Summer 2014

TRAIL MIX
The TAM turns 25 p. 28

THE CHALLENGER
Can Shenna Bellows ’97 stun the political establishment by winning a Senate seat in Maine? p. 34

FINDING MOM
Following the death of her mother, a writer makes a discovery about loss p. 96

A Guide to Summer Reading
THANK

Every student might have a different reason to be grateful for a Middlebury education, but all of their reasons have something in common:

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What To Read?

I'm a lover of books, great ones and not-so-great ones.

And I also love lists. So it didn't surprise me when Amazon recently came out with its "Too Books to Read in a Lifetime." But I was, however, more than a little shocked by the list, which included a few classics, such as George Orwell's 1984 and Charles Dickens' Great Expectations, squeezed alongside Kitchen Confidential by Anthony Bourdain and Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn. Really? And do you think The Very Hungry Caterpillar should sit on the shelf of must-reads before-dying with Pride and Prejudice, the great masterpiece by Jane Austen?

If you're looking for guidance on the books that you should read in your lifetime—and are considering using the summer to get started—this topic is worth exploring further.

In the novel category, should one read Jacqueline Susann's truly terrible Valley of the Dolls instead of, say, Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn or—the greatest of all novels—Middlemarch by George Eliot? For poetry, Amazon recommends Shel Silverstein instead of the poems of Robert Frost, Walt Whitman, or Emily Dickinson. For a great biography, we get Robert A. Caro's admirable life of Robert Moses. But what about James Boswell's Life of Johnson, arguably the finest biography ever published?

Certain books here are familiar to high school students, including To Kill a Mockingbird, Slaughterhouse-Five, and Catcher in the Rye. I don't like any of these much, if truth be told. One of my sons recently graduated from high school, and he complained that in the past six years he had been asked every single year to read To Kill a Mockingbird. Surely there are other books about race relations in the American South?

I did like certain choices that Amazon made: Tim O'Brien's The Things They Carried is certainly the best book about Vietnam; more than that, it's a dazzling work of art. John Irving's The World According to Garp will always deserve readers, as will The Road by Cormac McCarthy and Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov.

So, if this is the summer to get started on your reading quest, I suggest reading Thoreau's Walden, which didn't make Amazon's list. It's a sublime work of literature, better than any of the memoirs included here. And read The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin before you read The Liars' Club by Mary Carr or The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion. The latter are fine books, but they should not crowd out Thoreau or Franklin.

It's sad to see that Shakespeare and Tolstoy don't make Amazon's list. Nor do Updike or Bellow. I'd say that only about a third of the books on Amazon's list are in any way essential reading. Now, I'm not arguing that you should spend vacation time reading work that I or others consider essential. But if you are interested in "must reads"—life is short, after all—rip this page out of the magazine and take it to your local bookstore. Or order online, if you must—but don't let the online store choose the selections for you.
“Hey, Sonia, what do you call the man with the rubber toe?” After a brief moment of concentrated silence in the station, we exchange a huge smile. “Roberto!” Chuckles, laughs, and perhaps the occasional groan ripple across the Champlain Valley. It’s almost one o’clock on a Thursday afternoon, and if you have your radio tuned to 91.1 FM, you’re listening to Sunny with a Chance of Soul. Whether we’re broadcasting to hundreds of listeners or if only our moms are tuning in, cohosting a radio show lets us spend an hour every week swapping music and grooving to some of our favorite tunes. When our mics are turned down, we sing along and wander the stacks of unfamiliar albums lining the walls of WRMC’s studio. There’s a wonderful kind of synergy in bringing together two friends with different tastes in music. Sabi’s library is full of oldies and Billy Joel, while Sonia’s playlists are a lot more modern. Whether the forecast predicts blue skies or a blizzard in May, there’s always a chance of soul in the station.

By Sonia Rodrigues ’15 and Sabi Sabharwal ’15
Photograph by Brett Simison
One of the dominant narratives of the Lake Champlain basin is the story told by the geology and hydrology of the lake. It's a complex tale, one of water flow, sediment development, and ecological history, none of which have been completely unraveled. At the Middlebury School of the Environment, which was launched this summer, unpackaging the story of Lake Champlain is just one part of a curriculum that focuses on sustainability; on understanding a specific landscape through narratives informed by the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities; and on gaining a global perspective on key issues, such as socioeconomic inequality or environmental negotiation. Students such as these are inheriting unprecedented environmental challenges. This intensive six-week program is designed to change their lives—and the lives of others.

By Steve Trombulak, Director, Middlebury School of the Environment
Photograph by Brett Simison
When I was a student, we went to chapel almost every day; I believe we didn’t go on Saturday. During the week, we’d go every morning at 10:00 after our 9:00 class. Some mornings we weren’t there that long. I’m sure I’ve been back to the chapel since the ’30s, but it’s been a long time. I noticed they got a new carpet, a very pretty rose-colored one. I noticed that right away when President Liebowitz brought me in. What did I think when people started to cheer for me? I guess I hardly realized what was happening. It almost seems like a dream to think about it now. My dress? I’ve had it for some time, but I hadn't worn it in a while. I thought it fit the occasion, though. Don’t you? I was a French major and after graduating I taught French over in New York State for eight years. I loved teaching, and I love the French language. I’ve been to France several times. Well into my 80s, I traveled a lot—I’m almost 102 now, you know. I’d go to Europe, California, the Rockies. But there’s also something really nice about being home.

By Gertrude Hewitt Lathrop ’34, as told to Matt Jennings. Photograph by Todd Balfour.
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History professor Ian Barrow taps a 17th-century tome recently acquired by Special Collections to help explain the politics of torture.

In a given year, more than 1,000 tons of waste, recycling, and compost passes through Recycling Center operations. We break it down for you.

The Trail Around Middlebury celebrates a silver anniversary.

President Liebowitz answers questions about his 2014 Baccalaureate address, "The Liberal Arts Plus."

Matthew George '13 might be on the verge of revolutionizing urban transportation.

According to The Hundred-Year House, behind every story lurks … another story. And so forth.

Once considered an ancient practice, midwifery is experiencing a resurgence across the U.S.

With this issue, we hit the books. Among our offerings:

Can Shenna Bellows ’97 stun the political establishment by upsetting an entrenched incumbent and winning a U.S. Senate seat in Maine? By Jeff Inglis '95

Rebirth

A Middlebury Guide to Summer Reading

The cover essay, Jay Parini’s list of books that everyone must read
An extended conversation with writer Michael Paterniti ’86
Everything you need to know about the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference faculty
Short reviews of alumni-authored stories for the younger set
A glimpse at what Midd's faculty is reading this summer
A decision tree to help you select that perfect title (stocked w/ Midd authors, of course)
Middlebury Fall Events

ALUMNI COLLEGE
August 28–31

GOLF TOURNAMENT
September 6–7

HOMECOMING & ALUMNI LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
October 17–19

FALL FAMILY WEEKEND
October 24–26

For more information, call Alumni and Parent Programs at 802.443.5183 or visit go.middlebury.edu/alumni.
Baby Steps

One of the many things I love about living in Vermont is the fairy-tale quality of our surroundings. When returning from points south, I have often compared exiting Interstate 89 in Bethel with entering the wardrobe and slipping into Narnia. That said, I'm not a roll-around-in-nature kind of guy. As is well documented in this space, my idea of roughing it is going a morning without fresh-brewed coffee and the daily paper. Which is why I am as surprised as the next person at how much I've been enjoying my semi-regular walks in the woods with my friend Tim.

These treks, if I may call them that, take us along the Trail Around Middlebury (see p. 28) as it parallels Sheep Farm Road in Weybridge. Peer pressure got me on the trail, but I've discovered that it's not what has kept me going.

I started joining Tim on these walks a couple of years ago; at first I saw it as an opportunity to a) stop his hectoring me to do something other than my occasional spin on the exercise bike, and b) carve out a specific period of time in which we could "discuss" (read: argue about) books we have read, movies we have watched, and whatever else might be going on in our respective lives. (I should acknowledge that Tim hits the trail every day, sometimes twice; the "semi-regular" participation by me might be a slight exaggeration.)

It didn't take long, though, for me to value this time precisely because of where the steps took us. I looked forward to mentally cataloging seasonal changes in the undergrowth. I began to anticipate the right-on-cue liftoff of a pair of ducks every time we came 'round the bend near their marshy habitat. When we weren't jabbering, I enjoyed the silence. I felt—I feel—a little more appreciative about what makes this place so special.
Jody Hewgill ("Rebirth") is an award-winning illustrator, whose work has included celebrity portraits for Rolling Stone (Tom Petty, Kanye West), Los Angeles Magazine (Kirsten Dunst), and Entertainment Weekly (Halle Berry); conceptual illustrations for Mother Jones, Smithsonian, and Time; and book covers and illustrations for Knopf, Doubleday, and Time Life Books. We think the coolest thing about Jody is that a series of her posters for Arena Stage was adapted from a commentary he gave to CNN.

Lauren Markham '05 ("Rebirth") is a writer based in Northern California. She's earned a bevvy of fellowships in her young career, including postings with the UC Berkeley-11th Hour Food and Farming Journalism Fellowship program and Middlebury's own Fellowship in Environmental Journalism. Lauren's work has appeared in Virginia Quarterly Review, Guernica, Orion, and Vice, as well as on the public radio program This American Life.

The first line of Jay Parini's bio states that he's a "poet, novelist, biographer, and critic." Yes, all true, but as crazy as this may seem, that's not half of it. Jay is also a teacher, a commentator, an advisor, a storyteller, and a kind and generous man. He's written five books of poetry, eight novels, three works of nonfiction narrative, and biographies of Steinback, Frost, and Faulkner—with a book on Vidal nearly completed. His cover essay, "What to Read?" is adapted from a commentary he gave to CNN.

If you check out infographics like we do, then go checkout the work of Pop Chart Lab at www.popchartlab.com. Started in 2010 by Brooklynites Ben Gibson and Patrick Mulligan, this small agency of researchers and designers seeks to fulfill the mission set out by their cofounders to "render all human existence in chart form." Their contributions to this issue are "An Abbreviated Guide to Navigating Recently Published Alumni Books" and "Everything You Need to Know About the BLWC Faculty"—both part of our "Middlebury Guide to Summer Reading."

Gary Venn (Cover, "A Middlebury Guide to Summer Reading") doodles from New Zealand, where he produces fine work for the likes of Conde Nast Traveler, the gorgeously designed Taste Magazine, and the Wall Street Journal. Gary is repped by the wonderfully named Lemonade Illustration Agency, and he counts Dr. Seuss, Maurice Sendak, and Richard Scarry as early influencers.

**Editors' Note:** Ms. Leaphart is correct, as we failed to mention the key roles that Will Bates, Jon Warnow, Jeremy Osborn, and Kelly Blynn played in the founding of 350.org. We regret the error of omission.

"I'm thrilled to see Middlebury Magazine celebrating the success and impact of 350.org, and I would hope that the magazine would extend recognition to the entire team. You might as well claim them all!"

—Retta Leaphart '06, Missoula, Montana

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**CORRESPONDENCE**

**NUMBER 45**

I'm sure that "44 Ideas, Inventions, Discoveries, and Creations That Middlebury (and Its People) Have Given the World" will stimulate other additions. Please allow me to offer one: the first use of lasers inserted into the eye for microsurgery on the inner-eye structures by Doctor Mano Swartz '67.

In 1985, Swartz's pioneering work was recognized by the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. His laser equipment and video recordings of the groundbreaking surgery were part of a travelling exhibit that celebrated the 25th anniversary of the laser. That exhibit now has a permanent home at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

I'd also like to offer thanks for the stimulating conversation that the magazine has presented in the Talk department following the publication of "The Call of the Wild" in the winter issue. Allowing for critical remarks to exist side by side with supporting views reminds me of the kind of dialog one comes to expect at an educational institution. It's always gratifying to see the magazine living up to the ideals of the College.

—Peter Reynolds '69, Addison, Vermont

**FULL CREDIT**

I am writing to point out an unfortunate mistake in the entry on 350.org in the "44 Ideas, Inventions, Discoveries, and Creations" feature story in the spring issue. The magazine listed the alumni responsible for starting the organization, but failed to name more than half who founded the group! The list of founders who are Middlebury alumni should include: May Boeve '06, Will Bates '06, Phil Aroneanu '06, Jon Warnow '06, Jeremy Osborn '06, Jamie Henn '07, and Kelly Blynn '07. All but Kelly continue to work with and hold leadership positions at 350.org. Another Midd alum, Jason Kowalski '07, now serves as their U.S. policy director and has played a crucial role in the organization.

I'm thrilled to see Middlebury Magazine celebrating the success and impact of 350.org, and I would hope that the magazine would extend recognition to the entire team. You might as well claim them all!

—Retta Leaphart '06, Missoula, Montana

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In addition, we erroneously stated that the Middlebury folks were students when they founded 350.org. That, too, was wrong. The organization was founded in 2008, when all were graduates in good standing.
WANTED: REMEDIAL MATH FOR EDITORS

Thanks for including Seven Days in "44 Ideas, Inventions, Discoveries & Creations that Middlebury (and Its People) Have Given the World" (spring 2014). I never would have imagined I'd end up on a list with ice, the Frisbee, and Alexander Twilight!

Two small corrections: Pamela Polston and I founded our free Vermont newswEEKly in 1995, not 2000. And I’m one of seven—not five—Middlebury College graduates that our media company employs: Don Eggert ’98, Megan James ’06, Kathryn Flagg ’08, Andrea Suozzo ’09, and Xian Chiang-Waren ’12 are all part of the 58-person staff. Sarah Tuff ’95 is a regular contributor.

—PAULA ROUTLEY ’82, Burlington, Vermont

Editors’ Note: Again, we stand corrected and apologize for both shortchanging Seven Days’ impressive run by five years and for overlooking Megan and Andrea.

FACT VS. FICTION

What a good profile of Joel Cohen ’84 ("The Wolf Hound," spring 2014). Kudos to the writer of the piece—Carolyn Kormann ’04. As a reporter who wrote about several federal corruption prosecutions in Tennessee, I think it is very important to distinguish between facts and movies that are “based on actual events.” The former prosecutors I know feel the same way.

—JOHN BRANSTON, Commenting on middmag.com.

ONE COOL TRIP

Hey @tripgabriel—page 45 of the current Middlebury Mag tells me you created [New York Times] “Style”! Cool!

—CAROL_WEESTON, Commenting on Twitter

WARMED UP SINCE

I was cooler then!

—@TRIPGABRIEL, Commenting on Twitter

Trip Gabriel ’77 is now a national correspondent for the Times, covering Washington, D.C.

GOOD FOOD?

I had to laugh at the idea of “good food” as a reason for choosing Middlebury (“The Big Idea(s),” spring 2014). Sure, the dining services are amazing now, but it wasn’t always that way. Just ask anyone who remembers being served “elephant scabs” at least once a week.

—GIN JONES ’77, Taunton, Massachusetts

CSI: MIDDLEBURY

Middlebury Mag is fantastic, but this lede makes me think of crime-scene UV lights in a motel room: “Middlebury DNA is everywhere” (“The Big Idea(s),” spring 2014).

—@LSCANTRON, Commenting on Twitter

ROLE OF PARTNERS?

I generally favor the governance changes adopted by the Board of Trustees (“Board, Restructured,” winter 2014). However, I am concerned about the role of the “partner overseer” and their status as non-fiduciary members in the new governance structure. They are not trustees and have no legal standing or responsibility.

Good governance demands confidentiality and trust at all times. My experience with ex-officio or otherwise appointed members of governance bodies without full fiduciary standing has not been encouraging.

—CHIP ELFNER ’66, Commenting on middmag.com.

REILLY’S FAREWELL

I discovered the athletes of Middlebury College, who would pick up a severely handicapped fan named Butch, load him into the car, and take him to every game, where they’d provide a hot dog, a Coke and a buddy. From them, I learned service.

