published novel.

Sprout Garden: Indoor Grower's Guide to Gourmet Sprouts

(Revised Edition)


MARK BRAUNSTEIN'S RECENT BOOK is a revised edition of his 1993 classic. The new Sprout Garden has all the latest information on sprouting including: broccoli sprouts — how to sprout them at home; the latest research on alfalfa sprouts; great sources for all your sprouting needs; plus information on growing every type of sprout and all the currently used methods for growing. The book also includes more than 30 recipes for everything from Aunt Una's Un-Tuna Salad to Girl sprout Cookies. Braunstein is also the author of Radical Vegetarianism.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS:

Exploding Ants: Amazing Facts About How Animals Adapt


DR. JOANNE SETTEL HAS Authored four science books geared toward elementary and middle school children. Her latest effort, Exploding Ants: Amazing Facts About How Animals Adapt, gives 8-12-year-old readers an interesting look at little-known everyday animal behaviors. "This is Ripley's Believe It or Not on a biological and photographic scale young scientists will adore," says the Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books.

Joanne Settel is a professor of biology at Baltimore City Community College.

Journey Around Cape Cod and the Islands from A to Z


AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR MARTHA DAY ZSCHOCK'S beautiful watercolor illustrations capture the essence of Cape Cod. With many facts, and an environmental theme, the book takes the reader on an alphabetical tour of the Cape, from Aptucket Trading Post in Bourne, Mass., to zooplankton, a food for whales.
The college’s *Study Abroad/Teach Abroad* (SATA) program, now in its fifth year, has sent students and their professors to locales as far flung as Mexico, Tanzania, Ghana and Egypt. **This past January** the college sent **three faculty** members and **13 students** abroad for a semester at Vietnam National University in **Hanoi**.

The trip was organized by Professor of Government William Frasure. Professor of Economics Donald Peppard, a Vietnam War veteran, accompanied the group for the first nine weeks, then traded places with Associate Professor of Economics Rolf Jensen, who arrived in mid-March to travel south with the group and teach the remainder of the semester.

By design, SATA programs, which take place in less technologically advanced countries, put both undergraduates and their professors in the position of student. It is a scenario that makes for intense teaching relationships and vivid experiential learning. Political, economic and social systems unfold in a human arena no textbook could provide.

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**Once a Soldier**

**BY DONALD PEPPARD**

On my office wall hangs a poster of a soldier with a radio on his back and an M-16 rifle in his hands. It reads: “Visit fascinating VIET-NAM — Fun Capital of the World.” I bought the poster in Hawaii when I was on R&R from Vietnam in June 1969. At that time its sardonic humor was appealing for a couple of reasons: I was a “visitor” to Vietnam, but not having much fun; and being in the States was called being back in “the world.”

Now I’ve had another chance to visit Vietnam, and there is no longer irony in those words. It is a fascinating country, I did have fun, and this time I was disappointed to return to the United States. In fact, those nine weeks were the best experience of my life.

**Getting Ready**

Among the many things I did to prepare for the trip was to read the letters I had written to my girlfriend (then my wife, we married while I was on R&R) from September 1968 to September 1969. I was reminded that my job and the place in which I did it were pretty ordinary. Our base camp was among the safer places in Vietnam during that period. My letters indicate that, while we were mortared on six occasions and there was fighting in the area, it was also very secure. President Nixon came to that base for his only visit to Vietnam on July 30, 1969.

The best thing that happened as a result of reading these letters was that I was prompted to try to find the guy who had been my immediate superior over there. I recalled how much time we had spent together and how close we had become. As often happens, however, when circumstances change, friendships built on those circumstances fade. We hadn’t been in touch for 30 years, and I had no idea where he was. I remem bered he came from Florida, so I sent letters to eight people in Florida who had the same name as he
did. I got lucky. Two days before we left for Hanoi, he called, and we were able to catch up a bit on our lives. We later arranged to meet again for a 30th reunion.

For many in my generation, Vietnam was more than just another far-away Southeast Asian country. We watched the war night after night on the evening news, and it became a place about which we simultaneously knew too much and too little. Family members and friends died there. Others changed their lives to avoid "visiting." Many of us took to the streets to protest.

To me, Vietnam has remained for most of the past 30 years an almost daily reminder of being both a soldier and later a war protester. Recently, like many others, I followed with interest the changes in our government's policies toward our former enemies, and I read about fellow vets' return visits. Especially vivid memories and emotions resurfaced at Connecticut College's fall 1998 Convocation, at which Hugh Thompson and Larry Colburn spoke about their heroic experiences at My Lai.

Until about three years ago, I had seldom seriously considered going back to Vietnam. What I had seen before held little attraction to revisit, and there were many other places I preferred to go first. But in 1996, talk about a SATA program in Vietnam began, and considering my poster's message in a literal sense became a real and attractive possibility. When Bill Frasure put the program together and I committed to going, people started asking me if I thought it would be strange or uncomfortable to go back to Vietnam. My usual reply was that because the SATA program was to be in Hanoi, I wouldn't be spending time anywhere near where I'd been before. I did think that revisiting the area near Ho Chi Minh City (or HCMC, formerly Saigon) where my base camp had been might prompt some memories, but going back was looking like a good idea. Part of its attraction was that the trip would be exactly 30 years after I had first been there, lending a certain anniversary flavor to it.

Being There

The road from the airport in Hanoi leaves the parking lots and almost immediately enters rice paddies. Sooner had we started through the fields than a very benign flashback transported me through time. There in the middle of all the green were the conical hats of women working, and it appeared at first that nothing had changed. It took me at least a few more visits to the countryside to pin down what was different: electric wires on concrete posts crisscross the rice paddies everywhere. They didn't exist 30 years ago, but otherwise the vistas across the paddies looked just as they had — women in conical hats and men behind water buffalo amidst a sea of green.

Soon after I arrived, the principal of Hanoi-Amsterdam High School recruited me to help with a 10th-grade Junior Achievement club at the school. They needed someone to teach the business and economics lessons that are part of the program, and I assume it was my availability rather than any business expertise that got me the job. But working with those kids was a nice change of pace that allowed me to meet more people and learn more about Vietnam than I would have.

Among the many cultural differences to which we adjusted in Vietnam was their custom of asking personal questions of complete strangers. We were constantly asked where we were from, how old we were, how many children we had and how long we had been in Vietnam. In an interesting twist to those questions, I was sitting in our hotel lobby one day when the middle-aged Vietnamese man next to me asked where I was from. I told him "America" (they don't usually get it when one answers "the U.S."). He asked me if I was a veteran. That was the only time I had heard that question. I responded, "yes," and asked him why he had asked. He said, "You're the right age." I guess that's what comes of having a mostly white beard! It turned out he was a freelance
English teacher and translator and had worked with many returning U. S. veterans. After learning that I had been in the Army, he asked other questions that got us briefly discussing our military histories. I surmised that my choice of service was relevant because of the U. S. bombing of Hanoi, which he and many of his generation experienced.

His attitude toward me was typical of what I found among many northern Vietnamese: they seem to hold no animosity toward individual Americans, seeming to prefer to get on with their lives rather than dwell on the past. That past, however, is not far below the surface for people old enough to remember the war and to have been moved to rural villages during our bombing of Hanoi. Many of the adults I met had been through that hardship. Because Vietnam is a young country — 60 percent of the population is 25 years old or younger — only a minority of people have war memories. Many more, of course, recall all too well the struggles of the 1980s and early 1990s before they began to enjoy the greater prosperity that we observed.

Even some children know their history well. I once took four of the Junior Achievement kids on a shopping trip for silk to a Hanoi suburb. They were pricing scarves as possible export items for their Junior Achievement company, and it was an education in bargaining to watch the girls gang up on a middle-aged shopkeeper as they attempted to reduce the price on large scarves by about 14 cents.

On the way back we passed Kham Thien street, which had been reduced to rubble by American bombing. They asked me if I knew about it, and I returned the question. Their response was that this was where "the Americans threw their bombs," and that "every house on the street had some one who died." Their matter-of-fact attitude made it clear that I, as an American, wasn't a problem for them. But I was impressed with how easily and quickly this history lesson appeared. Without having seen pictures of the street, one could not tell anything about its previous destruction. Today it is completely lined with small shops and dwellings and looks like many other streets in Hanoi.
I was attracted to war-related sites and military museums. At two places in the city there are pieces of B-52 bombers which were downed in the bombing raids of December 1972. In each place, the feat of shooting down many of these planes is celebrated with signs or plaques. For example, one site has a large sign on the street that shows a missile and a B-52 with flames coming out of its wing. The words under the painting say “Dien Bien Phu Tren Khong,” which was translated for me as “Dien Bien Phu [the decisive battle in 1954 that ended French rule in Vietnam] in the sky.”

Among the places American visitors are likely to find disconcerting are the military museums. As one might expect, they tell the story of Vietnam’s battles with French and U.S. forces with the pride of victors. They use “imperialists” and “invaders” to describe us, while erstwhile South Vietnamese forces are called “puppets.” Anyone who lost friends or family in “The American War,” as they call it, will be given pause by both the language used to describe actions and results and the display of helmets, uniforms and weapons captured from U.S. forces by the Vietnamese. My own feelings have long been conflicted about these issues because I was not just a soldier in Vietnam but also a war protester when I got back. I have often visited the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., to pay my respects, and it helped me to be reminded about the millions of casualties the Vietnamese suffered.

The only place where I perceived hostility toward me was at the Air Force Museum when I was outside looking at planes on the grounds. Two groups of older men were looking at the planes as though they could have been former pilots. I interpreted their pointed looks in my direction as efforts to make me uncomfortable. On the other hand, many people in the southern part of the country were quite enthusiastic when they heard that I was from America.

What I hadn’t known personally about Vietnam was the spectacular beauty of its countryside, especially in the northern two-thirds of the country. Thirty years ago, the areas I walked on, drove past and flew over were flat, green and dangerous, not scenic. However, on our spring break bus trip south along the coast from Hue to HCMC, we saw gorgeous beaches, forested mountains and rugged bluffs that reminded me of parts of New Mexico. On field trips to the north, we visited the fabulous Ha Long Bay — familiar to some from the movie Indochine — the similarly beautiful limestone outcroppings of Tam Coc (“Ha Long Bay without the bay”), the evocative hills and valleys of Hoa Binh province, and the thatched roofs and terraced rice paddies of a Muong village. Each site and journey revealed something about what it must have been like for the hundreds of Viet Cong who fought from and lived there. After exploring underground, one can also shoot old military rifles at a small range set up nearby. For $1 per shot, I relived old training exercises by shooting both an M-16 (American) and an AK-47 (Vietnamese) at targets 50 yards away. Even some students got into the act when I offered to pay for their shots.

On my last day in Vietnam, I went out exploring in the area I once knew well. The village near my base camp had grown in size but not much in wealth, since I saw few new buildings that spoke of affluence. In the nearby town that we had used for its laundry facilities, I recognized only the very center, and even that showed what 30 years of change and 12 years of economic development have done to the face of Vietnam. Near what were the huge bases at Long Binh and Bien Hoa are large, new industrial parks. Another good sign of the extent of development is
Looking Back

This trip was a delight for a variety of reasons. I was able to spend time with 13 excited, interesting, intrepid, easy-to-get-along-with-students. I got to know faculty friends better. The country was absolutely gorgeous. Hanoi had charm. The food was great. And curiosity and discovery were the watchwords of the trip.

Faculty members don’t often get to spend more time with students outside the classroom than in it, but during this trip we did — probably three times as many hours outside of class as in class. We ate, traveled, ran in the morning and explored new villages and cities together. In these and other ways, I was able to get to know students on a much more personal level than is customary on campus. I think all of us — students and faculty alike — were changed by experience. I know it was hard for me to return to campus, where my first name is Professor, not Don. I missed dinners with small numbers of students and the sense of shared discovery that permeated those nine weeks.

I was able to do things in Hanoi that are not possible at my college. It was certainly that way for me: grading the assignments was a pleasure because the students’ work was so good.

In a recent e-mail exchange, Jay Jaroch ‘96 said that I sounded “rejuvenated.” He was right. It is wonderful to have been able to change the way I think about Vietnam — to add new memories and experiences to the old — and to have had marvelous, multifaceted experiences with a great group of students.

the change along the back roads northeast of HCMC. We used to drive along these roads and look directly out across the fields to tree lines that sometimes sheltered ambushes. I had thought I would never forget the location of an ambush of some of my troops but I found it impossible to locate without the visual markers I once knew. These days, the sides of those roads are often filled with small shops and houses, and it is much more difficult to see the countryside.

Remembering My Lai — from left: Patrick Welch ’99, Sahar Chaudhry ’00, Kelly Kimball ’00, Peppard, and Nicole Wilson ’01, at a memorial to those killed in the My Lai massacre.
A Student's Story

BY MARIKO WILCOX ‘99

As one of four seniors who chose to spend their final semester abroad, I arrived in Hanoi wondering, “Did I make the right decision?” Other members of the Class of ’99 were back in New London getting a head start on job hunting. But driving into the city from the airport, catching the first glimpses of rice paddies and water buffaloes, we knew this was the beginning of an experience that would make us far more valuable to potential employers.

Study Abroad/Teach Abroad, (SATA) takes a much different approach than a typical semester at CC. Every part of our day required interaction with the Vietnamese people. Every class we took examined the phenomenal changes Vietnam is experiencing. And every relationship among students and professors was unique in our college experience.

My day would often begin with a run to the corner, where a half dozen ladies would beckon me with xoi, a sticky, rice delight mixed with green beans or peanuts and wrapped in a banana leaf. I would sit on the stools that a woman set up every morning — the components of her portable breakfast stall — and practice my rudimentary Vietnamese phrases with her while I ate.

Mariko Wilcox ‘99 in her dorm room in Hanoi. Wilcox studied the Vietnamese language, history, and its role in the global economy.
For Mariko, it was hard to accept that a generation ago, “kids our age were not in Vietnam for academic purposes.” In the end, the students had “the greatest experience of our lives” as they learned about Vietnam and themselves.

Our language class took place from 9 to 11 am. Four mornings a week, unconfident voices from students experimenting with the six tones of the Vietnamese language would fill the air. Outside the classroom, we developed close relationships with our Vietnamese teacher, with whom we cooked, visited the flower and fabric market, and explored the Old Quarter of Hanoi.

Following class I would run to the food stall on the next block to beat the noon rush. Four sisters would greet me, “Ma-li-co,” and would sit and ask about my life in the United States while I ate con dia, a plate of rice piled high with fried vegetables, spring roll, tofu and unusual cuts of meat and poultry.

The afternoon held more close contact with the Vietnamese people. Students hailed cyclo to the main part of town, worked at our various volunteer or teaching jobs, or bargained for goods on the streets.

Aside from language, we took several other classes: one that discussed the transition of Vietnam from a command to a market economy; a second, on Vietnamese history, analyzed the country’s diversity and how it has affected the current state of Vietnam; and a third examined the position of developing countries like Vietnam in the global structure.

Our classes often applied everyday life in Vietnam as we tried to analyze how the conditions we witnessed were the result of the policies we were study.
ing. For instance, we were surprised by the number of motor bikes in Vietnam and wondered about the extent of poverty in the countryside contrasted with the burgeoning affluence of the city-dwellers.

Our economics course included readings on the global economy from some of the preeminent authors on the risks of globalization, including John Kenneth Galbraith, Robert Heilbroner, William Greider and Benjamin Barber. Some of the authors encouraged us to look at the risks of globalization from the perspective of developing countries. All of the books alerted us to worldwide political and social ramifications of governments that accommodate multinational corporations at the expense of the social realm.

The history class gave us a broad overview of the diverse ethnic groups, climates and attitude differences between the North and the South, all of which came alive during our trip to southern Vietnam. We learned on-the-fly as we drove more than 1000 miles down the coast. The trip was educational and inspirational; many shared my sentiments that it was the greatest experience of our lives.

Starting in Huế, the old imperial capital, one of the poorest regions of Vietnam, we saw evidence of the French and American War juxtaposed with Vietnam’s beautiful rural landscape. The diverse fishing techniques, the height of the rice compared to the North and differences in the dialect that even our untrained ears could distinguish, were subtle differences that signified South Vietnam.

As part of the trip to the South we had a somber visit to My Lai. From war remnants of American army hangars near Denang to museums and Viet Cong tunnels in and around Ho Chi Minh City, there were aspects of the trip that were a painful reminders of war. For me, it was hard to accept that a generation ago, kids our age were not in Vietnam for academic purposes.

The relationships we developed with other students and our professors set SATÅ apart from other study-abroad experiences. Without question, every member of the trip was a contributor and integral factor in the success of the program. Time and again, I heard people remark with amazement that they never expected to become so close to the group. That success can be attributed to the effort students and professors put into classes, the weekly excursions and the constant interaction we had during group meals and in other informal settings. Because professors and students were learning and adjusting together and therefore, equally dependent on one another, the relationships left the realm of academics. Instead, we learned about each other’s lives, we joked often with one another and we became a family.

In Vietnam, a fellow senior, Rebecca Larson, remarked that SATÅ should be a requirement for all CC students. We wondered how we could convey to our fellow students that SATÅ is unique and unequalled in caliber to any foreign experience afforded to college students.

Now, looking back, there is no question in my mind that I made the right decision to forego my final semester on campus. I will never forget the breathtaking landscapes of the Vietnam. But more important, SATÅ empowered me with the ability to cooperate and communicate with people in order to adapt to a foreign environment.
When people ask me, "So tell me, what was Vietnam like?" I might say, "great." But really it was like a hard sneeze in a deep sleep ... it woke me.

He offered me opium while I was sitting on a rock by a waterfall where ants were devouring a piece of yoke I had dropped from my egg sandwich. If I won't drink the water, I won't try the opium, was my philosophy. No sooner did the thin Vietnamese teenager hop, skip and jumped back to his rock, than a small army of half-naked children marched up to me yelling, 'Bon-bon! Bon-bon!' They wanted candy. Well, so did I.

Two Connecticut College professors, 13 students, and about two dozen La Vie mineral waters were loaded into a small bus for a dusty 11-hour ride to Sapa, a small village near the China border. We were singing on the bus while outside the wind was brushing the rice paddies like a comb through hair. We were sharing stories of crazy motorbike rides and accomplished bargaining tales. Our mouths were stinging from the freshly cut pineapple bought on the side of the road. And out of nowhere, one of us flew off of her seat after the bus hit a speed bump from hell.

The next day was full of encounters with other world travelers, hiking, sweating, and laughing so hard I thought my jaw was going to break. We discussed the idiosyncrasies of Vietnamese people while groups of women in the market began shouting out the prices of the traditionally dyed clothing. After an active day, we earned a big meal at The Observatory, the only cafe in Sapa. There our meals were interrupted by much laughter (our own), and by adamant saleswomen whose hoop earrings weighed down their wrinkled earlobes. Our after-dinner stroll led us to the traditional "Love Market" where young men and women meet at 9:00 to fall in love, but unfortunately the monsoon cut us in line. Some of us ran back to the lodge while others strolled behind waiting for the rain to give out, but it never did.

There's nothing like being in a wet, buggy room with girls in pajamas. I'll never forget Elizabeth, who purchased and modeled a new wardrobe of traditionally dyed clothing that gave off a distinct smell after being hit with rain. The thunderstorm hit hard, the power went out, and the lightning storm began. And we stood there, just watching the lightning rods like fireworks on the Fourth of July.

Sapa, like Vietnam, is so beautiful; you'd almost forget there was a war there once. That weekend, like the whole experience of Vietnam, swims in the deeper parts of my soul. And when people ask me, "So tell me, what was Vietnam like?" I might say, "great." But really it was like a hard sneeze in a deep sleep ... it woke me.
Above: Students in an informal class at Café Soho, Hanoi. From left: Elizabeth Wohl, Kelly Kimball, Government Professor William Frasure, Shannon Senior, Nicole Wilson, and Jordana Gustafson. Left: Economics Professor Rolf Jensen with students at a temple at Hoi An. Above: Jennifer DeLeon and Elizabeth Wohl on bicycles in Hanoi.
A new camel from Vietnam

The students and faculty from the Vietnam semester brought back dozens of memories and photographs when they returned to campus in May. But they also brought a new student to enroll in the class of 2003: Nguyen Quynh Trang.

It all started when William Fraisure, professor of government, was on a “reconnaissance trip” to Hanoi last fall to plan for his semester-long Sata experience. He made contact with the principal of the Hanoi-Amsterdam High School, an international school, and agreed to review seniors for admission to Connecticut College. In February, he had a preliminary meeting with five prospective students, and at a later date, he and Professor of Economics Donald Peppard and two Connecticut College students interviewed the finalists.

Unanimously, they chose to recommend Nguyen Quynh Trang, a 17-year-old girl who had spent all or most of her life in Hanoi and who would like a career in international relations.

“In a country where academic competition is all-consuming, Trang proved herself to be the best of the best, emerging from Vietnam's pressure-cooker examination system with top marks and a gold medal. She scored among the top one percent on the national high school comprehensive, qualifying for automatic admission to the National University” said Fraisure.

Three members of the Admission staff reviewed several applications and came to exactly the same conclusion. “We agreed to give financial assistance to Trang,” said Martha Merrill '84, associate director of admissions at Connecticut College.
Can anyone be trained to think mathematically? A math-phobic writer talks with CC's mathematicians and learns there is a simple way to understand math — you just do it.

BY PENNY PARSEKIAN

I am seated at a table, notebook open, pen poised, about to fire questions at retired college professor of mathematics Ernest Schlesinger. To my chagrin, Schlesinger begins to give me a lesson in mathematics. He scribbles the equation $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$ and asks me what numbers might work for X, Y and Z. I try four and five for X and Y. No luck. Four and five squared, (16 and 25), add up to 41, a square of nothing. When Schlesinger tells me the computer cannot solve this equation, at least for all values of X, Y, and Z, I feel better. But he is not saying this to assuage my ego. He is telling me that mathematics is creative.

"Mathematics is not arithmetic," he says. "That's only an incidental tool. Arithmetic is just bare calculations." With these machines, you can "abbreviate brute force calculations," he adds, making calculators and computers into the steam shovels and bulldozers of mathematics.
As I puzzle over the equation, Schlesinger gives me some numbers that will work—5, 12 and 13. Then he tells an intriguing story.

About 300 years ago, a man named Fermat asked whether this equation could be solved with any power higher than squares. Later, Fermat scribbled in the margin of a book that he had proved there were no such whole numbers, but the margin was too narrow to contain the proof.

Known as Fermat’s last theorem, this type of challenge was “irresistible to mathematicians,” Schlesinger explains. Since then, many have tried to figure it out. “A lot of good and important mathematics came out of attempts to solve this,” he adds.

Next, Schlesinger mentions perfect numbers, and, as I wince with embarrassment over forgetting what these are, he tells me that six is a perfect number, because if you add all the numbers that divide into it, you get a number which is its double. So six is divisible by one, two, three and six. Add them up, and you get 12. Pretty neat!

“Six and 28 are perfect numbers,” Schlesinger says. “You can ask, are there others? These are typical things a mathematician might be concerned about.”

“Prime numbers can’t be divided by anything but one and themselves,” he says, listing a string of primes—2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19. “Euclid proved that there is no largest prime. Notice prime pairs—5, 7; 11, 13; 17, 19. Do they go on forever? No one knows. They do become rarer as you go on.”

“Let you should think this is all fun and games,” Schlesinger adds, “it’s not all inapplicable. Prime numbers or pairs of the products are used in schemes of encryption. It’s not merely an idle interest.”

My fear is now being overshadowed by a sense of curiosity. It even seems conceivable that I could make headway. But moments later, when Schlesinger writes in my notebook “let X be in [0, 4],” I drop off the edge. “You do something to X such that,” and he writes the lines:

\[ f(X) = k \cdot X \cdot (1 - X) \]
\[ k = 40 \]
\[ \frac{d}{dx} f(X) = 40 \cdot X \cdot (1 - X) \]

“As graphically it looks chaotic, but it’s totally repeatable,” he says. “This is chaos. Meteorologists use something like this to model weather conditions. It’s fairly elaborate and involves both mathematics and physics,” he explains.

Chaos certainly should interest me, with its central role in modern life. What does it take to grasp this alluring but impossibly abstract subject? Must you have a particularly sharp mind, an extraordinary ability? Professor of Mathematics Stanley Wertheimer says the talent for mathematics lies in the “ability to see patterns and draw inferences,” an ability that is part of the “mental hardware” we’re born with.

Department newcomer Chikako Mese (pronounced meh-sheh), one of the top young geometric analysts in the field, says that talent is also an acquired taste and very much based on training. “It’s just like athletics,” says the assistant professor, newly arrived from a teaching post at the University of Southern California. “If you don’t train, you’re not going to be any good,” she says. “Everybody can train themselves to think more precisely and logically. Certain people are more inclined to it, but it’s not true that some people can’t do it.”

Bridget Baird, professor of mathematics and the Judith Ammerman ’60 Director of the Center for Arts and Technology, agrees. “Some get it more quickly,” she says, like having an affinity for languages, but mathematics is not inaccessible to anyone.
According to the current department chair, Associate Professor Kathy McKeon, the proof lies with the students: Some might have an affinity for mathematics, she says, but "you see others who develop it."

