

# CORNELL

NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2017 \$6  
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ALUMNI MAGAZINE



## Touchdown!

**The Big Red Bear  
takes center stage**

**PLUS:**

Tech campus photo tour

Law School clinics:  
Advocating for justice

Looking back at  
'pumpkin mania'

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## 38 Better than the Average Bear

You've seen him pleasing the crowds at sports games, Reunion, Homecoming, and myriad other Cornell-related events. But what does it take to be Touchdown? While once upon a time the mascot was played by a single student—generally a Hotelie whose identity was a closely guarded secret—today portraying Touchdown falls to the members of a student group called the Big Red Bears. In the heart of football season, we meet some of the humans who wear the suit—and celebrate the bear's many sartorial moods.

## 46 Tech Time

Less than six years after the University won a competition to build an applied sciences and engineering campus on New York City's Roosevelt Island, Cornell Tech's first three buildings opened in time for the fall 2017 semester. "If Ezra Cornell were alive today," Robert Harrison '76, chair of the Board of Trustees, said at the dedication in September, "he would be Cornell Tech's biggest supporter." CAM offers a photo tour of the newly completed first phase of construction.

## 54 The Advocates

The Law School offers hands-on clinics devoted to subjects from child advocacy to labor law to LGBT rights. But its most high-profile clinics are those devoted to representing death row inmates and to exonerating people who've been unjustly convicted. Such efforts have garnered national headlines—and some of the school's cases have played out under circumstances so dramatic, they became fodder for exposés on CNN, Netflix, and NBC.

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A special insert produced by University Relations and the Division of Alumni Affairs and Development

COVER: JEFF LOWER

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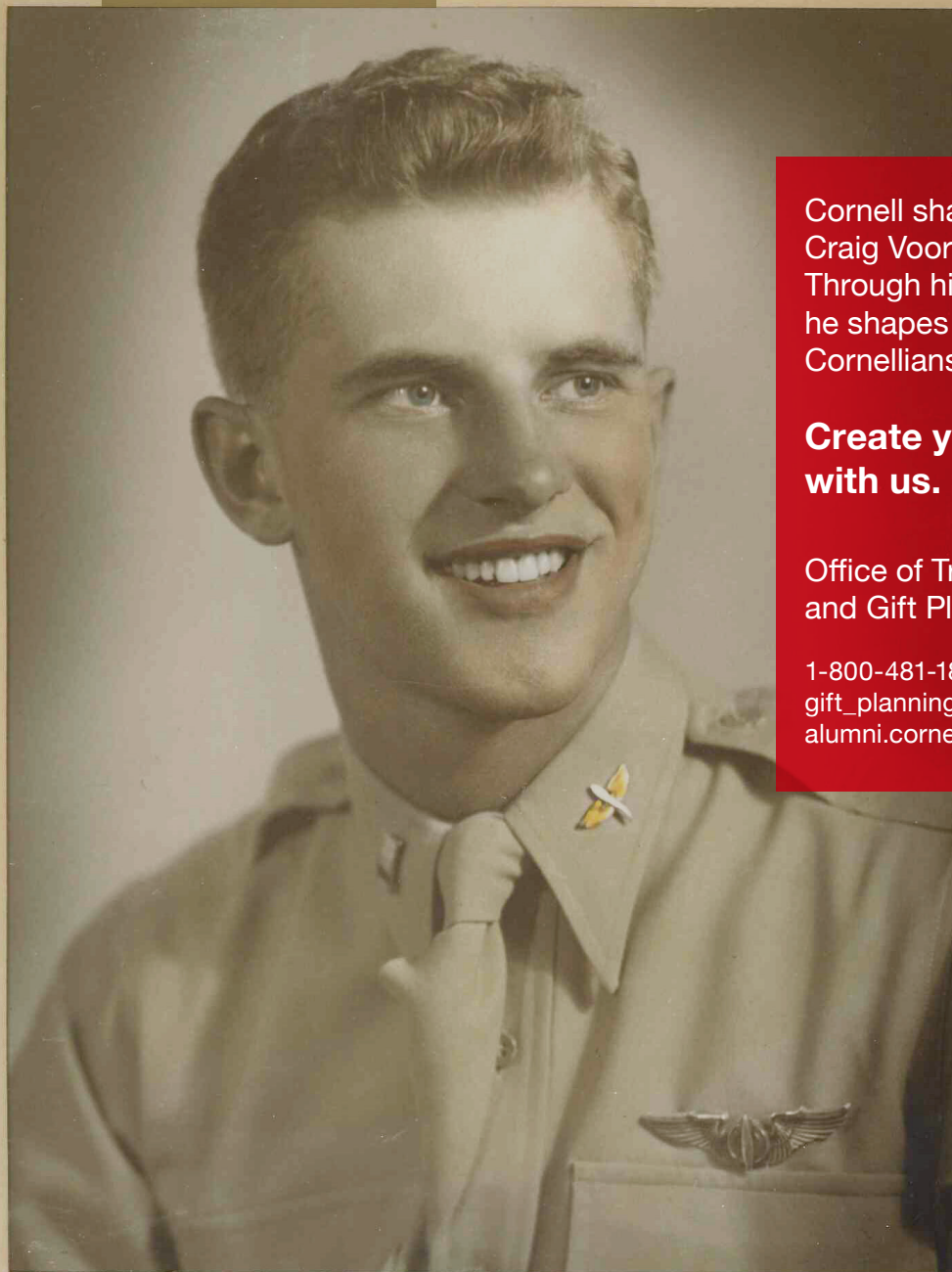
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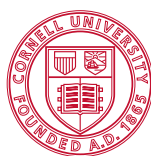
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Craig Voorhees beams in a US Army Air Forces portrait, circa 1944.  
Photo provided by Carol McArdell, Voorhees's niece.



Cornell University

# Improving Education Through Innovation



**LOVE OF LEARNING:** Pollack at the Festival of Scholarship during her inauguration celebration in late August

**W**hen I meet Cornell alumni on campus and elsewhere, they often tell me wonderful stories about the professors and courses that helped make them who they are. You remember riveting lectures, some of them delivered flawlessly and without notes; labs that gave you your own “eureka” moment and unlocked the excitement of discovery; classmates with whom you puzzled out problem sets or brainstormed about essay topics. All these things and more were unforgettable parts of your education.

What do today’s students experience? Whether you call them Gen Z, iGen, or post-Millennials, they grew up using the Internet from a very young age. For them, all sorts of information has always been just a click or two away. And we hear frequently that because these students are so tech-savvy—and so good at getting information—universities need to teach them in a different way.

Educational innovation is a high priority for me, and I believe we need to approach it holistically. Inspiring lectures have an enduring place in our pedagogy at Cornell. So do educational innovations that do not rely on technology. Spurred on by our Engaged Cornell initiative, for example, professors and students throughout the University are teaming up with community and global partners to tackle real problems, taking what they learn in the classroom and applying it out in the world. Students then sharpen their understanding by reflecting on and writing about their experiences.

But we also have been adopting new approaches to teaching in which technology plays a role. In “flipped classrooms,” for example, students do the formal prep work on their own (perhaps watching a video lecture or listening to a podcast) and then spend class time working with each other and their professors to explore

the material in more depth. The goal is to develop critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork skills that transfer to many other subjects and settings.

My colleagues in the humanities rightly point out that they have been employing this approach all along in their seminars, utilizing class time for in-depth discussion of readings that students have done in advance. And it turns out that by using technology, the flipped approach is scalable to large courses across many disciplines. Students in such classes frequently show improvements in learning compared to those in traditionally taught classes; professors get real-time feedback on how well students understand the material and can use that data to inform their teaching.

Professor Julia Thom-Levy, who was among the pioneers who helped “flip” large physics courses as part of the College of Arts & Sciences’ Active Learning Initiative, now serves as vice provost for academic innovation. In her new role, she is working to create excitement and experimentation around teaching, rooted in evidence-based practices, and to support faculty as they design new courses or think about how they teach existing ones. With her leadership, we have created a new academic support unit, the Center for Teaching Innovation, which combines expertise in academic technology with more traditional support for faculty and teaching professionals, including graduate TAs and postdocs. The new center will offer access

**We hear frequently that because today’s students are so tech-savvy—and so good at getting information—universities need to teach them in a different way.**

to videographers, instructional designers, technology experts, and experts on inclusive teaching, pedagogy, and assessment—all in one place.

Whether we are creating active learning and other innovative opportunities for residential students, developing online materials in support of our outreach mission, or augmenting our online courses and professional certificate programs through eCornell, I believe that educational innovation can help make us a national leader in this important area. All these will be on our agenda as we build on the distinguished and distinctive education that is a hallmark of Cornell. ■

*Martha E. Pollack*  
president@cornell.edu



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# From the Hill



**ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM:** The Homecoming weekend festivities in late October included a Big Red Fan Festival in the Crescent lot (where giveaways included Johnson School scarves), a laser light and fireworks show, and a 34-7 gridiron victory over Brown.

## University Responds to Racial Incidents

The fall semester got off to a rough start, with a series of racially charged incidents roiling campus. “I will not tell you ‘this is not who we are,’ as the events of the past few weeks belie that,” President Martha Pollack said in mid-September. “But it is absolutely not who we want to be.” Earlier in the month, someone at the Zeta Psi fraternity house allegedly chanted, “Let’s build a wall around the [Latino Living Center]”—a reference to President Trump’s proposed border wall. In a separate incident the following week, a late-night argument in Collegetown escalated into a fight in which racial slurs were allegedly hurled at an African American student; John Greenwood ’20 has been charged with assault and aggravated harassment and may face hate crime charges. Then, in late October, anti-Semitic flyers appeared on campus—including on the base of the Arts Quad’s Ezra statue—promoting an apparently non-existent white supremacist group.

The Collegetown fight reportedly involved members of Psi Upsilon fraternity, which had its recognition temporarily revoked in spring 2016 for violations of the University’s code of conduct. The September incident prompted the University to announce that it would not consider reinstating the fraternity; its national board of governors later decided that it would close the chapter and that its house would be made available to student organizations dedicated to promoting diversity and inclusion.

In late September, Provost Michael Kotlikoff and Ryan Lombardi, vice president for student and campus life, announced a series of measures that Cornell will take in response to the racial incidents. They include establishing a task force to propose new approaches for diversifying the faculty; hiring additional, diverse clinical staff to University counseling services; and adding new diversity programming to next fall’s student orientation.

### Endowment Hits Record

The endowment returned 12.5 percent for the fiscal year ending June 30, and its value of \$6.8 billion is its highest ever. As the University noted in its announcement, the past year was a transitional one for investment office staff, “as they implemented significant changes to portfolio strategy and management and moved to New York City.”

### CU Rated 14th in U.S. News

*U.S. News and World Report’s* annual ranking of best national universities has rated Cornell fourteenth in a four-way tie with Brown, Rice, and Vanderbilt—rising one spot from last year. In the subject rankings, Cornell had two programs in the top ten: business (seventh) and engineering (tenth). It also made the top ten in seven engineering specialties, among other ratings.





**HAIL TO THE CHIEF:** In late August, Cornell inaugurated its fourteenth president with a two-day celebration that included a student research showcase, an investiture ceremony on the Arts Quad, and a “street fair” featuring University departments, performance groups, and more. Clockwise from left: Pollack with the other four living presidents; in the academic procession; and sampling Cornell Dairy’s inauguration ice cream, Martha’s Bits & Bytes (a French vanilla base with brownie morsels, white chocolate flecks, and a banana swirl), which was named in honor of her expertise in artificial intelligence.



## Emeritus Trustee Chair Meinig Dies

Cornellians are mourning the passing of Peter Meinig '61, BME '62 (right), who joined the Board of Trustees in 1991 and served as chair from 2002–11. A retired business executive, Meinig died September 25 in Colorado at age seventy-eight. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Schlegel Meinig '62; three daughters, including trustee Anne Meinig Smalling '87 and Kathryn Meinig Geib, MBA '93; and eight grandchildren, including Sami Smalling '20. The Meinig family are longtime University benefactors, supporting such programs as the Meinig School of Biomedical Engineering and the Meinig Family National Scholars Program.



PHOTOS: INAUGURATION (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP-LEFT), LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP (2), ROBERT BARNER/CMG; BUTTERFLY, LIGHTS/SHUTTERSTOCK; BEER, BOULLE/SHUTTERSTOCK; MEINIG, LINDSAY FRANCE/CMG

## Did You Know . . .

That a group messaging app is helping students find free food around campus? The “Official Free Food GroupMe” lets students post daily alerts like “Cornell Mock Trial Association is having a free BBQ” and “Free bunches of kale outside Plant Science.”



**A team led by horticulture professor Nina Bassuk '74** has analyzed more than 100 soil samples at the National Mall, in an effort to help the National Park Service develop a plan for tree preservation by understanding the environmental impact of large-scale tourism.



**Cornell scientists have proved** that single “master” genes—one for stripes, another for color and iridescence—control the patterns of butterfly wings. It was previously thought that dozens or even hundreds of genes were involved in determining the diverse array of patterns.

**A drug that proved unsuccessful in treating cancer**, known as a CHK2 inhibitor, has shown promise in protecting women against infertility caused by cancer treatments, Vet college genetics professor John Schimenti reports.

**Science and engineering PhD students** are losing interest in academic careers, finds Dyson professor Michael Roach. Although 80 percent of those surveyed matriculated with an interest in academia, one-third had changed their minds by graduation.

**Analyzing more than 800 student surveys**, ILR researchers have found that for undergrads, heavy drinking six times a month has a detrimental effect on future employment: it cuts the chances that a new grad will get a job by 10 percent.



## Give My Regards to . . . These Cornellians in the news



**Yasin Ahmed** (left), hired this fall as the first Muslim chaplain at Cornell United Religious Work.

The **School of Hotel Administration**, ranked top in the world for hospitality and hotel management by *CEOWORLD* magazine for the second year in a row.

Journalist, historian, and photographer **Gordon Sander '72, BA '73**, knighted by Finland for his work on the nation and its history.



**Richard Burkhauser** (right), an emeritus professor of policy analysis, named to President Donald Trump's Council of Economic Advisors.

## CHEF TECH

A self-described “nerd with a passion for cooking,” former Google and Facebook software engineer Joshua Redstone '93 raised more than \$110,000 on Kickstarter—and garnered headlines in publications like *Forbes* and the *Boston Globe*—for what product?

- a) In-oven webcam
- b) Digital condiment dispenser
- c) Bluetooth-enabled thermometer
- d) Ultra-precise measuring cup

ANSWER: D

## Expelled Student Admits to Financial Aid Fraud

A woman who forged transcripts and recommendation letters to get into Cornell has pleaded guilty to student loan fraud in federal court. Cavya Chandra had been denied admission to the Class of 2013; after enrolling at Carnegie Mellon (to which she had provided a forged recommendation) she reapplied as a transfer—falsely claiming a 4.0 GPA—and was accepted. Her misdeeds came to light when she applied to medical school, and she was expelled. She then used forged transcripts to gain admission to an Indiana university, though her degree was rescinded. The plea agreement for Chandra, who has not yet been sentenced, includes a requirement to repay more than \$70,000 in financial aid to Cornell.

## Guilty Verdict in 2016 Killing

An Ithaca resident has been found guilty in the stabbing of a nineteen-year-old Ithaca College student who died after a late-night fight outside Olin Hall in August 2016. After his first trial ended in a hung jury, Nagee Green was convicted of the second-degree murder of Anthony Nazaire during a retrial held in September. Sentencing is scheduled for November.



**OPEN FOR BUSINESS:** The Johnson School has made a major expansion into Collegetown with the Breazzano Family Center for Business Education. The 76,000-square-foot, six-story building—located on the block of Dryden Road that was formerly home to the Royal Palm Tavern—is named for trustee David Breazzano, MBA '80, whose \$25 million gift supported the project.

## Frat Breaks Bouncing Record

Eight members of Beta Theta Pi fraternity bounced their way to a Guinness World Record when they jumped inside an inflatable castle on the Arts Quad for fifty continuous hours in early September. The feat—which has not yet been officially acknowledged on the Guinness website—allegedly beat the previous world record for “longest marathon on a bouncy castle (team)” by more than six hours.

PHOTOS: AHMED, PATRICK SHANNAN/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP; BURKHAUSER, ROBERT BARKEY/CMG; JOHNSON SCHOOL, JASON KOSKI/CMG



**RIBBON CUTTING:** The Cornell Tech campus on Roosevelt Island was dedicated in mid-September, in a ceremony that featured New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg (fifth from right), and current mayor Bill de Blasio (third from left), among other dignitaries. “In academic terms, Cornell Tech has been created in record time—from vision to reality in just a few short years,” said President Pollack (center). “In another way, Cornell Tech has been a long time in the making—building on a century of Cornell teaching, research, patient care, and service to New York City and tracing back to our land-grant roots.” For a photo tour of the new campus, see page 46.

### Podcast Considers Human Nature

A new podcast series by Arts and Sciences faculty offers brief audio essays on various aspects of human nature. Entitled “What Makes Us Human,” it has covered such topics as the limitations of the word “love,” combatting prejudice against people with disabilities, and the future of interactions between robots and people. According to Dean Gretchen Ritter ’83, the podcast is intended to “spark curiosity, exploration, and a deeper understanding of what makes us who we are, as well as what we could be.” It’s available for download on iTunes and SoundCloud and for streaming at: [as.cornell.edu/humanities](http://as.cornell.edu/humanities).

**‘We all had the sense that we were doing something very important . . . and that weighed heavily on us, but inspired us.’**

– Former astronomy professor Frank Drake ’51, BEP ’52, reminiscing about working with Cornell colleagues on designing the Voyager probe’s message from Earth

### Alums Buy ‘Wings Over’ Franchise

Saddened by the closing of the Wings Over Ithaca restaurant in East Hill Plaza, four alumni—Dan Leyva ’14, Kevin Mok ’14, Raunak Nirmal ’14, and Mike Wang ’07—have not only reopened it in Collegetown, they’ve purchased the entire national franchise. The popular fast-casual eatery closed in October 2016 after its owner was charged with multiple felonies, including grand larceny and tax fraud. Launched near the University of Massachusetts, the “Wings Over” franchise has forty restaurants in thirteen states; the new owners hope to expand to more than a hundred over the next three years.



### Program Melds Tech and Humanities

A new undergraduate program links Ithaca’s College of Arts and Sciences with Cornell Tech. The Milstein Program in Technology and Humanity will enroll twenty-five students per year; in addition to pursuing their undergrad majors, they’ll have a specialized computer science curriculum and will spend summers being exposed to the New York City tech sector through internships and other activities. According to President Pollack, the program—funded by a \$20 million gift from the Milstein family—“will provide not only a foundation for students to develop the technical, intellectual, and organizational skills they need to drive progress in the digital age, but also a context and ethical framework that will equip them to shape society for the better.”

PHOTOS: TECH OPENING, ROBERT BARKER/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP; WINGS, PROVIDED

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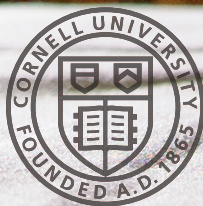
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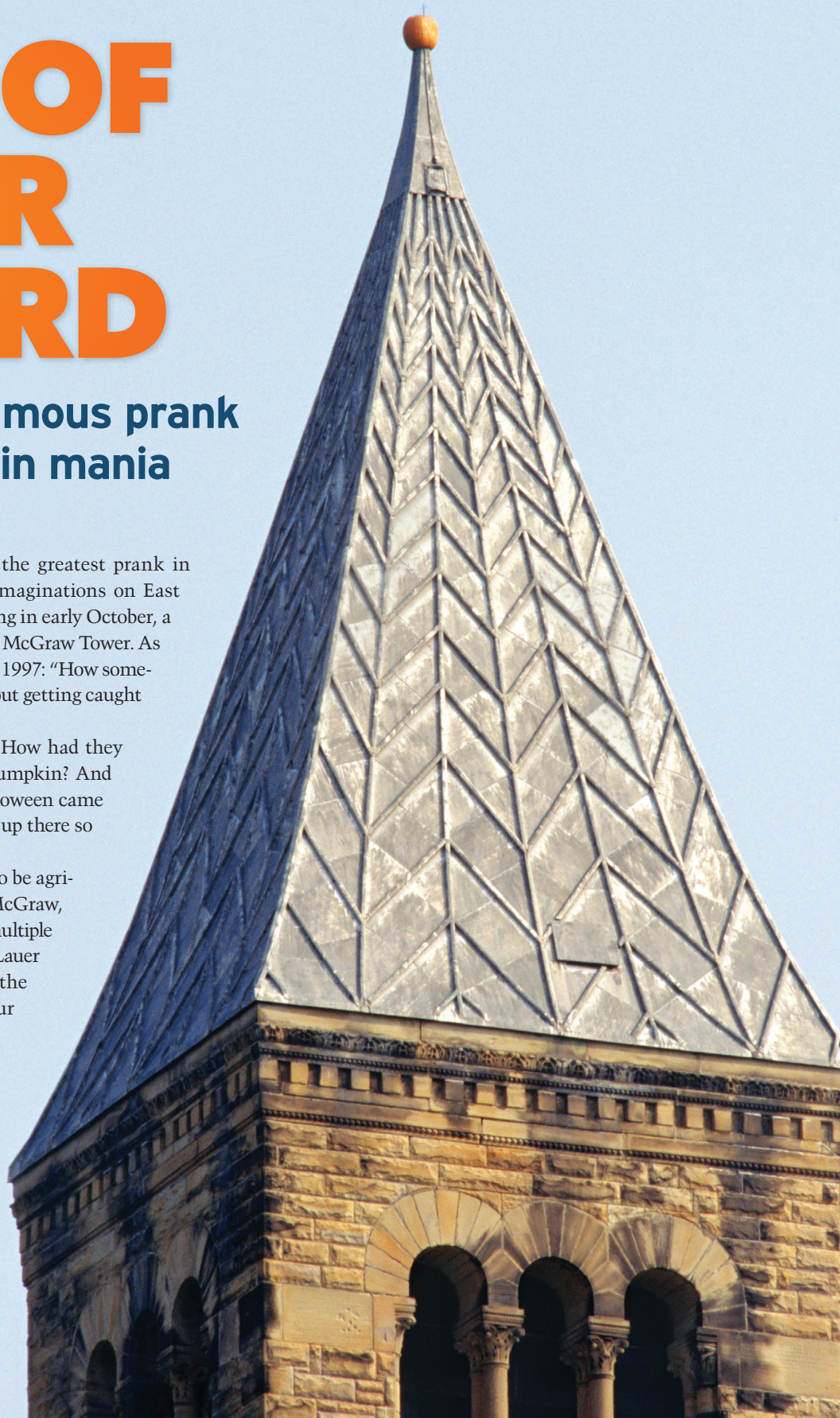
## How a now-infamous prank sparked pumpkin mania

**T**wenty years ago this fall, the greatest prank in Cornell history captured imaginations on East Hill and beyond: one morning in early October, a pumpkin mysteriously appeared atop McGraw Tower. As CAM noted in November/December 1997: “How someone managed to put it up there without getting caught (or killed) is a mystery.”

Who had perpetrated the prank? How had they gotten away with it? Was it a real pumpkin? And if so—as the weeks passed, and Halloween came and went—how could the thing stay up there so long without rotting?

As the gourd—a *Cucurbita pepo*, to be agriculturally precise—persisted atop McGraw, pumpkin mania spread. There were multiple stories in the *New York Times*; Matt Lauer interviewed the editor-in-chief of the *Daily Sun* on the “Today” show. Four physics majors sampled the vegetable using a remote-controlled balloon. A Pumpkin Watch website offered a live video stream. When ABC’s “World News Tonight” came calling, the Glee Club and Chorus sang the Alma Mater with a new lyric:

*Far above Cayuga’s waters,  
with its waves of blue,  
Stands our noble orange  
pumpkin, glorious to view. >*



## Conundrum at Cornell: Pumpkin's Lofty Perch

By The New York Times  
ITHACA, N.Y., Oct. 26 — At this point in the fall semester, with mid-term exams under way, students at Cornell University typically buckle down in the library to ponder the meaning of everything from Picasso's "Guernica" to Einstein's theory of relativity.

But with Halloween just around the corner, students here are pondering a different problem: how did an

### Woman, By a Fire

A 72-year-old woman was killed by a fire in a apartment building in the West Village, N.Y. The woman was not released by the police. She was hit at the intersection of 10th Street and Fifth Avenue at 5 P.M. when a fire truck backed up after



The University—which had fenced off the tower's base, lest the gourd plummet at terminal velocity and bean someone on the head—decreed in mid-March that it was time for the pumpkin to come down. A gala ceremony was planned, complete with pumpkin T-shirts and pumpkin ice cream. Cornell's provost was scheduled to pluck the vegetal celebrity off the spire in a crane-hoisted basket when fate intervened: due either to a gust of wind or human error, the pumpkin was knocked off during a test run and landed two stories below, on scaffolding erected for the McGraw Tower renovation. But thanks to the Ithaca winter, the pumpkin was frozen solid and—though a funky shade of yellow and resembling a melted candle—relatively unscathed. The verdict: it was indeed a pumpkin, carved to fit on the spire; it endured because it had been freeze-dried by the elements.

And what of the mystery of who had done it—and how? A couple of years later, *Sun* editor-in-chief Farhad Manjoo '00 was contacted by an informant who claimed to know the answers—and had enough details to make a plausible case.

As Manjoo reported in CAM in September/October 2000, this Deep Throat confirmed the long-held suspicion that the perpetrators were local climbing aficionados. The informant described how one of them—Manjoo code-named him "Kennedy"—went inside the tower and hid until the chimesmasters left, then disabled the door locks with duct tape. Kennedy and two confederates ("Reagan" and "Nixon") snuck in at midnight, armed with wire cutters, rope, and the pre-cored pumpkin. After taking the stairs to the top, they free-climbed using the interior beams, then cut the padlock on the wire grating that blocked off the roof. Kennedy



### ORANGE YOU GLAD:

The clocktower pumpkin became a phenomenon on campus and beyond, prompting (clockwise from left) Halloween costumes, a chorus of hectoring jack-o'-lanterns, and stories in the *New York Times*. Above: The desiccated gourd after retrieval; a portion of its remains are currently stored in the psychology department (where it once went on cheeky display as part of Cornell's famed brain collection).

**And what of the mystery of who had done it—and how? A couple of years later, *Sun* editor-in-chief Farhad Manjoo '00 was contacted by an informant who claimed to know the answers.**

climbed up to the access hatch, went outside, and scaled the roof tiles; he hauled the pumpkin up on the rope, speared it atop the spire, and climbed down. "When he got back inside," Manjoo wrote, "they laughed for fifteen minutes, then went for a beer."

Manjoo's informant never disclosed the identities of this wily, agile trio—and though their deed lives in legend, they've never publicly claimed credit. "After the pumpkin became a national sensation," Manjoo explained, "they got scared of getting into deep trouble." ■

—Beth Saulnier

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# SEA CHANGE

Artist Rebecca Rutstein '93 creates work inspired by the ocean floor and other geologic features



**R**ebecca Rutstein '93 majored in fine arts in the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning—but it was an intro geology class that shaped her career. On a whim, she took a course for non-science majors—the proverbial “rocks for jocks”—that entailed field trips to Ithaca-area gorges and state parks to study how their geologic features had formed. “It stuck with me, and it ended up weaving itself into my work many years later,” the Philadelphia-based painter and sculptor says. “It changed the trajectory of my art—and it really changed my life.”

Nearly a decade after graduation, Rutstein was leafing through her old geology textbook when she came across diagrams depicting plate tectonics. “I was taken by this idea that forces underneath the surface were causing all this eruption and upheaval above,” she says. “It resonated for me as a metaphor of experiences I was having in my own relationships. I put one of these diagrams into my painting,

and from there, topographic maps. That was the beginning of this intersection between the two.”

Rutstein has since traveled to the Canadian Rockies, Iceland, and the Big Island of Hawaii to produce work inspired by their striking geologic formations. More recently, she has served as an artist in residence on sea voyages to map the ocean floor in

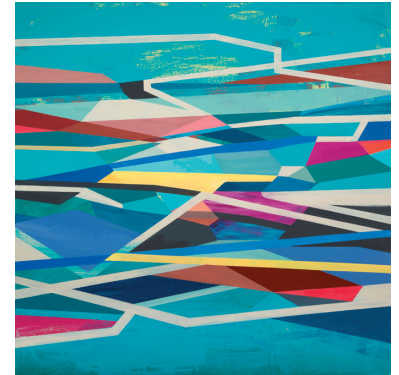
**‘I was taken by this idea that forces underneath the surface were causing all this eruption and upheaval above,’ Rutstein says. ‘It resonated for me as a metaphor of experiences I was having in my own relationships.’**

high resolution, including a trip from the Galápagos Islands to San Diego and another from Vietnam to Guam. As the *Huffington Post* put it in 2013, Rutstein “creates self-made abstractions of lands that never were, tracking the parallels





**BACK TO NATURE:** Rutstein's work includes (clockwise from left) *Sky Terrain*, a sculpture on permanent display at Temple University; the painting *Running in Place*; her 2013 "Deep Rift" exhibition at a Philadelphia gallery; and the painting *Galápagos IV*. Opposite page: Rutstein in her studio.



between geographical forms and the human experience . . . The artist aligns the ups and downs of nature's forms with the eternal fluctuations of life and love."

The ocean voyages themselves have become a passion: Rutstein has become fascinated by the concept that so much of the Earth's surface remains unexplored. "Scientists have only mapped 5 to 10 percent of the ocean floor in high resolution," she says. "We know more about the surface of Mars." The trips have also influenced her creative process: sailing in the eastern Pacific in 2015, she was working on a painting as the vessel was rocked by severe weather. "I thought, How can I go with the flow rather than fight this?" she recalls. "I started pouring paint and letting the ship's motion dictate its movement." She has continued to use the poured-paint technique in her Philadelphia studio. "It's very process-oriented," says Rutstein, who also holds an MFA from Penn. "I can't control what's going to happen."

Late last summer, about a dozen of Rutstein's paintings were on display on the Hill in "Convergence," a show in Sibley Hall. She's had numerous other solo exhibitions, mainly in Pennsylvania galleries, and has participated in group shows in such places as the New York Hall of Science, the State Museum of Pennsylvania, and the annual Art Miami fair. Her work is in the collections of institutions like Temple University—which has her color-shifting, light-and-metal sculpture *Sky Terrain* on permanent display—and Johns Hopkins Hospital, and in 2008, she had a year-long exhibition of paintings at the Philadelphia Airport.

Rutstein is tentatively scheduled to go on another sea voyage in 2018, traveling with a science team on a research vessel off the coast of California. Her hope is to view the deep ocean floor firsthand by going down in a mini-sub to observe such phenomena as hydrothermal vent systems and bioluminescence. "I just want to get back out to sea," she says. "It's this weird pull that I would never have imagined." ■

— L. P. Drew



# PICTURE THIS

Producer Dan Cohen '05 is one of the creative minds behind hot genre fare like "Stranger Things" and *Arrival*



**ON THE RED CARPET:** Cohen at the premiere of the Netflix hit "Stranger Things" in summer 2016

**H**ollywood producer Dan Cohen '05 looks back fondly on his first job, which he calls excellent training for his current career.

Movie usher? Video store clerk? On-set gofer? Knife salesman.

As a high schooler in San Diego, Cohen repped a line of well-crafted, American-made cutlery—and he did pretty well. "The guy who trained us would joke, 'You're going to walk into a stranger's house with knives,'" the former psychology major recalls with a laugh, "'and walk out with money.'" He says that a main reason his sales pitch was so effective is that, well, they were really good knives—so he was exhorting his customers to buy something that he valued himself. "I don't think my job now is that much different," he observes, chatting with CAM during a visit to campus last spring. "I have to convince people to adapt something, direct something, buy a project, renew an option, give us the rights. It's about salesmanship to a certain extent, paired with believing in something."

A vice president with the production company 21 Laps Entertainment, Cohen was a driving force behind last year's biggest streaming sensation: Netflix's Emmy-winning sci-fi horror series "Stranger Things," whose much-anticipated second season was released on October 27, just in time for Halloween. Among other credits, Cohen executive produced *Arrival*, the 2017 Best Picture-nominated sci-fi drama starring Amy Adams, and co-produced *The Spectacular Now*, a critically acclaimed indie coming-of-age tale from 2013. He's got numerous projects in the works, including *Kin*, a sci-fi thriller starring James Franco; the road movie *Kodachrome* (about a family trip to the last remaining lab to develop the color film) with Elizabeth Olsen and Ed Harris; and a big-screen adaptation of the dystopian young-adult novel *The Darkest Minds*.

So what does a Hollywood producer do? According to Cohen, "The short answer is finding, chasing, developing, and believing in material—whether it's a short film, a book, or a rough draft of a screenplay." For *Kin*, for example, he fell in love with



**SCREEN SHOTS:** The young stars of “Stranger Things” (left). Below: Amy Adams in the sci-fi drama *Arrival*.



a 2014 short called *Bag Man*, about a twelve-year-old boy from Harlem who skips school to travel Upstate with a mysterious, bulky piece of luggage whose contents aren’t revealed until the final moments. The filmmakers envisioned expanding it into a feature, so Cohen found a writer and helped develop the screenplay. “Then we cast it with actors, got the money in place to make the film, and I was day-to-day on the set, from preproduction through production—meaning figuring out the locations that you’re going to shoot, making sure everyone’s schedule syncs up, looking at the weather to make sure we’re outside when it’s good and that we have cover sets in case it rains.”

When Cohen came back to the Hill last April, for the first time since his graduation, it was a bit of a full-circle return to his cinematic roots. In addition to giving a career-guidance talk to students in a packed Goldwin Smith lecture hall, he introduced a screening of *The Spectacular Now* at Cornell Cinema—where, once upon a time, he sold tickets, wrangled film reels, and viewed movies (both classic and current) that shaped his professional path. “I had always gravitated toward independent film, and the movies that came out while I was in college, while I was figuring out what I wanted to do, have an especially important place for me,” he says. “*Donnie Darko*, *Lost in Translation*, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, *Collateral*—those are some of the domestic films that really left an imprint. In this

moment of not being sure what I wanted to do, these great films I was seeing helped convince me that there was something for me to do [in making movies].”

As a sophomore, Cohen took a course (taught by then-grad student Nick Davis, PhD ’05, now a professor at Northwestern) that entailed studying a dozen films over the course of the semester. “That’s where I was able to really see how films could have multiple interpretations, extra layers, and rewatchability,”

**‘The movies that came out while I was in college, while I was figuring out what I wanted to do, have an especially important place for me.’**

he says. “We covered the gamut of genre, scope, period, and language. We watched *The Matrix*, *Boyz in the Hood*, *Daughters of the Dust*, *A Woman Under the Influence*. It blew my mind, and that kind of set me off.” Senior year, with his sights set on a career in screenwriting, he created an independent study course, advised by Davis, in which he worked on a screenplay and analyzed movies from multiple angles—for example, studying the novel, script, and film of *Ordinary People*. After graduation, he moved to L.A. aiming to break into the business. “I spent six months writing, and I always say waiting too—because that was my everyday. I would write and then wait tables. And I actually enjoyed it, but after a period of time I just wasn’t loving the writing part anymore.”

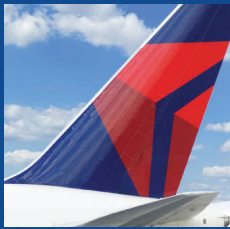
He got a job as an assistant at a talent management firm, eventually shifting to a production company; in 2010, he joined 21 Laps, headed by Shawn Levy, a prolific director and producer whose credits include the *Night at the Museum* series. Since then—as the *Hollywood Reporter* put it when it named Cohen to its “35 under 35” list of emerging industry leaders in 2014—he “has garnered a strong reputation for bridging the indie and commercial sectors by matching up-and-coming directors >



**STAR TURN:** In a well-attended talk in Goldwin Smith last spring, Cohen told current students about his career path from the Hill to Hollywood.

PHOTOS: STRANGER THINGS, NETFLIX; ARRIVAL, PARAMOUNT; COHEN, JASON KOSKI/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP

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with career-making projects.”

Not the least of those has been “Stranger Things,” which became a cultural darling when it debuted last year—getting rave reviews and spawning innumerable Halloween costumes,

**Cohen’s all-time favorite movie is *Breaking Away*, the 1979 picture about working-class friends in a college town.**

including one sported by comedian Amy Schumer that went viral. Set in a small Indiana town in the Eighties (and featuring Winona Ryder, a star of that decade), it centers on the search for a missing boy who has been snatched into a monster-filled alternate dimension. Cohen, who says the pilot script “might be the best thing I’ve ever read,” chalks up its broad appeal in part to how the story resonated with various ages and evoked classic films of the era. “The characters are so well rounded and real,” he says. “They’re like the flawed adults in *Poltergeist* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, who are disbelieving of the supernatural and have their own vices, yet you love them. The teens are grappling with their sexuality and dealing with real monsters, like in *A Nightmare on Elm Street* or *Halloween*. And the kids are like those in *Stand by Me* or *The Goonies*; it’s a coming-of-age, but fun, and they’re dealing with big themes of friendship and being outcasts.”

Cohen’s all-time favorite movie is *Breaking Away*, the 1979 bicycle-racing picture about working-class friends in an Indiana college town, pondering their futures after high school graduation. (The first film he ever saw in the theater: *101 Dalmatians*.) Asked if he ever feels star-struck by Hollywood glamor, Cohen says it still happens—though not so much when he meets bold-faced names as when he encounters actors and filmmakers whose work touched him growing up. “Maybe the most star-struck I’ve ever been is when I met Alan Ruck, who played Cameron Frye in *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off*,” he says. “That guy shaped my childhood as much as anybody else.” ■

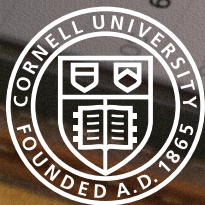
— Kitty Kemp



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# HOSPITALITY SWEET

CU researcher Stephani Robson '88, MS '99, PhD '10, weighs in on trends in the restaurant and hotel industries



**TRAVEL AND LEISURE:** Stephani Robson '88, MS '99, PhD '10, in the Statler's Regent Lounge. Below: The Ithaca Marriott's book-lined lobby, which she helped design.

"My students laugh at me," Hotel school senior lecturer Stephani Robson '88, MS '99, PhD '10, says with a smile, "because I always tell them the correct answer to any question is, 'It depends.'" An expert in environmental psychology—focusing on the intersection between design and behavior in hotels and restaurants—Robson studies myriad topics relating to hospitality, an industry in which expectations vary widely according to factors like price, clientele, and location.

The Canadian-born Robson came to the hospitality world via an unlikely route: she ran out of money while bumming around Europe after high school, and rather than bailing her out, her parents told her to get a job; she wound up working in the kitchen of a Welsh summer camp and loved it. After graduating from the Hotel school she worked for a Toronto firm designing commercial kitchens, and in 1993 was recruited back to the Hill to teach that subject. She earned her grad degrees—an MS in design and environmental analysis from Human Ecology and a PhD from the Hotel school, concentrating on consumer behavior in restaurants—while teaching full time.

In addition to teaching courses in restaurant design and development, Robson consults for industry. Visitors to Ithaca's new downtown Marriott have her to thank for its book-filled lobby: she recommended an academic-themed atmosphere to appeal to the hotel's primary market, travelers headed to Cornell or Ithaca College. >



PHOTOS: ROBSON, THOMAS HOEBBEL, MARRIOTT, PROVIDED



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**TIGHT SQUEEZE:** Robson says that to increase revenue, restaurants are packing tables closer together.

### **You've also done work on restaurant seating preferences. Where do we like to sit?**

Generally, up against something. Humans don't have very good peripheral vision and we don't like people approaching us from behind. We like to be up against walls or in corners—that's why everybody loves booths. The only time you'll pick something that's not anchored in that way is if you have no choice, or if you want to be seen. Also, in our culture, space is status. If you're on a date, you want a table in the window or a corner booth because it's the status location. The middle tables are low-status—unless it's a really famous restaurant, then it's status just to get in.

### **If we know that people prefer booths or window tables, why is it that sometimes you walk into a mostly empty restaurant and the hostess seats you in the middle of the room?**

They're balancing the servers' workload. If you seat too many people in one station, they can't

provide good service. If I just sat a party of four in that station, I'm not going to sit another six there. That's why when you ask for a different table, sometimes they go "ugh." It's not that the hostess doesn't love you, it's that they're afraid that the server won't be able to provide good service, you won't be happy, and you're going to say bad things on Yelp.

### **If I'm happy with my table, am I going to spend more?**

The research I've done has suggested yes. The jury is still out because I haven't tested it in all kinds of restaurants, but I've found that window tables and booths tend to generate a higher average check. But there's another element: if I'm a restaurant and I'm waiting for your table, I want you to leave. That's why large parties—which take the longest—are often seated at the worst tables; if I need those seats back, I'm going to put them in the least desirable part of the restaurant, to turn those tables and get another party in. Restaurants also use music strategically. If they want to turn their tables, they play faster music.

### **You've also done research on the hotel industry. Could you talk about your work on how people surf hotel websites?**

**'Restaurants don't sell food, they rent space: the more you buy, the more space we can afford to give you. That's why in a fancy restaurant you have lots of room, but in an inexpensive one you're packed in.'**

### **Your work on the space between restaurant tables—the subject of your PhD dissertation—has gotten a fair amount of press. Is packing more people in a trend?**

It's not a trend from a design perspective; it's a survival mechanism. Restaurants have a slender profit margin, so they're going to use every edge to increase profits. Restaurants don't sell food, they rent space: the more you buy, the more space we can afford to give you. That's why in a fancy restaurant you have lots of room, but in an inexpensive one you're packed in. In my study, I found that people prefer a distance of between twelve to sixteen inches between tables along a banquette. But from a restaurant operator's perspective, that's not great; at that distance, you may have lost some space that you could squeeze another table into.

### **To the layperson, the idea that restaurants sell space sounds crazy. Wouldn't most people say they go to a restaurant for the food?**


That is the reason you're going, but the restaurant owner wants to maximize the revenue from you while you're there. For a takeout place like McDonald's, most of the revenue comes from people who buy food and leave. But if you're a sit-down restaurant, your inventory is the seats and the time people spend in them; the food is what brings people in and what they pay for. If my restaurant is open ten hours a day and there are ten seats, that's 100 seat-hours. If I can turn your table quickly, or if I keep you there longer and you spend more money, that's going to increase my revenue per seat-hour.

### **What about places like Starbucks, where some people sit all day sipping one cup of coffee?**


Starbucks makes a lot of their money on things that leave the store—takeout coffee, products like beans or grounds. So they're happy to have you sit all day using the free wifi, because you are a lure to others. Humans are herd animals; we like to go where other people are.

My colleague at Penn State, Breffni Noone [PhD '04], and I wanted to see what role photos play in hotel choice, so we had people choose hotels online and used eye tracking to see exactly what they looked at. We found that pictures, unsurprisingly, are enormously important. But we also found that people will look at pictures—like of conference rooms—that have nothing to do with their actual travel experience. At a low price, people look at pictures for reassurance. At a high price, they look at them to confirm it's worth the money. >






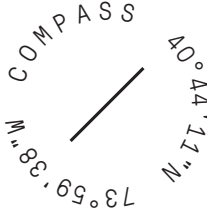
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**COZY QUARTERS:** A room in a "pod" hotel

### Is the new micro-sized "pod" hotel a viable option?

Absolutely. I stayed in one in Paris and loved it. The rooms are modular, finished in the factory. They have everything you need, with a window and a king-size bed. They're cleverly designed, quirky, and fun, and everything is controlled by an iPad. The hotels put money into the public spaces—you can get something to eat and drink and interact with people. The wifi is blazingly fast. From the owner's perspective, these hotels are faster and cheaper to build and you end up with more rooms per square foot, so you can generate more revenue.

### Another trend you've talked about is that hotels are getting rid of minibars. Why is that?

Minibars are expensive. They use energy and take up space. The staff has to constantly check to make sure you paid for what you took, clean them, and keep them stocked. If you get charged for something you didn't take, you get upset. So one trend is to have a pantry downstairs where you can buy what you want—and if I'm a Courtyard by Marriott, that's fine. But if I'm a Four Seasons, that's not appropriate. So in some high-end hotels, we're seeing a small pantry on every floor. It has a coffeemaker, a fridge with sodas, a big basket of cookies and pastries; in the evening they put out cheese, crackers, and whatnot, and guests take what they want.

### What about the trend toward getting rid of desks in hotel rooms?

It's a generational thing. Today's worker doesn't use the desk. And if you've got 400 rooms and buying a desk is \$500, to say nothing of the chair, that's a \$200,000 investment. If we can eliminate that and give you a smaller surface next to the bed where there's a plug, why have a desk? If people want to work at a communal table in the lobby and have other people around them, that's where you should put your money as the developer. Then you can shrink the rooms a bit and have less furniture, and maybe that translates into a lower rate for the guest.

## Are alarm clocks also disappearing from hotel rooms?

Yes, because everybody's using their phones. We're also now seeing people using their phones as their room key. In ten years, we're going to laugh at the thought that you didn't do everything on your phone.

## What about beds? It seems like there's an arms race to provide the best mattress.

That started twenty years ago with Westin's "Heavenly Bed." They put money into good mattresses, and everyone else thought they had to have that too. Today, when your room has a bad bed, you're more likely to say so on TripAdvisor. Online reviews have changed so much about our business, whether it's restaurants or hotels, because there is a much larger audience for complaints—which means the stakes are much higher.

## How are hotel bathrooms changing?

The bathtub is going away in most hotels, because most Americans shower. It depends on your target customer. If you get a lot of people from Asia or families, you'll keep the bathtub. If you get business travelers, they take showers. It's also easier to clean a shower stall, and there are fewer injuries because attendants aren't on their hands and knees.

## Do you have any particular hotel room pet peeves?

The bathrooms seem to be skimping on towel hooks. They're driving me nuts and I tweet about it all the time. In theory, two people could stay in a king room, but there's only one hook. So where do you put the second towel? You're telling us to save our towels—don't give me a hook where the towel hangs there and stays wet all day. Give me a proper one where I can stretch it out. Same thing at the sink. They give you rolled up towels and there's no place to hang them.

## So why aren't there more hooks?

It's the owner saying, "We need to get this room built for \$35,000, and we've got to have a great bed, a good showerhead, good lighting, a top-notch television." So what gets cut are the little things. "People aren't using the clock radio, so we won't have it. Let's make the bathroom look great, but can we save \$50 a room on hooks." They think they'll save money—but what they're really doing is making me unhappy. ■

—Beth Saulnier

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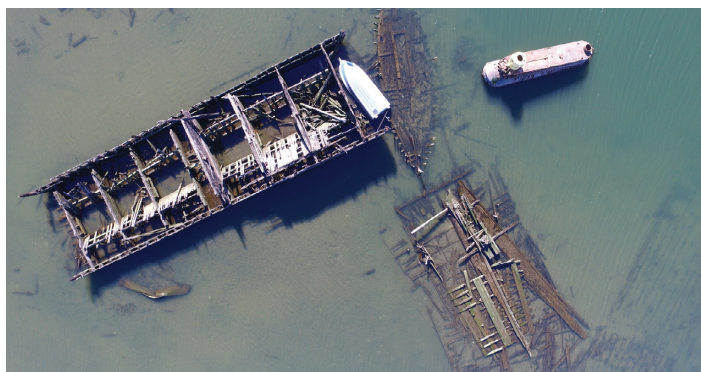
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# BIRD'S EYE VIEWS

A man of many interests, AAP professor Tom Campanella, MA '91, is chronicling the history of New York City's parks—and pursuing his passion for drone photography



**AS THE CROW FLIES:** Campanella (right) displayed some of his drone photography in an exhibit in West Sibley Hall last spring, including (counter-clockwise from above) a view of Brooklyn and Lower Manhattan, a chimney at the old Ithaca Gun Factory site, and a shipwreck in Coney Island Creek.



City and regional planning professor Tom Campanella, MA '91, leads what he calls a “triangulated life.” He has a home in Ithaca, where he teaches; in Brooklyn, where he grew up; and in Nanjing, China, where his wife works. Campanella’s professional interests are equally widespread. He’s part historian, part urbanist, and part naturalist—boasting a résumé with such lines as author, academic, essayist, U.S. Forest Service firefighter, and licensed helicopter pilot. “I’m interested in a lot of things,” says Campanella, director of Cornell’s undergraduate urban studies program. “Somehow it all ties together, but I’m not quite sure how.”