—RICK REILLY, Writing his farewell column, titled “Heading for Home,” on ESPN.com.

Editors’ Note: In the last issue, we called attention to Reilly’s 2003 column that pegged “Picking Up Butch” as the greatest tradition in college sports (number 37 on our list of “44 Ideas...”). Little did we know that the prolific sports writer would be mentioning Butch again, and he would be doing so in his farewell column.

The generations of Middlebury students who have helped make Butch Varno a household name were among the few subjects Reilly called attention to in his final commentary, a commentary focused on people he learned lessons from during his career. From Michael Jordan, he learned professionalism. From

HOW YOU CHOOSE TO TALK

Readers had plenty to say this quarter, registering their thoughts about our list of ideas, inventions, creations, and discoveries that Midd has given the world; adding further exposition to a couple of our “short stories”; and offering further thoughts on our winter cover story on hunting.

Mail Bag

Letters: Readers had plenty to say this quarter, registering their thoughts about our list of ideas, inventions, creations, and discoveries that Midd has given the world; adding further exposition to a couple of our “short stories”; and offering further thoughts on our winter cover story on hunting.

Figures: How you choose to talk

- 50% letters
- 45% tweets or retweets
- 10% middmag.com comments
- 5% blog post
- 0% Facebook comments

Numbers

Mail Bag

Readers had plenty to say this quarter, registering their thoughts about our list of ideas, inventions, creations, and discoveries that Midd has given the world; adding further exposition to a couple of our “short stories”; and offering further thoughts on our winter cover story on hunting.

Number of issues, before this one, when we’ve had letters from Hawaii and about Alaska

50

Percentage of tweets that also included a picture of the magazine

1

Number of letters mentioning “elephant scabs” as a dining hall staple. (And hopefully the last.)
John Elway, grit. And from Middlebury students: service.

ON TOUR
I brought one magazine with me to the Tour: Middlebury Magazine! (And my Kindle.)
—@IAMTEDKING, Commenting on Twitter

Editors' Note: We can't be certain, though we suspect this is the first time our humble periodical as been tapped as required reading by a rider in the Tour de France. Here's hoping that it's just the inspiration you need, Ted!

YET AGAIN
Another good one, @MiddleburyMag. Keep up the good work.
—@KRISJOHNSON_NI, Commenting on Twitter

MANY THANKS
I just saw “A Soulful Thank You” (Short Story, spring 2014) and wanted to send huge, huge thanks of my own for including me in this comic strip. (One childhood dream realized!) I still can't believe we pulled that whole thing off in the first place. Thank you guys!
—MUCHADEI ZVOMA ’07, Commenting on Facebook

MORE JUMPING MONKEYS
So excited to see a story about @vanessatrien in @MiddleburyMag (“Sing Along,” spring 2014). I've got three of my own jumping monkeys who love boogie-ing to her music!
—@JACKIEHOGLUND, Commenting on Twitter

THE LONGER STORY
I particularly enjoyed the Short Story in the winter issue about KDR’s visit by Lionel Hampton (“It Happened One Night”). With every great story there is a backstory, and through my foggy memory banks, I will try to complete, as Paul Harvey would say, “the rest of the story.”

Earlier on that particular day, Sig Ep had a party at Halpin Falls with ample milk cans full of Orange Blossoms. Knowing that Lionel Hampton and his band were going to be playing at the spring prom dance that night, a couple of enterprising Sig Eps decided that the bus, full of some very hung over band members and Lionel, would enjoy a tour of the campus and then a trip to Cape Cod.

So, as one Sig Ep drove the bus, the other took the microphone and proceeded to point out the various high points of the trip which went from the field house, past Sig Ep and DU, then turned toward the football field. Failing to successfully negotiate what seemed like a hairpin turn at the time, the bus gently came to rest against the fence of the field. It apparently seemed that the trip to Cape Cod took a bad turn, so the Sig Eps guided a few of the still-standing band members, which included Lionel, to KDR where the referenced party was taking place and abandoned them there to find their own way to Cape Cod.

After all these years it’s nice to hear that Lionel and the boys had a good time. Now you know the rest of the story.
—BOB DORF ’65, Grand Junction, Colorado

THINK, TALK
The issue of guns and hunting is a polarizing one, and I’m proud that Sarah Tuff’s words and my images evoked both adulation and revulsion from the readers. In the issue that followed publication of “The Call of the Wild,” comments ranged from calling the cover shot “nothing less than appalling” to those writing that “this might be my favorite and most memorable Midd magazine cover yet.”

In this business, one sure way to fail is to create work that’s forgettable. By making powerful photographs that touch on sensitive subjects, you can get people thinking and talking about important issues. In that sense, it looks like we succeeded.
—BRET SIMISON, Writing “Using the Camera to Spark Debate” on his blog at www.bretsimison.com

DISGUSTED, TOO
For whatever reason—early announcement of my death, failure to contribute to the alumni fund, whatever—I no longer receive Middlebury Magazine.

I became aware of this through an alumnus friend who objected to the recent cover of the magazine that featured three hunters. (My friend was disgusted.)

I would add the disgust to my own, given the insensitivity of it because of the shooting
disaster in Connecticut—and in other schools elsewhere.
—Addison Merrick ’48, Craftsbury, Vermont

FOR SHAME
I always look forward to receiving Middlebury Magazine; reading it is a great pleasure—usually!
So I was dumfounded when I pulled the winter issue out of the mailbox and was greeted by unsmiling students holding guns on the cover! In this day and age we don’t need to hunt for food, and I find the proliferation of gun-holders on school campuses and in homes to be abhorrent. What on Earth were you thinking?
Middlebury stands for high academic standards, wonderful professors, and honorable traditions—none of which is reflected in this image of unsmiling students holding guns. I am ashamed of the cover that the magazine staff so very insensitively used for the winter issue. “Call of the Wild” indeed! The call of the wild should be to see beauty, not killing.
—Karin Kosoc ’61, Kailua, Hawaii

SOME KIND OF PLACE
For some unknown reason, I neglected to read the fall 2013 issue until I unearthed it this morning. But I was super excited to find two special nuggets inside.
The first delightful item was the overall theme of place. My first summer at Bread Loaf (2000), I was fortunate enough to take Harriet Chessman’s class “Writing About Place.” Not only did this class become one of my favorites, it expanded my writing abilities and confidence, and made me rethink the impact of place (as I was also learning about first hand over the course of that summer and the next four).
Bread Loaf—each campus individually and as a whole—is a place that has dramatically changed me as a teacher and a woman and, overall, has a permanent place in my heart, just as several human characters do.
The other great surprise: in the “Correspondence” section was an excerpt from one of my posts on Tumblr ("Sound Advice")! This was an honor; thank you!
Thank you for always putting out a stellar publication. It definitely makes me miss Bread Loaf and Middlebury a bit less.
—Sara Thorburn, MA English ’04, Mansfield, Ohio

FROM THE EDITORS
Early summer brought news from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education that the spring 2013 profile of the late
Felix Batista '77 ("Felix Against the Barbarians"), written by Jay Heinrichs '77 and Bill Thickstun '77, had been deemed one of the best stories to appear in a college or university magazine in 2013.

The honor is Middlebury Magazine's fourth in the category of feature writing in as many years, and while we are proud of all our stories, we take particular joy in the recognition of this one. As Jay and Bill so expertly showed, Felix put into practice what every liberal arts student discovers during four years of study. And by doing so, he reminded us of the responsibility we all carry to do the same.

Congratulations to Middlebury Magazine and to Jay Heinrichs '77 and Bill Thickstun '77, whose portrait of their classmate Felix Batista '77, ("Felix Against the Barbarians," spring 2013) was recognized for excellence by the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. The story moved me a great deal when I first read it, and when I heard about the award recently I was grateful to read it again. As someone who writes regularly about education, I was particularly moved by the authors' articulation of the value of the liberal arts in the context of Batista's career.
The son of Cuban immigrants and an American studies major at Middlebury, Batista specialized in winning the release of kidnapping victims in Latin America, work that claimed his life in 2008, when he was taken and likely killed by a Mexican drug cartel. Batista, who had served as an Army officer after college, saw himself as a combatant against “barbarism,” and Heinrichs and Thickstun had the acuity and courage to carry his message to their fellow Middlebury graduates.

“At a time when the purpose of the liberal arts is under challenge, Felix gives us an answer,” they wrote. “A liberal education should nurture civilized souls like Felix Batista who can cross boundaries and carry a light into a barbarous world.”

Indeed, Batista’s death is a sign that the stakes are much higher than we are willing to imagine: It is no exaggeration to call it a matter of life and death. Batista’s story is a reminder that whatever other value a liberal arts degree confers, the light we are so fortunate to carry is beyond discussion of dollars and cents, and we have a responsibility to hold it high, to brandish it in the dark.

—Alex Hanson ’92, South Royalton, Vermont

AN ‘A’ FOR WYATT

Wyatt Orme ’12 wove an excellent narrative that was as stark and yet as grand as Alaska, itself (“Some Kind of Place: Nuiqsut, Alaska,” fall 2013). I visited Alaska last August, traveling to Denali and the Kenai, but going no farther north than Fairbanks.

I have no connection to Middlebury and found this magazine site (www.middmag.com) while trying to remember the proper term for the striated rivers our guide mentioned. My searching led me to Wyatt’s description and finally to my missing term (at 74, sometimes words get lost, and one must struggle to pull it out): braided rivers. Thank you. I’m an old, retired English teacher and librarian. Wyatt deserves an ‘A’ from me!


SEVER TIES WITH MIL

In 2010, Middlebury formed a joint venture with online education company K12 Inc. to create Middlebury Interactive Languages, whose goal is to increase revenue to Middlebury while providing online international language instruction to pre-college students.

In theory, this is a noble concept: broadening access to foreign language education will enhance students’ understanding of the world,

At Wake Robin, residents have designed and built three miles of walking trails. Each Spring, we make maple syrup in the community sugar house and each Fall, we harvest honey from our beehives. We compost, plant gardens, and work with staff to follow earth-friendly practices, conserve energy and use locally grown foods.

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helping them to thrive in today's global marketplace. However, we have followed—with increasing alarm—multiple questions that have been raised about K12 Inc., which we believe has shown itself an unworthy partner for an institution of our caliber. We risk our reputation the longer Middlebury remains tethered to a company that is being sued by its own shareholders and has had to settle at least one previous shareholder lawsuit for allegedly misleading investors.

In recent months, MIL was caught selling an error-riddled online Latin course, which no member of the Middlebury Classics faculty knew existed. When this issue arose, a spokesman for MIL explained in the Chronicle of Higher Education that "definitely well under 50 percent" of MIL courses were developed by people unaffiliated with Middlebury College. We as alumni are still alarmed. More than 25 courses in four languages are currently being marketed by MIL, and even if "definitely well under 50 percent" were developed elsewhere, the questions raised by the sub-par Latin product risk devaluing the Middlebury degrees we have earned.

Were MIL a student, it would be expelled for grave Honor Code violations; lying about whose work is behind a finished product would not be tolerated. It seems clear to
us that in any business relationship where Middlebury's name is on the line, but wherein Middlebury is only a minority (40 percent) partner, the questionable practices of the majority partner, K12 Inc., are likely to prevail.

Recently, the faculty of Middlebury College voted overwhelmingly to call on Middlebury to sever its ties with K12 Inc. (See story on p. 26). We urge you to reach out to the administration and trustees and tell them you agree. Do not allow 200 years of excellence to be undone by a business relationship with one reckless company.

—Ashley Waddell '99, Fort Collins, Colorado

This letter was signed by twenty other Middlebury College alumni.

LETTERS POLICY
Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: Middlebury Magazine, 152 College Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or middmag@middlebury.edu.

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UpFront

With the arrival of Commencement, international flags—representing 46 countries—were affixed to Voter Hall to honor graduating seniors.
The Library’s Special Collections recently purchased a 17th-century book about torture that contributed to an international crisis. History professor Ian Barrow, who will use the book in his courses, explains why.

In 1624, the English East India Company authorized the publication of a sensational book, *A true relation of the unjust, cruel, and barbarous proceedings against the English at Amboyna in the East Indies: by the Neatherlandish governour and counsell there*. The book was part of a pamphlet war between the English and the Dutch and was reprinted throughout the century.

The frontispiece depicts the torture and execution of English traders in one of the spice islands of what is today eastern Indonesia. Both the English and Dutch were new to the lucrative trade in cloves, mace, and nutmeg and were vying for their control. A recent treaty had supposedly settled matters, allowing the English to trade alongside the Dutch, but mistrust was in the air.

In early 1623, the Dutch governor of Amboina accused English traders, Japanese mercenaries, and a Portuguese slave overseer of plotting a coup. The Dutch used torture to extract confessions. They bound each man to a doorframe and tied a cloth around each face so that little water could escape. “That done, they poured the Water softly upon his Head until the Cloath was full up to the Mouth and Nostrils... so that he could not draw breath, but he must withal suck in the water: Which being still continued to be poured in softly, forced all his inward parts, to come out of his Nose, Ears, and Eyes, and... brought him to a swoon or fainting.”

When waterboarding was insufficient, they lit candles under armpits and feet.

The author points out that the torture resulted in false confessions and unjust executions. When the book was printed, it caused outrage in England and fueled anti-Dutch sentiment.
**QUOTATION**

"But it was always Cuba, and Cuba was never about athleticism and endurance records for me. Cuba was about life and questioning myself if I’m living the right life."

*Diana Nyad* speaking to the Middlebury Class of 2014. Last August, at the age of 64, Nyad became the first person to swim the 110 miles from Cuba to Florida without the aid of a shark cage.

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**NEWS**

**Presidential Search Update**

With the search for Middlebury’s 17th president underway, the committee charged with identifying candidates has met with constituents in Vermont and in Monterey (and solicited feedback online), asking the community what qualities it seeks in the school’s next leader. Concurrently, Spencer Stuart, the executive search firm assisting in the process, has reported a positive response from leaders in higher ed and anticipates a very strong pool of candidates.

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**THESIS**

**Custom Cabin**

The intimate writing cabin that once belonged to Robert Frost sits just a short walk up the hill from the 19th-century farmhouse that served as the poet’s summer home; both structures are part of the Homer Noble Farm, a memorial to Frost that is owned and maintained by Middlebury. And while the farmhouse is in active use as a summer residence for Bread Loaf faculty and as meeting space for Bread Loaf workshops, the cabin, says Rebecca Hartje ’14, remains a “forgotten treasure.” And she’d like to change that.

The recent graduate was the first history of art and architecture major to complete the museum studies track, a new area of specialization within the discipline. For her thesis, she made a case for revitalizing the cabin as a place where scholars and writers could go to appreciate Frost’s life, his work, and his craft.

Hartje recommended presenting the cabin as a “writer’s home,” an “inspirational setting for learning and reflection” to be used by curiosity seekers and scholars alike. (The “writer’s home” designation is purposeful to distinguish the site from that of a historic house museum. The cabin’s isolation and its exposure to harsh elements would make the site an unrealistic candidate to house original items relating to Frost.)

Where bookshelves now stand empty and cold, Hartje would like to see the poet’s library reconstructed. The College cataloged Frost’s books before they left Vermont, and Hartje posited in her thesis that it would be feasible to create a replica of the poet’s collection. And while Frost’s iconic Morris chair that once sat in the cabin is too valuable to move from its current home in Special Collections in the Davis Family Library, Hartje suggested having a replica built and installed in its original place—offering visitors the same sensory experience as that enjoyed by the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet.

Many of Hartje’s ideas developed over the course of the year she spent researching and writing her thesis with guidance from advisors Jay Parini, Axinn professor of English, and Richard Saunders, director of the Middlebury Museum of Art and professor of history of art and architecture. The summer before her senior year, Hartje received an academic outreach grant from the College to visit writers’ homes and museums, travelling to New Hampshire (Frost), Massachusetts (Emily Dickinson), Atlanta (Margaret Mitchell), and Florida (Carl Sandburg). The visits led Hartje to conclude that “the Frost cabin has the potential not just to commemorate Frost’s legacy of teaching, but to perpetuate it.”