Practice, practice

If mathematics is do-able, why is math phobia so common? Among other reasons, Professor Wertheimer points to formulas, such as the one that stumped me, that are extremely condensed. For example, $e^{i\pi} = -1$ "contains four of the most interesting concepts in mathematics," he says. "To get to the point where you understand what this means takes a lot of study." One brief equation can contain not only a host of unfamiliar symbols, but an evolution of thinking as well. To work with those symbols, you must have their meaning down pat, which, according to Wertheimer, takes time.

Baird says the rigor, not the complexity, makes math scary.

"People think math is about proving things, but that's not true," says Professor of Mathematics Stanley Wertheimer. "Math is about seeing things and then going to prove them."

"I wouldn't say it's hard," she says. "It has hard edges. It doesn't allow for waffling, approximations or partially getting there. It's a little bit unforgiving."

The popular idea that mathematics is only for geniuses has not helped, either. "People think mathematicians are nerds and weirdoes, but they come in all different personalities," says Wertheimer. "Math majors go on to do all sorts of things," he adds, citing an article claiming mathematics is a good background for the practice of law.

McKeon is critical of the way mathematical genius is portrayed in the 1998 movie "Good Will Hunting."

"It was as believable as someone telling you they practiced basketball in their backyard and came out and beat Michael Jordan," she says. "You don't wake up one day a genius."

Most mathematicians do not necessarily fit into a certain personality type. "I'm not a typical 'mathy' person," claims Baird. "I don't like chess, and I'm not good at balancing my checking account."

All agree that the way mathematics is taught has fueled its reputation as too difficult for the average person.

"It's presented as drill and arithmetic, as rules without rhyme or reason," Schlesinger says. "and the rules are presented without regard to how they are justified. While it's useful to know math facts, that is not the essence of what the mathematician does." Schlesinger also says teachers often are not adequately prepared and don't appreciate the nuances of the subject.

Wertheimer's personal experience confirmed this view. "I was bored by calculus, because it was introduced as a rote subject. Mathematics is not about that, but about leaps of intuition, experimentation and looking for beautiful patterns."

The faculty employs a range of strategies to get math across to its students. "I try to get to the vision, rather than the nitty gritty," says Baird. For McKeon, if a student is having difficulty, she changes tempo.

"I can spend more time and take them through things slowly, breaking things down into pieces," she explains.

Breaking through the wall

But what about the brick walls, those seemingly insurmountable obstacles to understanding that can happen in any field, but seem more apt to occur in mathematics? How can the faculty help students to "get it?" Chikako Mese points out first, "There are a lot of levels on which you can get it"—from being able to follow and reproduce a calculation to finding new applications for it."

Wertheimer says the key is engagement. "The main purpose of the lecture is to engender enthusiasm," not to teach them one thing in particular. "They have to do it themselves. Why ask students to
answer questions we already know the answers to? It's much better to ask them to investigate something on their own and make discoveries—with proper guidance." To accomplish this, he has had students teach the material from the outset. "Once they get their minds working, they can pick up things quickly," he adds.

But Wertheimer admits to some disconnect between what he can give and what the student receives.

"I don't convey [mathematics]," he says. "I can't convey it. I can talk about it, but unless it happens to them, they're not going to know what I mean."

According to the faculty, leaps of understanding or breakthrough experiences are part of being a mathematician. They say their research often involves proving things never solved before. For Baird, the light bulb often switches on when she's not doing math. "It can come to you in the shower or when you're hiking," she says.

Wertheimer says even if you're working in an area where someone has gone before you, you can experience the satisfaction of suddenly grasping what was inaccessible to you before. He makes a distinction between what he calls personal breakthroughs and those of significance to the field in general.

"There's a hierarchy of mathematicians," he says. "There are the superstars. Math deals with abstract structures, and they live in those abstract structures. People think math is about proving things, but that's not true. It's about seeing things, and then going to prove them.

"One percent make these breakthroughs, and the rest of us mop up afterwards," he says.

Reflecting on significant events in the field, I am reminded of Schlesinger's account of Fermat's last theorem and how public attention focused on Andrew Wiles of Princeton University when he solved the theorem in 1993. Called a non-existence proof, Wiles' solution was so complex (not to mention 200 pages long), the peer review process took several years.

While it is a rare occurrence for mathematicians to make headlines, nationally its devotees comprise significant numbers. According to Calvin Clawson in his book *Mathematical Mysteries, the Beauty and Magic of Numbers*, "over 50,000 professional mathematicians in America practice their trade with enthusiasm and fervor. Another 5 to 10 million Americans study mathematics for the pure joy of it, without any anticipation of ulterior rewards." Moreover, the areas of inquiry are growing in number.

"Carl Frederick Gauss, who lived about 150 years ago, was the last person to know everything in mathematics," Wertheimer says. "Since then, the field has grown so vast." He pauses. "It's huge! There are many 'leading edges' in pure and applied mathematics. It used to develop at the same speed as the fields that used it. Physics needed calculus, so it developed it. But mathematics has spun off on its own. Today, it has developed ahead of the need for it."

Wertheimer wishes more people shared his reverence for the field. "Mathematics is about universal truths," he says, "but the problem is it is not accessible in the same way as when the senses are used to discover something. Mathematics is an inner sense."

I love looking for patterns," he says. "It's more intuitive than rigorous. I feel like an explorer investigating an unknown terrain."

"People fail to see the tremendous beauty that is there," says Baird. "People can't see how gorgeous the patterns are and the kind of fluidity they have."
The Dance

BY BARBARA FLUG COLIN '61
Years ago, I developed a creative writing program at the Henry Viscardi School, a New York State-supported school for physically challenged pre-K through high school students. Over the years, I have found the excitement and surprise in my elementary and high school classes to be more energizing than I could have ever dreamed possible.

One day, when we were discussing a poem by Anna Swir, Carl, an 11th-grader said, "You’re trapped in your own emotion. There’s no way to get out...except for poetry. In society, you can’t really do that because there are certain etiquette things."

That’s probably why I began writing 15 years after my 1961 graduation from Connecticut College, and why I then went back for a master of fine arts degree. But no writing project has released me in quite the same way as this teaching. I listen to the students in class discussions, and I open to new ideas as they do. When I construct exercises to inspire their poems, I revisit the great poets, painters and composers I first glimpsed as an undergraduate at C.C. When I read my students’ poems, I see wisdom and pain, self awareness and talent.

My students are diverse. Cathy was sullen and rebellious until her anger exploded in a powerful poem. Sally hid in the bathroom and was the school fool until she discovered her talent for poetry. Delia was obviously a writer from the first poem she wrote in fifth grade. She convinced her parents she could be mainstreamed, went on to publish her poems and do public readings, and is now a freshman at Brown University.

The final line in a poem by Kathy, a 10th grader, reads: "Sometimes I look in the mirror and see/ the real me." Students are excited by their poems because of what they can see in the mirror of their writing—not their physical disabilities, but their humanity.

If my students have special needs, perhaps I do too. Perhaps there is an invalid within who identifies with their physical disabilities. My students reassure me—with their actions, their words, their poems—that our differences can bear exploration and expression. We discovered through Kandinsky’s prose poem “Different” that our uniqueness is the stuff of art.

Anthony, a fourth grader, wrote, "In my imagination/I have a house/ and I keep my treasure/on the second floor." Each time I review the meaning of "originality" and "imagination," I see the words from the fresh perspectives of my students. In my classes, I challenge students to break through learned rules, clichés and conventions to discover the treasures sequestered in themselves.

Through writing, students discover the identity that great art provides. Mozart transports Joel from his wheelchair skyward in the arms of beautiful women. In Edward Hopper’s painting “The Sun in the Room in Brooklyn,” Barry sees the sun as “a frightened child who refuses to come in.” Monet’s painting, "A Boat on the Epte," inspires Ellen to write “The unseen sun/is setting under the horizon/ as if it were the oar/below the water’s surface.”

When we visit museums, adults follow us around. At all the shows—Miro, Chuck Close, Cy Twombly, De Kooning, Bourgeois, Magritte, Monet, Bonnard, Johns, Mondrian and many others—strangers latch onto us. An art history Ph.D. candidate once told me he was walking with us because he could finally “see” Kandinsky.

I remember one of our first museum visits, the Matisse show at the Museum of Modern Art. The poems written beforehand were inspired by paintings in the museum catalogue, library books, postcards and a poster of Matisse’s painting “Dance” that we hung on our classroom wall. Each child felt like the owner of several chosen Matisse paintings. They all felt possessive about Matisse’s “Dance,” the five circling dancers stretching to keep hold of each others’ hands. But when they saw the color, scale and power of the real painting, “Dance,” centered in a wide wall of the museum, they were speechless. And I suddenly understood. The five dancers must reach each other and connect to keep the circle in motion.
CADEMY AWARD-WINNING actress Estelle Parsons '49 and Olympian Anita DeFrantz '74 were among a record-breaking 1,400 alumni who returned to campus for Reunion 1999 on June 3-6.

Parsons, winner of the Best Supporting Actress award for her role in the movie “Bonnie and Clyde,” celebrated her 50th reunion with classmates Peggy Charren, children’s media consultant and founder of Action for Children’s Television, and Millicent F. Jick, a lecturer with the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

On Saturday, the three women paneled a discussion — “On Stage, On Screen, In a Gallery: Magic Moments in the Arts” — that explored personal experiences in dealing with the institutions that make art happen.

DeFrantz, who celebrated her 25th reunion, is an attorney, a former Olympic athlete and president of the Amateur Athletic Foundation. A bronze medalist in rowing in the 1976 Games, DeFrantz discovered the sport at Connecticut College. She is the first American woman to serve on the International Olympic Committee and has been called the most powerful woman in U.S. amateur sports by “Women’s Sports and Fitness.”

Among the highlights of Reunion 1999, was a Saturday night performance by The Capitol Steps, a musical political satire group that describes itself as “a politically correct, hygienic, bipartisan troupe of current and former Congressional staffers.”

Many alumni enjoyed a tour of New London — titled “New London 101” — that gave former camels an opportunity to explore the renaissance taking place in downtown New London and to meet many of the key players helping to forge the partnership between the college and its host city. The Annual Reunion Parade of Alumni, the Picnic on the Green, lectures and class dinners rounded out the weekend.
Reunion snapshots, clockwise from bottom left: a member of the Sykes Society celebrates during the Alumni Parade. The college mascot gets a laugh out of two members of the Class of 54. Student workers enjoy their window view. Alumni listen to Donald E. Williams Jr., executive director of Connecticut College Downtown, during New London 101.
A year ago, the prospect of my 50th reunion was not appealing. I was reluctant. Don't misunderstand me — Connecticut College was a great experience. The friendships were enduring and my education outstanding. Certainly, I was not a disbeliever. But, as they say, when it's over, it's over. And, anyway, I was busy with other things.

Little did I reckon with the gathering winds of '49. Christmas cards from close friends sent imploring messages. Phone calls from class agents urged me to participate and give. Class leaders insisted I submit my life's history, photographs, even samples of my creativity (despite protests that a three-quarters finished needlepoint pillow had limited appeal).

In high gear, the Office of Alumni Relations churned out paperwork. My mailbox overflowed with reservation forms requiring weighty decisions on room, meals, seminars, golf outings and parties. My excuses were wearing thin. I was fast becoming an indecisive disappointment to my fellow classmates. There was no way out. I had to show.

And so, on a beautiful spring afternoon, I found myself, along with my husband, driving up Mohegan Avenue. Friendly landmarks welcomed us: the red brick buildings of the Coast Guard Academy, the pillars of the Lyman Allyn Museum, snug Vinal Cottage — my freshman home. On campus, Fanning Hall and the Quad were steadfast and familiar.

So far, so good.

Tentatively, I walked into reunion headquarters at Crozier-William's. Lingering misgivings vanished. The spirit of '49 was all-embracing. Friends were everywhere. The fun began. Name tags helped, but nothing could disguise those familiar eyes, smiles and voices. Grey hair, wrinkles and a few extra pounds didn't matter.

Conversations picked right up. A three-day splurge of long-ago friendships was off and running.

And run we did. Breathlessly, we whirled through lectures, campus van tours, entertainment and meetings. Thank goodness for horse drawn antique wagons. Finally, our feet got a rest! As '49ers, the 50th Reunion class, we rode in style in the Alumni Parade.

Reunion was about nostalgia. We reminisced about classes, professors who forgave our mediocre efforts. Dorm life was a total recall: a kaleidoscope of endless chatter, bridge games, pranks, eating binges and frantic study. Past romance, ranging from tagging to discovering blind dates, made us giggle. We looked back with laughter and joy.

And then there was President Claire Gaudiani. She marched on the scene at dinner and meeting, with talk about the future. We '49ers, holdovers from the restrained Rosemary Park era, exchanged startled looks. This lady — with her snappy pantsuits, cascading black curls and trendy sandals with clunky high heels — was clearly with it. Is this we wondered, the new face of education?

Our once familiar Connecticut College was now hurtling ahead, finding new direction, new concepts. President Gaudiani tossed up some high lobs. The college's leadership in revitalizing New London was outlined. The international programs that take CC students all over the world were detailed. The relationship between advanced education and new frontiers in medicine stretched our minds.

This was serious stuff. We pondered President Gaudiani's words. The nostalgia of college days had brought us back to reunion. Now, we would go home, much as we had in 1949, brimming with new ideas and envisioning a larger world.

How wrong I was. Reunions are exciting. Sign me up for our 55th. And, meanwhile, guess what? I'm headed to our local department store to buy a pair of sandals with clunky high heels.

Sharon Doremus, a former economics major, lives in Morristown, NJ, with her husband, Richard. She is the author of Shorebirds and Seagrass.
Congratulations to alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff and volunteers — well done!

The Time To Lead campaign has far exceeded our expectations: $138 million! That is $13 million more than the $125 million goal set by the trustees at the beginning of the campaign. Great things have been accomplished, and the college has soared to become one of the country's most selective liberal arts college. New facilities and programs coupled with the college's tradition of civic involvement are attracting the most promising students and top faculty.

Alumni participation in the Annual Fund is an indicator of the strength of the college, and we soared past the college's all-time record of 46 percent to reach 50 percent in 1998-99. A four percentage point increase in one year. Amazing! Wonderful!

Organizations that rate colleges use this number in their calculations. As alumni, we take great pride in our college, and it is exciting to see public recognition increasing by leaps and bounds. Much of that recognition is directly attributable to your support of the Time To Lead campaign.

In this donor-centered campaign, each of us found a rewarding niche. As donors, we are all different, and the great thing about this campaign is that we have had so many choices and opportunities, which led to a sense of involvement and, in the end, great success!

There were 11,104 donors to the campaign during 1998-99, including alumni, trustees, parents and grandparents, students, friends of the college, faculty, staff, corporations and foundations. As national chair of the campaign, I am honored to have had the opportunity to join with you in making a great college even greater!

Thank you!!!

Susan Eckert Lynch '62, trustee and national campaign chair

One of the early gifts to the campaign: the Lyn and David Silfen Track and Field set the college on a path to success and symbolized the competitive spirit of CC alumni.
A gift from Wendy Lehman Lash '64 celebrates the college’s connection with the Lyman Allyn Art Museum by funding an education assistant position to help plan programs for the community.

The women’s lacrosse team, shown here in a game against Bates, had a great year in 1998-99. Marguerite Holthausen Highmark ’42 inspired by her granddaughter, Laura, Class of 2002, created an endowment for women’s lacrosse.

Donor-centered campaign brings a wide variety of gifts to Connecticut College

C onnecting donors with the college was a major thrust of the *Time To Lead* campaign. As donors found campaign initiatives that interested them, they released a creative energy that inspired others to become involved. This is a sampling of campaign gifts received in the final months of the campaign:

- **Lyman Allyn Art Museum:** Wendy Lehman Lash ’64 made a gift toward the museum’s education program.
- **Athletics:** Marguerite Holthausen Highmark ’42 and June Perry Mack ’42
- **Library Resources in Environmental Studies:** Linda J. Lear ’62
- **Professors:** Jean Curtin Tempel ’65 created an assistant/associate professorship in computer science.
- **Planned gifts:** Barbara Hogate Ferrin ’43 created a unitrust and Elizabeth Gilbert Fortune ’40 and Joan Jacobson Kronick ’46 P’73 documented their bequests.
- **Scholarships:** Elizabeth Flanders McErellis ’34, Selma Silverman Swartsburg ’38, Frances Walker Chase ’38 P’66, Sally Radovsky Ballard ’47, Joan Rosen Kemler ’47, Jack and Cynthia Fenning Rehn ’54, Jean Curtin Tempel ’65, Carol Chaykin ’66, Zoe Klein ’99, and John and Ellen Baldwin P’01. In addition, Margaret Conver, Peter Mathieson and Andrew Mathieson established a scholarship in honor of their mother, Helen Fricke Mathieson ’52.
- **Academic Centers and Departments:** corporate gift from So Analysts, Inc. for the Center for Arts and Technology; Margaret Abell Powell ’39 and Jean Wallace Douglas ’43 for the Goodwin-Niering Center for Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies; Cynthia Fuller Davis ’66 for Gender and Women’s Studies
- **Study Away/Teach Away (SATA):** Susan Eckert Lynch ’62
- **Arboretum:** gift of a rare dwarf Japanese maple from New London businessman, Fred Poulos
- **Academic Endowments:** Arlan Mantz, Oakes Ames Professor of Physics and his wife Barbara; George Willauer, Dean of Academic Programs and Charles J. MacCurdy Professor of American Studies, and his wife, Cynthia ’72
- **Unrestricted endowment:** Barbara Pilling Tift ’44 P’67, Carol Jaffa Feinberg ’49 and Mr. & Mrs. William DeWitt Jr. P’88
- **Camel Pride:** Susan Eckert Lynch ’62 presented an antique Mahal rug with camel design to the college. It now graces the lobby of Becker House.

A new star for Ad Astra Society

Elizabeth “Liz” Gilbert Fortune ’40 was a history major at Connecticut College and continued this interest with courses at San Diego State University and at the College of William and Mary.

Several of her cousins attended Connecticut College, and Liz has maintained an avid interest in the college, particularly in the Lyman Allyn Art Museum. She was most recently on campus in November, 1998 for the dedication of the Elizabeth Gilbert Fortune ’40 Galleries in the DeNion-Allyn House at the museum. Her fine eye for color and detail brought this venerable mansion back to life.

The Fortune family is known for many good works in the Indianapolis area and at Purdue University, and Liz has been a long-time friend and supporter of the American Museum in Britain.

Her husband, the late Robert P. Fortune attended Princeton University and was president of Mid-America International Inc.

Liz recently made a planned gift to the college that will ultimately support the library or a related project of her choice. Welcome to the Ad Astra Society, Liz.
Annual Fund tops 50 percent alumni participation and breaks $4 million

As the remaining months, weeks, days of the *Time To Lead* campaign ticked away, excitement on campus rose to a fever pitch. For the first time in the history of the college, it seemed very possible to reach 50 percent alumni participation and raise the Annual Fund total to $4 million. Student phonathon callers were on summer break, so staff, faculty and administrators spent many evenings calling to remind people to get their checks in before the deadline.

Alumni responded beautifully, and as totals were posted each day, Becker House was abuzz with good news. An increase of four percentage points in one year is practically unheard of, but as the numbers grew, it was clear that our college would be the exception to that rule.

First-time alumni donors, 492, made a big difference as did pledgers who made a special effort to get their pledges in by the June 30 deadline.

Two challenges were offered in addition to the highly successful challenges offered by individual reunion classes. These challenges increased the value of many gifts and brought out the competitive spirit of CC alumni.

The challenge for the classes of 1975-1997, offered by Trustee Rufus Winton '82 had great results, as evidenced by a dramatic increase in the number of alumni in those classes who gave in 1997-98 and made a gift again in 1998-99. The $1 million Becker Challenge, for donors making new or increased gifts, was earned in full and, in fact, went to $1.9 million.

Why is 50 percent alumni participation important? According to Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, Claire K. Matthews: “The standard answer would be that alumni participation helps us in the ratings that organizations such as *U.S. News and World Report* produce; however, it goes much deeper than that. Connecticut College is moving ahead so fast and has accomplished so much in the past few years, that a vote of confidence from alumni is particularly meaningful. With each Annual Fund gift, alumni make a statement of pride in the college and assert the value of a Connecticut College education.”

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HIGHLIGHTS
1998-99 Annual Fund

- 50 percent alumni participation
- 45 percent participation by parents of current students
- $4 million total (20 percent more than last year)
- 393 members of 1911 Society (gifts of $1,911 or more)
- 492 first-time alumni donors
63 new scholarships make dreams come true

Connecticut College celebrates scholarships each spring at a luncheon that brings scholarship donors and recipients together. Donors learn more about "their" students, keep up-to-date on campus life and compare notes about their CC experiences. Students awarded named endowed scholarships learn why donors give scholarships and, years later, they often become donors.

Trustee Jerrold Carrington '79, former scholarship student and recent scholarship donor, describes this as a legacy from donor to recipient that inspires new legacies for new donors and new recipients. "I am forever grateful that a donor came through and enabled me to continue my education and graduate in 1979. This legacy of gratitude led me to do the same for others."

President Claire L. Gaudiani '66, also a former scholarship student and now a scholarship donor, says, "The donors of my scholarship are with me in everything I do — a powerful force that made a major difference in my life."

With more than 200 endowed scholarships (including 63 added during the campaign), Connecticut College is able to assist many promising students. The donors who gave $19 million for scholarship endowment during the campaign made wise investments in future leaders. Endowed scholarships are important to the college's ability to attract and retain a diverse student body, and this, in turn, enriches the entire campus community. Since only the interest on endowed funds is spent, scholarships go on helping students generation after generation.

According to Vice President for Enrollment Lee Coffin, "Campaign donors made a tremendous difference in the scholarship endowment, but the need continues. Endowing a scholarship is a great way to stay connected to the campus community and make a major difference in students' lives."

Trustee Jerrold Carrington '79, speaker at the 1999 Scholarship Recognition Luncheon, enjoys a chat with Shari Darman '99, who was the student speaker at the luncheon.

Congratulations to new Century Council Members

Robert F. Smith and Mary C. Smith '38 in memoriam
Carol Jaffa Feinberg '49
Jack and Cynthia Fenning Rehm '54
John Baldwin and Ellen Baldwin, Ph.D. P'01

Faculty and students lose a great friend

Edward R. Hodgkins 1910-1999

Ted Hodgkins, who established an endowed scholarship in 1977 in memory of his wife, Ruth Gulliver Hodgkins '30, took a personal interest in the education of "his" students. He continued to add to the endowed scholarship fund over the years and maintained contact with a number of alumni who had received assistance from the fund.

Another interest was assistance for new faculty — providing funds from an endowment to help young faculty travel, publish and become recognized for their scholarly work and teaching.

"It is important for faculty to be role models for our students — to show them what professionally active scholars do. The Hodgkins Fund enables junior faculty to travel to research archives and to present at professional meetings in their first few years at the college. This creative gift will continue to have far-reaching effects for the college."

David K. Lewis, provost and dean of the faculty

Hodgkins made another gift to the Edward Ruggles Hodgkins Fund for Faculty Support shortly before he passed away in May. This fund was established in 1998 and is already generating support for faculty projects.

Most of those who received awards used them for travel to professional meetings, and their wide-ranging interests and journeys to destinations in this country and abroad help bring the college's remarkable achievements to the attention of scholars around the world.

Those who benefited from the Edward Ruggles Hodgkins Fund for Faculty Support this year include Geoffrey Atherton, assistant professor of
German; Tristan Borer, assistant professor of government; Patrice Brodeur, instructor in religious studies; Amy Dooling, assistant professor of Chinese; Michelle Dunlap, assistant professor of human development; Alexis Eastwood, Sue and Eugene Mercy Jr. Assistant Professor of History; Manuel Lizarralde, assistant professor of botany and anthropology; Rhonda Garelick, associate professor of French; Michael Molasky, Jacob and Hilda Blaus...1, Jacob and Hilda Blaus, associate professor of Japanese; T. Page Owen, associate professor of botany; David Patton, associate professor of government; Janice Stockard, assistant professor of anthropology; Douglas Thompson, assistant professor of geophysics; and Audrey Zakrski, assistant professor of psychology.

Their travels led them to the far corners of the U.S. and to South Africa, Canada and Portugal, honoring the college and Ted Hodgkins with each trip and presentation.

Tristan Borer used her grant for field study:
"For someone whose area of study is South Africa, conducting field research always requires an initial outlay of a fairly substantial sum of money - airfare from the United States to Cape Town. I am very grateful to the Hodgkins Faculty Support Fund for helping underwrite the financial costs of working halfway around the world."

Looking ahead...a message from the new chair of the trustees' Development and Alumni Relations Committee

While we are rejoicing in the success of the campaign and enjoying the camaraderie of fellow donors, the trustees are looking ahead to new developments for Connecticut College. The timing is perfect: a major fund-raising campaign is completed and the college is poised to announce the details of a new comprehensive plan that builds on the accomplishments of the campaign.

We are just learning about the elements of this plan, but I can tell you that the academic goals that are emerging from the faculty planning teams and the goals for the physical plant that are emerging from the work of master planning consultants are possible because the campaign laid the groundwork.