Campanella’s current gigs include serving as historian-in-residence for the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, a volunteer position he took on in 2016. His >




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**DAIRY KING:** Campanella inspects his family's seventy-five-year-old cheese wheel fragment, the subject of a *New York Times* essay.

main task is to produce or rewrite the informational signage for every park in the city—more than 900 signs in all—and to create an official guidebook. Cornell students are doing much of the research, earning academic credit through an independent study class that Campanella conceived. “They’ve discovered things that even the people in the parks department had no idea about,” he says—citing, for example, the fact that a playground in Brighton Beach stands on the site of a bygone vaudeville theatre.

While getting his undergraduate degree in environmental studies at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Campanella spent summers working as a wilderness firefighter in the western U.S. and Alaska. As a grad student on the Hill, he studied landscape architecture, then earned a PhD in urban studies and planning from MIT. He joined the Cornell faculty in 2013 and currently teaches courses on urban design, site planning, and the history of urban development; he will spend the coming spring semester in Italy with the AAP Cornell in Rome program, leading a workshop on immigrant communities in the city. His research interests comprise many aspects of the “built environment,” a social science term for the man-made spaces in which humans live and work. “He’s very dogged and resourceful in finding out information that’s much deeper than it appears

on the surface,” says landscape architecture professor Leonard Mirin—one of Campanella’s grad professors, now a faculty colleague—who praises his former student for “the scope, variety, and depth” of his work.

As an essayist, Campanella has written for academic publications as well as mainstream media like the *Wall Street Journal*, *Wired*, and the *New York Times*—including a July 2016 *Times* piece about a wheel of cheese that has been in his family for three-quarters of a century. “We mark ourselves by what we choose of our past to shield from the churn of change,” he wrote. “Much of this, whether an old building or historic landscape, is lasting and durable by definition. That something as soft and perishable as cheese should make it across seventy-five years of time and space, outlasting brick and mortar—indeed, much of the city—is beyond remarkable. But is a cheese from the age of steam still recognizably cheese?”

Campanella is also the author of several books including *Republic of Shade*, a history of the American elm tree (the subject of his MIT dissertation), and *The Concrete Dragon*, which traces China’s evolution from a rural to an urban society. *Brooklyn: A Secret History*, a chronicle of the borough’s failed or forgotten civic plans, is due out in fall 2018. He’s currently doing research for a book on two Cornell-educated landscape architects, Gilmore Clarke 1913 and Michael Rapuano 1927, who helped shape the New York metropolitan area. Campanella’s first book—2001’s *Cities from the Sky*, a collection of vintage aerial photos taken from the Twenties to the Sixties—reflects his long-held love of observing urban landscapes from a bird’s-eye perspective. He traces that interest to a childhood trip to the top of the Empire State Building, where he got his first panoramic view of New York City. Says Campanella: “There’s an amazing amount of detail and richness in our everyday environment that’s revealed with altitude.”

In his research, Campanella often uses aerial photography to gain a more comprehensive perspective, efforts that have been

**‘There’s an amazing amount of detail and richness in our everyday environment that’s revealed with altitude,’ says Campanella, who has loved observing urban landscapes from above since a childhood trip to the top of the Empire State Building.**

greatly facilitated by the advent of drone technology. Drones, he says, can access what he calls the “sweet spot”—between a limited ground-level view and the less detailed imagery captured by satellites—that was previously attainable only by plane or helicopter, at prohibitive cost. “It’s an explosion of possibility,” says Campanella, who mounted a small exhibit of his drone photography in West Sibley Hall last spring. He acknowledges, though, that drones have their share of headaches—including a negative public image and the occasional mechanical snafu. “My first drone,” he laments, “is at the bottom of Cayuga Lake.” ■

—Alexandra Bond '12



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# PERSONAL HISTORY

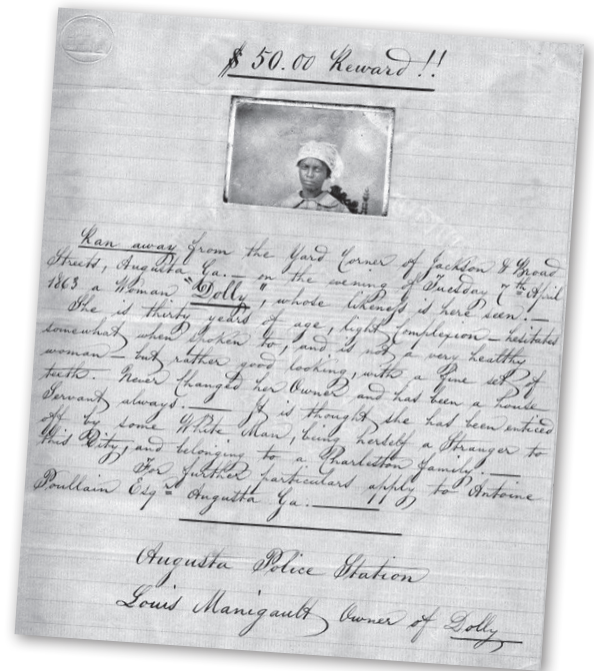
Freedom on the Move project illuminates the lives of slaves through 'runaway' ads

**T**homas Jefferson, the Founding Father who helped draft the Declaration of Independence, also authored this notice in a Virginia newspaper: "Run away from the subscriber in Albermarle, a mulatto slave called Sandy, about 35 years of age, his stature is rather low, inclining to corpulence, and his complexion is light..." The ad goes on to speculate on the fugitive's intentions; mentions his skills, drinking habits, and tools; and offers a substantial reward for his capture and return.

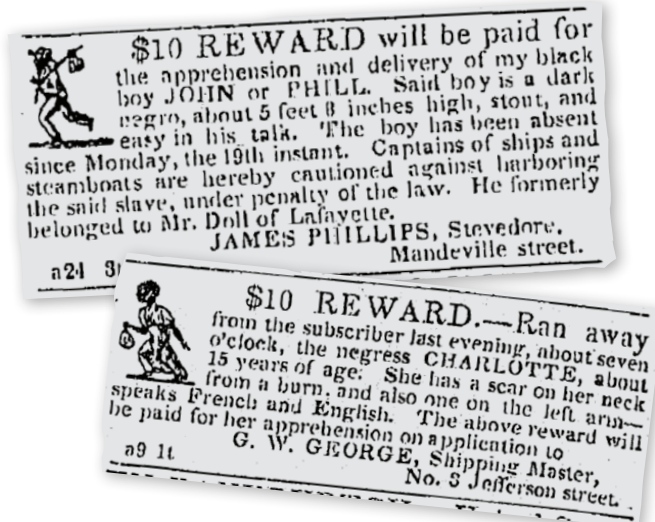
It's a bitter irony of history: due to a lack of formal records of births, marriages, and deaths, few biographical details are known about the millions of people who were enslaved in America—but among the few surviving sources of information are the many newspaper advertisements aimed at recapturing those who ran away. "For slaves, escaping was a form of resistance," says history professor Edward Baptist. "The ads are great sources of study about people who were deliberately excluded from any kind of record-keeping." Baptist is co-director of Freedom on the Move, a project dedicated to collecting up to 200,000 of the ads, which primarily ran in Southern newspapers. The effort, which recently received a \$350,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a collaboration between the history department, the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER), the University Library, and colleagues at the University of Alabama (including Joshua Rothman '94, chair of its history department) and at the University of New Orleans.

The project was launched two years ago with an NEH start-up grant of \$60,000, which allowed it to create an electronic repository of 25,000 ads; the additional funding will support the development of a searchable database for researchers and the general public, which will also serve as a teaching tool for schoolchildren and college students. "Every additional fragment of evidence helps us construct a fuller, more nuanced narrative about the lives and struggles of enslaved people," says Russell Rickford, a Cornell professor who specializes in African American social and political history.

Because many of the ads employed antiquated typefaces or script, optical character recognition (OCR) software can't scan them with perfect accuracy. So the researchers are taking a



**INHUMANITY, IN PRINT:** Samples of newspaper ads and a written notice offering rewards for people who had escaped slavery in the South.



**'Every additional fragment of evidence helps us construct a fuller, more nuanced narrative about the lives and struggles of enslaved people,' says Professor Russell Rickford, who specializes in African American social and political history.**

crowd-sourced approach: they're having volunteers—as well as students in history classes at Cornell and elsewhere—review the ads and check each one's OCR scan for accuracy, then answer a series of demographic questions about the individual described. The process has proved to have a hidden benefit: participants have reported that it gave them a more personal connection to the history of slavery in America than they could glean from a textbook or lecture. "We always assumed human transcription would be necessary," Baptist says. "But now we understand that it is one of the most pedagogically important parts of the process, because it forces readers to think about each word." ■

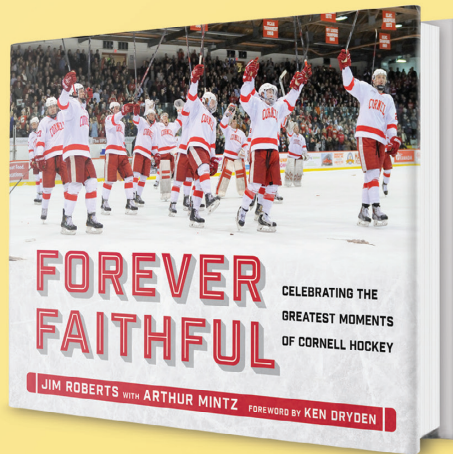
— Franklin Crawford



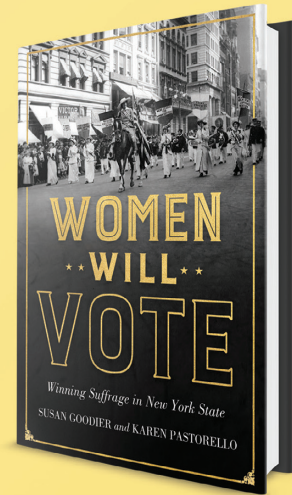
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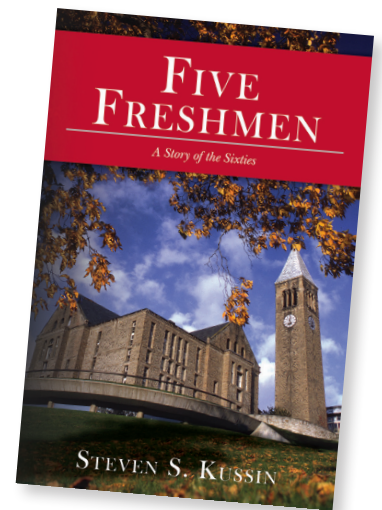
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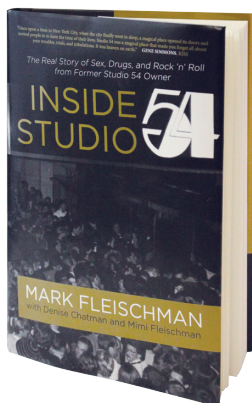


This “Story of the Sixties” chronicles the lives of five Cornell freshmen from totally different backgrounds and follows them from orientation to graduation during the most turbulent period in American college history as the clouds of the War in Vietnam gather over the campus.

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# New Releases



## Inside Studio 54 MARK FLEISCHMAN '61

In what *Kirkus* calls an “unfettered tell-all,” a former owner of Studio 54 gives readers a VIP pass into the famed Manhattan nightclub—offering celebrity-soaked tales of sex, drugs, and rock ‘n’ roll set against the backdrop of the post-Pill, pre-AIDs era. Fleischman, a restaurateur and hotelier, bought the club after its former owners went to jail for tax evasion. He reopened it in 1981—to a crowd of more than 10,000 eager to restart the party—and ran it for four years. As NPR put it in September, *Inside Studio 54* “is true to its title, taking us past the velvet rope, into the heat and sweat and coke and poppers of the dance floor where hundreds of bodies ground against each other, and into the dark alcoves and out-of-the-way balconies, where a slightly smaller number of bodies ground against each other with greater assiduousness.”

In the memoir, Fleischman chronicles his journey to becoming the owner of the iconic nightspot—beginning with his childhood on Long Island, when he’d watch his parents leave to go dancing and dreamed of one day operating his own club. After purchasing Studio 54, Fleischman embraced the mantra “Disco is Dead” and switched over to R&B and pop-oriented dance music, with themed nights for groups like preppies, LGBT people, and fashion models. He recalls entertaining such bold-faced names as Barbra Streisand, Mick Jagger, Robin Williams, Prince, and Madonna; after taping “Saturday Night Live,” the cast would dodge fans at the front door by climbing the ladder to the fire escape. It was a scene that could even make Michael Jackson star-struck: Fleischman describes the King of Pop staring in awe when Frank Sinatra and Jerry Lewis showed up for a Broadway cast party.

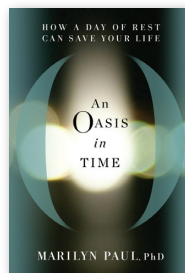
But Fleischman is frank about the era’s darker temptations: he’d often greet VIP guests “with a gold straw or a crisp rolled-up one hundred dollar bill” and invite them to sample the lines of cocaine on his desk. And inevitably, hosting the never-ending party took its toll. By his third year as owner, Fleischman admits, he was snorting cocaine every afternoon and taking Valium to fall sleep. A few months after Studio 54 closed, Fleischman entered rehab. He currently lives in Los Angeles, where he co-owns several Bar Method exercise studios. “I was thoroughly seduced by the idea of controlling the world’s most important nightclub,” Fleischman writes. “And I proceeded headlong and recklessly toward that end.”



## Heat Advisory

ALAN LOCKWOOD '65, MD '69

Much has been written about the environmental impact of climate change; here, a physician addresses its human consequences. Lockwood warns of a public health crisis due to increased risk of infectious disease, famine, violence, and other ills. “Just as conventional medicine struggles to deal with any severe medical problem,” Lockwood writes, “society needs as many strategies as possible to deal with climate change in order to minimize the health and environmental impacts that are so clearly on the horizon.”



## An Oasis in Time

MARILYN PAUL, MBA '78

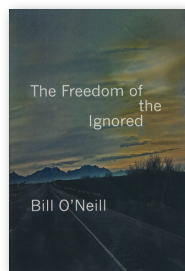
“Our passion for efficiency, effectiveness, and exertion has gone too far,” writes Paul, a consultant and life coach. “We live today in a unique era of possibility and productivity; we love getting things done, but we are burning ourselves out.” In a self-help guide, she argues in favor of slowing down, setting boundaries, and taking a weekly Sabbath—with or without any religious implications—that offers a break from work, social media, and other pressures. Paul, who holds a PhD in organizational behavior from Yale, is the author of *It’s Hard to Make a Difference When You Can’t Find Your Keys: The Seven-Step Path to Becoming Truly Organized*.



## The Marvelwood Magicians

DIANE ZAHLER '79

*Kirkus* praises Zahler’s book as a “hair raising, exhilarating, big-top mystery.” This novel for middle-grade readers follows eleven-year-old Mattie, a member of a family in which each person boasts a magical ability. But when they join Master Morogh’s Circus of Wonders, Mattie discovers that the ringmaster is stealing his performers’ talents, and she must make a difficult choice. Should she safeguard her skills as a mind-reader—even if it means losing her family?



## The Freedom of the Ignored

BILL O'NEILL '78

In his debut poetry collection, the New Mexico state senator ponders his personal relationship to politics. Informed by his two terms in office, the poems explore such topics as the diversity of personalities within the state capitol, the intensity of legislative sessions, and the challenges of governing in a time of intense political polarization. The Democrat describes debating a Republican colleague on a committee: *We persevere, we plod along, enveloped / in our own rhetoric / This duality of sides, smiling as we destroy each other*. The volume also includes O’Neill’s reflections on caring for his partner with multiple sclerosis and the time he revisited Ithaca in a dream.

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# Big Red Highlights

**WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD** After earning All-Academic honors from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association for her freshman season, **Brittany Steneke '20** had an impressive summer, winning a gold medal and setting a school record in the 100-meter hurdles during Canada's Summer Games in Winnipeg. Her finals time of 13.57 is nearly three-tenths of a second faster than that of previous record holder **Hannah Garrity '04**, and Steneke now holds four of the top six times in Cornell history. Earlier in the summer, she finished seventh in the 100-meter hurdles at the Junior Pan American Games with a time of 13.72.

**FOOTBALL** For only the second time in program history, Big Red football saw a team captain elected three times. After serving as a captain for his junior season in 2015, **Miles Norris '17** was tapped to lead the squad again in 2016, but suffered a leg injury in the first practice that sidelined him for the season. He spent the year rehabbing and serving as an intern in Cornell's financial affairs office and returned for the current season; he will graduate in 2018.

**FIELD HOCKEY** After closing out its previous season with four straight victories, the Big Red went on to win four more this fall—for a total winning streak of eight games, matching the school record set in 2008 and 2009. The biggest win for the current squad was a 3-2 decision over the University of Maine, which entered the game ranked 24th in the nation. **Kelly Johnson '18** (seen below in a different game) made a career-high 10 saves while **Krysten Mayers '18** scored the game-winning goal.



**FIELD WORK:** Goalie Kelly Johnson '18 makes a save in a home game against Columbia. On defense for the Big Red are Isabel Josephs '18 (left) and Sophie Graeff '19.

**WOMEN'S LACROSSE** Cornell was named the 2017 "merit squad" for Division I by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association, a distinction given to the team with the highest grade point average. The Big Red posted a team GPA of 3.65 while excelling on the field, reaching as high as seventh in national rankings and finishing with a 13-6 record, including a NCAA playoff win over Notre Dame. Eight Big Red players were named to the IWLC Academic Honor Roll and two were named Academic All-Ivy.

**MEN'S ROWING** Cornell was well represented at the 2017 World Rowing Under 23 Championships, held in Bulgaria in July. **Michael Grady '19**, **Finn Putnam '18**, and **Raymond Weeks '19** rowed for the U.S. men's eight boat that finished fourth, just three seconds shy of winning bronze. **Luke Sendelbach '19** competed in the lightweight pairs, finishing third in the B final to take ninth place, and **Doran Finley '21** rowed on the U.S. men's quadruple scull that finished 14th.

**WOMEN'S TRIATHLON** **Taylor Knibb '20** won the International Triathlon Union (ITU) World Junior Championship for the second straight year, pulling away from the field in the biking leg and then running five kilometers in 17:39 to win by 16 seconds in September's race in Rotterdam. Knibb, who runs cross country for the Big Red, also became the youngest podium finisher in an ITU World Triathlon open event when she finished second to the reigning senior world champion during a race in Edmonton. Classmate **Kyleigh Spearing '20** was 57th at the World Juniors after winning the 2017 USA Triathlon Junior Elite National Championships in July.

**MACCABIAH GAMES** A pair of Cornell athletes earned medals at the 2017 event, a multi-sport competition open to Israeli and Jewish athletes from around the world. **Jojo Fallas '17** won gold with Team USA's men's basketball squad, averaging four points per game over the team's five straight wins. Fallas, whose best outing came in a preliminary round win over Belarus when he scored 13 points, will play professionally in Israel this season after signing a contract with Ironi Ness Ziona in the Israeli Super League. **Rose Gorski '20** earned silver with the U.S. field hockey team, which beat Holland 3-2 in the semifinals before losing to Argentina 2-0.

## ALUMNI NEWS

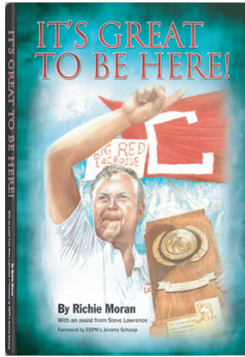
**WOMEN'S LACROSSE** Three recent graduates and an assistant coach heard their names called in the first-ever draft of the Women's Professional Lacrosse League. **Renee Poullott '17** was taken by the Upstate Pride (managed by Big Red head coach **Jenny Graap '86**). Cornell assistant coach Margaret Corzel will also play for the Pride. **Catherine Ellis '17** was selected by the New England Command and **Kristy Gilbert '17** by the Norfolk Flight. The league will formally begin play in summer 2018.

**FOOTBALL** For the 34th straight season, Cornell has a former player competing in the NFL. **J.C. Tretter '13** began the season as the starting center for the Cleveland Browns after playing various positions on the offensive line for the Green Bay Packers, who made him their fourth-round draft pick in 2013. Quarterback **Jeff Mathews '14** signed with the Toronto Argonauts in the Canadian Football League and started a game in September. And the Cincinnati Bengals' **Bill Lazor '94** received an unexpected promotion from quarterbacks coach to interim offensive coordinator. Lazor previously served as offensive coordinator of the Miami Dolphins as well as at the University of Virginia and SUNY Buffalo.

**WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD** **Artie Smith '96** was named head coach of the Cornell team following Rich Bowman's announcement that he would step back to an assistant's role after seven years. Bowman served as assistant for 29 years before becoming head coach in 2010. Smith has been the Big Red's distance coach for 18 years and will remain as head coach of women's cross country, a post he has held since 2011.

**MEN'S ROWING** **Drew Tennant '04** has returned to the Big Red crew program as an assistant coach for the men's heavyweight team after serving as a volunteer coach from 2010 to 2012. His previous experience includes serving as head coach and boat-house manager for Ithaca's Cascadilla Boat Club.

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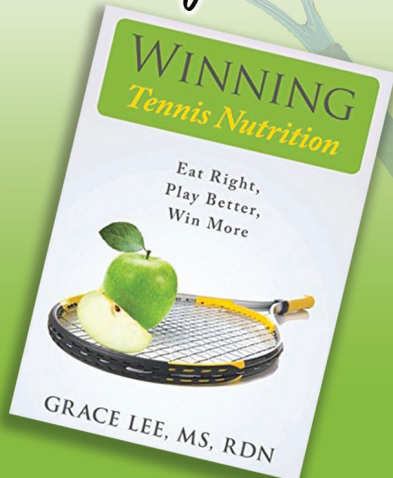
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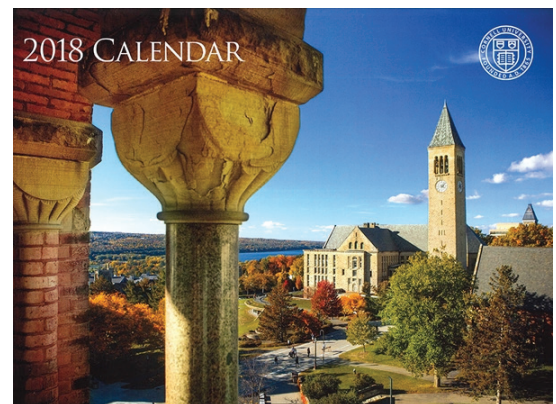
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BETTER THAN THE AVERAGE

# BEAR

What does it take to be Touchdown?

BY BETH SAULNIER







**FURRY FRIENDS:** Big Red Bears members (from left) Rachel Zheng '18, Dan Stern '18, and Kayla Cleggett '20 with Touchdown, clad in his Hawaiian shirt

**K**ayla Cleggett '20 stands just five feet tall, but when she puts on the Touchdown suit, she's a force to be reckoned with. It's Friday afternoon in mid-September, and Cleggett is sauntering around Ho Plaza, auditioning to be an East Hill icon. Aiming to join the student club known as the Big Red Bears, Cleggett has donned the costume inside Willard Straight Hall and been escorted outside by vice president Dan Stern '18—who's there both to evaluate her performance and to make sure that she doesn't tumble down the front steps. "There's something we call the 'bear walk,' which is basically how big your movements are," Stern explains. "We like to see how much swagger they can walk with, how active they are, how much emotion they show."

PHOTOS: THOMAS HOEBBEL

Once out on the plaza, the normally introverted CALS student is transformed: she struts about with ursine confidence, high-fiving strangers. She waves to passers-by, and several people stop for hugs or selfies. Never mind that Cleggett can barely see—as she explains later, the trick is to sneak peeks through the eyes and mouth—and that the oversized suit, built to accommodate Bears of all dimensions, is bunching at the ankles, Cleggett embodies Cornell's mascot in all his furry, friendly glory. "It was a lot more fun than I thought it would be," she says afterward. "I got to interact with people that I otherwise would not have spoken to—not that I actually *spoke* to them. Whether it was a jock, a toddler, or a visiting prospective student, it was an opportunity to show how welcoming Cornellians are to everyone. >



**'I like making people happy,' says Dan Stern '18, 'and that's what Touchdown does.'**



**ROAD TRIPS:** Touchdown spreading Big Red spirit in (from top) Boston, San Francisco, and New York City

As a person who's not always comfortable being loud or boisterous, being Touchdown gives me a chance to show my school pride with some degree of anonymity."

A week later, Cleggett gets the good news: she made the cut. An official student organization with about eighteen members, the Bears portray Touchdown as often as several times per week—not only attending the usual sports games, Homecoming, and Reunion, but a wide variety of campus gatherings like the annual Big Red Bar Mitzvah (for which he has his own yarmulke). Touchdown has traveled to the hockey match against Boston University in Madison Square Garden, the Sy Katz '31 Parade down Manhattan's Fifth Avenue, various Sesquicentennial celebrations, and alumni outings like a 2016 trip to the Philadelphia Zoo (where he was asked to avoid the actual animals, lest he upset them). At a minor league soccer game in Rochester this fall, he

PHOTOS: FROM TOP: CORNELL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION; DIANE BONDAREFF/INVISION; LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP



**‘People are so ecstatic about the bear, they don’t realize there’s a person inside it,’ says Bailey Herbstreit ’18. ‘Everyone’s guard goes down. They’re interacting with a complete stranger, but it doesn’t matter.’**

got to kick the ball around at halftime with such mascot luminaries as Billy the Buffalo (of NFL fame) and Syracuse University’s Otto the Orange. “I like making people happy, and that’s what Touchdown does,” Stern says. “He’s outgoing and happy all the time—except when Cornell loses, of course. But Touchdown gets over that pretty quickly.”

**W**hile Touchdown is generally clad in one of three team jerseys (football, hockey, or lacrosse), he has other sartorial options. For a dinner honoring three-time president Hunter Rawlings—a classicist—he sported a toga. He also has formal wear, a Santa suit, a Christmas sweater, a Hawaiian shirt, and even pirate garb. “People are so ecstatic about the bear, they don’t realize there’s a person inside it,” says club veteran Bailey Herbstreit ’18, a Human Ecology student from Arizona. “Everyone’s guard goes down. They’re interacting with a complete stranger, but it doesn’t matter.” Adds fellow Bear Laura Moraff ’18, a linguistics major from the Boston area: “It gives you freedom to do things you can’t do if you’re just a normal person, like high-five random people around campus. You can get away with whatever you want, because no one knows who you are—and it’s a bear, so there are no real rules for how to behave.”

There *are* a few rules, though, and the Bears observe them religiously: Touchdown does not speak, conveying emotion through body language. For safety reasons—those paws don’t offer a precise grip—he doesn’t hold babies. He never removes his head in public. And he is always accompanied by another club member—an escort serving as “bear watcher”—to ensure that Touchdown doesn’t become overheated, run late, get overwhelmed by crowds, trip on uneven terrain, or suffer decapitation by handsy youngsters. “Everyone’s eyes are on you—that’s the biggest thing,” says club president Kaitlin Moore ’18, a development sociology major from Kansas City. “It’s always weird when you take off the suit, >



**CELEBRITY SIGHTINGS:** Touchdown with (from top) Stephen Colbert, Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick ’09, and a random fan who demanded a selfie on Ho Plaza this fall

PHOTOS: FROM TOP: LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP (2); THOMAS HOEBBEL, PHOTO AND VIDEO

**'It's a humbling feeling,' says Cristian Umana '18. 'You're not the famous one—it's Touchdown. You lose yourself in Touchdown's image.'**



**BEAR OF MANY MOODS:**

Touchdown's outfits include (from top) a Santa suit, a toga he sported at a farewell dinner for President Hunter Rawlings, a jacket and tie, and a Christmas sweater.



because you're like, 'No one's paying attention to me'—but when you're in it, everyone is. You can be as crazy as you want to be. I'm more of an introvert, so it's a great way for me to get out there and express myself."

The concept that Touchdown allows quiet types to unleash their inner bear is a common refrain among club members—as is the fact that inside the suit, it's really, *really* hot. Even a brief stint as Touchdown leaves the wearer soaked in sweat—which is why the suits are sprayed with Lysol after each use and laundered weekly. The group is in the process of upgrading its costumes; of its current three, one is a newer model—obtained from a costume

company in Ohio—that has a head fan and better visibility, and the Bears aim to acquire another like it this year. (The group is supported by a gift from the Class of '70, and Touchdown wears that number on his jerseys in appreciation.) While Touchdown appears free of charge at University events, he also attends private functions, like Cornellian weddings, for a fee. "It's a humbling feeling," club member Cristian Umana '18, a landscape architecture major from Connecticut, says of wearing the costume. "You're not the famous

one—it's Touchdown. You lose yourself in Touchdown's image."

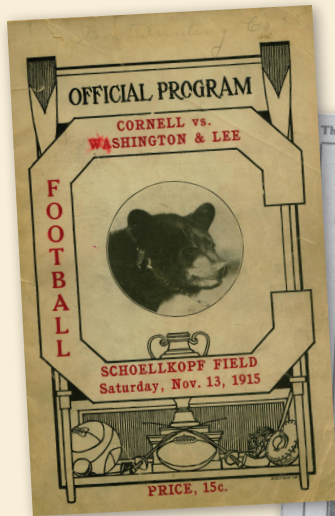
Founded in the mid-Aughts, the club—which generally comprises undergrads but is open to all Cornellians—is the latest incarnation of a tradition that traces its roots to 1915, when the Big Red got its first mascot: a live bear cub. Three more cubs followed, with the final one—Touchdown IV—acquired in the late Thirties. Years later, students started dressing up in a bear costume to promote school spirit; former mascot Neil Cohen '72 says that in the Sixties and Seventies, Touchdown was played by a series of Hotelies whose identities were kept secret, with the >

PHOTOS: SANTA SUIT, JASON KOSKI/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP; TOGA, MICHAEL O'NEIL, ALUMNI AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT; SUITCOAT AND SWEATER, THOMAS HOEBBEL; PHOTO AND VIDEO

# CUB SCOUTING TOUCHDOWNS OF DAYS PAST



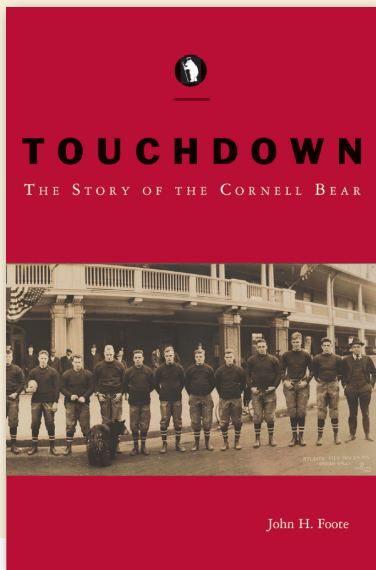
**PAWS TO REMEMBER:** The quartet of cubs who served as mascots, dubbed (from left to right) Touchdown I, II, III, and IV



**PAGE PROOFS:** Century-old football publications featuring the live mascot



**VINTAGE FUR:** A more primitive Touchdown, as seen in the 1974 *Cornellian* (above) and with Robert Kennedy circa 1965 (left)



**BY THE BOOK:** Cornell University Press is re-releasing the history of the Big Red's live mascots, which John Foote '74 originally published in 2008.



**IN BRONZE:** The campus statue honoring the four cubs

PHOTOS: TOUCHDOWNS I-IV: CORNELL ATHLETICS ARCHIVES; CORNELL DIVISION OF RARE AND MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS; COLLECTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA; COLLECTION OF ROBERT STORANDI; PROGRAM: CORNELL ATHLETICS ARCHIVES; SCHEDULE: CORNELL ALUMNI NEWS; ROBERT KENNEDY: CORNELL ALUMNI NEWS; RING: SUIT: 1974 CORNELLIAN; COVER: CU PRESS; STATUE: PROVIDED

# **BUILD-A-BEAR** WILLARD STRAIGHT IS HOME TO MYRIAD MASCOT HOMAGES



## **BEARS, BEARS EVERYWHERE:**

Cornell's student union features multiple ursine images, including wooden carvings (left); two stone sculptures above the main entrance (middle row), one holding a book and wearing spectacles, the other playing with a football; and adornments in a stone fireplace (bottom).





mantle passed from one to the next.

During his tenure, Cohen would store the costume in his closet and tote it in a garbage bag—appearing at games on campus and away, and sometimes showing up (uninvited) to official events like the North Campus dorm dedication. Tradition held that the outgoing bear would reveal himself at the final hockey game, taking off the costume as the band played “The Stripper.” Cohen did it one better: he layered half a dozen pairs of boxer shorts under the bear suit and doffed them one by one, with the final pair taped to his torso in case he got carried away. “The bear was fabulous,” says Cohen, a Lynah legend for inventing the cowbell cheer. “I’ll tell you what was so great about it: it was totally unregulated. Nobody in the school administration knew who the bear was. There was nobody telling the bear where to go or what to do. I had so much freedom—to represent the school, to epitomize Cornell spirit in the best way I could.”

Asked to describe the current Big Red Bear’s personality—if, say, Touchdown were the subject of an online dating profile—Moore calls him “exciting, enthusiastic, and interesting.” But, she says, each club member has a distinct take on the bear’s persona—plus, given that their height has ranged from barely five feet to more than six, “anytime you see him, he might look different.” Umana joined the Bears relatively late in his Cornell career, signing up his junior fall. Having been on the receiving end of Touchdown’s goodwill, he says, he wanted to pass it on. “The bear’s enthusiasm is contagious,” Umana says. “In the suit, I still smile for pictures. No one can see you—but you still smile.” ■

**If Kaitlin Moore '18 were writing a dating ad for Touchdown, she'd call him 'exciting, enthusiastic, and interesting.'**



PHOTOS: OPPOSITE PAGE: SCHOLAR AND ATHLETE BEARS; LISA BANUAKI/FRANK; OTHER BEARS: ROBERT BARKER/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP; WILLARD STRAIGHT/HALL; JASON KOSKI/CMG; THIS PAGE: TOP: JENNIFER VARGAS; BOTTOM: LINDSAY FRANCE/CMG



# TECH TIME

A photo tour of Cornell's  
newest campus









**ON AN ISLAND:** In September, Tech marked the opening of its first three buildings: the Bloomberg Center (at left in above photo), a residential tower called the House (at center), and an office building, the Bridge (at right). Bottom right: Students outside the Bridge. Opposite page: Funded by a \$100 million gift from former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg, the four-story Bloomberg Center is the campus's main academic building.

As Dean Dan Huttenlocher puts it, Cornell Tech came into being “at warp speed.” Less than six years after the University won a competition to build an applied sciences and engineering campus on New York City’s Roosevelt Island, Tech’s first three buildings opened in time for the fall 2017 semester; its initial academic programs began in 2012, housed in temporary Manhattan quarters donated by Google. The newly completed first phase of construction consists of a main academic center, an office building for companies that aim to collaborate with Tech researchers, and a residential tower for students, faculty, and visitors. Some 300 master’s and PhD students are currently enrolled, pursuing degrees in a variety of tech-related fields including health technology, computer science, electrical and computer engineering, operations research, and connective media; the campus also offers business and law programs geared toward the tech industry. By 2043, when Tech is fully built, it is expected to comprise two million square feet of space, more than 2,000 graduate students, and hundreds of faculty and staff. The next building scheduled for construction: the Graduate Roosevelt Island Hotel, which will have nearly 200 guest rooms, a full-service restaurant, a rooftop bar, panoramic views of Manhattan, and some 5,000 square feet of meeting and event space when it opens in 2019.

‘IF EZRA CORNELL WERE ALIVE TODAY,’ ROBERT HARRISON ’76, CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SAID AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY, ‘HE WOULD BE CORNELL TECH’S BIGGEST SUPPORTER.’



PHOTOS: LEFT, MATTHEW CARBONE/MORPHOSIS; TOP, IWAN BAAH; RIGHT, LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP



#### ACADEMIC HUB

(this page and opposite page, top): Scenes inside and outside the Bloomberg Center, which has ample open space, numerous works of art, and sweeping views of Manhattan.

THE BLOOMBERG CENTER IS DESIGNED TO SPUR COLLABORATION, NOTES ITS BENEFACTOR, FORMER MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG. 'THAT'S WHY THERE ARE VERY FEW WALLS IN THE BUILDING, AND WHERE THEY EXIST, THEY ARE OFTEN TRANSPARENT,' HE SAYS. 'THIS MAY BE THE ONLY UNIVERSITY BUILDING IN THE WORLD WITH NO PRIVATE OFFICES FOR PROFESSORS. AND THAT IS A FEATURE, NOT A BUG.'

PHOTOS: LINDSAY FRANCE/CORNELL MARKETING GROUP



PHOTOS: TOP, MATTHEW CARBONE/MORPHOSIS; BOTTOM LEFT, FIELD CONDITION; BOTTOM RIGHT, IWAN BAAH

**HOME GREEN HOME** (left and above): The House is the first-ever residential tower to be built to exacting “Passive House” standards of energy efficiency and sustainability.





PHOTOS: LEFT, FIELD CONDITION; RIGHT TOP AND BOTTOM, IWAN BARR



'WE ARE ASSEMBLING SOME OF THE FINEST RESEARCH TEAMS ON THE PLANET, AND WHAT EXCITES ME IS THAT THEIR RESEARCH WILL BE PUT TO USE IMMEDIATELY IN THE REAL WORLD,' SAYS PRESIDENT MARTHA POLLACK. 'COMPANIES ARE A PERMANENT PART OF THE CAMPUS, ENSURING COLLABORATION THAT ACCELERATES COMMERCIAL INNOVATION.'



**TECH TRANSFER:** The Bridge (this page and opposite page) is designed to facilitate interactions between academia and industry—housing start-ups, research teams, spin-off companies founded by alumni, and more.

# The Advocates

**The Law School's clinics give students hands-on experience—and help needy clients navigate a legal system where justice isn't necessarily for all**

By Beth Saulnier



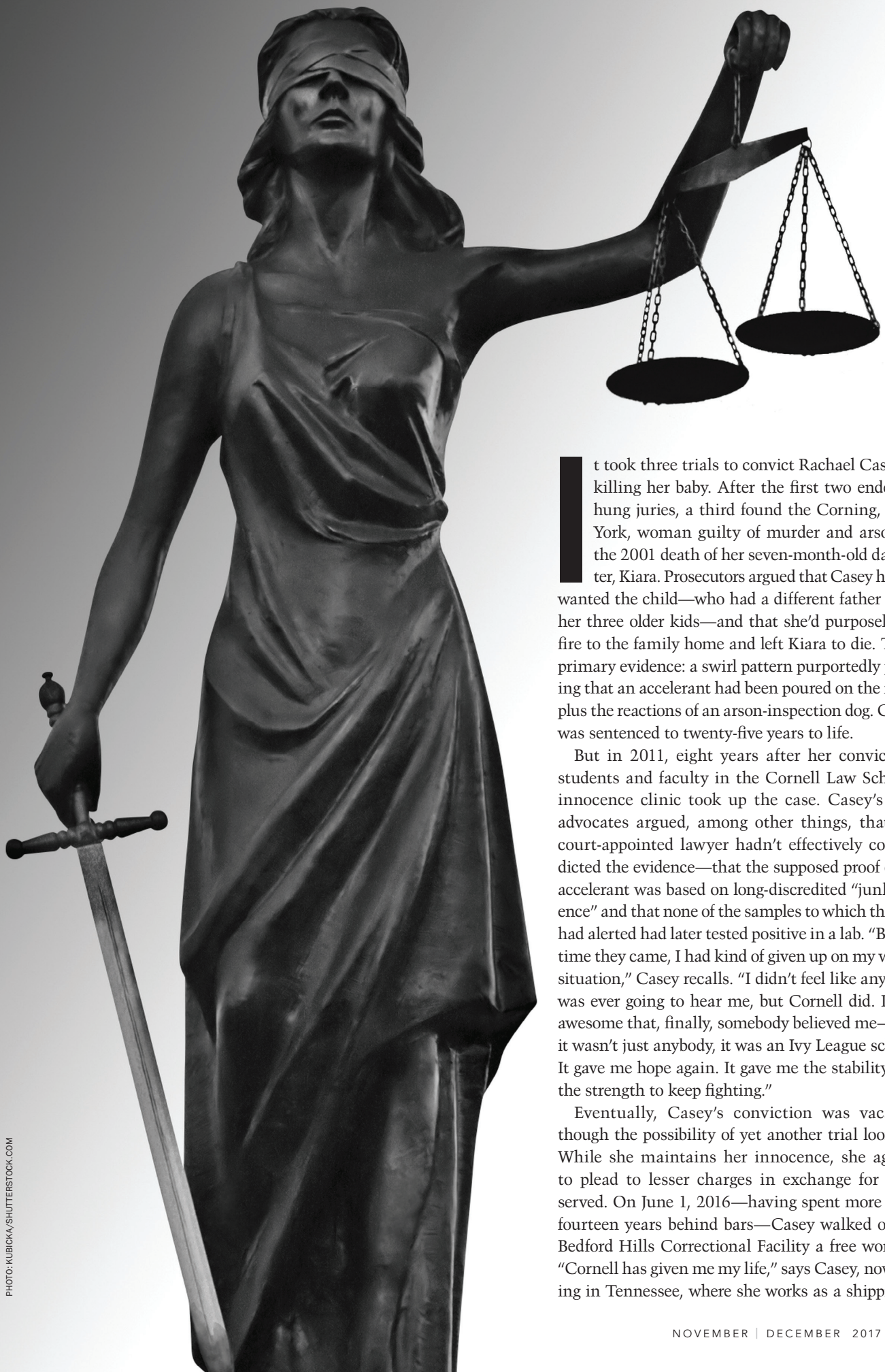


PHOTO: KUBICKA/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

It took three trials to convict Rachael Casey of killing her baby. After the first two ended in hung juries, a third found the Corning, New York, woman guilty of murder and arson in the 2001 death of her seven-month-old daughter, Kiara. Prosecutors argued that Casey hadn't wanted the child—who had a different father from her three older kids—and that she'd purposely set fire to the family home and left Kiara to die. Their primary evidence: a swirl pattern purportedly proving that an accelerant had been poured on the floor, plus the reactions of an arson-inspection dog. Casey was sentenced to twenty-five years to life.

But in 2011, eight years after her conviction, students and faculty in the Cornell Law School's innocence clinic took up the case. Casey's new advocates argued, among other things, that her court-appointed lawyer hadn't effectively contradicted the evidence—that the supposed proof of an accelerant was based on long-discredited "junk science" and that none of the samples to which the dog had alerted had later tested positive in a lab. "By the time they came, I had kind of given up on my whole situation," Casey recalls. "I didn't feel like anybody was ever going to hear me, but Cornell did. It felt awesome that, finally, somebody believed me—and it wasn't just anybody, it was an Ivy League school. It gave me hope again. It gave me the stability and the strength to keep fighting."

Eventually, Casey's conviction was vacated, though the possibility of yet another trial loomed. While she maintains her innocence, she agreed to plead to lesser charges in exchange for time served. On June 1, 2016—having spent more than fourteen years behind bars—Casey walked out of Bedford Hills Correctional Facility a free woman. "Cornell has given me my life," says Casey, now living in Tennessee, where she works as a shipping >

**OUT OF PRISON:** Keir Weyble (left) with Rachael Casey (center) and a local attorney after she was granted her freedom



supervisor in a factory. “If it wasn’t for them, I would probably still be in the same dark situation.”

Casey’s is one of four main cases the innocence clinic has worked on since its founding a decade ago, all of which have ended in the client being released from prison. And that clinic, in turn, is just one of a dozen such programs the Law School offers, focused on subjects from child advocacy to labor law to LGBT rights. Along with the innocence clinic, its most prominent clinical work has been conducted under the umbrella of the Cornell Death Penalty Project, which intervenes in capital cases at various stages and from a variety of angles. Between the innocence and death penalty programs, the Law School’s clinical efforts have garnered headlines nationwide. Its cases include several so dramatic that they became fodder for TV documentaries—one on a Netflix series about false confessions, another on a CNN show about death row exonerations, and yet another on a three-episode arc of NBC’s “Dateline.” “It’s documented that the system makes mistakes,” says law professor John Blume, who directs the project and the school’s clinical programs. “There have now been hundreds of DNA exonerations of people sentenced to death or serving time for other very serious crimes. And many of the people who are in prison for something they didn’t do don’t have access to lawyers.”

## Ideals and Practicalities

Cornell’s clinics have their roots in the Sixties and Seventies, when law schools nationwide began to establish legal aid programs that would not only

give students hands-on training, but offer services to needy clients who’d otherwise be unable to afford representation of that caliber—or any at all. “Students get to see how the legal system really works,” Blume says. “They get to meet real people who are caught up in the criminal justice system, and they hone skills that will be important to them when they leave here. They learn something about how to conduct an interview, how to put witnesses on, how to evaluate cases. They learn a lot about legal judgment. And hopefully, we instill some values in them that lawyers have a responsibility to give back to the community.”

The American Bar Association’s standards for accredited law schools require that students take at least six credit hours of experiential learning—be it in a clinic, a simulation course, or fieldwork like an internship. At Cornell, as at many schools, demand for the most popular clinics runs high; law professor Sandra Babcock, who heads the clinic on international human rights, says that this semester, she had seventy applicants for eight spots (though she ultimately took eleven). “When students come to law school, they have this vague, theoretical idea of the law,” she says. “But when they work in the clinic they have the opportunity to see how powerful they are as lawyers. Even as law students, they have knowledge they can put to use to help people. It sounds trite, but it is a sort of power—and when you recognize that, it’s transformative.”

While many of Cornell’s law alumni ultimately join large firms—in no small part because of their student debt burden—the clinics offer the chance

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**When students work in a clinic, says professor Sandra Babcock, ‘they have the opportunity to see how powerful they are as lawyers.’**

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both to do public service and to experience a different kind of legal work, such as representing a farmworker seeking unpaid wages or an undocumented immigrant battling deportation. And after serving in clinics, alumni and professors say, many students resolve to stay involved through pro bono work, and they often keep in touch with their former professors to see how cases play out years after they graduated. “It’s important to imbue in students the belief that whatever the nature of their practice, they

should be contributing to justice,” says law professor Sheri Lynn Johnson, assistant director of the Death Penalty Project and an expert on the intersection of race and criminal procedure. “Seeing injustice in ways they probably had not been exposed to before broadens their worldview, and it’s likely to increase their commitment to doing something about those injustices.”

Cornell’s Death Penalty Project has handled about fifty cases since its founding in 1995; outcomes have run the gamut from clients being released to having their sentences commuted to life without parole to exhausting their appeals and being put to death. Professor Keir Weyble, who served as a witness when one of his clients was executed by lethal injection in 2008, calls the latter “the final defeat.” “It causes you to ask all kinds of questions and second-guess yourself,” says Weyble, the Law School’s director of death penalty litigation. “And of course you’ve lost a client, and the client has lost his life.”

While many law schools offer capital punishment clinics, Blume points out that they’re often primarily devoted to writing briefs in direct appeals—work that students can do from their home campuses—but Cornell’s is different. “Ours has always had much more of a boots-on-the-ground, investigative component,” says Blume, a leading anti-death penalty attorney who has argued eight cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. “We send students to South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama to interview clients, their family members, witnesses, jurors.”

Greek-born Thania Charmani, LLM ’12, JD ’15, worked in Cornell’s law clinics over the course of four years—first as a master’s student, then a fellow, then a JD candidate. She says she’ll never forget her first visit to South Carolina’s death row, meeting with inmates clad in the green jumpsuits reserved for condemned prisoners, who are kept isolated from the general population. “You realize that this

is extremely real—you’re not a law student anymore,” says Charmani, now a litigation associate at a major New York firm, where she continues to do pro bono work in death penalty cases. “Your professors don’t treat you like a student, they treat you as their colleague. And you realize the huge responsibility you have as a professional who can offer help to people whom not many other lawyers are willing to help.”