Hartje proposed that the College form a committee to consider a redesign of the interior, the development of cabin-related programming, and a plan for the future. Pieter Broucke, a professor of history of art and architecture and director of the arts, agreed.

This fall, Broucke plans to convene just such a committee with representatives from the Bread Loaf School of English, facilities services, the Committee on Art in Public Places, and other academic departments.

Rebecca Hartje now works at the Shelburne Museum in Shelburne, Vermont.
Why I Love Cycling

By Miguel Fernández ’85, Professor of Spanish

The saying goes that there are two kinds of cyclists: those who have crashed and those who will crash. In 2015, I ended a 25-year streak of staying upright and crashed three times, breaking more bones in my body than I had in 20-plus years of playing rugby. When asked by friends and family if I would get back in the saddle, my immediate response was “of course.” Their looks of bewilderment have made me wonder what it is that I love about cycling. It could be the fitness aspect or the fact it is the only way I have ever successfully lost weight. It could be the daily reminder of how fortunate I feel to live in Vermont as I ride Addison County’s quiet country roads. Perhaps it is the burning in my legs and lungs as I crest a gap and live up to the cycling mantra of “if you’re not suffering, you’re not doing it right.” It might be the satisfaction of keeping up with “those guys.” or simply the enjoyment of meeting close friends at sunrise on brisk mornings for a pre-work ride. Or maybe it is the Zen of pedaling and propelling yourself down the road through your own means, totally disconnected from our wired society.

No. I think the essence of what makes cycling special is that every ride takes you back to a moment in your childhood when you first discovered cycling and the freedom and independence that came along with it. All my children have discovered it at one moment or another and promptly took advantage of exploring their surroundings, escaping to friends’ houses or disappearing into the woods. I have been off my bike for a week because my doctor, and riding buddy, just removed the pins from my elbow from one of last year’s accidents. Even though I know some of my kids and friends will fall at some point, I can’t wait to be back in the saddle next week, feel the fresh Vermont air on my face, and revel in that sense of freedom that we all remember from childhood.

The Rood and the Torc

From WingsPress

Matthew Dickerson was inspired by the fragment of an ancient story that comes from the 7th century. Known as the “Finnsburg Fragment,” this poem echoes the retelling of the same event in the great early English epic, Beowulf. The Rood and the Torc begins after the devastating fight at Finnsburg. Kristinge is the hidden child of Finn and Hildeburh, sent south into France to be educated in a monastery. While there, he also becomes an accomplished bard. When Kristinge is called upon to claim his heritage, he must journey north into a hostile world of warrior clans and pagan priests. But is he to be a king, a bard, or a monk?

“Rarely does a novel of history—one that summons a distant place and time—seem so contemporary and thoroughly imagined,” writes Jay Parini. “The Rood and the Torc is an exemplary piece of writing.”

Stars Aligned

Early summer saw the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and Orion magazine combine literary forces to produce what promises to be an annual pilgrimage of established and aspiring environmental writers to Middlebury’s mountain campus in Ripton, Vermont. Modeled on the oldest writers’ conference in the country, the Bread Loaf Orion Environmental Writers’ Conference brings together poets, essayists, journalists, and novelists interested in writing about the environment and the natural world. Rick Bass (above) joined Jane Brox, Alison Hawthorne Deming, Camille Dungy, Maurice Manning, and Alan Weisman in forming an inaugural faculty that collectively has produced two finalists for the National Book Critic Circle’s Award, one finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, an American Book Award winner, and the winner of the Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets. Wrote one attendee on her blog after the first day; “Whose life am I living right now?”
Waste Not

For more than 20 years, Middlebury’s recycling program has been a leader in higher education, diverting well more than half of all waste consumed on campus since 1994. In 2013, Middlebury’s diversion rate exceeded 65 percent. We break down the numbers behind this impressive effort.

- Percentage of annual refuse that is recycled or composted: 65%
- Percentage of July refuse that is recycled or composted (highest month): 73%
- Percentage of June refuse that is recycled or composted (lowest month): 58%

Heavy and Light
More than 240,000 pounds of waste, compost, and recycling was processed in May, which was the heaviest month of the year. December was the lightest month, with just over 167,000 pounds.

- Months when weight of waste exceeds composting + recycling: 0
- Months when recycling, alone, exceeds waste: 5
- Months when composting, alone, exceeds waste: 3

Measured in pounds over the course of 2013.
Faculty Votes Against K12

At a meeting on May 13, the faculty of Middlebury College voted 95-16 in favor of a nonbinding motion calling on Middlebury to end its relationship with K12, Inc, Middlebury's partner in the for-profit-online-education company Middlebury Interactive Languages (MIL). Paula Schwartz, a professor of French, introduced the motion, which stated in part that "the business practices of K12 Inc. are at odds with the integrity, reputation, and educational mission of the College."

Middlebury and K12 formed MIL in 2010 as a joint venture, with K12 taking a 60 percent equity holding. The company has grown significantly over the last four years. In 2013 it moved its headquarters from Provo, Utah, to Middlebury, and currently employs 75 people. Today, nearly 175,000 students in 1,200 school districts across the United States use its online language programs. Writing in The Campus on the eve of the faculty vote, President Ron Liebowitz said Middlebury entered into the venture for three reasons: to retain leadership in language teaching, including in online education; to expand access to language education for pre-college students; and to develop new revenue sources to support the institution.

The partnership with K12 has been somewhat controversial from the beginning. Some faculty raised objections to the fact that noted conservative William Bennett was one of the founders of K12. (He parted ways with the company years before MIL was created.) In recent years K12 has been the subject of several shareholder lawsuits, none of which has resulted in a finding against the company, though at least one was settled.

Following the vote, Liebowitz said it was important to understand the distinction between K12, which is a publicly held company based in Virginia, and MIL, which is an independent company, partly owned by Middlebury. He pointed out that even as a minority owner, Middlebury has considerable influence over MIL's product and marketing strategies. He also said that he understood the faculty's concerns and that he would continue to engage the Middlebury Board of Trustees on the issue.

"Avoiding speech is a slippery slope. At the bottom of that slope might be sticks and stones or maybe just a sterile world where words will never hurt us."

Laurie Essig, associate professor of sociology and women's and gender studies, discussing "restraint of expression on college campuses" in a New York Times series "Room for Debate.”

LET'S DANCE

In the 19th century, Commencement Day at the College was a town holiday. Writes David Stameshkin in The Town's College: Middlebury College, 1800-1915: "Banks closed, and the streets were clogged with area residents and alumni eagerly awaiting the colorful parade from the College to the Congregational Church, the oratorical masterpieces of the scrupulously prepared graduates, and the accompanying social activities."

Naturally, the social activity—aside from the actual commencement exercise, of course—was the annual promenade held the evening before graduation. The promenade was held annually in Academy Hall (which was sited where Twilight Hall stands today) and organized by members of the senior class—in this year by Mssrs. Swinington and Wilds. The invitation-only affair was a hot ticket, apparently; "no parties will be admitted unless their names are upon the list." Transportation was provided by carriage, leaving to and from Addison House, an establishment known today as the Middlebury Inn.
A Sort of Homecoming

What if the greatest culture shock a study abroad student experiences is not the immersion in a foreign environment but the re-introduction to campus life that follows?

Of the nearly 400 students who study abroad each year, roughly half do so at one of the College's Schools Abroad—37 affiliated universities in 17 countries, where Middlebury students will live and learn among native speakers. It's an intense experience with repeated forewarnings of the overwhelming adjustment to foreign cultures, social codes, food, climate, and politics are logical and internalized. However, the reality of students' post-abroad re-entry contains its own set of hurdles.

Sayre Weir '15, who studied in Buenos Aires, Argentina last fall, says that her semester in Argentina was difficult at times, but she expected it. What surprised her was how difficult it was to return to Vermont. When asked about her re-entry experience, she takes a deep breath and says, "I was overwhelmed. Walking into Proctor dining hall was probably the most over-stimulating experience during the past three years here."

"Research shows that reverse culture shock can be much more difficult than the culture shock experienced abroad, because after studying abroad you are a changed person—you probably have a new world view—and it can be difficult to figure out how to fit into your old environment," says Stacey Thebodo, the assistant director of international programs. "You start to question your cultural identity and what 'home' is. At the same time, everyone is asking you, 'So how was X country?' and they really only want a quick response ('It was great!')."

"When students return to Middlebury, they also tend to experience challenges with academic adjustment," she adds. "Students get used to a lot of independence abroad, and in other countries there is much less continuous assessment throughout the semester, so readjustment back to Middlebury and the workload can be overwhelming. We encourage students to try to find ways to incorporate their study abroad into their academics back on campus—for example, into their senior theses, or participating in the research symposium, or continuing to take language and/or area-studies courses."

And the first step, she suggests, is acknowledging how difficult it is. "Adjustment is a process and is not easy; it takes time. This is where a lot of growth and learning comes from. Often it takes awhile after being back home to realize how much you learned when you were away."

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밀리드 캠프스에 입주할 수 있는 학교들은, 중학비드리의 학생들이 원어민들과 함께 생활하고 배울 수 있는 17개국의 37개의 학교들이 있습니다. 이는 외국 문화, 사회 규약, 음식, 기후, 정치가 논리적이고 내재화된 경험입니다. 그러나 학생들의 재입문 경험에는 자신의 기업과의 상호작용에 대한 현실도 있습니다.

시어브 웨어 '15은 부에노스아이레스의 BU 내에서 학부생으로서, 그의 학기 동안은 어려움이었지만 헷갈렸습니다. 그녀가 말한 그의 재입문 경험은 다음과 같습니다. "저는 완전히 혼란스러웠습니다. 프로커 학교의 길고는 식당을 들을 때는 그 때까지 3년 동안 가장 자극적인 경험이었습니다."

"연구 결과, 역수용 문화 쇼크는 문화 쇼크보다 더 어렵 할 수 있습니다. 왜냐하면 해외에서 경험한 것이 아니기 때문입니다. 직접 해외에서 경험한 것을 떠올리지 못할 수 있기 때문입니다. 그들은 항상 '저는 X 국가를 어떻게 다녀왔나요?' 하고 물어보고, 그들은 정말로 빠르게 응답하려고 합니다 ('매우 잘났어요!')."


첫 번째 단계는 그녀가 말한 것과 같습니다. "조정은 과정이므로 쉽지 않습니다. 그것은 시간이 걸리기 때문입니다. 이는 그 것이 많이 성장하고 학습이 왔으며, 종종 집으로 돌아와서 읽었을 때의 학습을 실현할 때까지 시간이 걸리기 때문입니다."
The local jewel that is the Trail Around Middlebury (TAM) turns 25 this year.

Since its creation, faculty, staff, and students have cared for, helped map, and enthusiastically enjoyed this 16-mile loop that encircles the College and the town.
Designed and built by students to memorialize a lost classmate, this section of the TAM passes through quiet woods before wending through open meadows.

The College’s Organic Farm is a noted landmark on a stretch of open pasture as the TAM extends from Cornwall to Weybridge.

Serenity on 150 acres, Wright Park comprises land gifted to the town by Willard Jackson ’51 to honor classmate Charles Wright ’51.

Now a lovely place to hike, mountain bike, or snowshoe, Chipman Hill was once home to downhill skiing and ski jumping at Midd.

In the heavily forested Battell Woods exists what was the first stretch of trail that would eventually become the TAM.

Skirting the Panther baseball diamond, the TAM has collected many a baseball launched by slugging ballplayers 400 feet away.
INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT LIEBOWITZ

The Liberal Arts Plus

In his 2014 Baccalaureate address, President Liebowitz presented a vision for an education that embraces the timelessness of the liberal arts, while also allowing for its evolution. He titled the address—and the concept—“The Liberal Arts Plus.”

How did you settle on this topic?

There were a couple of reasons. First, I wanted to address the general perception that a liberal arts education is somehow less valuable than before, stuck in the 20th—or for some, 19th—century; and I wanted to show how it is still so very valuable and has evolved at Middlebury. The liberal arts serve as the foundation of our baccalaureate undergraduate program—a traditional curriculum, offering courses in the humanities, the social sciences, the arts, and the natural sciences, including mathematics. That curriculum inculcates in our students a love of learning and provides them with invaluable lifetime skills they will use in whatever career they choose. The “plus” represents the exceptional opportunities that students have to build on this foundation in ways that complement our core values while recognizing the rapid changes and challenges of this century. Students are learning how to lead, how to plan, how to collaborate, and how to experiment—through student organizations, through internship opportunities, through curricular innovation, and by taking advantage of our Programs on Creativity and Innovation (PCI, now seven years old). They are becoming increasingly bold in pursuing their passions that may be independent of or connected to their academic pursuits. These changes have had a tremendous impact on a Middlebury education.

The second reason I had for choosing this topic was to talk to the graduates directly about the value of their education, to give them confidence and underscore how their Middlebury education has prepared them for the world they are entering better than perhaps they themselves (and their parents) imagined. It’s my hope that they will think about this in more than a passing way, and it will give them the confidence they need to succeed and to contribute in an increasingly competitive and complex world.

Can you explain the genesis of this term?

I need to credit my colleague, Middlebury economist David Colander, for coining the phrase and for developing some initial ideas of how it might be implemented, though I think my use of the term may be a bit broader than David’s. David holds some strong views about the direction a liberal arts education has taken over the past few decades and has spoken passionately about the need for programs and departments at liberal arts colleges to resist becoming overly specialized; he advocates for
departments to maintain their broader liberal arts focus and worries that the student population is ill served when departments design a curriculum that focuses predominantly on preparing students to become specialists in a field. The benefits of a liberal arts education, he argues, are diminished when this happens since the large majority of students will not become specialists in their major.

David has also advocated for "practitioners" of a given field to be able to team with Middlebury faculty to show students how the concepts they learn in the classroom are used in the "real world," and he has called the joining of the disciplinary content within a liberal arts curriculum with practitioners a "liberal arts plus" education.

But for my purposes, I wanted "liberal arts plus" to be more expansive, to include more than what happens inside the classroom, be it with our dedicated faculty or with both our faculty and practitioners. I believe it is important—crucial—that one's education extends beyond the classroom walls; what happens outside that realm is the difference between a liberal arts education today and yesterday, and it has to be if our graduates are to succeed in the 21st century.

And this has a reinforcing effect in the classroom. Right. I think in previous generations, mine included, we were left on our own to experiment once we left college, to figure things out on the go. Today, waiting until after college to do some experimenting is often too late. We hope to develop a culture and an approach to a four-year education that would be inclusive of these opportunities. Interestingly, a number of faculty say they notice that when students have experimented outside the classroom, even without any kind of formal learning in an area, they bring a visible confidence and a new skill set to the classroom. Outside the classroom activities, then, have affected what goes on in the classroom, and it is often a valuable addition.

So what are the challenges to this approach? Getting people to let go of the notion that helping students get jobs or succeed in specific ways following graduation is not part of our academic mission. I think we have to recognize that instilling in our students a passion and love of learning is not in conflict with preparing them for "their careers" and the competitive world they face upon leaving Middlebury; in fact, I'd argue that the two are in concert. Maybe if our students were all coming to Middlebury intending to pursue PhDs, it would be a little different. But the reality is the overwhelming majority of graduates will not be going down that path, and they need to be prepared a little bit differently today than 15, 20, or 30 years ago.

Faculty have not always agreed with this analysis. Yes, though I think we've made headway. I've seen colleagues change their opinions on this issue, especially those who have children of their own entering college and wish for them to attain an excellent liberal arts education plus the skills to help them get a job soon after graduation and contribute to society.