For example, the Science Initiative and the Arts Initiative both generated student interest in internships, and the new plan is likely to set forth the goal of incorporating a paid internship into each student's educational plan. This is a great step forward - few colleges offer all students these real-world opportunities to explore possible career paths.

And there's more. The success of the CISLA program, through the Toor Cummings Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts, has led faculty to develop courses that make use of January, spring break and other blocks of time that do not interfere with the conventional semesters. These expeditionary courses "flex" the time for learning and expand the opportunities for students to study off campus.

We will also be building on our experience with visiting artists, our outreach into the community, our high-tech courses, and programs that promote multiculturalism to create an environment that enriches the lives of our students.

These same influences will be seen in the master plan for the campus that is currently being developed in order to predict the space and facilities needs for the next fifteen years.

These are exciting times, and we will use these pages in upcoming issues of Connecticut College Magazine to keep you up-to-date on development projects as we continue to build on the strength and vitality that the Time To Lead campaign produced.

Best wishes,

Barbara Zaccheo Dubow '72

A TIME TO LEAD
The college mascot and Pat St. Germain, associate director of alumni relations, wave during the Alumni Parade at Reunion '99.

Your classmates would love to hear from you. To share your news, write to your class correspondent using the deadlines listed in the box to your right. If there is no correspondent listed for your class, please send your news to: Mary Howard, Connecticut College Magazine, 270 Mohegan Ave., New London, CT 06320.

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Class Notes Editor
Connecticut College Magazine
270 Mohegan Ave.,
New London, CT 06320

**75TH REUNION June 1-4, 2000; Contact, Office of Alumni Relations, 860-439-2300**

Priscilla Moore Brown is doing well after her “heart episode” a year ago. Her son, Steve, is an 8-times grandfather and this makes Pree “very elderly!” She attended family weddings this summer.

Ruth Raymond Gay is happily living in Langdon Place — a retirement home in Keene, NH. Ruth’s family includes four grandchildren who live only 50 miles away. She sees them often. Also, Bea Stifert ’38 has joined the residents at Langdon Place. Ruth talks frequently with Ceil Richardson.

Adelaide Thompson Hicks enjoys short trips in her van for lunches out and scenic rides in CT. Her ’98 highlight was the wedding of her granddaughter (CC Class of ’96) to another alum. Adelaide’s Seattle-based family came east for the wedding and for Thanksgiving. They were also at Adelaide’s this June.

Cecilia Standish Richardson is still living in her home and enjoys lots of pleasant things with family, friends and neighbors. Her nephew and wife invited her to go to Bermuda for a tennis tournament at the Coral Beach Club, but Ceil thought it best to stay right at home.

Ruth Paul Miller has been living at the Hermitage Home for the elderly in Richmond, VA, for a year. Her daughter lives nearby. Ruth is still trying to get used to VA after her years in AZ.

Drusilla Fielding Stemper reports that life is busy for her, with community events in the Damarcia area and in New Harbor, ME. Her main hobby is working in the woods surrounding her house. Drusilla’s winter was easy until the early spring snow and heavy winds downed trees and branches. It took the help of several New London-area friends and relatives to get the whole place back to normal. Drusilla enjoys keeping track of class members through these notes.

Micki Solomon Savin is very active in the Connecticut Opera and Connecticut Opera Guild. She publishes their newsletter, Allegro. Micki has a great family and a beautiful great-granddaughter, Aliza (JoY).

Isabelle Ewing Knecht, widowed since ’94, is still walking and cooking, but not traveling anymore. She enjoys life, friends and family.

Catherine Campbell Hanrahan is
A Look Back

AT SADIE COIT BENJAMIN ’19

by Kathleen Smith Andersen ’72

FOR YEARS I HAD HEARD OF SADIE COIT BENJAMIN ’19 through friends and relatives who knew her, but I never met her until about 10 years ago at an alumni function. Over the years we kept in touch, and whenever I was in town I would stop by for a visit. Inevitably our conversations would focus on Connecticut College in its formative years and Mrs. Benjamin’s life as one of its pioneer students. She entertained and educated me immensely, not only about female education more than 75 years ago, but about the way women lived and how they viewed themselves and society.

Mrs. Benjamin died in August 1998 at the age of 102. I miss her fabulous stories, and I miss her as a friend. She was truly one-of-a-kind.

“Why of course we brought our own napkin rings from home,” explained Mrs. Benjamin, chuckling at the incredulous look on my face. “We had cloth napkins at breakfast, lunch and dinner. And soup, we always had soup before lunch and dinner. Everything was homemade and very delicious.” Mrs. Benjamin continued with devilish delight describing other culinary favorites. “I remember having ice cream and Grapenuts quite often. It was one of the best desserts. When the war [WWI] came, things changed and they cut back our food.”

So went my introductory conversation with Mrs. Benjamin on a crisp October Saturday in 1991. From the moment I laid eyes on her, I knew an interesting day was in store. She approached me with a lively gait, her sparkling hazel eyes complemented by snowy white hair. As she spoke about the opening of Connecticut College for Women’s in September 1915 (when she was a member of the freshman class), I couldn’t help but reflect upon the national and world events swirling around her that fall.

Woodrow Wilson was still in his first term of office; women did not have the right to vote, German U-boats were attacking passenger ships in the North Atlantic and the Titanic disaster was only three years old.

During one of our later conversations, I asked Mrs. Benjamin about the living conditions on campus those first few years. There were four campus buildings: two dorms, with maids’ quarters, one building for classes, labs and academic offices, and one building for meals and social activities.

“The Campus itself was a crude, barren hilltop with barely a scrub tree and stone walls here and there, and we stumbled over rocks, through mud or deep snow all winter long, struggling against the terrific wind. Rain and sleet drenched us as we went from building to building or to the trolley. There wasn’t much to lure us there, except the desire for an education.”

In her freshman year she studied English composition, mathematics, German conversation, Spanish, biology, hygiene and physical education. In addition, the freshmen had to build the student government from the ground up. The class worked for months writing a constitution and bylaws and held an election of officers. They organized the glee, dramatic, French and German clubs; the Athletic Association; a college newspaper and a quartet.

Dorm accommodations were very “modern” with electric lights and complete bathroom facilities with hot and cold running water. Most of the rooms were singles and furnished with a bed, desk, cream-colored wicker chairs and matching floral print draperies and bedspreads. Sheets and towels were provided along with the daily maid service. A housemother resided in each dorm. It was her duty to meet all young men and make sure they remained downstairs. House rules were strictly enforced — no smoking and no alcohol.

“Climbing out of a dorm window to meet one’s boyfriend resulted in one young woman’s expulsion from school,” recalled Mrs. Benjamin. As if reading my mind, she quickly added, “It wasn’t me!”

Many of the subjects Mrs. Benjamin and I talked about over the years are documented college history and found in the archives. Other tidbits, however, came straight from her — primary source material at its very best. What I most enjoyed hearing about were the attitudes and viewpoints of the women and of society at large during the first two decades of the 20th century. In Mrs. Benjamin’s college days, current events warranted some discussion but never became a major focus for young women. News was not readily available as it is today, and academics were always the priority. These women attending college recognized their good fortune. They were all too aware of the limited options available to their sisters without education — early marriage.
grandchildren are scattered all over the world. Alexandra, 24, is teaching in Guatemala for the Peace Corps. Charlie is working on a Ph.D. at Harvard. Sally and Bob Love, her daughter and son-in-law in Litchfield, are taking their 6-year-old grandson to Denmark to visit Steve (Ruth's son) this summer.

On the last Saturday of Feb., I, Subby Burr Sanders, returned to CC for a training session for class officers. The first session was most stimulating and ended with the news that the college's campaign, A Time To Lead, had reached its goal of $125 million. You have all helped. During the second session on Reunion 2000, I received plenty of materials and met a most helpful advisor, Elaine Plecs (from the development office), who can answer fundraising questions for Reunion classes. I mailed some of the information to Joey Ferris Ritter, who will also work on Reunion. Kay Woodward Curtiss had some very good suggestions on topics for a speaker. Following a fine lunch, President Gaudiani spoke of her hopes for the future, including having each student spend time in an undeveloped country as a part of the curriculum. Mims Butterworth '40, my luncheon companion, and I agreed we'd like to start studying all over again!

In Oct. '98, Anne Oppenheim Freed was appointed a fellow in the Human Relations Institute of New Bulgarian U. In May '99, she became a "distinguished social work-practitioner" in the Medical Academies of Practice, which is comprised of 100 elected members in each of 10 different medical and mental health professions. Anne is working on a Ph.D. program in social work for the New Bulgarian U. and continues her work at Boston College. After two knee replacements, Annette service Johnson has been "on the go."

She flew from Hartford to San Diego for her great-granddaughter's graduation from law school. She spent Christmas with her son's family in Chicago and Easter in Philadelphia with her sister, Julia '47.

It is with regret that I announce that due to ill health, Beth McIlraith Henoc has resigned as class president. Thanks go out to Winnie Frank Randolph, who graciously agreed to serve as president.

Beth sent me the following death notices:


Ellis Schwenk Taylor and Don are so active that they look forward to a day with no plans. With children and grandchildren scattered throughout the U.S., they are constantly traveling. Elsie sent the sad news of the death of Betty Wagner Knowlton on April 22, 1999, in St. Petersburg. Our thoughts are with Betty's family.

Gladys Bachman Forbes has joined the Class of '40 "retirement home group." Her new home is The Virginian in Fairfax, VA. Gladys retired from her job as class correspondent in 1970 but never fails to keep me up on her news.

Jeanette Bell Winters is still growing orchids and "Sweet Caroline" hibiscus on their farm in MD. Duplicate bridges, entertaining and working on genealogy are among their special interests. Classmates Anne Hardy Antell, Gladys Bachman Forbes and Dorothy Rowand Rapp gather frequently in the MD-DC area.

E. Breck Benbow Duncan sends us the sad news of his husband's death at the age of 94. Another sadness—her daughter has breast cancer and was recently divorced. Her grandson, Matthew Draper, is working for a congresswoman in the Diet in Tokyo. Granddaughter Melissa is a senior at Dartmouth. Although Breck is now living alone, she is surrounded by kind relatives.

Anahid Berberian Constantian's granddaughter, Christopher, is a senior at Skidmore. He majored in history and political science and was elected president of the student government. He is looking for a teaching job. Christopher's younger brother, Jack, is a high school senior. He looks ahead to a career in law enforcement.

Apphia (Muff) Hack Hensley is still...
It's been a busy Spring and Summer!

Boston. Allison Arneill '96 organized the club's first wine tasting at the Union Club on April 8. Alumni enjoyed learning about different wines and visiting with alumni from the '60s through the '90s. On April 29 more than 100 Graduates of the Last Decade (alumni who have graduated within the last 10 years) gathered at Daisy Buchanan's to celebrate their GOLD status and reminisce about days on campus.

Cape Cod. Twenty-four alumni gathered for the club's annual luncheon at Scargo Cafe on July 27. They were joined by Dean of Freshmen Theresa Ammirati, who offered a profile of the Class of 2003. Special thanks to Thomas and Kay Spalding '49 for hosting pre-luncheon wine and cheese in their lovely harbor-front home, and to Marje Weidig '45 for coordinating all the arrangements for this event.

Chicago. Professor Michael Burlingame joined members of the Chicago Club at the Sheridan Shores Yacht Club on May 2 for Sunday Brunch and a lively discussion about Abraham Lincoln. Special thanks to Jon Tueting '95 and his parents for hosting the event.

Colorado. The Rockies, the Brewers, and a herd of Camels... all present at a ball game in Coors Stadium on June 6. Those cheering the college's name in lights on the Jumbo-tron included Alison McGregor '98, her brother Andrew McGregor '02, Colorado Club Co-President Susan Hazlehurst Milbrath '76, Co-President Kate Greco '94, Liz Buell Labrot '55 and Scott Giles '86. CC alumni of Colorado gathered at the Denver Art Museum on June 13 for a tour of the Toulouse Lautrec exhibit and brunch. Liz Buell Labrot '55, a dedicated docent at the museum, coordinated the event.

Fairfield/Westchester. More than 30 alumni visited the Lockwood-Matthews Mansion Museum in Norwalk, CT, on May 5 for a reception, tour and talk with Director of the Lyman Allyn Art Museum Charles Shepard III.

Hartford. Camels from the Classes of '89-98 gathered at Coach's in downtown Hartford on April 29 for the second GOLD event of the year for this club. Special thanks to Kirstin Fearnley '96 for her help with coordinating the arrangements. In May, Naomi Gaberman Vogel '49 hosted the club's annual meeting with special guest Dean of the College Art Ferrari P '91.

Maine. Michael Wilbur '81 and Connie Russell '91 coordinated the club's annual dinner, which was attended by more than 30 alumni. Professor of Zoology Robert Askins made a fascinating presentation about the ecology of forest songbirds which was of great interest to the alumni "birders" who attended!

NYC. The tradition of community service continues, thanks to 15 alumni who participated in the fifth annual Spring Clean-up in the City on May 8.

Betsy Grenier '91 coordinated arrangements for this event.

Southeastern CT. The annual Dinner for 12 Strangers program continues, coordinated this year by Selma Ahmed '97. Thanks to hospitable alumni: Leslie Fox '65, Peg Meehan '67 and Rae Gould '95, who welcomed students, faculty, alumni and staff to their homes for dinner. The annual meeting on April 28 drew more than 30 alumni and featured a presentation about Josephine Baker and Alexander Calder in Paris by Professor of Art History Barbara Zabel.

In Philadelphia, Nina and Alec Farley '75 hosted an April reception for newly accepted students, their parents and local alumni. In Minneapolis, Sam Bottum '89 and Paul Hyde '88 hosted a reception for new students at the Minneapolis Club. The Class of 2003 is the most selective class ever admitted to the college.

GOLD events took place on April 29 in Fairfield/Westchester, NYC, DC, Denver and San Francisco. Associate Director of Young Alumni, Undergraduate and Parent Relations Liz Lynch Cheney '92, coordinated the "one-night only" across the U.S. with help from Marinell Yoders '95, Kirstin Fearnley '96, Eric Stoddard '96, Molly Nolan '96, Jennifer Lapan '94, Kate Greco '94 and Emily Strause Sena '95.
a busy docent at the St. Louis Zoo. She recently had a sunny trip to Santa Fe and Taos in her minivan.

(Maggie (Bunnie) Haddad MacDonalld had a surprise 80th birthday celebration at her daughter's home in Unionville, CT, in Aug. Attendees included Frances Sears Baratz, Harriet Rice Strain and Betty Kent Kenyon.

Alice Huncutt Mason has moved from Edgewater to Winter Park, FL. Contact the alumni office, 860-439-2300, for Aimee's current address.

Letitia (Dolly) Jones Sherman lives in La Jolla, CA. She recently took the big step and bought a computer. Email her at c7883@comcast.net. She has "four sets of family: 11 grandchildren and two greats." She does volunteer work and publishes articles now and then. "Life is good."

Irene Kennel Pekoe and husband Bob live in Judson Manor in Cleveland. They are close to the Cleveland Art Museum, the Historical Society, the Botanical Garden (home of the Cleveland Orchestra) and the Natural History Museum.

Annette Lamariana Nahina (known in the family as "Rose Suko") is owner of a sailing club in Honolulu, Lamariana Sailing Club, Inc. This is the first news I have received from Rose since I took over this job in 70. The story of her endless troubles to create her sailing club started in '55. It took 33 years and included a tidal wave.

In May '98, Katherine (Krin) Meli Anderson had a delightful cruise on the Baltic Sea, which included visits to nine countries. In Sept., after a visit with sister Hildegard Van Deusen '43 on Nantucket, she returned home via Westboro, MA, to visit Jeannette Allen Adams. They hadn't seen each other since '80. Krin had a Christmas visit with son Craig and his family at his FL home.

Catherine Ann Rich Brayton's son, Roswell Brayton Jr., was pictured in several newspapers about the Woolrich Woolen Mills. He is president of the company, which was founded by John Rich in Pennsylvania in 1830.

Frances Sears Baratz served as an Alumni Ambassador at Reunion '99, assisting the alumni relations staff throughout Reunion weekend. Thank you, Frances, for your spirited help and generosity.

Betty Holmes Nichol is enjoying NC now that two hurricanes have come and gone. After having health problems for six months, she is on the mend and playing golf. Betty became a great-grandmother in Nov.

Jane Merritt Bentley enjoys playing bridge, lunching with friends, attending church, serving as historian of her D.A.R. Chapter and making floral centerpieces for AAW meetings.

Dorothy Reed Mahoney is an enthusiastic Elderhostler. She spent Christmas on a cruise of the western Caribbean and visited Mayan ruins in Honduras, Belize and Cozumel.

Kay Ord McChesney has a dachshund puppy as her new companion. She and daughter Glenn enjoyed a week on Maui.

Doris Goldstein Levinson and a few local alumnae (Miriam Rosnick Dean, Ruth Sokol Dembo, Mary Hall) attended the gala in honor of Pres. Gaudiani's 10th anniversary. Sen. Paul Simon and others spoke, but Claire, as usual, was the outstanding one. Jane Whipple Shaw went to the northern parks in June — Yellowstone, etc. Scenery and animals were spectacular. They also became great-grandparents.

Barbara Y Williams and Frank have done little traveling due to his many strokes. They plan to spend Christmas in Denver to celebrate Bobby's 80th birthday with the whole family.

Emmie Bonner Innes says she has no time for travel but enjoys her family nearby, summer visits from grandchildren, her bridge group and line dancing.

Janice Reed Harman and Jerry haven't been traveling since he had a stroke six years ago, but they do get to see their families there. They spend most winters at their condo in VT.

Phyllis Walters Williams' husband, Jack, is in a nursing home, so she spends each day with him. She goes to Atlanta to visit family and to Pasadena to see her great-grandson.

Margaret Hardy Schweizer hopes that the Coast Guard likes the new helicopters that her family company builds for them.

Meg Robinson Manning says life continues to smile on them. Biggest worry is which of eight grandchildren will make them great-grandparents. (What an upbeat outlook!)

Terry Strong Helder-Rogedast has moved to Heritage Village in Southbury, CT, and loves it.

Janice Jeffman Whiting continues working with artifacts from a "dig" at a local ruin. She's writing family memoirs.

Mary Farrell Morse celebrated her 80th with her sons and their families at her nursing home. Husband Roy keeps us updated on her condition. Roy and Mary are in our thoughts.

Jane Kennedy Newman and John have moved into a Presbyterian Home in Charlotte, FL. Her girls came down from AK, FL, NJ and NC to move them into a ground-floor apartment. We wish you well, Jane and John, and get better soon. Jane recently retired from serving as our class co-correspondent. Thank you, Jane, for your many years of work!

As for the Watsons, we now have our complete family on the Outer Banks — four sons with their wives and children. It's a joy to have them nearby.

The class's most deep sympathy to Ethel Moore Wills, who lost her husband on 12/28/98, and to the family of Shirley Stuart Fick, who died in Garland, ME, on 8/2/98.

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Correspondent: Jane (Woodie) Worley Peak
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Doris Kaske Renshaw saw a bit of Africa. She went to Madagascar, Cameron Island, Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam, and took a safari outside Kroger National Park. She now has a computer and asks herself, "Why did I wait so long?" She lives in FL but spends her summers in CT.

Mathilde Kayser Cohen has been studying Homer's writings at the Lifelong Learning Institute, affiliated with Washington U. She has a grandson who is a freshman at Bard College in Annandale. She has been to several Elderhostels.

Palmy Scarpa Weigle and her husband have moved to a small town near Asheville, NC. Their house is about three miles up on Mt. Pisgah with a beautiful view of the surrounding mountains.

June Perry Mack sent her annual Valentine's Day card with marvelous pictures of her 15 grandchildren. From dancing in the Nutcracker to playing ice hockey, they are a busy and unusual crew. Their homes range from Hood River, OR, and Aspen, CO, to II, NY and CT. They attend school at Maui Community College, Colorado College, Lewis and Clark, and UVM. You know she is one busy grandmother.

Sis Powers volunteers at the Cancer Society one day a week and at the Senior Center doing taxes during tax season. She has a clean bill of health from her hip replacement and still lives in Norwich, CT.

Ginny Martin Patterson enjoys life in a retirement center, Fernwood-at-the-Park, in WA. She participates in a readers' theatrical group, a singing group, and talent shows, and she sings in her church choir. She visited her sister in Venice, FL, in Feb. Ginny sent a calendar with photos of Airedales, many of the pictures taken by a Beth Tobias, and wondered if "our" Beth was the photographer.

I talked to Beth Tobias Williams recently, but forgot to ask her about Airedales. Her granddaughter, Monica, a National Merit Scholar, was accepted at top-ranking colleges and chose Carleton. Beth was just a bit disappointed that Monica did not consider CC, where her mother graduated in '70. Monica's younger sister, Sacha, won a gold medal for her skills in Latin. Beth was thinking of moving to a retirement center, but decided to stay in the beautiful PA home where she grew up. She spent a week with her sister in March.

Eleanor Harris Emigh and Ward are in good health and their children are all doing well. They are happy in their retirement center, Bethsaida Gardens, within walking distance of downtown Kirkwood, MO.
Deborah (Debbie) Burton Adler and Wallace are very interested in keeping healthy these days. Their newest sport is curling! (You know ... played on ice with stones and brooms.) This would be new to most of us; I'm sure.

After a bout with pneumonia, Heliodora (Hel) de Mendonca accepted an offer to write a 120-page book about Martins Peena, the 19th-century Brazilian playwright. She also will translate Tolstoy's *A Calendar of Wisdom* and a 20-page paper on Shakespeare for a publication of the Federal U. of Santa Catarina. Hel writes, "Today I am returning from three lectures in two days in Curitiba. Tomorrow I fly off again, this time for two and a half days in Salvador. I'm flying back in a hurry because I have to see two plays over the weekend here in Rio to review. I'm sorry I missed the Reunion—but as you may see, I was really busy!!" Whew!

A granddaughter's graduation kept Elizabeth (Liz) Goodrich Barnes from our Reunion in May '98, she had a mini-reunion with Shirley Socolof Sherry.

Constance (Connie) Haaren Wells has recovered from the hip operation that kept her from Reunion. She looks forward to cross-country skiing and tennis.

Sally Kelly lives in Albany and welcomes any news (notes or phone calls), since her health kept her from Reunion. (I have her address and phone number.)

Margie (Bunny) Livingston Campbell teaches art in the under-funded elementary schools of Jacksonville, Fl. This project of the Jacksonville Watercolor Society provides materials and instruction by volunteers for about 2,000 children. It is very rewarding and gives her a "significant other." There were four big bands on board, and she was immersed in "our music" for a whole week.

Congratulations to Betty Seissen Dahlgren and Wally, who have a new grandchild. Daughter Wendy Colley gave birth Adrinne on Jan 7th. The Class of '45 sends sympathy to two of our members on the deaths of their husbands. Marje Lawrence Weidig's husband, David, died just before Easter, and Barbara Wadsworth Koenitzer's husband, George, passed away a few days later. You and your respective families are much in our thoughts.

Congratulations to Katherine Wenk Christoffers, whose lifetime giving has qualified her for membership in Ad Astra, a lifetime giving society.

Miriam (Mimi) Steinberg Edlin has been leader of the West Florida CC Club for the past three years. At a recent meeting, the group enjoyed a program by Prof. of Psychology Jeff Singer. Mimi's sister-in-law, Sue Levin St. Steinberg, and her husband visited in Feb.

Catherine (Sis) Tideman James and family traveled to Kenilworth, Il, for Sis's sister's 80th birthday last Nov. In Jan., Sis and Tom enjoyed a cruise from Fl. through the Panama Canal. Sis plays tennis and bridge and volunteers at the Continuing Education Center in Rancho Bernado. Her children live nearby, and she now has a great-granddaughter, who is 2.

Eleanor (Toby) Tobias Gardner and her husband enjoyed lunch in Paris with Leila Carr Freemen in April '98. In Sept., '98, they toured Austria and Tuscany, followed by an Oct. trip to WA and Vancouver. They returned to Paris for two weeks in March.

Miriam Kraemer Melrod, Marian Sterrnich Davis and Adele Dultz Zins had a great reunion in DC. They laughed, reminisced and saw the Van Gogh exhibit.

Muriel Evans Shaw sent greetings from Amelia Island. June Hawthorne Sadowski and her husband saw Muriel in April. Last year, Valmec (Val) Reeves Lynn drove north with Muriel, who is adjusting to widowhood. Muriel has two grandchildren in college, at Bates and Stanford, and three younger ones in preschool.

Janet Potter Robbins and her husband plan to give up their AZ home and stay permanently in VT, where it's easier to visit children and "grandkids." She is now a grandparent.

Jane Seaver Coddington went on an Elderhostel trip from Canada to Cuba in April. Last year, she participated in a conference on sustainable development sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee.
This year, they hope to learn more about organic farming, reforestation, alternative energy, and organic communities. Their first grandchild graduated from college.

Barbara Caplan Somers works with women on the subjects of investments, accounting and support. She had a visit with Shirley (Chips) Wilson Keller in FL.