## A Death Row Story

Due in part to the particular expertise of its faculty, Cornell’s death penalty clinic tends to specialize in cases in which race likely played a role in the client’s conviction and capital sentence, as well as those in which the defendant may have an intellectual disability that was not taken into account during the legal proceedings. Both came into play in the case of Edward Lee Elmore, an African American handyman who spent nearly three decades on death row for the 1982 rape and murder of an elderly widow in South Carolina, a case detailed in an episode of CNN’s “Death Row Stories” (and available for streaming on Netflix).

Blume—who first became involved in the case in 1987—and his colleagues argued that there were problems with the investigation’s forensics and timeline, issues so egregious that Elmore should never have been convicted. In 2010, Elmore’s sentence was commuted to life in prison on the grounds that he was intellectually disabled and therefore ineligible for execution; the following year, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit vacated his original conviction due to ineffective assistance of counsel at his trial. Eager to be released after nearly two decades of appeals, Elmore took an Alford plea, in which a defendant maintains innocence while acknowledging that the prosecution likely has enough evidence to convict. “When you get somebody out of prison, it can be, quote, ‘exhilarating’—but on the other >

**LONG TIME COMING:** John Blume (at right in left-hand photo) in court with client Edward Lee Elmore (left) in 2000. Below: Elmore celebrating his freedom, as seen in a CNN documentary on death row exonerations.



PHOTOS: LEFT, AP IMAGES; RIGHT, PROVIDED



**COLD CASE:** Blume (second from right) with client Edward Freiburger (second from left), who had been convicted of a decades-old murder.

hand, some of our clients have been in prison for fifteen, twenty, thirty years," Blume says. "It was great to get him out, but Mr. Elmore spent thirty-two years in prison for something that almost everyone now believes he didn't do. It can be bittersweet, because some of these cases are not what you'd call a pure exoneration."

During his final semester of law school, Jared Hoffman, JD '17, worked on another innocence clinic

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## 'Knowledge of rules,' says Professor Keir Weyble, 'does not a complete lawyer make.'

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case that ended in an Alford plea. It was a high-profile story in South Carolina: more than four decades after the 1961 murder of a cab driver, a cold-case investigation resulted in the arrest and conviction of Edward Freiburger, who had been a suspect during the original investigation. In 2015, with the help of the innocence clinic, Freiburger got a

new trial. It was granted on the grounds that his lawyer had failed to introduce a key piece of evidence: a 1961 letter from state police to none other than FBI director J. Edgar Hoover, saying that the fatal bullet couldn't be matched to Freiburger's gun and that a ballistics expert believed it had been fired by a weapon belonging to a second suspect. Hoffman recalls being on the phone call in which Blume laid out the options to Freiburger, then seventy-four and out of prison pending a new trial: he could take the plea and be assured of his freedom, or take his chances with a jury. "It was a sad reality, but a good lesson for me about plea bargaining and how the defendant doesn't hold a lot of the power in that situation," says Hoffman, now working for a New York law firm before starting a clerkship for a federal judge in July. "He told Professor Blume, 'People who know me know I didn't do this, and that's all that matters to me—I just don't want to go back to prison.' It was a good outcome, but to me as a law student I was struck by how bittersweet that victory was."

Learning such practical—if tough—lessons on the realities of the criminal justice system are a key part of the clinical experience, professors and students say. As Weyble puts it: "Knowledge of rules does not a complete lawyer make. It's where the rules interact with people and with real life—that's where the

real lawyering occurs, and clinics are an opportunity for students to get a taste of that.”

According to Babcock, students regularly report that participating in a clinic was “the most powerful, transformative experience” they had in law school. She says it’s also a strong recruitment tool: one first-year student recently told her that the human rights clinic—whose work includes aiding in the defense of prisoners unjustly convicted in the African nation of Malawi—was the main reason she’d chosen Cornell. “It’s hard in some ways to quantify what makes [clinics] so uniquely compelling, but I think in many cases it’s the ability to work directly with clients,” says Babcock, founder and director of Cornell’s Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, which maintains a global database on capital punishment and trains lawyers from developing nations in capital defense, among other activities. “That’s a very powerful experience for students—to give voice to a client who is otherwise powerless within a system they don’t fully understand, or aren’t able to access because they are impoverished or living in a country that doesn’t respect the rule of law. The tangible things they learn, the concrete skills, are important, but it goes deeper than that. It teaches students about the bond between a lawyer and her client—not just in the abstract, but in practical terms. How is it to represent somebody who is mentally ill, or who has been traumatized by their experience as a refugee? These are the kind of real-life situations that are difficult, if not impossible, to teach in a theoretical way.”

Zoe Jones, JD ’15, calls working in a clinic “one of the best experiences I had, and something I recommend that every law student do.” Now a litigation associate at a firm in Washington, DC, Jones participated in the death penalty clinic her second and third years of law school, then stayed on as a fellow after graduation; she also worked in Cornell’s juvenile justice clinic and at Justice 360, a South Carolina nonprofit (of which Blume was founding executive director) that represents death row inmates and advocates policy reform. Among her duties as a law student in the clinic was prepping witnesses for a post-conviction hearing on a capital case in Alabama; attending that proceeding was one of the first in-court experiences of her legal career. Her second semester in the clinic, she spent a week in South Carolina interviewing jurors who had convicted her client, and working with the psychologist who was examining him. “One of the clinic’s specialties is cases with racial injustice, and as a person of color myself, that is one of the things that drew me to it,” says Jones. “The number-one thing you learn about the criminal justice system is the vast disparity in treatment based on race, income, where you’re from. I think people have some idea of this, but the clinic really opened my eyes to how big an issue it is. >

## On the Job Training

### A sampling of other Cornell law clinics

**Advocacy for LGBT Communities** — Represents LGBT people in civil legal matters. Past activities include aiding refugees in immigration court and assisting in child custody cases.

**Asylum and Convention Against Torture** — Represents clients, who are aiming to stay in the U.S. to escape persecution in their countries of origin, in immigration appeals.

**Child Advocacy** — Assists attorneys appointed to represent children (and sometimes parents) in family court in Tompkins County and elsewhere. Activities include home visits, client and parent interviews, and hearings.

**Criminal Defense** — Aids in the defense of indigent people charged in Tompkins County with misdemeanors such as harassment, criminal mischief, DWI, disorderly conduct, and drug offenses, as well as non-criminal violations.

**Farmworker Legal Assistance** — Assists local farmworkers in immigration and employment matters including wage disputes, employment discrimination, health and safety complaints, and visa issues.

**Global Gender Justice** — Works to advance gender justice and human rights worldwide by drafting legislation, conducting fact-finding, and more. Issues include “honor” crimes, forced marriage, and human trafficking.

**International Human Rights** — Promotes international human rights norms through litigation and advocacy on such issues as prisoners’ and women’s rights, the death penalty, and “truth and reconciliation” after conflicts.

**Labor Law** — Offers advice and representation to unions on such issues as elections, unfair labor practices, organizing, collective bargaining, and grievance resolution.

**Legal Research** — Provides pro bono services to nonprofits and others with a specific legal question. Since fall 2016, the clinic has also accepted requests from foreign judges on issues related to gender justice.

**Securities Law** — Provides legal services to small investors in Upstate New York who have been the victims of fraud—drafting claims, examining witnesses, and more.





**FIELD WORK:** Interviewing an inmate in a prison in Malawi, where Cornell students have advocated for people convicted under unfair circumstances

The disparities are so much greater than what most people would ever expect or imagine.”

Maria Gaige, JD '16, is an attorney working for the justices of the New York State Supreme Court appellate division in Rochester. She calls clinical work the most rewarding and interesting part of her legal education, and says that the two semesters she worked in the capital punishment clinic—which included assisting on the case of a man sentenced to death despite expert testimony that he suffered from fetal alcohol syndrome and severe mental illness—have shaped the way she views accused criminals. “In my job now, looking at a case where a defendant has done something atrocious, I don’t just dismiss him or her offhand,” she says. “I realize that there are circumstances surrounding every crime and every defendant—and regardless of what they did, they’re entitled to a fair trial.”

## Cruel and Unusual?

Weyble calls it “almost capital punishment for people who are not legally eligible for capital punishment”: sentencing juvenile offenders to life without the possibility of parole. That concept has long been troubling to many Americans—since crimes committed before a person is old enough to vote or even drive can lead to decades behind bars with no chance for release or redemption. “Aside from death, life without parole is supposed to be reserved for the worst of the worst,” Weyble says. “And how do you determine who that is? When done fairly, that judgment should account for things like the person’s ability to make mature decisions, to appreciate consequences, to avoid bad influences or dangerous situations. And juveniles, almost by definition, lack those tools. Their brains

are neurologically incomplete in ways that leave them with less power to avoid bad decisions or suppress impulses that lead to bad outcomes. They’re kids.”

In 2012, Weyble teamed up with Blume and Johnson to launch the Law School’s juvenile justice clinic, devoted to advocating against life without parole for defendants who were under eighteen at the time of their alleged crime. It was prompted by that year’s U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Miller v. Alabama*, which held that such sentences—even for people convicted of murder—are unconstitutional under the Eighth Amendment’s prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment. (A case from 2010, *Graham v. Florida*, had ruled

that life without parole was unconstitutional for all crimes except murder.) The clinic focused its initial efforts on filing a class action lawsuit on behalf of the more than three dozen juveniles serving life without parole in South Carolina, where Weyble and Blume had previously practiced.

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‘We were doing actual work, filed with courts, that made a difference,’ says Katherine Ensler, JD ’13.

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One of the first orders of business was to interview all of those inmates, a task that fell to Charmani, then serving as a fellow between her master’s and JD programs. “I would spend the whole day in prison trying to meet with as many as I could, because we wanted to get through all the screening interviews and decide which cases we thought were most favorable to include in our initial petition,” she says. “I think that was one of the most special periods of my life so far—meeting a stranger with a completely different background from mine, who had no reason to trust me, and in the beginning they didn’t. The moment that your client opens up to you and trusts you is unique.”

In addition to filing the class action, the clinic opted to represent some of the inmates on an individual basis. Katherine Ensler, JD ’13, was one of the students assigned to the case of Wallace Priester, who was fifteen when he and a friend robbed a Sonic



**GLOBAL EFFORT:** Sandra Babcock marking the launch of Cornell's Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide

fast-food restaurant at gunpoint in 2000, killing two employees and severely injuring a third, he was sentenced to two consecutive life terms, plus seventy-five years. (As the judge said at the time, according to the *Augusta Chronicle*: "I think he deserves every day I'm going to give him and more.") Ensler traveled to the small city of Barnwell, where she spent weeks interviewing Priester's family, former teachers, and others who'd known him, as well as reviewing all of his institutional records. Ultimately, he and the other members of the class had their sentences vacated by a 2014 South Carolina Supreme Court decision; he's currently awaiting resentencing. "We were doing actual work, filed with courts, that made a difference," Ensler, who also worked on a death penalty case, says of her clinical experience. "As a law student, it's unusual that you can make such a mark."

Weyble stresses that advocating against life without parole for juveniles is in no way intended to minimize the crimes for which they were convicted. But, he says, sentencing should take into account that young people—especially those from severely disadvantaged or abusive backgrounds—should be judged differently from fully formed adults. "Juvenile crime can take terrible forms—people get hurt or killed, and that's awful—but you can't lose sight of the fact that it is still a person who is neurologically incomplete, and quite possibly coming from circumstances that left them ill-equipped to avoid the bad decisions that led to that tragedy," he says. "The law has to make allowances for the genuine possibility that the crime is a consequence of their immaturity and circumstances, rather than of them being irretrievably bad. And some of these people really do deserve another chance. If they've worked for years to better themselves in a very harsh environment—prison is not a place where positive personal growth comes naturally—I think that should count for something."

## A 'Life-Changing Experience'

Blume, who earned a master of divinity from Yale before attending its law school, is often quoted in the media about capital cases—for example, weighing in on the decision by Dylann Roof, the white supremacist who was ultimately sentenced to death for murdering nine African American worshipers in a South Carolina church, to represent himself at trial. Blume notes that in death penalty cases, "success has to be measured differently." A resentencing to life without parole can be considered a good outcome if execution is the only alternative; the same goes for cases, like Elmore's, in which a client whom he believes to be innocent is released from prison but not formally exonerated. "If you look at it comparatively, our criminal justice system has a lot of things for which it should be praised," Blume says. "It also has a lot of things for which it should be criticized and indicted. Allowing students the opportunity to see it work—and to realize that many of the people whom we as a society are willing to turn our back on, to allow to either be executed or to spend their lives in prison, are real human beings who often have powerful stories—can often be a life-changing experience for them."

In many of the capital cases that the Law School works on, the clinic's faculty and students are not necessarily arguing that the defendant is innocent of the crime for which he has been condemned; rather, they aim to convince the court that under the circumstances, death isn't a just punishment—particularly for inmates who suffer from such mitigating factors as mental illness, intellectual disability, racial discrimination, or severe childhood abuse. And Blume stresses that although he opposes capital punishment, he's not downplaying the devastating effects of violent crime on victims and their families. In fact, he says, "This >

**PRACTICE CASES:** Sheri Lynn Johnson (second from right) with students in the Law School's moot courtroom.





**CLINIC CLIENT:** Blume (at left in top photo) with Wesley Myers, who says that police tricked him into falsely confessing to the 1997 murder of his girlfriend—a crime for which he served more than a decade behind bars. Blume helped Myers get a new trial; while he maintains his innocence, he ultimately pleaded guilty to manslaughter rather than risk being re-incarcerated. Above: Myers in Netflix’s “The Confession Tapes.”

is something about which I know very well.” As he goes on to explain: five years ago his nephew was murdered in Atlanta, robbed at gunpoint while going into a friend’s apartment. The tragedy, he says, has offered him new insight on the view from another side of a criminal case. “I don’t think

a lot of people who do what I do have had that experience,” he says. “I wouldn’t wish it on anyone. But it does give you perspective.”

Over the past decade, Blume says, the innocence clinic alone has received “hundreds if not thousands” of requests from inmates asking for help; they’re still arriving at the rate of around five per week. “For most of those, it’s obvious there’s nothing we can do,” he says. “For some, we did an initial investigation or review of the record, and we didn’t think we could help the person. It doesn’t mean that you think they did it—just that there’s not enough information from which you could prove their innocence, or the case is in some kind of weird procedural posture where you don’t think you could help them, or they’ve already litigated the issue.” In the vast majority of cases, the clinic writes back to the inmate and declines assistance—a fact that weighs heavily on him. “Each time you sign your name, you don’t know if you’re

in effect resentencing an innocent person to stay in prison for the rest of their life,” he says. “The reality of it is, there are tons of people we’re not helping. There’s a sea of need—and at the most, we can only provide thimblefuls here and there.”

But relative victories like Casey’s release from prison stand out as high points. Gaige, who did some basic research on that case, recalls going with Weyble to the courthouse the day Casey was set free. “It was really exciting—how often do you get to see that?” she says. “Seeing somebody freed was pretty amazing. She was so happy and so grateful.”

Casey, for her part, is working to re-establish relationships with her three surviving daughters—with whom she had been forbidden contact during her incarceration—and to rebuild her life in Tennessee; she says she couldn’t bear to stay in Corning, where many people still consider her guilty. She says that despite having earned a bachelor’s degree in sociology while in prison, her criminal record made it tough to find a job, and she had to settle for factory

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**‘The reality of it is, there are tons of people we’re not helping,’ says Professor John Blume. ‘There’s a sea of need—and at the most, we can only provide thimblefuls here and there.’**

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work. “That stigma,” she says, “is going to stay with me for the rest of my life.” She stresses that she took the plea deal at her children’s insistence and would have preferred to fight the charges, even if it meant more years behind bars. Although she was thrilled to be released, she found it hard to reintegrate into the world; after all, she’d never even seen a smartphone. “I just felt awkward—I didn’t know if I belonged or not,” she says. “Technically I was given life back, but my life had already been taken in every aspect.” She remains bitter about her prosecution and conviction, which she attributes in large part to her status as a low-income minority. And, as she says starkly: “Nothing will bring my baby back. Nothing.”

Casey remains in regular touch with some of her advocates at the innocence clinic. She chokes up as she recalls how, when she was still incarcerated, Blume asked if there was anything he could do to help her kids. “I’ll never forget him for that,” she says, adding: “He told me, ‘I’m going to stand with you until the end.’” ■



PHOTOS: TOP PROVIDED; GAVEL, NASTCOO/ISTOCK.COM



# EZRA

CORNELL  
UNIVERSITY'S  
MAGAZINE  
EXTRA

This special section, a bonus issue of the university's Ezra magazine, highlights ways Cornell initiatives intersect with philanthropy and engagement of Cornell alumni, parents and friends.

## COLLABORATION SEEKS TO REDUCE HEALTH CARE DISPARITIES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Cornell's Institute for Nutritional Sciences, Global Health and Technology (INSIGHT) is dedicated to "applying modern technological tools to solve nutritional and global health problems." Its co-founders are **Saurabh Mehta**, professor of global health, epidemiology and nutrition in the Division of Nutritional Sciences in the College of Human Ecology, and **David Erickson**, the Sibley College Professor in Cornell's Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. In the past few years, Erickson's and Mehta's projects through INSIGHT have included the development of point-of-care diagnostic devices such as the Cornell NutriPhone and FeverPhone, which can diagnose infections and provide other analyses from a drop of blood in a few minutes. INSIGHT further aims to foster nontraditional partnerships between researchers, implementers, health workers and policymakers to solve complex nutritional and health challenges in areas with minimal resources.

*continued on next page*



**“THE DRIVING FORCE WAS, CAN WE EMPOWER THE END USER – BE IT THE PATIENT OR A COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER, IN THE U.S. OR ANYWHERE ELSE – TO MAKE DECISIONS THEMSELVES AND IN REAL TIME.”**

– Saurabh Mehta

**How did you both decide to create INSIGHT?**

**Erickson:** I had an interest in nutrition that grew out of meetings I had with the Department of Defense, and Saurabh had an interest in technology and engineering, so we connected. Barriers are so low at Cornell for these cross-disciplinary and cross-college sorts of things that it made it very easy for us to meet, write joint proposals and get seed funding from places like the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future. That grew into the many multimillion-dollar projects we have now, that sit at the intersection between nutrition, infectious disease, global health and technology.

**Mehta:** Most of my work is in international or resource-limited settings. A major limitation in most of these settings was we had to send any kind of analyses out to a central lab – samples had to be collected out in the field, we had to maintain a cold chain, we needed to have trained staff. So we wondered, can we make some of these diagnostic tests available, adapt them to be run at point of care?

The idea for INSIGHT was David’s and mine: We wanted to apply modern technology to reduce health disparities. When there is a new technology, usually it’s available to the rich, to people who can afford it – CT scans, MRIs, those kind of things – which are not necessarily available to people in resource-limited settings in the U.S. or international settings.

The driving force was, can we empower the end user – be it the patient or a community health worker, in the U.S. or anywhere else – to make decisions themselves and in real time.

**Erickson:** One main idea was to empower the individual to take control of their health care, or modifiable elements of their own health care. And the interface for doing that was through the mobile phone. The second idea was, can we take the kinds of technologies we’re developing and deploy them in locations, or economies, in which one would not necessarily have access to good diagnostic services or health care services?

**How have technological advances in the past decade enabled what you’ve created?**

**Erickson:** The transformation in the last five to 10 years has been the worldwide uptake in mobile devices. It’s one of the few technologies that has broad, worldwide accessibility. It’s very difficult to go somewhere where you’re not going to have access to one.

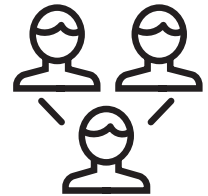
The way we interact with mobile devices did not exist in the same way five years ago – and it didn’t exist in the way that it did five years ago, five years before that. We really got in on the ground floor being able to understand how to interact with these devices and how we might deliver health care services through them.

**Mehta:** And it’s not just the computational power, the imaging abilities, the GPS and everything else ... in some of these international settings we were initially thinking that we could equip a community health care worker with one as a really inexpensive way of upgrading their lab capacity. And it would still be point of care.

So the idea that has evolved since is that cellphones really can be considered the mobile health care hub for an individual. Because not only can you record all kinds of data and use it for diagnostic purposes and as a lab, you also can use it integrated with downstream apps where you can change people’s behaviors, give them advice.

**Do you consider your partnership a “radical collaboration”?**

**Erickson:** I would say so; I think there are very few places where one can imagine being able to have such tight collaborations within very disparate fields and areas, and have those areas mesh and grow together. So it’s not just the idea of radical collaboration itself; it’s the idea of taking those collaborations and turning them into the big initiatives that will lead the future.



**“I’ve learned a lot more about how to interact with people on the international and clinical side.”**

– David Erickson



**“ ... cellphones really can be considered the mobile health care hub for an individual.”**

– Saurabh Mehta

As an example, the Division of Nutritional Sciences has been particularly welcoming to me, giving me a joint appointment, and that allows me to bring my engineering into that field and hopefully develop a whole new area going forward. A lot of places, I think, would be very shy about that.

**Mehta:** I can share my past experience on this: I've mostly been in a medical school or a public health school kind of setting, and I can't imagine this kind of collaboration would have happened there easily.

There's a lot of departmental support, and institutional support, that needs to happen to facilitate this, because it's really a two-way street, especially when we're in different disciplines. We have different metrics for progress, we have different metrics for impact and everything else. So for us to see eye to eye on what the vision is, I think that's kind of radical in its own way.

And then, of course, we would like to think of the kind of public health impact we can make in communities around the world, how we can truly transform and revolutionize health care. By that definition and perspective, the way we work together definitely is a radical collaboration.

#### **What have you each learned from the other?**

**Mehta:** I definitely have learned a lot from David. I've considered him almost like a mentor to me in many areas. I've learned how to maximize opportunities for students and how to maximize interdisciplinary training; but also, on the research side, it's been eye-opening to realize that when we pool our resources together, these are the kinds of things that we might be able to do.

**Erickson:** In any kind of partnership like this you're going to learn something from one another. I've learned a lot more about how to interact with people on the international and clinical side, and how to build collaborations, how long building those relationships takes, what kinds of personalities are involved, and how to understand people's motivations – these are things you don't really see as an engineer.

#### **As a member of the provost's Infection Biology Task Force, what perspective does this give you on Cornell's radical collaboration efforts overall?**

**Mehta:** The university is already set up very nicely for radical collaborations, and the provost's task forces are a step in the right direction on how to further maximize our collective impact. It has been incredible and educational to me just to see the breadth of talent that's already on campus. It's truly impressive.



#### **What are the next steps for INSIGHT and your partnership?**

**Mehta:** There is a lot of work on technology that David and I are constantly engaging each other on, based on needs assessments of the communities we work in or where the science is going.

How do we apply technological methods to solve other problems, not just the ones targeted by the NutriPhone and FeverPhone? How do we engage more researchers and give them a platform to do something similar through INSIGHT? We have also engaged commercialization partners, because we recognize that to really get some of the work we are doing to the community, it has to go out of the academic setting.

**Erickson:** As some of our work matures, it gets put out there – some through Cornell efforts but also in translation to the commercial sector.

#### **Opposite page:**

Saurabh Mehta and David Erickson, back row, left and right, respectively, are pictured with NutriPhone collaborators, from left, professor Julia Finkelstein, Seoho Lee and Joe Francis in 2013.

**Above:** Erickson tests a smartCARD in 2015. The card, when paired with a smartphone and app, can read cholesterol levels in about a minute.

## Responding to the call

Small gifts add up to big impacts for Cornell, says Chelsea Ghent, Cornell's student phoning manager. But that's not the only reason to pick up the phone when students call alumni, parents and friends.

"The calls put students and alumni in touch with one another to share experiences, talk about events on campus, and keep the Cornell spirit alive – all in ways that can never happen by mail or online," she notes. "Plus, students develop skills transferable to almost any career."

This year, Cornell's student phoning program marks its 20-year anniversary.

Jennifer Kwiatkowski, associate director of Cornell Annual Giving Programs, says that since 1997, close to 200 students every year have helped Cornell raise more than \$800,000

annually, with gifts averaging about \$150. Collectively, these funds pack a punch, supporting scholarships, fellowships, programs and positions, annual funds – which can be used immediately and wherever the need is greatest – and more.

"But the primary mission for callers," says Kwiatkowski, "truly is to have a good conversation."

One enthusiastic caller is Efe Airewele '20, who has talked with dozens of Cornellians over the past year.

"Phoning allows alumni to feel connected with current students who are walking the same paths they did," she says. "I've realized, in my short time here, that there is something special that connects us all as Cornellians. Whether or not someone has the

financial means to support Cornell, they should always feel that connection.

"I love working for the Cornell Annual Funds (CAF) because not only am I able to talk and connect with alumni, I am able to connect with the other callers. CAF was the first thing I joined when I got to Cornell as a freshman and I am so glad I did, because the people I work with really epitomize the ideology of '... any person ... any study.'"



**Above:** A jubilant Efe Airewele '20 connects with a Cornell donor.

**Left:** Every year, student phoners help Cornell raise some \$800,000 while gaining new skills.



**"Phoning allows alumni to feel connected with current students who are walking the same paths they did."**

– Efe Airewele '20

# EZRA

# CLASS NOTES

NEWS OF FELLOW CORNELLIANS

**42** Happy late autumn, classmates! Back in the spring, **Berle Neuwirth** Geronemus (Hollywood, FL) wrote, "I'm very sorry I can't attend Reunion. I unexpectedly sustained a stroke to the retina, and my vision is greatly limited, so travel is not an option."

**Robert Wright** writes, "I play poker with a gang Monday nights—lose often! I don't drive anymore. My stepdaughter watches over me. I spend six months in a Naples, FL, condo and six months in a Whitewater, WI, condo. I paint watercolors. Still can't understand chemistry!" He notes that he wishes he could hear—"Lost it in WWII; still on the disabled list."

**Christina Steinman** Foltman writes, "I live at home and enjoy jigsaw puzzles, reading, and bridge. I have a driver to take me food shopping and to run errands. I have a large planter on my deck that I plant and take care of. I had a pacemaker put in last August." She adds that she still doesn't have a cell phone, and reports that she's an "avid New York Giants fan."

Send your news—including copies of your holiday letters—to: ♦ **Class of 1942**, c/o *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, 401 East State St., Suite 301, Ithaca, NY 14850; e-mail, abb83@cornell.edu.

**43** Happy Holidays! Are any classmates planning to attend the upcoming 75th Reunion in June 2018? Write us with your news and let us know. **Jean Lewinson** Guttman (jean.guttman@gmail.com) checked in from Newton, MA.

**Barbara Wahl** Cate died peacefully on February 4, 2017. From her *New York Times* obituary: "Professor emerita of art history at Seton Hall U. and cofounder of their MA program in museum professions, she was a pioneer in scholarship and preservation of American folk art and a devoted teacher to generations of students." Her husband, Tracy, added, "Countless people loved her dearly and were buoyed by her love and humor." She will be missed.

**Ray Ward** writes, "Blind as a bat, like peer poet Milton, I have achieved my goal to immortalize those who flew during our time. In consequence, honors came to me. The poets we studied as undergrads now become my immortal companions. It came to happen after the Air Force Academy, a foremost teaching institute, began to hand out copies of *Those Brave Crews*, an epic narrative describing the suicide raid on the oil fields of Ploesti. They gave up their lives to shorten the war, millions of lives to be saved. It didn't happen. Our class knows the cost of war." Ray adds that he's gratified at the positive responses his book received. He also included two of his poems with his submission, for which we thank him.

We hope your holidays are peaceful and happy. Don't hesitate to send copies of your annual letters to: ♦ **Class of 1943**, c/o *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, 401 East State St., Suite 301, Ithaca, NY 14850; e-mail, abb83@cornell.edu.

**44** Happy Holidays! **Curt Beck** (cbeck3795@charter.net) writes, "I'm completing my memoir, giving lectures, and participating in the Center for Learning in Retirement (CLIR) at UConn. I continue to be active in local government and politics." He reports

an active son, grandsons, and now twin great-grandchildren. Who had the greatest impact on him at Cornell? "Outstanding professors in History and Government."

**Katia Altschuller** Jacobs (Highland, NY; jacobs@berkeley.edu) is learning her seventh language—Greek—at the age of 95. "I turned 95 on Christmas Day with my four children and seven grandchildren all around me. I'm still living independently on the family farm. I just spent ten days with my daughter Kate, who owns an award-winning book store in Hoboken. We saw a play, I read three books, and I had a wonderful time with Kate's family." Katia notes that she wishes she could take more trips to see family. She keeps in touch with **Eleanor Hawley** Porter '45 by phone, and lists her as one of the people who had the greatest impact on her at Cornell, along with Jeff Bitterman and **Otis Kidwell** Burger '46.

**Robert S. Miller**, BA '47, is living in Kendal at Ithaca. He writes, "I am handicapped—I lose my balance and fall—so I use a walker. I can still drive a car and visit with friends locally." Robert has three children and four grandchildren. He adds that he wishes he could drive to Florida during the winter. Also living in Kendal, **Howard Evans**, PhD '50 (hee1@cornell.edu) reports, "I revised *Anatomy of the Dog* for the eighth time with **Alexander de Lahunta**, DVM '58, PhD '63. **Jan Taylor** Scott (Highland Beach, FL; jts1023@gmail.com) writes, "I no longer drive, but still play a bit of bridge. Glad to see class officers are still around—I traveled with them on several enjoyable trips. I see **Kit Snell** Sigety when she is in Florida. Also have seen **Andy**, MD '46, and **Sherrill Capi** and **Dotty Kesten**."

Send copies of your holiday letters to: ♦ **Class of 1944**, c/o *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, 401 East State St., Suite 301, Ithaca, NY 14850; e-mail, abb83@cornell.edu.

**45** **Lena "Lee" Struglia** volunteers at a local lab, plays the ukulele with various groups, and enjoys computer education. Her grand-nephew **Nigel van der Woude** '17 is a Cornell grad, heading to Italy on a scholarship to teach English. She wishes she could be traveling.

Your scribe, Julie, is enjoying great-grandmotherhood, especially because the little darling was given the middle name of Julie. Let us hear your news. ♦ **Julie Kamerer** Snell, 3154 Gracefield Rd., Apt. 111, Silver Spring, MD 20904-0806; e-mail, julie.k.snell@gmail.com.

**46** Through April, class president **Lloyd Slaughter** slaved to produce a significant turnout of V-12 survivors for Cornell's June 2017 Reunion. Then, realizing the turnout of fellow '46 and '47 Cornellian swabbies would be meager, he resolved to attend, even though it meant postponing his appointment for implanting a pacemaker. In mid-July, after receiving the implant, he reported the following:

"I was able to attend the Cornell Class of '47 Reunion thanks to **Sue Miles**, PhD '85, a wonderful neighbor who drove me to Ithaca and back. She had been a faculty member and Cornell PhD. We left Morgantown, WV, on Thursday, June 8, via Elmira, as arranged by Sue, to

visit my V-12 classmate and fraternity brother **Bob Kaemmerer**. Bob lived in Elmira for many years, but never attended a '46 Reunion. (He's clueless on what he's missed.) Though he refused my invitation, we had a wonderful visit and dinner together. Then Sue and I continued on to Ithaca on Friday.

"Upon registering at the Statler, I was greeted in the lobby by **Pete Schwarz** '47 and daughter **Suzy Schwarz** Quiles '76. Pete was in V-12 and graduated in '46, but chose '47. He is their class president and the only '47 class member who attended our Reunion last year. I reciprocated by being the only '46er at their 70th. Pete and Suzy welcomed me royally, making sure that all of my needs were met. I hope we'll do as well in hosting visiting classes in 2021. We joined their class for lunch. After the afternoon lectures, I dined with two great families, the Schwarz and Milner quintets. They were Pete Schwarz, with two daughters and two granddaughters; and **Israel "Jay" Milner** '47, with wife Edith, son **Joseph** '89, daughter Reena, and son-in-law Barry. Saturday's highlights were a conversation with new university president Martha Pollack at Bailey Hall, and a Mosaic forum about immigration reform. The day closed with another reception and dinner, graced by Sue Miles and 80th Reunioner **Barbara Keeney** Mandigo '37. Sue and she were engaged in much conversation, which I let flow over me along with the good food and fellowship. It was good to arrive home safely after another great Cornell Reunion. The only downside was the low attendance of '47 grads. I hope it is not an omen for our 2021 '46 Reunion."

All of the above reinforces our contention that Lloyd is the ultimate loyal Cornellian. If his hospital draws blood for a test, they'll probably discover the tube's contents are RED and WHITE. If you'd like to thank him for his efforts on behalf of '46 and Cornell, e-mail him at LSllaughter594@aol.com.

To all: A very merry Christmas, Hanukkah, and/or Kwanzaa, and a Happy New Year. To list your e-mail address in your submissions, e-mail me at the below e-mail address; please include your name, city, and state. ♦ **Paul Levine**, 3273 Streamside Cir., #S-202, Pleasanton, CA 94588; tel., (925) 201-7575; e-mail, pblevine@juno.com. Class website, classof46.alumni.cornell.edu.

The Holiday season is upon us as you are reading this column, but it is still summer here in California when I am writing it. Interesting fact in the publication world of deadlines.

I will finally have my summer vacation starting tomorrow, August 16. It is my annual visit to Prescott, AZ, where I will visit my childhood friend. We have known each other for 90 years. (My memory begins when I was about 3 years old.) It is a delightful reunion and a chance for me to see some rain during the monsoon season.

**Dorothy Van Vleet** Hicks wrote that her cousin **Art Van Vleet** died March 26, 2017. They did not see much of each other while growing up, as she lived in Western New York State and Art grew up in Rome, NY. However, they were both in the Class of '46 at Cornell. Art was in the V-12 program. The 70th Reunion was great fun for

both. She did not know that Art had had a huge heart attack in November 2016, so his death was a shock to her. Art was married to **Doris (Ticknor)**, also Class of '46, who died in August 2015.

**Anne Hodgkins** Ransom also died, on December 14, 2016. She was a loyal correspondent and very proud of her Cornell degree in Home Economics, according to her daughter Barbara. Barbara also noted that she will continue to pay Anne's class dues because she enjoys the *Alumni Magazine* and news, since she recognizes names from the stories her mother told about college life.

**Kathleen Smith** Mancini works hard keeping up with four daughters, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, but loves every minute of it! She misses teaching now, although she became a realtor when she moved to Palm Coast, Flagler County, FL. Kay very much enjoyed spending time with **Carol Skaer** Ryan '45 from Austin, TX, at our 70th Reunion. Keeping up with old friends and e-mails gives her much satisfaction these days. I would like to hear from you! ♦ **Dorothy Taylor** Prey, 1 Baldwin Ave., #501, San Mateo, CA 94401; tel., (650) 342-1196; e-mail, dmprey@aol.com.

**47** Happy late autumn! As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. Send your holiday letters to: ♦ **Class of 1947**, c/o *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, 401 East State St., Suite 301, Ithaca, NY 14850; e-mail, abb83@cornell.edu.

**48** This is **Ray Tuttle**, volunteering to try to continue the most-excellent columns of **Bob Persons** over so many, many years for the Class of 1948. I regret to advise all of you who have enjoyed this link with Cornell that Bob passed away peacefully at home on July 18, 2017. Class VP **Martha Clark** Mapes, MS '49, and I think it very appropriate to devote much of a near-future class column to your favorite experiences with Bob over these many years. Please share them with me at raytutt@aol.com. Now on to class news.

**Alan Strout** reports a busy life with wife Caroline and frequent contact with children and four grandchildren, most recently sharing a summer vacation with some of them on a safari in Tanzania. They are now planning to move from the rural setting of Weston, MA, to a retirement community, North Hill in Needham, MA, still only 15 minutes from the 100 miles of walking trails of Weston. Alan is confident he will be at Reunion next year. **Robert McKinless** recently sold his home in Alexandria and moved to a condo in Arlington, a downsizing familiar to many of us. Activities include singing in three choruses and being in regular contact with four children and many grandchildren. He enjoys an active participation in the Cornell Club of Washington and considers his fraternity life (at Lambda Chi Alpha) to be another strong tie to Cornell. Robert intends to be at Reunion next year.

**Nancy Hauers** Doyle reports enjoying seeing Bob Persons in Sarasota, FL, this past winter. She is looking forward to our 2018 Reunion with great anticipation. **Fred** and **Barbara Abt Hickling**, MAT '66, reside in the Good Shepherd Retirement Village. They have eight great-grandchildren—with number nine on the way—most of whom live in North Carolina. **Madeleine Miller** Bennett enjoys opera, ballet, and art, as well as gardening around her two homes. She intends to make it to Reunion. **James Howell**, BS '50, also enjoys the local

symphony, operas, and stage productions like *The Music Man*, *South Pacific*, and *The Barber of Seville*. He remembers most the Cornell experience of Westminster Fellowship, and continues church Bible study even today.

**William Carroll** finds himself on the wedding circuit lately—first a great-niece followed by a Cornell Hotel school grandson married in the California wine country. As the rare WWII veteran in his residential community and American Legion Post, he finds Veteran's Day very special. Reunions have been very stimulating as well, and he plans to be back for the 70th. **Herb Podel** reminds us that we owe many thanks to the class officers for holding the Class of '48 together and for making us able to enjoy Reunions for all these years. In retirement since 2003, Herb is active in his town and his senior co-op, and has kept a cultural salon going for 20 years as a substitute for sailing and tennis.

Now to my suggestion about another future topic for this column: When I thought about accepting this assignment, my mind hopped to, "What influence has Cornell had on my life?" My answer follows. If the idea appeals, please give it a try and e-mail your answer to me.

WWII disrupted our class greatly. A freshman at Cornell in 1941 when Pearl Harbor was bombed, I enlisted in early 1942, but as a Chemical Engineering student I was not called up until June 1943. I am probably alive today because of that delay. I went overseas in September 1944 in the only Army battalion supplying wireless telephone communications from the front to Army headquarters; crossed the Rhine unharmed two days after the infantry and armored; ended the war in Stuttgart; re-formed our battalion and sailed across the Atlantic and in the Western Pacific, just as the two atom bombs forced Japan's surrender; landed in the Philippines rather than being on the beaches of Nagoya; returned by ship under the Golden Gate Bridge; and arrived safely back to Cornell in February 1946.

My BChemE degree got me many job offers and I accepted one from another Cornellian (of the 1930s) who was forming a new R&D division at his company in Pittsburgh. In 1949 I married a 1948 classmate, **Margaret (Wilharm)**, whose only on-campus contact with me had been on a bus ride from Olin Hall to downtown Ithaca; a year later we ran into each other in a grocery store in Cleveland, began dating, and came back to Cornell for an Alpha Delta Phi house party, and I proposed while we sat in my car on the east side of Cayuga Lake waiting for the sun to come up (in the West!). What followed was 59 years of marriage and three children.

My degree led to a satisfying career with four companies, first as an engineer and then as a chemical executive. Our moves to Chicago, Boston, and Hilton Head Island were made more pleasurable by attending the local Cornell Club meetings/events. My son is a Cornell graduate and has made my trips back to recent Cornell Reunions possible. I consider it unique to my college, and a privilege for me, to know four past directors of the college on a first-name basis: **Fred H. "Dusty" Rhodes, PhD 1914**, Chuck Winding, **Julian Smith '41**, and, more recently, Paulette Clancy. Obviously, Cornell made my life totally different than it would have been. ♦ **Ray Tuttle**, 65 Oyster Reef Dr., Hilton Head Island, SC 29926; e-mail, RayTutt@aol.com.

**49** Greetings, classmates! We are eager for more news from everyone. It would be interesting to hear where you all have traveled lately. Which places have been your favorite to visit? Tell us about some of your trips and holidays. This summer, my daughter Emily,

her three children, and I flew to St. John in the Virgin Islands, where we had a delightful time hiking and snorkeling. Most of the island, with its tropically hot weather and ocean seas, is a national park, with settlement along a narrow strip of the coast. Sadly, in the path of Hurricane Irma, St. John has now suffered terrible damage. I understand that most of the buildings and vegetation have been destroyed and the people left homeless. For these islanders, descendants of former slaves who remained on the island after the sugar plantations closed, rebuilding will be a daunting task, since everything has to be shipped in.

**Jim Simmen** (Lake Forest, IL; zweisimmenj@gmail.com) is married to Mari, a graduate nurse from Rush Medical U. His summer was busy with "a total remodeling of our basement." They spend summers in Jackson, WY, and he writes, "I was very active in our church until January 2016, when I had a lung clot, and am now on oxygen 24/7. Carrying around this boat anchor has put a definite crimp in my activities. I was presented with my first great-grandchild on July 29, 2016. (Hope there will be more!) Theodore Leuenberger. Quite a name!" Jim adds, "I wish we could get in one more trip to Switzerland, and to my wife's family backgrounds in Prague. Maybe?" Speaking of old Cornell friends from whom he'd like to hear, Jim says, "All my old friends are now gone. **Lloyd Lanier Gray** was my closest friend. We had rooms across the hall in Sheldon Court." Asked who had the greatest impact on him at Cornell, Jim responded, "I can't remember his name, but he was the senior professor in Physics during my freshman year in Engineering. His lectures were spectacular!"

**Martha Merrifield** Steen (San Francisco, CA) writes, "I'm active in my retirement residence with lots of bridge and reading, but less cooking, except when I go to Kezar Lake, ME, for the month of August." Responding to the question, "Is there anything else you wish you could be doing?" Martha's answer is an emphatic, "No! Or possibly more travel!" Martha would enjoy hearing from **Jean Davis** Salisbury.

Please keep in touch, classmates! These are lively times, indeed, and we'd all appreciate hearing your opinions about what is happening in the world, in the nation, and in your own backyard, so to speak. So, do send us your news, and tell us what you think! ♦ **Dorothy Mulhoffer** Solow; 50 Grant St., Wellsboro, PA 16901; tel., (570) 948-9107; e-mail, winspeck@yahoo.com.

**50** I am writing this in August, but it will not appear in the magazine until November. I am writing with a bit of sadness; I have just sent a letter of regret to Ithaca for my attendance in late August at the inauguration of Martha Pollack as Cornell's 14th president.

I have been at the inauguration of every president since that of Jim Perkins in 1963—as a council member, trustee, and trustee emerita. I would have loved to have been there for Martha too, particularly because she is a woman. But traveling between Florida and Ithaca can be difficult, especially out of season when the airline flights between here and the north are not as frequent. I am anxious to meet her, and hope I will before too long. She is a Dartmouth graduate (Class of 1979) and has a doctorate from the U. of Pennsylvania. She comes to us from the U. of Michigan, where she was provost. Michigan has been the source of several of our presidents, including Frank Rhodes. I was on the presidential search committee that recommended that the board elect him, and I will never forget his meeting with the committee. It was

in NYC on a snowy winter day when airline schedules were disrupted. He made it after a difficult trip, and that did not affect his demeanor. By the time he left it was clear that he would be the unanimous recommendation.

**Richard Hudes** (NYC) writes that he and his wife attend classes at Queens College (part of City U. of New York, of which I was a trustee in the 1980s). They find the energy on the campus to be exhilarating and they enjoy working with 20-year-olds very much indeed. **Bill Brownlee** (Chevy Chase, MD) reports that two years ago, he qualified for the CRASH-Bs, the world indoor rowing championships in Boston. He was in the 85- to 89-year-old category with **Steve Rounds '51**—and they won. Last year Bill beat Steve and a Czech competitor to win. This year he came in ahead of all in his age group. Next year he will be in the 90-94 group! For several years, he has also competed in the Diamond State Masters Regatta in Delaware. He rowed in a father-son scull race with one of his sons; another son rowed in the same race with one of his sons, so they had three generations in the race. Bill lives in a municipality of 280 houses. He is chairman of it and is referred to as “the Honorable” or “the Mayor.” Sounds like he is keeping busy.

**Elizabeth Alexander** Weis (Osprey, FL) spends a good deal of time traveling to see her eight children, 13 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. She lives independently, drives, cooks, and is accepting the challenge of a new iPhone and Mac. **Peter Rowe's** (Florence, MA) wife died in 2013. He keeps busy serving on the board of his retirement community and has just retired from the board of trustees of the local public library. He rented a house on Cape Cod for the summer and is planning a cruise on the Baltic with three days in St. Petersburg. **Dorothy Coons Chadbourne** (Utica, NY) reports that her husband, **Arthur**, died in 2015. She is now spending a great deal of time with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She looks forward to receiving issues of *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, which she passes on to other Cornellians living in her area.

**Ann Ellis** Reynolds, MEd '53 (Quechee, VT) is still working as a psychologist in private practice in Vermont and New Hampshire, specializing in treatment for trauma, relationship issues, phobias, and moods. She is on the board of directors of the Vermont Psychological Assn. and Vermont Healthcare for All. She is also active in Democratic party politics. **Dan and Betty Rosenberger Roberts** now have a four-generation Cornell family—the two of them, Betty's mother, their daughter, and now their granddaughter, who comes all the way from Denver.

**C. James Luther** (Bryn Mawr, PA) spends a good deal of time trout fishing and playing golf. He is excited about the arrival of his first great-granddaughter. **Marty Galvin** Inskip (Tonawando, NY) is in good health. She keeps busy traveling and is active in her church senior center. She also enjoys attending great-grandchildren's activities. She and others in her high school class celebrated their 70th Reunion last year. **Bob Post** (Mantoloking, NJ) broke his hip two years ago, but is now sailing and skiing. He attended the wedding of one of his grandchildren last year and may be attending three more this year.

**Dave Dingle** (New Suffolk, NY) has been living on Long Island for 15 years. He is still busy with music and Cornell activities. It was on a Red Star Line ship that **Sonia Pressman** Fuentes (Sarasota, FL) came to the US in 1934 from Antwerp, Belgium. The Red Star Line has posted a picture of her as a little girl in Berlin and a write-up of her story on social media. See more at: <http://www.redstarline.be/en/story/sonia-fuentes-2-million-passengers-2-million-stories>.

We were delighted to receive all this material from classmates, and we thank those who submitted it! Paul and I would love to have similar material from others of you to include in upcoming columns. Please send news to: ♦ **Patricia Carry** Stewart, 2613 N. Ocean Blvd., Gulf Stream, FL 33483; tel., (561) 278-5387; e-mail, [stewart@aol.com](mailto:stewart@aol.com); **Paul Joslin**, 13731 Hickman Rd., #4207, Urbandale, IA 50323; tel., (515) 278-0960; e-mail, [phjoslin@aol.com](mailto:phjoslin@aol.com).

**51 Robert Clark** (Walworth, NY) sent me the *Cornell Chronicle* announcement of his \$3 million gift to establish an endowed fund to support the Big Red men's heavyweight crew program. As reported, “Clark was a four-year member of the team while on the

mentioned in the 103 columns I have submitted. Please let us know what you're doing. Since I have never reported my own story, and I'm short of words to fill our allotment, here goes. **William “Brad” Bond** (Marietta, OH) volunteers at the Marietta Recycling Center about 15 hours a week. He won the President's Lifetime Achievement Award from Barack Obama in 2015 for “lifelong commitment to building a stronger nation through volunteer service.” When DuPont moved him to Ohio from North Carolina, he became interested in Ohio history, wrote a book on the grindstone industry, joined the Ohio Canal Society, edited *Towpaths* (their quarterly publication) for ten years, and became one of many volunteer guides at the Ohio River Museum in Marietta. On retirement in 1990, he started learning the local wildlife (insects, birds,

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## ‘Herb Podel has kept a cultural salon going for 20 years.’

RAY TUTTLE '48

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Hill and later won 27 gold medals and ten world championships on the Masters circuit.” *Cornell Chronicle* announced the gift with Bob's comments: “Rowing meant so much to me. It was one of the best times of my life. The team was great and I have been friends for life with my teammates. After having traveled all over the world to row, I wanted to give back. I'm going to make sure that my assets are going to something worthwhile, and hopefully some other kid will have the same opportunity I did.” When Bob arrived at Cornell he had “never seen an oar before,” but went on to a successful career under the legendary head coach Stork Sanford, making the varsity eight crew as a senior. “I started at the bottom of the barrel, and the more I rowed, the more determined I was.” The Robert F. Clark Cornell Alumni Crew Fund will provide resources to cover operating expenses including equipment, training, uniforms, travel, coaching, boat-house equipment repair, and equipment transportation.