What are some examples of this in action? There are examples that have been around for some time and are part of the curriculum, such as scientific research with faculty. For decades, our undergraduates have taken what they learn in the classroom and applied this knowledge in laboratories and in the field, where they've worked side by side with our science faculty. But our students today have so many more opportunities beyond this kind of collaborative work. In traditional lab and field work, students are typically engaging in a faculty members' research—which is an extremely valuable experience—but they're not developing or designing these experiments on their own. What we've seen recently with, for example, our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) pilot project is more student focused: 10 students, mentored by three faculty members, have chosen a STEM problem and then worked collaboratively to solve it. It was up to the students to choose the problem and then to figure out how to solve it. They benefit from the faculty mentors' guidance, of course, but the mentors encourage the students to pursue the answers on their own and are, in some ways, learning right along with the students.

In the Baccalaureate address, I talked about this project, as well as other examples—our two Solar Decathlon experiences (the building of two solar-powered student houses, now on campus) and the Museum Assistants' Program (MAP)—that are allowing our students to apply what they learn in the classroom, in the liberal arts, to so-called "real-world" situations.

These efforts exist within the curriculum in ways they might not have existed outside of it. I think that's right. But there are parts of the "plus" that do exist outside the curriculum. Look at the activities happening in the Old Stone Mill (OSM), which was set up not only to help unleash students' creativity, but also to reduce our students' inhibition to experiment and to try things they otherwise would not. When we started the Programs on Creativity and Innovation (PCI) and set aside a space for students to work on projects outside of the curriculum, we did so because we were seeing recent student generations that were increasingly risk averse, reluctant to venture outside the familiar, and not wanting to "jeopardize" their GPAs by studying something new—defeating one of the hallmarks and benefits of a liberal arts education. So the beginning was all about encouragement; we wanted to provide students with opportunities to experiment without worrying about grades. Over time, we've seen students become more comfortable with exploration and experimentation. They seem to be more willing to take creative chances, and I believe that goes hand-in-hand with the success of programs like the Solar Decathlon and STEM.

This nonacademic programming supports and encourages the efforts that are being linked to the academic program. Now, the big challenge is showing how these efforts outside the classroom are complementary to our academic mission and are not at odds with traditional classroom work. These activities help make a Middlebury liberal arts education that much better.

And this challenge involves the faculty. There are faculty who are naturally attracted to this idea, so they are going to participate. We've seen it in STEM, we've seen it with MAP, and we've seen it with the Solar Decathlon, where faculty from a number of departments have advised students throughout their project. The bigger question is whether we can do this kind of learning across the curriculum, so that all areas of the College have equal access and opportunity. This can feel like an uphill battle, but I think, over time, there will be more opportunities across the curriculum.

But you think it's a battle worth fighting. Absolutely. I think the future of a liberal arts education is a combination of our foundational values and ideals—all of which I recounted in my address—and the evolution we are experiencing right now. The world is calling for more. The students are calling for more. It's now time for us to listen a little more.
The Challenger

Can Shenna Bellows '97 stun the political establishment by upsetting an entrenched incumbent and winning a U.S. Senate seat in Maine?

By Jeff Inglis '95

Photographs by Bridget Besaw
Shenna Bellows '97 is cold. This is not the sort of brief chill that passes now and again: It's the deep, bone-shaking kind that both racks her slight frame and causes others nearby to shiver in sympathy. I am surprised for two reasons: First, Shenna knows Maine weather well. She grew up here, in a house that didn't get electricity or running water until she was in fifth grade. When she and her siblings got home from school, their chore was to relight the woodstove. As often as not, though, they would huddle under the bedclothes, doing their homework until their parents got home. It is also surprising because the feeling she usually exudes is not contagious cold but rather infectious, friendly warmth.

Right now, though, Shenna is freezing. We have just gotten in the car after an election-campaign visit to Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, right on the Maine coast. She didn't check the weather this morning and didn't bring a coat on this blustery, sprinkling spring day.

As the heat comes on in the car, she settles into the backseat; her staffer-driver and I ride up front to give her space to work. She stops shivering, takes off her shoes, tucks her feet under her, and resumes her most frequent activity: typing on her iPhone.

Sending texts and emails whooshing into the ether is key to Shenna winning what she admits is “an uphill battle” against United States Senator Susan Collins, a three-term Republican incumbent with a big bankroll, who is widely expected to win handily. Even more crucial will be Shenna’s idea of what a candidate and a campaign can be.

Her vision has paid off before. While heading the American Civil Liberties Union of Maine, she co-led the 2012 statewide same-sex marriage referendum that made Maine the first state to approve marriage equality at the ballot box. (Maryland did the same that day.)

The ACLU of Maine lobbied for and won major legislative victories too: passing a first-in-the-nation law requiring police to get a warrant before tracking suspects with cell-phone data, defending transgender Mainers’ rights, limiting police use of drones, and protecting women’s reproductive health rights.

She is still campaigning—and gaining national media attention and donations—for civil-rights protections, economic opportunity and justice, constitutional freedoms, and environmental protection. She is bringing together what she calls “an unusual coalition” of people who, like her, hold positions that transcend stereotypical political divides.

On the left of most Democrats, she backs universal single-payer health care, legalizing marijuana, “bold, visionary action” on climate change, and student-loan debt reform as a means to boost the economic prospects of young college graduates, who face the toughest job market in decades.

In the middle, she supports Internet neutrality and equal pay for women.

And well to the right—at times on turf occupied only by the libertarian wing of the Republican Party—she insists on ending the National Security Agency’s domestic-spying program and repealing the USA PATRIOT Act.

We have been friends for years; when she asked me what I thought would be the hardest thing about her running, I told her she would have to ask people for money not to support a cause, but to back her.

As a Peace Corps volunteer in Panama from 1999 to 2001, Shenna helped give microloans to artisans in a remote community. And, more recently, as executive director of the ACLU of Maine for more than eight years, she was responsible for raising its annual budget of around $750,000, as well as for contributions to the various campaigns the group joined.

But even now, Shenna is not running for herself. She says that she
wants her candidacy to be viewed as a revolutionary rethinking of how campaigning—and politics—can and should work. And her plan for victory is very much like her previous public-service efforts, most notably that 2012 same-sex marriage campaign.

Then, supporters had hundreds of thousands of individual conversations with their friends, neighbors, and communities, making personal connections to explain the importance of marriage equality. The strategy gave backers strong talking points they could repeat in their own words, multiplying the effectiveness of the campaign’s direct appeals to the broader public.

Shenna’s fundamental idea, one adopted by few on the left (though many on the far right), is that elections can be won by the power of human connection and fidelity to one’s ideals. (And integrity. Having spent years working for marriage equality, she refused to get married until all Maine couples could; her September 2013 emailed wedding announcement ended with a request: “And please... no gifts. For real,” with a link to the Federal Election Commission’s campaign-finance rules.)

And she believes that beyond being funded by small, individual donations for regular-person candidates (which Tea Party candidates espoused), campaigns should be staffed by actual humans, who have real lives and families amidst the fray.

Hearing Shenna talk about both unseating Maine’s senior senator and upending a broken electoral system is strange not because it’s so divergent from cynical national political punditry, nor because critics might call it naïve, but because it’s oddly empowering. It sounds rational, reasonable, possible. It’s an idea whose time, like Shenna’s, may at long last have come.

THE EXECUTION OF Shenna’s impossibly possible candidacy is being shepherded by campaign manager Katie Mae Simpson ’02, a native of rural Washington County, Maine. She’s the type of person for whom political science was too philosophical a major; religion was not.

A lifelong progressive activist and campaigner, Katie Mae was on maternity leave with her second child when Shenna came to her house to ask her to run the campaign. She declined; an all-consuming job running a campaign for U.S. Senate was not compatible with meeting the needs of her young family.

So Shenna went to work employing those skills of connection and persuasion that would go on to make her such an attractive candidate. She told Katie Mae that she wanted her to embody the campaign’s beliefs, to be the standard bearer for a candidacy based on fairness and equality and concern for the everyday Mainer. (To that end, all Shenna’s campaign workers are paid above minimum wage and have health-insurance benefits.)

“The pop culture picture you get of politics is not right for 99 percent of people,” Katie Mae says. So Shenna’s campaign manager (yes, she was quickly persuaded to join the campaign) has set out to reclaim it for the
rest of us, which can include breastfeeding her son while conducting an interview. Two other campaign staffers are working mothers whose partners also work full time. Striking a balance is important—teammates who are exhausted from the spring's battles are of little use come fall's crunch time.

The same is true of the candidate herself. Her husband, Brandon Baldwin '98, initially shielded himself from the campaign, hoping to create a refuge where Shenna could escape from the 12-plus-hour-days, seven-days-a-week effort. It wasn't that he didn't want Shenna to run—quite the opposite. He's been supportive of her ambitions ever since she revealed on their fourth or fifth date in 2009 that she was going to run for U.S. Senate some day, possibly soon.

A watershed moment came in February 2012. With the announcement that Olympia Snowe would not run for a fourth Senate term that fall, Maine's political circles went into a frenzy, handicapping potential successors to the state's senior senator.

Shenna took a week of unpaid leave from the nonpartisan ACLU to explore her options. But then former independent governor Angus King joined the race (ultimately winning Snowe's seat handily). Shenna went back to the ACLU, but with a new fire inside.

What surprised her husband about that week was how enthusiastic he felt about the prospect of her being a candidate. It was a powerful realization. "It didn't feel like it was taking you away from me," he tells her during a joint interview.

Though removed from the campaign at first, Brandon has slowly become more involved. "It's tapped into everything that I hold to be important," he says, admitting that her candidacy has awakened his "somewhat dormant love of politics." He spoke on Shenna's behalf at caucuses and house parties, where he would write "campaign spouse" on his name tag sticker. Crucially, he has found himself able to disengage, too.

"We take one day a month that is our day," Shenna says. They hike, read, watch movies, sleep in, relax. It's a private—and vital—aspect of the campaign they both say.

During this joint interview, Shenna suddenly stands up and walks to the fridge, retrieving a card that has been hanging there since she started campaigning. On the front is an inspirational quote: "Be the change you wish to see in the world." It is a note from Shenna to herself.

Brandon is surprised: He has seen the card daily for months, without realizing there was a message inside. Shenna wrote herself resolutions as she began the campaign. Highlights include "have fun," "be your authentic self," and, finally, what Shenna declares as "the most important rule of this race: 'Love matters most.'"

Love is a strange value to want to bring to Washington, D.C. Congressman Mike Michaud, a Democrat now running to be Maine's next governor, says that Shenna would do well in the nation's capital, working hard to forge connections in spite of the heightened partisanship that has infected the city.

Shenna says that she'd bring activist organizing tactics to Congress, meeting with lawmakers as a colleague, while facilitating conversations...
Just hours before Quintero’s half-complaint, some party faithful were lamenting—to Shenna’s face—her insistence on meeting with people she often disagrees with.

Though Shenna is still a relative unknown, those who know her like her—indeed, many Mainers agree with her positions on key issues, and, perhaps more important, disagree with Collins. Tasked with becoming better known every day, she is giving a nod to a state political tradition of sorts: She has planned a month-long, 350-mile walk across Maine to draw media attention and connect more directly with all stripes of voters.

Being the underdog energizes her. “The only way to win is to outwork my opponent. The only way to do that is to organize and inspire,” she says.

Brandon chimes in: “Then if you win, it’s an endorsement” of that approach by the voters. “It’s the best possible way to win.”

It is a winning strategy, whether Shenna beats Collins or not, says Geoffrey Skelley, associate editor of Sabato’s Crystal Ball, an election analysis website at the University of Virginia’s Center for Politics that calls Collins’s seat safe. Skelley points out in an email that though Maine leans Democratic at the federal level and despite Republicans’ national image problems, Collins’s reelection margins have been high. “In a midterm cycle with a Democrat in the White House, Republicans are naturally positioned to do better,” he says. “About the only way to change that would be for a scandal to develop that centrally involves Collins.”

Nevertheless, Skelley sees a silver lining for Shenna. “While she may deny this, a failed Senate run against a powerful politician like Collins may serve as a stepping stone for her political future,” he says. “If Bel­lows acquits herself well enough in a difficult race where she stands little chance to win, she might get another electoral shot in the future in more favorable circumstances.”

For the long term, Shenna believes her campaign is on “the right side of history” on the crucial issues facing the nation and the world. But the short term is here. And she is hoping two parallels in Maine’s political history are on her side. In 1964, the unsinkable Republican senator Margaret Chase Smith was beaten by Democrat Bill Hathaway. And more recently, Angus King entered the governor’s race as a relative unknown, and beat, yes, Susan Collins.

“A lot can happen between June and November,” Shenna says.

Jeff Inglis ’95 covered Maine news and politics for more than a decade before leaving newspapers to join a think tank in Boston.
Rebirth

Once considered an ancient practice, midwifery is experiencing a resurgence across the United States.

By Lauren Markham ’05
Illustrations by Jody Hewgill

When Fernanda’s car rumbled up to the Holy Family Birth Center in Weslaco, Texas, it was past midnight, and she was already dilated to six centimeters. Though she’d given birth twice before, the look on her face, said her midwife, Hannah Epstein ’05, was one of deep terror. Fernanda had crossed the border from Mexico just a few weeks ago, leaving her husband and two children behind as she took the perilous trek, led by coyote, through the desert and across the infamous, swift-flowing Rio Grande (or, to those south of the border, Rio Bravo: the Angry River). Now in Texas, Fernanda was, as far as Epstein could tell, renting a room from total strangers. All this so she could have her baby in the United States: not just for the papers, explained Epstein, but also for the low-cost, high-quality care promised by the Holy Family Birth Center. As several of Epstein’s patients had told her, because of the spike in border violence on the Mexican side, fewer and fewer doctors are willing to leave their homes in the middle of the night. Now, without English skills or immigration documents or anyone she knew or loved, Fernanda was going to give birth completely alone.

Except for her midwife.

Between contractions, Epstein carefully walked the laboring Fernanda to a birthing room, one of four freestanding structures spread about the humble Holy Family campus—a small, windswept ranch cradled between a main Rio Grande Valley thoroughfare and tractor-trod cornfields. Once in the birthing room, with its low lighting, small bed and tub, Fernanda felt her knees completely lock. She couldn’t move. Despite minutes of gentle coaxing from Epstein, Fernanda stood in the middle of the birthing room, stone-faced and perfectly still. She wouldn’t budge. Using a trick she’d learned in nursing school, Epstein placed Fernanda’s arms upon Epstein’s shoulders and began swaying just slightly, almost as though they were dancing. “It can help to ease the pain,” she explained.

“At that point, the look in her eyes was, ‘I have nothing. I can’t do this,’” she recalls. But all of Epstein’s training as a midwife told her that Fernanda could birth a healthy baby, and that somewhere inside, Fernanda knew this too. Epstein’s job was to help bring this knowledge to the surface.

For the next two hours, Fernanda crisscrossed the small, candlelit room, wrenching with each contraction, terrified of what was coming and too bashful to take her clothes off. Epstein encouraged her to get in the tub—water births are becoming more and more common in many midwifery practices, and they are a Holy Family mainstay. “Once you see a woman give birth in a tub,” said Epstein, “you’re sold. The difference it makes in terms of being able to cope with the pain is miraculous.”

But Fernanda wasn’t interested. She labored on for two hours in agony, when Epstein suggested again that they might try the tub. Fernanda agreed—she’d try anything at this point. Epstein helped her into the warm water, and the effect was instantaneous: She immediately became quiet and peaceful. Each time a contraction came, she let loose a low moan and furrowed her brow, eyes closed. “You go into your own cocoon in the tub,” said Epstein. “It’s this private space; outside the tub is the chaos of the world, but when you get in the tub, everything goes inward and focuses.” Within 30 minutes, Fernanda got the urge to push. Three minutes later and with Epstein’s help, she gave birth to a healthy baby girl.
A hundred and fifty years ago, midwives attended the vast majority of births in the United States. But as the medical field expanded and professionalized in the late-19th century, the process of giving birth, once seen as a normal physiological process presided over by women midwives, was turned over to the medical institution (presided over, at the time, like Epstein, and non-nurse midwives, who work outside of hospital intervention. But today, the ancient practice of midwifery is making a comeback.