Ethehinda (Linda) Bartlett Montfort and her husband spent a month in Vero Beach, FL, this past winter. Fred and Linda celebrated their 55th anniversary in Feb.

Barbara (Bobby) Miller Gustafson and Bob spent Oct. and Nov. helping their son sail his boat from CT to FL. They stopped at Hilton Head, SC, to visit Cynthia Terry White.

Jane Fullerton Messenger enjoys skiing at the Garden Valley during the winter and visiting Lake George in the summer. She and her husband have 19 "grands" between them. One will graduate from Colgate this year, one will enter Brown and one is attending CC. Arch's Master Track takes them abroad to such places as Africa and England.

Lucy (Dee Dee) Block Heumann had successful heart surgery last fall and spent the winter in San Antonio and Santa Fe. She's enjoying golf this summer. By accident, she discovered Ceres (Ce) Geiger Henkel's sister is a neighbor.

Elizabeth (Betty) Lyman Warden and Jim had an 18-day cruise/tour of Greece, Turkey and Israel. Their first grandchild teaches at an international Christian school in the Dominican Republic. Another granddaughter is at the Air Force Academy. Jim continues to work with his son, who is president of their company. All are active in church and Christian work.

Shirley (Chips) Wilson Keller enjoyed three winter weeks in FL. She has been busy on a pastoral nominating committee and four foundations.

Theza (Tee) Exstein Griesman and Henry celebrated their 50th by taking their children and grandchildren to Grand Cayman for snorkeling, diving and swimming. She volunteers as manager of a school book and supply store. She and Henry love to cruise and were in Bali in Dec. '98.

Joan Alling Wuerth is chairman of a consortium of five conservation groups. Their goal is to get undeveloped land on Martha's Vineyard into conservation. She and her husband enjoy their 12-year-old grandson.

Another Martha's Vineyard resident, Janet (Jannie) Cruikshank McCawley, is involved in Martha's Vineyard Landink, which uses the two-percent conveyance tax for preserving land. Jannie has had articles published and enjoys her reading and writing groups. After a trip to FL, she and Ted will visit the MF coast and their children and grandchildren.

Peggy and Coprivate Sands Fuiks and Bob enjoy their new home in Vero Beach, FL, where their children visit often.

Mary (Tawi) Eastburn Biggin is adjusting to her new apartment in a retirement village and looking forward to several trips.

Phebe Clark Miller had a heart attack in August '98 and had two shunts implanted. She and her husband spent the summer with her family and four days in Disney World before Christmas. The shunts plugged up in Jan. and had to be cleared. We hope all is well. Phebe is spending the summer in ME.

Gloria Frost Hecker and Art enjoyed a week in Cape Cod '98. Twenty-six Heckers, including their grandson, attended the 150th anniversary of the German Revolution of 1848, of which Art's great-grandfather was a leader. In Nov., the Heckers took a month-long trip to Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia and Hawaii saw Mimi Steinberg Edlin at a CC reunion luncheon at her country club.

Sue Levin Steinberg's husband, Cliff, had several operations but is well now. She retired from her counseling job at Fairfield U. to be his designated driver. In Feb., they spent 10 days in FL visiting Mimi Steinberg Edlin and Joan Weissman Burness. Sue has also been in touch with Muriel Duenewald Lloyd. Sue's great-niece was accepted at CC. Class of 2003.

In Jan., Cynthia Terry White cruised to the Philippines, Malaysia and Indonesia, ending up in Bali, where she stayed at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Lois Andrews Yearick enjoyed a Christmas '98 cruise and then spent a month at a golf resort in FL. Granddaughter Emily has one more year at UVa and then will get her master's in '00. Grandson Will is a freshman at Wharton, UPenn.

Rosalie Tudisca Coulombe is in therapy, recovering from a broken leg. She had to postpone a cruise and trip to Italy. Son Ray and his wife live in Mystic. Son Michael and his wife and two children live in Atlanta. Daughter Serena, a nurse practitioner, is in La Grange, GA.

Mary Lee Minter Goode served as an Ambassador at Reunion '99, assigning the alumni relations staff throughout Reunion weekend. Thanks, Mary Lee, for your spirited help and generosity.

Editor's note: If you do not see your news in this column, please look for it in the Fall issue.

Peg Stirton Miller had a great ski vacation in St. Anton, Austria, in March with her son, wife and two adult grandsons. Beautiful country, wonderful time. "The younger generation is right — do it now!" I agree, Peg, after a week skiing in Jackson Hole with my son and his wife. Next year it will either be Whistler in British Columbia or Alaska, depending on the snow.

Jane Sapinsley Nelson writes that her busy, healthy life includes much community work, travel and sports.

Botty Barry Klaas and Paul celebrated their 50th this summer. They traveled to Oslo and cruised up the Norwegian coast, stopping in Iceland. After their return to the U.S., they attended a family reunion.

Elizabeth (Bogie) Boggart Hayes and Jack are going on a Coast Guard Academy Class of '47 cruise to AK.

I was notified by Bob Hyde that his wife, Millie Chanalis Hyde, passed away on 7/2/98. Our condolences to you and your family, Bob.
At Insights Weekend, we were privileged to attend the dedication of the Tanbll Black Box Theater in the renovated Hillyer Hall. Never heard of Hillyer Hall? Yes, you have—think post office, think gym. That was Hillyer Hall.

And now to the news, not all of it good. In her holiday letter, Marli reported that Weinmann, who had a lifetime giving society, qualified her for membership in Astra, a wall of light Weekend. He was the Rev. Jean McClure Blanning's in-law. Rick Cohn, died of a second heart attack while jogging early one morning. He was survived by his wife, Kathy, and three children. Our sympathy goes out to Marli.

Nancy Canova Schlegel expects to retire “before the millennium.” She says she could expect to see her seven grandchildren, including 32-year-old twins, but instead just mentioned two highlights of ‘98. “My family got together for a fun-filled week at the Outer Banks, and what a time we had—all under one roof! Then in Nov., I went on a wonderful Panama Canal cruise with my sister-in-law, Marilyn, her husband, Bob, and a mutual friend. It was an unforgettable experience.”

The Rev. Jean McClure Blanning’s participation in the Yale Alumni Chorus trip to China, along with other CC alumni, was a “highlight of the year.”

Janet Baker Tenney has moved to a life-care retirement community, Freedom Village. “What a job clearing out things, as I’ve lived in that house since 1955!”

Class Agent Chair Christine Holt Kurtz-White had an acceptable excuse for missing Insights Weekend. She was in the process of moving from FL to NH to help run the Tamworth Inn in Tamworth Village. Her youngest daughter, Virginia, and family bought a historic (1883) inn last fall. This move marks Chris’s retirement after a successful career as director of the Women’s Business Development Center, which she founded in Sept. ’93. The center is located on the campus of Miami-Dade Community College. With the death of her husband, Ted, last year and her own health problems, Chris knew it was time to retire. Her other children and grandchildren all live in FL.

Congratulations to Norma Ritz Phelps, whose recent gift to the college placed her in Century Council, a lifetime giving society.

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Congratulations to Virginia Eason Weinmann, whose lifetime giving has qualified her for membership in Ad Astra, a lifetime giving society.

Correspondents: Shirley Kline Wittmann, 80 Willow Ave., Peapack, N.J. 07977, penny-witt@erois.com; Bunny Wood Whitaker, 24 Elmhurst Place, Cincinnati, OH 45208 and Brenda Bennett Bell, mablitt@aol.com

“Outrageous Older Woman”

Mary Elizabeth (Stoney) Stone ’49

M ARY ELIZABETH (STONEY) Stone ’49 has a T-shirt—a gift from a friend—that has the words “Outrageous Older Woman” printed on the front. “Not yet,” says the modest 71-year-old. “But I may be headed that way.” If one considers Stone’s achievements in rowing, a sport she took up only seven years ago, she has earned the right to wear the shirt.

A cardio-pulmonary specialist for 45 years, Stone wanted to row on the San Francisco Bay, but “had no time for sports.” When she retired, she began taking lessons at Open Water Rowing Center in Sausalito. Now she says, “I spend so much time rowing, I couldn’t possibly work.” For the last two years, Stone has won the Head of the Charles River Race in Boston — the Kentucky Derby of sculling — in the Women’s Senior Veteran Singles category. A few years ago, friends encouraged her to take up sprint racing. “It’s brought me to a whole new level of rowing,” he says. Stone won a silver medal in the women’s single competition at the 1997 U.S. Rowing Master’s Nationals in Long Beach, Calif. (her second sprint race ever). Last year at the Nike World’s in Portland, Ore., her quad won a silver, coming in one second slower than the Australian boat.

Stone’s level of commitment is astonishing. Three times a week, she drives from her home in Palo Alto to Sausalito — an 80-mile round-trip — for her hour on the bay. “You can’t beat it for the exercise. And you’re out on the water with the fish, seals and pelicans.” She also rows with the Berkeley and Lake Merritt Rowing Clubs; and every summer, Stone travels to Vermont for a one-week camp at the Craftsbury Sculling Center.

The former zoology major is equally dedicated to her alma mater. A class agent co-chair for her 50th reunion, Stone helped her class reach 100-percent participation in giving. “Liz is a champion in every sense of the word!” says Ellen Anderson, director of reunion giving for the college. Stone’s mother, the late Dorothy Stella Stone, graduated from C.C. in 1920. Her sister, Cindy Stone Bell ’56, and sister-in-law, Sarah How Stone ’49, are also alumnae. And Stone is especially proud of her nieces, Cynthia Stone Phelan ’79 and Susanna Stone Farmer ’74, with whom she celebrated at Reunion 1999.

Stone has been featured in a documentary film about seniors who discover a passion after retirement and participates annually in the Stanford Health Improvement Program. Does this remarkable athlete have any words of encouragement for her classmates who want to take up a sport? “If you can do it, do it. I can’t imagine what my life would have been like if I hadn’t discovered rowing.” — MVH

“Stoney” shows her winning style at the 1998 Head of the Charles River Race. She placed first in her age bracket.
On a recent trip to Belize, Leta Weiss Marks ’53 and Susan Brown Goldsmith, wear their Reunion ‘98 caps.

Mary Ann Rossi’s translated articles appear on a new Web site on women priests just launched by Dr. John Wijngaard of London. “He (Dr. Wijngaard) asked me for my translation of Otranto’s documentation of women priests in early Christianity.” The Web site address is www.womenpriests.org. Mary Ann also translated scriptural commentary by Bellarmine (16th century) and St. Bonaventure (13th century) for this site.

Leila (Lee) Larsen Klein earned her master’s degree when her children, Lisa and Michael, were young. The first year she studied at Sara Lawrence and the second year at NYU. After receiving her degree, she taught in public and private elementary schools. She is now retired and enjoys travel, golf and volunteer work. Husband Stewart is still working and enjoys their property, which includes 10 acres planted with pumpkins and gourds. Lee and Stewart have three grandchildren.

Sara Maschal Sullivan and Homer enjoyed a cruise from Barcelona to Istanbul. They both enjoy their jobs and have no plans to retire.

Joyce Leeming Mayfield attended her 50th high school reunion at Highland Park, IL. She stayed in Chicago with her twin nieces, Leslie and Kathy Leeming ’84. While in the area, Joyce had lunch with Fairfield Frank DuBois, who lives in Winnetka. Fairfield is well, travels a lot and has a big family with lots of grandchildren. Joyce enjoyed a Thanksgiving reunion at her daughter’s in NC. She often sees Sylvia Gundersen Dorsey, who lives close by in East Lyme, CT. Occasionally they have lunch with Jean Hewitt Thomas, Jan Kellock and Dottie Shaw. Joyce retired several years ago.

Shirley Lukens Rousseau and husband Dick enjoyed winter in Berkley, CA, near their youngest daughter and her family. It was the first time they lived near one of their children, and as Shirley said, “I like it.”

After graduation, Gloria Jones Borden spent five years in NYC. She played the part of Miep Gies in the Broadway production of “The Diary of Anne Frank.” During the ’60s, she went back to school and became a speech therapist. She earned her Ph.D. in the ’70s and continued a career of research and teaching. She was a professor at Temple U. and co-authored a book, *Speech Science Primer*, written for college students and now in its fourth edition. Gloria retired eight years ago. In addition to her very busy career, she and husband John raised four children and now have 10 grandchildren, ages nine months to 13 years.

Shirley Kline Wittphenn and husband Jack vacation in China and Southeast Asia in the fall. “Each day brought something new and exciting. We took a mile-long walk on the Great Wall — what a truly awesome sight. The dancers of Thailand were fascinating to watch in their colorful costumes, painted faces and four-inch silver nails. We had a cruise through the klongs (a network of narrow canals with small houses all along the banks) and saw the people washing their clothes, themselves, fishing and cleaning fish in the muddy water of the canals. We went on to Singapore and rode through the city streets in a trishaw, a small one-person carriage pulled by a bicycle. The next stop was Bali, where life from birth to death centers on religion. There are around 50,000 temples there. The last stop was Hong Kong, where we felt a certain electricity and excitement on the streets. I am so glad we had the chance to visit this very interesting part of the world.”

Correspondents: Leta Weiss Marks, 98 Colony Rd., West Hartford, CT 06117, marks@hartford.edu and Sue Weinberg Mindlin, 4101 W 90th St., Prairie Village, KS 66207, sue@mindlin.com

1. Leta Weiss Marks, am still receiving invitations to speak about my book. I teach part time at the U. of Hartford and travel — often to visit grandchildren. I am a caregiver for my ailing husband, so I join those of you in similar situations.

Dottie Bomer Fahlhan and her husband enjoy retirement in the Pacific Northwest, claiming not to “mind the rain in winter, as they don’t have to hovel it.” She gives tours of the Washington State Capitol and joins Elderhostel programs in Europe. B.J. Engororo leads Great Books discussions, gives docent tours at art museums in Chicago and FL and celebrated her 45th anniversary. She has three children and seven grandchildren.

Joan Fuegelmans Wexler left her position as v.p. of Wheelock College to join a market research firm, consulting with colleges and universities on admissions and financial aid. Flugy and husband Jerry traveled to Paris and London and spend summers on Cape Cod, where she sees Sue Brown G. Sara Maschal Fahlhan and Sue Weinberg Mindlin correspond by e-mail. After “official retirement,” Alice Dreiffuss Goldstein and husband Sid traveled to Vietnam, Ethiopia, Guatemala and South Africa, working with a UN-sponsored training and research project.

Nina Davis Jackson and husband Bill enjoy continuing education courses at Dartmouth, landscape painting in VT and skiing with their eight grandchildren. She sees Mary Field Parker at the Boston Symphony.

Emily Fonda loves the freedom of retirement, travel, tennis and her twin grandchildren.

Aloise O’Brien Bates celebrated the birth of a grandson and a daughter’s marriage. She traveled to AK and ME and enjoyed catching up on news with Jane Timmerman into.

Audrey Watkins Garbisch expressed regret for missing Reunion and thanks everyone for agreeing to serve as class officers. She reports that she has not retired and runs in many directions.

Jeanne Garrett Miller skied with her four children, their spouses and most of their eight grandchildren at a family reunion. In addition to family activities she keeps busy with AAUW, bridge and tennis.

Betty Johnson Drachman is actively engaged with the art center in Alexandria, VA, winning pottery awards and publishing poetry. Her physician husband works at NASA. One son works for J.P. Morgan and the other is a lawyer. She stays in touch with Hildegarde Drexel Hannum.

Carol Gerard McCann traveled to Barcelona to celebrate 50 years of correspondence with her non-English-speaking pen pal and a 50th reunion at her convent boarding school. She’s in touch with Amelia Kendal Whitenhorst. Carol has moved. Please call the alumni office, 860-439-2300, for her address. Our sympathy to Carol on her loss, David, in ’97.

After retiring, Zita Flaherty Smith and her husband enjoy tennis, swimming, skiing and visiting their seven children and five grandchildren at ski resorts in UT.

Allis Van Voorhis D’Amanda “runs an overnight daycare center” for her 17 grandchildren, who all live in Rochester. Skiing, fox hunting and gardening with her husband occupy her other hours.

Correspondences to Patricia Kohl Hadlow whose daughter, a professor of Spanish at CC, has completed her doctorate at Northeastern.

Pat Thall Hendel, a commissioner of the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, is a newly elected president of the National Association of Commissioners for Women. She and her husband, a semi-reired judge of the CT Superior Court, enjoy their six grandchildren and traveling.

Susan Rausch Misner’s life is full of music: directing the church choir, accompanying high school choirs and serving on the board of the symphony. Her five children and eight grandchildren keep her “on her toes.”

Marion Street Gugenheim’s world is full of film: her husband’s in Woodstock, VT, and Polly Hume Keck’s nephew’s documentary, for example.

Another retiree, Joan Schaal Oliver, enjoys winters in FL and her three children and five grandchildren.

Kit Gardner Bryant and spouse gave up their house for sailboat living, cruising in the Bahamas. On the way south, she visited many directions.

Another retiree, Headley Mills Smith. They plan to dock their “home” in DC near her daughter, Susan ’87.

Jean Gallup Carnaghan and other former day students had a reunion last summer.
I did not know what to do. I had a fish flopping about on one side of the dinghy, an excited five-year-old flopping around on the other side, and big sailboats and power boats passing us on all sides. When I tried to remove the hook (so I could throw the fish back), it bit me. I was bleeding, as well as coping with the situation. Finally, I killed the fish and we had a great dinner.

Louise Dieckmann Lawson '55,
on a fishing trip with her grandson

Fenning Rehm, whose lifetime giving has qualified her for membership in Century Council, a lifetime giving society. The class sends sympathy to Sally Lane Braman, who lost her husband, Chef, last year. Unfortunately, Sally's ill health prevented her from attending Reunion. She can be reached at home in Vero Beach, FL.

Correspondents: Nancy Brown Hart
75 Quarry Hill Road
Haddam Neck, CT 06424

45th Reunion June 1-4, 2000;
Reunion Chair, Martha Williamson Barhydt,
860-274-3443

Family concerns have kept me from my duties these last couple of months. Things are improving!

Your correspondent's husband, Bob, suffered a stroke in early Feb. In the weeks since, he has progressed wonderfully and we look forward to a complete recovery. It was both endearing and humbling to discover how quickly friends, co-workers and, especially, my three children took over the busy parts of my life so that I could deal with the essentials. At one of my lower moments I came home to find a nice valentine from Marilyn (Skip) Smith Marsh.

Louise Dieckmann Lawson reports that daughter Laura was remarried; her new husband is Paul Segal. Their "Pride of six," including Paul's four, are living near San Diego. Louise describes a fishing expedition off of Long Island with visiting grandson Derrick in an inflatable boat with a spinning rod. She hooked and landed a 1½-pound bluefish. "I did not know what to do. I had a fish flopping about on one side of the dinghy, an excited five-year-old flopping around on the other side, and big sailboats and power boats passing us on all sides. When I tried to remove the hook (so I could throw the fish back), it bit me. I was bleeding, as well as coping with the situation. Finally, I killed the fish and we had a great dinner." The Lawsons are busy with church, town and business.

From Virginia Hoyt Cantarella, "A year and a half ago I retired as a freelance medical illustrator after about 30 years. I am now drawing and painting still lifes, landscapes and small abstracts. A gallery in Albany now represents my work, and I am exhibiting locally quite often. Enjoy being a step-grandmother of three darling children."

From Gretchen Hurthall Moran, "Husband John retired from heart surgery. I am painting and have a solo show at Quinsigamond College in Worcester in June. We have downsized and are moving to Boylston (same area). Last Sept., we canoed down the Allagash — 90 miles and nine days of camping. Have one grand-daughter out of seven boys (four are John's and three mine)."

From Sue McGone MacMillan, "I'm just back from a visit to the Los Angeles County Art Museum — VanGogh's VanGogh — a fabulous collection. Am now busy planning for San Francisco's Fine Arts Museum's annual "Bouquets to Art," a week
of lectures, lunches and teas at the Palace of the Legion of Honor," she and husband Alex have been married for 33 years.

"I am enjoying my two days a week of landscape design consulting at the Boston Redevelopment Authority. I am also a board member of Massachusetts Audubon and play and bake with my four grandchildren, all living in Dugway. I paint (watercolors) on one or two days a week. Our son is a third-year orthopedic surgical resident living in Uncasville, CT! Don is semi-retired, too, and doing well. We spend a lot of time sailing, fishing and snorkeling here and in the Bahamas."

From Barbara Schutt-Howell-Shaffer, "Married John Shaffer, a Napa Valley vintner, in Sept. Marketing his wines takes us to many places around the world and provides me with the opportunity to connect with CC friends. When we are home, we enjoy our six children and 12 grandchildren."

From Elizabeth Root, "I retired a year ago after a wonderful career of teaching and school administration. I am now serving on two independent school boards and am a consultant for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, representing the California Association of Independent Schools."

As I, Edith Fay Mroz, write this, I'm packing to go on an English country dance tour. I'll be staying and dancing in English manor houses. Reminder: Don't forget to sign your note, including your maiden name — and be legible.

Billie Erickson Ford and husband Bud do volunteer work at a domestic violence center. They traveled to Sweden and Finland last Christmas, enjoy an Eldershostel each year and have five grandchildren. "Life is wonderful."

Carole Awad Hunt has two grandchild and is active with "work, travel and play." Son Jeffrey was married this June in Sun Valley; daughter Stephanie works in London.

Suzi Roenbirsch Oppenheimer and family visited Russia, "just as it was falling apart," but enjoyed it nonetheless. If Hillary Clinton doesn't run for the senate in NY, then Congresswoman Nita Lowey will, and Suzi will run for her congressional seat. "Stay tuned."

Marsden Williams works parttime with arts and antiquities at Di Tintincon Congignment. In her spare time, she paints and gardens. She exhibited her paintings last fall and looks forward to summer time in Woodside, MA.

Suzanna Martin Reardon notes much change in college applications, after being "in the business" for 15 years. She has two children in ME and will visit London and Wales this summer.

Marge Lewin Ross volunteers at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and as a consultant for student trips and camps. She plays tennis and swims to stay in shape.

Marion Mason Ramsay has lived in TN nearly 25 years and is amazed at her "southern children!" She and Dwight are thankful for their good health. Marion works with Adult Literacy, does gardening and smocks dresses.

Anne Godsey Stinnett has been "downsizing" and now shares offices with two other lawyers. He plans to retire; she still enjoys her profession.

Nancy Stewart Roberts and Brad enjoy being retired. They visited relatives in the British Isles last Oct. They plan to visit their CA son and his family with their three CT-based children.

Mary Ann Hirsch Meanwell enjoys visiting CO to ski and see her grand-daughter. Her son in Cincinnati just published a book of poems, Gregory Shaffer's Forests.

Ginger Simone Ladley was in Switzerland for six weeks this winter to ski and marvel at the shoulder-deep snow. She visited Fl. and the Caymans in March.

In '97, Bonie Fisher Norton took the Trans-Siberian Railroad from Moscow to Beijing with her son, and then had a reunion with Fontainebleau schoolmates. In '98, she spent three weeks in Nepal with her husband, and also cruised from Athens to Ft. Lauderdale. At home, she studies Jin Shin Jyutsu, a Japanese healing art.

Ann Lewis Cooper and Charlie are now "snowbirds," migrating between OH and UT. Her fifth book, How High She Flies, is now being published. He is Chairman of Swain Lewis, a horsemanship, teacher, artist and member of WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots) in WW II.

Dorothy Smolenski Pickering and Jack had an interesting trip from CT to CA, where all four children reside. They spent the winter months in San Diego and Monterey. "Grandchildren are great!" While spending the winter in FL, Vicki Tydlacka Bakker visited Beverly Lawson Watts in St. Croix. In March, all four children made a surprise appearance for Martin's 70th birthday. They will visit daughter Vicki in AK this summer.

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Debbie Gutman Cornelius has moved to Santa Fe, but still spends time in Budapest. Her book, In Search of the Nation, was published by Columbia Press, and she's "finally a grandmother."

Helen Sormani Tichnor's "retirement" consists of a job as professor of German at Gardner-Webb U., tennis, bridge and travel. She will take a group to Wimbledon in Aug. with husband Charles, a former Davis Cup player.

Sheila Walsh Bankhead still works full time as chief librarian of a three-county system. She also teaches Internet workshops. During a conference in DC, she met Nancy Cedar Wilson, and they enjoyed the Sargent exhibit.

Sheila Schechtman Weinberg retired after 27 years as a Welcome Wagon hostess. She enjoys her 20-year career as a realtor. Husband Jack is also "semi-retired," working part time in the jewelry business.

Elise Hofheimer Wright continues her work at the Valentine Museum in Richmond. Daughter Eliza, Princeton '83, was given a prestigious award for her fundraising. She led her reunion class to raise the most money from the most classmates.

Beth Ruderman Levine owns Windows of the World Travel and is also busy with grandchildren, travel and animals. "I have lived through Monica and Newt and Kosov and wish Miss Dilley were still alive to explain the world to me."

Marcie Garibaldi still enjoys being an associate justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. This year she will celebrate her 40th reunion from Columbia Law School.

Jane Haynes Duplessis is glad to have moved back north to the beautiful Columbia River Gorge in OR. Visitors are welcome. She had a family reunion in Phoenix.