**Donald DeAngelis '56** wrote, “I'm very sad to report that my sister **Dorothy DeAngelis** Dharni passed away on June 5, 2017, in Durham, NC. She enjoyed a nice career teaching both high school and college English and literature courses in New Jersey.” **Joan Falconer** (Iowa City, IA) writes, “I'm now 17 years retired from 15 years of serving as the music librarian at the U. of Iowa—best known for having supplied two of Cornell's recent presidents, Hunter Rawlings and David Skorton—and enjoying the vibrant culture of this town, along with my garden (veggies and flowers) and two cats. I still mow my lawn and shovel my sidewalks and spend a couple of weeks each summer at our longtime family cottage at South Bristol, ME, home of the shipyard that built Pete Seeger's sloop *Clearwater*. And that's perhaps enough name-dropping for this year. My most cherished Cornell memory is singing in Sage Chapel under Donald Grout.” **Marian Roberts** Woodhead (Lake Jackson, TX) writes, “I continue to keep busy volunteering at a food bank, teaching Bible study, doing deep-water aerobics, and driving for those who no longer can. I also teach adult ESL during the school year.” Fondest memory of Cornell: “Riding the retired polo horses.”

As class correspondent, I am troubled by the number of obituaries I record of those who have never been

and wildflowers), became a guide for outdoor education of second- to fifth-grade schoolkids, covered Washington County in Ohio's second bird census, and published a six-year study of local long-horned beetle phenology and an article on pyrite at the Guernsey Limestone Quarry in *Rocks & Minerals*. He has participated in Marietta College's Inst. for Learning in Retirement with eight once-a-week, two-hour courses on many of these topics. While growing up in Ithaca, he delivered the *Daily Sun* on the Cornell campus and collected bottle caps at Schoellkopf after the football games. His father, **Maurice Bond, PhD '28**, taught Marketing at the Ag college, which got him into Cornell tuition-free. He loved Farm and Home Week, with lectures on birds, concerts at Bailey Hall, and swimming at Beebe Lake.

That didn't quite fill the space; if you don't send me news, you'll get more of this. Please send your news to: ♦ **Brad Bond**, 101 Hillside Way, Marietta, OH 45750; tel., (740) 374-6715; e-mail, [bbond101@suddenlink.net](mailto:bbond101@suddenlink.net).

**52** I gather (thank you, Mike) that it was a great Reunion. By now we all will have read **Mike Scott's** Reunion Report in the Sept/Oct magazine. I, here in August, have an advance copy, so I will now officially and formally write, “Thank you, Michael Scott, for taking over and giving me, who could not be in Ithaca, a fine picture of what went on.” Superlatives are in order, but lately I have sworn them off.

Reunion must have been in the air, because I now have 40 news forms—some from people who planned to attend such as **Aliza Goldberger** Shevrin, **Judy Calhoun** Schurman, **Trudy Serby** Gildea, and **Jean Brown** Craig; some who could not be there including **Arline Braverman** Broida, **Irwin Sitkin**, and **Barbara Schlang** Sonnenfeldt; and **Don Collins**, who wasn't sure. More about all of them later. Those who were not there or who did not choose to do **Mike's** and **Pat Lovejoy Stoddard's** devilish “20 Questions Reunion Quiz” can do it online at the Cornell Class of '52 Web page. That page also has details of our class's record-breaking achievements on attendance, fundraising, and Tower Club membership. Also on the page are chilling then-and-now campus maps and much more. Coming soon are **Bibbi**

**Antrim** Hartshorn's collected reminiscences from those of you who wrote. So check the page at: <http://classof52.alumni.cornell.edu>.

In answer to my request, Jean Brown Craig had good things to say about Reunion. She told me that Mike Scott was there, but busy. **Jim Ling** e-mailed that one-third of his surviving ChemE classmates made it. "That's five out of 15: **Ed Callahan, Jim Clarke, Tom Weber**, PhD '63, and **Meneleo Carlos**, who came all the way from the Philippines with his wife and two daughters. We're all looking forward to the next one in five years."

**Suessa Holtzman** Forbes writes, "We've recovered from our 65th (seems unbelievable) Reunion. Was great to see classmates **Stu** and **Kat Woodbury Haskins, Pearl Schwartzberg** Hochstadt, and **Pierre Tonachel** (the latter being also a high school classmate), but wish there had been more." **Nancy Rittershausen** McDowell (Tappan, NY; [hecate1112@aol.com](mailto:hecate1112@aol.com)) writes, "I am not all there, but I'm here." Good to know, Zip. Good to know. **Kimberly Fradkin** Prins (Stamford, CT) writes, "With the graduation of **J. Harrison Prins '16** from the Hotel school at Cornell, we are now the fourth generation from Cornell. Hooray!"

**Rodrigo Montealegre Echeverri** (Cartago, Costa Rica) writes that he is currently engaged in the enterprises of the family company he created. He has been a coffee producer and exporter and a dairy milk and beef cattle producer. He lists his main activity as a pineapple producer and exporter. "I plan to continue and enjoy all I have done." Other thoughts: "Never get into politics." **Thomas Cashel**, LLB '56 (Lake Worth, FL; [thomaswcashel@gmail.com](mailto:thomaswcashel@gmail.com)) writes, "I am working on my two classic Jaguar XK120s and setting up my garage workshop in preparation for building a Flemish single harpsichord. I plan to finish it in about two years." He had also been working with our class officers on Reunion planning as our class affinity chair. He planned to attend our 65th Reunion and did. Other thoughts: "Thank you, Cornell!"

**Israel Hurwitz** (Dedham, MA) is retired from his work as an orthopedic surgeon. He plans to stay healthy. Bud's other thoughts: "Many fond memories of my four years at Cornell and as a member of ZBT fraternity." **Bernard Gold** (Los Angeles, CA; [bgold1212@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bgold1212@sbcglobal.net)) is a retired partner of Proskauer Rose in the L.A. office, which he founded. **Joseph Kovacs Jr.** (Palm Coast, FL; [joe.kovacs1930@yahoo.com](mailto:joe.kovacs1930@yahoo.com)) is retired, enjoying the Florida shore and fishing. He specialized in radiology and has four children, three in Florida, one in North Carolina. He plans to "enjoy the weather and travel."

**Albert Fried**, MBA '53 (Bal Harbour, FL) is "taking life easy." He says he has been "just the same" and plans to "stick around a while longer!" Susan Olswant Strumer (Ridgefield, CT; [susan.strumer@gmail.com](mailto:susan.strumer@gmail.com)) is an honorary member of our class. Did you know there were any? She is **Joe Strumer's** widow. Susan is actively employed, an exerciser, and a member of the Cornell Club-New York. She would love to have classmates join her there to celebrate holidays or to attend with her some of the Cornell Club events. Susan wonders "where Joe's awesome pictures of Cornell 1952-53 ended up." Does anyone know?

**Edith "Skitz" Geiger Nichols** (Sanibel, FL; [nsnichols@gmail.com](mailto:nsnichols@gmail.com)) writes that she and **Norman '49** sold the house they had lived in for 50 years, left New York City, and painfully downsized to Rossmoor, a retirement community in Walnut Creek, CA, 20 minutes from their daughter and her family. They have kept the Sanibel house. "We struggle with the usual problems of aging,

the worst for me being macular degeneration, but have kept our minds active and our sense of humor intact. And of course we have to cope with the sadness of out-living so many of our old friends." From May to October the Geigers are in Walnut Creek and would be delighted to hear from any Cornellians in that area.

**L. James McKnight** (East Longmeadow, MA) is trying to retire. He is part owner of a John Deere equipment dealership. He is still living in too large a home, but he has excellent neighbors. He has been trying to retire, and plans to keep trying. Other thoughts: "Too many of my family members and friends are no longer here." A news form sent to **Karl Salzberg** was returned by his wife with a note that Karl had died on February 18 this year.

On that sad note, I will report that **Joan Nesmith** Tillotson, MD '56, my sorority sister, roommate, and good friend, at and after Cornell, died on Memorial Day. Joan graduated from Cornell Medical School, one of four women in a class of 81. She married Peter and they moved to Fargo, ND, where Joan raised a family, was widowed, and, for more than 30 years, was lead physician for Student Health Services at North Dakota State U. She was the first woman to serve on the North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners and eventually became its chair. She lived her faith and was a strong supporter of its church. She was also a serious tennis player and did good things for women's tennis in North Dakota. She could tell a joke. She was a good influence, on me and many others. During her stay in Fargo, the number of woman doctors in the state went from seven to 500. Near the end, Joan moved to the Twin Cities to be near her four sons. She developed something that could not be fixed, and chose hospice. As her son John said, "Her mind was working, but her body wasn't." ♦ **Joan Boffa** Gaul, [joangaul@mac.com](mailto:joangaul@mac.com). Class website, <http://classof52.alumni.cornell.edu>.

**53** What is so rare as a 65th Reunion? Here's hoping many old and new friends will show up for '53's 65th in Ithaca, next June 7-10.

**Klaus Brinkmann** (NYC), who began his college days at Purdue before joining us in Cornell '53 ILR, Fiji, the Arnold Air Society, class council, weekend committees, and Kosmos, to name but a few, noticed in **Nancy Savage** Petrie's Class of '55 CAM column that **Dave Levin** (Bryn Mawr, PA), after his Cornell AFROTC days, had been driving USAF F-86 Sabrejets with fighter-interceptor squadrons in Europe during the Cold War. "It was probably the most fun I ever had," Dave said. It led to med school, which led to chairmanship of the Thomas Jefferson Hospital. This reminded Klaus of his own days with a fighter-interceptor squadron (the 357th, based near Casablanca—you must remember this if you were there). Klaus, too, "treasures that time" and says it was the most fun he ever had. "This," Klaus maintains, "is in contrast to my later career as a CEO, which, toward the end, wasn't that much fun because of the increasingly litigious nature of today's business world and the unending problems of human resources. C'est la vie . . . Anyway, **Alice (Heft) '55** and I had to reduce our extensive travel after I survived an advanced lung melanoma, having received a prognosis that it was terminal, by enrolling in an experimental immune therapy program at NYU

Langone Medical Center. We sold our vacation homes on Cape Cod (our favorite) and in Florida, but continue to enjoy the cultural advantages of life in NYC. We also love its great food and the diversity of its people."

**Elaine Cohen** Levitt-Gershman (Philadelphia, PA) writes, "I'm very grateful that I'm able to do whatever I choose to do," which includes "many boards, the Gershman 'Y', the Franklin Inst., synagogue, travel, investments, and family." She appreciates "just mostly the opportunity to be exposed to the stimulating environment and formulate interests in science and art." Elaine was drawn to Mater's Modern Dance Club, Octagon, Komos Aeidein, and Model UN, plus VP-hood in WSGA. **Helen Teschner** Greene (Palm Springs, CA, in

winter, Great Neck, NY, in summer) wrote last from Long Island in May and noted that she keeps busy with bridge, Canasta, Pilates, gym workouts, golf lessons and practice, and reading. She said she'd rather be "ice skating, skiing, or traveling." At CU, she was in the dance club Komos Aeidein, Red Cross, and WAA. Teschie added that she was most impacted by her English professors and Arts and Sciences classes in general. Note: "The first day of my freshman year" was her best day at Cornell.

**Naomi Leith** Smith (Lexington, VA), a Roundup Club officer in our day, remains busy "caring for 50 traditional white Finnsheep, which I have been breeding for 31 years. It is one of the largest flocks in the country. I am looking forward to our 65th Reunion." Advice to Cornell? "I am disappointed that Cornell discontinued the sheep program. Lamb and mutton, plus goat, are the preferred meat protein for three-fourths of the world's population. With the choice of more consumers to demand natural, sustainable, environmentally friendly food and fiber, sheep are the best choice." **Genie Gilbert** Taub, MEd '54 (Westfield, NJ) is actively into gym activities like Zumba, tai chi, and yoga, plus aerobics six days a week, crossword puzzles, grandkids, "Jeopardy!," and "Wheel of Fortune." There's nothing she'd rather be doing, "but it would be nice to be doing it in Hawaii." Foreign language department profs were impactful to her. Genie taught French for years.

**Roberta Friend** Downey (Ashland, CA) is occupied with the local clubhouse library committee and the management of extensive grounds. She's interested in planting more pollinators to "save the bees." She advises Cornell to "respect all viewpoints—including conservatives." **Jack Otter** (Savannah, GA), of Octagon productions fame in our good old days on the Hill, now has time for "yard work, pool work, writing, reading, enjoying life, being with my sweet wonderful wife of 57 years, Susan, and seeing classmates and DKE fraternity brothers **Bob Weber** and **Bruce Johnson**, MBA '54." When pressed, he maintains that he'd rather be a song and dance man on the Broadway stage. **Clint Rossiter '39**, noted and notable Government professor, gets Jack's vote in the who-at-CU-made-the-most-impact-on-me category. "A great man; super teacher." Rossiter, when last seen by your correspondent, was skipping stones into Onondaga Lake at the 1953 Intercollegiate Rowing Assn. Regatta at Syracuse. Cornell was second to Navy in the varsity heavyweight eights.

**John Arnold** (Woodland Hills, CA) splits his time between "Arthur Murray dancing with wife Jane, maintaining

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## 'Sheep are the best choice.'

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NAOMI LEITH SMITH '53

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an orchard at church for West Valley Food Pantry, stock trading, DVDs on history, and reading some papers." His wrestling coach, Jimmy Miller, had the most impact on him. **Oliver Hewitt, PhD '44**, and Dr. Gustav Swanson impacted **Mel Atwater** (Olympia, WA) the most. His best day at Cornell? Graduation Day 1953 as a newly coined Army second lieutenant. **Erwin Geiger**, MBA '54 (Palm Harbor, FL) hopes to get more right than wrong when watching the stock market. He says his best day at Cornell was when he arrived in 1951. And the number one impact on him? "The total experience as a foreign student from post-war Germany in 1951-54." ❖ **Jim Hanchett**, 300 First Ave., #8B, New York, NY 10009; e-mail, jch46@cornell.edu.

**54** How many remember reading the Dr. Seuss book *Oh, the Places You'll Go*? You just may wish to read it again. I have. I then bought copies for all my children and their children. As I read and read the doctor's rhymes, I went back to a day in June 1954, one filled with ambiguities. We had made it to Schoellkopf in cap and gown, but many goodbyes would be said that day. We were off with diplomas in hand and to what? And here is where reading the good doctor's advice comes in handy. "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." And we did. So now we can say to all those who'll listen, "Oh, the places we've been," and it's been quite a few. It's been a great ride even if it's slowing down just a tad. We're missing good friends and treasuring those we can call, so put that on your list of things that need doing. We can help you with phone numbers and e-mail addresses to make plans for Reunion in June 2019. Today is the day, so just make the call.

I have received notes lately from several of you who have not written before. One was from **Peter Whiteford** of Houston, TX. Peter has lived there since 1955 with no moves in sight—well, except to ski in Park City, UT, when the snow falls. **Betty Wagler** Striso and Clem have not moved south, but have decided that maintaining a home in snow country can be a bit exhausting. Bowing to her birth date, Betty is tackling books, museums, and theatre rather than building stone walls—sounds very smart to me. Another extremely active classmate, **Ken Hershey** is still working hard and playing hard, with his golf score now close to his age. Ken's golf coach at Cornell offered sage advice of which I am sure Dr. Seuss would approve: Believe in yourself, be fair, and practice hard, and good results will happen. Good life lessons for the young and us octogenarians. Ken does not wait five years to reunite—he does CRC every year.

Love the note from **Richard Schoeck** re: the question, "Are you retired?" The answer being a rather emphatic "NO!" He and his wife live amid their 75 acres of forested land in a 70-year-old camp and love it. They do extensive rehab on small critters, which would appear to be an extension of his work for years as an EMT. He not only is a caretaker to his land and all the critters that share it with him, but he also participates in county school programs, teaching the young people about nature. **Teodoro Valentiner** has moved his location from office to retirement and slowed bit. Ted has lived in his native Germany for years and thus has not settled in Florida like so many of us have done. Add to the retirement list **James Martin** of Alamo, CA, who has no need to relocate to the Sunshine State, and **Edgar Meurs** of Poughkeepsie, NY, who might.

**Ariadne Plumis** Beck is reviewing 100 years of photos, along with organizing her husband's records for

archiving at the U. of Chicago. Both sound like interesting and time-consuming research projects. Ariadne has moved to a retirement facility in La Grange Park, IL, close to where she lived for 45 years, so she has the dual benefits of keeping her longtime friends and making new ones. While at Cornell, her Psychology professor helped her find an entirely new direction for her life's work. **Linda Stagg** Long moved east several years ago to be with her growing grand-family and has begun a reading career. She and Betty Striso spend their days discovering new worlds and new ideas via the marvelous world of books. Linda is still looking to take a cruise, but does not mention the destination.

One of our classmates following Dr. Seuss's sage advice is **Steve Krauss**, who has written to this column for years about his activities, always in a very positive manner. This year he has surpassed even his own energetic activities. He has used those feet in his shoes and the brain in his head to hike all over creation after a triple bypass, but you will have to read January's column to find out where on earth he has been. ❖ **Leslie Papenfuss** Reed, lesliejreed@me.com. Class website, <http://classof54.alumni.cornell.edu>.

**55** I can't remember living in such hot weather when we were young! By the time you get this column it will be winter, but today (mid-August) it's pretty oppressive. My daughter and I saw Al Gore's sequel to *An Inconvenient Truth* last week, which would convince any deniers of climate change/global warming that "the times they are a-changing."

**Phyllis Birnholtz** Melnick says, "I can navigate my iPad, but haven't felt the need for a smartphone, and I have no desire to participate in Facebook or Twitter." She is glad "to wake up each morning and look forward to my day!" **Ken Sanderson** expressed his appreciation for having chosen Cornell: "It was the best school in the country for my field of study, floriculture, and I found it had the most unforgettable professors—whose teaching I would draw upon throughout my career and life." Ken and his wife raised their grandson, "and that was a challenge, but that's what I want life to be: a challenge." They volunteer at four or more theaters in Sarasota. "I regret not being talented enough to be on the stage, so volunteering has allowed me to reconnect with students." Ken adds, "I've been a deputy sheriff at elections, bartender, usher, and circus stage person to protect kids from a trained horse." He ushered at Auburn U. football games for 15 years. "That was a real challenge that I solved by assisting a policeman!" In terms of travel, "I recently cruised to Cuba and would do it again." What gives him the most satisfaction now? "The wonder of the life that my wife and I have shared together. My wife has been my courage to do the things I've done."

**Art Murakami** had a cousin and two uncles who graduated from Cornell, and his daughter, **Janice Murakami** Furuta '90, followed him to Ithaca. Art admits that information technology has passed him by ("I'm what people call a dinosaur!"). He gets great satisfaction these days from "being able to help my daughter and her family in whatever way I can." As for future destinations, "I'm past my prime for vacation travel." **Sandy Wiltse** Leininger gets her kicks from "a really great bridge hand." In terms of IT, "Even my great-grandchildren are ahead of me!" Sandy went to Sweden in the fall of 2016 and found the home of her ancestors for ten generations, still inhabited by relatives. She visited the graveyard where past members of her family are buried, and learned that her great-grandfather, who

emigrated to the US in 1886, had robbed the bank where he worked, and fled here.

**Harvey Glass** (Nesconset, NY) returned his news form, but without news. Maybe next time? Two classmates, **Pat Van Mater** Wheeler (Charlotte, VT) and **Liz Rothermel** Hopwood (Fort Lauderdale, FL) forwarded their new e-mail addresses to us. The most satisfaction these days for **Paul Hyman** is "physical exertion in my fitness center," and his next destination: "any Cunard ship." Alaska is where **Dave Montague** wants to go next. He says he uses "all productivity tools, but no social media or games." (I'm certain other people would be well advised to make that same choice!)

**Phil Harvey** informed us of the death of his Theta Xi fraternity brother **Tom Zoidis**, a prominent businessman in Philadelphia finance. Tom started in January 1952, but considered himself a member of our class. (The university regards alumni to be members of the class with which they entered Cornell, regardless of when they graduated.) **Peter Hoss** (Salinas, CA) has been to "about 80 foreign countries on every continent," and has no favorite. "I'm taking a break from travel and enjoying what is here at home." He gives talks about Yosemite, where he was born, writes a column entitled "Scam of the Month," and adds, "Other community activities and keeping in touch with old friends occupy my time."

At our 20th Reunion, the information packet contained a bookmark with highlights of the weekend. On the back of the bookmark was a poem by Greek poet Constantine Peter Cavafy (1911) entitled "Ithaka" that I have kept ever since. It foretold my return to Cornell to live and work for several years in the late 1980s. It references *The Odyssey*, and I cherished the message (shortened here). I hope it resonates with you too.

*As you set out for Ithaka  
hope your road is a long one,  
full of adventure, full of discovery . . .  
May there be many summer mornings when,  
with what pleasure, what joy,  
you enter harbors you're seeing for the first time . . .  
Keep Ithaka always in your mind.  
Arriving there is what you're destined for . . .  
But don't hurry the journey at all.  
Better if it lasts for years,  
So you're old by the time you reach the island,  
wealthy with all you've gained on the way,  
not expecting Ithaka to make you rich . . .  
Ithaka gave you the marvelous journey.  
Without her you wouldn't have set out.  
She has nothing left to give you now . . .  
And if you find her poor, Ithaka won't have fooled you.  
Wise as you will have become, so full of experience,  
You'll have understood by then what these Ithakas mean.*

Send news to: ❖ **Nancy Savage** Petrie, nancysavagepetrie@yahoo.com. Class website, [classof55.alumni.cornell.edu](http://classof55.alumni.cornell.edu).

**56** There was a mini-reunion in Rochester last summer. **Carole Rapp** Thompson and her high school classmates reunited in August at a lakeside club. Also in attendance was Cornell classmate **Lil Hecklen** Gordon. While in Rochester, Carole attended a gala family birthday for **Rivka** "Ricky" **Gebiner** Chatman. Carole then went to Ithaca and was hosted by **Percy Edwards** Browning. They visited sites on the Finger Lakes and ended with a dinner at the Ithaca Country Club.

While at the Cornell Club in NYC waiting for my bridge game to arrive, I saw **Bob Seidenberg**, who was there to attend a lecture by an active one-star general who

was among those first on the ground in Afghanistan after 9/11. It sounded like an interesting evening at the club. The general suffers from PTSD and, according to Bob, was open about it. On view in July at the Gallery of Architecture in the Bronx, NY, was an exhibit of Frank Lloyd Wright's work, presented by **Judith York Newman**. I had lunch in July with **Barbara Rapoport** and **Syrell Rogovin** Leary. Syrell is the author of 17 published books under the name of Lee Harris. We need to see more of your published works, Syrell.

**Peg Jones Halberstadt** (Cincinnati, OH) lives in the Twin Lakes retirement community and is still active as a docent at the Cincinnati Art Museum. "Last year, a docent group traveled to Japan for a delightful tour," she writes. **Dick '53** and Peg celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their extended family in Grand Cayman Island in February. **Richard Lindsay** is a retired physician living in Charlottesville, VA. He is active in aging issues and is a consultant at the Lindsay Inst. for Innovations in Caregiving. **Michael Fellner** (NYC) retired as medical director of Advanced Dermatology Assocs. He is now planning to study stand-up comedy at the 92nd Street Y. Michael traveled to Disney World last February and said it was great. He lost his wife, **Fredda (Ginsberg) '57**, in October 2015, and says he would love to have visits from classmates.

**Betsy Collins** Verbsky (Seabrook, TX) retired a year ago as an animal control officer. "I was Officer 934 with the Lakeview Police and had 78 dumped dogs and an uncountable number of cats in ten years," she writes. Betsy was associated with a nonprofit rescue and adoption club called Second Chance Pets, and now has two rescue dogs and three rescue cats. "I often travel to see my children," she writes. **Theodora "Teddy" Litner** Weihe moved to Lakeland, FL, from St. Louis, and there married Whit Weihe in 2000. They now have a combined family of eight children, 17 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Teddy is a Master Gardener and is involved with the League of Women Voters and Lakeland Women's Democratic Club. "I'm not dancing anymore," she writes, "but yoga is my new passion. Golf and gardening take up any spare time."

**Mary Ann "Polly" Whitaker** Dolliver (Spokane, WA) continues to be active in the special education field and with her church and family. "As adjunct faculty for Gonzaga U.'s special education department, I currently supervise student teachers who aspire to work in the special education field." She remains a strong booster of Cornell, but says that Gonzaga is her adopted university. "All of my four daughters are married and live in the Pacific Northwest." Keep your news coming so all our classmates can hear about you. ❖ **Phyllis Bosworth**, phylboz@aol.com.

**57** More Reunion musings: **Sally Tuthill** Knapp, MNS '58, found the preparations for Reunion outstanding (kudos to **Dori Goudsmit** Albert and **Paul Noble**), and as such she was able to get to all the venues with no trouble. Her highlight presentation was the one by **Beth Ames** Swartz concerning her life and artwork. Your correspondent could not attend the festivities, but class historian **Connie Santagato** Hosterman was kind enough to fill me in on the details of the Friday dinner/meeting, at which president **Phil McIndoo** turned over the gavel to incoming president **Betty Starr** King and promptly left for Oxford for his annual adult learning experience. Phil and outgoing co-correspondent **Judy Reusswig** were presented gifts for their long-term and thoughtful service to the class, as were Dori and Paul.

Officers from the Class of 2007, celebrating their 10th Reunion, thanked us for our donation to seed their 5th Reunion. In turn they have been asked to do the same for the 5th Reunion of the Class of 2057. The meeting adjourned without any official recognition of the "men in kilts," except for some mumbblings from the ladies that next time they are asked to wear long pants. **Gil Riley** was not able to attend Reunion because of impending hip surgery, but got an update from AXP brother **Stu MacKay**, who visited Gil after the Ithaca festivities. Gil had recovered well enough to attend a family reunion on Martha's Vineyard in July, highlighted by his son and daughter-in-law's flying in from Seattle.

**Jane Graves** Derby and her husband, Dennis, celebrated their 60th anniversary in August. Jane is no longer a trustee of their Exeter, NH, CCRC, but she keeps active traveling (river cruises are wonderful), serving on church committees, and playing golf and bridge, a favorite activity of a number of classmates. "Piano teachers teach on forever" is the motto of **Constance Kelly** Fletcher. She still enjoys that and having her children and grandchildren gather in Maine every summer. **Roberta "Bert" Grunert** DeVries stays busy planning trips for the Philadelphia Zoo and Friends of the Ocean City (NJ) Pops. She traveled to Cuba in March, enjoying the island music. She and President King recently shot the rapids on the Columbia and Snake rivers, going on to California for a gathering of children and "grands."

**Susie Howe** Hutchins also puts aside a lot of time to spend with grandchildren, three of whom were born in a 14-month span. Going to someplace warm is always a treat, and volunteer work and bridge are also rewarding for her. **Bob '56** and **Barbara Ries Taylor** continue to volunteer weekly at a Houston nonprofit that navigates underserved persons into the healthcare system, concentrating on the food part of the project. They are active in greater Houston Cornell activities as well. **Nina Schick** Appel has had no grass growing under her feet. Having retired from Loyola U. Chicago School of Law, where she had been teaching since 1973 (dean for 21 years until 2004), she and sister Carol have been to China, India, Thailand, and Cuba, with several stops in Europe. Daughter Karen and Karen's husband are practicing law in Houston, and son Richard is in Los Angeles, where he is the co-showrunner for "Family Guy."

**Marcia Wishengrad**, JD '60, and Robert Metzger have also used their passports lately, spending four weeks touring Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. Having gone on to Cornell Law School after her undergraduate days, Marcia has been involved in a number of political and community endeavors since relocating to Hilton Head, SC. She shares your correspondent's great respect for Government professor **Clinton Rossiter '39**. I became fatigued in reading the news from **Ed '54** and **Joyce Dudley McDowell**, who have spent more time in the skies between California and Honolulu than I spent cramming for exams; and try Singapore, Hong Kong, Okinawa, Shanghai, Dubai, Botswana, and Cape Town on for size. They are settled in their new home in Hawaii, but probably not for long. **Patricia Farrell** Marinelli is keeping busy golfing, boating, and attending several classes. Her granddaughter is on a path to study on the Hill.

**Bill Schmidt** continues to display his wonderful paintings at several galleries around the country. To find a venue near you, he can be reached at PleinairBill@aol.com. **Allan Freiman** is not one to make rash decisions. After 32 years of bachelorhood and a five-year courtship, he married Bonnie Sue, an intervention

therapist. I assume Bonnie Sue had to intervene to get Allan off the dime. Evanston, IL, is now home. 50 years is the length of time that **Stephen Parles** has been practicing pediatric medicine in Port Jefferson, NY, with no plans to pack it in anytime soon.

**David Wingate** has purchased a home in Athens, GA, so that Helge can be near her daughter and son-in-law, both of whom are professors at the U. of Georgia. He is involved in a number of conservation projects in Bermuda. Here's a new twist: **Dick Johnson**, BEE '59, is involved in a retirement group in which the approximately 300 members teach each other college courses. I assume the professors' union is protesting.

Back to musings about Reunion, in anticipation of which **Gonzalo Ferrer-Rincon** passed on some thoughts on how things were in Ithaca when we graced the Hill. Tuition was under \$900 (pick a number now), there were two or three female ME students (now 35 percent are female), all Engineering folks proudly carried their slide rules around campus, Johnny's Big Red Grill (long gone) was a favorite, and ice skating on Beebe Lake was a kick (not now; only in Lynch). ❖ **John Seiler**, suitcase2@aol.com.

**58** **Albert Caines** (Caines59@aol.com) says, "I'm still working every day after 20 years of retirement. I'm in great health and driving cars and working dealer trades for Sharon Chevrolet in Phoenix, NY. I keep many wild animals for pets, including baby raccoons, 'possums, skunks, and porcupines, and also fish and NASCAR race." Maybe that special pet care follows from some of the impact Al's favorite professor had on him: Prof. Leonard Hamilton of the Ag college and Wildlife Biology. Sounds like you're keeping a busy life in Upstate New York, Al, even though you say you also would like to "go south for the winter and fish every day and gorge on seafood." You'll probably do that, too.

**Barbara Streicher** Magid (barblenmm@aol.com) says, "I'm still teaching college chemistry as an adjunct in the fall semester, playing bridge, and going to the theater, as well as working out at the gym. Len and I travel in the spring, lately visiting France, Indonesia, Mexico, and Colombia." The Magids still live in Merrick, NY. **Ken Pollard**, another New Yorker (Cayuga, NY; kbpol@rochester.rr.com), says he's developing a conservation project on his farm property and continues as an emeritus member of the board of governors of Shriners Hospitals for Children. His wife, Beulah, was hospitalized last winter, so that has affected their activities. Ken remembers well two impactful professors at Cornell: **Max Brunk, PhD '47**, and **Herbert Hartwig '48**.

Rev. **Bob Beringer** (beringermcb@yahoo.com) and his wife, **Peggy (Chamberlain) '59**, said they enjoyed a fabulous Alaska trip with their daughter, Beth, and her partner last fall. Bob, long retired, seems far from it with his continued leading of ecumenical Bible discussion groups in their Topsham (ME) Highlands retirement center and preaching last summer at two former churches in New Jersey, each celebrating 300 years of activity. **Jim Suiter** and **John "Jock" Nichols** recently lost their spouses and report that they "are now alone." Jock's wife was **Sandra Foote** Nichols '59, "a wonderful woman greatly missed by those who knew her. She was a member of KKG."

**Barbara Collier** Delany (bcdelany@earthlink.net) and husband Harry still reside in Mt. Vernon, NY, where Barbara creates assemblage wall-based sculpture art and exhibits on occasion. She also volunteers in a "Go to College" program for young men in the Harlem

community. She would like to travel more, but still enjoys boating and says she would like to hear from all her Chi Gam sisters. Prof. Norman Daly and **Allen Atwell '47, MFA '51**, were important instructors for Barbara developing her drawing and painting skills during her years on the Hill. **Jack Kelly** continues working with his two sons, John (Lafayette '87) and **Robert '90**, building a family money management business at JP Morgan for families. He says he and Ingrid are enjoying life at Windsong Farm with their six grandchildren in Pottersville, NJ. Jack continues to declare that Prof. Alfred Kahn was a "truly great man, brilliant and human," and one who surely had a great impact on him.

Another New Jerseyman, **Mike Griffinger**, received high recognition as one of 22 business leaders in the state to receive the first "Icon Honors" award from *NJBIZ*, New Jersey's premier business news publication. "The Icon Honors recognize years of exceptional work in the state and in the winners' respective industries. Among his many accomplishments, Mike was part of the committee that successfully created a special 'business track' within the New Jersey court system to handle complex commercial disputes and build a body of written opinions that could serve to guide the business community in its commercial practices. He also litigated precedent-setting cases that led to the establishment or clarification of important commercial rules, such as the business judgment rule." Congratulations, Mike. From points west, Lawrence, KS, comes a note from **Barbara Shelley Cook** (barbcook02@aol.com), who writes, exercises, keeps a pet, and works in curriculum design on her second master's degree. Barb and husband James Jr. also enjoy three grandchildren, a teenager in their town and two under 6 in Memphis. She ranks **Clinton Rossiter '39** as the professor with the greatest impact on her from her undergraduate days.

We end with an update from our traveling adventurer—who else but **Al Podell**—as we again go to press and he's on the move, this time sailing on a Russian vessel plowing the Northwest Passage following his last reported trip around Cape Horn. He's incommunicado, but no doubt watching icebergs float by, hoping for sharp lookouts, trying to keep warm while maybe preparing notes for a new book. Who knows? We wish him well.

Before long you will be getting our 60th Reunion packet (late winter probably), and hopefully you plan to fill it out and join your class for a great time together in June. Meanwhile, you can check out the class blog at <https://58at55th.wordpress.com> (don't worry about the "55"; that's a blog title carry-over from our last Reunion) for updates and other news. Now, near year's end, we wish all Happy Holidays and good health. ❖ **Dick Haggard**, richardhaggard11@gmail.com; **Jan Arps Jarvie**, janjarvie@gmail.com.

**59** **Carole Kenyon's** first CAU experience, "The Jewish American Experience" led by CAU favorites **Glenn Altschuler, PhD '76**, and Ross Brann, was a week-long high. "I can't say enough about this! Our final class was a lovefest between class members and the professors. The applause went both ways—literally." Carole's younger daughter, Karen, attended the course with her. Meanwhile, three of Carole's five grandsons also were on campus. Two, age 14, attended programs associated with CAU; the third, a rising senior in high school, took a course on debate. Carole also used her time on campus to visit with the director of the Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation & Archives at the ILR school. Carole presented the center with an

original "Viva la Huelga" poster from the Cesar Chavez grape boycott, given to her by one of the boycott's organizers. Other highlights of the busy week included running into **Paul Morris** and his wife **Lynn (Blumstein) '62**, being asked for directions to Clara Dickson ("guess that looks like I belong!"), meeting with **Ray Bally '19** ("an extraordinary young man I met with as a CAAA volunteer when he was an applicant"), looking at the memorial windows in Sage Chapel, and dining at the Mahogany Grill with a gang of eight, including **Judith Friend '84, DVM '88**, and her husband.

**Roz Bakst** Goldman of Rochester continues to appreciate fine art and enjoys meeting new clients, as well

British history. **Joan Travis Pittel** ushering at the Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. **Dale Rogers Marshall** at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, where she's a volunteer. **Doug Dedrick** participating in activities at The Villages in Florida, where he lives during the winter months. **Pearl Woody Karrer** at the keyboard, teaching piano students—when she's not busy as the managing editor of *California Quarterly*, a publication of the California State Poetry Society. Roomies **Carole Sahn Sheft** and **Lissa Rogall Weseley** discussing the joys and woes of downsizing (Lissa and husband Steve are downsizing by half, but staying at altitude; "bedroom will be at 8,500 feet instead of 10,000 feet"). ❖ **Jenny Tesar**, jet24@cornell.edu.

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## 'Dick Johnson is in a retirement group in which the approximately 300 members teach each other college courses.'

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JOHN SEILER '57

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as teaching at the Appraisers Assn. of America in NYC about the appraisal of original prints. Her and her husband's print collection was featured in a special exhibition at Grinnell College in 2015, "Playing it Forward: German Expressionism to Expressionism Today." The exhibition emphasized the college's German expressionist collection, which the Goldmans sold to Grinnell in 2002, combined with the Goldmans' contemporary expressionist collection. "The prints were shown intertwined with regard to age to show the similarities in 100 years of expressionist-style printmaking. This was very exciting to us," she writes. Roz adds that she is "deeply involved with public art, working on highway projects with the New York Dept. of Transportation adding an aesthetic element to highway rebuilding such as railings lighting, barrier walls, and signage, making the highways and bridges more interesting. Three highway projects have been completed in Rochester, using an aesthetics committee to enhance the landscape and to draw attention to the roadways in a positive sense." Roz recently completed a sculpture competition for a housing development and is working on a donor wall competition for the Jewish Home of Rochester's renovation project.

**J. Raymond Long**, DVM '59, lived in Southern California for 28 years before coming east to Batavia, NY, in 2002 to be closer to family. He's still enjoying doing small animal medicine and surgery four days a week at his Dog & Cat Surgery and Wellness Clinic. "I have been removing anal sacs from cats and dogs for 40 years, using a method I designed in 1977 to increase human-animal bonds. I am now about done with research on 200 dogs, comparing the health of dogs with and without anal sacs. Dogs with sac-removal surgery are approximately ten times healthier than those with their sacs. Also note that cats without anal sacs are non-allergenic to people who are allergic to cats."

Seen around town. **Ellie Applewhaite, Steve Friedman**, and **Harry Petchesky** at their 55th Reunion of the Columbia Law School Class of '62. **Peter Yarrow** and Noel Paul Stookey carrying on the tradition of Peter, Paul & Mary with a performance at the Ridgefield (CT) Playhouse. **Benson Simon**, MBA '62, at the U. of Maryland, taking courses on Victorian-era and post-Victorian

**60** Congratulations are in order for **Logan Cheek**, MS '17, who recently completed his master's degree after an interruption of more than five decades. He reports, "On Memorial Day weekend, I marched with some 6,000 other newly minted Cornell graduates—I believe as the oldest recipient of a Cornell degree in the Class of 2017." As he tells it, "After graduating in 1960 with my BA, I was off to MIT, then back to the Hill for my master's in the ILR school. I finished all the courses and the exam, but then got the call to duty from Uncle Sam for Vietnam, so I never finished the thesis. By the time I returned stateside, the topic of my thesis was obsolete, so I launched my corporate, consulting, and private equity career. Flash forward 54-plus years. Attending a tech transfer seminar in Ithaca, I reconnected with the current ILR faculty. The subject of my missing/overdue thesis came up, and flash, bang, alacazam!—I'm readmitted. Hey, why not? It's another item for my growing bucket list." He finished his final requirement and now sees his late-life degree as an emblem of "Cornell's affirmative action program for geezers."

**Salvatore "Sal" Accardo** writes that he and his wife, Janet, sold their apartment in Manhattan in 2016 and moved to their country house in beautiful Sharon, CT. "I'm now taking courses locally, am on the board of Music Mountain, sing in a men's barbershop group, and attend local music/show events. We renovated our attic into two bedrooms and a bath for our two grandchildren and their parents when they visit from New York. Janet and I recently traveled to Mexico's San Miguel de Allende, and also, for the 18th year in a row, spent 12 days on the Caribbean island of Anguilla. We plan to take Road Scholar trips and join other community groups." Sal would like to hear from **Bruce Saunders** and says that the person at Cornell who had the greatest impact on him was **David Dropkin, PhD '38**, "who taught thermodynamics in such an interesting way as to make this very difficult subject comprehensible."

**Bob '58** and **Katherine Beneke Lyle** now, she says, "split our time between our home in Vernon, CT, and our cottage in Kennebunkport, ME. We love both places. We keep in touch with my freshman roommate, **Sue Phelps Day**, MEd '62, and her husband, **Bill '59**, my

husband's fraternity brother. My sophomore roommate, **Karen Gear** Alliyuddin, visited us from Malaysia a few years ago. We are both looking for another roommate, **Carol Dioguardi** O'Sullivan, MA '62, who last lived in Ireland. Our oldest grandson will be a freshman at Brown U. this fall—he said Cornell was 'too big.' We tried!"

**Will Clark**, still busy with his sculpture in Fort Wayne, IN, reports that his "most recent commission, a six-foot bronze statue of St. Francis of Assisi, is now installed at the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Hastings, MN. Sculpting has been a wonderful surprise addition to my retirement activities." Will is also the

Minneapolis with a 6-year-old son; son Andy is in Steamboat Springs with four children; and son Dan is in Boston with three boys. Oldest grandson Jake is in Hollywood and played the policeman who was shot in the Boston Marathon movie." Adelle says it was Skip who had the greatest impact on her at Cornell.

**Ellie Browner** Greco (Forked River, NJ; ebgreco13@gmail.com) writes, "I'm still active in local Lacey Historical Society and Friends of the Lacey Library, collecting and researching textiles, especially antique quilts, buying and selling antiques and collectibles at local antique shows, and keeping healthy. We still ski, although I have

are Cornell grads: **Jon Ripans '89** (Arts) and **Holly Ripans Witten '94** (Hotel). She remembers her advisor, mentor, and friend, Prof. Stephen Mullen.

**Joanne Shapiro** Koch (jkoch@nln.edu) is another successful theater writer from our class. She is announcing a musical, *Raunchy Little Musical—Belle Barth is Back*, running October 6 through November 12 in the Palm Beach Gardens Art Center in West Palm Beach, FL. The show is about '50s comic Belle Barth and received rave reviews at its preview performance in Tampa, including this: "The play is expertly crafted, and the actors were amazing to watch as they brought Joanne's words to life in a flawless production." Quick notes from **Martin Goldstein**, who has just retired after teaching 50 years of political science at Widener U., and **Craig Moore**, MS '64 (moore@speedyquick.net), who says horses and jazz and grandkids keep him busy in retirement. He'd like to hear from all Fijis.

And lastly, from **Doug Fuss**: "In the dog days of summer two classmates passing through Savannah took the time to stop and visit with Doug and Sue Fuss. **Reg**, MBA '63, and **Kathie Woods** were visiting the Landings and joined us for lunch. They are in the process of downsizing, but will remain in Charlottesville, VA. Also, **Larry Wheeler**, our webmeister, and wife Margaret joined us for dinner in the downtown historic district. They were spending the week in Savannah accompanying their two granddaughters. One was attending a week-long academic camp at Savannah College of Art and Design. The other was along for the vacation and joined us for the evening." Please remember to send your news to: ❖ **Susan Williams** Stevens, sastevens61@gmail.com; and **Doug Fuss**, dougout@attglobal.net.

## 'Logan Cheek recently completed his master's degree after an interruption of more than five decades.'

JUDY BRYANT WITTENBERG '60

proud founding chair of the Thurgood Marshall Charter School in Fort Wayne, which is, he says, "95 percent minority and 98 percent free or reduced lunch." He and **Ginny (Buchanan) '61** are still quite contented with their lives, though he admits wishing he could spend more time playing the violin and piano.

Back in May, **Ruth Berberian** Hanessian wrote that she finally closed her retail pet store, Animal Exchange, after what she describes as "an extremely satisfying 37-year run," because she was scheduled for knee surgery during the summer. "I'm so glad I traveled to places like Australia and Brazil while I could, and before all of today's hassle with air traffic." Ruth was recently appointed a trustee of the Rockville, MD, Science Center and is very involved in efforts to create a physical building that can house the center's many programs, which include science cafes, camps, classes on such topics as robotics, and talks by experts like Cornell professor Linda Rayer. Ruth says that those who had the greatest impact on her at Cornell were Prof. Charles Sibley and the Conservation Club members. She would like to hear from classmate **Merrill Burr** Hille.

**Donna Blair** Read and her husband, Dennis, are in Mountain Brook, AL, where she teaches the Bible to small groups through Bible Study Fellowship Int'l. Still in Colts Neck, NJ, **Edith Rogovin** Frankel says, "I've been teaching at Monmouth U. part time during the fall term. In the winter, I give a lecture series at Florida Atlantic U. in both Boca Raton and Jupiter, mainly in February. I also have lots of lovely grandchildren growing up, with the first already in college." Send your news to: ❖ **Judy Bryant** Wittenberg, jw275@cornell.edu.

**61** Your Oregon class correspondent is now located in Reno, NV! It's a complete change of climate and environment involving psychological and physical adjustment. In time, all will be managed, I trust.

Meanwhile, I will share news of classmates. **Adelle Case Picking** (Johnstown, PA; adellep@earthlink.net) and husband **Howard** "Skip" '60, MBA '62, "enjoy working on community projects such as helping with a 'white-water park' for kayaking, boating, and rafting." "We enjoy skiing in Vail and Steamboat Springs from January to April. Daughter **Liz Picking** McLay '90, MS '97, is in

switched to cross-country since my diagnosis of Parkinson's disease. Although our daughter and son-in-law live in Colorado, we spend as much time as we can with them." Ellie writes that they travel often with them—"last year to Peru and Utah, this year to southern Africa for two weeks. They visit us, especially to fish the Atlantic. Even though we love the mountains, living on the water has been a joy—can't imagine being anywhere else." She adds, "I continue to meet with students from my locale who are applying to Cornell, and I am always pleased to mention to them that I am in touch with my classmates after all these years. It says something special about our class and friendships: friendships can last a lifetime!"

A follow-up on classmate **Gus Kappler**, MD '65, noted in Doug's column in the May/June 2017 issue: Gus wrote *Welcome Home from Vietnam, Finally*, and he describes Vietnam as "life altering." We are encouraged to watch *The Vietnam War* by Ken Burns on PBS. From our class website: A \$10 million challenge gift from classmates **Barton** and **Susan Sternblitz Winokur** is helping to launch a new fundraising campaign in the College of Arts and Sciences that will support the creation of 15-25 new endowed positions within the college over the next two years. Provost Michael Kotlikoff said, "We are so very grateful that Bart and Susan are stepping forward at this critical time. Their gift, and the gifts it encourages from others, will create a solid foundation for the recruitment and retention of top faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences."

An update from **Bobbie Horowitz** (bh@bobbiehorowitz.com) reminds us of the cabaret series she writes and produces. She gives image workshops as well. Her son, **David '90**, JD '94, is in theater and music and is appearing in NYC. She writes, "I'd like to finish a musical and have it produced first off-Broadway, then on Broadway, then regionally, and then on film. My ILR classes taught me to: 1) listen to people; and 2) understand that our planet is in development." **Gail Kweller Ripans** recommends the new National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta. "It recognizes our classmate **Micky Schwerner** and the freedom fighters and other leaders in the struggle." She and **Allan '55** have three children and six grandchildren. Two of the children

**62** We inadvertently moved **Mickey Langsfeld** (mickeylang@gmail.com) across the country. He's lived in the same house in Meadowbrook, PA (not CA), for 49 years. **Steve** and **Deb Schmal** (schmals@verizon.net) have made the move from east to west, from the D.C. area, where, Steve writes, "I had lived since graduating from Cornell. On New Year's Day, we arrived in San Diego, our new home 'town.' When people ask why we moved, our answer is the weather, the weather, and the weather. We live in a condo in North Park, on the border of Balboa Park. Still downsizing—we brought too much stuff. But we're having fun exploring all the area has to offer, getting involved in old activities in a new location (as well as new ones), and making new friends."

After 44 years in Greensboro, NC, **Fred '59** and **Carol Shaw Andresen** (fandcandresen@gmail.com) have moved to Twin Lakes in Burlington, NC, a CCRC near Raleigh. That activity has kept them busy for the past year. They also enjoy volunteering, bridge, and their dog, a beagle mix. Lettie and **Dave Harrald** continue to enjoy their retirement life in Sun Lakes, AZ. Bryn Mawr, PA, is home to **Scott Holmes** (HLmsgpr@gmail.com). **Don Behan** has been diagnosed with FTD and Alzheimer's. "It's best to contact me through my wife, Peggy, at peggybehan@gmail.com," he writes.

"Still practice law in NYC," writes **Bob Miller**, LLB '65 (Colts Neck, NJ; katti@me.com). Bob continues as chair of the Foreign Policy Assn. and on the budget and audit committee of the National Endowment for Democracy. He also serves as president of Husford Foundation, which supports democracy and human rights activities. Bob's youngest son is the singer Tor Miller. **Steve Holbreich** (holby1030@aol.com) retired from the practice of law in 2012 and now volunteers for three nonprofits. Steve and Elizabeth moved from a large home to a

condo in Huntington Station, NY, last year. His daughter, **Toby, JD '95**, and her husband live in Westchester with their two boys, and his son, **Josh '96**, and his wife live in Huntington with 3-year-old twins.