In 2012, nurse midwives were responsible for nearly 12 percent of U.S. vaginal births (7.9 percent of all births—midwives do not perform cesareans.) This is an increase of more than 2 percent since 2000; meaning that, though progress is slow, midwives—both certified nurse midwives, like Epstein, and non-nurse midwives, who work outside of hospital settings—are becoming more common.

And in certain circles, midwifery is even becoming trendy. Just as scheduling one's birth via cesarean, like calendaring a haircut or oil change, has risen in popularity, so has searching out a midwife in order to have a holistic, natural childbirth. A 2012 New York Times article, "The Midwife as a Status Symbol," touts famous mothers like models Christy Turlington and Gisele Bündchen who, even though they could likely "afford to purchase an entire hospital wing," instead hire upscale midwives. "And like any status symbol, a pecking order has emerged," the piece reads. "Just as getting your toddler into the right preschool requires social maneuvering, getting into a boutique midwifery clinic has become competitive."

"We just thought it was so funny," Lucy Chapin ’06, a midwife who studied at Yale and now works at a private practice in Ithaca, New York, told me, "how this ancient profession is being looked at as this cool new trend."

And, in fact, midwifery in America is currently thriving at opposite poles: among the health-conscious wealthy—those who can afford to pay for midwives, which often aren't covered by private insurance companies—and within poor communities, rural and urban. After graduating from Middlebury, Chapin worked with Frontier Nursing Project in Kentucky, which has provided midwifery care to impoverished communities in Appalachia for decades. At Holy Family, almost 100 percent of Epstein's clients received Medicaid benefits.

While private insurance rarely covers midwifery outside the hospital setting, Medicaid is now required to reimburse for midwifery care in every state—be it in hospitals or birth centers. So to have a baby outside a hospital setting in most states (Vermont being an exception), a woman must either be wealthy enough to pay the hefty out-of-pocket fees or poor enough to receive government benefits. Moving midwifery past the 8 percent fringe will require both a cultural renorming of midwifery care and filling in the middle of these two demographic polarities. This is just what these Middlebury midwives—Midwives!—and their contemporaries are working toward.

I visited Epstein at the Holy Family Birth Center and accompanied her on a post-birth home visit. These in-home visits are often a key component of midwifery; instead of making the still-healing mother lug the baby into the clinic, the midwives load their equipment and go to the mothers' homes. Not only is this more comfortable and convenient for mothers, explained Epstein as we loaded her nursing bag and scale into the Holy Family van, but it also forms a connection between midwives and families and provides a better perspective on how mother and baby are faring, physically and emotionally.

The patient we were visiting today was Lupe, who had given birth to her second baby boy 10 days earlier. Her first son, a toddler named Gerson, was running around the house in Spiderman pajamas, eager for anyone to pick up a toy and play with him. Lupe's mother, who was staying with her these early weeks, ushered Gerson outside, and the house became quiet. Lupe, seated on the couch next to her sleeping newborn, heaved a sigh. "It's tiring with the both of them," she said.

"You're doing such a great job, I can tell," said Epstein. They had a lot to cover. How was breastfeeding going? How was her energy level? Lupe, having done this before, had taken notes on her iPhone. For example, she marked each time her newborn son breastfed, for how long, and how often he pooped.

A few days before, Epstein had advised Lupe to eat some dark chocolate to help get the breast milk flowing and to ease the baby's constipation. "How'd it work?" she asked. Lupe smiled. 

"Great," she said. "He's not feeding for too long. He wants to eat a lot, but not for a long time."

"That's no problem," said Epstein. "The thing is to make sure that each breast is empty when he's done, because the milk at the front of the breast has all the hydration, but the milk at the back has all the nutrition he needs."

Epstein inspected the baby, testing his tiny arms for reflex. "Good job!" she cooed when his arms shot up into the air as they are supposed to. "Mom, with her own innate reflex, smiled with pride.

"How long is your mom going to stay?" asked Epstein.

"Forty days. That's how it is in Mexican culture—the mom stays to help for 40 days when there's a new baby."

"That's so great," said Epstein. "Every woman should have help like that."

And after the 40 days? Lupe wasn't sure. As Epstein changed the baby's diaper, they discussed options: Could she load the babies in the car and drive her husband to work so that she has a car for the day and isn't stuck at home? Could her sister come over to help her? Could her mom come over a few days a week to take care of the toddler?

Epstein packed up her things and hugged Lupe goodbye, then headed west through the dry flats of the Rio Grande Valley, just north of that porous border, back to Holy Family for her afternoon clinic shift.

Some common reactions to telling strangers you're a midwife:

"What?"

"They still have that?"

"I thought midwives were from the Middle Ages?"

"I didn't realize you had to go to school for that."

This last one is a favorite of Gillian Brautigam '05, who recently completed the rigorous nurse midwife program at the University of Chicago and joined a private practice in the Chicago suburbs. But these are the myths of midwifery, she explains: a profession that's outdated, that's somehow oddball and fringe, bare-footed women in braids carrying incense and crystals and delivering hippie babies in the woods. And while that midwife stereotype still exists, it's also, like all stereotypes, a very limited picture—and increasingly so.

More and more, the new face of midwifery is of highly educated, professional, career-driven women interested simultaneously in maternal health and national health-care policy.

"As the profession grows," explains Epstein, "There's more and more opportunity for leadership, to make positive change, and also to define what it means to be a contemporary midwife. I think that's part of what is drawing more and more highly driven, career-oriented women—fierce women with big personalities, strong belief systems, and real drive—into this field."
These women are indeed redefining our understanding of midwifery and its impact. Lucy Chapin has of course experienced some of the same confounded reactions when she tells people she’s a midwife, but she feels it's changing. "When I would explain that I was becoming a midwife seven years ago, it was confusing to people. But I notice that now when I tell people what I do, they know what midwifery is. And they are more often impressed."

According to these midwives, contemporary midwifery's critical fight is to remind us all—and particularly medical institutions—that childbirth is a natural physiological process, "not a medical complication," explains Epstein. "If we could get out of this mindset, then more midwives and fewer OBGYNs would be the health-care providers. And not all the care would have to happen in the hospitals."

Though OBGYNs give excellent care throughout the U.S., there are several benefits to an increase in births presided over by midwives, Epstein explains. First, most midwives feel that midwifery care tends to be more patient focused, fitting the care to the patient rather than fitting the patient into the medical system's dictates (giving birth in stirrups, for example—not often the most comfortable or even effective position for giving birth but far easier for nurses and doctors). Second, statistics show that midwifery reduces unnecessary medical interventions. In 2012, according to the CDC, nearly 33 percent of all U.S. births occurred through caesarean—but in a study of over 16,000 births from the Midwives Alliance of North America, only 5 percent of births resulted in caesarean. Though caesarians are often a medical necessity, it is becoming more common for the procedure to be scheduled as part of a predetermined patient preference. Midwives point to the difficult recovery time post-caesarean, which includes increased risk of future complications such as deep-vein thrombosis. And caesarians are more expensive than vaginal births, hence one of contemporary midwifery's main selling points, according to Epstein: cost reduction.

When it comes to midwifery's comeback and its positive impacts on health-care access and outcomes in the U.S., Chapin says, "I'm very hopeful. Maybe I'm just infused with all of this new midwife energy, but I'm really hopeful."

NEITHER CHAPIN, BRAUTIGAM, NOR EPSTEIN EVEN CONSIDERED THIS as a profession until late in their college careers or after college entirely. And what brought them to this choice? As Epstein puts it, "Every midwife has sort of an origin story. It's still considered a calling, in many ways."

A certified social studies teacher who had worked in the New York City public schools, Epstein was working as an instructional aid for a seventh grader with cerebral palsy when she met someone studying to be a midwife. "It just hit me: I want to be a midwife," she said.

She set to work immediately looking up the prerequisites she needed—more than 12 classes, all of which she took at community college while juggling a full-time workload in education. She bought books upon books, attended classes, read all the research she could, and sought out other midwives who could tell her things she needed to know.

“I found that midwifery very much satisfied all of these really important values and exciting possibilities about what a profession could be: a combination of politics and sociology and feminism and science.” In this way, you could think of midwifery as the ultimate liberal arts profession. But even if Epstein had considered midwifery in college, she likely wouldn't have thought much of it. “Taking biology and anatomy wasn’t in my path at that time. I didn’t have an appreciation for how dynamic and exciting science could be, and I didn’t have an understanding of its place in politics and history.”

A history and classical-studies major, Epstein wrote her thesis on classical historiography—basically, the study of how history is made. And in a way, she sees the connection between her undergraduate studies and midwifery. "There’s something so appealing to me about this profession that is so ancient, that is in a way almost a-historical. Nothing changes about giving birth—it’s the same physiological process as it always has been. The difference is how we treat it throughout history.”

Though they all opted to become nurse midwives (rather than certified midwives, which are not licensed to work in a hospital setting), these three young midwives reflect the diversity of this practice and all its incarnations. Epstein recently finished her fellowship tenure at Holy Family in the Rio Grande Valley and moved to Brooklyn, where she works at the Brooklyn Birthing Center providing hospital and birth-center deliveries to a diverse range of patients. Brautigam works at a private practice in the suburbs of Chicago with mostly upper-middle-class clients, delivering exclusively in hospital settings and providing gynecological care. “The home-birth thing really isn’t for me,” she said, "I want to be in a hospital setting." Chapin works at a diverse private practice in Ithaca, New York. More than half of its patients are on Medicaid, a large number of whom are teen mothers, though patients also include professors and PhD students who, she jokes, "are more up on the research and field of midwifery than I am sometimes!"

At 39 WEEKS AND TWO DAYS, Graciela could go into labor any day now. Driving herself, she pulls into the gravel driveway off Route 88 and parks in the dappled shade of Holy Family’s rustling palms, hoisting herself out of her seat and into the clinic. She’s a teacher, planning to work up to the moment her water breaks, but for the past few days she’s been experiencing intense pain in her lower back, she tells her midwife.

“That’s often a sign that your body’s getting ready,” says Epstein.

Graciela is one of Epstein’s most nervous clients. This is her first baby, and she’s scared. They had worked hard on a birth plan that would be calming to her: she wants to have a water birth, and wants the lights off. She feels soothed by low music and candlelight. "I want you to kick out of my mom if she’s stressing me out," she had told Epstein. Today they go over the birth plan once more: Who will drive her? What will she bring? Then Graciela lies down on the table so Epstein can inspect her belly. She slides the Doppler ultrasound over the bright dome of Graciela’s stomach. As though from a seashell, the baby’s heartbeat thumps through the room like waves underwater, and all of us are quiet.

“I’m not worried,” Epstein says to the patient in a soothing voice. Though in my reverie I at first think she’s speaking to me. “You’re going to do great.”
It's a seasonal rite, isn't it? Each year, we compile our lists, stuff our beach bags or backpacks full of titles, watch the nightstand grow taller. It began when we were kids—schools sent us home for vacation with a list of recommended books to read, recommendations that may or may not have overlapped with books we already wanted to read—and has continued right on through adulthood. (Need further evidence? Wait 'til you see what our faculty is reading this summer. See page 46. It's a delightful mix of pleasure reads and prep for next semester, with some overlap, but not all.) So, how should you prioritize? We have a few suggestions:

The Telling Room: A Tale of Love, Betrayal, Revenge and the World's Greatest Piece of Cheese by Michael Paterniti '86 is a must-read. We hold an extended conversation with the author that will leave you hungry (ha!) for more. See page 44.

The Bread Loaf Writers' Conference faculty is an impressive lot with a library's worth of riches to their name. We offer all you need to know about them in an infographic that should be just as fun to get lost in as the titles themselves. See page 48.

Looking for something for the kids? We have recommendations for the younger set, too—alumni-authored books reviewed by the children of our communications staff. See page 50.

And finally, if you just need some help making a decision—we've got you covered there, too. See page 52.
A Conversation with Michael Paterniti

Before Michael Paterniti ’86 earned eight National Magazine Award nominations; before he told the unforgettable tale of driving Albert Einstein’s brain across the country (Driving Mr. Albert); before he was tapped as the writer who has shaped “the voice of modern long-form journalism”—before all of that—Michael Paterniti was 26 years old, with an MFA in fiction freshly affixed to his résumé and a proofreading job in an Ann Arbor, Michigan, deli, when he discovered a piece of cheese that would change his life. ¶ Just not right away. ¶ Though he didn’t know it at the time, Paterniti’s unlikely discovery of Páramo de Guzmán would set him on an even unlikelier journey—Quixotic, if you will—that culminated, 22 years later, with the publication of The Telling Room: A Tale of Love, Betrayal, Revenge, and the World’s Greatest Piece of Cheese. ¶ Only The Telling Room isn’t just about those marvelous notions. ¶ Matt Jennings spent a few hours talking with Paterniti on a sun-soaked afternoon earlier this summer. This conversation, supplemented by email exchanges and a phone call, has been edited and condensed.

Matt Jennings It must drive you nuts when people casually ask, “So, what’s this book about?”

Michael Paterniti [Laughter] Not at all. Because when you’re reading it, you’re not really sure. It starts off as this weird, epic journey in search of a little piece of cheese and ends up being a much larger quest for meaning and understanding. In a weird way, it becomes a quest to go backward. At a time when we are all hurtling forward, relentlessly, here’s an opportunity to feel deeply connected to something, where you have this intense sense of oneness with your environment and with the people, even if you don’t speak the language, even if you don’t share a common history.

Jennings And it began in a deli in Michigan...

Paterniti Yeah. I was just out of an MFA program, still hanging around Ann Arbor, completely broke, writing fiction, teaching a little. And I got this job at Zingerman’s Deli.

Jennings Is it true that they said you’re not qualified to make sandwiches, but you can proofread?

Paterniti Yeah, I couldn’t get the sandwich job. That really bummed me out. I remember thinking, this degree really counts for nothing.

Jennings And, honestly, I’ve never heard of a deli hiring a proofreader.

Paterniti Well, that’s the thing. The owner, Ari, was this fascinating guy, and he wrote these great newsletters. One of the things he was doing with Zingerman’s was he would go and recover these foods from around the world, and he’d then harvest their stories. And this newsletter was one way to tell these stories.

So I was proofreading the newsletter, and one month he had brought back all of these Spanish products, and there was this little four or five paragraph entry for a cheese, Páramo de Guzmán. It was just an outline, but it sounded like the beginning of a fairy tale.

It was about this guy named Ambrosio, who was using a centuries-old recipe to make this cheese, and it was said that when people ate it, they were overcome with memories.

The cheese was made by hand. Ambrosio would milk the sheep himself. He’d bring the milk up to this little stable, where he’d make the cheese. And he’d age this cheese in his family’s ancestral cave. I remember reading that and thinking, who has a family cave? I certainly didn’t know anybody who had one.

Jennings So, did the cheese have this magical effect on you?

Paterniti Oh, I didn’t try it; I couldn’t afford it! It was the most expensive cheese ($22 a pound) that Zingerman’s had ever sold. But when that newsletter came out, I ripped out the section on Páramo de Guzmán and threw it in a file.

Jennings And then...

Paterniti Eight years went by. I went through all of these moves, and I kept it with me. There was a point I had it in my wallet. Then it was in a file, then back in my wallet.

I didn’t really know why I had it. But one summer, in 2000, I was in Spain on assignment [for Esquire] to profile the chef Ferran Adrià. And for whatever reason, I pulled this clipping out of my wallet, and with the help of my friend Carlos Gomez (who was translating for me), I discovered that the village of Guzmán was two-and-a-half hours north of Madrid, up in the highlands of Meseta.

We knew we were going to have a day off during this extended period we spent with Ferran, so Carlos basically called the village bar, tracked down Ambrosio, and we made arrangements to go see him. I remember Carlos asking, “How are we going to find you?” And he said, “Don’t worry, you’ll find me.”