Marie Waterman Harris retired after 16 years with the Landmarks Preservation Council of Fl. She and Ken have visited India, Morocco, Laos and Cambodia. They spend summers in Naples, FL.

Faith Gulick is learning more about computers at an ophthalmologist's office. She enjoys her business, Country Shop Antiques, on weekends. Her restored barn was popular on the Newtown Historical Society's House and Garden Tour.

Geneva Grimes de Labry and Gerry vacationed several times with Suzie Johnston Grainger and Bill — fishing in Fisher's Island Sound, touring in Spokane and skiing in ID.

Congratulations to Joyce Bagley Rheingold, whose recent gift to the College has placed her in Century Council, a lifetime giving society.

Correspondent: Evelyn Caliendo Moss, 622 Embrey Crescent, Wellington, FL 33411.

I am delighted when I receive notes from classmates. I had one recently from Jeri Fluegelman Josephson. Her daughter Andrea, has been in London for five years as director of corporate affairs for Sky's Cable Network. Jeri misses her two grandchildren, but visits as often as possible. Son Steven and daughter-in-law Jill are both doctors; he's a gastroenterologist, and she's an ophthalmologist. They both practice in Charlotte, NC. Jeri's husband, Buddy, still has an active
practice in dentistry, and she is a guide at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. They plan to travel to HI in the fall with Elaine Manasevit Friedman and her husband, Bob. Jeri recently saw Barbara (Barkie) Billings Supplee at the museum for lunch.

Gyneth Harris Shires is partly retired and doing private counseling. She is the proud grandmother of a 1-year-old granddaughter and a 4-year-old grandson. She also paints portraits. Betsy Hahn Barnston left banking after 25 years and became a stock broker at Smith Barney in New Haven. She finds it new and exciting. Betsy and Jack have a combined family of eight children and six grandchildren.

Louisa Brown Miner’s husband, Morgan, is a cancer survivor, and she is keeping busy.

Please sign your postcards! There’s a mystery note in this column. Some others I know only by handwriting.

Aline Amin-Youngton and Gene celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary. (Aline finished her degree at Boston U.) They have a great life with their grandchildren, work, travel and winters in FL. Utah is a winter home for Charlotte Bancheri Milligan and Burt, a snowboard instructor at Snowbird. They skied with Molly Fluty Roraback and Charles, Charlotte enjoys painting and yoga.

Audie Bateman George, Judith Epstein Grollman and Elaine Wolf Stein attended a DC event honoring Claire Gaudiani’s 10th anniversary.

Barbara Bearer Tuneski reports on their son’s wedding in NYC: her title research business (thriving with the Pfizer Project that CC President Gaudiani negotiated for New London); a golf tournament in the Dominican Republic; and her work on the board of New London Country Club.

Carolyn Biscione’s interior designs have been featured in national magazines. She is busy with the Denver Symphony Show House, custom furniture designs and new house interiors. Carolyn enjoys her three grandchildren, skiing, hiking and golf, as well as committee work and travel. “I’m healthy and life is good.”

June Bradlaw retired in May from the FDA, after a 40-year career in cell biology. She is active on the Science Board of the International Foundation for Ethical Research, a representative to the 1999 International Congress on Alternative Tests in Italy and a member of the Institute for In Vitro Sciences. June wrote a children’s book, Tree Bear’s Adventures in Learning, soon to be published.

Jean Cattanach Szilas and John survived a Central American odyssey that included exploring Mayan excavation sites, avoiding poisonous snakes and snorkeling. Carolyn Coburn Auman comments that “the ’58 e-mail link is a great idea!” “Retired but busy and feeling very blessed,” says Gretchen Diefendorf Smith. Their four kids “keep us inspired.” Dief hopes to make our 45th Reunion.

Nancy Dorian wrote from ME, “Last May I attended the memorial service for Catherine Oakes in Bath, ME. Miss Oakes retired from the CC faculty the year we graduated, which means that she had 40 post-retirement years! I guess that’s why they tell us that the well-stocked mind of a liberal arts graduate is the best equipment for a lifetime of change!”

Jane Geschen Gitchrist and husband Dean are retired. “Life is great.” Peggy Goldstein Marx Forstein and Mel live in Lake Worth, FL. Peggy has a grandson and recently settled her parents in a senior residence.

Jane Houseman Beckwith works in development for a Dallas private school. She has four grandchildren and is active in the Cystic Fibrosis organization, since one of her grandchildren has the disease. “The vineyard in early spring is a well-kept secret” for year-rounders Marie Feilin Doebler and Joe. They did leave the island in Jan., for a Caribbean cruise and to visit their son in ID.

Did you catch Simone Lasky Liebling and Joel in the last CC Magazine? They were pictured at a Raleigh, NC, alumni event. They go to Jupiter, FL, from Oct. to March. Simmy saw Karen Davis Levene and Peggy Goldstein Marx Forstein. Rhoda Lichtig Klein enjoys retirement in Palm Beach, FL, where she is a docent at the Norton Museum of Art and is learning to play golf. She occasionally sees Peggy Goldstein Marx Forstein. Rhoda traveled within the U.S. and to Nepal, India, Africa and Russia.

Ruth Lukens Potter and Eric live close to Atlanta in Rome, GA, near enough to visit two sons and many friends. She went to Italy last year with her sister.

Jane Maurey Sargent writes, “All is well on the coast of ME.”

Ann McCoy Morrison soldiers on in a third term as town treasurer for Wolfeboro, NH, where she has been “retired” for 12 years. Otherwise, she and Bill “enjoy the slower pace of country living” and their three grandchildren. Lives year-round on Nantucket “works well” for Susan Miller Deutsch and Dick. Daughter Betsy ’91 is director of the Nantucket Historical Association.

Margaret Morris Stokes and John, now year-round in Waitsfield, VT, have a new grandson, courtesy of daughter Sarah. Susan and Leigh live at home; son Earle and family are in MA. John coaches soccer and ski patrols. Peg holds part-time jobs as a note-taker for a deaf student and as office support in a private school. Their planing trips to Nova Scotia and Tahiti.

Kathy Rafferty Tollerton is public affairs manager for the American Society for Engineering Education in DC, working with deans of engineering in U.S. universities.

Millie Schmidtman Kendall and Neil cross-country ski at home in WA. This past year, they drove cross-country to visit family and friends in OH, ID, CT and NH. Retired from private school careers, Hannah Schoentgen Bergen and John...
live on the northern coast of CA, near OR. Beachcombing, kayaking, choral singing, volunteering and gardening compete with visits to five daughters and one grandchild. Hannah assures us that the '98 Exeter School reunion "paled by comparison" with ours at CC.

Lois Schwartz Zenkel visited her daughter and fifth grandchild in CA. Lois and Bruce traveled to South Africa this winter and look forward to family, golf and gardening in CT during the summer. Lois sees Suzy Ecker Waxenberg often.

Sandra Sturman Harris made several calls for CC Annual Fund and had a wonderful conversation with Margaret Muller Dugan, who left after our fresh- man year and lives on a remote hill ranch near Sacramento. Sandy had fun imagining such a quiet life, with the NYC traffic noise outside her window. She takes lessons in French and tap dancing, and wrote an article for her 45th reunion at Kingwood-Oxford School in W. Hartford.

Jean Tierney Taub and Don attended the 10th anniversary gala for Pres. Claire Gaudiani. Jean has continuing success in her insurance agency, where long-term care policies are the hot item. Jean and Don have two grandchildren. Their pediatrician daughter, Susan, practices medicine in HI.

Five children, 11 grandchildren, and 50 alpacas keep life "busy and full" for Gail Wieland Stewart and Bud, who is retired from orthopedic surgery.

Recently retired from "state service" in Boston, Atheline Wilbur Nixon has been "grandmothering" in ME and ID, where she saw Betsy Wolfe Biddle and Bruce for Bruce's birthday. Ath and Betsy's daughters and granddaughters are good friends.

Betsy Wolfe Biddle also mentioned her family's reunion with Ath Wilbur Nixon's. Betsy and Bruce have three move years in four years after living in Concord, MA, for so long. They are now retired in Gainesville, FL. Betsy chaired the Nike Florida Classic Golf Tournament.

Sydney Wrightson Tibbetts continues to live in Windham, NH, and work in merchandising for JC Penney. Husband Al is retired and spends six months in Naples, FL. Betsy likes being near three of their four children and three grandchildren. Their fourth daughter visits often from MA.

The Mystery Note: "Our daughter, Katie, lives in Norcross, GA, with her son, Andrew Joseph. Our son, Tom, and his family live in Warrenton, VA, where they welcomed our second child, James Patrick, this spring." (Writer: please contact J. Carson.)

Olga Lebovich is off to Austria to practice her newly studied German.

Marna Leerburger Biederman is still teaching after 27 years. Her husband is executive v.p. of Warner Chappell Music. Son CJ. and his wife live in Atlanta where he practices law. Daughter Melissa is assistant county attorney in Iowa.

Julia Sawtellle Clough is social service director at a nursing home in Yorit Harbor, Maine. She breeds and shows Pembroke Welsh corgies, and is caregiver for her father. Then her son, Garrett Gornish's children are scattered. Her daughter lives in Israel, and her son in CA. She has three grandchildren in Israel. Rochelle imports wholesale used clothes from the U.S.

Belated condolence to Marilyn Hinkes Bruce who was widowed in Sept. '97. That same year, she gained a granddaughter, courtesy of daughter Cathy Chapman, who lives in Ashburn, MD.

Marlyn Hinkes Bruce and husband flew to the East Coast from CA in their own home-built airplane last fall and visited with Carolyn Frederick '59 in FL. This year, they're planning a trip to Spain with Elderhostel (but presumably not flying themselves).

Lenore Fiskio visited Marion Fitz-Randolph Coste in HI in May before going on an inter-island cruise. Lenore finally got into her new condo in FL. She jut about going unpacked, then it was time to go back to CT to open her summer cottage.

Nadyne Loeffler MacKinnon says turning 60 has meant a lot of changes: "more inches, more wrinkles, more grays, more gratitude for being here." Nikki also now qualifies for an Ohio Golden Buckeye card. Could life be any better?

Two of my young friends on Whidby Island have been accepted into the next year's CC freshman class. They're wonderful women, and I'm so excited that they can have the connecticut College experience.

I hope you are all responding to Judy Ammerman's challenge for our class Reunion gift. Remember that the percentage of participation is a crucial factor!

Judith Hyde Kaufman '63 is
DIRECTOR OF DOGGY DAY CAMP
FOR BEST FRIENDS! PET RESORTS
AND SALONS IN NORWALK, CT.

Correspondents: Lee White Brown, 19 Forridge Lane, Avon, CT 06001 and Nancy Cozier Whitcomb, 19 Starbuck Rd., Nantucket, MA 02554

Susan Miller Burke returned to VA after years in New England. Her three daughters have families and good careers. Her son Colin is getting his master's degree at Central North Carolina in biology. 

Betsy Carter Banno mom writes that her son, Cody, is looking at high schools for next year. He is good at everything (sports, music, acting, honor roll and teenage attitude) and she is very proud of him. In four more years, they'll be looking at Connecticut!

Nancy Jones deForest writes, "What a thrill it is to be an "OM" (Dutch for grand-mother)!' She and Lammert spent Sept. '98 in the U.S. and Canada, visiting national parks. "It was wonderful to see so much beauty!"

Connie Kalifa Kellogg continues her work reuniting adopted children and their birth mothers, and she helps both with the family business. Their daughter, Tanya, is in Boston seeking her fortune.

Ann Pope Stone continues as a writer for an independent film producer and has completed two musicals (with partners). Chris is still teaching at USC Law School, and the girls are working. One is a teacher, one is a journalist, and the other one is married.

Marion (Duffie) Stafford Lorr has almost finished an M.S. in disability studies and is interning at a traumatic brain injury rehab institute. Bob is getting ready to retire after 35 years of teaching. IA will remain their home base, and anyone crossing 35/1-80 is welcome to visit.

Kay Stewart Neill is very happy in UT, only two miles away from son Gordon and granddaughter Samantha, 2-1/2. She is preparing to take the licensing exam in clinical psychology in Oct. '99.

Dorrie Swahn Williams returned to the U.S. in July '98 after completing a nine-month course at Christie's in London. She is spending most of the year at her ME home, but still spends lots of time in VA. Antique shops in NYC and Falls Church, VA, keep her busy!

Damon Reed has bought a home in Williams-town, MA, where she lived from '62-69 and where her daughters were born. Damon is assistant director of annual giving and director of the Parent Fund at Williams College. After 12 years of working on her own, she is enjoying being part of an office and a team.

Suzanne Rich Beatty has become a grandmother twice recently. Twin daughter Holly had a little girl, Allegra, on 11/17/98, and twin daughter Heather had a little boy, Brett, on 1/16/99! Suzanne continues to be the town clerk of Pound Ridge, NY, and expects to run for another four-year-term in Nov.
Helping Millions of Parents Figure Out What To Do!

Vicki R. Lansky '63
Author and President of Book Peddler Publishing Company

"S" is not about finding the answers. It's about figuring out the questions," says Vicki Roj gum Lansky '63. "It's amazing what life can be like for people who don't know what to do," she adds. Helping people figure out "what to do" has been the cornerstone of Lansky's career. The author of more than 30 books on parenting, childcare and household hints, she has helped millions with everything from the most significant challenges in life — child rearing — to the most mundane — uses for baking soda.

Lansky didn't intend to be a writer. "I've never had any work-related goals. I've always thought that they would deter me." Nevertheless, Lansky's spirited enthusiasm and ability to see what is missing have given her endless ideas and plenty of direction. These ideas are what led Lansky to create Book Peddlers Publishing Company, a small, but thriving business in Minnetonka, Minn.

After graduating from C.C. with a B.A. in art history, Lansky worked in ready-to-wear in New York City. In 1971 she and her family moved to Minneapolis. Together Lansky and her husband founded Meadowbrook Press in 1974 to publish her first book, Feed Me! I'm Yours, initially a fund-raiser for her local childbirth group. This book is now one of the most popular baby and toddler food cookbooks in the U.S.

Several years later, she and her husband divorced. He took over their publishing company, Meadowbrook Press. She then wrote books that other companies published. When some of those books went out of print and the rights reverted to her, she drifted back into publishing by starting Book Peddlers, to put these titles back in print and to publish new ones.

Lansky's works have included children's read together books, single-topic parenting books and audio tapes (all available through her catalog, Practical Parenting, www.practicalparenting.com).

Baking Soda: Over 500 Fabulous Fun and Frugal Uses You've Probably Never Thought Of, one of Lansky's adult helpful hints books, is now being sold at Restoration Hardware. Several of her books offer support to children in transition. It's not your

Fault KoKo Bear is frequently used by therapists, lawyers and mediators to assist children with divorce process.

Lansky has served as a contributing editor at Family Circle magazine since 1988 and shared her tips on a variety of television talk shows, including "Oprah," "The Rosie O'Donnell Show," "The View" with Barbara Walters" and "The Today Show," where she was a regular guest in the 1970s.

"Business is fun," Lansky says. She believes that what makes women successful in business is that they are not afraid to say what scares them. "Women are emotional and that's okay." Lansky also attributes women's success to their networking skills. "Women learn a tremendous amount about the personal lives of those they work with. They know who they're dealing with in a short time." Lansky has never been interested in management. She has intentionally kept her business small and has never been in debt.

What inspires Lansky is the fun and variety that her business offers. She is now working on a book about alternative uses for plastic and brown paper bags and a Christmas play based on the first book she published by an author other than herself, The Littlest Christmas Tree by Janie Jasin. In addition, she is amazed at how much time she still devotes to her grown children: Doug, a travel writer for Tribune Media Services, and Dana, a recent graduate of Harvard Law School. She takes great pride in their accomplishments and continues to be inspired by them.

According to the Wet Set Gazette, "If you have young children and you don't use Vicki Lansky's books as a reference, you are working too hard." It could be said that if you are an adult and don't use Lansky's books you're working too hard. Who could have imagined the diversity of something as basic as baking soda?

— Elizabeth Van Cleef
During the last weekend in Feb., several members of the class were guests of the college at the Insights Weekend. We had preliminary meetings for our 35th reunion on June 1-4, 2000. By the time you read this, it will be less than a year away — so please save the dates and plan to join us in New London.

Present at Insights were Class President Lois Larkey, Sue Peck Robinson, Elaine DeSantis Benvenuto, Nannette Citron Scola, Victoria Posner and Leslie Setterholm Fox. We have made some preliminary plans and assigned some tasks, but the most important will be getting as many of us to Reunion 2000 as possible. We hope that during the summer and early fall, you will get a phone call from one of your classmates urging you to attend. Our formal class dinner will be held on Saturday evening, June 3, and will be a special time for us to connect with old friends. There will also be a myriad of other events and activities throughout the weekend, some organized by our class and others by the college. If you already know that you want to come to Reunion, please call your friends and talk it up! Let's fill Palmer with the Class of '65!

Congratulations to Cynthia Eaton Bing, whose lifetime giving has qualified her for membership in the Century Council, a lifetime giving society.

Lydia Wohlberg Berrong retired from teaching Social Studies at Conard High School in New York at the end of the school year and plans to move to NM.

Susan Weinberg Feller is a practicing landscape designer in the DC metropolitan area. She lives with her husband, Lloyd, in Alexandria, VA.

Mary Burgess Markle lives near San Diego and has enjoyed introducing Judy LeFevre John to the area. Mary is enjoying her Mary Kay career. Judy works at an art glass gallery in La Jolla. On their days off, Mary takes Judy to the local sights: Balboa Park, Carlsbad Flower Fields or the Pacific Ocean. Both are zoology majors at CC, so they take as many trips as possible to the San Diego Zoo and the Wild Animal Park in Escondido.

Bill Bellantone Reuter has made a new career switch. She is out of the lab (research) and into the classroom full time. She is now a teacher at Winona State University in Winona, MN, and is really enjoying it. An added bonus is that both Bill and husband Larry (in the biology department) can walk to work instead of trying to start cold cars in the MN winters. Daughter Vicki is a double major in physics and chemistry at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, where she also plays the viola in the St. Olaf Orchestra. Vicki toured with the orchestra in Austria, Slovakia and Hungary in the summer of '98. In her spare time, Bill serves on the Winona Symphony Orchestra Board and enjoys volunteering for various science-related activities in the local school district, her church and local women's organizations.

Leslie Dorn Young and husband Tom recently returned from a winery trip to the Napa Valley. Leslie joined Distinctive Properties, Ltd., in Jan., as a full-fledged residential real estate broker associate. She now has seven grandchildren, ranging in age from 3 to 11.

Kathleen Dudden Rowlands married Dennis Rowlands in July '97 and moved to TX. She is an instructor for Sam Houston State U., where she teaches pre-service teachers and is also a freelance writer and editor. Kathleen is a grandmother of twins born in Aug. '98. She and husband Denny visited Carol Aspinwall Suamrez '65 at her home in Bideford, England, and then continued on to Paris. At this writing, they were planning a cruise of the Greek Ionian Islands with Carol and her husband in the spring. Kathleen's sister, Dr. Alexis Dudden Eastwood, is an assistant professor of Japanese history at CC.

Suzanne Lunsford Knecht and husband Jerry completed a two-year circumnavigation of the world in their sailboat, a once-in-a-lifetime trip. They did the canal route, visiting about 30 countries. Back in the U.S., Suzanne has resumed her printmaking. She and Jerry plan to cruise British Columbia and Alaska this summer.

Cheryl Maxman Leidich finished her master's degree in humanities at the U. of Colorado (Denver) in May '98. She is studying Spanish and traveling with her "original" husband and still best friend to England, Italy, Chile and Mexico. They plan to retire to NM within the next five years.

Olga Karman Mendell has just finished her manuscript of La Habana: A Cuban's Memoir and is in search of a publisher. Her book recounts life in Cuba before and during the revolution, life in exile in the U.S., and a return "home" 36 years later.

Nancy Newell Jones has just passed the six-year mark in her consulting business, helping NYC nonprofits raise money. She says it has been a blast, but she is living "from vacation to vacation." Vacation plans include trips to Four Season Resorts around the world.

Jane Noyes Bill serves on the vestry at church and volunteers at South Coast Learning, and, at this writing, is busy getting boats ready for summer.

Thanks for keeping the cards coming. PLEASE remember to put your name on the card. I want to use your news, but need to know who you are. I have three cards without names. If you sent a card by May 1 and are not in these notes, please call me.

1. Toni Carter Rogers, am enjoying my law practice, a I can set my own hour and have time for vacation. At this writing, my husband, Ron, and I are planning a three-week trip to China from May to early June, a 30-year dream come true! We continue to make improvements to our house in Annapolis. Semi-retirement is great!

Margaret Carey Mecham's son, Brendan, has finished his freshman year at CC. Margaret has returned to secondary teaching after a successful career chairing the local library board. Her other three sons (ages 12-18) fill any empty hours she has left.

Annie Haggstrom is still teaching English and ESL in a huge inner city school in Los Angeles. Her daughter, Gretchen, graduated three years ago from Smith.

Andrea Hicks left her position as a Clinton political appointee (and life in DC) to assume the role of deputy director of an environmental health center at the U. of South Carolina's School of Medicine.

Deborah Small Russell continues to enjoy running her successful microbrewery "Frog 'n' Hound." Their new empty nest is only 200 yards from their former residence. Husband Jim is cutting back hours in his insurance agency, while Deborah continues her work at Planned Parenthood in education and counseling.

Terry Tafinder Grosevenor recently composed the score for a ballet, "The Wizard Who Wanted to be Santa," which will be coming to CT next Christmas. Terry is also working on her fourth album of songs for children.

Wendy Wilkerson Allen and her son are in Grenoble, France, with husband Richard, who is working in the area on a sabbatical leave.

Jamie German reports, "Teaching is still the life!"

Mary BethTierney Beck loves her life in AK. She is active in the community when not involved in building a vacation house. Mary Beth hopes to learn to fly this year. She enjoys cross-country skiing and hiking every day. Husband David is head of orthopedic surgery. Daughter Jennifer is married and teaching at her former prep school. Kate will finish her Peace Corps assignment in Kyrgyzstan, and the family will meet her there to travel.

Brien Mutrix Chelmikins has been living in France for the past 30 years (outside of Fontainebleau) with husband Rudy, a freelance writer. Brien is teaching yoga, going to school, riding horses and writing songs. Son Romy, 24, is a French pop and rock musician in the Paris area. Daughter Stephanie Aimee '98 graduated from CC Phi Beta Kappa, Winthrop scholar and magna cum laude. She is now working as a paralegal in NYC.

Your scribe, Jackie, hopes to see Brien as I have accepted a Fulbright Teacher Exchange position outside of Bordeaux next year. Sadly, this will be my last column. Husband Patrick, a consultant, will continue his teaching yoga, going to school, riding horses and writing songs. Son Patrick Jr. is finishing his term in the GE management training program, and Martha will be a senior next year at Santa Clara U. Big reunion in France for the millennium?

Shirleyanne Hee Chew writes, "This year my daughter graduated from high school."
she got into CC, Holy Cross, Trinity and Boston U. Unfortunately, she chose Holy Cross because of its proximity to Boston and its Division I tennis. My son is a junior at Cornell, and I will be attending my 35th high school reunion this year.

Lyn Grass-ayres writes, “Jim and I have been in Taos, NM, for the last two months, enjoying a break from NYC life. We do a little and generally relax. It’s my third winter out here after ‘retiring’ from commercial banking at the end of ‘96. I do part-time consulting for nonprofits, plus volunteer work for organizations—also including work as a rape crisis volunteer for NYC hospitals. I also have taken up drawing and watercolor.”

Ruth Crutchley: “After living and working in MD for the last 16 years—seven years as an associate for the Baltimore yearly Meeting of the religious Society of Friends (Quakers) and eight years with Christ Congregational Church UCC—I’ve been called to serve as the first full-time director of Christian education for the First Church of Christ, Congregational (United Church of Christ), in Suffield, CT.

Linda Dannenberg: “My ninth book on France and cookery, Ducasse: Flavors of France, written with French chef Alain Ducasse, was published in Nov. Articles in House Beautiful, Wine Spectator and Victoria also keep me commuting from Kona, NY, to Paris. Leisure time is spent playing tennis in regional USTA leagues and skiing in VT with my family. Son Ben, 15, is a black belt in karate, competitive skier and computer graphics whiz. Husband Steve is involved in the CA wine business and travels in Asia and the Caribbean. Ben and I reap the benefits: Thanksgiving in Hong Kong one year, New Year’s in St. Lucia the next.”

Allyson Cook Gallagher is executive director of the American Jewish Committee in DC and loves it. Her job combines lobbying, fundraising, Jewish educational programming and lots of inter-ethnic and inter-religious work. Her youngest child is at Brown, and oldest daughter just graduated from Rye Country Day School in June ‘98 and is enjoying his freshman year at Miami U. in Florida.

Kristi Gunnill writes, “On 1/24/98 I was married to Frank Eugene Kowing, an artist, curator and teacher here in MD. Fifty-one is not at all a bad age for a first marriage, especially when you are enabled with MS and back in the country after years of living in Russia. He comes complete with a garden, an eager dog, a pushy cat and an appetite for reading that outpaces even mine.”