**Evelyn Spieske** Dufur volunteers as vice president of the Friends of the Albany Public Library. She and William live in Castleton on Hudson, NY, and have two daughters and five grandchildren, whom they enjoy visiting in South Carolina and Vermont. **John, MS '65**, and **Janie Curtis** (johndanjanie@att.net) volunteer in Heath, TX, when they're not skiing, golfing, or traveling. They recently took an "awesome adventure" to Machu Picchu and Brasilia. "So many places, so little time." John is the sole proprietor of his eponymous professional engineering firm in Heath. He would like to hear from **Don Vitter**.

**Edward Newell**, who lives in Derby, NY, would like to hear from **David Lundberg '61**. Artist **Alice Dalton Brown** (alicedaltonbrown@mac.com), who exhibited at Reunion, was showing paintings in New York at 527 Madison Avenue from September through November. Alice and David live in Peekskill, NY. Helen and **John Burns** live in Shepherdstown, WV, where John is on the building committee of the local museum, active with the village-to-village network, and on his church property committee. Quilting, gardening, volunteering, and repair and maintenance of her old home in Fabius keep **Judith Frediani Tarrants** (jtarrants@aol.com) busy. "I inherited an older service dog about a year ago—a new experience for me, as I've been very much a 'cat person.' She's a good girl and enjoying her retirement." Judith keeps up with her daughter in Virginia and granddaughter in Berkeley, CA; her son died in 2010 of complications of Friedreich's ataxia.

"Just was appointed to the surface water advisory board, and just finished a term on the county charter review commission, in addition to the usual community activities," writes **Richard Thurston** (rthurs666@aol.com) of Spanaway, WA. Richard has lived in Pierce County for 48 years and has been active in all levels of government. A retired professor emeritus from Queens College, CUNY, **Hannes Brueckner** conducts research on mountain building and geologic time at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia U. He and Mary Ann live in Palisades, NY. They love to travel to eco-resorts. Hannes has four children and six grandchildren and enjoys mushroom hunting and gardening.

**H. Bryan Neel III** retired in 2005 as an academic surgeon at the Mayo Clinic. He lives in Rochester, MN, where he is "having a great time—seven grandchildren, fishing, sailing, gardening, and many good books, plus doing two-piano recitals with an 'old' friend." He noted that Prof. Tom Sokol and the Glee Club had the greatest impact on him. "Friendships that have lasted over 50 years" had the greatest impact on **Anne Kaczmarczyk Evans**. Send news to: ❖ **Jan McClayton** Crites, jmc50@cornell.edu.

**63** Fall and football season are definitely here. Time certainly does fly at this time of our lives—so I am reminding you that our 55th Reunion will be held June 7-10, 2018. Anyone interested in helping out with affinity groups or any other phase of Reunion planning, please contact class president **Joe Stregack**, PhD '70, at jstregack@aol.com.

**Judy Hart**, founding superintendent of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, NY, spoke at the July convention of the organization. Her talk was "How, Why and by Whom was the Women's Rights

National Historical Park Created?" Judy had an illustrious career in the National Park Service, and upon her retirement in 2005, a tribute was published in the *Congressional Record*: <https://www.congress.gov/congressional-record/2005/1/26/extensions-of-remarks-section/article/E85-1>. According to the tribute, "Judy has been instrumental in moving the Rosie the Riveter World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, CA, from concept to reality. She is the latest in a long list of remarkable women whose contributions here have shaped American history." Judy served as founding superintendent for both parks.

Many of you probably read in the *Ezra Magazine's* June issue that **Bob Blakely**, MBA '65, and his wife, Pinky Keener, supported the 2016 restoration of "Herakales in Ithaca I," the iconic sculpture at the entrance to the Statler Hotel. **Charles Levine** spends his retirement working out six days a week. "My daughter, Sara, married a Sabra (native-born Israeli) and lives with her husband and three children in a suburb of Tel Aviv, Israel. I'm trying to decide if I should move to Israel. Professors Ted Lowi and Donald Kagan had the greatest impact on me when I was at Cornell."

**Madeleine Leston** Meehan, my most loyal and frequent correspondent, wrote that she has recovered from open heart surgery. She is busy with her artwork at MM Mostly Music Art. She attended another Water Island Music Festival in January in the Virgin Islands, again accompanied by **Judy Wyman** Adamson. Madeleine had lunch with **Edward Hower** in Key West during a stop on a Eurodam cruise in March. I am sure we will see Madeleine at our 55th. **Joan Travers** Barist and Jeffrey live in Washington Depot, CT. Joan wrote: "**Art Sussman**, husband of **Rita (Padnick)**, died in August 2016. Art was the associate editor of the *Cornell Daily Sun* and had worked as legal counsel at the U. of Chicago and was at the MacArthur Foundation." In March the Barists took a five-week trip to Australia and New Zealand. Her comments about New Zealand: "an absolutely gorgeous country and wonderful food and wine."

**Kandis Vengris** Scott just retired from teaching at Santa Clara Law School in 2017. She lives in Stanford, CA. **Steve Fisch** lives in Dix Hills, NY. He owns Milridge Properties LLC in Ridgewood, NJ, including restaurants and apartments as tenants. "I spend even more time at the Cinema Arts Centre in Huntington, NY, where I am a board member and link to the Circle of Friends volunteers. It is the legendary 44-year-old, 12,000-member (largest on Long Island), nonprofit, community-based, cultural and social heart of Long Island. We present all genres of film, live theater, and opera, live music, panel discussions, community forums, art exhibits, dozens of film festivals, and special events." Steve is a busy man.

**Warren Walker**, PhD '68, writes that he has been officially retired for ten years, but still goes to work every day. "I am a professor emeritus of policy analysis at the Delft U. of Technology. A few years ago, I helped establish the Int'l Society for Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty ([www.deepuncertainty.org](http://www.deepuncertainty.org)). I have been living in the Netherlands for 23 years, but the rest of my family lives in the US (three children and five grandchildren). I visit them and they visit me, but not nearly enough." The person who had the greatest impact on Warren at Cornell was his undergraduate student advisor, Jack Kiefer, who "introduced me to the (at the time) little-known field of operations research. I went on to get a PhD in OR in 1968." Please e-mail me with news. It's the fastest and easiest way for me to receive your updates. ❖ **Nancy Biers** Icke, 12350 E. Roger Rd.,

Tucson, AZ 85749; e-mail, [icke63@gmail.com](mailto:icke63@gmail.com). Class website, <http://cornellclassof63.alumni.cornell.edu/>.

**64** It's autumn again! Time to snuggle up with a warm . . . whatever, and enjoy news about your classmates' activities.

Our class's week at last summer's CAU (July 30-August 5) had just three classmate participants: **Helen Schwartz**, **Paul Kruger**, and **Bruce Wagner**, ME '66, all CAU veterans. Bruce writes, "The week was wonderful, with great classes and sunny weather. And, of course, smart adult students. Surprise: excellent restaurants in Ithaca." In other news, go to our class website to meet our newest JFK awardee, **Jordan Berger '17**. Jordan received her award from classmate **Dick Church**.

**Joe James**, last in this column six years ago, keeps busy in the produce business, which he runs out of his new home office, plus he does a lot of volunteer work. Joe and wife Shirley recently moved to Eagle, ID, which is just outside Boise, from Carlsbad, CA, to be near their son and three grandchildren. **Brian Wruble**, ME '66, is also keeping very busy. He writes, "I am an investor and I serve on several boards: OppenheimerFunds, chairman, NY board; TCP Capital Inc., director; Inst. for Advanced Study, trustee and treasurer; the Jackson Laboratory, trustee and chairman emeritus; Community Foundation of the Florida Keys." In summer, home for Brian and wife Kathleen is Princeton, NJ, or their place on Maryland's Eastern Shore, but they like spending the cold months at their abode in Key West, FL. Brian writes that he keeps "very active," including work with a personal trainer three days a week. The Wrubles have four granddaughters.

Congrats to **Harold Evensky**, MS '67, a certified financial planner, who is the 2017 recipient of the J. Richard Joyner Wealth Management Impact Award. Harold is chairman of Evensky & Katz, a 30-plus-year, fee-only investment advisory firm, and a professor of practice in personal financial planning at Texas Tech U. Harold served on the Int'l Assn. for Financial Planning board, CFP board of governors, board of examiners, and Int'l CFP Council, and was chair of the TIAA-CREF Inst. advisory board. He is also on the advisory board of the *Journal of Retirement Planning* and is the research columnist for the *Journal of Financial Planning*. He is the author of *The New Wealth Management* and co-editor of both *The Investment Think Tank* and *Retirement Income Redesign*.

**Marshall Goldstein** (Brewster, NY) is making his first appearance in this column, noting that one of his five grandchildren is a college freshman at Lehigh. **Connie Bennett** Meunier (Bellevue, NE), last here 26 years ago, writes, "Since our 50th Reunion, I have been busy trying to clean out and downsize my house and possessions—not fun! I do find time to travel and plan to do much more, probably starting with Australia and South America. For most of April, I was in Spain and Portugal and loved spending time in countries about which I knew so very little. I took a pass on attending bullfights, however."

**Kate Teale** Roach and husband Barry now live in Milwaukie, OR, having moved there recently from California to be near Portland, where all three of their children now live. Kate notes it's difficult getting used to "life with more rain," but they love being close to their grandchildren. **Richard Hecht**, who lives in White Plains, NY, with wife Susan, is keeping busy. He's on a number of not-for-profit boards, does management consulting, manages trusts and investments, and exercises by walking, jogging, biking, and golfing. The Hechts' sons live in New Orleans and have given them two grandsons and two granddaughters. **Sandy Vogelgesang** keeps busy as a

civic activist, participating in local politics (she and husband Geoffrey Wolfe live in Bethesda, MD), and writing. They also travel a lot, or as Sandy notes: "It's apparently in our genes as retired Foreign Service Officers. Latest trip was to Vietnam and Cambodia, an instructive way to bring closure on one of the key events in our lives."

**Charles Oliver**, who still owns a Massey Ferguson dealership with his son in Canaseraga, NY, now has a winter home in Lehigh Acres, FL. **William Lacy** is still "professing on good days" at UC Davis, where he is in the human ecology department in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. He is also writing a book on Australian higher education. He and wife **Laura (Robinson) '65** recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and welcomed their first two grandchildren. One of the grandchildren is just down the road from Davis, in San Francisco—but the other is in Paris, France, offering great travel opportunities.

**Ken Kupchak**, JD '71, is now president of the Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert law firm in Honolulu, HI, and is on the board of Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. The latter position, at least, seems natural for Ken, who lives with wife **Patty (Geer) '67** on Oahu, as they both enjoy hiking in natural settings worldwide. **Michael "Tim" Graves** (Fairport, NY) enjoys getting together with old friends and military buddies, reconnecting with some others via social media, and letting the dog take him for walks. Tim wryly notes, "In March, our oldest granddaughter became a teenager. It doesn't seem as if that many years have gone by."

That's it for now. Please don't forget to send your news to me by e-mail, regular mail using the News Form (or even a sheet of paper), or our class website ([www.cornell1964.org](http://www.cornell1964.org)). Plus, you can post on our class Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/cornell1964>. ♦ **Bev Johns** Lamont, 720 Chestnut St., Deerfield, IL 60015; e-mail, [blamont64@comcast.net](mailto:blamont64@comcast.net).

**65** **Dianne Zimet** Newman (Providence, RI; [dznewman@hotmail.com](mailto:dznewman@hotmail.com)) and husband Martin enjoyed a ten-day stay in Jerusalem, visiting their son, Ari, who has been living there since 2010. They celebrated Purim, attended a choral music concert, visited friends, and ate at several wonderful restaurants. Dianne writes, "I've been volunteering with the Women's Fund of Rhode Island and it brings back memories of the spring of 1964 when Betty Friedan visited Cornell. I had the privilege of covering her visit for the *Cornell Daily Sun*. In addition to her public lectures, she also spoke to a class in Human Ecology where *The Feminine Mystique* was part of our required reading."

**Elaine Sarkin** Jaffe, MD '69 (Great Falls, VA; [elainejaffee@nih.gov](mailto:elainejaffee@nih.gov)) visited with **Bruce '64** and **Toni Leroy Berger '66** in Beaver Creek, CO. Congratulations to Elaine and her husband, who celebrated 50 years of marriage and headed to the Dolomites for a hut-to-hut hiking experience. More congratulations go to **Suellen Safir Rubin** (Carmel, CA; [suellenrubin@hotmail.com](mailto:suellenrubin@hotmail.com)) and her husband, **Jerome '64**, who celebrated their 51st anniversary. They traveled to Boston to join others in honoring their daughter Emily's Distinguished Alumni award from Emerson College for her work in autism. They will spend a week with her Atlanta family, including two grandkids. At home in California, Suellen spends most days gardening and enjoying California wildlife. She comments, "Jerry is busy with a full medical practice, but we did take a Viking Cruise on the Danube for our last trip."

Other travelers are **Lawrence Lombard** (Birmingham, MI; [L.B.Lombard@wayne.edu](mailto:L.B.Lombard@wayne.edu)) and his wife, Nancy,

who were in Italy, Barcelona, the southwest of France, and Paris. Lawrence is still a professor of philosophy at Wayne State U. in Detroit. "I'll be finishing my 48th year there, still teaching and writing." **Carol Sacks Sekura** (Key Largo, FL; [crsek@aol.com](mailto:crsek@aol.com)) and husband **Ronald, PhD '77**, spend most of the year in Key Largo, except for hurricane season when they move to Rockville, MD. They recently spent time in Europe. Their daughter, Robin, and son-in-law, Todd, have two children and live in Denver. Robin is a pediatrician and Todd is an ER doctor. Carol would like to hear from **Alice Cole** Lichtenstein, MS '69, and **Ricky Rauch-McQuillan**.

Volunteering for Cornell and the Nantucket Garden Club keeps **Judy Kellner** Rushmore (Belmont, MA, Naples, FL, and Nantucket, MA; [judesr@gmail.com](mailto:judesr@gmail.com)) busy, along with traveling, entertaining, book groups, cooking, and bicycling. She describes one of her most memorable travel events: "Taking my 11-year-old grandson on a week-long multi-active sport trip to the Dolomites in Italy that included mountain biking, hiking, and rock climbing with the tour company Backroads. One of the most touching moments was on the last day, when he said he was not ready to go home yet!" Judy credits Prof. **Mary Kiefer** Bloetjes, PhD '53, with encouraging her to follow the academic path to become a dietitian. In October 2016, Judy was recognized for her 50-year membership in the Academy of Nutrition. Congratulations!

**Alan Lockwood**, MD '69 ([ahl@buffalo.edu](mailto:ahl@buffalo.edu)) has had his book, *Heat Advisory: Protecting Health on a Warming Planet*, published by MIT press. For more info, go to: <https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/heat-advisory>. From the summary: "Climate change affects not just the planet but the people who live on it. In this book, physician Alan Lockwood describes how global warming will be bad for our health. Drawing on peer-reviewed scientific and medical research, Dr. Lockwood meticulously details the symptoms of climate change and their medical side effects. Climate change increases the risk for certain infectious diseases, including malaria, dengue fever, West Nile disease, and Lyme disease. Extreme weather and poor soil conditions cause agricultural shortfalls, leading to undernutrition and famine."

In the column, please note that if there was no e-mail or city and state listed, it is because none was included with the news submitted. Your handwritten news forms are welcome, but submissions by e-mail are most appreciated! Often certain handwriting is a puzzle to figure out. Thank you! Please send news via e-mail to: ♦ **Joan Hens** Johnson, [joanipat@gmail.com](mailto:joanipat@gmail.com); **Steve Appell**, [bigred1965@aol.com](mailto:bigred1965@aol.com).

**66** We wish you the best as we move into the holiday season! An echo from the walls of our fair Cornell . . . this summer **Alice Katz** Berglas and co-president **John Monroe**, PhD '70, finalized a plaque to acknowledge "Thriving Red," the Class of '66 50th Reunion gift. The plaque is mounted in Bethe House on West Campus. Do stop by anytime you're on campus.

**E.J. Phillippi** ([ejp54@cornell.edu](mailto:ejp54@cornell.edu)) wrote that he has a new address in Odenton, MD. He is still working for the FAA in Washington, DC, as a spectrum engineer involved with the various radio systems of the National Airspace System. He also wrote, "I am engaged to be married to Maria Sasso, a graduate of Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY, with an MA from the U. of Arkansas in international studies. We recently traveled to Puerto Rico, Maria's home, and met some of her family." E.J. enjoys playing the violin and working with the Chesapeake Lighthouse Foundation, a charter

school system. **Stuart Whittaker** ([stuwwhittaker@me.com](mailto:stuwwhittaker@me.com)) wrote that he is busy "tutoring and teaching" in his retirement. **Linda Duman** Nack ([Ldnackbeau@aol.com](mailto:Ldnackbeau@aol.com)) is also retired, and has lots of volunteer jobs. She quotes an anonymous friend who calls this part of life "refirement." She has seven grandchildren, four of whom have been born in the last six years. She is now living in California, five minutes away from all of them. She travels a lot, in the US and abroad.

We got a nice note from **Nathan Wong**. He wrote, "Life has been pretty much dominated in the past nine months by the arrival of our first grandchild (son). This has made for piling on the frequent flier miles between HNL and SFO." He also wrote that he has been following the voyage of their canoe, *Hokule'a*, around the earth, which completed a year-long sail. The voyage was named "Malama Henna," which means "To care for the earth." He wishes that he could have sailed on the legs in New York and Canada, but he did enjoy his leg along the coast of Aotearoa, New Zealand. **Jeffrey Collins** ([jcollins@pappasventures.com](mailto:jcollins@pappasventures.com)) continues to work one day a week with Pappas Ventures, a life sciences-focused venture capital firm investing in early stage biotech companies. He is also on the board of directors of NCBRO, an umbrella organization for the biotech industry in North Carolina, and of Aglie Sciences, a North Carolina-based startup biotech company. He and his wife, Rose Mills, have traveled in France, Slovenia, and Montenegro. He's also gotten involved with the Jewish Federation of Durham and Chapel Hill and is now serving on both its board of directors and finance committee.

**John Deasy**, MPS '72 ([deasyjyr@aol.com](mailto:deasyjyr@aol.com)) is still enjoying summers at his boat-access-only camp in the Adirondacks. His camp is on the same lake as the famous Cornell alumna **Anne LaBastille '55**, PhD '69. He helped close down her camp after her death, and helped secure it before its transport to an Adirondack museum. He's still flying his 1951 Beechcraft Bonanza and is working on getting it painted, which will cost more than he paid for the airplane 40 years ago! Who at Cornell had the greatest impact on him? "**Laing Kennedy '63**, former great Cornell hockey goalie and later athletic director. He was my U-Hall 2 dorm counselor!" **Nancy Kurtz** ([nancystarjive@gmail.com](mailto:nancystarjive@gmail.com)) wrote from Utah that she keeps busy with "music, music, music, keeping up with the news, reading, hiking, bodywork, astrology and other forms of divination, politics (especially defending the relentless assaults on our precious environment), and enjoying life with friends!" She keeps in touch via the miracle of Alice—"my beautiful roommate"—and concluded with her regret that she missed the people she didn't get to know. "Chances missed—what a glorious melting pot of souls."

**Carolyn Rider** Chase ([crchase@post.harvard.edu](mailto:crchase@post.harvard.edu)) writes that she has started working part time for Financially Fit. She also wrote that Jack is recovering from a series of small strokes that began at the beginning of December 2016; he's made lots of progress, but has lots to go. **Suzannah Bliss** Tieman '65 was the first person she met at Cornell. What would she do if she had a day in Ithaca? "Spend some time in the gorge." (But probably not at this time of year!) Lastly, **Richard and Marion Wong Chew '68** (Vienna, VA; [rkchew@gmail.com](mailto:rkchew@gmail.com)) celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary in July. They have two daughters and three grandchildren, and Richard retired this year from the Dept. of Defense after 40-plus years. He started at the US Naval Research Laboratory, then went to the Naval Sea Systems Command, and finally served on the staff of the Deputy Chief

of Naval Operations in the Pentagon. While working, he received a group fitness certification from the American Council on Exercise and taught fitness exercise classes in the county and for the DoD. They have lived in the Washington, DC, area since 1972, but will eventually move to Portland, OR, to be close to one of their girls.

Please note that class correspondent Pete Salinger's e-mail address has changed. Send news to: ❖ **Pete Salinger**, [petersalinger95@gmail.com](mailto:petersalinger95@gmail.com); **Susan Rockford** Bittker, [ladyscienc@aol.com](mailto:ladyscienc@aol.com); **Deanne Gebell** Gitner, [deanne.gitner@gmail.com](mailto:deanne.gitner@gmail.com).

**67** **Richard Holstein** ([babydoc11@verizon.net](mailto:babydoc11@verizon.net)) writes, "I note that two of our classmates contributed significantly to academic pursuits. Such wonderful legacies! I thought you might be interested to know that there were at least three of us. Having transferred to Washington College in 1965 (BA '68 Philosophy) from Cornell Engineering, I found hard-core liberal arts right up my alley. Since then I have focused on practical ethics—not simply as a course in the philosophy department, but as the core of a liberal arts education integrated into ALL coursework and disciplines. Washington College is the tenth oldest college in the US and has a very strong emphasis on critical thinking. The two go hand-in-hand. Sheila Bair, our president at the time (also with a philosophy degree), was very receptive to my efforts. Since this aired, I have given them an additional \$500,000 to kick-start things.

"I hope that this legacy will make a positive, lasting impression on generations of students, and particularly now with the insanity going on in Washington. Someone has to set a good example—it's obviously not coming from the White House." The following is from an announcement by Washington College: "CHESTERTOWN, MD—A Washington College alumnus with a passion for service and ethics has made a \$5 million legacy gift to establish an academic program dedicated to teaching the principles and practice of doing the right thing. The gift from pediatric dentist Richard Holstein, believed to be the largest legacy gift ever made to the 232-year-old liberal arts college, will greatly expand an existing program in ethics established in his name a decade ago. Holstein practices pediatric dentistry in Princeton, NJ, and teaches at the U. of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine. His interest in ethical behavior dates to his college years in Chestertown."

The law firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP announced that **Alvin Goldman** (Scarsdale, NY; [agoldman@hinshawlaw.com](mailto:agoldman@hinshawlaw.com)) has joined the firm as a partner in the New York office. As a member of the firm's commercial transactions group, he will focus his practice on sophisticated federal taxation counseling and planning, especially with regard to matters involving partnerships, joint ventures, and limited liability companies. Alvin, who graduated from Columbia Law School, was previously senior counsel at Dentons US LLP, a global law firm that represents a broad range of businesses and individuals, including prominent financial services firms, insurance companies, multinational companies, and emerging and closely held companies. **Senetta Hill** Koch (Manhasset, NY; [senetta.koch@yahoo.com](mailto:senetta.koch@yahoo.com)) reports, "I was sorry to miss our 50th Reunion and seeing many old friends. However, our daughter Lauren was married in Bastad, Sweden, two days before Reunion started, and we had post-wedding commitments. The wedding was lovely, with many traditional Swedish activities. We hope to attend the 55th!"

**Carole Newman** Allen (Arlington, MA; [cornell@tomandcarole.org](mailto:cornell@tomandcarole.org)) retired from pediatric practice and

administration in 2011. She's currently enrolled in an executive MBA program for physicians at Brandeis, with graduation anticipated in May 2017! Carole is doing health policy work through commissions and nonprofit boards. "Son **David '97** and his spouse, **Michael McGrann '96**, and their 9-year-old son attended David's Reunion while I was at my 50th. My younger son and his wife are US Foreign Service officers currently living with their 4-year-old daughter in Alexandria, VA. The most satisfaction in my life these days is from being with family, learning

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## 'Larry Eilenberg lectures on comedy, theatre, and film at three universities.'

CHUCK LEVITAN '68

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new things, bonding with new friends (MBA classmates) and reuniting with old ones, and staying out of the hospital. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary a week after Reunion."

**Jeffrey Chesky** (Springfield, IL; [cheskyjeffrey@uis.edu](mailto:cheskyjeffrey@uis.edu)) writes, "I went to several of the scheduled events at Reunion, but I also skipped some so that I could roam the campus, sit in 'my space' in the Straight (my only disappointment from Reunion was the deplorable condition of Willard Straight Hall) and my former study spaces in the libraries, play the practice pianos in Lincoln Hall, visit the new science buildings, walk around Sapsucker Woods, walk across the Suspension Bridge, stand in front of my old apartment wondering if I should ring the bell and ask to come in and see it (I did not), look up the daughter of my deceased senior roommate, who was attending her Cornell 15th Reunion, reminisce, etc. I try to get back to Cornell periodically. If we are within 200 miles, I ask my wife if we can make a side trip visit. Every time I return to Ithaca, I find it emotionally overpowering. So many memories, most good, some not so." ❖ **Richard Hoffman**, 2925 28th St. NW, Washington, DC 20008; e-mail, [derhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:derhoff@yahoo.com).

**68** **David Heiden** ([davidheiden@gmail.com](mailto:davidheiden@gmail.com)) and his wife, Katherine Seligman, live in San Francisco, CA, where David is still practicing ophthalmology. He's also been teaching eye skills to AIDS doctors in resource-poor settings like his recent stints in Yangon, Burma, and Kiev, Russia. David's son, Matthew, 26, has just started a master's program in global affairs/economics at UC San Diego, and his daughter, Halle, 23, after two years of enduring Cornell's bitter winters, completed her degree at UCLA. David credits professors M. Kammer, Allan Bloom, Walter LaFeber, and Donald Kagan as having the greatest impact on him during our time on campus.

**Louise May** Gruber ([img@NYC.RR.com](mailto:img@NYC.RR.com)) cut back her workload as an editor-at-large for Lee and Low Publishers in NYC, which finally allows her the time to get to work on that lifelong "to do" list. Her traveling in 2017 has included trips to Puglia, Sicily, Paris, Mongolia, and Siberia. Louise laments that it's been too long since she's seen her roommates, **Ronna Yosim** Kluger and **Anita Marine** Ugent. (Turning a sad face to a happy face is a great reason to attend your 50th Reunion.) Louise feels that the studies of Prof. **Uri Bronfenbrenner '38** continue to be relevant to her work publishing books for young readers. **Roger Stetter** enjoys life in New

Orleans, LA. He's busy writing a family memoir and doing charity work. His son **Jack Roger '09** is working on his doctoral dissertation at the U. of Paris and is presenting a paper at a philosophy symposium at Cornell.

**Judith Winter** Andrucki, MST '69 ([JWA@AndruckiLaw.com](mailto:JWA@AndruckiLaw.com)) and her husband, Martin, live in Lewiston, ME. Judy's still practicing law at her firm, Andrucki & King, though she candidly admits that it's not what she thought she'd be doing when she graduated. She recently found a picture of her campus singing group, the

Notables, on their USO tour in the Caribbean in 1969. She'd love to reconnect with them, particularly **Lainie Zera '70**, MAT '72, and **Nell Burrows '69**. (Reunion! At least for those Notables from our class.) **Susan Thon**, JD '75 ([susanthon@comcast.com](mailto:susanthon@comcast.com)) and her husband, **C. Peter Magrath, PhD '62**, live in Glen Echo, MD. Susan fills her days with planning and taking amazing trips like the one she took to Antarctica in January. In between the trips, Susan is busy with her grandchildren, oil painting, gardening, walking, and swimming. She's particularly interested and involved in inter-faith and inter-racial dialogue.

**Helen Karel** Dorman ([hdorman@houlihanlawrence.com](mailto:hdorman@houlihanlawrence.com)) and husband Neal live in Millwood, NY, and in their Upper East Side apartment in NYC. Helen's a real estate broker based in Chappaqua, NY. Her two daughters, **Karen Dorman** Kipnes '98 and **Debbie Dorman '01**, have multiplied the joy in Helen's life with their five children. Helen and Neal have been picking up the pace of their travel schedule, hitting some "I" countries (Italy, Israel, India) over the past two years. (Ithaca, June 7-10, would fit right in, Helen.) **Larry Eilenberg** ([leilenbe@sfsu.edu](mailto:leilenbe@sfsu.edu)) and his wife, Kathleen, live in San Francisco, CA. Larry lectures on comedy, theatre, and film at three universities. He was recently honored at the 50th anniversary of San Francisco's famous Magic Theatre, where he twice served as artistic director. Larry is expecting his third grandchild. He recently had dinner with **Paul Juskow**, who is returning to MIT after a decade as president of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. We would love to hear your news, and to see you at our 50th Reunion, June 7-10, 2018. ❖ **Chuck Levitan**, [clevitan22@comcast.net](mailto:clevitan22@comcast.net).

**69** Greetings from the great state of Maine, where Mother Nature blessed us with a beautiful summer this year.

**David Sonenshein** sends us his best and writes, "After 35 years of law teaching, I retired this year as the Jack E. Feinberg Professor of Litigation (Emeritus) at the Temple U. School of Law in Philadelphia. I remain an active board member of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project." Enjoy your retirement, David. **Ildiko Czmor** Mitchell is a busy lady, babysitting her grandchildren 30 hours a week, hiking the Appalachian Trail, and planning her KA 100th anniversary, a trip to Bali, and a trip to the Panama Canal for their 25th anniversary. She would love to hear from **Marsha Agle** Pavlidis '68 and **Rich Wenklar**.

**Thomas DeBrock** “finally decided to retire from his position at PepsiCo in October 2016.” In his spare time, he has taken up golf. He also takes mini-vacations with wife Leona (“the best was OysterFest in St. Michaels, MD”) and helps take care of an aging family member. He and Leona are looking forward to a river cruise in Europe with some extra time in Bruges, Belgium. **Douglass Capogrossi '68**, BS '69, PhD '94, is the president of Akamai U. in Hawaii and is a part-time instructor at

restorative, implant, and cosmetic dentistry. Elliot has a special interest in cosmetic tooth support and implant restorative dentistry. He has led and been involved in numerous colleges, academies, study clubs, residency and education programs, and societies, all of which deal with his practice and knowledge of prosthodontics. He is also the chairman of the board of the Precious Project ([www.preciousproject.org](http://www.preciousproject.org)), a US 501(c)(3) and a Tanzanian NGO. Elliot and the Precious Project are

Japan. Please send news to: ♦ **Connie Ferris Meyer**, tel., (610) 256-3088; e-mail, [cfm7@cornell.edu](mailto:cfm7@cornell.edu).

**71** We had a nice note from **William Grauer**, JD '74 ([bill.grauer@gmail.com](mailto:bill.grauer@gmail.com)). In the past year, his daughter Kristen (Dartmouth '07, Harvard Law '10) married a Cornellian, **Gaurav Kittur '99**, who is president of the Assn. of Computer Science Undergraduates. Kristen is working as an assistant district attorney in Manhattan, and Gaurav is a managing director at Jeffries Co. Kristen's sister, Kimberly (Sarah Lawrence '09, Oxford '11, LSE '13), is now an official with the New York Economic Development Corp. Bill also noted, “My wonderful mother passed away. It was a great loss.” Bill has “finally retired” after a career that included oral arguments in the US Supreme Court and the California Supreme Court. He recently had lunch with his Cornell Law classmate **Ned Cavanagh, JD '74**, who will be teaching Civil Procedure at the Law School starting in the fall of 2017.

**Nancy Kiesendahl Bloch** ([nancybloch@aol.com](mailto:nancybloch@aol.com)) is living in Hawley, PA, where she works part time in her family's business, Woodloch Pines. She still enjoys her Kiesendahl + Calhoun art business ([www.kandcgallery.net](http://www.kandcgallery.net)), “meeting lots of new artists and helping them to market their beautiful work.” On yet another front, she works with her former business partner, Cornellian **Laurie Clemente Milnor '75**, as a consultant to ShopTalk 20/20. (I checked the ShopTalk website and learned that Nancy was a co-founder of this sales evaluation, development, and training organization.) Nancy would enjoy hearing from **Jay Marvin**. She also reported that she has three wonderful grandchildren, 7 months, 2-1/2, and 6.

**John Henrehan**, BS '76 (Alexandria, VA; [j.henrehan@gmail.com](mailto:j.henrehan@gmail.com)) retired after a 40-year career in broadcast news. He now plays volleyball twice a week, enjoys ballroom and hustle dancing, and remains “an active volunteer in my Unitarian church and in my union, SAG-AFTRA.” John's daughter, Sally, has graduated from Virginia Commonwealth U., and his son, Scott, is a student there. John would love to hear from **Bob Josephson. Gary Cokins** ([garyfarms@aol.com](mailto:garyfarms@aol.com)) lives in Cary, NC, with his spouse, **Pam Monseaux Tower '67**. Gary serves part time for the Inst. of Management Accountants ([www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org)) as their IMA executive in residence. The IMA has 85,000 members in 140 countries. Now in his fourth year, Gary's role has involved two-week-plus trips to present seminars in China, India, Europe, and the Middle East.

**Donna Johnson Reidhead** ([reidhead@comcast.net](mailto:reidhead@comcast.net)) lives in Fort Collins, CO. **Gayle Yeomans**, retired and living in the Catskill Mountains (Big Indian, NY), has some news she would love to share, but it is too early to do that. Suffice it to say that it is a first-in-her-life experience; more details will follow at the appropriate time.

And now for some news about your other class correspondent, **Jim Roberts**. *Forever Faithful*, the book about Cornell hockey that **Arthur Mintz** and Jim have been working on for the past two years, went on sale in October 2017. An excerpt from *Forever Faithful* appeared in the Sept/Oct issue of *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, so if you haven't seen it by the time you are reading this column, please search for it. Jim wrote, “Working on this book was a great experience, and it enhanced the bond that I feel for my fellow members of the Lynah Faithful and for our great university. It was truly exciting to relive many memorable games through my interviews with more than 50 former players and coaches, and I hope that excitement comes through to others as they read

## ‘David Pesses enjoys having as many as four generations of families in his practice.’

PHYLLIS HAIGHT GRUMMON '73

the local Hilo Community Correctional Center, focusing on anger management, parent effectiveness, and transitions. He and his wife of 30 years, Fely Angeline, enjoy their five children and five grandchildren. He wishes he could visit Ithaca more often.

Merrill Marx sends us this sad news: “My husband, **Steve Marx**, passed away in May from pancreatic cancer. He graduated from the ILR school with a BS in Organizational Behavior. His impressive life's work and obituary can be seen at [www.segalfuneralhome.com](http://www.segalfuneralhome.com). May he rest in peace.” Best wishes for the holidays and keep sending your news to: ♦ **Tina Economaki Riedl**, [triedl048@gmail.com](mailto:triedl048@gmail.com).

**70** As 2017 is drawing to a close, I wish you all a very tasty and happy Thanksgiving and wonderful holiday celebrations in December. May you all enjoy a healthy, happy, and less stressful New Year in 2018!

With the turning of the calendar to 2018, we are getting even closer to our 50th Reunion in June 2020. Our '70 leadership team and core 50th Reunion committee is moving ahead with plans for this special celebration weekend, June 4-7, 2020. However, we are always on the lookout for and in search of any and all classmates who want to join the committee. Committee work can be in a very specific way or in a general manner. We welcome suggestions and ideas, as well as questions and comments from all of you. Please contact me at: [conimae2@gmail.com](mailto:conimae2@gmail.com). I look forward to hearing from many of our fellow classmates from the Legendary Cornell Class of 1970. Please read more on our three sites: class website, [www.cornell70.org](http://www.cornell70.org); Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/Cornell70](http://www.facebook.com/Cornell70); and Twitter page, [www.twitter.com/CornellClass70](http://www.twitter.com/CornellClass70).

**Drew Copeland**, PhD '77 (Westlake Village, CA; [dacopeland@roadrunner.com](mailto:dacopeland@roadrunner.com)) is currently consulting for a small laser company, which is modeling solid-state disc laser performance. His two daughters, 26 and 28, were both married in 2017. Drew would like to be spending more time reading and studying math and physics—“my real loves in life.” Two Cornell professors had a great impact on Drew: AEP professor Arthur Kuckes, who he worked for for two summers while at Cornell; and Prof. **Chung Tang, MA '76**, who was his PhD thesis advisor in 1977. **Elliot Kronstein** ([kronstein@preciousproject.org](mailto:kronstein@preciousproject.org)) is a prosthodontist and founding partner of the Restorative Dental Group of Cambridge. Presently he is one of nine dentists in the practice that specializes in

working to halt the recurring cycle of poverty that exists in a small Tanzanian village of 3,000. A residence for 14 abandoned or orphaned children and a much-needed primary school for 180 children have both been established by this organization.

**Connie Fern Miller** still hasn't retired yet. She practices law in Watkins Glen, where she also continues as the Village Justice. Both of Connie's daughters are married and in their 30s. No grandchildren as yet. Connie and her husband, Ted Carleton, adopted a beautiful bulldog named Blossom from the Humane Society of Schuyler County. They travel a good deal, including a trip to Spain in the spring of 2017. Connie and Ted sail on Seneca Lake in their renovated 22-ft. Catalina. They are also building a cabin at their pond and land in the town of Hector. Connie recalls having a great time on all the field trips for her Geology class at Cornell. **Jerry Roller** is still busy running his 50-person architectural firm, JKRP, in Philadelphia, PA. He says that he and his wife, Joan, love being the grandparents of three delightful grandchildren, two girls and one boy.

**Dan and Jill Jayson Ladd '73** ([danladd347@aol.com](mailto:danladd347@aol.com)) celebrated their 40th anniversary in February 2017 by taking their entire family, which totaled 12 including three Cornellian “kids,” to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Lots of fun exploring and beaching was had by all. Their other big announcement is that Jill retired on June 1, 2017 after having been a practicing ob/gyn physician for 35 years. Dan retired exactly one year earlier, on June 1, 2016. Now Dan and Jill are planning more trips to wildlife rich countries. **Steve Roberts, DVM '38**, professor in the Vet college and the Cornell polo coach, had a big impact on Dan. **Barbara Spaid** ([bspaid17@gmail.com](mailto:bspaid17@gmail.com)) has retired from the US Agency for Int'l Development, which is part of the US Foreign Service. She now lives with her husband in New Hampshire because she still loves the snow! Barbara would love to hear from or learn news of **Leigh Rooney**, who was in Pi Beta Phi sorority.

**Naomi Gardner Kaffee** (Rockville, MD; [naomikaffee@gmail.com](mailto:naomikaffee@gmail.com)) has been battling stage-four lung cancer for almost nine years. She continues to draw and paint, and says she wishes she could travel more. **Gillian Pederson-Krag, MFA '63**, her drawing and painting professor at Cornell, inspired Naomi to become an artist. On May 6, 2017, Naomi's son Elliott married Erica in the couple's backyard in Washington, DC. Their wedding was followed by a two-week honeymoon in



the book and enjoy the photographs—there are more than 300—of Big Red men's and women's team plays and games from the '60s up to the recent years."

As we close this column, we urge you to please send more news! There is probably a classmate out there who is not a "Facebook" friend and who would love to hear what you have been doing! ❖ **Gayle Yeomans**, gyeomans@gmail.com; **Jim Roberts**, jhr22@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**72** I hope that everyone had a great time at our 45th Reunion in June. I regret that medical issues prevented me from joining you at our Big Bash. **Elaine Leass** (bouldergirl50@yahoo.com) sent us an e-mail from beautiful Colorado to say that she is teaching non-native academic adults conversational English, as well as enjoying lake kayaking, travel, bike, theatre improv, and dance. Elaine is divorced with one son. She adds that she started drumming and practicing French conversation, is a gentle gym rat, and attempts comedy. Elaine gets satisfaction from reuniting with old friends. When she wrote, she was planning to share Alaska cruise time with Cornellians she had not seen for 30 years. If Elaine had a day in Ithaca, she would see if she still has the guts to slide down the water slide under a bridge, see lots of lectures with students, and view the rock garden.

**Logan Robinson** (logan@comcast.net) and his spouse plan to attend the "White Coat Ceremony" of daughter **Lane Robinson, DVM '18**. This marks the end of classes at the Vet college and the beginning of full-time work in the animal hospital. Daughter **Lindy Robinson '09** married Cornell classmate **Daniel Paz '09** in South Beach, Miami, FL. Niece **Lela Robinson '20** is currently attending Cornell. The Robinsons are building a family dynasty of Cornellians. Logan received his JD from Harvard Law School and retired as a professor at U. of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

**Clifford Hendry** (c.hendry@comcast.net) and wife Jean live in Pittsburgh (home of the two-time defending Stanley Cup champions, the Pittsburgh Penguins), where they moved in 1990. Cliff joined the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel, and through this membership he learned about Oasis Intergenerational Tutoring. He is assisting a first grader at Liberty Elementary to improve his reading skills. Cliff is also chairman of the Fox Chapel Rotary Club Golf Classic held in May. He has been doing a lot of volunteer work since his retirement. Daughter Heather (Colgate) and husband Matt have four children, including identical twin boys. Heather is a full professor at the U. of Pittsburgh. Daughter **Jenna Hendry Barbour '02** and husband Sean have three children. They bought Cliff and Jean's house, so C&J moved to a condo, which they love. Son Todd (Robert Morris U.) has a great job, and he and wife Julie have a little boy, Max. Cliff considers Pittsburgh his home now and feels fortunate to have such a beautiful family all living in the area. He wishes he had a little more time for golf and would like to hear from **Ed Marinaro** and **Bill Perras '71**—the two men who had the greatest impact on him at Cornell.

**Patricia Guy** (phguy@aol.com) enjoyed a splendid excursion to Vietnam and Cambodia, traveling south from Hanoi, Halong, Hoi Ant, and Mekong to Ho Chi Minh City. She is convinced that the anti-war protests on campus were the right thing. Pat says she received an amazing welcome from the people. **Don Stanton** (skyblue07@comcast.net) is teaching a course called Introduction to Public Service for U. of Colorado, Denver. He and his

family are enjoying retirement in Arvada, CO. **Bob Tausek** and wife Marjie (Villanova U.) are proud grandparents of newborn twin boys, Nash and Maverick. Daughter Allison and son-in-law Trevor are responsible for bringing the boys into Bob and Marjie's lives.

**Eleanor Laurie** Ochozny (eochotny@yahoo.com) and spouse Joseph live in Lansdale, PA. She is still working at their public accounting and wealth management firm in North Wales, PA. Eleanor is taking more time off for travel, summers at the shore in New Jersey, and enjoying the granddaughters. She is hoping that someday they may attend Cornell. An aspiring bird watcher, Eleanor is adding feeders and going on bird watching expeditions. She really enjoys her subscription to *Living Bird*. **Donna Slattery Cooper** (ds850coop@gmail.com) is an education coordinator for ArchCare at Home (a visiting nurse agency) in Valhalla, NY. She keeps busy with ballroom dance competitions and an adult tap dance group. Donna also enjoys playing bridge and classical piano. She and husband **Arthur, PhD '74**, reside in Croton On Hudson and have three grandchildren living in Dryden and lots of family in Ithaca. The people who had the greatest impact on her at Cornell were the Biology and Psychology faculty, especially **James Maas, PhD '66**, Prof. Martin Seligman, and her modern dance teacher.

**Bob Shaw** (bobshaw23@gmail.com) owns a real estate company in Syracuse, Auburn, and Vermont. He commutes to these locations from his home in Santa Cruz monthly. Both of his and wife Arlene's sons are in real estate, Luke in San Francisco and Jake in Syracuse. Bob is still playing lacrosse. He would like to hear from "the Hump" and **Russ Greene**. "Rich" had the greatest impact on Bob at Cornell. **Janice Kulik** Schmidt (jan.kulik@gmail.com) and husband John live in Pueblo West, CO. Janice retired from private practice and now consults as physician advisor to Case Management/Utilization Review at Parkview Medical Center. She enjoys her three grandchildren and would like to hear from **Gretchen Keiser '73** and **Joe Foss, PhD '74**. Send news to: ❖ **Alex Barna**, ab478@cornell.edu; or **Gary Rubin**, glr34@cornell.edu.

**73** Many thanks to those who sent news during May and June! It's less than a year to our 45th Reunion, so make plans now to be in Ithaca, June 7-10, 2018.

As nominating chairs for our class, **Wayne Merkelson, JD '75**, and **Rich Saltz, MBA '74**, send greetings and ask all of you to consider service for Cornell through the Class of 1973. You can join us at CALC in February in Philadelphia, join as a class council member, and open further avenues for getting engaged with Cornell and helping in ways that may not even be imaginable to you right now. Writing checks to Cornell is always nice, but the university relies on volunteers for significant activities: outreach to class members, the Cornell community (whether on or off campus), the communities where we live or visit, and the world at large, representing Cornell; helping mentor students and even faculty; attracting the best students to attend Cornell; and attending functions where Cornell is engaged or needs to be engaged. There are many examples of engagement to help Cornell within our class that could fill this magazine. In fact, our class president, **Paul Cashman**, is also the president of the Cornell Assn. of Class Officers (CACO), so this would be a great year to join and to join us at CALC! Please let us know if you are interested by contacting either Rich Saltz at [res234@cornell.edu](mailto:res234@cornell.edu), or Wayne Merkelson at [wayne.merkelson@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.merkelson@gmail.com).

**Jeff Schwartz** (jls324@cornell.edu) wrote from Katonah, NY. He's still working at the same law firm he joined after graduating from law school in 1976. "How many people can spend their whole career at one place—and enjoy it?!" **Paul Witt** (ladwitt@comcast.net) sends news from Gettysburg, PA. They have torn down one of the hotels they own, and a new one is scheduled to open this year. Paul's son married an Irish woman and they now live in Scotland, where he's going to college for brewing and distilling.

**Richard MacMillan**, BS '75 (leemacl@yahoo.com) and his wife, Janet, have literally "bought the farm" after 46 years in retail. They now have 40 acres, a barn, an orchard, a berry patch, and some lavender in Shawnee, OK. They tend to three donkeys, two horses, 52 goats, and two cats. Richard wishes he had more time to travel, but as we know, farmers don't get days off. He'd love to hear from classmates **Barbara Gray Lally** and **Mark Cukierski, PhD '85**. Richard cited Russell Martin, **Stan Warren '27**, PhD '31, Carl Sagan, and **Daniel Sisler, PhD '62**, as having the greatest impact on him at Cornell.

**David** and **Christine Dickieson Pesses** remain busy with their lives in Gloversville, NY. Chris is the capital campaign co-chair for the Gloversville Public Library, where she also serves on the board of trustees and is the board president. David is entering his 38th year as a family practice physician at the local hospital. He enjoys having as many as four generations of families in his practice. Chris and David have three grandchildren who live in Brazil, Connecticut, and Chicago, so, not surprisingly, they report that they are travelers. They love to ride their recumbent tandem bike and look for rail trails wherever they go. Fortunately for them, they both have healthy 94-year-old mothers. They'd love to hear from their old friend **Frank Morra**.

**Susan McIntosh** Lewis sends greetings from Menlo Park, CA. She's excited to have her first grandchild, Lucia. Susan keeps busy learning new languages and working on a family history. ❖ **Phyllis Haight** Grummon, phg3@cornell.edu; **Pamela Meyers**, psmeiers73@gmail.com; **David Ross**, dave@daveross.com. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**74** Here's the roundup from the hot summer of the eclipse. **Sue Gotthardt** Adams writes from Poughkeepsie that she is "not retired" and, in fact, is working 60-80 hours a week! She has an idea for a board game, "but no time." **Christine Depaolo** Baumbach (Oak Park, IL) is also still actively working and was just promoted to associate director of India Hicks, "representing a line of attainable luxury women's accessories, jewelry, beauty, and bags." She says, "I'm actively enjoying my interior and garden design business and had a one woman show of my paintings recently." She is also extremely proud of her three grandsons.