And this whole time, I’m thinking, this is so random. It wasn’t like I was obsessed with Castilian culture. Or that I was hell-bent on writing about the best cheese in the world. It was just that there was so much meaning that had accrued in this little nugget of a fairy tale.

I guess I went up there that first time not knowing. It turned out that Ambrosio didn’t make the cheese anymore, but he did have this story; and he told this story that first night in the telling room.*

Jennings So that night was the first you heard anything about the story? You arrived having no idea?

*We don’t want to give too much away, though you should know that as Ambrosio’s cheese began to gain a world following in the late 1980s/early 1990s, he could no longer produce it by himself. He brought in other people, including his best friend, to start a business. Only the best friend betrayed him and cut Ambrosio out of the business. His family cheese stolen, Ambrosio began to plot the murder of his best friend. Really.
Faculty Reading

With the summer months meaning a hiatus from the classroom for most Middlebury faculty, we were curious to learn what books they would choose to help pass the time.

Katy Smith Abbott, Dean of Students; Assistant Professor, History of Art and Architecture
Molly Caro May's newly published memoir, The Map of Enough: One Woman's Search for Place. Molly is a former student (Class of '02) who has remained a friend since her graduation, and I find her sense of adventure and her fearlessness are sources of real inspiration. In addition, she's a beautiful writer—I am savoring this book.

School, Kate Carroll

Lecturer, Tutor in Writing
I'm reading Jane Austen, Game Theorist by Michael Suk-Young Chwe. I hope that it will give me new insights into Austen, who is my specialty, and will help me learn something about game theory. And the book was a gift from my wonderful husband.

Rick Bunt, Joseph Burr Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Organic Chemistry by Joel Karty. We are using this textbook for our new—and, we think, highly innovative—organic chemistry curriculum that starts in the fall. Among many benefits, it will allow premedical students (and others) to only take one semester of organic chemistry before taking biochemistry. This contrasts with the current two semesters of organic chemistry typically required at most schools.


Reading anything else? (See second paragraph)

Jack Byrne, Director of Sustainability Integration
Biology Is Technology: The Promise, Peril, and New Business of Engineering Life by Robert H. Carlson. I've been following the evolution of synthetic biology now for quite a few years, which is an interest that comes from my training as a biologist and in environmental law and policy. I like Kevin Kelly's definition of technology (anything produced by a mind) and it seems that our minds are quickly developing the technology to design, write and "print" up a specified set of characteristics that can be expressed in a form of life arising from our coding of ACGTs. And it's already playing a transformative role economically. Carlson's book is a good introduction to this rapidly evolving technology and its implications for a sustainable future.

Angle of Repose by Wallace Stegner. As a career environmentalist, I am woefully ignorant of the works of Paterniti

No idea. We arrived in Guzmán that afternoon and went looking for Ambrosio. Eventually somebody pointed to the cave. We went up and knocked on the door, which he slowly pulled open. And in we went.

Those telling rooms are so otherworldly. They're just these limestone holes, like snowdrifts or something. They're really close to each other, and inside there's a wood-plank table and a candle, maybe a fireplace to use in the winter. It's ancient—the room, the way everything is done, even the way they start to roll out stories.

Jennings

Trapped in time.

Paterniti

Totally. You really have this feeling when somebody is telling a story in the telling room that they're telling a story that goes back to the beginning of history. So immediately that story of betrayal and revenge and this murder plot, it was echoing with all this history, all this Spanish history. And not just that but the intractable conflicts of our entire world history seemed to be there, too.

For me, it was also metaphorical, right from the start. I was transported and transixed, as if I was under a huge midsummer spell.

Jennings

In that moment—that night or the next morning—what's happening in your head? You're in Spain to do this Esquire piece. And now you've heard this story. It's almost like you're caught between two worlds.

Paterniti

It was weird. We were in the telling room with Ambrosio for about eight hours. We walked out at close to 2:00 in the morning, and we drove down the hill from this beautiful shrinking village made out of limestone. It was—

Jennings

A village of 80 people.

Paterniti

Eighty people, this dying village on a hill. The one thing that I thought immediately in Guzmán was, this is better than I could have imagined. This guy is better. He's bigger. He's a wilder character. He tells a better story than anyone I've ever met. I've studied storytelling for years and to suddenly be in the presence of somebody whose stories echo with centuries of tales... it was pretty amazing. That's what hit me right from the start: How do I get back here?

At the same time, I didn't get ahead of myself at all because I had to go back to work. I was committed to the Ferran piece, and I was lost in that world. So it seemed like a dream afterward; I wanted to go back just to see if it was real. I wanted to hear Ambrosio tell that same story again, just so that I could verify it. At the same time, somewhere behind this elaborate tale I knew what I was going to find. This story had deeper meaning.

Jennings

You've described Ambrosio as being like Falstaff...

Paterniti

He's totally Falstaff. When you're with him, it's like you've been swept off your feet and you're lost in this rambunctious world of stories and jokes and drink and food. At that moment you're living life in this alternate reality that has nothing to do with taking out your recycling.

Jennings

And to tell this story effectively, you really had to live in that alternate world.

Paterniti

For a little while, before I knew if I was going to do anything with this story, I'd visit Guzmán whenever I was in Europe on assignment. And then I eventually bought a ticket just to go back. By that point I was thinking, What is this? How do I get closer?

There are flaws in the book Let Us Now Praise Famous Men, but what I do love about that book is the immersive quality of it, the willingness to get dirty and to also allow the story to carry you wherever it goes. This work that we do carries us to these worlds that have their own energy, and then you begin to see and understand deeper things that you didn't know when you first got there.

The more closely we observe things—things we fear and things we revere—the more complete we become.

Jennings

You use a lot of footnotes in the book. It's a clever way to introduce the reader to the Castilian method of storytelling, full of digressions.

Paterniti

One of the things that I really wanted to have happen was this narrative battle for whose book it was. So, Ambrosio being the storyteller, like the ur-storyteller, I wanted him to own the first two-thirds. And that's how he told a story—all of these trapdoors that take you to other places. Then I think maybe in the last third of the book, a lot of the footnotes just drop away. It becomes very American. Otherwise there's no way. You can't do footnotes within footnotes within footnotes and plow the field.

Jennings

I'd like to go back to this battle over whose book it is. One of the tensions as a reader is over how much of Ambrosio's story can we is over how much of Ambrosio's story can we
Paterniti Right.

Jennings Part of writing literary nonfiction is making use of the fiction writer’s toolbox.

Paterniti I see it as trying to create a language of your own to tell these stories that matter the most to you. So when you have a man who’s poured every waking hour of every day into this one grape vineyard—because that matters more than anything to his family, to drink that wine at the end of the season—and then this vicious hailstorm comes through and rips everything apart, and you’re there for it, then you have all these elements, all this reporting and understanding. And how you write that, what similes and metaphors you choose to use, all of that stuff is yours, at your complete disposal.

There are very distinct lines between the genres, but I’ve always thought of them in my own writing as very blurred. That doesn’t mean you get to make anything up, that you get to create your own version of it. You take what you have and you make something from that.

Jennings After living with a story that is so personal, that has consumed more than 20 years of your life, what do you hold onto now and what do you let go?

Paterniti There are these strange, loopy left-hand turns we can take in life that will lead us through portals that eventually lend clarity to the world. That’s what this book, this experience, did for me, for my family. Underneath it all, it goes back to a certain set of questions—like, are you destined to be shaped by the forces of the world or do you have the capacity to shape the world around you?

So all of that stays with me. As for the book itself, it’s like some little shard that’s going to be there someday in the ruin that was my life. People can look at it and try to figure it out; someone may pick it up, others may not bother with it, but the thing is that there’s some evidence of a life lived.

Jennings And not just evidence of a life lived, but evidence of a way of living life.

Paterniti Yeah, it makes you think. It seems like we live in an age of 24-hour memories. The viral video of the day, the erosive flood of metadata. And we keep losing the deeper past and with it our sense of place and identity. We keep forgetting what we were supposed to remember.

Jennings Perfectly said.

Jennings But at some point you had to confront that. When did you reach that moment?

Paterniti I just felt like I was waiting for things to unfold in a way that seemed organic. So in a way, just on the subject of time, time is something I’m obsessed with in the stories I write, like how in a single minute your life can be completely flipped, especially in the big tragedy stories or the war stories. You have traumatic events changing the course of a life very quickly.** In Guzmán it was slow living, and it was slow unfolding, and it was slow storytelling. It took 10 years to get the real story.

Sometimes you have to wait. Sometimes it happens right away. Sometimes you go to Nanjing and you’re on a suicide bridge and some guy tries to jump within the first six hours of your being there. And sometimes you’re there for 12 days, and you see nothing. Or it may be that someone doesn’t come to jump, but there’s a gesture. There’s something that opens the seams of the world for one moment, and you see that pain or that joy or that, I don’t know, connective tissue that makes us one thing.

Then once you have that, for me at least, then I can go back into everything I’ve accumulated and try to imbue it in some way with meaning, knowing what I know having waited it out.

**Among other stories, Paterniti has written about the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, the 1998 crash of Swissair Flight 111, and the tsunami that struck Japan in 2011.
Also on the shelf is Ian Frazier's *Travels in Siberia*. I've enjoyed the excerpts in the *New Yorker* and need some kind of amusing reading to remind me that there are still reasons I like Russia, in spite of the current regime and its homophobic policies. If I have any huge yawning gaps, I've got Péter Nadas's *Parallel Stories*, which should last for quite some time.

Erin Quinn '86, Director of Athletics

*Long Walk to Freedom* by Nelson Mandela. With Mandela's death in December, it seemed an apt time to read his autobiography and celebrate his life.

*Learned Optimism* by Martin Seligman. I'm re-reading this after about 20 years of first discovering the book. I think of myself as optimistic but am trying to give a little more psychological foundation to it, so I am doing some reading regarding positive psychology, appreciative inquiry, and growth mindset.

*Boys Adrift* by Leonard Sax. This was recommended by a friend as a good book to read for parents of sons, but also for leaders of men and young men. I'm interested for both reasons.

Jim Ralph '82, Dean of Faculty Development and Research; Rehnquist Professor of American History

My three-year-old son's fascination with dinosaurs and his question "Where did all the dinosaurs go?" have led me to *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert. I also hope to read two books about the purpose of higher education, Ken Bain's *What the Best College Students Do* and Rebecca Chopp et al.'s *Remaking College: Innovation and the Liberal Arts*. The latter features a chapter by John McCardell.

Michael Roy, Dean of the Library

*Gun Guys* by Dan Baum. This book explores the complexity of America's gun culture, and as someone who lives in a community that has a deep history of guns, I want to better understand why this is and what it means.

*Smarter Than You Think: How Technology is Changing Our Minds for the Better* by Clive Thompson. This book rebuts some of the Luddite claims that new technology is getting in the way of our ability to think clearly.

Jacob Tropp, John Spencer Professor of African Studies

*The Circle* by Dave Eggers. I'm looking forward to plunging into this critical fictional look at questions of privacy and corporate power in our contemporary world of social media, e-commerce, and digital information.

*Cion: A Novel* by Zakes Mda. This is a sequel to Mda's wonderful novel *Ways of Dying*, which concerns the life and relations of a professional mourner in a poor urban community of South Africa shortly after the end of apartheid. *Cion* brings this man's story to the United States, to rural Ohio, and interweaves his life story into the history of America's slave-holding past and the legacy of the Underground Railroad. I'm curious to see how he pulls this all together.

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**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BLWC FACULTY**

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**JANE ALISON**

*The Sisters Antipodes*  
*The Marriage of the Sea*  
*Native's and Exotics*  
*The Love Artist*

She teaches  
CREATIVE WRITING  
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

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**SCOTT RUSSELL SANDERS**

*20 Books of Fiction and Nonfiction*  
*A Private History of the Present**  
*A Conversation Manifesto*

He is a  
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ENGLISH  
AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

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**DAVID SHIELDS**

*The Thing About Life Is That One Day You'll Be Dead*  
*New York Times Bestsellers*

He has received  
A GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP  
FOR THE ARTS FELLOWSHIPS

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**EAVAN BOLAND**

*New Selected Poems*  
*A Journey With Two Maps*  
*A World Without a Country*  
*The Book of Hours*

She teaches at Stanford University,  
where she is  
DIRECTOR OF THE  
CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

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**MARIANNE BORUCH**

*8 Poetry Collections*  
*Including The Rinzetten*  
*Candor*  
*Spill*

Guggenheim  
&  
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FELLOWSHIPS

She developed the MFA PROGRAM AT PURDUE UNIVERSITY

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This was a good story that started with Lewis stealing as a kid and then becoming a respected man. It was interesting that he felt books would help people be successful. I think this is true. Black and white people are the same and they need the same chances.

" -'OTOGR a Ph P

Matt Lennon'
Ava and Pip is a story about two sisters who could not be more different. Pip is shy and quiet, while Ava is confident and chatty. The story is all about Ava trying to get Pip "out of her shell" and into the real world so she can have friends and not be so antisocial. Ava and her family are all word nerds, so there are a lot of palindromes and homonyms snuck into places. I would recommend this book for anyone who likes a good read, words, and a unique story.

Out of Nowhere was an extremely profound read. It dealt with a complex theme, Somali refugees relocated to a small town in Maine and living with language barriers and racist neighbors. But at the same time it was, I felt, nicely teen-accessible, with the plot revolving around a high school soccer team. My favorite part of the book was the characters. Maria Padian is very skilled at developing characters, so that the reader can know very little about them and still get a huge sense of who they are.

When I read this book I thought of myself loving pizza. I also liked how it was written in Italian as well as English.

Zoe liked cupcakes—vanilla cupcakes and chocolate cupcakes. Her brother James liked them too. He brought his friends to eat them too. Zoe didn’t like that. She put a wish in her cupcakes and the boys turned into frogs!
An Abbreviated Guide To NAVIGATING RECENTLY PUBLISHED ALUMNI BOOKS

DO YOU PREFER FICTION OR NONFICTION?

**FICTION**

Do you prefer a good mystery?

- Yes, I love a smart tale that leaves me guessing until the end.
- You came to the right place. Scientific, psychological, or mordantly witty?

**SCIENTIFIC**

- The Curiosity by Stephen Kiernan '82

**PSYCHOLOGICAL**

- The Kept by James Scott '99

**MORDANTLY WITTY**

- The Hundred-Year House by Rebecca Makkai, MA English '04

OK, how about a tragicomedy?

- Yes!
- & Sons by David Gilbert '90

OK, how about a journey of self-discovery?

- Sure!
- Home or abroad?

**ABROAD**

- Paris Was the Place by Susan Conley '89
- The Clover House by Henriette Lazaridis Power '82

**STATESIDE**

- The Other World by Rick Hawley '67

**HISTORICAL FICTION**

- My Notorious Life by Kate Manning '79

POETRY FOR ME, PLEASE

- Raking the Winter Leaves by Gary Margolis '67
- Some Far Country by Partridge Boswell '86
- Quality of Life by Jason Tandon '97

**NONFICTION**

- Historical or contemporary?

**HISTORICAL**

- Would you like to learn more about political figures?

- Sure, I'm a political junkie.
- No, I'm allergic to politics.

**CONTEMPORARY**

- Do you have a Jones for environmental science?