Betty Sidor Hanley: "I’ve just finished four years as v.p. and president of New Eyes for the Needy, a nonprofit organization (Short Hills, NJ) with an international mission to improve the vision of the poor. We provide new eyeglasses to U.S. residents, and we redistribute donated eyeglasses to developing nations worldwide. The timing is perfect, as husband Gerry has just recently retired from Exxon."

Stephanie Hirsch Meyer: “Our son, Robert, graduated from college and is working as a production assistant at NOVA/Online. Our daughter, Colby ’94 received her master’s in education administration from Harvard, worked in admissions at Phillips Academy and was married in June! Our magazine, The 21st Century, has nationwide distribution to 3,000 high schools. Two teen interviewers (and we) were able to interview Hillary Rodham Clinton last July in the Map Room.”

Sue Sharkey Hoffman writes, “Hated to miss the reunion but it conflicted with our daughter’s dance recital. A week later, Tom and I took a seven-day Caribbean cruise to celebrate our 30th anniversary. In Aug., our third child, Cathy, began her first year at Miami U. in Ohio. So now, we’re down to Wendy left at home. Joe is nearby in Johnson City, where he is the computer tech for a local school. We often see him and his son, Cole. David, the eldest, is in the USC MBA program in Los Angeles. We continue to love TN. It’s especially glorious in the spring!”

Barbara Modeskul Holbrook writes, “I’ve been living in Tampa, FL, for seven years. I divorced four years ago and am happily adjusted to single life. My son finished college, got a job and found a wife without coming back home to live. My daughter just graduated from U. of Miami, and may return home for a while. Her plan is to join the Peace Corps and tour the developing world in the fall. She also plans to teach a lot of golf and serve as treasurer in an investment club.”

Judy Irving: “I’m working on a film called ‘The Wild Parrots of San Francisco,” about a modern-day Saint Francis and his magical relationship with a flock of wild parrots.”

Ruth Kirschner Young recently founded the West Coast Playwright’s Alliance, along with four other Bay Area playwrights. Daughter Lucy is 9. Ruth enjoys frequent brainstorming sessions with colleague and classmate, Judy Irving. “Two of my plays were produced in the San Francisco Fringe Festival, Sept. ’98.”

Fran Wattenberg Klingenstein and husband Bill took the family on a safari in Tanzania last Aug. Daughter Stacy graduated from Skidmore in May ’98 and is living and teaching in Boulder, CO. Son John graduated from Rye Country Day School in June and is spending a honors year at the U. of Vermont. Fran is still involved in real estate sales in Westchester County, and Bill has started an investment fund in Greenwich, CT.

Kay Lane Leaird went to a photography workshop in Tuscany in June. Her family spent the Christmas holidays visiting friends in Scotland. It’s a sophomore at Dartmouth. Katie is a high school sophomore.

Naomi Corman Luban: “In addition to my teaching and research, I am vice chair of the Washington Jewish Community Foundation. As our 30th Reunion drew nearer, we solicited news from classmates who would not be able to join us on campus. Many were simply pulled in too many directions at what is traditionally a busy time of year. Our son, Brian, is in his junior year at Brown, and loves it. Her job combine lobbying, fundraising, Jewish educational programming and lots of inter-ethnic and inter-religious work. Her youngest child is at Brown, and oldest daughter just graduated from Rye Country Day School in June ‘98 and is enjoying his freshman year at Miami U. in Florida.

Connie Lawrence Mueller, 4 Woodmont Ct., Barrington, RI 02806 and Judi Blomberg-Marrinog, 1070 Sugar Sands Blvd. #384, Riviera Beach, FL 33444, jmarrinog@phdsm.org

As our 30th Reunion drew nearer, we solicit ed news from classmates who would not be able to join us on campus. Many were simply pulled in too many directions at what is traditionally a busy time of year.

Nina Berman Schafer moved from St. Thomas, VI, back to Chadd’s Ford, PA. Nina is hopeful that being on the “mainland” will enable her to spend more time with longstanding college friends and to reconnect with those who have “remained dear in my heart but disconnected by time and place and happenstance.”

Linda Glass Ibsen’s son graduated from college this past spring.

Peggy Kaemper Harjes’ son married and Anne Bonnial Pringe attended the wedding.

Leona Lauder attended events in NH and LA, so she was unable to join us for reunion. Leona transferred to the U. of Michigan after sophomore year, but has fond memories of CC and the grateful greetings to all. She has a practice in the field of biotechnology and chemical patent law in San Francisco and lives in Mill Valley.

Debbie Menchek recently moved from MD to Myrtle Beach, NC. She’s still getting settled.

Jane Rafael Wilson participated in a writers conference.

Tina Rydstrom Staudt had a family reunion in Sweden — their 400th jubilee!
Ellen Steinberg Mann's daughter was married.

Ann Weinberg Duvall's nephew was married in NH.

Shattuck Dubow has been living in the Baltimore area for the past five years after 17 years in southern CA. Jon Jeremy, 9, is in fourth grade and plays soccer, baseball and baseball. They both enjoy being on the East Coast and being close to DC.

Congratulations to Barbara Zlataco

Candace Thorson has been living in the Baltimore area for the past five years after 17 years in southern CA. Son Jeremy, 9, is in fourth grade and plays soccer, basketball and baseball. They both enjoy being on the East Coast and being close to DC.

Congratulations to Barbara Zlataco Shattuck Dubow, whose lifetime giving has qualified her for membership in Century Council, a lifelong giving society.

Correspondents: Nancy Jenen Dewyn, 30 Franklin Terr., Portsmouth, RI 02871, Najdev@aol.com and Mary Ann Sirety, P.O. Box 207, Wycombe, PA 18980, sirety@dynanet.com

30TH REUNION June 1-4, 2000; Reunion Chairs, Martha Sloan Felch, 617-969-3515, and Sally White Walker, 703-356-5052

Lee Marks, of Shelbyville, IN, has co-edited a new book Hope Photographs (NY & London: Thames & Hudson, 1998). The book is reviewed in the Spring issue of Connecticut College Magazine in the Chapter and Verse section. "It is based on a private collection of photographs, unconventional images about hope in all its guises, with essays by Robert Coles, Reynolds Price and Lionel Tiger." The book "accompanies a traveling exhibition of the 107 photographs going to seven venues (into 2001), from the Santa Barbara Museum of Art to the Katonah Museum of Art, with various places in-between."

Margaret Jane McCreary, who lives in Durham, NC, has figured out how to balance her work with private mediation and public advocacy. "Helping a friend maintain his elected office as the first African-American sheriff in a rural NC county despite many frivolous election appeals helped me remember why I went to law school in the first place." Margaret enjoys long walks in NC's great parks, friends and good jazz.

Emily Harvey Mahon is working in Miami as vice president of marketing for Lucent Technologies in the Caribbean and Latin America. Husband Jim was a professor at William Paterson U. in NJ. So, when she was eligible to retire, she did. "Together again, we sold the place in Miami and now split our time between Lakeland, FL, and Little Falls, NJ." She volunteers at William Paterson U. and takes post-graduate history courses.

Pamela Pollack writes from a rural suburb of London where she is living with her husband, Gerry Gminksi, and two children, Emma, 7, and Chris, 6. "The children are happy playing football and rugby and acquiring English accents at school. Geri's doing European telecom investment banking. I'm studying for CFA exams and managing our real estate business in CT long distance. We do our best to get around as many castles and gardens as possible and still take the kids bike riding."

Randy Robinson has been a clinical psychologist in private practice for 20 years. "I continue to try to find the optimal balance of work, parenting, primary relationship, running and obedience training my 150-pound Newfoundland (having fallen in love with Prof. Woody's Sam). I'm doing time with 12-year-old Casey and 20-year-old Casey (who attends Seattle Pacific U.). I'm trying to digest turning half a century old. Life remains full in Fresno, CA."

Congratulations to Anita Poluga Hedges, who completed her doctorate. She and her husband live in HI, where she lectures at the U. of Hawaii, Manoa. Anita also directs a student exchange program, A Semester Abroad. "CC students (as well as those from other mainland colleges) have come to UH to take courses (like volcanology, geography of the Pacific and oceanography) unavailable to them at their home colleges."

Last summer, Lucy Thomson, husband Arthur and daughters Elizabeth and Tory traveled to Nantucket — their favorite summer spot. Lucy, an attorney, "adds legal problems with FBI forensic science at the Justice Department," and she "took the girls Scouts camping, where the girls climbed up 30 feet on ropes at an Air Force Obstacle Course, pitched tents and cooked all their meals."

Continue to send your updates. Please don't forget to sign your card. I received some with no name. If you have e-mail, take five minutes to pass along what's new. And start planning to attend our 35th Reunion in 2000.

Correspondent: Lucy Van Voorhees 3430 Quebec St., NW Washington, DC 20016 luvw@erols.com

Patricia Ashton White has moved to Encinitas, CA. Please call or write the alumni office, 860-439-2300, for her address and phone number.

Deborah Dickson Shapiro still practices law with husband Dan. Daughter Sarah is a sophomore at Boston College, and daughter Suzanne is a junior at Middletown (CT) High School. Deborah is president of the Middletown County Historical Society again and is in charge of a $175,000 capital campaign.

Susan Lawrence Monack has a new job as consultant with the Department of Elder Affairs for the State of Massachusetts. At home in rural Chestertown, MD, Peter Newlin is in architecture — exploring spatial intimacy and craftsmanship as expressions of love. Peter feels lucky to be married seven years to the spiritual M. Gale Tucker and says he is kept honest by stepdaughter Julia, 16.

Barbara Sundheimer Extein manages her husband's medical office, is president of the Florida Atlantic Region of Hadassah and a member of the Hadassah National Board, and is a full-time mom. Daughter Melissa is a sophomore at Yale; son Jason has been accepted to Princeton, and sons Andrew, 14, and Seth, 10, are at home and busy with sports. Barbara loves the warmth (and orange trees) of Boca Raton.

Janet Evans and husband Jim Corrigan live in suburban Philadelphia. Janet is the librarian for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society; her husband is an attorney for a Philadelphia law firm. When Janet and Jim aren't working, they travel the world. They have a special love for France, which they visit often.

Madeleine Robins writes, "I got my sixth book done, revised and submitted. The Stone Warrior is set for publication in Aug., from Tor. After that, I did a novel based on a Marvel comic's character, Daredevil, which will be out in June in paperback from Boulevard. I'm back at work on another book for Tor, a historical fantasy. I see Amy Carr now and then and love to hear news of CC folks."

Diane Hitchcock works as an ultrasonographer in New London, with a specialty in pediatric intensive care and congenital heart disease. She and husband Mac McMahen are avid wildlife photographers and have started a business called Natural Instinct Photography, selling framed pictures and note cards. They travel extensively, looking for subjects and enjoying hiking and camping with son Kelton, 16, and daughter Taegn, 13. she saw Will Jacob, his wife Paula and kids Anna and Andy last spring in South Dakota.

Margie Rosenbaum Kasimer is in her fourth year playing viola in the George Mason U. Orchestra in Fairfax, VA. She continues to teach violin and viola from her home and to narrate children's shows sponsored by the Fairfax Symphony. Lauren is at
Collecting Art for an Embassy

Lisa Kaufman Vershbow '75

Lisa Kaufman Vershbow '75 lives in a beautiful Flemish-style country house on the outskirts of Brussels. Truman House, as it is called, is the residence for the U.S. ambassador to NATO. Vershbow's husband, Alexander. Three years ago, when the couple moved to Brussels with their two sons, they contacted Diane Tepfer, curator at the Art in Embassies Program of the State Department. Together, they assembled a collection of art for the house.

Vershbow majored in art and art history at Connecticut College and, for more than two decades, has designed jewelry, clocks and lamps and taught jewelry-making in the Washington D.C. area. She has shown her work internationally.

When it came time to select art for Truman House, the Vershbows decided to put together a collection that reflected their own interests. Instead of following the lead of previous ambassadors — who favored early American portraits — they decided to focus on American craft, "(American craft) reflect the great diversity, ingenuity and original thinking of the American artist," says Vershbow on her decision — which is unprecedented in the Art in Embassies program.

The collection is impressive in quality and in the range of media and geographical representation. The objects, on loan from galleries, collectors and artists, include a mesmerizing 3-D fiber sculpture by Pennsylvania artist Rebecca Medel, a funky figurative glass work by Ginny Ruffner of Seattle, and a carved wood piece by Hawaiian Michael Lee. More than 1,000 people visit the residence each year. "It's the perfect place to showcase this art collection," says Vershbow. She is cataloging the collection, which will be disassembled after the family leaves Brussels.

Vershbow's own work is also very much present at Truman House. Several lamps of her own design are placed around the house, and she typically wears earrings, pins and bracelets she designed herself. These whimsical objects are evidence of work she is preparing for an upcoming group show, organized in conjunction with the International Jewelry Symposium in the Czech Republic.

Vershbow created a studio for herself in the mansion's former stables. There she constructs her jewelry and lamp, shaping anodized aluminum and radiator sheeting, buffing and burnishing metals, and meticulously soldering and screwing them together. She has a great talent for fashioning diverse materials into fanciful forms for functional use. If there is a connection between her work and the Truman House collection, it is the inventiveness and whimsical pairing of materials. Despite the demands on her time, Vershbow spends a good portion of each day in her studio, which, especially in these last months of crisis for NATO, serves as a welcome refuge.

— Professor of Art History Barbara Zabel

Professor Zabel traveled to Brussels in May 1999 to present a paper at a conference sponsored by the Belgian Luxembourg American Studies Association. While there, she visited Lisa and Alexander Vershbow at Truman House.

Peter Carlson lives in Lyme, CT, and commutes 3 days a week to Greenwich. He is principal of Thames River Design Group and is involved in the revitalization of New London. He has a 4-1/2-year-old son, Alex.

Marlene Ginsburg Mednick is a labor relations analyst for the city of New Haven, CT. She and her husband, Steve Mednick, a partner in the law firm of Carmody and Torrance, have a 14-year-old daughter, Lauren, and a 10-year-old son, Alex. They live in New Haven.

Walter Thoma was promoted to general manager at Northeast Region for Energy and Emergency Services Group-Burns International Security Services. He has five sons: two are in the Air Force; one plays guitar and works at the Norwich Inn & Spa; and three are still in elementary school.

Amy Pitter was named deputy commissioner of the Child Support Enforcement Division (CSE) in MA. Since graduating from CC, Amy earned a law degree from the New England School of Law, a master's degree in accounting from Northeastern and, most recently, served as deputy commissioner of the Taxpayer Service Division.

For 12 years, Robin Meiklejohn Burt has owned a floral design business in Denver. She and husband Michael Burt have three children, ages 17, 15 and 11.

Lisa Kaufman Vershbow is moving back to Brussels — husband Sandy has been named U.S. ambassador to NATO. Their 15-year-old son, Greg, will accompany them. Their older son, Ben, is at Yale. Lisa, you wrote some other news on your envelope, but it was torn and we could not decipher the rest of your message. Try again!

Peter Effaldana was recently promoted to program manager of cultural arts for the City of Orlando's Recreation Bureau.
Miriam Josephson Whitehouse continues to enjoy her part-time schedule at the hospital, where she works in the microbiology department. She and husband Jon live in Kennebunk, ME, with lots of animals. They welcome all visitors. Their two boys: Cameron, 14, and Jesse, 8, keep them hopping. They see Amym Bussmann Heiser and her husband, Stetson Heiser, regularly.

Nancy & Miriam say: We’re all caught up on the notes we’ve received. Send more!

Mark Warren organized the 23rd Annual Arbo Softball Game/Party on April 24 and 25, 1999, in New London. In attendance were Michael Ridgway, Bobbi Williams, Steve Brunetti '76, Dave Paltten '76, David Saltzman '77, Scott Carney '77, Andy Williams '77, Andrew Rawson '78, Robin Rice '72, Mary Ellen Magiale '83 and Lisa Loucks '88. The party was great — the game needed work!

Mark urges all members of the class who plan on attending next year’s 25th Reunion to send $10 to Class Treasurer Paul Lantz to insure that we have adequate funds to hold a Reunion worthy of the millennium! Contact the alumni office, 860-439-2300, for Paul’s address. Checks should be made out to: Connecticut College, Class of 1975. Mark is in the process of putting together a letter to the class detailing the planning of the Reunion.

Alec Farley, Sally Sinclair-Hubbard, Mary Okolita-Toth, Maria Simao and Mark attended the Insights Reunion planning workshop in Feb. Pre-Reunion gatherings are being planned for several cities. Our goal is to (once again) break the Reunion attendance record, and we are planning a lofty goal of breaking the 25th Reunion Class Annual Fund donation record. Stay tuned!

The class of 1975 extends their thoughts and prayers to Alec Farley and his family. Alec lost his father, Edward I. Farley, on 3/23/99.

Correspondents: Bernard McMullan, 1622 Riverside Dr., Trenton, NJ 08618, riveroue@aol.com and Nancy Herharter, 760 Bronx River Road, Apt. A-63, Bronxville, NY 10708

David Biro writes, “I’m an admn as by day, writing radio jingles to keep NJ teens from falling asleep on the radio on Friday and Saturday nights; and a children’s singer/songwriter on Saturday and Sunday days. Check out my Web site, www.tunes4tot.com.”

Mary Yoshimura Elkin served as an Alumni Ambassador at Reunion ’99, assisting the alumni relations staff throughout Reunion weekend. Thanks, Mary, for your spirited help and generosity.

Correspondents: Kimberly-Toy Reynolds-Ihlah, 1000 N Lake Shore Dr., Apt. 405, Chicago, IL 60611 and Paul (Pablo) Fitzmaurice, 4017 Evans Chapel Rd., Baltimore, MD 21211, pfitzma@gmail.com

Born: to Andrew Chintz and Barbara, Sarah Rose 4/30/98.

Sandy Rappeport is living in Reigerstown, MD, with life partner Bobbie. They’re doing just fine, thank you. Daughter Lindsey, from Vietnam, born 4/1/98. Sandy was in Saigon for two weeks and traveled to Bangkok for one week to obtain a visa for Lindsey to come to the U.S. Emily, 3-1/2, was adopted from China three years ago and is doing great. Sandy plans to return to her job at Carroll County District director for Family & Children’s Services at the end of Sept.

Liz Killfoyle Esmio is living on a small farm in Raymond, NH, with husband Matthew, daughter Molly, 7, and son Lee, 2. She’s trying to buy a bigger farm in Amherst, NH, to expand her riding school and horse-training business. “Still having fun, but not dancing enough.” Liz would love to hear from Brian Chertok, Eric Birnbaum, Lee Sullivan ’78, Michael Fishman ’78 and Jim Howard ’78. “Are you out there?” Mimi Ginott Kaough is working full time clerking for a judge in Brooklyn Family Court. She finds it challenging, frustrating and rewarding. “Balancing work and kids is tougher, especially adolescents!”

Chris Mayer Bragg writes, “Greetings to all — alive and well, raising three children, juggling work, fun and that fine art of parenting…”

Gregory Butler reports that he has a new job as editor of Birger’s World magazine at Kalmbach Publishing Co. in Waukesha, WI.

Patty Steinberg Stella has been living in Dallas, TX, for the last 11 years with husband Michel and daughters Jenny, 16, and Christine, 11. She misses living the good life in France and old CC friends. She is working full time as a speech-language pathologist after getting her master’s degree at U. of Texas, Dallas, in ’96.

At dinner in Chicago in April, I asked Michael Duggan (since he wouldn’t pick up the check) if he would write something about who he’s talked with and our upcoming 25th anniversary celebration of the ’74 K.B. Dorm Flag Football Champion ship team. He wrote the following:

“I visited R. Tracy (Pressed Rat) Masters while in San Diego this past Jan. He looks (and acts) exactly the same way as he did 26 years ago as a CoCo freshman. We somehow ended up in Tijuana, but the last thing I remember we were headed north on the Pacific Highway with his dog steering and Rando working the pedals.

“I had a conversation concerning career advice with Bruce (Fit) Backup, who is now a political advisor to Elizabeth (Lizzie) Dole.

“Andy (Kakes, The Mayor) Krevolin phoned to say he was ‘still open.’ He is planning a visit to South Bend, IN, in Nov. for the 25th Katherine Blunt (K.B.) Flag Football Champions’ Reunion to be held every 25 years. This time there will be Superbowlues entertainment during half-time of the Notre Dame-Bojton College game, commemorating the K.B. team and that championship season. Richard (Big Boy Dickie) Kadzis ’76, Pablo (Weeblo) Fitzmaurice and R. Tracy (The Rat) Masters are planning to be in attendance.

“I had a splendid dinner (he bought) with Pablo Fitzmaurice in April near OHare. Pablo was as debonair as always. He could be seen titillating many of the young ladies in the cocktail lounge with his photograph of his beloved wife, Clarke, and daughter Maddie. Richard Kadzis ’76 and Weeblo are regular e-mail correspondents of mine. As for me, I’m living in Chicago with my wonderful bride, Hedy, and my dog, Chili. Still saving for the almighty dollar, staying in shape by playing Powerball, and trying to manage two teenage sons and one stepdaughter.”

R. Tracy Masters writes, “Re: Don Rando: Perhaps a kinder & gentler So. Cal. Rando, but definitely still crazy after all these years ... Re: the ’74 Championship — proof that uneducated guys, with the requisite practice and game execution of wee-blawn field generalship and enhanced by the proper motivational pre-game music and chemicals, CAN kick preppy butt! A Clockwork Orange rang true in ’74 on Murvey’s Field.”

And finally from this author, Pablo Fitzmaurice: I’m still driving the ball for the fabulous McInerny Nothin Buttball team and encourage you to write or e-mail. Also, a picture of this famous Championship flag-football team from ’74 can be found somewhere in this magazine; if you are in the picture, you too are invited to the ceremonies at Notre Dame.
Born: to Leigh Semonite Palmer and Benjamin, David 8/18/98. Leigh Semonite Palmer lives in ME with her husband and children: Libby, 11; Alan, 9, and new arrival Benjamin. Their schedules are very busy, but "this time we have homegrown babysitters."

Matthew Kercher is having "the time of my life" as a poker dealer at the Mohegan Sun Casino, not far from CC. He invites classmates to stop by anytime.

Will Swan lives in Dedham, MA, with wife Caroline Butrick Swan '82 and their three sons, ages 11, 7 and 5. He continues to work in the expanding field of knowledge management.

Dr. Greg Silber was presented the gold medal award of the U.S. Department of Commerce on 12/10/98 for outstanding work in conservation of the northern right whale. Since '97, Greg has worked at the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, part of the Department of Commerce, in Silver Spring, MD. However, his real pride and joy are his son, Kyle, 7, and his daughter, Katy, 5.

Julie Grey and husband Jeff Revels built an adobe home 30 miles north of Albuquerque in '96. She has returned to riding with her quarter horse mare, enjoying the wild stretches of the Rio Grande. Julie works as a spokesperson for the state's largest electric and gas utility.

Susan Gold wishes more friends had joined us for the 20th Reunion. We had lots of fun anyway. On the home front, Susan has two sons, ages 11 and 8. They are growing up too quickly and are wonderful. Susan's current job is less than satisfying. She is still searching for a "comfy niche." Lots of volunteering keeps her afloat.

Carrrie Wilson lives in Holliston, MA, with husband Sandy Newbold '77 and their daughter, Christine, 10. They are in touch regularly with Sandy's twin brother, Richard Newbold '77; his wife, Julie; and their two daughters, Abby, 3, and baby Katy. Carrie is a marketing manager for a foreign language services company. She is also a substitute teacher in the Holliston elementary and middle schools in the French Immersion Program. Everything is taught exclusively in French!

Jane Sutter Starke is an attorney for a DC law firm specializing in the transportation industry. She lives in Georgetown with her husband and two daughters.

Marcy Connelly Gookin lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, two daughters, and one son. Her kids are very involved in theater.

Correspondents: Christine Fairchild, 60 Winthrop st., Charlestown, MA 02129, clairn当たり@bby.edu and christine Martine, 915 South Alfred St., Alexandria, VA 22314, christinem@chadwyck.com

Erica Hoefnagel de la Uz writes, "After relocating to Ponte Vedra, FL, in '93 with husband Javier and two dogs, I am still working for the PGA Tour (for more than 15 years) and am involved with the event management and operation of 12 tournaments on both the PGA Tour and the Senior PGA Tour. Travels included Australia this past Dec. to operate The Presidential Cup, which was hosted at the Royal Melbourne Golf Club, and San Diego, CA, for the World Golf Championships-Andersen Consulting Match Play Championship this past Feb."

Michael Bletter is v.p. of Shapiro Bernstein Music Publishing, one of the oldest and largest independent music publishing companies. He is working with the band Blessed Union of Souls. Their debut album, "Home," featuring the number one song, "I Believe," sold over one million copies. Watch for the new single "Hey Leonardo (She Likes Me For Me)" on the charts and on the radio.

Lucinda Gray Carey reports that "all is well with the Carey clan" - Liza, 11; Sam, 7; and Caroline, 5. This is her first year not working, and she's loving it! She's on the board of Student Enrichment Program — a nonprofit providing year-round enrichment for underprivileged children in the area. Husband Chris is a partner at MJ Meehan on Wall Street and now works on the floor of the NY Stock Exchange.