**Betsy Beach** did retire in January 2015 and is relaxing in Chelmsford, MA, by serving as president of her local community chorus, volunteering two days a week at the local office of Habitat for Humanity, and playing lots of tennis. She reports, "My daughter, Sarah, has completed her first year of law school at U. of Baltimore and this summer was working at Hope Works of Howard County in Columbia, MD. This organization provides free legal services to victims of domestic violence." **Richard Dobeck**, MPS '75 (Wooster, OH) is a professor emeritus at the Ohio State U. and is now busy with "golf, consulting (race horses), Honor Guard, DAV (Disabled American

Veterans), painting (watercolors), and Ruritan (service club).” At Cornell, **Robert Bratton, PhD '42**, was the person who had the greatest impact on him, and he'd like to hear from Betty and **Joe Taylor**. **Robert Fagiola** checked in from Locust Valley, NY, with no news.

Former class president **John Foote**, executive director of the Cornell Program in Infrastructure Policy (CPIP), was “notably” featured in the spring issue of the *Human Ecology* magazine regarding the launch of the Cornell Inst. for Public Affairs (CIPA) Infrastructure Project Management and Finance (IPMF) Fellows Program, spearheaded by Rick Geddes, CIPA core faculty member, and by John, CIPA visiting lecturer. “Foote and Geddes proposed an applied experience for CIPA students to focus their MPA intensively on current and emerging infrastructure and transportation issues. Developed and taught by Foote, the first practicum for IPMF was launched over winter break. It focused on the Brooklyn Queens Connector (BQX), a proposed \$2.5 billion street-car line that would operate on a north-south route along the East River between Queens and Brooklyn. Eleven students spent a week in NYC in early January learning more about the project.”

**Barbara Gales** (Spokane, WA) just returned from trips to Jamaica in May and her second trip to the UAE (Dubai) with the Travel-O-Ganza group. “I enjoyed this trip better than my first time there. I would like to visit Valley of the Kings in Egypt, then Morocco, and onward to Japan.” She'd also like to hear from **Renee Alexander**, “who I only see yearly at the Cornell Club at the feast of the sisterhood.” (Note to Barbara: I sat next to Renee at Reunion dinner!) Who at Cornell had the greatest impact on her? “Cornellians like **Pamela Murray '75**, who inspired me to always push on, no matter what life throws your way.” **Florence Higgins**, DVM '81, is splitting the difference between work and retirement in Rush, NY, by “working as a small animal vet almost full time, going to vet conferences, reading, running, biking, playing disc golf, and obedience showing two border collies. Husband **John Lebens, PhD '88**, retired and is working part time teaching physics at the community college. Son Greg, 27, is finishing a master's degree in public administration and assistant teaching at BOCES. Son Zach, 23, is finishing his second year of a physics PhD at Binghamton.” Her roommate, **Mary Bochino**, DVM '77, had a great impact on her. “She helped get me through undergrad and into vet school.”

**Bill Howard** completed a three-year term as chair of the Cornell Alumni Magazine Committee and as chair of the Cornell Alumni Assn. This year, Bill was elected president of the Int'l Motor Press Assn. You'll still see him taking photos for class events. **Marianne Krasny**, professor of Natural Resources and director of the Civic Ecology Lab, was featured in the lead story on climate change in a recent *Periodicals* magazine for her work promoting use of “vacant lots and rooftops as fertile ground for cities facing climate change,” which she calls “civic ecology.”

**John Pieroni** (Bergenfield, NJ) makes the case for continuing to work. He was one of only eight state-wide to be certified by the New Jersey Supreme Court in 2015 as a criminal defense attorney. “I was also recently designated as one of the ten best attorneys in New Jersey for 2016 and 2017 for client satisfaction by the American Inst. of Criminal Law Attorneys.” **Deborah Nelson Russell**, BS Nurs '74, is staying busy babysitting her grandkids. She's also enjoying leisure traveling and would like to hear from **Cynthia Revell**, BS Nurs '74, and **Helen Rinsdale**, BS Nurs '74. **Mary Berens** reports

that classmate and university trustee Prof. **Mariana Wolfner** was mace bearer for the inauguration of Martha Pollack on August 25. Mariana was also a member of the presidential search committee that brought Martha to Cornell.

An informal pre-Inauguration breakfast was held Friday morning at the East Hill Plaza Collegetown Bagels. Attendees included Renee Alexander, Mary Berens, **Diana Drucker**, BS '76, Bill Howard, **Nancy Klapproth** Krook, **Tom Piwinski**, and **Lou and Roberta Bandel Walcer**. All received Class of '74 grocery bags. ❖ **Jim Schoonmaker**, js378@cornell.edu; **Helen Bendix**, hbendix@verizon.net; **Lucy Babcox** Morris, lucmor1433@gmail.com.

**75** The mailbag (snail mail or electronic) could be a bit thicker! From the northeastern seaboard, we hear from **Janet Fieldgate** Dykstra (Stratham, NH). Ever the student, she graduated in 2013 from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, earning a master's degree in technology, innovation, and education. She consults in the field for her own company, Innovative Science Content Design LLC. Janet has six grandchildren, ranging in age from 13 months to almost 9 years. Her recent travels took her and her spouse to Nicaragua.

**Kenny Rotner** also lives in New Hampshire, in Durham. He continues his medical practice, specializing in family medicine, but also manages to volunteer his time on the town council and the school board. He proudly notes that his daughter, a recent college grad, now works in environmental advocacy in Portland, ME. Says Kenny, “We continue to go to Grateful Dead-related concerts and eagerly await the formal release of that band's show at Barton Hall, arguably the best performance ever given by the band.” Anyone care to debate this? He reflects on Cornell's impact on him and believes that the Human Affairs program was especially compelling, along with the many great professors he had. Moving south, **Jeffrey Weinberger** (Riverside, CT) likewise has pursued a career in medicine, as he completes his 35th year in his general internal medicine practice. He wishes he could carve out more time to visit the Cornell campus and enjoy alumni events.

Several of our classmates who hail from New York share their news. **Janet Kaminsky** Pawson lives in the Big Apple, where she just opened her own talent management firm, JBP Management LLC. **Steven Swirsky** writes from Chappaqua. He continues actively to practice labor law at Epstein Becker. He also volunteers at the ILR school and was recently named vice-chair of the Catherwood Library Advisory Council. Congratulations, Steven, on being elected a fellow in the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers in 2015! In his spare time, Steven continues to collect railroad memorabilia and antique travel posters. He and his wife enjoyed a trip to Canada on the Rocky Mountain train. **Abby Nash** lives in Ithaca, where he is a full-time antiques dealer. He manages also to work part time as a food and wine educator. He remarks that George Kahin and Rose Goldsen had a tremendous impact on him. **Fred Schneider** (fbs@cs.cornell.edu) also lives in Ithaca. This past April, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The organization serves as a champion of scholarship, civil dialogue, and useful knowledge. Fred is the Samuel B. Eckert Professor and chairman of the Computer Science department at Cornell.

**Fred Knapp** lives a few towns over from me, in Randolph, NJ. He continues his work as a prosecutor for Morris County. He and wife Ellie celebrated the birth of

their first grandchild, Alexander. **Marsha Miller** and her husband, **Carl Goldstein '73**, live in Berkeley Heights, NJ, and recently became grandparents to Alexandra. Moving all the way to the West Coast, we have news from California. **Elizabeth Grover** hosted a Pi Phi mini-reunion with **Ellen Roche**, **Elaine Johnson** Ayres, **Gwenn Tannenbaum** Canfield, and **Joanne Meder** in June in Palo Alto, CA. Enjoying spectacular California weather, they visited the Mission District in San Francisco to tour the various colorful murals artists have painted on many buildings, took in a performance of the political comedy “Beach Blanket Babylon,” hiked at Point Lobos State Park near Carmel, and walked along the cliffs above the Pacific in Half Moon Bay, not to mention eating their way through the Bay Area. After a tour of the Cantor Art Center at Stanford, they also visited the Stanford Pi Phi chapter. Lots of fun!

If you plan to be in NYC around Thanksgiving, the classes of 1969-79 are planning a pregame tailgate before the Cornell Red Hot Hockey game at Madison Square Garden on November 25 at 8 p.m. You should have seen e-mails, but in case they went to your spam box, come join classmates (whether you are going to the game or not) for a tailgate at Local West Cafe and Cocktails from 5:30-8 p.m. Catch up with classmates and get ready to cheer on the Big Red or just hang out for a post-Thanksgiving get together. If you have any questions, contact **Deb Gellman**, MBA '82 (dsg24@cornell.edu).

I am serving as interim provost here at Seton Hall U. I recently spoke to our incoming law students, and reflected a bit on what my ILR classmates will know as “the” labor law text by Cox and Bok. As it turns out, Seton Hall law professor Tim McGlynn is now a co-author on that classic volume. My husband, Joel Boroff, is retired from AT&T. Our son, Alex, recently earned the “Ranger” tab; he is a captain in the US Army and we traveled to Fort Benning, GA, for that special graduation. Our daughter, Austen, continues her work as an Army officer at Fort Campbell, KY, and was the first woman in the 1-320th's history to lead an artillery platoon in a combat environment, this from her deployment in Iraq earlier this year. Stay connected! Send news to: ❖ **Karen DeMarco** Boroff, karen.boroff@shu.edu; **Mitch Frank**, mjfgator@gmail.com; **Joan Pease**, japease1032@aol.com; **Deb Gellman**, dsgellman@hotmail.com.

**76** Happy late autumn! As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. We love getting holiday letters! ❖ **Pat Relf** Hanavan, patrelf1@gmail.com; **Lisa Diamant**, ljdiamant@verizon.net; **Karen Krinsky** Sussman, Krinsk54@gmail.com. Online news form, http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm.

**77** Here are the latest post-Reunion comings and goings of our classmates. I would like to give a shout-out and thanks on behalf of our class to **Annette Mulee**, who tirelessly pursued the news and goings-on of our classmates and who is retiring after ten years as a class correspondent. Annette will be working to improve first-generation college attendees from families, as she herself was. She welcomes help from our classmates in this endeavor and can be reached at annette@mulee.com. She will also be a “traveling fool.” I would also like to give a big, Lynah Rink-style welcome to our new class correspondent, **Mary Flynn**. Welcome, Mary!

**Ian Friedland** (Lewes, DE) gave himself a birthday gift by retiring one day after turning 60. With his wife, Jan Fisher (an Ithaca College alum), he built a new home in a waterfront community of 180 homes in Lewes, on the west side of Rehoboth Bay. When the weather's good, they spend a lot of time kayaking, hiking, biking, and beach wandering; when it's not so good, he spends time making stained glass, reading, and volunteering. He is currently chair of his community's HOA facilities and property management committee, and volunteers with the state's marine mammal and sea turtle rescue organization, the MERR Inst., as a Friend of Cape Henlopen State Park, and with the local library. Since there were no Cornell alumni groups in Delaware, he set up the first ever gatherings of Cornell alums in Sussex and Kent counties, with the assistance of folks from Cornell's Alumni Affairs office. The first event drew 26 alums and was organized with the assistance of **Josh Grapski '96**, a Hotel school graduate who owns multiple restaurants in both that area and Washington, DC. The second event was held in a private home in South Bethany, DE, hosted by a lovely couple who graduated from Cornell in 1958! What gives Ian the most satisfaction in his life these days is not working for a living. The first person he met at Cornell was **Carl Landerl** (who he'd very much like to get back in touch with). If he had a day in Ithaca, he would take a trip to some of the local wineries. They are great additions to the Ithaca area that were not there when we were at Cornell.

**Bonnie Brief** Pauska (Holmdel, NJ) reports that her three children got married within three months of each other, and her first grandchild, Annabelle, was born on November 30, 2016. Congratulations, Bonnie! **Susan Lewis** Solomont (Weston, MA) is writing two books based on her life when she lived in Madrid while her husband, Alan, was the US Ambassador from 2010-13. Her husband is presently the dean of the Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts. She has two daughters, Becca, 30, and Stephanie, 25, and she would like to hear from Cornell friend **Tanni Hall '76**.

**Kenneth Myers** lives in Detroit, MI, with Marianne Elrick. He is still the curator of American Art at the Detroit Inst. of Art, and Marianne is an art dealer. Daughter **Sarah Myers '13** was a park ranger at Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota this past summer. Hopefully you got to hike with her! **Mark Mayrsohn** has been president of Mayrsohn Int'l Trading Co. for 35 years, trading global produce, specializing in trade with Europe, Asia, South America, and the Caribbean. He has traveled to Norway, Berlin, Iceland, Hong Kong, Ireland, California, and Alaska. He recently returned from the Flower Power Cruise of '60s rock 'n roll in the Caribbean. Mark says he's doing everything he wants to do now. He wishes he had met Carl Sagan earlier; he might have become an astronomer.

**Andrea Zoe Barrell** Aicher (Chelsea, VT) and Bob celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary on May 10 (congratulations!). They are planting 45 trees on their property. Her three daughters are very busy: Rachel is in foreign service at the American Embassy in Amman, Jordan; Athena is finishing boat-building school in Newport, RI; and **Ariel '13** works at the Guggenheim Museum in NYC as an international special events coordinator and global fundraiser. **Stephanie Underhill** (Bend, OR) lives an active life, hiking, snowshoeing, kayaking, volunteering, traveling, and attending family events. She states that her move to Bend is one of the best choices she ever made. She did it to join her daughter, Kim, and son-in-law Justin. Stephanie is working on forming a Cornell Club in Bend and getting back to

downhill skiing. Please let us know when the club is up and running. Hopefully you will welcome Cornellians visiting or passing through.

That's it for now. Amazing, record-breaking turnout at our 40th Reunion in June 2017. Please keep all of your news and views coming in via the online news form at: <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>. Or send e-mails to either of us: ♦ **Howie Eisen**, [heisen@drexelmed.edu](mailto:heisen@drexelmed.edu); **Mary Flynn**, [maryflynn1@me.com](mailto:maryflynn1@me.com).

**78** Greetings, '78ers! Mark your calendars for our 40th Reunion, June 7-10, 2018. Better yet, make your plane reservations and e-mail or call your former roommates, lab partners, study buddies, and random acquaintances and get them to come as well. Even if the weather's not wonderful, the company is congenial. **Jeff** and **Suzanne Tougas Snedeker** (Ithaca, NY) hung out with our '77 D Phi E sisters at last June's Reunion. Photos past and present were e-mailed around, several of which included our late friend **Bonnie Smith** Dukart. In another mini-reunion, **Nina Silfen** and **Joan Ohlbaum** Swirsky took advantage of NYC Restaurant Week and had dinner together.

**Alex Swiecicki** Fairfield, PhD '85 (Silver Spring, MD) teaches biology full time at a community college as her "retirement" job. She established a community garden at the college. Her husband, David Cheney (Brown '79), and daughter Austin bicycled 2,000 miles last summer from Vancouver to the Mexican border. Not to be outdone, Alex rode from Munich to Vienna this summer. She's done the Women's, Science, and Climate Change marches in Washington, DC, with **Attila George Devenyi** and his family. "Great to reconnect after nearly 40 years." Alex said that the Office of Financial Aid had the greatest impact on her. "I put myself through my bachelor's and PhD thanks to their help."

**Bill O'Neill** (Albuquerque, NM) is currently a state senator in New Mexico, where he's served since 2009. Bill writes, "My first collection of poems, *The Freedom of the Ignored*, was published by Red Mountain Press (Santa Fe, NM) in early August. It's available on Amazon. One of the strongest poems in the 46-poem collection is about my friendship with **Eamon McEaney '77**, who introduced me to poetry way back when." Bill enjoys spending time with his lifelong partner, Joan, who unfortunately has multiple sclerosis. **Kevin O'Malley** was his freshman roommate on West Campus. If Bill had a day in Ithaca, he'd play basketball at Teagle Hall. (Fear not, Bill, Teagle Hall is still there.)

Happy 2018, and keep the news coming! ♦ **Cindy Fuller**, [cindy@cindyjfuller.com](mailto:cindy@cindyjfuller.com); **Ilene Shub** Lefland, [ilefland@snet.net](mailto:ilefland@snet.net). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**79** As the 2017-18 school year is under way at Cornell, I note that fewer of us have children in college. As a group, we seem to be easing into retirement by spending time traveling and with family, including grandkids. And we are finishing our 60th birthday celebrations, including a class 60th birthday party in NYC on Thursday, November 9. I hope to see many of you at this exciting event.

**Cindy Green** wrote about their second annual Low Rise 7 suite mate reunion in NYC last December with **Elena Rodriguez**, **Allison Gay** Kirchner, **Gloria Maisto** Cohen, **Karen Cornelius '78**, and **Randy Strongin** Weiss '78. Their "dormmate" and very special friend **David Goldston '78** joined them again this year. They

spent the weekend enjoying special exhibits, places, and restaurants, reminiscing about their wonderful years together at Cornell and feeling thrilled by how much they all value and love each other and fortunate for their 41 years of friendship! They plan to continue this annual ritual forever. In June, Cindy celebrated a 90th birthday! Her older daughter, **Claudia Green Cohen '09**, turned 30 years old a few hours after she turned 60, and so they celebrated their 90th birthday together in NYC! Certainly these two events underscore how quickly time passes. How can it be almost 42 years since all of us arrived as freshmen at Cornell? And now her younger daughter, **Aliza Green Cohen '18**, is a senior!

**John Molander** and his spouse, Marcie, are in the fourth year of their "retirement." If he had known it was this much fun, he says, he would have done it years earlier! John organized a family reunion in Stockholm, Sweden. The Molander women all participated in the Greta Molander road rally. It was named for John's great-aunt Greta, who won the Monte Carlo while racing for Saab. John continues to volunteer by building and repairing homes for the disadvantaged and disabled veterans in Cincinnati and rural Mississippi. He wishes he could figure out how to catch up with more friends.

**Kathleen Zappia Gould** enjoyed taking care of her 1-year-old grandson during the day for two weeks this summer. It brought back great memories from 30 years ago, and she says it was great spending time with the family in Springfield, VA. Her daughter-in-law is a music teacher in Fairfax County, and her son is finishing his clerkship with Douglas Ginsburg, a senior justice on the D.C. Circuit, with a position with Covington and Burling in their Washington, DC, office. Later in the summer, **Bob** and Kathy spent two weeks in Scandinavia cruising the Baltic Sea and visiting Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo, Berlin, Stockholm, Tallinn, and St. Petersburg.

**Mark Wilson**, MBA '80, and his wife, **Denise Rempe '80**, traveled to Alaska during June with their children, **Brooke '16** and Ryan (Syracuse '13), for an action-packed week of hiking on glaciers, viewing brown bears close up on tidal flats, canoeing over beaver dams, and hiking an island mountain near the Kenai Peninsula. Wildlife included bears and whales. Flying included seaplanes and choppers. Mark and Denise were also in Ithaca at Cornell's Adult University during July, where they studied Sharia law and the Arts and Crafts movement, respectively. Fellow '79ers at CAU joining in the learning and fun included **Nancy Sverdlík**, **Roberta Fisher**, **Janet Goldin** Rubin, and **Sue Morand** Meyers. Nancy and Roberta attended Origins and Workings of Islamic Law, while Janet also took the course on the Arts and Crafts movement in Upstate New York, visiting Frank Lloyd Wright's Darwin Martin House in Buffalo. If you are planning on attending CAU, get in touch with Janet or Nancy and maybe they can coordinate their weeks with classmates. It would be great to have more members of our class back on the Hill!

**Richie Stearns**, along with three business partners, founded Partners Trust in September 2009. They have been an industry leader in real estate brokerage in Los Angeles for the past eight years. They recently announced their merger with Pacific Union Int'l, the eighth largest brokerage in the US, to create the largest independent real estate brokerage in California. That's a long way from growing up in Binghamton!

Now that my children are almost grown up (that means I am still paying college tuition), I have been traveling and spending more time with new and longtime friends. My husband, Arthur, and I went on two amazing, eye-opening

trips. In fall 2015 we toured Germany and Poland, then last autumn we ventured to Vienna, Prague, and Budapest. **Lori Freimark** Banks offered great suggestions for visiting Vienna; she had just returned from an awesome roots journey at the same time I was thinking about going there. I am in touch with some Cornellians, but would love to catch up with others who I haven't heard from in a while. Let me know if you're in NYC!

**Stephenie Foster, MRP '80**, is a founding partner of Smash Strategies, which provides strategic advice to corporations and philanthropists to ensure that the investments in women and girls are effective and transformational. For the past five years, she served at the US Dept. of State, as senior advisor/counselor in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues, and previously at the US Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, working

I are happily working as physicians in Albany. Please reach out if you are ever in the area!"

**Barbara Torrey Friedman** was also a high school classmate of mine and made it back to Williamsville, NY, this summer for our high school reunion. I did not make it this year, but am determined to get to the next one. She shared, "I've been back in Ithaca for 15 years after living in Kansas City and Dallas. I've spent most of these years at Cornell in the academic technologies area, and became director of customer service and support for Cornell Information Technologies (CIT) last November. It's wonderful to still be part of this amazing institution! My husband, **Ken, Law '77-78**, and I have two grown kids, and we became grandparents in January. I'd love to hear from any classmates who are visiting campus!"

**Barbara Gelman** writes, "I work as a psychologist for the School District of Philadelphia and serve on the psychology professional committee. I also serve on the Pennsylvania Psychological Assn.'s school psychology committee and write annual articles. I serve on the Society Hill Civic Assn.'s board of directors. I am an election board official for Philadelphia and am an active synagogue member. Until recently I sang with an area chorus and enjoy repertory theater, the Philadelphia Art Museum, and the Barnes National Museum of American Jewish History." Barbara says that what gives her the most satisfaction in her life is watching her children grow into adults. "Truly amazing!" Barbara remembers that the first person she met at Cornell was **Bill Kwong**, a fellow HDFS major. And if she had a day in Ithaca now she would "stroll the main Quad, go to Bailey Hall, where I performed with the Cornell Chorus, and enjoy Collegetown!"

**Irene Albano** Labombarde (Bedford, NH) writes, "I am pleased to announce that I have opened my own proofreading/editing business after years of doing similar work for a large agency. I officially launched my website, [www.irenesproofreading.com](http://www.irenesproofreading.com), in the middle of the March 14 blizzard. My husband, who attended Cornell as a graduate music student, is now the director of planned giving at nearby St. Anselm College. We met through the Cornell Chorus/Glee Club and have continued our lifelong love of singing in the Nashua Choral Society. All three of our children are grown and out of the house. Our oldest, Katherine, graduated from the U. of Mary Washington in 2010 with a degree in international affairs. She lives and works in Northern Virginia. Our son, Evan, is three and a half years into his enlistment with the USMC. His twin, Jocelyn, is finishing up her fourth year at Rhodes College in Memphis. She will graduate in December with a double major in neuroscience and music. Knowing that my children are all thriving and making a difference in the world is what gives me the most satisfaction in my life these days. Probably the first person I met at Cornell was my freshman roommate, **Sue Scharf**. If I had a day in Ithaca, I would take a long walk around campus, Collegetown, and downtown to see all the changes that have taken place since my last visit." Keep sending us your news; we really do love to hear from you! ♦ **Tanis MacKay-Bell**, [TanisMBell@gmail.com](mailto:TanisMBell@gmail.com); **Steven Barre**, [scbarre@aol.com](mailto:scbarre@aol.com); **Betsy Silverfine**, [bsilverfine@comcast.net](mailto:bsilverfine@comcast.net). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

## 'Todd Wolleman is soliciting suggestions for the class playlist.'

LEONA BARSKY '80

If you love reading about classmates and want us to know what you're up to, please keep sending your news! We haven't heard from many classmates in quite a while. You can submit news to: ♦ **Linda Moses**, [lindakmoses@gmail.com](mailto:lindakmoses@gmail.com); **Kathy Zappia** Gould, [kathy.gould57@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.gould57@gmail.com); or **Cynthia Ahlgren** Shea, [cynthia.shea@sothebyshomes.com](mailto:cynthia.shea@sothebyshomes.com). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**80** Our classmates continue to share news of their career milestones and changes, family celebrations and accomplishments, and the next stages in their lives as we finish our 37th year after graduation. We invite you to provide your news for our column as a terrific way to reconnect and catch up with your Cornell friends.

Class of 1980 has a block of tickets for the annual Cornell ice hockey game at Madison Square Garden on November 25, 2017. This year Cornell is playing Boston U. again. Please join us to cheer Cornell on to victory! The Cornell-BU game during Thanksgiving weekend in 2015 had a great class turnout and ended in an exciting 3-3 tie in overtime. Ticket sale information is available at <https://alumni.cornell.edu/event/red-hot-hockey-class-of-1980>, and through Facebook. Classmates are welcome to attend the pre-game party at the Cornell Club in NYC, even if they aren't going to the game. The party starts at 5 p.m. with cash bar and complimentary pub grub and à la carte menu available. The first pre-game party at the Cornell Club last year was packed and a terrific success.

**Todd Wolleman**, Reunion co-chair, is soliciting suggestions for the class playlist to play at events and during Reunion to rekindle memories. As he reminded us, we were there for the Grateful Dead show on May 8, 1977 and Bruce Springsteen during our sophomore year. Todd's daughter, **Danielle Wolleman '19**, interned at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Montour Falls, NY, this past summer and conducted a pollinator study. After 30 years in consumer packaged goods and retail, **Tim O'Connor** has changed careers and has become the CAL and treasurer of the Artist Book Foundation, an arts foundation located on the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (MASS MoCA) campus in North Adams, MA. The foundation celebrates artists' lives and work through exceptional artist books, gallery shows, podcasts, and other events and is funded through donations. Tim welcomes you to contact him at [tim@artistbkfoundation.org](mailto:tim@artistbkfoundation.org); check out the foundation on Facebook, [@artistbookfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/artistbookfoundation); go to the website, [www.artistbkfoundation.org](http://www.artistbkfoundation.org); or visit him at Building 13.

on women's and civil society issues. Prior to the State Dept., she had her own consulting firm focusing on domestic and international policy advocacy and government affairs and worked as chief of staff to senators Barbara Mikulski and Chris Dodd and in the nonprofit sector.

Cornell Hillel has recently started a new initiative for alumni from the classes of '02 to '17—the Cornell Jewish Young Alumni Network. The first event was held in Manhattan on September 12, 2017. You may know a Cornell alum who would be interested. Please invite them to contact the new Hillel development director, **Susanna Cohen '12**, at [skc79@cornell.edu](mailto:skc79@cornell.edu), or check out [www.facebook.com/CUJewishAlumni](http://www.facebook.com/CUJewishAlumni). Please continue to stay in touch and join us at our events. ♦ **Leona Barsky**, [LLB39@cornell.edu](mailto:LLB39@cornell.edu); **Dana Jerrard**, [dej24@cornell.edu](mailto:dej24@cornell.edu); **Dik Saalfeld**, [rfs25@cornell.edu](mailto:rfs25@cornell.edu).

**81** Greetings from Fort Lauderdale! With three of our four kids now living in Gainesville, FL, I was able to connect with **Reggie Gonzalez-Peralta**. I had a wonderful dinner with Reggie and his wife. We even managed to meet each other's children as they trickled into the restaurant/bar during the evening. Reggie had a very busy summer. Not only did his youngest daughter graduate from U. of Florida, but after 28 years in Gainesville at the U. of Florida, Reggie has decided to move and embark on a new and exciting adventure. As of September, he assumed the role of director of pediatric gastroenterology, hepatology, and liver transplant at Florida Hospital for Children, Walt Disney World Pavilion. In that role, he is looking forward to developing the first-ever pediatric liver transplant program in central Florida! Reggie would love to hear from **Doug Lull**.

**J. Kevin Rooney** ([krooney@pkinvest.com](mailto:krooney@pkinvest.com)) is living in Delmar, NY, with his wife, Nancy. He is senior VP of PKS Investments and says that "dealing with the public and crunching numbers" keeps him busy at work. All his kids are grown, so he is enjoying the empty nest—"Life is great!" In fact, he has started a second career, or avocation, as a 1950s rock 'n' roller. He says he is ready and wishing to become a grandparent. I think it's a common wish for most of us at this stage of life—I'm ready too! Kevin says that **Robert Hill** was the person at Cornell who had the most impact on him, and now Robert is his brother-in-law. **Graciela Constantino** Desemone, my maid of honor 36 years ago, wrote to let everyone know the following: "I am living in my hometown of Albany, NY, with my wonderful husband, Jim. We just celebrated 30 years together! We are blessed with two daughters, Marcela and Cristina. Both Jim and

**82** The news this time around shows the lasting influence that Cornell has had on us in so many different ways: in our professions and careers, in our outside interests, in our desire to contribute to society in many different ways, and in our enduring friendships forged on the Hill.

My old friend **Rosemarie Aurigemma** reports in from the D.C. area to say that she has left the National Inst. of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and is back at the National Cancer Inst. (in Rockville, MD); both institutes are part of the NIH. She has returned to “work in cancer drug development once again” as deputy associate director in the Developmental Therapeutics Program of the Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis. Rosie says, “I’m busy with our two daughters, one a junior in high school and one in eighth grade. We have a small farm with chickens and honeybees. Fresh eggs and honey are nice, and we’ve enough to share with family and friends. The observation honeybee hives in the biology labs at the Ag school influenced me a lot and led to me wanting to be a beekeeper. Mission accomplished! There is another Cornell alum in my local ‘bee club,’ and we’re proud of Cornell’s contribution to apiculture science.”

A very interesting contribution comes in from **Daniel Radin**: “I am usually teaching at a school in Guatemala, but I have also started an environmental and public health project involving waterless toilets.” The project that he directs is “El Inodoro Más Avanzado [the Most Advanced Toilet]: Lake Atitlán [Guatemala] Flush-to-Waterless Toilet Conversion Project.” He continues, “I also work with my partner Eliza Strode in a Guatemalan fair-trade crafts business working with artisan cooperatives” (<http://www.athreadofhope.coop/>).

**Henry Herz**, a graduate of the College of Engineering, announces, “My upcoming children’s picture book, *Cap’n Rex & His Clever Crew*, is due out from Sterling (the publishing arm of Barnes & Noble) in August. Captain Rex and his dinosaur pirates sail the seven seas in search of buried treasure. But whenever they hit an obstacle—like a giant shark or pea-soup fog—the crew members are quick to say they can’t overcome it. To this, Captain Rex always glares with teeth bared and says, ‘CANTYEE?’ And, somehow, the crew always comes up with a clever solution. This story highlights the value of one’s creativity and determination in tough situations.” Henry adds that it got a positive review at Kirkus (<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/henry-l-herz/capn-rex-his-clever-crew/>). Good going, Henry!

We received an announcement that **Michael Zapson** (Long Beach, NY), who earned his JD from SUNY at Buffalo, has joined the East Meadow, NY, office of Certilman Balin Adler & Hyman LLP as a partner and member of the real estate group. Michael concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial and estate litigation, real estate, and zoning, for which he represents real property owners, national companies, developers, purchasers, REITs, lenders, and brokers. He is also active in the community as a board member of the Long Island chapter of the League of Conservation Voters and as a member of the Long Island Builder’s Inst. (LIBI), the Long Beach Lawyer’s Assn., the Nassau County Bar Assn., and the Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York. He presents seminars on the topics of land use and development and trusts and estates. Michael is admitted to practice in New York and Washington, DC.

**Carolynne Tilga** Chandler lives in Santa Fe, NM, with husband Michael. Carolynne tells us, “I trade on all of the financial markets and also compete in CrossFit with my husband and daughter.” She says that her two daughters attended Cornell Summer College in 2017.

**Marc ‘81** and **Roberta Karon Laredo** live in Newton, MA, where Marc, who has his own Boston-based law firm, is on the city council. Roberta has a private practice as a dietitian and diabetes educator (<http://www.robotalaredo.com/>). She reports, “In February, we had

a U-Hall 4 reunion in NYC. The weekend was planned around my freshman roommate, **Monica Cseri** Ryser, who was visiting from Basel, Switzerland. **Debra Weinberger** Linden, **Helen Presser** Green, **Abby Huang** Fishman, **Ellen Houston** Daniels, and **Laura Griffen** McDermott were all there to catch up and enjoy all that NYC has to offer.” Hmmm, does that include the Naked Cowboy and perfect Cosmopolitans? Just kidding, Roberta. I am sure that you are referring to the Belgian waffle stands and the outstanding museums and cultural venues! ♦ **Mark Fernau**, [mef29@cornell.edu](mailto:mef29@cornell.edu); **Nina Kondo**, [nmk22@cornell.edu](mailto:nmk22@cornell.edu); **Doug Skalka**, [dskalka@nplmlaw.com](mailto:dskalka@nplmlaw.com). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**83** Labor Day weekend is just two weeks away as I write to you, and a new school year is about to begin! Please continue to send your news in—we love to hear from you!

Two important save-the-date notices for you. First, the Frozen Apple Big Red Hockey game at Madison Square Garden in NYC on November 25, 2017 at 8:00 pm. Buy your tickets now because it always sells out. Tickets are \$79 each and you will receive them in October. Our class has a block of 100 tickets in section 119, which has a great view of the arena. Prior to the game, we will get together for some pre-game fun at Lucy’s Cantina Royale, just across the street from MSG at 1 Penn Plaza. You can literally roll across the street to MSG, no matter how many cocktails you have had! Festivities at Lucy’s begin at 5:30 and will go until around 7:45. We will host finger foods, and there will be a cash bar. A dinner menu will also be available. The second big event to plan ahead for is our 35th Reunion at Cornell in Ithaca, June 7-10, 2018. Your Reunion co-chair **Andy Sosa** and class president **Nancy Gilroy** have already begun planning for the event. You can get more information on our class Facebook page. Sign up as soon as you can.

My co-correspondent, **Barb Warner** Deane, is happy to have finalized her dream of becoming a published author. In addition to her historical novel, *On the Homefront*, which was published on August 23, her second novel, *Killing Her Softly*, a romantic suspense, was published on September 29. Barb is signing books and presenting a program entitled “Women of World War II: The Front Lines and the Homefront” for several Chicago-area libraries and clubs and in the Finger Lakes. More information can be found at [www.barbwarnerdeane.com](http://www.barbwarnerdeane.com). Congrats to Barb on this major accomplishment! **Karen Rosen** Stetler ([Kystet@gmail.com](mailto:Kystet@gmail.com)) lives in Los Angeles, CA, with her husband, Ron. Karen has been producing special edition DVD and Blu-ray releases of classic films for the Criterion Collection. She is hoping her Cornell friend **Vivian Schiller** will read this and reconnect with her. According to Karen, the professors at Cornell who had the biggest impact on her life were Ted Lowi and **Pearce Williams ‘48**, PhD ‘52. I also loved Ted Lowi—one of Cornell’s finest!

**John Davis** (Williamsburg, MA; [davisjh2@si.edu](mailto:davisjh2@si.edu)) has just taken on a new job: provost and undersecretary for museums and research at the Smithsonian Institution. John will be working closely with the Smithsonian secretary, former Cornell University president David Skorton. Congratulations to John. What an exciting position to have! I am happy to say I have connected with classmate **Stephanie Kaufman**, who now lives in Sarasota, FL. She loves her time in the warm Florida sun. She recently started as a CAAAN member and enjoys meeting Cornell candidates. I met Stephanie through life friend **Matt**

**Crowley** (All-American lacrosse player), both of whom lived in Great Neck, NY, the town next to where I grew up. Matt and Stef were classmates at Great Neck South. We are hoping to meet up with Stephanie at the hockey game over Thanksgiving weekend. Crowley continues to be one of my best friends. In fact, he was just at my house Sunday, swimming in the pool and playing horseshoes and tennis while downing shots of Don Julio! Love it!

Hopefully everyone keeps sending in news! We count on you! ♦ **Jon Felice**, [jbfelice@jbfelice.com](mailto:jbfelice@jbfelice.com); **Barb Deane**, [bldeane@gmail.com](mailto:bldeane@gmail.com). Online news form, <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-note.cfm>.

**84** Well, as I’m writing, Hurricane Irma is threatening Puerto Rico and Florida. By the time you read this the hurricane season will be at its end. Please e-mail us and let us know what you are up to so we have news for the next column! Send us whatever you have or we will resort to Google.

Our first bit of news is sweet! Classmate **Joni Ruller** McGary used her Food Science degree, a background in commercial food production, and a recipe refined over the course of many bake sales to create LuckyGuy Bakery—named for two lucky guys, Joni’s husband and son, who get to eat these brownies regularly! LuckyGuy was founded in May 2015 “with the goal of making crazy-good brownies, and having fun while doing it.” LuckyGuy creates insanely tasty treats by hand in the great and groovy Hoosier State of Indiana. The brownies “quickly developed a very passionate following in Bloomington and surrounding areas, and it’s been a blast to make and market them,” she says. Her not-so-secret: chocolate is the first ingredient by weight. Her Iconic Brownie contains four kinds of chocolate, and the Nutty Brownie variation, Joni’s personal favorite, adds walnut halves, making it a totally different brownie. LuckyGuy’s best-selling brownie is its newest addition, the Gluten-Free Brownie. According to Joni, changing the flour transforms the texture, resulting in a dense, creamy brownie. More choices may be on the horizon as Joni has been experimenting with flavor combinations, such as her Hot Flash Brownie, spiced with cayenne pepper. LuckyGuy brownies can be purchased online and locally in Indianapolis. Check out the online store: <http://luckyguybakery.com>.

**Will Smith** is putting his degree in Psychology to good use. Congratulations to Will, and Abercrombie & Fitch, on his appointment as the company’s new CMO. In that role, he will be responsible for all brand, creative, and digital marketing across the company. According to a recent press release, Will is “a true marketing talent who has led successful, transformative brand campaigns spanning go-to-market advertising, digital marketing, and mobile and customer loyalty programs.” He has worked for companies such as Famous Footwear/Brown Group Retail, Kraft, Atlantic Records, and Liz Claiborne, in various brand and marketing roles. He also serves on the national board of trustees of the March of Dimes Foundation and on the executive committee of the eastern Missouri and southern Illinois Better Business Bureau.

**Sue Guest** Henninger ([sue@suehenninger.com](mailto:sue@suehenninger.com)) lives in Trumansburg, NY, and her “decade-long career as a freelance writer has been rewarding and a lot of fun!” Her first nonfiction book, *The Ultimate Guide to College Transfer: From Surviving to Thriving*, was published by Rowman & Littlefield in June 2017. The book was coauthored by **Lucia Tyler, PhD ‘79**, a local college admissions counselor with Cornell ties, and was designed to make college transfer between four-year schools as successful as possible. It’s available on Amazon, at Barnes & Noble,

and at Goodreads sites and various other locations. Sue also writes two columns and theatre reviews for *Tompkins Weekly*, as well as articles on a variety of topics for family publications. She was thrilled to win the Cap Rec Journalism Award for her “Eye on Agriculture” column, and the Gold Award in the travel department category at the annual Parenting Media Assn. Conference’s awards this year. Sue’s youngest son just graduated from Valparaiso U. in Indiana, her middle son is working for AmeriCorps in the FEMA division, and her oldest son is a working musician in Dallas. Sue loves spending time at her lake house with family and friends, traveling, and reading. She still frequently gets together with **Judi Hemphill** Galusha and **Carla Schorr** Rose.

**Jose Nieves** is down in Virginia celebrating his 15th anniversary of being a professor at Lord Fairfax Community College—a small college of close to 9,000 students with two campuses. Jose is the only full-time professor of information technology on campus, overseeing the department activities and managing adjunct faculty. He is also celebrating his tenth year at Capella U., where he is a part-time faculty member for doctoral students. Jose mentors learners, chairs dissertation committees, and participates in other dissertation committee efforts. He reports, “Son Joshua works in retail, taking a break before going first to community college for an associate’s degree and then following toward finishing his bachelor’s; and wife Kelly is a consultant for the federal government in online course design.” Jose adds, “Life is pretty routine, but we enjoy cruising every two years to far-away destinations. The Baltics is slotted for next year!” He remembers coming to Ithaca (brrr) from Puerto Rico and making “quick connections with others in the same boat during freshman year.” He keeps in contact with **Elizabeth Suarez**, **Lissie Rice**, **John Toohey**, **JR Graña**, **Kathy Sferra ’83**, **Jose Amador ’83**, **Stephanie Cohn** Robinson, and a good number of Kappa Delta Rho brothers. Recently he met with **Lance Fortnow ’85** for dinner as he visited Northern Virginia. If Jose had a day in Ithaca, he would climb the steps to the clock tower to see the chimesmasters—“Couldn’t say I visited Ithaca unless I did at least that!”

A sincere thanks to those who sent along news. Please send us more via e-mail. ♦ **Janet Insardi**, janetinsardi@gmail.com; **Catherine “Kitty” Cantwell**, catherinej.cantwell@gmail.com. Class website, <http://classof84.alumni.cornell.edu>.

**85 Howard Gelb** (drgelb@myacc.net) says that he is busy taking care of UFC athletes at his sports medicine and orthopaedic center. He has one daughter in college and another in high school, and says he wishes he had more time for skiing, water skiing, and seeing family and friends.

**Amy Smith** Linton writes, “I’ve been keeping a blog ([www.amysmithlinton.com](http://www.amysmithlinton.com)) as a way to channel the impulse to tell stories—it makes me a better party-goer, à la the Ancient Mariner. I’m still campaigning various sailboats; going back to Ecuador this fall for the Lightning World Championships. I am pretty fortunate, but I do wish I were on a book tour promoting my latest novel.” **Steve Garrison** (Toano, VA) has been working with the Marriott Vacation Club for 15 years. Both of his daughters were married in the last two years. He writes, “I’m looking to catch up with Cornell Big Red football teammates at this year’s CFA golf tourney!”

**Linda Messinger** Manos, DVM ’90 (linda.manos@ymail.com) writes, “I continue to work as a veterinary dermatologist and allergist at the Veterinary Referral

Center of Colorado; however, I have cut back to two days per week. Thank you, professors Danny Scott and Bill Miller for spurring my interest of veterinary dermatology while I was in Vet college at Cornell.” **Allan Klinger** recently relocated to Longboat Key, FL. He writes, “I just returned from Cornell, where we celebrated my older son **Matthew Klinger ’17**’s graduation as a Computer Science major. My other son, Marc, is going into his sophomore year at the U. of Pennsylvania.”

How will you spend your holidays? We want to know!

♦ **Roberta Zwiebel** Farhi, rfarhiesq@aol.com; **Joyce Zerkowitz** Cornett, cornett0667@comcast.net.

**86** In this uncertain world in which we live, one constant is the stream of accomplishments achieved by our classmates. It is always heartening to correspond with such a dynamic, talented group of alumni and report their latest undertakings.

Case in point: **Rob Bakshi**, who is a professor of neurology and radiology at Harvard Medical School and director of the Laboratory for Neuroimaging Research, recently published a paper in *JAMA Neurology* called “Association Between Serum MicroRNAs and Magnetic Resonance Imaging Measures of Multiple Sclerosis Severity.” His research found that serum microRNAs are linked to MRI findings in the brain and spinal cord in patients with MS, suggesting that microRNAs could serve as promising biomarkers for monitoring the progression of MS and could help to identify distinct underlying disease processes, such as inflammation and tissue destruction. Rob reports that he had a great 30th Reunion on the Hill last summer and got to sit at the head table next to Frank H.T. Rhodes and his wife at the welcome dinner. **Amy Ciabattoni** Keating is the current program leader and nutritionist at Consumer Reports, with a mission to “create a fairer, safer, and healthier world,” according to an interview she gave to Cornell’s *Human Ecology* magazine. Amy is responsible for keeping nutrition labels honest—which she did when tests she led on Whole Foods yogurt revealed more than five times the amount of sugar than the label claimed. Go, Amy!

**William Alba** has been promoted to assistant dean for diversity in the Mellon College of Science at Carnegie Mellon U. He is an associate teaching professor of chemistry at CMU, where, for the past 12 years, he has directed the Science and Humanities Scholars Program and the university’s program for high school students enrolled in summer college courses. His courses include: Revolutions of Circularity, a history of ideas seminar focused on the circle as viewed through Western classics in philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, architecture, physics, and literature; and EUREKA! Discovery and Its Impact, which is a first-year seminar for young scientists to become scholars, persons, professionals, and citizens. **Jennifer Ellenberg** Bergen writes that she is traveling with husband Scott, stepdaughter Kate, stepson Ryan, mother-in-law Mary Ann, and father-in-law Paul to Norway and rarely visited spots in Iceland. The trip is partly run by Big Chill Adventures, a travel company started by a Cornell alumna. Jen’s brother-in-law and his family just moved to Norway, so they’ll be visiting them, along with Islos and their namesake town of Bergen.

Home for **Patty Bazzarini** Appel is the Santa Barbara/Goleta area, and it’s been full of adventure recently due to the Whittier fire. Patty is “wishing for some Ithaca-style weather.” After leaving a job at Goldman Sachs in New York in the 1990s to raise her three kids, she is now trading equity options on her own. Son Peter is starting his sophomore year at Syracuse U. and daughter

Carrie is starting her freshman year at UCLA. Patty says she argued for Cornell, but her daughter figures that if she is going to be studying engineering, she needs nice weather. It was a great surprise for **Tom Barreca** when his son, **Mac ’20**, revealed, after the fact, that he would be transferring to the ILR school at Cornell this coming year from Providence College. Tom says the news had his wife, Eileen, who went to Ithaca College, and him “dancing around the living room.” The couple were married at Sage Hall and they’re excited to be visiting both hills and the Commons again. “I know I’m preparing to spend a gazillion dollars at the Campus Store,” says Tom. His daughter, Molly, who just graduated from Miami (OH) U., is working for Disney Corporate in New York. Tom lives in Westport, CT, among a ton of Cornellians, he says, and runs a media and strategy consulting firm; he is an adjunct on the faculty of Sacred Heart U., where he teaches classes on digital deal-making and negotiating.

**Grace Wolcott** Wadell knows all about spending money on Cornell gear. Her son **Alex ’17** graduated in May from Engineering and, after a summer internship at Moog, will return to Cornell this fall to complete his Master of Engineering degree in December. Her second son, **Kyle ’19**, is in his junior year, living in the Phi Delt Annex and studying Computer Science Engineering with a pre-law minor. He has enjoyed being a part of the Design/Built/Fly team at Cornell (<https://dbf.engineering.cornell.edu/team.php>). Grace has two more at home, in Lake Oswego, OR. **Chris Arbogast**’s son, Zach, will be a junior at U. of Colorado, Denver this fall studying aerospace engineering, and his daughter, Katrina, will be a senior in high school.

We love hearing from you! Please continue to feed us reassurance that everything will be okay. E-mail us or share your news via the online news form, <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

♦ **Nancy Keates**, nancy.keates@wsj.com; **Michael** and **Lori Spydell Wagner**, mwagner@maiwealth.com; and **Toby Goldsmith**, toby.goldsmith@gmail.com.

**87** I hope you had a great summer! My husband, Andy, and I just wrapped up a great visit with **Liz Brown**, JD ’90, and husband David Pinski at their home in San Mateo, CA. Beautiful weather, lots of hiking, and lots of wine tasting!

**Tom Tseng**, ME ’94, gathered for lunch with a group of Bay Area alumni including **Karen Lee** Nichols, **Karl Townsend**, **Donna Lee** McMaster, **Noah Price**, ME ’88, **Carolyn Prior** Koehle, **Pamela Bird** McDaniel, **Amy Benigno** Fothergill, and **Brent Vallat**, ME ’89. **Bob Maxon** reports that he’s enjoyed fun times with many classmates over the last several months including lunch with **Jose Davila** and golf with **Dave Cleary**, **Jaan Janes ’85**, **Pete Watts ’85**, and **Dave Thomas ’88**. He traveled to Colorado to golf and ski with **John Hastings** this March. “Thanks to many classmates who reached out to me and my family this April after I suffered a mild heart attack.” *Editor’s note:* We were very happy to see him in such good health at Reunion in June! **Amit Batabyal** returned to active teaching at the Rochester Inst. of Technology (RIT) after a sabbatical leave. His tenth book, *Regional Growth and Sustainable Development in Asia*, was published by Springer in January 2017. He’s beginning work on a new book on disease and human health in Asia. Daughter **Sanjana ’18** is a junior, pre-med, and majoring in Development Sociology in CALS.

**Rod Recker**, MS ’90, is the CTO of GM Glimpse Group Consulting. He’s been working hard mentoring entrepreneurs in his startup who are developing new

businesses in virtual reality. He loves the pace of working in NYC. The person who had the most impact on him at Cornell was Prof. **Donald Greenberg '55**, PhD '68, who he recently joined at Cornell Tech in NYC to help teach his disruptive technologies class. **Matthew Nagler** has just been promoted to full professor at the City U. of New York. He's a professor of economics and teaches at both CCNY and the CUNY Graduate Center. Last Memorial Day he saw **Wendy Wagner, Sophie Glasser, and Ken Zirkel '88** at Wendy and Ken's home outside Providence to celebrate Wendy's birthday. Prof. Ron Ehrenberg, who taught Economics of the University at ILR, had a huge impact on him. He helped Matthew to promote and publish his paper on the "Economics of Financial Aid."