- Yes
- Deep: The Story of Skiing and the Future of Snow by Porter Fox '94
- Sustainable [R]Evolution by Juliana Birnbaum '96 and Louis Fox
- Behind the Curve by Joshua Howe '02

- Kind of, but maybe with more of a “nature” bent

- The Quest for the Golden Trout by Douglas Thompson '90
- The Mushroom Hunters by Langdon Cook '89
- Adirondack: Life and Wildlife in the Wild, Wild East by Edward Kanze '78

- I like science, but maybe more on the health front

- On the Cancer Frontier by James Sterngold '76 and Paul Marks

- No, I'm in the market for a good memoir

- Map of Enough by Molly May '02
- Being a Rockefeller, Becoming Myself by Eileen Rockefeller on Wall Street
- Tiger Woman by Junheng Li '00

- No, I'm a current affairs addict

- The Loudest Voice in the Room by Gabe Sherman '01
Ticket to Ride

It's 8:28 on a beautiful June morning in Brookline, Massachusetts, and Matthew George '13 is sitting in the front seat of an idling motor coach. Spread out behind him are a dozen or so of his customers, early adopters of George's new "pop-up" bus service called Bridj.

"Two minutes," says Mike Izzo, Bridj's operations manager.

"Two minutes?" says George.

"Less than two minutes," Izzo assures him.

The entire proposition behind this new company, which has attracted $5 million in venture capital, is that technology can produce a better and faster method for moving people around cities and, eventually, the entire world. But right now Bridj is a pilot program in just its third week, and the immediate priority is making sure this bus leaves on schedule.

At 8:30 sharp, the bus pulls away from the curb. "Right on time, mind you!" George says. The bus is bound for Kendall Square in Cambridge, a trip of just a few miles that takes 40 to 50 minutes using Boston's subway system but one Bridj's chartered, Wi-Fi-enabled coaches do in about 20.

Everything about the route—the departure time, the specific streets traveled, the origin and destination—is the result of painstaking research. Bridj determined that a large number of Brookline residents work in Kendall Square, and that enough of them would pay a premium for direct bus service to make a new route profitable. (The trip costs as much as $6, three times the price of taking the subway.) The idea is to aggregate previously unidentified demand from people in one specific area who want to get to another specific area, and to then offer an alternative to mass transit that eliminates unnecessary stops between those two points.

George and his financial backers are betting that there's big business in filling such mass-transit gaps in cities everywhere. George, who is 24 and grew up in Philadelphia, says that the company is in active talks with a number of cities, and "we have some very secretive pilots that will begin before long." To determine routes with the best chance of success, he says, Bridj "takes intuition out of it" by analyzing between 9 and 13 million data points.

Appropriately, then, it was no mere hunch that led George to found Bridj. While at Middlebury, the biology major saw how the College arranged for bus services to get some students home for breaks. He recognized the need for similar services at other schools, so, during his junior year he put up posters in the dorms at the University of Vermont, advertising bus transportation from the campus to both New York and Boston. He then contracted out the transportation of his new customers. Encouraged by the results, the company founded the company BreakShuttle and started signing up additional schools. In his senior year, BreakShuttle was operating on campuses as far away as Texas and had revenues of more than $100,000; this year George expects to be at about 30 schools ("Middlebury, despite our best efforts, is still school run") and to have revenues of $1 million.

With BreakShuttle, George saw the potential in aggregating the demand to move people from Point A to Point B, which is at the core of his strategy with Bridj. Up and running for less than a year, Bridj has grown to 20 employees, four of them Middlebury graduates. "We don't want to be pigeonholed as just a bus company or just a logistics company that deals with buses," he says. "Our technology is vehicle independent. We're actively working on relationships with a number of the big airlines and a number of the big charter providers."

The bus pulls up to its stop in Kendall Square and George bounces off. "How long did that take?" he asks immediately. "What time is it?" The answer: 8:50. The trip has taken just 20 minutes. George smiles. "We're giving people back huge portions of their mornings!" he says.

John Wolfson is an editor at large at Boston Magazine.
If you've ever had the experience of becoming mesmerized by a really old photograph, you know how it can play with your imagination. You may find yourself studying it intently, trying to know more about the picture than is possible. You may look for a shadow peeking from behind a window, or a revealing facial expression, or familiar landmarks—a curve in the road, a tree or rock—trying to fill in the gaps between then and now.

Rebecca Makkai's new novel, The Hundred-Year House, seems to be a meditation on an old photo—as if she'd found a faded image in a trunk or family album and decided to tell its story—but she does it in reverse. The story moves backwards through four different time periods over a century. The result is a thoroughly engaging tale about a place and its inhabitants, all living with unknown influences from the past, and all slowly revealed to the reader. It is at once good humored, farcical, and mysterious.

Makkai, MA English '04, begins the story during the Y2K scare in 1999, in the Devohr family's 100-year-old estate north of Chicago. The estate, known as Laurelfield, served as an artists' colony early in the century. Zee, a Devohr descendant, and her husband, Doug, have moved into the estate's coach house, where Doug plans to finish researching and writing a book about poet Edwin Parfitt, a resident of the colony in the '20s. Doug's career as an academic has gone into free fall, and both he and Zee hope the book will reboot his career. But Doug gets sidetracked. He secretly starts churning out teen novels for $2,000 each and obsesses about gaining access to the attic, where colony records are stored and theoretically may yield tantalizing source material about Parfitt. Strangely, Zee's mother refuses to grant him access to the attic, and
when Doug finally wangles his way inside, he
finds an enigma, one of many lingering about
the estate.
Makkai deftly moves the narrative back to
1955, right after the colony has been closed, and
back again to 1929, where we see Laurelfield
as a lively artists' community under threat of
closure and fighting for its survival. And then
back to 1900, where we meet Zee's great-great­
great-grandmother, Violet, who has haunted the story
from the beginning. Rumored to have commit­
ted suicide in the attic, her massive oil portrait
has always resided on the dining room wall,
gazing steadily at guests and residents.

With wit and intelligence, Rebecca Makkai
unfolds a brilliantly crafted, fun novel about
place and family that illustrates how really odd
life can be. Reading The Hundred-Year House is
almost like going on a scavenger hunt. In fact,
it's worth reading twice, because the second
time you know what clues to look for.

**Fungi Secrets**

*By Sara Thurber Marshall*

Langdon Cook '89 is obsessed with fungi—in particular, mushrooms. He has
read about them extensively, hunted for them in deep forests, and cooked innumerable meals
with them. Now he has written a book about them that is both intriguing and informa­
tive, The Mushroom Hunters: On the Trail of an Underground America. He delves into a world
little known to the average diner in a New York
City restaurant, enjoying a dish with golden chanterelles. Mushroom hunters are a furtive
lot, who forage in North America's woodlands
for the uncultivated, delectable mushrooms
that chefs covet and pay handsomely for. Like
forty-niners searching for gold, the hunters
are cutthroat and territorial in their quests
to harvest the lucrative fungi. Through the
stories of people involved in the trade, Cook
weaves his tale that is part history, part geol­
gy, part culinary art, and most definitely part
adventure. He tags along with a scofflaw circuit
picker named Doug, who reveals the myster­
ies of following the wild mushroom trail; he
watches a buyer named Jeremy as he grades
the mushrooms of a group of Asian pickers;
he talks with a savvy chef and restauranteur
named Matt Dillon, who knows what to do
with matsutake and did before most whites
knew what it was. With rich details and experi­
enced insights, Cook describes the subculture
of the mushroom hunter as a Wild-West sort
of life—rough, dangerous, lawless. If it never
occurred to you that a book about mushrooms
could be exciting, this book might change
your mind.

**EXCERPT**

"The picture was taken from high up. It
showed the north end of the big house,
plus the space between the two buildings,
filled by a massive, long-gone oak. Doug
squinted at the windows, hoping to see
lord knows what. Parfitt making out with
Charles Demuth, maybe. There in the
bottom right corner sat the coach house,
two cars on the gravel drive in front, the
ground floor still open to motor traffic. A
man in knickers leaned against the eastern
wall near the cars, his hand raised to his
mouth. Smoking. By his feet, a blur of a
dog. Doug knew the man wasn’t Parfitt,
though he couldn’t say exactly why. The
prosaic hat, perhaps, or some intangibly
heterosexual angle to the hips, or the fact
that here he stood by the cars, when Parfitt
would be upstairs on his bed, ankles crossed,
gin in his left hand, black fountain pen in
his right."

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**Editors' Picks**

**Antonio Macia**

Affluenza
Writer Antonio Macia '00 reveals the world of indulged,
hard-partying, rich kids in Great Neck, N.Y., prere­
cession 2008, in this independ­ent film about a young man
spending the summer with his wealthy cousin.

**Nancy Crochiere**

The Mother Load
For years Nancy Cochran Crochiere '80 has been writing
humorous newspaper columns for local papers about life as a
wife and mother, and now she
has compiled them into a very
funny book.

**Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars**

Libation
Chris Velan '96 has produced
another outstanding album
with this gifted, inspirational
African band.

**Joshua P. Howe**

Behind the Curve: Science and the Politics of Global
Warming
Joshua Howe '02 writes
about the history of global
warming from it roots as a
scientific curiosity, which pro­
duced the Keeling Curve, to
its current international focus.
37 Janet Prior sent this note about her mother: Eileen Whitney Wilson passed away on March 26 just 11 days shy of her 100th birthday. She was born in Salisbury, Vt., and was one of several Whitney relations that attended Middlebury College. Upon her graduation she moved to Hartford, Conn., with her classmate Cay Branch Frasur and worked for 10 years at the Aetna Life Insurance Co. While working at Aetna she met her husband-to-be, Russell Wilson. They married in June 1943 and after World War II moved to Manchester, Conn., where they raised two children. In 1963, Eileen began teaching math at the local high school, retiring in 1979. She received both her master's and Sixth-Year Certificate from the Univ. of Conn. Eileen loved coming home every summer to Salisbury and Middlebury College. Many a summer evening she and her husband could be found strolling the campus grounds.

38 To the family of Estelle Houston, who I learned died in February 2003, we extend our condolences. There are times I have been asked how many of our classmates are still living. If I read the information correctly, there are 10 of us: Jennie-Belle Perry Barr, Madge Eddy Boardman, Russell Wilson. They married in June 1943 and after World War II moved to Manchester, Conn., where they raised two children. In 1963, Eileen began teaching math at the local high school, retiring in 1979. She received both her master's and Sixth-Year Certificate from the Univ. of Conn. Eileen loved coming home every summer to Salisbury and Middlebury College. Many a summer evening she and her husband could be found strolling the campus grounds.

39 I hope classmates were able to return for reunion to the College on the Hill! — Class Correspondent: A. Roger Clarke (arogercrakwr@ael.com), 7 Randel Park, Rochester, NY 14607.

40 REUNION CLASS Congratulations to Sally Nothnagle Tefft, who was named a “Community Citizen” by the Battenkill Conservancy in Cambridge, N.Y. She was honored for her 75 years of community service and for her recognition of the Battenkill River as an important natural resource. Until last fall she was actively involved in running the Greenwich Journal Salem Press, which she has sold to new owners. Over the years the paper featured the Battenkill’s importance to the community as both a recreational and economical driver. Sally first worked on the paper after she and husband Richard moved to Greenwich, N.Y., in 1941. In 1969 they bought it from Richard’s sister and in 1980, when her husband died, Sally came into sole ownership.

41 Correspondent Elizabeth Hubbard-Ovens reports: Every so often in that glow of the “Golden Years” change comes along. For your correspondents, the winter of 2013–14 gave us just that. Shaubie (Margaret Shaub) did a downsizing and moved to a new home but near the old home. She has been busy indeed. I rather upset Christmas by falling and fracturing my left shoulder. I hope by the time you read this I will be really recovered (and so does Jack, my patient and helpful husband). A letter of appreciation came to me from Michael Roy, dean of the College’s library and information services. He delineated how important financial support is to expand and support their exceptional collection. Some of that support recently came from the Class of 1941 Reunion Fund to add a long list of books to the library. I am sad to note the death of Edith Ladd Evans. Laddie was a most congenial classmate and her 50th reunion bio gave a picture of a well-lived and happy life. We extend our sympathy to her family.


42 Sadly, I must report the deaths of two more classmates, Theodore Russell of Mohawk, N.Y., in December and Richard Davis of Westminster, Md., in February. Ted came to Middlebury after graduation from Norwich, Conn., high school. He was a veteran of WWII, serving in the infantry for five years, rising to the rank of captain. After his years of service he decided to enter into professional scouting. After graduating from the National Boy Scout Training School in New Jersey, he served in a variety of positions in several localities in New York State. He was a registered Scout for 82 years, receiving several awards. He was very active in his church in Mohawk and also participated in many philanthropic organizations in the area. Richard “Dixie” Davis, formerly of Bethesda, died on February 22. After graduation from Middlebury he served in the military during WWII, then had a career in the Defense Intelligence Agency. Dixie enjoyed outdoor activities and listening to Dixieland jazz. He and his wife traveled extensively in their motor home.

— Class Correspondent: Nancy Hall Whitehouse (whitehousenancy@gmail.com), 75 State St., Unit 61, Portland, ME 04101.

43 Correspondent Jean Jordan Sheild reports: I had a delightful chat with Mary Hickcox Lecko. She cheerfully reported that she is living with her younger son, Paul, who fixes her meals and takes her out when the weather is nice, but not much this past winter. Mary still walks up and down the stairs for exercise and reads books that her son brings home from the library. She joked that she is really in good health considering she is 93. News about Carol Le dewhaite Locard came from her son, Paul. Carol is living in Avery Heights, a convalescent home in Hartford, Conn. Paul lives nearby and is able to visit her frequently. He indicated that when Carol majored in chemistry at Middlebury she hoped to get a job in a lab after graduation. Instead she found a job in engineering at Pratt & Whitney and that's where she met her husband, Frank. They subsequently had four children, twin girls and two boys. Paul is the oldest. He reported that Carol still enjoys attending musical programs fairly often. Word has come to us that Yvonne Goldberg Weinhardt passed away on December 10. Following her major in French at Middlebury, Yvonne visited her two cousins in France, one in Brittany and one in Cannes, several times. She married Bill Weinhardt in June 1946 and later moved to Dallas, Texas, where they raised five children. In her retirement from teaching French and English, she was busy with church activities, golf, and quilting. For the past few years, Yvonne had been living at Edgemere, a retirement community where she had enjoyed theater, bridge, and symphony. She was a vibrant, loving person and will be sorely missed by her family and all who knew her. Gloria Merritt Piersall still lives in her home in Hardtmer, Kan., but admitted that she had been in the hospital. She had fallen and fractured her skull. So now she has a special contraption that helps her stand up so she doesn't fall. Her nieces live just 30 minutes away and brings frozen meals and also fixes fresh ones two or three times a week. Her niece and husband take her out when the weather is nice and he also helps with heavy work around the house. We regret to report the death of Margaret “Peg” Bullock Marti on April 16. After graduating from Middlebury, Peg married Don Marti and they moved to Midland, Mich., where they raised their three sons. In retirement they took several Elderhostel trips, including to Germany, England, and Hawaii. Recently she had been living in an assisted living community, where she enjoyed bingo, lectures, and musical programs. She was a very friendly person and will be missed. • Correspondent John Gale reports: With regret I report the death of Edward Decker Jr., with us in college for only two years. After leaving
Middlebury he worked briefly for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, then joined the Air Force, where he was trained as a meteorologist and served in that capacity with a B-17 bomber group in southern Italy. He married Eunice Bory '41 in 1943; daughter Laura is Midd '69. Postwar, he was employed by General Electric in several Eastern states, retiring to North Carolina in 1982. He was a loyal supporter of the College. • From California Ted Peach's son Jeff wrote a cogent description of Ted's activities, much of which I've taken the liberty of including here. He reports that Ted has some dementia, with good and bad days, with great long-term memory especially for WWII and his experiences therein but faulty for recent events. Jeff says, "He's jolly and a wonderful storyteller, fun to be around." Ted has Comfort Keepers that come three days a week and take him to town, run errands, and keep him company. He loves to go out to hear the local Irish folk band, in which I gather Jeff plays. Jeff's wife Gale checks on him each morning, does basic chores and listens to his stories about Vermont, his college-professor father, WWII or his wonderful experience at Middlebury. He goes to Jeff's house for dinner, then home for TV and bed. Jeff concludes, "He is a strong old goat and a good soldier." • Howie Friedman, alert at 04 in Montpelier, Vt., reports that his leukemia remains controlled and Parkinsonism is helped by medication. He has given up driving and now he and Daisy use the very helpful Senior Social Services for transport for marketing, etc. Daisy remains well. • Dumont Rush wrote during the cold, snowy winter: "Watching the town's heated, enclosed sidewalk tractor deal with the walks is not nearly as nice as seeing the horse-drawn wooden plow used in our day. Winter Carnival managed its snow sculptures but the one of the Buddha looked sad after a downpour on a 44-degree day. I continue to enjoy my shop and my outdoor sleeping from spring to fall. The College is preparing for Ron Liebowitz's departure in 2015. He is a wonderful president—friendly, articulate, and effective." • We deeply regret to report the death of Ann Cole Byington on January 29 from complications of a head injury suffered in a fall. Further complicating the situation in the same time frame was hospitalization for husband Bing (Bob Byington) for urgent abdominal surgery, fortunately with a good recovery. Bing's current address is Legacy at Bear Creek, 200 Keller Smithfield Rd. S., Keller, TX 76248, near where daughter Lynn lives. Ann, with her keen mind and dry sense of humor, was a delight to be with during the college years, at reunions, and at informal class gatherings. In post-WWII years, as Bing with his seismograph moved from place to place throughout the Southwest oil country, she provided the support structure to keep the family on an even keel; she enjoyed the retirement years on Cape Cod during which she did a great job as class correspondent. She enriched the Class of 1943. • Class Correspondents: Dr. John S. Gale (jigaleez@comcast.net), 24 Beach Rd., Gloucester, MA 01930; Jean Jordan Shields (shieldsfamily@gmail.com), 4408 Winnapah Rd., Monona, WI 53716.