Jinni Clarkson Shaffer sent an encouraging message: "Jesus is alive and well and he loves you!"

In the small world department, Hugo Smith ran into Barb Bates Sedoric, Cindy Gray Carey and their respective families while running a ski trip to Stowe, VT, for 70 sixth- through ninth-graders.

Kathleen Boluch Dickerman was recently appointed senior creative director at Dickinson Direct in Brantme, MA.

David Stewart reports that Dan McNaib Stewart was born on 7/3/98, joining brother Daniel, 9, and sister Sarah, 5. David's company, Stewart Publications, writes, edits and designs publications, especially newsletters. You can reach him at stewartpub@earth link.net.

Dennis Dale writes, "I am very happy living in Winchester, MA, and working at Halvorson Company as lead landscape architect on projects such as the Lowell Jet Ski Performing Arts Center, Plymouth Rock, Old Sturbridge Village and campus designs for Brown U. Wife Sally is operations manager for the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Development Office. Son Christopher is in first grade. I see alumni in Winchester, one
of whom, Debe Holland '79, is active in town politics. I was fortunate to attend the Reunion due to a demanding teaching schedule (1st grade in Fairfax County, VA). Daughter Beth, 18, is a freshman at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, VA. Daughter Jenny is a high school sophomore and is considering applying to CC! Husband Steve retired from the Coast Guard with 20 years of service. They're celebrating their milestone 20th wedding anniversary with a Caribbean cruise.

Ann Gregory Cefola has a corporate writing business called Jumpstart (www.jumpstartnow.net). She also gives workshops at colleges in the Northeast, teaching creative writers how to lock into the corporate writing market and coaches more seasoned writers on increasing their income.

Susan Davis missed Reunion but remains happy as head of dance at Lewis and Clark College. You can contact her at daviss@clark.edu.

Jeanne Feeney lives outside DC with husband Jim and children Justine, 6, and Jule, 4. She recently choreographed "Hair," which won the best musical Helen Hayes Award for '97. (Wow!) Her work is focused on dance improvisation, infant movement and hands-on body work. She credits Collette Barry, who guest-taught in the dance department, for setting her on this special path.

Peter Flint is managing director at Ramsey Beirne Associates, a leading search firm in technology. He lives in Berwyn, PA, with his wife, Denise, and their three children, Catherine, 12; Tyler, 10; and Camille, 5.

Leigh Anderson is having a fine time raising two daughters, Andrea, 3, and Emily, 2, and working part time at home as a CPA. Vicki Chester had dinner with Holly Carroon '80, who shared news of her 2-year-old daughter. She also shared a meal with Jamie Marshall Wicander and David Sargent '77 — both are doing great. Jamie is living in Old Greenwich, CT, and David's happily ensconced in VT.

Congratulations to William Clark, who married Anna Betterton Steel on 5/16/98 in Gladwyne, PA.

Linnea Richardson, our outgoing class president and treasurer, deserves a round of applause for leading us through the last few years. Linnea was sorry to miss Reunion but had a wonderful opportunity to study art in Florence! Linnea reminds us that there are positions that need filling: class agent chairs or co-chairs, class president, treasurer and a reunion chair for our 25th Reunion in 2004. Any volunteers?

Hearty thanks go to our class leaders for all they did to ensure the success of the 20th Reunion. Thanks to Paul Greeley and Dan Hirschhorn for all the careful planning and thoughtful attention to detail.

SAY, "CHEESE!" The above members of the Class of 1984 missed their Reunion class picture. (Apparently they were busy "hanging out" on Knowlton Green.) From left: Jim Brooks, Byron White, Kris Kossmann Ansour, Andrew Berlowe, Liz Kolber, Rachel Perry Welty, Tony Catlin, Jane McKee Douglas, Ebit Speers and Caroline Shepard Bolick.
"The sailboat for the rest of us."

Peter Johnstone '88

General manager and founder, Escape Sailboat Company, Portsmouth, R.I.

Peter Johnstone is a man with a mission. "I want to rebuild the entry level to sailing," says Johnstone, the founder of the Escape Sailboat Company. Johnstone, who grew up on the water in Connecticut and Rhode Island, saw a need in his favorite sport. "Sailing never moved forward after the '60s." Fewer people sail today, and fewer sailboats are sold, than in the '60s and '70s, he says. Johnstone is aware that the sport is often seen as expensive, time-consuming and complicated. "Our whole schtick is to make it so simple that anybody who ever thought about sailing would try it."

Enter the Escape — a molded-plastic sailboat with a self-teaching system (one only needs to match colors to sail) and a virtually un-tippable design. "Nothing freaks people out more than tipping over," says Johnstone. Billed as "the sailboat for the rest of us," the Escape is inexpensive — the six designs run between $700 and $2,400 — and lightweight. Even the heaviest model, 135 pounds, can be transported on a car roof, eliminating the need for a trailer.

Since the company's founding in 1996, the one- and two-person rigs have become the best-selling sailboats in the world. Last year, Johnstone sold 3,500 boats. This year he hopes to hit 5,500-plus. While that might not seem like a lot, one needs to keep in mind that in 1998, the entire sailing industry sold only 14,000 boats — and that includes everything from dinghies to mega-yachts. Escape boats are doing so well, they're competing with the more user-friendly sea kayaks and canoes.

Johnstone is not new to sailing. Twenty years ago, his father and uncle founded JBoats, a successful maker of racing sailboats. And Johnstone — who began racing at the tender age of eight — was Conn's first sailing All-American, winning a national championship. (Johnstone went on to win 11 more national championships.) "At that time, [Connecticut College] didn't even have sailboats. We used the Coast Guard Academy's," says Johnstone. He credits Retired Director of Athletics Charlie Luce for encouraging the sailing program (then only a club). "Mr. Luce was so nice and so good to us. He encouraged us to fundraise to buy boats." In the fall of 1986, Johnstone and other C.C. sailors — including Adam Werblow '88 (who led the fundraising), Jonathan Pudney '88 and Tony Rey '89 — wrote letters to parents and corporations. In 1987, the college acquired its first fleet. "There was a real entrepreneurial spirit among the whole team," says Johnstone.

After he finished attending Conn — the future businessman was "too busy" to take a final exam in Medieval history and did not graduate — Johnstone founded Johnstone One Design, maker of the One Design 14. In 1991, he sold the company, mortgaged his house and bought two sailboat companies, Sunfish and Laser, for $1 million out of bankruptcy court. He and his partners, America's Cup skippers Gary Jobson and Tom Whidden, increased sales to $7.5 million. "But we failed to get any new sailors," Johnstone looked at all the complaints against the Sunfish Laser boats — "too tippy, too expensive, too complex" — and came up with the idea for the Escape, a boat that would attract beginners.

Did Johnstone's peers in the racing world scoff at his attempt to bring sailing to the masses? "They used to laugh," he says. This year, the company's largest boat, the Rumba, won Sailing World's Boat of the Year award, and another, the Mango, won the Pittman Award for Innovation — the Academy Award of boat design.

Last spring, Johnstone sold his company to Johnon Worldwide Associates, makers of Old Town Canoes, but he will continue to run the business, serving as general manager. "There's still a lot of work to do," he says.

When asked how he occupies his time when not working or sailing, Johnstone replies, "That's a tough one." Although he admits to windsurfing and kayaking, it's his daily sail that keeps him centered.

Johnstone's children: Nicholas, 6, and India, 3, also sail — on Escape sailboats, of course. And Johnstone's wife, Helen Hadley Johnstone '88, won his heart when she taught herself to sail on a Laser in Long Island Sound.

Johnstone's plans for the future? "I'm ready for my adolescence. I'd like to take a two- or three-year cruise with my family. And maybe," he chuckles, "I'll take that history exam." — MVH

An Escape sailboat, literally hot off the assembly line. The boats are made out of polyethylene, the same material used in sea kayaks, using "rock and roll rotational molding."
Valerie Gutwirth danced professionally in NYC after graduation. She got her master's in early childhood ed. in '91 and taught at Manhattan Country School from '91-94. She married Elio Gatti in '93 and moved to Oakland, CA in '94, where she was project coordinator of the Multicultural Curriculum Program at Children's Hospital Oakland. Ruby Rose arrived on 4/12/97, and Valerie now teaches dance, performs in the Bay area and is happy being a mom.

Sylvia Henel Sun moved from the land of Aloha (HI) to the land of freeways, Southern CA. She and her husband have finally become homeowners. She received her Ph.D. last year from the U. of Hawaii, and her dissertation was just put into print. She is teaching ESL at Mt. San Antonio College four nights a week.

Thomas Loureiro is an attorney with Peirce Atwood in Portland, ME. His practice focuses on real estate and corporate matters. What little spare time he has is devoted to his wife, Ann; his two year old son, Gus; and their four cats.

Dorie Mandel has just returned from a painting trip to southern France. What a wonderful "studio" it was, painting on the shores of the Mediterranean seal.

Lucy Marshall Sandor moved back to Wilton, CT, after two years in Cincinnati. "It feels good to be back in New England again! I recently attended the ConnChord reunion. It was great to see Sharon Tohey Miller and Cara Esparto-Schirmeister '82. Where were all the other Chords from our year? Hope to see you at the next reunion!"

Gail Miller Halcro writes that her son, Ben, arrived last Aug. and that sister Jessica is not always sure she likes him! Gail enjoyed maternity leave and went back to J & H Frame. She's offering a 10-percent discount on maturing prints (no negatives, please) to:

Mary Howard, Assistant Editor Connecticut College Magazine 270 Mohegan Ave. New London, CT 06320.

Please include a list of all alumni in the picture and a self-addressed, stamped envelope (if you want the photo returned.)

Questions? Call (860) 439-2307 or e-mail mvhow@conncoll.edu

visited with Larry Wood in Chicago. Larry is an attorney working for the Legal Assistance Foundation in Chicago.

Lee Brock Alexander moved to Hebron, CT, in '97 after building a house. She and husband Stuart have two children, Ted (1/3/92) and Emily (4/26/95). She is a full-time senior account manager for a direct mail service in Newington, CT. Work, daycare, soccer and decorating the new house add up to little free time!

Susan Budd Sizer says "Hal (Sizer) and I can't believe that 18 years have passed since we met at a party at Cumming's! Now we're an old married couple living in Simsbury, CT, where we run into many fellow alumni." Twins Julie and Nick are 10, and David was 4 in Nov. Hal's working in Hartford for Provident Insurance, and Sue's busy being a mom.

Becky Carver Bozadjian and husband Greg now have what Greg calls his "trifecta," three beautiful daughters: Rachel, 5; Bryce, 3; and Emily, 1!

Nina Elgo graduated from Georgetown U. Law Center in '90; married Christopher Kriegen on 5/17/97, and gave birth to baby girl Caroline on 4/8/98. Nina's in her eighth year with the Child Protection Unit of the Office of the Attorney General, handling child abuse and neglect cases for the state of CT.

Alumni weddings, from left: Hugh Fraser '87 to Margaret Jones, 5/1/99; Sue Funkhouser '85 to Ted Lekas, 5/10/98; Amy Hurvitz '98 to Nicolas Mut, 4/25/99.

Mike Yura, an electrician, in Sept. '98. Six-year-old Michael attends St. Stanislaus School in Meriden, where Janet teaches third grade. She enjoys teaching, but has not forgotten another love: portraiture. She sends a big hello to Ginny, Shari, Mei Lei, Dan Joseph, Jonathan and all her friends.

Lisa Sargent and Ted Corcoran welcomed Mavee to join her big brother, Liam Alexander, in their family. Mavee had fun visiting with Amy Stackpole Brigham and Tim Brigham's daughter, Mackenzie, (three weeks younger) in June '98.

Julie Anne Seigle Slom and husband Peter spent the last year and a half restoring a condemned 1790 farmhouse in Charlestown, RI. "We could never have done it without the help of our builder, Dave Curry, husband of Lisa DeCesare Curry. It was finished just in time for the birth of our son, Samuel Noah, five weeks early!"

Alison Smith is happily living in Sonoma County ('"wine country") with a great job in health services administration, a great home 20 minutes from the ocean, and a wonderful family with partner Cindy and their puppy, Spencer.

Martha Woodward Tuke will chair the Junior League of Rochester's annual Holiday Home Tour and Gift gallery. She's still working for Bugaboo Creek Steakhouse and is raising two active boys. Daniel, 6, is in first grade, and Matthew, 4, is in preschool. She and husband Jeremy celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary last year with a trip to Napa Falls.

Peggy Ferguson Corrigan is publications director at The American Chemical Society in DC. She lives in Olney, MD, with husband Kevin and son Sam, 3. Once a month, she cooks with Emily Klayman, Rika Granger and Marcie Cross Sandalow. Contact her at P­corrigan@acs.org.

Martha (Marty) Frescura served as an Alumni Ambassador at Reunion '99, assisting the alumni relations staff through out Reunion weekend. Thanks, Marty, for your spirited help and generosity.

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Correspondents: Lisa Levaggi Borter, 174 East 74th St., Apt. 4A, New York, NY 10021, ALBorter@rodesassociates.com and Mary-Ann Giordano Ziluca, 12 Lincoln St., London SWE 2TR, England
**15th Reunion** June 1-4, 2000; Reunion Chairs, Amy Kiernan Lewis, 518-436-5960, and Suzanne Hanny Russell, 203-270-0338

*Correspondents: Laura Maguire Hoke*

**86**

**Born:** to Maggie McCarthy and Joachim Ghislanin, Nicolas 12/3/97. Greetings Class of '85! Please note the above changes to our addresses. Per your requests, we have included an email where Lisa Levaggi Borter can be reached. It truly is the easiest way to communicate. The other news from our front is the relocation of Mary-Ann Giordano Ziluca and her family to London. Mary-Ann, husband Chris and their 18-month-old son, Matthew, are living in the U.K., as Chris changed jobs within GE Capital.

*Maggie McCarthy* and husband Joachim were living in Wurzburg, Germany, when their son, Nicolas, was born in Dec. '97. At the time, Maggie was serving as resident director for Davidson College Junior Year Abroad Program. The family is now back living in NC.

**Kathy Paxton** wrote to tell us she has a new job teaching English as a Second Language and reading in an elementary school in Portland, OR.

**Paul Stueck** has visited with several CC classmates during the last year. He sees Duncan Robertson (who lives nearby), Ken Perregraux, Ed Burger (who traveled to a math lecture and then to Paul’s Mardi Gras party), Ak Garland, Leslie Laminke, Peter Benoliel and M. Sean Lee (in Toulon, VI).

*Scott Brenner* (brenner@att.net) was promoted to Web site technical development manager for the AT&T Interactive Group, which is responsible for several large AT&T Web sites, including the corporate site (www.att.com) and the AT&T WorldNet service site (www.att.net). Scott says that the work is challenging but very interesting, and he enjoys working in such an exciting, cutting-edge industry. He continues to be a serious runner, coordinating and racing with the AT&T road running teams in NJ. Scott plans to run the New York City Marathon in the fall.

For the second year, Suzanne Hanny Russell served as stage manager for the Capitol steps show at Reunion ’99. Thanks, Suzanne! Your volunteerism is a tremendous asset to the college and the alumni relations office.

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**Married:** Nancy Duff to Timothy Muir, 8/95.


**Whitney Smith Waters** writes about new daughter Fiona Fredericka, “She’s beautiful and often wears the CC sweatshirt I bought at Reunion ’97 when I was only five weeks pregnant!”

**David Stepper** and Mark Stepper are busy promoting their line of sterling silver and 14K gold jewelry called Fantasea Creatures. See the “On the Up and Up” section of the Spring issue of Connecticut College Magazine for more details. Or visit their Web site at www.fantaseacreatures.com.

**Peg Van Patten RTC** was recently a guest editor for a special issue of World Aquaculture Magazine on algae. The issue included a paper by Carl Grothe ’88. Last Feb., Peg and Carl had a meeting together in Las Vegas. She also gave a workshop for the CC Arboretum in Nov.

**Nancy Duff Muir** is busy commuting from Sturbridge, MA, to Boston, where she works as a systems analyst. Her two daughters, Katie, 2, and Samantha, 1, keep her busy when she’s home. She writes: "Katie is so articulate and lots of fun, but when she decides to act her age, she is a handful! Samantha is a very social baby and will smile if you just peek her way!"
Sasha Lazor writes, "My wife, Penny (McKean Lazor), and I have a new addition to our family. Patrick William Lazor was born on 10/4/98, joining siblings Jim and Katya. Patrick was baptized on 12/12/98. Several fellow alumni attended. Jeanne Martin Burbage is Patrick's godmother. She came all the way back from Australia to celebrate with us."

Lesley DeNardis writes, "It has been a very busy several years since graduating from Connecticut College. After receiving my master's degree in International Affairs from the George Washington U., I also worked as an academic administrator, I served as the director of public relations for the American College of Switzerland, located in the French Swiss Alps. Since returning to CT five years ago, I have been pursuing my doctorate in political science at UConn, where I am also an instructor in comparative politics. This summer, I was invited to be a visiting professor at the U. of Monterrey, Mexico. In my spare time, I serve as an elected member of the Legislative Council in the Town of Hamden. I would love to hear from classmates, who can e-mail me at le097001@uconnvm.uconn.edu."

Erik Smith writes, "I've spent the past four years working on 'Fantasia 2000,' which will be the first feature film released in the IMAX format. My job entails all kinds of unusual things - the most interesting is taking the executive notes in screenings for Roy Disney and Michael Eisner. I've also been working on 'Don Quixote,' doing research for Paul and Gaetan Brizzi, the twin brothers from France who founded Brizzi Film, now Feature Animation Paris. During my short trip back to New England for Christmas I was honored to be the first houseguest of Myrna and John MacRae in their cool new pad!"

Nancy Beaney moved to San Francisco at the end of '98, and is working towards a master's in somatic psychotherapy. It is great to be near friends on the West Coast, but she misses her New York friends!

Phil Dolan writes, "Liz and I are proud parents of a baby girl, Grace Madeline Dolan. She is, 'of course,' the most perfect little child you have ever seen! She is healthy, couldn't be happier, and truly is beautiful in our humble (NOT!?) opinion. She was born on 10/12/98 here in Hotlanta."

Quentin Nason and wife Dana continue their globe-trotting adventures. After meeting at Wharton Business School, they moved to NYC. Since then, they have been taking advantage of their international banking careers (he with Warburg Dillon Read and she with Merrill Lynch) and have been transferred to Hong Kong, Singapore, and, most recently, London. They plan to stay in London for a while and explore Europe in the same way they explored Southeast Asia. More importantly, friends and family have been more amenable to eight hours of traveling versus sixteen hours. Quentin and Dana would welcome visitors. Contact them at quentin_nason@com­­serve.com.

Amy Crutchfield-Meyer recently visited Laura Graetzer-Enable in her new home in Los Altos Hills, CA. Amy is raising her two sons, Paul, 3-1/2, and Matt, 1, who are in constant motion. Amy writes, "Congratulations to Lee on your marriage!"

Scott Sawyer writes, "My son, Collin, is now 21 months. Collin is a non-stop bundle of energy. He and I attended all but one of CC's home basketball games. I watched the games. Collin watched and waved to our one-humped mascot. The energy and enthusiasm were remarkable. Unfortunately, after two great seasons, our coach left for Brown. We put together a search committee and are working hard to find a replacement."

Correspondent: Deb Dorman Hay
206 N. Granada St.
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deborah_hay@mail.amsinc.com

Married: Renner Johnston to Julia Lave, 9/98.


When she finishes her neurosurgery residency in July '99, Lynn Bartl will and her husband, Steve, will move back to WI, where Lynn will join her dad in practice.

After spending the first few years of his law career as an assistant D.A. in Brooklyn, Michael Coffey is now an associate at the international firm of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman and Dicker. He specializes in commercial litigation and white collar defense. In '97 he married Kathleen Mary Nagle, also an attorney. In his spare time he serves as CEO for a credit union for Irish immigrants in NYC. He can be reached at mwjava@aol.com.

Maria Gluch finished her ob/gyn residency at UVA. She traveled in SE Asia over the summer. She is now an attending physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston.

Noelle Iffshin is a chef and the operating manager of 107 Ocean Bistro restaurant in Locust Valley, NY. Stop in for a meal when you're in the area!

Greg Porto asks, "Where's Geoff Davis?"

Volker Schmitz is applying to several executive programs in organizational leadership. He and wife Holly enjoy living in Long Island, although he admits it can be tedious at times to get off the island for a long weekend.

Geoff Somes has finally joined the ranks of the working as an economist at Fleet Bank in Boston. Although he enjoys the work, he misses being a house-husband for Lynne Sandal-Symes '86 and a stay-at-home dad for their two wonderful kids, Nathaniel, 4, and Bethany, 2.

After spending almost two years in Uzbekistan and two months in Mongolia, Constantine Zepos has moved to Moscow, where he plans to stay until the end of 1999. His e-mail address is czepos@aol.com.

* 10TH REUNION June 1-4, 2000; Reunion Chairs, Doriel Larrier, 718-542-3733, and Michelle de la Uz, 718-783-8843

Rich Powell writes, "During the past year, I finished my Ph.D. at Northwester U. and moved to Clinton, NY, where I teach in the government department at Hamilton College. My wife, Angela, gave birth to our second son, Andrew John, on 6/1/98. Rye, our oldest son, is 4. Everyone is doing great. When you add our two dogs to the mix, our home is beginning to get a bit crowded. I just returned from NYC where I visited Tony Fisher, Joe Rhames and Eric Stern. They are also doing well."

Alumni weddings, from left: Beth Bracken '92 to Kevin Galbraith '92, 8/1/98; Susan Feuer '93 to Scott Ehrlich, 9/6/98; Jayme Roark '98 to Dan Wilson, 2/2/99.
Bringing the Internet to Latin America

Fernando Espuelas '88
C.E.O. and co-founder, StarMedia

Three years after he left an executive position at AT&T and joined with an old friend to follow a digital dream, Fernando Espuelas '88 is sitting pretty in cyberspace - or at least the part of it that speaks Spanish or Portuguese. In two-and-a-half years, the 32-year-old's new corporation, StarMedia Network Inc., has become the leading "portal" or gateway to the Internet in Latin America where the number of Internet users is predicted to grow from 13 million at the end of 1998 to at least 50 million by 2002, according to one forecast. And it's growing fast elsewhere, too.

As an Internet portal, www.starmedia.com gives visitors an option of Spanish or Portuguese language and 17 channels to check out news, sports, classifieds or bulletin boards; shop with e-commerce partners like Barnes & Noble Inc.; create a home page, or access e-mail. It is also a prime spot for advertisers, like Walt Disney Stores working to reach the Latin market.

How well is StarMedia doing? In the words of Keith Benjamin, an analyst for BancBoston Robertson Stephens, "We believe the company has earned the prize for first place in a big new market. By being early in establishing the most recognized Internet brand in Latin America, StarMedia appears to have beaten potential U.S.-based competitors like AOL and Yahoo!.

Espuelas, the firm's chairman and chief executive officer has become a sought-after speaker and has been profiled in The Wall Street Journal and Upside Magazine: Why Consider the following:

- Before it went public, StarMedia raised more money in private venture capital - $96.1 million - than any other Internet startup.
- StarMedia's Initial Public Offering (or IPO) of 8 million shares of stock saw the share price nearly double in one day from the offering price of $15 to $32. The jump drove up the value of Espuelas' 11.4 percent share to $163 million. At the beginning of August, the stock, ticker-symbol STRM, was trading on the NASDAQ exchange between $30 and $40 a share.
- The firm's second quarter was, in the words of Andrea M. Williams, an analyst with E*Offering, "extraordinarily strong.

Revenues beat analysts' projections, increasing 537 percent from the year before to $18 million, page views increased 274-fold to 686 million from 2.5 million a year earlier. Advertisers grew to 160 from 45, and active e-mail accounts grew to 1.2 million, three times the number in July.

Three years after its founding in a dilapidated house in Riverside, Conn., StarMedia has 400 employees (average age, 26) in offices in nine countries and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Building on its strength in Latin America, the company is now aiming at new markets. It has taken on Telefonica de Espanica for control of the market in Spain, and in the fourth quarter of last year, became, according to Espuelas, the first Internet company focused on the U.S. Hispanic market, "primarily because no one thought that U.S. Hispanics would want to get on line." The goal: a global focus on Spanish and Portuguese speakers.

In short, Espuelas, who worked at Ogilvy & Mather and AT&T before becoming an entrepreneur, now runs, in Williams' words, "the dominant online network in Latin America."

The idea for the start-up came to the Uruguay native in — of all places — Nepal. As he told Upside, he persuaded his wife Ann Clark Espuelas '88, companions since the fourth quarter of last year, became, according to Espuelas, the first Internet company focused on the U.S. Hispanic market, "primarily because no one thought that U.S. Hispanics would want to get on line." The goal: a global focus on Spanish and Portuguese speakers.

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Peter Simpson has legally changed his name to Peter Danbridge and wishes classmates and other fellow alumni to know. He is soon relocating from the East Coast to the West Coast and looking forward to making contact with CC alumni once he is settled. Peter can be reached at makefate@email.msnn.