**David Jaffe** is an author, rabbi, and consultant. "My recent book, *Changing the World from the Inside Out*, won the 2016 National Jewish Book Award for Contemporary Jewish Life." His wife, Cornelian **Janette (Hillis) '90**, published a book called *Everyday Healing*, which helps people take on any health challenge. David wishes he was hiking and camping more. His friends **Stew Russell** and **Jacqueline Debets '88**, as well as professors Bud Kenworthy, Joel Silbey, and Stuart Davis, all had a great impact on him. David would love to hear from **Nadia Schadow**, which is a perfect transition to our next news item. Georgetown U. Press sent us an alert about **Nadia's** latest publication, *War and the Art of Governance: Consolidating Combat Success into Political Victory*. In this book, Nadia argues that success in war ultimately depends on the consolidation of political order; the steps needed to consolidate a new political order are not separate from war. They are instead an essential component of war and victory. She provides clear lessons for students and scholars of security studies and military history, as well as for policymakers and the military personnel who will be involved in the next foreign intervention. For more info, go to: <http://press.georgetown.edu/book/georgetown/war-and-art-governance>.

**Stephen D. Smith** reports that he's an industry manager for Surface Protection Films at SWM Int'l in Greenfield, MA. He's volunteering on his town's planning board and stays busy with farm projects. He's very happily settled in Western Massachusetts with husband Sean and their three Labrador retrievers. **Kenny and Kara Vanneman Klein '89** are happy to report that their daughter Abby has been accepted to the Cornell Class of 2021 and will be joining her sister **Lizzie '18** as fifth-generation Cornellians!

**Josephine Connolly**-Schoonen enjoys working with a dynamic team of nutritionists at Stony Brook Medicine. "Our most fun project is running our Stony Brook Heights rooftop farm and donating the organic produce," she writes. She's been having great fun at an annual get together of Cornell friends from U-Hall 2. **Margaret Toole** Newland is finding fulfillment in teaching at her community college in Geneva, NY, as well as her yoga studio, Studio Renew Yoga. She recently traced her birth parents through Ancestry DNA. Margaret has helped her birth mom with healing and forgiveness through their growing relationship. She gifted her birth father a Cornell T-shirt that he reportedly wears all the time! She'd love to hear from **Robin Lippert**.

Just a reminder that there's an online Alumni Photo Gallery! You can submit your photos at [cornellalumni.com/magazine.com/photogallery](http://cornellalumni.com/magazine.com/photogallery). Please be sure to send us your news via a news form or by e-mailing any of us at the following: ♦ **Whitney Weinstein** Goodman, [wwg5@cornell.edu](mailto:wwg5@cornell.edu); ♦ **Liz Brown**, [etb29@cornell.edu](mailto:etb29@cornell.edu); or our newest correspondent, **Lisa Griffin**, [lag77@cornell.edu](mailto:lag77@cornell.edu).

**88** This class column features alumni updates with international travel, sleeping in wood huts, and, in one case, 20 grandchildren. (Yes, you read that correctly.)

Active alum **Steve Werblow** has had a freelance agricultural writing and photography business since he and wife **Anna (Barnsley) '90** moved to Oregon in 1995. Steve is currently serving as secretary general of the Int'l Federation of Agricultural Journalists, a group that's given him the opportunity to cover stories in Slovenia, Austria, Switzerland, Germany, and South Africa. Steve and Anna lived in Scotland for the 2013-14 school year with their two kids. He writes, "We saw the world from a different angle. I traveled to Thailand last year with **Steve Tomaselli '88** on a buddy adventure that included posh rooftop

**89** As we near the end of 2017, most members of our class have turned 50. Happy half-century, everyone! There's a common thread of gratitude in some of our classmates' news, for our time at Cornell three decades ago and how that shaped our futures. We're also excited about kids going off to college this fall, and hoping that some of them might end up on the Hill.

**Beth Epstein** Schweitzer is going back to school herself, with kids in college too. She wrote, "I'm currently back at Fairfield U. getting my master's in family therapy. My oldest son, Bailey, is a senior at Vanderbilt U.; Zach is a freshman at Colby College; and my daughter, Kyla, is starting high school. She's my last hope to attend Cornell!" **Katherine Saufley** Jackson wrote from Syracuse: "June 2017 marked my oldest graduating

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## 'Amy Ciabattoni Keating is responsible for keeping nutrition labels honest.'

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NANCY KEATES '86

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bars and sleeping on the floor of a wood hut in the mountains." Steve would love to hear from **Giuseppe Volpato**, his sophomore roommate and "all around great guy."

After practicing law for almost ten years, **Amy Moses** Coates stayed home with her two daughters for five years because she "could not find Mary Poppins." Then she went back to school and took online classes to become certified as a college counselor. She has just completed her sixth admission cycle and has helped high schoolers "navigate their college path." Amy and husband Bill have two daughters: recent high school grad Dani, who is attending Tufts U. this fall; and Hailey, who is completing her freshman year of high school. **David McNeil** is involved in exciting real estate development projects with his company, McNeil Development. He has been centered in downtown Cortland, NY. David and wife Christine have three children in college this fall. The McNeil kids are attending Clarkson U., Union College, and Le Moyne College.

In Gloucester, MA, **Jennifer Sanchez** Goebel is NOAA Fisheries public affairs officer. She lives in Arlington with her husband, James. **Judith Santiago** Alvarez retired in September 2013 as a correctional bilingual teacher. She is an elder in her church and also volunteers three days a week at the church office where her husband is the executive pastor. She would love to hear from **Laurie Davis '75**, PhD '83. The people who made the biggest impact on her at Cornell? "Joe Selden, my advisor; Lucy Brown, who worked at the minority office; and Brenda Bricker, who from day one helped me in many ways." Judith may just have the largest family of anyone mentioned in this column. She keeps busy with 20 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren from her seven daughters!

Remember, the Class of 1988 has hundreds of members on our Facebook page. It's a great way to reconnect with old friends, see photos, find upcoming events, promote an event, and more. Join the conversation at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/8476144284/>. Please send us your news and we will publish it in an upcoming column. Let's be in touch! ♦ **Brad Mehl**, [brad@boundlessmarkets.com](mailto:brad@boundlessmarkets.com); ♦ **Andréa Meadow** Danziger, [ALM46@cornell.edu](mailto:ALM46@cornell.edu).

from high school and my youngest from kindergarten, both big milestones in our family life! The oldest heads to Northeastern U. in Boston—couldn't get her interested in a non-big-city school like Cornell, I fear. Maybe one of my other four children will head there!" **Laura Ritucci** Daisak sent exciting news from Skillman, NJ, that her daughter **Kristina Daisak '21** is a freshman in ILR!

And now to the reminiscing. A couple of classmates answered the prompt, "Who is the first person you met at Cornell?" **Dina Weiss**-Linfoot (Savannah, GA) remembered "**Laura Pearlman Kaufman**." Dina's ideal day in Ithaca would feature sunbathing on the Arts Quad and swimming in the gorge. (Maybe at our 30th Reunion, Dina? Mark your calendars for June 2019!) Dina relived her youth this summer, volunteering as the camp doctor at her girls' summer camp in the North Georgia mountains. In real life, she's an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Mercer U. School of Medicine. Back in April, their family celebrated daughter Jordyn's bat mitzvah. In attendance were Laura Kaufman and her husband, **John**.

The first person **Mindy Schechter** Tashlik (Port Washington, NY) met at Cornell? "**Amy Susman** Stillman." Mindy doesn't need to imagine the perfect day in Ithaca. "I'm fortunate to have recently visited Ithaca, touring with my high school junior! The stroll down memory lane, updating my Cornell gear collection at the Campus Store, a reminiscent dinner at the Souvlaki House, and a night at the Statler made for an amazing experience." She also recently started a college-related new business, Your Essay Connection. "This generation has incredible stories to share, in 650 words or less, and I am thoroughly enjoying helping students craft their best narrative to accompany their college applications." And in Mindy's "free" time? "When I'm not editing, planning, or writing, I am juggling, advising, and happily coordinating as a full-time mom to four daughters, ages 17 to 8."

Congratulations to classmate **Mark Burden**! Chicago law firm Donohue Brown Mathewson & Smyth announced in May that he was named managing partner of the firm. From the press release: "Mr. Burden is a trial lawyer who concentrates his practice in the defense of professionals including physicians, hospitals, allied

healthcare practitioners, and attorneys. He received his JD from Chicago-Kent College of Law." **Velimir Randic** (San Pedro, CA) passed along some exciting career news too: "I just started a new job at MDA Systems in Pasadena. I'm designing activities for a robotic servicing spacecraft. Maybe I'll even get to participate on the next JDL Mars Rover." He also recently bought a 90-year-old house ("It's a lot of work!") and hopes to spend more time hiking the local mountains. A friend he's lost

was the slowest Internet access we had seen in years. YouTube? Crawled. Netflix? Forget it. It was rough." Likewise, **Geoffrey Scaler** wrote to us from the Sarasota area of Florida, "We dodged a bullet. Very lucky."

Several of our classmates were out of town as the storms were heading in, and decided to delay their return until the storms passed. **Oliver Pfeffer** wrote, "My wife, Jennifer, and I were visiting my mom in Boulder the week before Hurricane Irma and were supposed to come back

went back to Miami. No structure damage to my house and no flooding." Because power was not available at his home and his office immediately after their return, Len's medical practice was unable to resume seeing patients until power was restored. "But we are alive," Len wrote, "and have had some good quality family time, so big picture."

**Naomi Tein** Ortega of Miami drove home this last sentiment in particular with her own note. "We evacuated to the western Panhandle with my family, my brother's family, my parents (my 78-year-old mom is Class of '61, my 89-year-old dad isn't a Cornellian). We are so very grateful that we are together. In fact, I dare say that this time together has been a gift—a little hard to 'celebrate' when so many people have lost so much, but appreciating the time together with our family and the time with my father whose health has been declining. We are keeping everyone in Florida, the Islands, Texas, the Pacific Northwest and other areas with raging wildfires, and elsewhere around the country and world who are living through their own challenges, in our hearts." The same goes for us, Naomi.

Do you have any news about a classmate or yourself that you'd like to share? Please feel free to drop either of us a line with your news for the class column. ♦ **Allan Rousselle**, agr2@cornell.edu; **Rose Tanasugarn**, nt28@cornell.edu. Class of 1990 Facebook page, <http://facebook.com/Cornell90/>.

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## 'I never thought I'd be working on saving the planet through water conservation.'

GARY KAYE '89

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touch with? "**Matt Hamada**, are you still in Chicago somewhere?" Velimir counts three professors as having had the greatest impact on him at Cornell: Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering professor Albert George and History professors **L.P. Williams '48**, PhD '52, and Isabel Hull.

**Gary Kaye** (Phoenix, AZ; garykaye99@gmail.com) writes, "I'm married with four kids to Marietta Del Bello, sister of **Dave Del Bello '90**. I'm a landscape architect and irrigation designer for golf courses and ball fields throughout the West Coast, Mexico, and China. At Cornell, I never thought I'd be working on saving the planet through water conservation. I invite other Cornellians doing similar work to look me up and let's collaborate on saving water. I have Prof. Emeritus Marv Adleman in the Landscape Architecture program to thank for a rewarding career." Prof. Adleman, who taught at Cornell for 36 years and designed the original Ithaca Commons and Cornell's Arboretum among many other projects, died in June at age 84.

Cornell's *Human Ecology* magazine spotlighted our classmate **Rachel Foster** recently, detailing her work fighting human trafficking as campaign director for the New Abolitionists and a founding co-chair of World Without Exploitation. From the article: "Understanding the psychological underpinnings of sex trafficking is an important component of Foster's approach, which began in college. 'Human Ecology gave me a lens that helps me look at an entire person and where they fit in society,' she says."

Thanks, classmates, for all you're doing in the world, and for sharing your hope and gratitude. Please keep staying in touch. Take a minute to return the news form you get in the mail, e-mail one of us, or visit [www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm](http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm) and our class Facebook page. ♦ **Anne Czaplinski** Treadwell, ac98@cornell.edu; **Lauren Kidder** McGarry, laurenkiddermcgarry@gmail.com; **Stephanie Bloom** Avidon, savidon1@hotmail.com; **Kris Borovicka** Gerig, kgerig@columbus.rr.com.

**90** For this column, I decided to reach out to some of our Florida and Houston-area classmates to see if there were any tales they wanted to share regarding hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

**Matt Scandale** seemed to take events in Texas in stride. "Like a snowstorm, Hurricane Harvey closed schools and roads around here in Houston for a week. And with everyone home, boy was the Internet slow. It

to our home in North Bay Village last week, but we extended our stay when we saw the storm coming." He says that when they did return, they didn't have any power and their yard was a mess and their dock was destroyed, but their home was fine. Oliver noted that when they had their home built, the idea of withstanding a hurricane was key. "I also rode out hurricanes Andrew, Wilma, and Katrina while living in South Florida, so I've gained respect for the power of these storms. I have no idea if my house would really withstand a direct hit from a Cat 5 storm, and I don't really want to find out."

**Marcos Gutt**, ME '91, and his family are also safe and sound. They spent the week surrounding the storm mostly in Atlanta, GA, and Birmingham, AL. He wrote us from the road: "We are on our way back home. The drive both out and back into Florida has been eternal, but nothing has been too bad." Keeping in touch with neighbors, Marcos's family learned that their house was intact except for many downed trees. He, like many of our classmates who responded, also made a point to call out to any classmates in the area who might not have been as fortunate. "If you hear from anyone in the area who might need help, let us all know as we might be able to provide it." **Jen McComb** left the Florida Keys, one of the hardest hit areas in the country, and wrote to us from Orlando. "There is still no cell service or Internet in my neighborhood, so I'm waiting a few more days to get back to the Keys."

Unlike the classmates above, **Amy Geller** experienced Hurricane Irma up close. "We are OK after the storm. We stayed in our house because the path looked like it was going west. We were unfortunate that it took a last-minute turn and the eye came over us. Quite a frightening experience, one I don't ever plan on experiencing again. We consider ourselves lucky having only lost trees, fencing, and our pool heater. We went three days without power, which was surprisingly difficult. Makes me feel very spoiled, but lack of air conditioning in 90-degree heat, coupled with being cut off from any news, was distressful. I was able to talk on my cell phone, but since cell towers are down, I had very limited data to use the Internet. Glad it is over and we are in the cleanup/rebuilding process already. I hope our other classmates were spared."

Similarly, **Len Thaler**'s family weathered the storm in Boynton Beach with his parents. "Fortunately no loss of power at their house. The community there suffered numerous downed trees (large trees) that miraculously avoided crushing houses. After the storm passed, we

**91** The preparation and banter starts months in advance—it's almost as fun as the event itself. Simply called "Mecca," it's been an annual pilgrimage of 15-20 DKE Cornellians for nearly every summer since graduation. **Michael "Cliffy" Clifford '90** (Feeding Hills, MA) is one of the founding fathers. Cliffy is a sales manager for Champion Container Corp., "which delivers just-in-time packaging container solutions to companies of all sizes." He and wife Lori have a son and daughter, 18 and 8. Cliffy's most valuable "sale" outside of the company? That's easy: convincing **Carl Oronsky '92**, coordinator extraordinaire, to keep Mecca going all these years. More on that in a moment.

Writing to you today is classmate **Joe Marraccino**. Thanks to **Tom Greenberg** for his years of reporting and for passing the torch to me. Here's my "Mecca" to date. Shortly after graduating from the Ag school, I joined the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, where I spent 22 years in various senior roles in finance, operations, strategy, and risk. I owe a lot to the New York Fed, and dug deep to leave, but I did about three years ago to start a new-ish career. I leaped and landed on the wings of a small financial planning and investment firm. I now have my own wings, helping people see and manage their full financial picture. I enjoyed spending time with **Darin Spilman '90** at Mecca. He had a hunch years ago and introduced me to my now wife, Jen. We live in Nyack, NY, with our four children, two boys, 18 and 13, and two girls, 16 and 6. Our oldest, Justin, is off to college! His own Mecca begins at Roger Williams U.

Baseball enthusiasts Cliffy and Carl, one living on the East Coast the other on the West Coast, "were looking for a central place to meet and reminisce. We chose Chicago and Wrigley Field, the Mecca of baseball," Carl explained. That was the beginning. It's grown in number ever since and expanded in some years to other cities like Denver, Milwaukee, and this year Philadelphia, where **Seth Shapiro '93** set us up with a nice suite. I got to see old friends **Dale Galvin '92**, **Glenn Haber '92**, **Joe Iglesias '92**, **Joe Gatto '92**, and **Drew Ries '92**.



Good to talk to **Bob Page '90** about his career in finance and **Andrew Stein '90**, whose son is also college bound, to Cornell.

These past Mecca attendees (or wannabes) were missed this year. **Don Barrick** (Lloyd Harbor, NY) is starting to empty his own nest. "Our oldest, daughter Emily, is off to St. Lawrence U.," Don said proudly, and toasted with his latest find, an Iron-Maiden-themed beer (it's true, he sent me a picture). Don is owner and president of RMP Capital Corp. since 2003. His company "provides purchase order financing to small- and medium-sized businesses, domestic and international." Don has also devoted ten years on the board of Life's WORC, "an NYC/LI-based nonprofit organization providing both residential and support services for over 1,500 developmentally disabled and autistic individuals and their families." On the Hill, Don had a brief stint in the Engineering college, but graduated a Hotelier. Don and wife Nancy have two other children, boys aged 15 and 11.

**Chris "Whip" Dugan** (Mount Sinai, NY), who recently relived his heavy metal/punk days with Don Barrick at an Iron Maiden concert, is a special education teacher for the Huntington School District in Central Long Island. Whip thinks every day about the advice given to him by his parents—"Work hard and try to make a difference"—and his peers describe him as someone who "has a special way with students who have special needs." Whip studied Human Ecology. He and his wife, **Joyce (Martir) '90**, have two children, 17 and 14, and spend most of their free time with them at the soccer field. Whip has also been keeping himself busy with his mountain bike and new fishing kayak.

More alt than heavy metal, I really hope that **Jim Hamilton** (Bethesda, MD) is not continuing to blast that same U2 song over and over again. Jim is managing director, head of US agency at Jellyfish Online Marketing. Jim, as part of this UK-based, full-service digital agency, is "responsible for revenue growth, profit and loss, and executing US expansion." Jim studied engineering at Cornell. How did that prepare him for his current field? "Good question," he quipped. He and wife **Rebecca (Warme) '91** spend most of their free time raising their two boys, 14 and 10.

"So, what does Mecca mean to you?" I asked Cliffy as the weekend drew to a close. He sat silently, snickered, and gave me a look from 25-plus years ago. I knew exactly what he was saying... It's about reliving old times while continuing the journey forward. And to Carl, who shows no signs of slowing down, "How long will you keep Mecca going?" Carl laughed, "It's like herding cats every summer, but it's become a labor of love. We've talked about expanding to our children when they reach 21."

Now it's your turn. What's your "Mecca"? A career change, a child off to college, a gathering of classmates, moving to a new location... Text me—subject line: Mecca—at (845) 548-2564 and I'll contact you a.s.a.p. to hear your story! We'd love to hear from you about anything. Submit an online news form (<http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>) or contact one of us directly. ♦ **Joe Marraccino**, [Joe.Marraccino@wfafinet.com](mailto:Joe.Marraccino@wfafinet.com); **Wendy Milks Coburn**, [wmilkscoburn@me.com](mailto:wmilkscoburn@me.com); **J. Tim Vanini**, [lavanooche@icloud.com](mailto:lavanooche@icloud.com); **Lori Woodring**, [lori.woodring@yahoo.com](mailto:lori.woodring@yahoo.com).

**92** Hello, Class of '92ers! As we finish out 2017, please enjoy the latest and greatest news from our fellow classmates. **Dylan Willoughby**, MFA '95, writes that he is now in sunny Studio City, CA, and recently released his debut album under his moniker,

Lost in Stars, on March 31. Tracks from the album premiered on PopMatters, Insomniac, Big Shot, PureVolume, Earmilk, and Impose. The album debuted at number 1 on numerous radio stations across the country and made the top 20 on more than 20 stations, including the nationally distributed PRI program "Echoes." Dylan also recently co-produced Kid Moxie's EP, with tracks premiering on Noisy, Flaunt, and Nylon. Congrats, Dylan, on your continued success!

**Sue Eisenfeld** and husband **Neil Heinekamp '91** are celebrating 20 years of marriage this year—and 25 years since they met at Cornell. Sue says they will be celebrating their milestone anniversary on campus. May you have many more years of happy memories! **Lauren Degnan**, a principal at Fish & Richardson in Washington, DC, was named as one of four recipients of the 2017 "Women Worth Watching in STEM" award by *Profiles in Diversity Journal* (PDJ), which is dedicated to promoting and advancing diversity and inclusion in the corporate, STEM, government, nonprofit, and higher education sectors. According to PDJ, "These leaders are breaking barriers for women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers. Lauren specializes in high technology litigation across a vast range of technologies. She has served as lead counsel in complex patent infringement cases in federal district courts, the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and before the US Int'l Trade Commission. She also serves on the firm's compensation committee. Lauren received her JD, Order of the Coif, from Vanderbilt U. School of Law in 1995." Congratulations, Lauren!

**Angela Cheng-Cimini** is relocating to London to lead the global HR function for Crabtree & Evelyn. She also tells us that her youngest entered Tulane, while son **Matthew '19** is in his junior year at Cornell. Angela says that if she were to spend a day in Ithaca, she would "try all the new eateries in the area—in one day!" **Cynthia Caruso** (Franklin Lakes, NJ) reports that she is still enjoying work as global head of HR for investment management at BNY Mellon in NYC. She and her husband, Frank, "were overjoyed" to welcome their daughter, Chiara, in March. Chiara joins big brother Francesco, 2. Congrats on the new addition!

**Beth Yancey Storz** has recently co-authored a book entitled *Outsmart Your Instincts: How the Behavioral Innovation Approach Drives Your Company Forward*. The book reviews eight cognitive biases that impede innovation, and provides tools to overcome them. **Meghan DeGolyer Hauser** says that husband **Rick '92** was re-elected mayor of their town for his third two-year term. Best of luck to you, Rick! Keep up the great work. **Christina Ching Skrocki** is currently working in Arizona as a contracts manager for W.L. Gore and Assocs. She's also the owner and mediator for Innovative Conflict Solutions. That's all the news for now folks! Keep the good news coming! Looking forward to a great 2018. ♦ **Lois Duffy Castellano**, [LKD2@cornell.edu](mailto:LKD2@cornell.edu); **Jean Kintisch**, [jmk226@cornell.edu](mailto:jmk226@cornell.edu).

**93** Hello '93ers! Welcome to our Nov/Dec column. As I write this, we are nine days away from the 2017 solar eclipse, and halfway through the White House renovations. In a way, this is like a mini time capsule—here's to the world being a safe and peaceful place when all of you open this issue of the magazine.

Cornell was a safe and peaceful place in July, when I visited with my husband, **David Moss, JD '96**, and our son, Andy, 13. The campus was a green and beautiful medley of traditional and state-of-the-art, and there

was an atmosphere of easy freedom. Andy was thrilled to be able to run the bases on the baseball diamond, sprint across Schoellkopf Field and up and down the stands, and even traverse the underground tunnel that connects Barton and Teagle halls. He also loved the Suspension Bridge, stories of Slope Day, and wading in during our scenic walk down Cascadilla Gorge. We (of course) loved our carb feasts at the Nines and College-town Bagels. It was very moving to share Cornell memories and make new ones—I highly recommend making the effort. Our 25th Reunion—June 7-10, 2018—would be a festive time to visit. If you would like to get involved during the planning stages of our 25th, then you are not too late. Just e-mail class president **Earl Pinto** ([earlpinto@outlook.com](mailto:earlpinto@outlook.com)) to join a planning committee or become a part of our class council.

Classmate and digital banking standout **Michelle Calarco Moore** also shared her appreciation for our fair alma mater. "Cornell played a significant role in shaping me into the person I am today. The university's focus on instilling drive and determination into their students is something I have carried with me throughout my career. When I do get the chance to visit Cornell, I soak in the beautiful views on campus and reminisce on the great days I spent there during a more carefree time in my life." Michelle, who is head of digital banking for Bank of America, was recently named 2017 Digital Banker of the Year by SourceMedia. She has steered Bank of America to the forefront of several emerging trends in financial technology, such as cardless ATM access, personalized virtual assistance, and integration of "Zelle" features into the Bank's mobile app. This innovation led Bank of America to become the first bank to enable users to split expenses, thus advancing the industry with more seamless and secure person-to-person payments. Congratulations, Michelle!

Classmates, please join me in sending in some news to help make our column an engaging endeavor. Let us know, for example, what you would do if you had one afternoon in Ithaca. What gives you the most satisfaction in your life these days? Also, check out our class Facebook page: "Cornell University - Class of 1993." Take care and please share. ♦ **Melissa Hart Moss**, [melimoss@yahoo.com](mailto:melimoss@yahoo.com); **Mia Blackler**, [miablackler@yahoo.com](mailto:miablackler@yahoo.com); **Theresa Flores**, [taf6@cornell.edu](mailto:taf6@cornell.edu). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**94** Hi, everyone! I always enjoy writing the year-end column while the temperature is over 80 degrees and sunny in New Jersey! My children recently returned from seven weeks at sleepaway camp and the focus is squarely on all of the back-to-school activities, so it's fitting I'm writing about Cornell this morning. In fact, my husband, **Michael Marchant**, and I recently spent a weekend up in Ithaca visiting Cornell and all of our favorite wineries! We love seeing all of the stuff that has changed each visit. We brought along our good friend **Louis Ramos** and his wife, Michelle. Lou hadn't been to Cornell since 1999, so it was so much fun seeing everything through his eyes. We went down to the fishbowl in Uris Library, toured the Straight and Goldwin Smith, and walked the Suspension Bridge! Such a good time!

Another big event in the Marchant house was celebrating the bat mitzvah of our oldest child, Lindsay. Along with our dearest Cornell friends **Marc Gallagher** and **Amy Unckless**, who did the round trip from suburban Boston to New Jersey all in the same day, we had more Cornell representation from friends we made after

we left Cornell. Besides Lou, whom we met when Michael went to law school, we had fellow law school alum **Ted Lynch** at the party, along with our local friend **Steven Horowitz '92**.

Now that I've reported on our family news, I unfortunately have nothing else to write about. No one wrote into the alumni office with news, and I put out a request on our Facebook group, but no one contributed! Boo! I would love to know more about what other '94 alums are up to. We're all in the same life stages, and it would be great to compare notes. So check out the Facebook group page or please e-mail me, Dika, or Dineen with your news.

I did promise, however, that anyone that "liked" my Facebook post would get a mention in this column, so here goes! Hello from **Dineen Pashoukos** Wasylik, **Jeanne Ramage** Rentezelas, **Charo Gonzalez**, **Erin Iverson** (hi to my sorority sisters!), **Syamsul Hadi**, **MRP '95**, **Jeff Luszc**, **Ray Chan**, **Anne Keith** Nguyen, **Tom Goldstone**, **Dan Burgess**, **Lisa Wiley**, **G. Varuni Kondagunta**, MD '98, **Theresa Torres-Segal**, **Karen Lim**, MBA '02, **Robb Newnam**, ME '95, **Nina Inamdar**, **Joanne Galinsky** Fontana, and **Douglas Manz** (hi, old Donlon friend!).

Michael and I send our best wishes for a safe, happy, and healthy New Year! ❖ **Jennifer Rabin** Marchant jar1229@yahoo.com; **Dineen Pashoukos** Wasylik, dmp5@cornell.edu; **Dika Lam**, dikaweb@yahoo.com. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**95** The holidays are here once again, so I hope everyone is keeping warm and having a great time. Meanwhile, back here in August (as I write this column), I just drove home to San Jose from Las Vegas, where it was regularly over 100 degrees. My father-in-law lives in Vegas, so it's the perfect excuse to visit and the perfect place for my wife and me to celebrate our 14th anniversary. Remember when "facetime" was sitting on the steps of the Straight to see people you knew (and didn't know) before Apple turned it into "Facetime"? Well, sitting in a Las Vegas casino after attending a Cirque Du Soleil show to watch the parade of humanity go by brings new meaning to facetime and people watching!

Anyway, enough about me. On the Class of '95 website, we asked for your best Slope Day memories. **Leigh Alford Baca** briefly mentioned her 1995 Slope Day race from Libe Slope to the Vet school and back. I don't know who she was racing, what the stakes were (if any), or who won, but it sounds like it was a blast. **Anne Catlin Johnson** recalled how she climbed McGraw Tower at noon on Slope Day '94 to take in the sights before things really got going. The previous year, which Anne dubs "the sunny year" ('95 was pretty sunny as well, IIRC), left an um, impression on her friend: "A friend (to remain unnamed, and not me!) fell asleep on the Slope and got sunburned on ONE side of his body (left or right, not sure which). I also fondly recall the couch and Red Death, and somebody parading a papier mâché golden calf among the revelers. Some of the funniest memories are not suitable for publishing!" My favorite Slope Day memory is of a *Star Wars*-themed game of Dungeons & Dragons after the Slope festivities. Once a geek, always a geek.

Also on the class Facebook page (It's fun! Check it out! <https://www.facebook.com/cornell1995/>), there was a discussion about Cornell's appearances in and connections to pop culture, prompted by the fact that Kiefer Sutherland's character in the new show "Designated Survivor" is a proud Cornell alum. They must have

an alum on the writing staff for that show because there are some really deep cuts into Cornell student life. Perhaps the most famous Cornell pop culture connection, especially for our class, is **Andy Bernard** . . . wait, Andy Bernard, played by Ed Helms on "The Office," who loudly and proudly proclaimed himself a member of the Class of '95. "I went to Cornell . . . ever heard of it?" Before our 20th Reunion, the class council briefly looked into having Ed Helms speak, but then he gave the university's 2014 convocation speech, so our plans fell through.

**Alison Torrillo** French mentioned Anna Kendrick's character in *Up in the Air*, who I remembered liking in that movie a lot initially, but even more so when she revealed her alma mater. **Jeffrey Kahn** pointed to a short clip in the beloved film *Say Anything*, where a character is thanking the main character, Diane, for being "ultra-competitive," prompting her to work harder, leading to her admission to Cornell. We're not "ultra-competitive," are we? Nah. There are a number of other mentions in the Facebook discussion, including one from **David Berger** about the writings of **Matt Ruff '87**. **Aby Mathew '93** even linked to a great page with lots of other references from an Uncle Ezra inquiry, if you're interested.

Have a safe holiday season. Please contact us and let us know what you are up to. We'll see you in 2018! ❖ **Steven Strell**, [strells@mac.com](mailto:strells@mac.com); **Scott Lajoie**, [scottlajoie@hotmail.com](mailto:scottlajoie@hotmail.com). Class FB page, <http://www.facebook.com/cornell1995>. Online news form, [www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm](http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm).

**96** Happy late autumn! As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Or send your holiday letters to: ❖ **Class of 1996**, c/o *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, 401 East State St., Suite 301, Ithaca, NY 14850; e-mail, [abb83@cornell.edu](mailto:abb83@cornell.edu).

**97** Happy Holidays! Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. We love getting holiday letters! Send news to: ❖ **Sarah Deardorff** Carter, [sjd5@cornell.edu](mailto:sjd5@cornell.edu); or **Erica Broennle** Nelson, [ejb4@cornell.edu](mailto:ejb4@cornell.edu). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**98** **Kevin Maskell** writes, "After 15 years of active duty service with the Air Force, I have decided to separate and join a private dental practice in Tucson, AZ. I spent ten years as a C-130 navigator, took a break for dental school, and served the last five years as a dentist. This has been a way of life for me since I joined ROTC at Cornell in 1993, so getting out feels a little weird. I will continue in uniform (on the weekends!) with the Arizona Air National Guard." Kevin and his wife, Heather, have two sons, Scott, 7, and Reed, 5, "who explore the world in ways we could not have imagined!"

Military and family life were also themes in our update from **Adam Czekanski**, who has been enjoying spending time with Annabelle, 9, and Nicholas, 7, as they play a variety of sports and are active in scouting. Adam recently reached 19 years of active duty service in the Army as an engineer officer, and he is currently serving as the district commander for the Buffalo District, US Army Corps of Engineers. Congratulations go to Adam as well for attaining "a lifelong goal" of finishing a marathon in under three hours, achieving a time of 2:58:53 at the Buffalo Marathon this past May. With our 20th Reunion around the corner, he would love to hear from **Josh Bowen**, **Mike Amati**, and **Doug Rawald**, JD '01.

Remember that you can always provide updates using the online news form at <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>. Or, you can e-mail either of your class correspondents. We would love to hear from you! ❖ **Toni Stabile** Weiss, [tls9@cornell.edu](mailto:tls9@cornell.edu); **Uthica Jinvit** Utano, [udj1@cornell.edu](mailto:udj1@cornell.edu).

**99** How are you planning to spend your holidays? As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. Send your updates to: ❖ **Heather Hollidge** Madland, [hmadland@gmail.com](mailto:hmadland@gmail.com); or **Melanie Acostavalle** West, [melaniegraceywest@gmail.com](mailto:melaniegraceywest@gmail.com). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**00** One of the great parts of writing this column is that I get to hear about all the fun and interesting things classmates are up to. This month, I bring you the stories of two classmates, **Elyse Kantrowitz**, MS '01, and **Scott Leibowitz**.

After graduating from Cornell, Elyse stayed in Ithaca for another year and earned an MS in Applied Research in Human Environment Relations from Cornell. She took her degrees to central New Jersey and worked in the market research field for seven years in a number of different industries, from architecture to nonprofits to mobile apps. During this time, Elyse lived near two Cornell couple friends, **Elaine Wencil '99** and **Roshan Jain** as well as **Vi '99**, BA '03, and **Amanda Houppert Nguyen**, MPA '01. Elyse moved to Manhattan in 2009 and has led the sales and marketing areas at Spartan Brands, a small health and beauty products manufacturer that owns a variety of mass and natural brands, for the past five years.

Travel is a passion for Elyse, and she travels around the US monthly for work. Favorite recent destinations included Puerto Rico and Nashville. Elyse says, "I visit Cornell friends when I can, like **Leland Bardsley** in Chicago and **Matthew Shuman '98**, ME '99, in Boston." Elyse also enjoys a variety of fun hobbies. She has been in a Skee-Ball (yes, the arcade game!) league since 2013. Elyse said, "**Kathryn Prybylski '01** and **Zara Friedman** were on another team in the league and when we realized our Cornell connection, we joined teams and even won the city championship! **Irene Zilber** also joined our team this past year. Skee-Ball was a natural progression of my interest in eclectic sports—I was on a curling team in New Jersey as well!" When not on the ice for curling or on the Skee-Ball circuit, Elyse enjoys taking a variety of classes, including glassblowing and flameworking; wax jewelry carving and metalsmithing; and gelato making. She also enjoys the theater and loves when Cornell friends Elaine and Roshan visit and they attend shows together.

Volunteer work also occupies much of Elyse's free time. She joined the Cornell Club of Princeton/Central Jersey as soon as she moved to New Jersey, and was recruited to be the Young Alumni Chair at her first event and helps plan the annual Zinck's Night event each year. Since moving to NYC, Elyse has been active in CUGALA, and officially joined the board in 2015. She chairs the group's nationwide participation committee. She is also a founding member of the young professionals committee of an awesome nonprofit called the Possibility Project, which uses theater to effect positive social change among NYC teens. Elyse lives with her partner of nine years, Joyce Smith, in the Chelsea neighborhood in Manhattan.

Scott Leibowitz is a child and adolescent psychiatrist who has become a leading authority on the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTQ youth. After his time at Cornell, Scott went to medical school in Israel during the second intifada. He said, "This was a real eye-opening four years that allowed me to realize the more important things in life, like being able to come out. Both that personal experience and also witnessing the innocence of children tarnished by the political wars of adults helped me realize my desire to use my Human Development degree to become a child psychiatrist, and to help youth live authentic and emotionally healthy lives."

After receiving his medical degree from the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv U. in 2004, Scott went on to complete his general psychiatry residency at Zucker Hillside Hospital at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center, and his child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at the Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. During his fellowship, Scott began working in the field of gender dysphoria and diversity in youth and worked at the first multidisciplinary gender identity clinic serving youth in the US. Scott is now at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH, where he serves as the medical director of Behavioral Health for the THRIVE Program, a service that provides care to youth with differences/disorders of sex development and gender concerns. Some highlights in Scott's career include being invited to give Grand Rounds for the NIH's Great Teachers Series, serving as an expert witness for the Dept. of Justice in its lawsuit against North Carolina for the HB2 anti-transgender bathroom bill, and serving as co-chairman of the sexual orientation gender identity issues committee for the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Please let me know if you would like to be featured in this column or if you know someone who would make a great subject. Everyone has a story—please share it with me! ❖ **Christine Jensen Weld**, ckj1@cornell.edu.

**01** Just as I was staring into the Seattle mist, waiting for my muse and wondering if anyone reads between the names here, my inbox buzzed with someone I haven't heard from since Slope Day '01: **J.V. Anderton** checking in to tease me, just like old times. (Imagine office supplies whizzing past my head from the *Cornell Daily Sun* sports section and into the window blinds behind the Red Letter Daze editors, prompting a much-needed snack break to A-Plus or Ben & Jerry's.) He's now a respectable tax attorney in Lansing, MI, quite immune to the siren calls of social media and life-sharing. I dare not say more, in fact, in case he figures out a way to get No. 2 pencils hurtling at me through cyberspace—I'm sure my Amazon neighbors are working on it—but I do hope that he and all you other long-lost lurkers out there will pleasantly surprise us at our 20th Reunion! Save the date: June 2021.

We'd also love to have more classmates come forward as volunteers to keep our events and alumni outreach running smoothly, locally and nationally. Pulling double duty, our class co-president **Claire Ackerman** is now chairperson for CAAAN (Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network) District 165, covering New York's Columbia and Greene counties, reaching out to local schools and providing information about Cornell. Let's also give our newest class officers a bold welcome: **Don Layne**, webmaster; **Malinda Lovic** Lesko, vice president; **Marisa Laks**, Reunion co-chair; and **Troy Townsend**, class council. Thanks for stepping up, and bonus points to Troy and Malinda for sharing additional news below.

Troy lives in Fairfax, VA, with his family, and works for the MITRE Corp. as a cyber security engineer. "Although the kids keep us pretty busy, we still enjoy traveling, snowboarding in the winter, running when the weather cooperates, and taking advantage of the museums, parks, and music opportunities in Washington, DC," he writes. "I'm looking forward to running Ragnar in September and the Dopey Challenge at Disney next year!" Malinda married Ben Lesko, a firefighter in their Massachusetts town of Easthampton, in August 2016. Cornellians in attendance included **Praveen Anumolu**, ME '03,

of professors Susan Suarez and Michael Shuler, and would love to get back in touch with classmate **Andrew Lambea**. And lastly, **Leo** and **Lindsay McGann Urbinelli '04** are enjoying their new home in Portland, OR, where he's a pediatric plastic and craniofacial surgeon and she's a pediatric cardiologist. Like quite a few Cornell couples among us, the Urbinellis didn't meet until after graduation, but "loved Cornell so much independently that we were married there!" When not saving lives at work, they have their hands full with Ralphie, their English bulldog puppy who reminds Leo of C.B.,

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## 'Zainab Ahmad spends a great deal of time overseas seeking evidence in terror-related crimes against Americans.'

CAROLYN DECKINGER LANG '02

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**Dave Tisi**, MS '04, and wife Sandra, **Peggy Imboden** Salisbury, **Jen Lamontagne** Pelletier, **Brian '00**, ME '01, and **Ilyse Gerson Cody '02**, **Michelle Tuorto-Collins '98**, **Amaliya Jurta** Silsby '98, and **Diana Schenck '98**. Don't think that married life has tamed Malinda, however—you can still catch "Ballistic Miss L" playing roller derby for the Western Mass Furies!

While we're on the subject of tying knots, **Todd Garcia** married Lauren Foreman in Whitney, TX, in April. She's not a Cornellian, but he assures us, "I will get her up to campus soon." Cornellians in attendance included **Chad Potocky '02**, ME '04, **Jamie LeBarron '02**, Malinda Lesko, **Andrew Decker '00**, **Tim Ryan**, and **Tricia Hevers '10**, ME '12. The couple lives in Austin, where Todd is now head designer at a startup focusing on robotics; he previously helped get Lockheed Martin's S-97 RAIDER airborne, as design lead for its drive system.

**Sarah Binder** married Punit Mehta in June, with wedding-planning assistance from her fellow Cornell Annual Fund representative **Lora Epstein**. (The thank you notes must have been lovely!) Cornellians in attendance included **Rebecca Tunick** Gotlieb, **Mike and Jordana Lapidus Barish '03**, **Carl Mills IV '99**, **David and Susan Verni Lazarus**, **John**, BA '03, and **Cindy Young Dempsey**, and **Bernard Tsang**, **MBA '00**. The newlyweds plan to honeymoon in Tanzania and Rwanda in February.

Baby news also seems to come in threes. Our class co-president Praveen Anumolu has added a second daughter, Sonje Zuber, to his family. Class council member **Diana Tyler** Heath and husband Wes welcomed Haddon Xavier in March. And serial entrepreneur **Miki Agrawal** unveiled her first child, Hiro Happy, after 38 hours of labor in July. Can't wait to see all the products he inspires! In metaphorical baby news, **Garrett Lang** has launched a new food-tech website to "review individual menu items at restaurants and keep track of which of your dietary preferences each menu item meets, so you can find the best food you can eat at any restaurant!" Check it out at <https://PlateRate.guru>—he'd love some feedback!

A year after catching up with old friends at our 15th Reunion, **Jose Aleman** checks back in from Manhattan, where he's an assistant professor of endocrinology at the New York U. medical center, working on laboratory of translational obesity research. He still thinks fondly

the dog he had at Cornell. Leo would love to do more traveling and reconnect with **Nat Beyer '00**, his roommate from those freshman U-Hall days.

Want to get more involved with our class? Visit our website ([www.classof01.alumni.cornell.edu](http://www.classof01.alumni.cornell.edu)), like our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/Cornell2001](https://www.facebook.com/Cornell2001)), and follow us on Twitter (@Cornell2001). And if you'd like to join me as a class correspondent or share some news, just find me online or e-mail me: ❖ **Nicole Neroulias Gupte**, [NicoleMN6@gmail.com](mailto:NicoleMN6@gmail.com).

**02** I was in Nashville for a work event in June. At one of the obligatory networking happy hours, I spotted a woman who looked familiar, but I could not place the context of that familiarity. We started chatting and eventually I confessed I was still recovering from my college Reunion the weekend prior. "Me too!" she exclaimed. After screaming, "Were you at Cornell?!" in perfect tandem, I learned she was **Susan Mackesey '87**. We deduced that we had been conga-line-adjacent at tent number three that Friday night on the Arts Quad.

For those of you who follow the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC), you will be jazzed to know we now have someone on the inside. Maybe not inside the octagon, but closer to it than you and me. In May, the organization announced the appointment of **Clint Watenberg** as director of nutrition for the UFC Performance Inst. at their new state-of-the-art facility in Las Vegas. After earning his BA in Health and Society, he was an assistant wrestling coach at Cornell and spent two years competing as a member of USA's men's freestyle national wrestling team. After becoming a dietician, he came back to the Hill to join Cornell's athletics department as the Big Red's eating disorder specialty nutritionist, and added the role of sports nutrition coordinator before being recruited by the UFC. "Clint is well known and widely respected in his field, and his addition to the team will be a tremendous benefit to our athletes," boasted the UFC's chief operating officer. Certainly, being a two-time NCAA Division I All-American has served him well, and he has been a busy guy since graduating!

Being at such a large organization, I manage to run into my share of Cornellians, and each time I get overly excited and embarrass myself a bit. **Elyse Wilkinson '15** came into a training session I facilitated this summer and reminded me that as I get older, students get

brighter and more impressive. She was a Meinig Family Cornell National Scholar (MFCNS), which is one of the Cornell Tradition programs and something I had never heard of but found pretty awesome upon learning about it: a few students are identified prior to starting their freshman year as individuals who have demonstrated an outstanding degree of leadership, as well as academic excellence and a commitment to serving the communities in which they live. It is always a treat to learn of the many avenues Cornell takes to identify and

**03** We read in the *Human Ecology* magazine that **Hana Getachew** is the CEO of Bolé Road Textiles, which are designed in Brooklyn and handwoven in Ethiopia. Hana shared, "I design all my textiles, starting with a concept I'd like to explore. For example, the inspiration for my collection is the mountainscapes of Ethiopia. I was inspired by the mountain ranges and horizons and the landscape—all cue to create patterns and color palettes. Then I begin the sampling process with my Ethiopian artisans."

*a Continent through History* (Hong Kong University Press, 2013), a finalist for the Spiro Kostof Book Award, and *Home Delivery: Fabricating the Modern Dwelling* (MoMA, 2008), which received the Phillip Johnson Book Award in 2010.

The National Wildlife Federation selected **Summer Rayne Oakes** as one of the NWF EcoLeaders Top 50 Inspirations. Summer's most recent project is the healthy living website, <http://www.sugardetox.me>, which she is currently revamping. She is also writing a book with a similar goal: to help people cleanse themselves from sugar. Please continue to share your news! You may contact me at: ❖ **Jessi Petrosino**, [jessi.petrosino@ey.com](mailto:jessi.petrosino@ey.com); or via the online news form, [www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm](http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm).

## 'Summer Rayne Oakes's most recent project is the healthy living website, [www.sugardetox.me](http://www.sugardetox.me).'

JESSI PETROSINO '04

recognize excellence. I asked Elyse what she enjoys most about connecting with alums. "The best part is sharing our experiences and seeing how they differed but had similarities. It speaks to the strong timeless traditions and culture that exists at Cornell." Nice!

We received a copy of an article in the *New Yorker* from back in May about our classmate **Zainab Ahmad**. After majoring in PAM, she went on to Columbia Law School and found her way to the Assistant US Attorney's office in the Eastern District of New York, which prosecutes terrorism. She specializes in "extraterritorial" cases, meaning she spends a great deal of time overseas, negotiating with foreign officials, interviewing witnesses, often in prison, and seeking evidence in terror-related crimes against Americans. **Adam Tope** wrote in to share that he "was elected partner to Hogan Lovells US LLP and currently heads the New York investment funds practice."

Out in San Diego, **Gretchen Crowson** Spaniol welcomed baby girl Giada in May 2016. Gretchen is a human resources manager for the San Diego County Water Authority. Fellow Theta and senior-year roommate **Kate Bennett**, now of Moreland Hills, OH, started her own psychotherapy practice: KTB Counseling LLC ([www.ktbcounseling.org](http://www.ktbcounseling.org)). While that has been a fulfilling adventure, she says she would rather be traveling the world and hearing from another Theta, **Amy Liesenfeld** Blumenthal. I am sure Amy will reach out once she has settled in from having her second baby boy, Henry, last summer! If you're out there, **Jason Hempel**, Kate credits you with being the most impactful Cornellian in her life.

Over in Colorado, **Melissa Brooks** Peterson is a full-time pediatric anesthesiologist at Children's Hospital Colorado. "I take care of kids who need surgery or other procedures and I love my job as a physician!" Melissa and her spouse, Mark, have three kids: Grant, 4, Owen, 3, and Whitney, 1, as well as one lovely fur baby, Maizy. "We built a new home this year and are loving our family life, working hard and playing hard in Denver." That said, she wishes they lived closer to the ocean and credits Intro to Wines at the Hotel school as something that has stuck with her and been "the one course I carry with me everywhere." ❖ **Carolyn Deckinger** Lang, [cmd35@cornell.edu](mailto:cmd35@cornell.edu); **Jeffrey Barker**, [jrb41@cornell.edu](mailto:jrb41@cornell.edu). Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

"Bolé Road Textiles is named for the route my family took on our way to the airport in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, when I was 3 years old on our way to Montreal," Hana added. "I started the business to give back and be more involved with my home country. I saw textiles as an avenue where I could do both: be in the world of design and share something from the Ethiopian culture." You can catch the complete article in the *Human Ecology* magazine, Vol. 45, No. 1, Spring 2017, titled "Human-Centered." Congratulations, Hana, and best wishes for the future of Bolé Road Textiles.