Sharon Shafer Spungen and husband Eric have moved to Grand Rapids, MI, with their son Harris Jacob (born 3/26/98). Sharon is an attorney at Dykema Gossett PLLC and would love to hear from any alumni who live in the Midwest. She can be reached at ssputogen@dykema.com. "Best wishes to all — looking forward to our 10th Reunion in 2000.

Correspondent: Jennifer Ammirati Boyle
7 Brayton Rd.
Brighton, MA 02135
boyle@jennifer@epa.gov

Correspondents: Liz Lynch
Chapel Hill, NC 27514, elche@conncoll.edu
and L. Friedrich, 905 S. Washington St. #219,
Alexandria, VA 22314,
L. Friedrich@hollyhunt.com

Andrew D'Amour is in Boston and can be reached at django@prodigy.net.

Mathieu Desjardins is still enjoying life in San Francisco.

George Brewster is enjoying living in Seattle, "despite all the rain this winter." He saw Nat Harris, who helped him move out to the Pacific Northwest last Sept.

Maria Vallucci Maxwell and her husband moved into a new home in Feb, and are enjoying being suburbanites.

Willy Fox lives outside of Boston with his wife, Nancy. He is "loving life."

Martha Bory Culver got a new job in Sept. '98 as a senior consultant with the Futures Group/Deboitte Consulting. She is doing strategic planning for firms and organizations. "It's great!" Martha's husband, Ken Culver '90, is at UConn, getting certified to teach music in public school.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Adams Eckman and husband Chris Eckman '91, who welcomed their second daughter, Megan Anne, on 10/11/98.

Corinna Dan graduated cum laude from Rush College of Nursing in June and has started working with children and adolescents.

Shannon Locsin lives in Boston. She finished her M.A. in medieval history almost four years ago and married a wonderful colleague, John, who took her name! Shannon recently assumed deputy directorship of a small nonprofit, Boston Creative Action, which works to engage parents as leaders and change-agents in Boston's much-neglected district high schools. She says, "It is difficult work, but I enjoy it!"

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Correspondents: Mike Carson, 123 St. Botolph St., Apt. 10, Boston, MA 02115 mike@zephyr.net and Karla Boeddinghaus Umland, 214 (Connecticut Ave., New London, CT 06320,
thelma@conncoll.edu

Married: Kathy Porter to Thomas Conteras, 7/11/98.

Suzanne Walker writes enthusiastically about her job at the Westminster school in Simsbury, CT.

Kathy Porter Conteras is in her second year of law school at UCLAD. "Aloha," says Laura Manzano, she enjoys working as a concierge at the Four Seasons in Maui, HI.

Nuala Thompson teaches ESL at Stamford High School, Stamford, CT, and reports that she saw Al Rosa '92 around town.

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Correspondents: Lee Rawles, 786 West 11th St., Claremont, CA 91711; Manning Weir, 3792 Kenwood Ave., Memphis, TN 38122 and Tika Martin,
martinsh@gwu.harvard.edu

Married: Kim Davis to Jay Welcome, May '98.

Kim Davis lives with her husband and son in the Cayman Islands, where she works with the local government on their financial reform initiatives.

Maisha Yearwood writes, "I received my MFA in June '98 from the American Film Institute. I'm currently writing a movie for Twentieth Century Fox, "Till Death Do Us Part," set to star Vivica Fox and Regina King. I'm also writing a movie-of-the-week for the Disney channel called "My Posse," and I've co-created a sitcom for Nickelodeon, "Christopher." It should be out in 2000. I'm also writing an independent feature called "Ladies Nite" for Graham/Rosenweig Pictures. I'm doing what I like to do: writing, producing, directing and living in Los Angeles. In Aug., I'm going to be shooting a feature I wrote called "Perfect Mate," about three black students who attend a small, private college in CT. The story takes place during their last semester at CC. Hopefully it'll be distributed, and you'll get to see it at a theater near you!"

Michael Cohen is living in San Francisco, CA, and works for Frontier Internet Ventures (www.frontierventures.com), a venture capital firm in Silicon Valley investing in Internet and telecommunications companies.

John Gould just received his MBA from Vanderbilt this past spring and was married on June 13. He is moving to Austin, TX, to work as a product manager at Dell Computer.

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Our fifth Reunion is June 1-4, 2000! The first meeting to begin planning occurred in Feb., and the following people showed up to help: Emily Chiasson, Lisa Gladke, Deirdre Eschauzier Hennessey, Beth Johnson, Zach Manzella, Nigel Mendez, Ali Mitchell (chair), Ed Peselcin, Bill Robinson, Ben Tyeull, Meg Wall, Derek Fisher and Bronwen Weiss. If you are interested in helping out or sharing ideas, please contact Ali at alison.mitchell@yahoo.com or Deirdre at henne@rpi.edu.

The Class of '95 made a strong showing at Insighs Weekend in Feb. Here's what some of those who attended are doing:

Nigel Mendez is working for a financial data computer company in Cambridge.

Bill Robinson, who was recently named to the Alumni Association Board of Directors, is working for Discover Card in Chicago.

Zach Manzella, who graduated from Dickinson Law School in May '98, is working for a judge and serving as a volunteer firefighter in PA.

Bronwen Weiss lives in NYC and works for Nickelodeon Television.

Kim Senior lives in Chicago and runs a theater troupe.

Ben Tyeull lives in MD and is married to Meg Littlefield '94.

Meg Wall works for Harvard Medical School in their public affairs office.

Marinell Yoders works in Boston City Hall in an after-school program.

Deirdre Eschauzier Hennessey and Chase Eschauzier '92 are living in Albany, NY. Deirdre is the assistant director of leadership development at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Lisa Denise Gladke graduated from Boston College Law School in May '98 and is working for Shipman & Goodwin LLP, a law firm in Hartford, CT.

Emily Chiasson is living in Boston and starting an MSW at Boston U.

Alison Mitchell is working for the Massachusetts Democratic Party, managing a statewide convention.

Other class news: Austin Jenkins is an anchorperson for the NIBC affiliate station in Boise, ID.

Molly Wilcox is working for a high-tech PR company in San Francisco.

Kelly Morriss is working for NASDAQ in Washington, CT.

Josh Levine is working for an environmental consulting company in Cambridge.

Jonathan Zaff is finishing his Ph.D. in Psychology in Georgia and is now married to Esther Potter '94.

Julie Granof works in the Massachusetts State Senate.

Jeff Gilton and Kristina Garland got married at CC last May and now live in CT.

Shauna Moynihan works with troubled teenage girls in Worcester, MA.

Holly Brabson lives in Salem, MA, and is getting a graduate degree.

Liz Duclos is getting a Ph.D. at Boston University.

Beth Johnson teaches fourth grade in Winchester, MA.

Stephanie Wilson teaches school in Alamogordo, NM.

Jill Devito will be starting her Ph.D. at the U. of Texas at Arlington.

Dan Towvim, Ben Bailey, Tam Martin and Ken Frankel '94 all have an apartment in Brookline. Tim is getting his Ph.D. in clinical psychology at Suffolk U.
Ben and Ken are working at First Call Corporation in Boston; and Dan just started a new job with Bronner Stilson Humphrey, a marketing firm in Boston. They still hang out with many of our classmates who are in the Boston area.

Amy Malkin is finishing up business school at Cornell and will start work as an assistant brand manager at Nabisco in NJ. She will be living closer to NYC and would love to see any alums in the area.

Dave Kranowitz is currently a manager at an environmental consulting firm in DC. He also hops into Melissa Carleton frequently. His e-mail is dkranowit@marasconewton.com

Jenn Knapp writes: "I only have one more year in law school out here in beautiful CO, so better come visit and get your ski vacations in soon! E-mail me at knappj@ucol.ucolorado.edu."

Kevin Cunningham has recently accepted a position as assistant coach of women's ice hockey at Ohio State U. "I am enjoying my job and the university tremendously and intend to commence my master's degree in sport and exercise management this summer."

Joshua Adler received a master's in real estate this past spring.

Sarah Moore Malinowski married Zachary Malinowski, CGA '96, in late Dec. They are stationed in Mobile, AL, for the next two years.

Brian Orefice graduated in June from Ohio State U. with an M.A. in higher education and student affairs. He has accepted a position as hall director at Ohio State and looks forward to having no more classes.

TJ Green is back home in MA after two years in CT running his own painting business. He saw Claudia Busto, Gery Rion, and Hamilton Grant, TJ Green RTC, Jc. Jehn Biaocur, 3E, New York, NY 10128, hamiltongrants1@msa.com

Sarah Schoellkopf is a Peace Corps volunteer in Leningogorsk, Kazakhstan, teaching English as a second language. Her address is in Yerevan, Armenia.

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Obituaries

Sallie Dodd Murphy '25, of N. Bennington, VT, died on 1/26/99. *

Alice Cook '27, of Avon, CT, died on 4/14/99. Miss Cook earned her MA in religious education from the Hartford Seminary Foundation in '30. Beginning during the Depression, she was director of religious education at several churches in New York. In 1966, she worked for 15 years in the bookstore at the Hartford Seminary. She is survived by three sisters, including Ethel Cook '29, and several nieces and nephews.

Katharine Foster Molin '27, of Peterborough, NH, died on 1/26/99.*

Louisa Gay Fuller '28, of Mars, PA, died on 8/5/98.*

Jane Bertschy Jackson '30, of Doylestown, PA, died on 5/23/99. Mrs. Jackson was predeceased by her husband, Charles B.H. Jackson, in '79. Survivors include a daughter and two grandsons.

Marie Gescher Stark '30, of West Newton, MA, died on 7/27/99. She was pre­ ded in death by her husband, Hawley. Survivors include two daughters and two granddaughters.

Wilhelmina (Billie) Brown Seyfried '31, of Wallingford, PA, died on 12/22/98. In '89, Mrs. Seyfried was honored by the Nazareth, PA, Chamber of Commerce as Person of the Year for her generosity to the community. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Moravian Historical Society. The widow of Dr. Ernest Seyfried, Mrs. Seyfried is survived by two sons, one daughter, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Jane King Buss '31, of Tuscon, AZ, died on 11/29/98. Throughout her life, Mrs. Buss was active in community affairs. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dwight B. Buss, in '83 after 54 years of marriage. Survivors include a daughter, three sons, eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Esther Winslow '32, of Orlean, MA, died on 7/6/99. She was a lifelong and active member of the First Baptist Church of Newton, MA. She is survived by four nephews and several cousins.

Caroline Breck (CB) Rice '31, of Westfield, MA, died on 6/3/99. She was named class agent chair in '39, and the C.B. Rice '31 Award was established in '97 and given to acknowledge and honor Ms. Rice for her longtime volunteer service to the college. In '67, she received the Agnes Berkeley Leathy Alumni Award for her outstanding contributions to her alma mater. Survivors include several cousins and her caretaker, Robin Kelly, DVM, of Wilton.

Anna Derge Gillmer '33, of Annapolis, MD, died on 1/10/98. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Thomas C. Gillmer; a son, a daughter and four grandchildren.

Ruth Wheeler Cobb '34, of Wallingford, CT, died on 6/15/99. She is survived by her daughter and several nieces and nephews.

Hazel Depew Holden '35, of Atlanta, GA, died in Jan. '98.*

Martha Hickam Stone '35, of Tucson, AZ, died on 2/21/99.

Olive Tubs Chandler '36, of Nantico, CT, died on 9/2/98. A former teacher, principal and town clerk in East Lyme, CT, Mrs. Chandler was best known for her role as the town’s historian. She is the author of East Lyme Handbook: The ABC’s Of East Lyme History and East Lyme: Our Town and How It Grew. She was the widow of Keno Chandler, who died in '50.

Elizabeth Taylor Norman '37, of Columbus, OH, died on 3/12/99. The widow of Edward A. Norman, she is survived by one son, one daughter and six grandchildren.

Frances Blatch '38, of Danville, PA, died on 4/11/99.*

Ellen Murray Entzminger '38, of Bay City, TX, died on 3/1/99.

Betty Wagner Knowlton '39, of St. Petersburg, FL, died on 4/22/99. Mrs. Knowlton was a guardi­an of the St. Petersburg Debutante Ball tradition, serving as secretary of the Debutante Club since '73. She is survived by her husband of 60 years, John F. Knowlton; three sons, two daughters, 13 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Elizabeth Wallace Greig '39, of Oakton, VA, died on 12/22/98. She is survived by a son, a daughter and five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas G. Greig Jr.

Patricia Fulmer Landis '41, of Ridgefield, NY, died on 2/14/99. The widow of John K. Landis Jr., she is survived by her daughter and six grandchildren.

Alice Louise Hobbs '41, of Newark, NJ, died on 1/21/99. Miss Hobbs was a third-grade teacher at Our Lady of Good Counsel School in Newark for 20 years, retiring 10 years ago.

Jeanette Holmes Beach '41, of Noank, CT, died on 3/17/99. Mrs. Beach taught in the Groton school system for 25 years. She headed the math department at Fitch High School from '74-78, then taught in the education department at Connecticut College until she retired in '88. She received her master’s degree in education in '69 from Bowdoin College. Survivors include her husband, John Beach; a son, two daughters, eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Ruth Moulton Cowan '42, of Seattle, WA, died on 6/1/99. In '75, she began her career as a legal consultant and continued working well into the ’90s. She is survived by three daughters and six grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, James D. Cowan, in May.

Anne B. Jacobs '43, of St. Petersburg, FL, died in Dec. '98.*

Carolin Townsend von Mayrhauser '44, of Prairie Village, KS, died on 2/27/99. Mrs. von Mayrhauser was active in community theater in KS, winning an award for her outstanding service in '89. She is survived by three daughters, a son and eight grandchildren. Her husband, Oskar, died in '95.

Jane Parke Carpenter '45, of Whiteboro, NY, died on 1/18/99. The widow of William A. Carpenter, she is survived by two sons, two daughters and 12 grandchildren.

Priscilla Garland Westberg '46, of Jacksonville, FL, died on 12/21/98.*

Earline D. Simpson '46, of New York City, died on 1/27/99.*

Frances Wagner Elder '46, of Cincinnati, died on 1/15/99. A former trustee of the Cincinnati Preservation Assoc., Mrs. Elder was a founder of the Cincinnati Bar Association Auxiliary. She is survived by two sons, one daughter and three grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, James.

Elaine Kleinschmidt Viehmann '47, of Andover, MA, died on 2/21/99. Mrs. Viehmann was a teacher and director of nursery schools at Free Christian Church and Christ Church in Andover from '59-81. She was also director of the International Institute’s Haveyville daycare center until her retirement in ’93. She received her MS in biochemistry at the U. of Michigan, where she worked as a member on one of the teams assigned to verify Dr. Jonas Salk’s polio vaccine. She leaves her husband, Norman; a son, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Frances Norton Swift '48, of Georgetown, ME, died on 5/23/99. A writer, community activist and teacher, Mrs. Swift and her husband, Jack, lived all over the world, including Iran, Saudia Arabia and Pakistan. Survivors include her husband of 53 years; a daughter, two sons, eight grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Nan Bawden Hartvigsen '49, of Gulf Breeze, FL, died on 1/13/99. A former school teacher and copy editor, Mrs. Hartvigsen is survived by her husband of 42 years, Hal Hartvigsen; a son, Hal Hart; two sons and two grandchildren.

Thelma Goodale Hebelbarth '52, of Cotuit, MA, died on 11/14/99.*

Patricia Updike Sormani '52, of Yardley, PA, died on 4/27/99. Survivors include her husband, Emil Sormani, and two sons.

Martha Royer Oberlander '55, of Richardson, TX, died on 3/9/99. She battled M.S. for 20 years. She is survived by three children, three grandchildren and her husband of 41 years, David Oberlander.

Wood Stephens '57, of Swampscott, MA, died on 12/27/98. She is survived by her husband, Preston; three sons and four grandchildren.

Sharon Sager Freimuth '67, of Cleveland, died on 3/31/99. Mrs. Freimuth was a Metropolitan Hospital employee and a civic activist. For six years, she was vice president and legal counsel for Century Products Co., one of the nation’s largest manufacturers of child car seats. She was given the Norman J. Danzig Memorial Young Leadership Award of the Jewish Family Service Assoc. and the Daisy Award of the Junior League of Cleveland. She received her B.A. from the U.
of Minnesota and her law degree from Case Western Reserve U. Survivors include her husband, Marc W. Freimuth; a daughter, two sons and her parents, Joy and Richard Sager of Chicago.

Leslie (Lee) Melson Roach '69, of Olga, WA, died on 12/26/98 in a car accident. Her husband, Ronald Gene, was also killed. She was 51, and he was 62. Ms. Roach and her husband both served in the U.S. Navy. In '69, she entered the Naval Women Officers School in Newport, RI, graduating with distinction in 1970. She was assigned to Miramar Naval Air Station as communications officer and later transferred to the Navy Recruiting District. While there, she became the women's programs officer, responsible for the recruitment of women officers throughout Northern CA, NV, UT and HI. She is survived by two sons and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Melson of Kensington, CT.

Alayne Palmer Van Deusen RTC '72, of Mystic, CT, died on 3/5/99. She was 69. She attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts at Carnegie Hall in Manhattan before marrying the Rev. Richard Van Deusen '47. Her husband was pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Groton from '62-72. She was active in the life of the congregation. She attended the College of Wooster in OH in the '40s, but received her bachelor's from Connecticut as a return-to-college student. In addition to her daughter, she is survived by one daughter, one son and four grandchildren.

Dr. Michael Levine '73, of New York City, died on 4/14/99. Mr. Levine was in the first male class to graduate from Connecticut. He received a degree from New York U. Medical School and practiced internal medicine from '80 until his death. He leaves his wife, Arlene R. Gellman; a daughter, Arden Levine '01, and a son, Jordan Levine.

Professor Emerita of Mathematics Julia Wells Bower, of Orange City, Fl, died on 2/19/99. She was 95. Ms. Bower received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Syracuse U. in '25 and '27. In '33, she received her Ph.D. in mathematics from the U. of Chicago. After teaching at Vassar College for one year and Sweet Briar College for three, Ms. Bower came to Connecticut College as an instructor of mathematics. She became a full professor in '53 and assumed the leadership of the department in '44, serving as its chair for 25 years. While she officially retired in '69, she continued teaching until '72. Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Ernest Schlesinger said in Ms. Bower's memorial, "Julia Wells Bower was, indeed, a remarkable individual: a scholar, a great teacher, a mentor, an exemplary colleague and an ideal department chair. Most of all, she was a dear friend who will be greatly missed by all those who knew her, worked with her and learned from her during her long and productive life."


• Full obituary unavailable at time of publication.

FERNANDO ESPEULAS, from page 75.

Then came the hard part. In a fruitless search for funds, they spent seven months and six figures of their own money unsuccess­fully wooing 60 venture capital firms. Down to their last funds — Espuelas had staked $18,000 in cash advances from a credit card on the venture — the drought finally broke when in July 1997, Chase Capital Partners invested $3 million. Other blue-chip investors followed, includ­ing BancBoston Robertson Stephens Inc., GE Capital, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. and Warburg, Pincus. The resulting $96.1 million was the largest private equity advance ever for an Internet start-up.

To date, StarMedia has not made a cent of profit (losses in the second quarter rose to $21.8 million, up from $15.6 million the previous quarter, and $9.9 million a year earlier), but in the go-go world of high technology and telecommunications, analy­sts say that's par for the course. A recent Wall Street Journal article said firms that don't have a high "burn rate" — huge losses in the early years — are accused of being overly timid in the race for market share. Williams says she's "not worried" about the firm's losses, calling them "standard for Internet companies in their early days."

While analysts like Williams say StarMedia is "ideally positioned to capitalize on the rapidly expanding market for Internet usage in Latin America," there are obstacles including antiquated phone sys­tems, lack of regulatory infrastructures and high local telephone rates. And competi­tion is heating up. Giant AOL just signed a $200 million deal with Venezuela's Cisneros Group, a media conglomerate, to launch its own Latin American Internet service. Yahoo! launched its own Spanish-language portal a year ago, and Prodigy unveiled its own site in April. Each could bring to bear great marketing and techno­logical muscle, not to mention pockets deep enough to undercut prices in a "soft­ened" market. Espuelas, though, is unfazed, saying that because of his early lead, the main enemy is now within, not without. "We have the experience of Hubris, over­confidence and complacency. In this kind of industry, if you are able never to lose focus, execute faster than anyone else, and have the leading brand in the market place, it is very difficult to be toppled unless you topple your self," he said.

Susan Segal, general partner and group head for Latin America at Chase Capital Partners, and also a StarMedia director, isn't worried either. "What we really have had is just a huge, first­mover advantage. They had an idea and they executed before anybody realized how big the Internet was in Latin America. Fernando is a first­class visionary. He sees things before other people see them. I think that anything that is Spanish and Portuguese is already an area of dominance and will be in the future."

And Espuelas, whom news articles describe as driven and occasionally impa­tient, is hardly standing still. Using part of the $120 million gained from going public, he has quickly moved to acquire other companies to complement StarMedia's position: LatinRed, one of the world's largest Spanish­language portals, Chilean Internet company Servicios Interactivos Ltd., adding to the pre­IPO purchases of Zeke! and Cade?, two leading online directories in Brazil.

To keep the site "sticky," one to which visitors return, he has also pursued alliances with a vengeance, placing 3.8 million shares of StarMedia stock with investors like eBay, Heart Communications, NBC and Reuters, who will help provide content for the StarMedia site. He's formed other strategic alliances with Fox Sports Latin America, USA Networks, and NBC, to name a few of the 40 added in the last quarter alone, and continues to spend heavily on advertising to promote the brand, a key strategy. How did he do it? Says Williams, "In the Internet, 'upstarts' reign supreme. It is the giants who have difficulties succeeding on the Internet where focus, agility, and speed are essential."

But for Espuelas, running a successful business is hardly the only goal. The Internet can be a powerful social force, he says, giving people the ability to trans­gress artificial, national borders through a "vir­tual central plaza." In fact, StarMedia says one of its key competitive advantages is that its "pan­regional community experience" is large enough to span the 23 countries of Latin America, but also "tailored for regional dialects and local cultural norms."

"Latin America was unified for over 300 years, divided for less than 200, and I think this is an historic opportunity to reunify Latin America — to create a bridge for people to exchange ideas," says Espuelas. The Internet represents a historical break as big as the Spaniards being expelled from Latin America, as big as the French Revolution, because fundamentally the Internet attacks the 500-year history of monopolies we have had: monopolies of politics, religions and power. It redefines the individual in society and realigns the concept of place. We have been told our neighbors on the other side of the border were weird and different, and now when we meet them and connect through the Internet, we find they are not weird and the similarities bring us together."

Besides, Espuelas has something even more important than the value of his shares to think about. On July 10, his wife gave birth to their first child — a baby boy named Jack. Undoubtedly, there'll be an Internet in his future, too.

—Lucas D.B. Held
In May, the college community said a fond farewell and thanks to Brian Rogers, who was College Librarian from 1975 to 1993 and Special Collections Librarian from 1993 to his retirement. Although most recognize him as a courtly-mannered bibliophile and scholar, few know that one of his secret passions is collecting model trains and building model railroads. Rogers is looking forward to constructing a vast model railroad in the basement of his Mystic, Conn. home.
onStage
events for the 99•00 season

Saturday
September 18 at 8pm
Charleston String Quartet
John C. Evans Hall

Saturday
October 2 at 7:30pm
New York Gilbert & Sullivan
Players in H.M.S. Pinafore
Palmer Auditorium

Saturday
October 30 at 8pm
Connecticut College
Chamber Players
John C. Evans Hall

Wednesday
November 10 at 7:30pm
Deutsche
Kammerphilharmonie
with Emanuel Ax, Piano
Palmer Auditorium

Wednesday
November 17 at 8pm
Elliot Fisk, Guitar &
Burhan Öcal, Turkish
Music Specialist
John C. Evans Hall

Friday
December 3 at 7:30pm
New York Big Brass
Holiday Program
Palmer Auditorium

Sunday
December 12 at 3pm
Charleston String Quartet
Lyman Allyn Art Museum

Friday
February 4 at 8pm
Benjamin Bagby's Beowulf
John C. Evans Hall

Sunday
February 13 at 3pm
Connecticut College
Chamber Players
Lyman Allyn Art Museum

Thursday
February 17 at 7:30pm
Drummers of West Africa
Palmer Auditorium

Saturday
February 26 at 8pm
Sanford Sylvan, Baritone
& David Breitman, Piano
John C. Evans Hall

Tuesday
March 7 at 7:30pm
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
Palmer Auditorium

Thursday
March 30 at 7:30pm
Preservation Hall Jazz Band
Palmer Auditorium

Sunday
April 9 at 7:30pm
Ravenshead
One-person opera with
Rinde Eckert and the
Paul Dresher Ensemble
Palmer Auditorium

Saturday
April 15 at 8pm
Lydian String Quartet
Pre-concert lecture with
composer Lee Hyla at 7pm
John C. Evans Hall

Sunday
April 16 at 3pm
Connecticut College
Chamber Players
Lyman Allyn Art Museum

The Connecticut College ticket office, located in Palmer Auditorium, is open noon to 5pm, Monday through Friday.

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