Summer is fading into fall as I write this, and I hope all of our classmates had a fun and fulfilling summer. Looking ahead to next summer, our class has our 15th Reunion on the horizon. I am anxiously awaiting a return to Cornell and a meet-up with old friends, making a few new ones, and continuing to hear and share your stories. I look forward to hearing about the great things our classmates are doing via news and notes submissions. Until then, all the best. ❖ **Jon Schoenberg**, [jrs55@cornell.edu](mailto:jrs55@cornell.edu).

**04** **Kate Sternberg** Elisco was named to the sixth annual "Double Chai in the Chi: 36 Under 36" list of young Jewish movers and shakers in Chicago. She founded her own public relations shop, Elisco Communications, which focuses on startup companies. Kate spent several years at big PR firms before entering the world of startup PR with Sandbox Industries and quickly spinning off to form Elisco Communications in 2013. Her team has helped companies such as SpotHero and Scout get attention for their creativity and innovation. Along with being a mom of two, Kate is a mentor at 1871, where she advises early stage startups on how to best implement public relations programs with various budgets.

This October, Yale University Press is set to publish **Peter Christensen's** *Germany and the Ottoman Railways: Art, Empire, and Infrastructure*. The book offers a timely exploration of the complex political and cultural relationship between the German state and the Ottoman Empire through the lens of the Ottoman railway network and its architecture and material culture. Peter is an assistant professor in the department of art and art history and the graduate program in visual and cultural studies at the U. of Rochester. He is the co-editor of three volumes including *Architecturalized Asia: Mapping*

**05** Hello, classmates! I hope you enjoyed your fall, and perhaps had a chance to go to Ithaca to enjoy the beautiful foliage. Some of my most treasured memories of Cornell included walking through campus under the crisp, colorful leaves flew all around, and getting apple cider at the orchards. What do you remember most about the fall and winter seasons at Cornell?

**Rina Kundalkar** Clemens is practicing law in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, at the national firm of Traub Lieberman Straus & Shrewsbury LLP, where she works in the areas of tort litigation, including premises, products, commercial and general liability, and trucking and transportation. Rina has enjoyed serving her local legal community, and in fact was appointed as co-chair of the judicial relations committee for the Palm Beach County Bar Assn. and to the board of directors of the North County section for the Palm Beach County Bar Assn. **John Musaccio** was selected to the 2017 Upstate New York Super Lawyers Rising Stars list for the third consecutive year. He is currently an attorney with Towne, Ryan & Partners PC. His practice areas include labor and employment law, estate and Medicaid planning, business formation and transactions, nursing license defense, personal injury, and criminal defense. John is happy to share that he is engaged to the love of his life, Dayna.

Keep your updates coming, Class of 2005. We want to know what is new and exciting in your life! ❖ **Johnny Chen**, [jc362@cornell.edu](mailto:jc362@cornell.edu); **Michelle Wong**, [mrw29@cornell.edu](mailto:mrw29@cornell.edu); **Hilary Johnson-King**, [haj4@cornell.edu](mailto:haj4@cornell.edu).

**06** Happy fall, fellow Cornellians! Our classmates are up to great things this year, and it's an honor to share them with you once again. **Gillian Crowl** recently joined the law firm of Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers LLP in Atlanta, GA, where she is an associate in the firm's coverage and commercial litigation practice group. Before moving to Atlanta, Gillian lived and worked in Charlotte after receiving her law degree from Indiana U. Maurer School of Law.

**Talia Kohen**, an Electrical and Computer Engineering major, is receiving attention for her promising new idea for trading energy. She describes her idea, ElectroEuro, as "bitcoin for energy" and a way to bring European nations closer together through the energy market. ElectroEuro is essentially a virtual currency that can be used to buy energy, and is intended to decrease energy waste and allow European utilities to better price and trade clean energy. Talia and her team's work was recently recognized at a GE-sponsored "hackathon," where ElectroEuro won first prize in the electrification category. Read more about her recent work and achievements at: <http://www.ge.com/reports/building-bitcoin-energy-woman-came-promising-new-idea-trading-clean-energy/>;

and [http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/magazine/people/index.cfm?news\\_id=95981&news\\_back](http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/magazine/people/index.cfm?news_id=95981&news_back).

**Brian Walker** and **Jennifer Harrison**, DVM '10, who met one another as floor-mates in the 3-5 wing of Clara Dickson Hall and married in 2010, recently bought a home in Arlington, VA. Jenny is now an internist at Hope Advanced Veterinary Center, and Brian is leading analysis on economics, finance, and technology at the US Dept. of Energy. **Jeremy Nikfarjam**, BS '05, practices plastic surgery and cosmetic medicine in private practice in Nassau, Manhattan, and Southampton, NY. He and his wife, Raquel, have two children, Joy, 3, and Solomon, 2. He says that his friends and Cornell Hillel had a big impact on him when he was in college. **John Zimmer** was named to *Fortune's* 2017 40 Under 40 list for his leadership of the ridesharing app Lyft. You can read more at: <http://fortune.com/40-under-40/john-zimmer-and-logan-green-8/>. Send us your news—we love to hear from you! ♦ **Tory Lauterbach**, VML8@cornell.edu.

**07** Hello, Class of 2007! Happy Holidays! Happily, I've received a handful of updates from you all, so I'm going to jump into it. (Bonus: If you read to the end, there's a small update from me as well!)

First is a note from outgoing class president **Shane Dunn**: "It's been my honor and privilege to serve you these past five years. As we look past our recent 10th Reunion and ahead to our 15th in 2022, I want to share some notes of gratitude on behalf of the entire class. First, thank you to our class Reunion chairs, **Lauren Giugliano**, **Heidi Mun**, **Brady Rice**, and **Nancy Tinch**, for organizing a successful and fun 10th Reunion for hundreds of classmates, guests, and kids. Second, thank you to the 497 classmates, including 15 Tower Club donors, who donated a combined \$163,744 to funds across the university—a new class giving record! Third, thank you to the outgoing class council volunteers who have given their time and energy to keeping our great class connected to each other and the university over the past five years. Fourth, thank you to the incoming class council officers, including co-presidents **Diana Ruano** and **Katie Whalen**, for stepping up to serve us all through 2022. And lastly, thank you to the entire class for remembering that your connection to Cornell is lifelong and your class will always be a part of your Cornell story. Please keep in touch with your class, with each other, and with the university as you continue on in your post-Cornell journey!"

On the topic of Reunion, **Parvez Jamal** and **Pooja Murthy**, who married after ten years of dating, had a great time at our 10th Reunion. Parvez was a Biological Sciences major, and Pooja was a ChemE major. Happily ever after for this '07 couple! The spring 2017 edition of the *Human Ecology* magazine published a piece on **Hayley Paige** about her work with JLM Coutour, her three lines of wedding gowns, and, of course, her 2015 wedding, where she wore five of her own wedding gowns! What started as a collection of pieces in the Cornell Design League fashion show during our senior year has blossomed into a fun, fashionable career.

Classmate **Andrew Fox** (Holbrook, NY) is working as a board certified veterinary radiologist in Ontario, CA. Also in the veterinary world, **Dana Muir-Preston**, MPS '08, DVM '12, spends her days as an associate veterinarian at Yalesville Veterinary Hospital in Wallingford, CT. She and husband **Kyle Preston '06**, PhD '11, celebrated the birth of a baby girl in March 2017. **Andy Howlett**, a tax lawyer at Miller & Chevalier in Washington,

DC, also welcomed a daughter with his wife, Jessica Brown. Anne Elliot was born on May 6, 2016. Andy mentions that his brothers at Delta Tau Delta had a great impact on him, and he wishes he could spend more time at Cornell. (Don't we all!) Another '07 couple, **Jordan '06**, BS '07, and **Kara Tappen Barry**, would like to announce the birth of their son, Anderson Dennis, on March 18, 2017. Congrats all around!

As for myself, I would be remiss if I didn't mention my tiny co-author, Milo Lawrence Wolf, who was born July 23, 2017. My husband, Ben, and I are over the moon—and the jury is out on whether he will lean toward Big Red or the Blue Devils. I'm looking forward to sharing more exciting stories with everyone! Have more updates to share? Please feel free to reach out to me or submit online. ♦ **Samantha Feibush** Wolf, srf29@cornell.edu. Online news form, <https://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**08** Happy Holidays! **Alex Limjoco** completed his otolaryngology (ENT) / head and neck surgery residency at WVU Medicine in June and will be starting a one-year fellowship in rhinology at the Sinus & Nasal Inst. of Florida in St. Petersburg this July.

Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. Send news and holiday letters to: ♦ **Libby Boymel**, lkb24@cornell.edu; or **Elana Beale**, erb26@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**09** Happy late autumn, classmates! Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, I want to share it in this column. Send your holiday letters to: ♦ **Rebecca Robbins**, robbins.reb@gmail.com. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**10** Happy Holidays! As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. We love getting holiday letters! ♦ **Rammy Salem**, rms84@cornell.edu; **Jeff Katz**, jak232@cornell.edu; **Amar Kelkar**, ahk24@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://www.alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**11** How are you planning to spend your holidays? Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. Send your updates and holiday letters to: ♦ **Siva Iyer**, si74@cornell.edu; or **Dara Perl**, dmp229@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**12** Following her graduation from Cornell, **Hayley Assael** was recruited as an analyst by the Private Bank at J.P. Morgan. During her first two years as an analyst, she developed a global training program, which continues to reach over 200 analysts annually. In her current role as a private banker, she specializes in advising ultra-high net worth individuals, primarily in the real estate industry, as well as endowments and foundations. Hayley received a certificate in financial planning from Northwestern U., and in 2017 earned the designation of a certified financial planner professional. She is currently pursuing her MBA part time at the NYU Stern School of Business. In her free time, she enjoys all that

NYC has to offer including Broadway shows, sporting events, and a variety of dining experiences.

Since graduation, **Kendra Bartell** Saldana went to Seattle, WA, and got her MFA in poetry from the U. of Washington. Then Ithaca called her back, and Kendra returned to Cornell to work for the Alumni Affairs and Development office, where she has been since 2014. She began her new position as Assistant Director, Young Alumni Giving in October, working with the 5th (our own!) and 10th Reunion campaigns, as well as many initiatives focused on young alumni giving across the board.

Keep your classmates up to date on your life post-Cornell by sending any information you would like to share to: ♦ **Peggy Ramin**, mar335@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**13** Happy Holidays, everyone! As another year ends, I reflect on the time that has passed since we were on the Hill. So many of us in this short period have achieved incredible things both professionally and personally. This column, though short, is no exception.

We are feeling the Big Red love for a few Cornell sweethearts this year. **Perry** and **Jaclyn Sperber Swergold** were married on May 28, 2017 after meeting more than eight years ago as freshmen. Perry says that marrying the woman of his dreams gives him the most satisfaction in his life these days. **Ben Jaeger** is a computer programmer at Facebook. He recently relocated to their Boston offices because his new fiancée (they are high school sweethearts) is a medical resident there. Ben misses Ithaca's fine eats, like chips on a stick (you know, that cart near Jason's?). Sadly, he has not been able to find any in Boston . . . yet.

Maybe Ben can ask **Austin Jones** for some foodie tips. Austin is the general manager of events and dining at Blooming Hill Farms in Hudson, NY. The farm provides specialty produce to a wide variety of fine restaurants in Manhattan, Brooklyn, New Jersey, and the Hudson Valley. **Bailey DeBarmore** is a PhD student of epidemiology at UNC Chapel Hill. She spends most of her free time outdoors hiking and exploring with her dog and her family. **Erika Kleibrink** just became the new landscape designer and assistant manager of Loen's Nursery in Sherwood, OR. Erika had to make the move from Wisconsin to Oregon for the job, so she's looking forward to some down time to travel internationally and share the experience with her boyfriend.

As always, we want to hear what you've been up to since graduating so that YOU can be featured in our columns! E-mail us with news! ♦ **Rachael Schuman**, RA Schuman@gmail.com; **Dan Kuhr**, dk453@cornell.edu.

**14** Happy late autumn! As the last leaves fall and the holiday tunes start up on the radio, please take a moment to send us an update. Whether your news is usual or unusual, conventional or surprising, we want to share it with your classmates. We love getting holiday letters! ♦ **Tejal Thakkar**, tdt42@cornell.edu; **Samantha Lapehn**, SRL76@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**15** Happy Holidays, Class of 2015! We hope that the season will be merry and bright. You're classmates have been up to some amazing things in the two years since we've graduated. Here are a few highlights.

**Rachel Minton** spent several months working at "Late Night with Seth Meyers" as part of the NBCUniversal

Page Program. She said the experience was fast-paced and demanding and she learned a lot about herself, professionalism, and multitasking. **Alyssa Biscoglio** traded the cold winters of Ithaca for the Caribbean island of St. Kitts, where she is currently a student at the Ross School of Veterinary Medicine. **Alexandria Schmall** is in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, as part of her second year at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Master of Public Health program. Alexandria is studying international health and human nutrition and is working on community-based nutrition programs with UNICEF and Helen Keller Int'l, aimed at improving child nutrition and preventing stunting among children under 2.

As a software engineer at Google, **Omari "Thunder" Powell** has had the opportunity to help fellow classmates successfully pursue jobs at Google, an experience he said has been both surreal and humbling. After completing a master's in environmental technology at Imperial College London, **Erica Taylor** accepted a job at PNC Bank in Pittsburgh as the building innovation analyst in the innovation and performance group. **Adam Kirsch**, MBA '16, has been busy consulting with a number of startups in the NYC area. Recently, he volunteered at Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership with **Haley Velasco** and **Samantha Kirsch '19**. As a fellow with the nonprofit Startup Leadership Program, Adam got to know 30 other founders tremendously well in an environment that combined classroom and community in pursuit of building better entrepreneurs. He even had the good fortune of meeting other Cornellians through the program, founded by **Anupendra Sharma, MBA '98**.

Have some news? Did you start a new job or get a promotion? Go on an exciting vacation? Have other things to tell us? Share it all with the Class of 2015. Please send us your updates and we will include them in a future column! ✦ **Ariel Cooper**, alc258@cornell.edu; **Haley Velasco**, hav9@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

**16** Hello again, classmates! Welcome to another edition of our class column! I know it has been a busy fall for many of us as we continue in our relatively new roles in jobs, medical school, law school, graduate work, and everything else. In the past couple of months, I have been lucky enough to catch up on the news of some of our busy classmates. Unsurprisingly, 2016 alumni are doing fantastic things with their time since graduation.

**Larry Gibson** has made an immediate impact for Teach For America in Charlotte, NC. Only a first-year teacher, Larry was a finalist to be the Carolina Panther Teacher of the Week last November and was recently honored with the STEM Teacher Superstar Award from Duke Power Energy Co., an award given "to five math/science teachers across the district that make a profound impact inside their classrooms and in their respective communities." Larry was nominated for the award by his school principal and community members. A standout member of the men's track and field team during his time at Cornell (and a multiple-time Heps champion), Larry has found himself quite at home on the oval—now as a coach. During his first year of coaching, Larry matched his success in the classroom and sent nine athletes to the North Carolina Indoor Track State Championships and three to the North Carolina Outdoor State Championships. Additionally, Larry was proud to report that one of his student athletes earned a full scholarship to Winston-Salem State U. While putting in long hours as a teacher and coach, Larry manages to stay connected to Cornell

by returning to the Northeast to cheer on the Big Red during both the indoor and outdoor Heps championships. Here's hoping our men can turn the tables on Princeton to bring home the Heps titles in 2018!

**Ovais Tahir** (NYC) works for Virtusa as an associate consultant. He frequently travels to Germany, where he does on-site project work. In answer to my numerous questions about his adventures, Ovais writes: "My favorite thing about work has been the meritocratic attitude of my project manager to allow me to play a lead business analyst role among my other experienced team members. I have really enjoyed the ability to manage the creation and execution of a strategy within my project with the support of my team members. For fun, I've spent a lot of time exploring what I love most: art, history, museums, and food, in NYC and abroad. I got to experience Abu Dhabi and Dubai in the UAE as two of my best friends married each other in an amazing celebration. During my trips to Germany, I had a weekend to see Vienna and experience its rich history through their grand palaces and beautiful gardens. I had another weekend to drive to one of the highest peaks in the Austrian Alps and spend a day in the historic castle city of Hohenschwangau, Germany." When asked what he misses the most from his time on the Hill, Ovais echoed the feelings many of us share: "The Cornell community is something I miss a lot. I also miss being able to walk just five to ten minutes off campus to see the beauty of the gorges." Additionally, Ovais has good news from his family. His sister, **Rohma Tahir '20**, continues her studies at Cornell and will shortly be joined by another sibling, **Abdullah Tahir '20**, who recently transferred to Cornell. Congratulations to the entire Big Red Tahir family!

Class council member **Justin Watt**, ME '17, sent this exciting news: "I'm starting as a manufacturing engineer at Borg Warner in Ithaca on July 10. But more importantly, I just got married! I married **Stephanie Van Overberghe '15** on June 17 in South Bend, IN. We spent our honeymoon in Riviera Maya, and we now live in Ithaca together since Stephanie works for the university as an administrative assistant." This fall, classmate **Dina Iacone** began her first semester of medical school at the Rowan U. School of Osteopathic Medicine. To prepare herself for medical school, Dina spent the 2016-17 year working as a scribe at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in orthopedics—"Really fun, especially for a runner!" Even as she takes on the rigorous coursework of medical school, Dina remains dedicated to running. While at Cornell, she ran cross country and track and was part of the Heps championship cross country team in 2012 and the Heps championship track team in 2013. Post-collegiate, she has expanded her running resume from the 10K to racing ten miles. In May, Dina ran a competitive 67 minutes at the ten-mile Blue Cross Broad Street Run! Outside of classes and running, Dina enjoys babysitting for her niece and catching up with fellow classmates in the Philly area, **Ann Herman** and **Caroline Kellner**.

As class correspondent, I enjoy reaching out and hearing from so many of you! These columns give me a great excuse to interrogate friends and classmates who have lost touch with each other in the months since graduating. Although I love sending inquiry e-mails and Facebook messages, I would love to expand the reach of news beyond my social circle, so please send me an e-mail or fill out the form below. Your classmates are curious and would love to hear your most recent news!

✦ **Meghan McCormick**, mcm324@cornell.edu. Online news form, <http://alumni.cornell.edu/participate/class-notes.cfm>.

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# ALUMNI DEATHS

## 1930s

'39 BA, MS '40—**Bettina M. Frost**, Haddonfield, NJ, December 21, 2016

## 1940s

'40 MS—**Charles G. Polzer**, South Glens Falls, NY, May 29, 2017  
'40 BA—**Gabrielle Sichel Rosenbaum**, Haverford, PA, May 15, 2017  
'40 BA—**Jeanette Schweckler Simpson**, Locust Valley, NY, July 15, 2017  
'41 BA—**Ruth Cramer Adelman**, Gloversville, NY, May 12, 2017  
'42 BA—**Barbara Johnson Earl**, Nokomis, FL, April 26, 2017  
'42 BA—**Barbara Crohurst Howell**, Oak Brook, IL, May 9, 2017  
'42 BEE—**Stanley R. Thorne**, Las Vegas, NV, November 7, 2016  
'43, B Chem E '44—**E. Firth Perryman**, Webster, NY, May 14, 2017  
'44 BA—**Doris Coffey Karpuk**, South Glastonbury, CT, June 8, 2017  
'44 DVM—**Anne Gott King**, Hopedale, MA, April 25, 2017  
'44 BME—**George R. Michaels**, Hamilton, OH, April 26, 2017  
'44—**Harold D. Ogburn Jr.**, Winnebago, MN, May 19, 2017  
'44, BA '48—**Irving Rappaport**, Chevy Chase, MD, April 29, 2017  
'45 BME—**C. Allan Borchert**, Essex, CT, May 5, 2017  
'45, BS HE '44—**Barbara Birkland Conger**, Warsaw, NY, July 23, 2017  
'45 BEE—**John V. Hastings III**, Orinda, CA, May 9, 2017  
'45 PhD—**John F. Lingenfelter**, La Jolla, CA, June 6, 2017  
'45 BA—**Jeanne Treman Shempp**, Oakwood, OH, April 25, 2017  
'46—**Walter T. Bew Jr.**, Linwood, NJ, June 2, 2017  
'46 BS HE—**Dorothy Hotchkiss Haberl**, Golden, CO, May 12, 2017  
'46—**Alvah G. Hinz**, Olean, NY, May 10, 2017  
'46, BCE '45—**Park L. Metzger Jr.**, Orchard Park, NY, June 11, 2017  
'46 BS Hotel—**Richard J. Selby**, Princeton, TX, June 3, 2017  
'46, BA '49—**Robert L. Stutz**, Baltimore, MD, November 11, 2016  
'46 BA, PhD '50—**Frederick I. Tsuji**, San Diego, CA, May 7, 2016  
'47 DVM—**Malcolm B. Carsley**, Stockton Springs, ME, July 12, 2017  
'47—**John S. Halsey**, Richmond, VA, May 23, 2017  
'47, BA '48—**Junerose Kuchler Killian**, Port Hueneme, CA, January 30, 2017  
'47 BS Hotel—**Howard P. King Jr.**, Blacksburg, VA, January 20, 2017  
'47 BS Ag—**Stuart F. Sholes**, Auburn, NY, May 27, 2017  
'47, BCE '46—**Malcolm L. Steinberg**, Austin, TX, June 18, 2017  
'47—**Anne Whiteside Wynd**, Fairport, NY, April 14, 2017  
'48 BA—**Lillian Soelle Austin**, Chapel Hill, NC, January 28, 2017  
'48, BA '50—**Benjamin Berman**, New York City, May 6, 2017  
'48 BA—**Audrey Werksman Bloch**, New York City, August 18, 2016

'48 MD—**Milton Cooper**, Easton, CT, April 29, 2017  
'48 BA—**Hyla Brodtkin Garlen**, Clearwater, FL, May 5, 2017  
'48 BS HE—**Mary Lou Anderson Mason**, Skaneateles, NY, April 29, 2017  
'48 BS Nurs—**Clare Simpson Passallaigue**, Sunnyvale, CA, March 22, 2017  
'48 BEE—**Robert W. Persons Jr.**, Port Washington, NY, July 18, 2017  
'48 BA—**Viola Mowry Storer**, Winchester, MA, July 15, 2017  
'48 BS HE—**Barbara Tarrant Wiggins**, Dallas, TX, June 28, 2017  
'49 BCE, MCE '57—**Paul T. Carver**, West Hartford, CT, April 30, 2017  
'49 BA, MS '51—**Albert C. Condo**, Newtown Square, PA, April 9, 2017  
'49 B Chem E—**John Cordes Jr.**, Queensbury, NY, July 20, 2017  
'49 BA—**Joseph P. Cosentini**, Brooktondale, NY, June 18, 2017  
'49 BCE/JD—**Wilbur R. Dameron Jr.**, Albuquerque, NM, May 31, 2016  
'49—**Gene Grayson**, Doylestown, PA, May 24, 2017  
'49, BEE '50—**Richard T. Guilbert**, Hilton Head, SC, January 1, 2017  
'49 BS Nurs—**Cecily Silver Gutter**, Willow Street, PA, April 30, 2017  
'49—**Richard S. Hammond**, Homer, NY, June 13, 2017  
'49 BS Ag—**Carman B. Hill**, Ithaca, NY, January 18, 2017  
'49, BS Hotel '50—**Robert K. Lewis**, Loudon, TN, June 29, 2017  
'49 BEE—**Stephen B. Profflet**, Winona, MN, June 14, 2017

## 1950s

'50 BEE—**James H. Chu**, Jamesville, NY, October 25, 2016  
'50 BS HE—**Berta Hall Chupp**, Binghamton, NY, June 5, 2017  
'50 MA, PhD '54—**Marvin G. Cline**, Wolfesboro, NH, July 3, 2017  
'50 BS Ag—**Calvin C. Cooper**, Southbury, CT, May 6, 2017  
'50 MS HE—**Willetta L. Haddal**, Lincoln, NE, June 26, 2017  
'50 BS Nurs—**Eileen M. Jeck**, Indianapolis, IN, April 23, 2017  
'50 BA—**R. Channing Johnson**, Sun City, AZ, March 17, 2016  
'50 BA, PhD '54—**James N. Layne**, Lake Placid, FL, June 10, 2017  
'50 BME—**Earle P. Merritt Jr.**, West Barnstable, MA, June 9, 2017  
'50 BA—**Armand M. Nicholi Jr.**, Concord, MA, June 22, 2017  
'50 DVM—**Malcolm C. Peckham**, Freeville, NY, June 22, 2017  
'50 MS—**Harry J. Scheifele Jr.**, Altadena, CA, June 25, 2017  
'50 DVM—**Norman Simon**, Burlington, MA, March 10, 2017  
'50 BME—**Roger K. Whitney**, Pocono Pines, PA, June 18, 2017  
'51 BS Ag—**Charles R. Bales**, Erie, PA, June 7, 2017  
'51, BS ILR '52—**William K. Browne**, Lawrence, KS, October 26, 2016  
'51 BA—**John P. Chupp**, Kirkwood, MO, July 22, 2017  
'51 BA—**Dorothy DeAngelis Dharni**, Raleigh, NC, June 5, 2017

'51 BS Ag—**Allen B. Honeywell**, Westtown, NY, August 22, 2016  
'51 MBA—**Henry P. Mueller**, Clifton Park, NY, June 15, 2017  
'51, BEP '50, PhD '58—**Victor K. Pare**, Oberlin, OH, June 17, 2017  
'51 DVM—**Arthur M. Underwood**, King Ferry, NY, April 28, 2017  
'51—**Newell L. Willcox Jr.**, Homer, NY, May 26, 2017  
'52, BME '53—**L. Jack Bradt**, Bethlehem, PA, May 7, 2017  
'52 BS HE—**Florence Swenk Britting**, Geneva, NY, May 12, 2017  
'52 BA—**Arthur H. Diamond**, Oviedo, FL, July 27, 2017  
'52 BS ILR—**John W. Harrington Jr.**, White Plains, NY, May 14, 2017  
'52 BA—**Elden B. Hartshorn**, Oxford, MD, July 27, 2017  
'52—**Kenneth E. Klossner**, Batavia, NY, May 19, 2017  
'52 BME—**Michael J. Mazzarella**, Ewing, NJ, October 23, 2016  
'52 BA—**John C. Noonan**, Mt. Pleasant, SC, July 22, 2017  
'52 BA—**Claire Schehr Ryan**, Northport, NY, June 9, 2017  
'52 BS Ag—**Larry F. Slawson**, Farmingdale, NJ, July 29, 2017  
'52 BME—**Robert S. Stahr**, Leavenworth, WA, June 16, 2017  
'52 BA, MD '56—**Joan Nesmith Tillotson**, Fargo, ND, May 29, 2017  
'53 BS Ag—**Martha Trever Connor**, Cresskill, NJ, April 9, 2017  
'53 MA—**Jane Diehl Crawford**, Ithaca, NY, July 23, 2017  
'53 BS ILR—**Jack Golodner**, Washington, DC, May 13, 2017  
'53 BS HE—**Sallie Smith Goodell**, Davis, CA, April 13, 2017  
'53, B Chem E '54—**Robert H. Morrow**, Medford, NJ, March 10, 2017  
'53 BS Ag—**Joseph H. Pinchbeck**, Beaufort, SC, June 22, 2017  
'53, BArch '54—**Robert A. Spillman**, Bethlehem, PA, May 1, 2017  
'53 BS Ag, JD '61—**William C. Taylor**, Scottsdale, AZ, June 1, 2017  
'53 BA, LLB '56—**Richard B. Thaler**, Lansing, NY, May 27, 2017  
'53 BS Ag—**Roland W. Thomas**, Lowman, NY, May 13, 2016  
'54, BME '55—**Donald L. Berg**, Chapel Hill, NC, March 6, 2017  
'54, BCE '55—**Rockne E. Burns**, Cape Vincent, NY, May 7, 2017  
'54, BME '55—**Clinton T. Cooper**, Jacksonville, FL, July 6, 2017  
'54 BS Ag—**Richard H. Cooper**, Moorestown, NJ, June 4, 2017  
'54 BA—**Robert W. Dealy**, Stanardsville, VA, May 7, 2017  
'54—**John F. Feist**, Bristol, NH, March 23, 2014  
'54 BS Ag—**Lewis J. Galbreath**, Gadsden, AL, May 12, 2017  
'54 MME—**James F. Hamilton**, Lafayette, IN, June 9, 2017  
'54 BA, MBA '58—**Donald M. Herten**, Waretown, NJ, June 11, 2017  
'54, BCE '55—**Michael Miruski**, Oklahoma City, OK, April 29, 2017  
'54, BCE '55, MBA '59—**Duane R. Nice**, Kennett Square, PA, December 31, 2016

'54 BA—Sheila McMullen Ready, Madison, WI, May 6, 2017  
 '54 BA, LLB '58—Vincent S. Rospond, Maplewood, NJ, July 6, 2017  
 '54 DVM—Herbert F. Schryver, Ithaca, NY, June 26, 2017  
 '54 BS Ag—Russell M. Skelton Jr., Fort Lauderdale, FL, February 15, 2017  
 '55, BS ILR '58—Donald C. Cantone, Poughkeepsie, NY, June 27, 2017  
 '55 MS—Horton K. Durfee, Ithaca, NY, May 20, 2017  
 '55 BS Ag—Helene Gellen Fried, Atherton, CA, June 21, 2017  
 '55 BA—Peter R. Haje, New York City, July 2, 2017  
 '55 DVM—David E. Harling, Greensboro, NC, June 11, 2017  
 '55, BA '56—Paul E. Klein, White Plains, NY, May 18, 2017  
 '55 PhD—Alexandra Botwinik Lederer, Sausalito, CA, June 10, 2017  
 '55 BA—Anne Morrissy Merick, Waynesville, NC, May 18, 2017  
 '55, BA '56, MBA '57—David B. Perskie, Tenafly, NJ, June 25, 2017  
 '55, BArch '61—Karl H. Wendt, Cortland, NY, July 21, 2017  
 '56 BS Ag—Peter Albersheim, Athens, GA, July 1, 2017  
 '56 BA—Robert E. Day Jr., Silver Spring, MD, June 24, 2017  
 '56 BS Ag—Robert W. Dorrance Jr., Herkimer, NY, April 26, 2017  
 '56 MBA—Roger J. Evans Jr., Walnut Creek, CA, June 1, 2017  
 '56 BA—Edgar R. Galli, Winchester, MA, June 22, 2017  
 '56 JD—Geoffrey A. Hampton, Utica, NY, May 22, 2017  
 '56 BS Ag—Leon F. Hart, Poughkeepsie, NY, July 4, 2017  
 '56 DVM—John D. Howe, St. George, UT, May 13, 2017  
 '56 BA—James E. Jensen, Schenectady, NY, December 4, 2016  
 '56 BA—Nina Neubeiser Murano, Vashon, WA, April 30, 2017  
 '56 BS ILR—William J. Purdy, Charlton, NY, July 22, 2017  
 '56 BA—David S. Stotz, Charlotte, NC, August 2, 2016  
 '56 BA—Esther Klein Willison, Scotia, NY, May 28, 2017  
 '57 MD—William C. Black, Hackensack, NJ, April 25, 2017  
 '57 BS Ag—Eleanor Ramp Campbell, Rockbridge Baths, VA, September 8, 2016  
 '57 BS Ag—Philip C. Griffen, McCormick, SC, May 29, 2017  
 '57 MS—Peter S. Helming, Garden City, ID, July 3, 2017  
 '57 MS HE—Barbara Wilcox Johnson, Phoenix, AZ, April 8, 2017  
 '57 BA—Robert B. Kinkead, Round Lake, NY, June 20, 2017  
 '57, BCE '58, MBA '59—Phillip H. Kneen, Orchard Lake, MI, May 30, 2017  
 '57—John A. Lanty, Johnson City, TX, December 18, 2013  
 '57 DVM—Robert A. Moore, Mashpee, MA, February 5, 2017  
 '57 EdD—Jerry A. Shannon Jr., Oneonta, NY, May 30, 2017  
 '57 BS Ag—Milton E. Skiff, Potsdam, NY, July 9, 2017  
 '57 BS HE—Edna Carroll Skoog, Springfield, IL, June 25, 2017  
 '57 BS Ag—James R. Taylor Jr., Alexandria, VA, April 25, 2017

'57, BME '58—Ewing S. Walker, Peekskill, NY, July 12, 2017  
 '57 BA, MD '61—Martin S. Wolfe, Washington, DC, June 15, 2017  
 '58, BME '59—Adin B. Capron Jr., Seneca, SC, April 29, 2017  
 '58 JD—John W. Fulreader, Victor, NY, May 27, 2017  
 '58 BA—Charles D. Gerson, New York City, May 21, 2017  
 '58 BS Ag—Peter M. Grehlinger, Glassboro, NJ, June 14, 2017  
 '58 BA—Audrey Greenberg Landau, Lawrence, NY, June 1, 2017  
 '58—John R. McGregor, Fishers, IN, December 12, 2014  
 '58, BEP '59—William R. Powell, São Paulo, Brazil, October 1, 2016  
 '58 BA—Donna P. Smith, Worthing, UK, January 1, 2017  
 '58, BA '59—Lois Bates Walnut, Swampscott, MA, May 22, 2017  
 '59 BS Ag—Dale F. Burrell, Holley, NY, May 22, 2017  
 '59 MS—Clarence K. Davis, Clinton, NY, July 13, 2017  
 '59 BS Ag—Joseph B. Donahoe, Penn Yan, NY, July 20, 2017  
 '59 BA—Eric J. Eisenklam, Old Orchard Beach, ME, July 23, 2017  
 '59, MBA '72—Norman I. Freedman, Naples, FL, July 2, 2017  
 '59 BA—Leonard Gerstein, Scotts Valley, CA, May 9, 2017  
 '59—Joseph B. Kent, Cambridge, NY, April 30, 2017  
 '59 MS—Audrey Melkowitz Kravarik, Naples, FL, April 18, 2017  
 '59 DVM—John C. Meyer, Silver Spring, MD, June 22, 2017  
 '59 BS HE—Ellen Deger Michel, Suffolk, VA, May 14, 2017  
 '59 MBA—Allan C. Robinson Jr., Roanoke, VA, May 5, 2017  
 '59, BArch '60—Wilbur L. Woods, New York City, May 21, 2017

### 1960s

'60 MS HE—Louise Archbold Bjorklund, Madison, WI, May 6, 2017  
 '60 BA—James F. Dowd, Dowagiac, MI, November 21, 2016  
 '60 BME—Albert O. Foster, Spring Park, MN, May 22, 2017  
 '60, BS Nurs '61—Faith L. Etoll Gill, Duxbury, MA, February 18, 2017  
 '60 BA—Moritz J. Gluck, Merrick, NY, July 19, 2013  
 '60 MS HE—Joan Broadcorens Marsh, Dennis, MA, May 27, 2017  
 '60 BS Ag—Frederick A. Meyer, Fair Oaks, CA, July 14, 2017  
 '60 BS Ag—Judy K. Morgan, Tampa, FL, August 11, 2016  
 '60, BEE '61—Thomas J. Moutoux, Cupertino, CA, April 18, 2017  
 '60 BA—Richard D. Yellen, Amherst, NY, July 1, 2017  
 '60 BA—Ronald L. Young, Houston, TX, May 7, 2017

'61 MS—Bernice M. Belshaw, Newcastle, WA, April 23, 2017  
 '61 BA—Chana Faerstein Bloch, Berkeley, CA, May 19, 2017  
 '61 PhD—Donald J. Burton, Iowa City, IA, May 31, 2017  
 '61 MED—Gwendolyn O'Brien Marsh, Amarillo, TX, July 25, 2017  
 '61 BA—Frederick T. Merrill Jr., Monona, WI, June 9, 2017  
 '61, BA '62—Robert W. Ray, Shippensburg, PA, April 29, 2017  
 '61 BS Nurs—Jacqueline Beck Tautz, Morris Plains, NJ, January 24, 2017  
 '62 PhD—L. Vaughn Blankenship, Chicago, IL, May 30, 2017  
 '62 BS Hotel—David J. Darker, Woodbridge, ON, Canada, April 12, 2015  
 '62 PhD—Elizabeth A. Donald, Red Deer, AB, Canada, January 1, 2015  
 '62 MBA—Edward M. Dudley, Simsbury, CT, May 20, 2017  
 '62 MS, PhD '64—Neal E. Eckert, Austin, TX, July 10, 2017  
 '62, BME '63—H. Randolph Lewis, Arlington, MA, May 20, 2017  
 '62 MS—Charles S. Lin, Hong Kong, China, October 7, 2016  
 '62 BA—L. Wardlaw Miles, Brookfield, CT, July 17, 2017  
 '62 BS HE—Mary Lou Collins Miller, Falls Church, VA, May 24, 2017  
 '62 BS ILR—Victoria Custer Slater, Ossining, NY, January 1, 2015  
 '62 MS—Richard S. Stark, Prosser, WA, May 28, 2017  
 '62 MD—John C. Warburton, Destin, FL, February 28, 2017  
 '63 BS Ag—Joan Albin, Larchmont, NY, April 21, 2017  
 '63 MBA—Joshua S. L. Chow, Warren, NJ, June 1, 2017  
 '63 BS Ag—Douglas R. Cronk, Caneadea, NY, April 4, 2017  
 '63 BA—Ronald D. Dockser, Tampa, FL, October 26, 2016  
 '63 BA—Kenneth M. Jacobson, Orlando, FL, January 1, 2015  
 '63, BA '64—Steven N. Mainster, Homestead, FL, July 10, 2017  
 '63 BS Ag, MS Ag '64—John L. McDonald, Tucson, AZ, August 11, 2015  
 '63 BS HE—Susan Fogg McLeod, Henderson Harbor, NY, July 6, 2017  
 '63, BA '64—Gerald E. McLoughlin, Abington, PA, January 1, 2016  
 '64 BS Ag—H. John Allhusen, Canandaigua, NY, June 25, 2017  
 '64 BS Ag—Willard C. Hamilton, Wilmington, NC, July 2, 2017  
 '64 BS Ag—Jean Margolis Hentel, Poughkeepsie, NY, December 9, 2016  
 '64 PhD—Leo A. Hetzler, Rochester, NY, May 18, 2017  
 '64 PhD—Frank C. Pearce Jr., San Jose, CA, May 31, 2017  
 '64 BS ILR—Craig W. Risser, Cazenovia, NY, June 1, 2017  
 '64 EdD—Ralph L. Spencer, Watertown, NY, July 14, 2017

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'64 BS Ag—James A. Williams, Morrisville, NY, June 11, 2017  
 '65, BEE '66, MEE '68—John F. Arnold, Yarmouth Port, MA, June 24, 2017  
 '65 BS Ag—Allen D. Nice, Corfu, NY, June 7, 2017  
 '65 BS Ag—Don R. Rogers, Suffield, CT, June 5, 2017  
 '65 BS Hotel—L. James Sobel, Cape Coral, FL, June 30, 2017  
 '65 MEE—Joseph H. Wenzel, Prescott, AZ, June 7, 2017  
 '66 BS ILR—Lawrence G. Boyce, Delaware, OH, May 20, 2017  
 '66 BS HE—Nancy Dollar Frank, Pocatello, ID, July 15, 2017  
 '66 MPA—Robert I. McLaren, Regina, SK, Canada, May 1, 2017  
 '67 BS Hotel—Dennis E. Koza, Moorestown, NJ, January 11, 2017  
 '67, BS Chem E '68—Richard W. Poinsett, Estero, FL, May 5, 2017  
 '67 BS Hotel—Frederick R. Savage, Williamsburg, VA, June 4, 2017  
 '68 BS Ag—Bruce L. Anderson, Ithaca, NY, June 26, 2017  
 '68 PhD—Paul C. Estes, Wakefield, RI, July 22, 2017  
 '68 BS Ag—Kenneth T. Grieve, Sun Prairie, WI, May 17, 2017  
 '68 PhD—James O. Link, Carrollton, GA, May 29, 2016  
 '68 MILR—John E. O'Connor, Little Silver, NJ, June 28, 2017  
 '68, BS Ag '69—Hubert C. Schaitberger Jr., Maple Grove, MN, July 12, 2017  
 '68 BA—Stephen E. Taylor, Dallas, TX, December 12, 2016  
 '69, BS Ag '70—Charles P. Buisch, Lyons, NY, May 7, 2017  
 '69 BS Ag—Delos R. Dann Jr., Canandaigua, NY, July 14, 2017  
 '69 BS Ag—Jean Asselstine Lawson, Syracuse, NY, May 12, 2017  
 '69 BS ILR—Steven A. Marx, Tampa, FL, May 23, 2017  
 '69 PhD—Melvin P. Nadler, Ogden, UT, July 8, 2017  
 '69 BS ORIE, MBA '71—Richard E. Ponte, Cary, NC, December 28, 2016

## 1970s

'70 BEP—Joseph M. Battaglia, Langhorne, PA, May 9, 2017  
 '70, BA '72, MAT '73—John P. Blankenship, Berkeley, CA, December 5, 2016  
 '70 MS HE—Sally A. Jacobsen, Croton-on-Hudson, NY, May 11, 2017  
 '70 BA—Harlan R. Kant, Occidental, CA, May 1, 2017  
 '70 PhD—Thomas P. Ringkob, Reno, NV, May 25, 2017  
 '70 BS Ag—Julie Mather Schnuck, St. Louis, MO, February 14, 2017  
 '70 BS ILR—Katherine D. Schrier, New York City, June 7, 2017  
 '71 MS—Laura Feldman, Boston, MA, June 30, 2017  
 '71 BA—Raymond J. Lovett, Morgantown, WV, May 11, 2017  
 '71 MS Ag—Constantine Yiourmas, Vineland, NJ, May 8, 2017  
 '72 MA—Edward J. Hickey, Glastonbury, CT, May 23, 2017  
 '72, BArch '76—Warren W. Lee, Parker, CO, February 9, 2017  
 '72 BS Eng—Anthony J. Orel, Oakdale, PA, July 2, 2017  
 '72 DVM—Harry F. Prussner Jr., Titusville, FL, June 5, 2017

'72 PhD—Paul M. Skarstad, Plymouth, MN, May 15, 2017  
 '72 MS Ag—Martin C. Whitty, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, April 12, 2017  
 '73 BS Ag—Peter E. Kung, Grand Junction, CO, June 27, 2017  
 '74 BEE—Vernon C. Grabel, Cotuit, MA, January 16, 2017  
 '74 BS Ag—Edward B. Harder, Saratoga Springs, NY, June 11, 2017  
 '74 BS Ag—James B. Rubenstein, New York City, April 13, 2017  
 '74 BS Ag—Leonarda A. Wroblewski, Otto, NY, July 18, 2016  
 '75, BS Ag '76, DVM '79—Steven P. Sanford, Greensboro, VT, June 8, 2017  
 '76 MPS—Dorothy L. Cobbs, Chicago, IL, June 2, 2017  
 '76 PhD—Daniel R. Deavers, Windsor Heights, IA, April 30, 2017  
 '77 MILR—Susan Ingraham Ashley, Sugar Land, TX, May 28, 2017  
 '77 BA—Sylvia Hashagen Dempsey, New York City, November 5, 2016  
 '77 BEE—Kenneth D. Jackson, West Orange, NJ, July 25, 2017  
 '78 JD—Deborah E. Curtis, Portland, ME, May 8, 2017  
 '79 BME—Eric Berg, Wilmington, DE, May 20, 2017  
 '79 BA—Wolffe Nadoolman, Berkeley, CA, April 28, 2017

## 1980s

'81, BA '83—Daniel J. Gasteiger, Lewisburg, PA, June 1, 2017  
 '82 PhD—David A. Herrup, Cambridge, MA, June 18, 2017  
 '82 MA—Mary Simmons Kevlin, Cooperstown, NY, June 16, 2017  
 '82 BS HE—Dorothy M. Owen, Skaneateles, NY, July 14, 2017  
 '83 BEE—Jonathan A. Cooper, Ashburn, VA, January 18, 2017  
 '84 MCE—Robert L. Greco III, Golden, CO, May 17, 2017  
 '84 MEE—Rodolfo Lucero Jr., Scottsdale, AZ, May 30, 2017  
 '84 BS Hotel—Adam W. Minton, Westerville, OH, June 7, 2017  
 '84 BA—Thomas R. Plenefisch, Kirkland, WA, June 5, 2017  
 '87—Conrad A. Episcopo, Wyckoff, NJ, June 16, 2017  
 '88 BS ILR—Howard N. Madris, Beverly Hills, CA, July 20, 2017  
 '89 BS ILR—Laura M. Dudley, East Aurora, NY, November 25, 2016  
 '89 PhD—Benjamin B. Stone, Holliston, MA, May 4, 2017

## 1990s

'90 BA—Barbara E. Hurley, Gaithersburg, MD, June 19, 2017  
 '93 BME—Anastasia A. Habenicht, Littleton, CO, June 3, 2017  
 '93 BS HE—Brian A. Kelly, New York City, November 1, 2016  
 '94 BA—Alexandra Ornitz Hastings, Greenwich, CT, March 26, 2017  
 '98 BS Ag—Jessica A. Panzer, Philadelphia, PA, May 13, 2017

## 2010s

'18—Oliver R. Bolger, Merritt Island, FL, April 22, 2017  
 '18—Aalaap G. Narasipura, Sandy, UT, May 19, 2017

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# ON THE STUMP

## Remembering the tree fragment that became a campus icon

**I**t was a six-foot-tall soapbox: the giant tree stump that once stood outside Willard Straight Hall. While it resided there relatively briefly, it served its purpose when the campus arguably needed it most—during the politically and socially tumultuous years of the late Sixties and early Seventies. As the story goes, the Stump spent most of its life as a stately elm tree, one of many that graced East Hill until they were killed off by Dutch elm disease in the Sixties. The Straight elm was cut down along with all the rest, but in this case, groundskeepers left a towering stump, as the *Daily Sun* later noted, “to pacify students who had bitterly protested the tree’s removal.”

On campus, the Stump became a combination bulletin board, meet-up spot, and social justice icon: students would tack posters to it, paint graffiti on it, and—most dramatically—perch atop it to give political speeches. (In one of the iconic images from the Straight Takeover, Students for a Democratic Society leader David Burak '67, MFA '80, stands on it, bullhorn in hand, rallying support for the occupation.) As Elaine Povich '75 recalled in *CAM* in 2003: “You never knew a protest was real until someone was hoisted up onto the Stump to lead cheers.”

But the Stump’s reign came to an end in fall 1975, when a group of students lopped off a hefty portion of it in a misguided effort to raise funds for UNICEF. “A classified ad in the *Sun* suggested a ransom payment would result in the return of the missing three feet,” Glenn Altschuler, PhD '76, and Isaac Kramnick write in *Cornell: A History, 1940–2015*. “Money was collected and offered to anyone who came forward. Painted on the shortened stump was ‘outrage’ in large red letters, along with ‘foul bloody murder!’ and ‘the assassin shall be tarred and feathered and run out of town.’”

The amputated portion was eventually located at a nearby state park. It was reattached using metal rods—though



**WOOD YOU EVER:** The Stump (clockwise from top left) after being lopped off; in its former glory outside the Straight; and in a 2012 homage by student activists



some students complained that the job was shoddy—only to be knocked over, left to languish near a loading dock, and ultimately discarded. A plaque in the Stump’s memory now stands in its place. But

in 2012, a group of student activists tried to revive the tradition (unsuccessfully, as it turned out) by installing a hexagonal wooden structure—roughly of the original’s proportions and

**As Elaine Povich '75 recalled in *CAM* in 2003: ‘You never knew a protest was real until someone was hoisted up onto the Stump to lead cheers.’**

labeled “The Stump” in bright red letters—outside the Straight. From atop the jury-rigged dais, August Williams-Eynon '14 and Russell Gutterson '14 appealed to the University to leave the new “stump” in situ—hoping that it would transcend even its namesake and serve as “a space for political theater and political discourse of all different kinds.” ■



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