**44**

We hope everyone who was able to attend reunion had an enjoyable time.

Please send us your stories from the weekend!

—Class Correspondents: Ruth Wheaton Evans (ew@verizon.net), 80 Salisbury St., Unit 603, Worcester, MA 01609; Elizabeth Ring Hennefrund (eliz.bet@earthlink.net), 397 Old Sherman Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798.

**45**

**REUNION CLASS BETTS ALLEN SUTMAN** phoned from Fellowship Village, Basking Ridge, N.J. She brought news of both her move to assisted living and the damage from freakish storm Sandy to their family's Normandy Beach house, the whole first floor gone. What to do? A fellow resident at Fellowship Village is Jean Salisbury, widow of R.J. "Sully" Salisbury and mother of Lisa '79. • Jessie Woodwell Bush emailed from Florida: "One week in St. Augustine, where all our family came together to celebrate Christmas, was a wonderful experience for me, truly healing and a good start in the New Year." • Patricia deLearie Hauler has moved to a smaller apartment at Wake Robin in Shelburne, Vt., and is in the flurry of address changes. Her husband has moved to a larger room in his section with wonderful wonders and is like a "kid in a candy shop." • Alice Southworth Twible emailed from Florida: "Time to start thinking about early spring and the magazines with the news of the Class of '46. She reads it all and enjoys the happy news and endures the sad. • Kelly Delong Desmond has no real changes in her life—just a year older and slowing down in many ways. She is still skiing in limited amounts. She plays bridge once a week and plays games with the locals at the town hall once or twice a week. She also goes to gym twice a week. (She has to keep the legs working to ski.) She also has her first great-grandchild, a boy. Her son and daughter and their spouses live an hour or two away so she sees them and her grandchildren quite often. • Barbara Fink Ewels is most impressed with the number of classmates over the age of 88 who are using computers. Some of us started up so we could keep up with the younger generation. This year many who started in the fall of '42 will have a 90th birthday. • Yikes! • Gloria Antonil Keyster survived the bitter winter in Maine in reasonably good shape. She recently installed new heating aids. She says before long she'll be all replacement parts. (Editorial comment—so little of us are in the same boat, Glo.) She was planning to celebrate her 88th birthday (which was in March) in June when daughter Sue and her husband were planning to visit from Atlanta. Life at Piper Shores is always busy and stimulating. They had a fabulous celebration of Scotland's Robert Burns, courtesy of new Scottish residents. It was authentic from bagpipe to kilts to Scotty to toast the Queen to poetry to haggis (?) and to a resounding chorus of "Auld Lang Syne." • Alice Thorn Laoquer is enjoying her cottage/apartment at Pine Run Village Retirement Community. With two bedrooms, full kitchen, washer, dryer, and dinner every night at the "Hub," she feels very lucky. Son Dave and Jane live two miles down Ferry Road, son Eric is in Philadelphia, and daughter Ann is in Iowa City and calls almost every night. She has made some nice friends and so far has joined a book group and the Village Singers. Her health seems to be stable—she recently had #88, so she has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson "Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeann Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for.

**46**

I'm sorry to say, I have not heard from too many of you again this issue. Just a short note would let me tell all the class that you are well and happy. We would be so pleased. • I recently talked with Ann Curry Munier. She has had a little health issue but is determined to be well soon. She has moved to a retirement community called the Atria, Room 233, 1025 Pleasantville Rd., Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510. She is happy with her move and we are happy she is getting better. • Barbara Busing Harris is still running the library, selling a few books, and playing a little bridge. She spent Christmas with the whole family, including six darlings great-grandchildren. • Ruth Riley Wendell enjoys every issue of the magazine with the news of the Class of '46. She reads it all and enjoys the happy news and endures the sad. • Kelly Delong Desmond has no real changes in her life—just a year older and slowing down in many ways. She is still skiing in limited amounts. She plays bridge once a week and plays games with the locals at the town hall once or twice a week. She also goes to gym twice a week. (She has to keep the legs working to ski.) She also has her first great-grandchild, a boy. Her son and daughter and their spouses live an hour or two away so she sees them and her grandchildren quite often. • Barbara Fink Ewels is most impressed with the number of classmates over the age of 88 who are using computers. Some of us started up so we could keep up with the younger generation. This year many who started in the fall of '42 will have a 90th birthday. • Yikes! • Gloria Antolini Keyster survived the bitter winter in Maine in reasonably good shape. She recently installed new hearing aids. She says before long she'll be all replacement parts. (Editorial comment—so little of us are in the same boat, Glo.) She was planning to celebrate her 88th birthday (which was in March) in June when daughter Sue and her husband were planning to visit from Atlanta. Life at Piper Shores is always busy and stimulating. They had a fabulous celebration of Scotland's Robert Burns, courtesy of new Scottish residents. It was authentic from bagpipes to kilts to Scotty to toast the Queen to poetry to haggis (?) and to a resounding chorus of "Auld Lang Syne." • Alice Thorn Laoquer is enjoying her cottage/apartment at Pine Run Village Retirement Community. With two bedrooms, full kitchen, washer, dryer, and dinner every night at the "Hub," she feels very lucky. Son Dave and Jane live two miles down Ferry Road, son Eric is in Philadelphia, and daughter Ann is in Iowa City and calls almost every night. She has made some nice friends and so far has joined a book group and the Village Singers. Her health seems to be stable—she recently had #88, so she has much to be thankful for. • Jeanne Picard Johnson is the world's greatest optimist and has much to be thankful for.

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for substitute organist work this fall. There've been four churches that have employed her as sub until recently. Meanwhile, her Peace Fellowship at the chapel kept her mind occupied while hosts of people seemed to be caring for Everett's needs. He has entered his second Hospice contract, so she doesn't know how long he can "beat the system" with 24/7 oxygen/COPD following his 15th pneumonia. The Peace Fellowship meetings on Sunday mornings will resume in the fall. She adds, "The online music journal that I helped to establish is now dormant for lack of financially supportive board members. Watch it sleep at www.performingartsne.org and see if you have any inspiration as to where I can tell the remaining board of four to turn before they dissolve the parent org: www.evNewEng.org. As for my poetry book, Unlaundered Cache, you can hear me read from it (much too informally) at my childhood hometown library on YouTube. (Search for Unlaundered Cache.) And there are 19 copies remaining at www.libertymedianh.org. Self-published books get no reviews from mainline news media so I am looking for a real publisher for more poems for a new book or enlarged second edition." Now I hope you have enjoyed reading about these few classmates. Next time I write to you, I hope you will answer with a short note so we will all be able to read about YOU. Would it help if I said "pretty please with sugar on it"?

— Class Correspondent: Janet Shaw Percival (wcpercival46@gmail.com), Magnolia Grand South, Apt. 151, 2736 N. W. 77th Blvd., Gainesville, FL 32606.

A note from Anne Macomber Wood at Christmastime announced the birth of her first great-grandchild in South Carolina. It was a boy and "he looked darling, of course." Anne is thankful for computers that enable us to get news and pictures so rapidly. Her other news was visiting her grandson, Ryan, and his wife in Charleston, S.C., in March 2013. Anne is content in her retirement community in Framingham, Mass., as there is always something going on and there's a great group of people there. In early 2013 when Jean Gunther was free of pain from her stomach episode and could function pretty well on her own, she was moved to a small three-room unit at Kings Grant in Martinsville, Va. She has her own furniture but all meals and transportation are provided. Jean wrote that the place is run like a first-class hotel. She is free to come and go as she pleases but must return "on schedule" throughout the day so that a nurse can provide her with her special medications. Her wants are few and she is content to continually knit the cotton dishcloths, which are no longer available commercially. She has no difficulty selling them and she gives the proceeds to the SPCA of which she is a retired board member. An email from Mortimer Harman indicated that he and wife Edith (Titus) '48 have now lived on the West Coast for seven years. Their initial purpose in go-
problems. When Betsy wrote her note their latest five weeks. Physical therapy and good care fixed her up. She still runs the 5,000-volume library at White Horse Village. In May 2013 Betsy fell and broke her shoulder a lot of movies. • Betsy Hornaday Fry now limits her in her community “who can still raise their legs about kind of chorus-girl number with some of the women balance things off she choreographed and danced a important documents in American history. Then to do something about global warming. Last spring she they make up the Middlebury contingent. Jobuck fol­ cient Mayan ruins. Jobuck sees a good deal of Gloria Irv ’50 and Kathy Pell Meeker ’50 as well. Altogether (The granddaughter is the daughter of son Scott ’72.)

Orleans together. They also took a cruise and were able dearing there was to be near their children and to be able to enjoy the company of their grandchildren. They have discovered that they very much like the Seattle area. Mort and Edith did get back to Cape Cod last summer to visit friends in Orleans and Brewster and also to attend their granddaughter’s wedding in Maryland. (The granddaughter is the daughter of son Scott ’72.) Both continue in good health. • Due to my worsening deafness, I do not often contact classmates by phone, as there are only certain voice pitches that I can hear. However, when someone who usually answers my pleas for news does not, I have to resort to the phone or, if known, email. Such was the case with Muriel Mack Lamppert. Muriel suffered a stroke, which affected her right side so she can no longer write or use the computer. In spite of that she is pretty well and enjoying life. She is confined to her house most of the time. She stays alone at night but has girls in to assist her during the day. Son David lives in Ohio, too, 15 miles away, and comes every week to see her. Like so many of us, they endured several snowstorms this past winter. Her two granddaughters, who live in Maryland, were delighted with all the snow as it was the first time they had experienced snow and they enjoyed playing in it. Muriel thinks of Middlebury a lot and would truly enjoy receiving cards from friends. • Joanne Buckridge Booth has been living it up per usual. She has endless energy and bounce and continues to relish life. When she received my request for news she had just returned from a two-week road trip to New Orleans, a town she dearly loves. She found a perfect place in the French Quarter where she could hear early jazz, enjoy dancing, and speak French. Her daughter and husband arrived for a few days and they were able to enjoy New Orleans together. They also took a cruise and were able to visit several countries, learning about and seeing ancient Mayan ruins. Jobuck sees a good deal of Gloria Antolini Keyes ’46 at their retirement community and Irv ’50 and Kathy Pell Meeker ’50 as well. Altogether they make up the Middlebury contingent. Jobuck follows Bill McKibben’s role as a leading light in the effort to do something about global warming. Last spring she gave a talk on Martin Luther King Jr.’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” which she considers one of the most important documents in American history. Then to balance things off, she choreographed and danced a kind of chorus-girl number with some of the women in her community “who can still raise their legs about eight inches off the floor.” She also reads a lot and views a lot of movies. • Betsy Hornaday Fry now limits her driving to local areas. As a result she only gets to their farm in the Poconos when someone else is going there. She still runs the 5,000-volume library at White Horse Village. In May 2013 Betsy fell and broke her shoulder and pelvis and so landed in their health-care unit for five weeks. Physical therapy and good care fixed her up but she has a new understanding of people with health problems. When Betsy wrote her note their latest snowstorm had just turned to rain, for which they were all grateful. She said walking up to dinner on the cold, snow-covered evenings reminded her of Middlebury 70 years ago. • Virginia Lee Costello has the good fortune to remain healthy and to continue to live independently in Boston’s North End waterfront area. She has not had a car for many years but Boston is a walking city and public transportation is close by. Much of what she does centers around OLLI at UMass-Boston. She has been active in the program for the last 10 years and has served on the curriculum committee. She signed up for three courses for the spring semester: a class on Morocco, one on Rwanda, and one on Germany from Weimar to Hitler. In addition she enjoys three of their special interest groups: culinary adventures, books, and Oigong practice. Oigong practice is an ancient Chinese health-care system that integrates physical posture, breathing techniques, and focused attention. Her five daughters, 10 grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter are scattered but they visit as often as possible. Last summer they all attended a granddaughter’s wedding in Itchaca, N.Y. Her brother, who lives in Germany, visited her last summer and will return this year. Last summer Virginia and daughter Cindy visited Carolyn Leach Gorman in Towson, Md. They were roommates one year at Middlebury. Some time ago Carolyn sold her home in Baltimore and moved to Blakehurst, a retirement home. She emails about enjoying trips to Washington, D.C., and especially to the museums and opera. • We reminisced about our art class at Middlebury with Prof Healy as she now goes to an open-figure drawing group once a week for three hours. She doesn’t expect to hang any artwork in a gallery but really enjoys the group. She does mostly charcoal but also uses water­colors. She said she truly enjoyed her employment at Syracuse Univ., working in the Special Collections library, and was exposed to many rare books. She worked until she was 78 and sometimes regrets she didn’t stay longer. She has one son living in her area and two grandchildren at Kenyon College. She no longer cross-country skis as no one is available to join her now, but she does walk each day to pick up her mail at a post office box. Keep up the good work, Jan. • I received a wonderful email from Dorcas “Doc” Neal Gracey, bringing me up to date on her life today in summer 2014
but Don was undecided. We happened to get on the subject of skiing and I told him I was very surprised some years ago when I planned to show June the big jump at the Snow Bowl and found the structure no longer existed. Bob explained that liability insurance was the reason. I told Bob I once went off the smaller Chipmonk ski jump, mostly on a dare, and he replied that structure wasn’t really that small! I mentioned to Bob that a large group of relatives and friends helped to celebrate Mary Nasmith Means’ 46th birthday. Bob and Mary are close friends and often communicate by email and phone. I gave a brief talk about Mary and explained I had met her husband Don ’47 way back in 1946. We were Deke fraternity brothers. I sent my love to Bob who thanked me for sharing it with him. My job as class correspondent would be much easier if other classmates gave me a call. • On a more somber note Merton Stevens passed away in February. My condolences go to his family.

50 REUNION CLASS
Correspondent Dixon Hemphill reports: I talked to Debbie Nye Eppler, who was a brilliant member of our class. Her proudest achievement: her three sons graduated from Middlebury, Stephen in ’74, Randy in ’75, and Edward in ’86. Now two daughters of Edward are Middlebury girls, Cassandra, who graduated in May, and her sister Beatrice, who will graduate in 2017. They are from Connecticut. Debbie was a trustee of the College for many years. I remember she was a Smithsonian tour guide at one time and a stockbroker. She suffered a stroke 10 years ago and another last year. She lives in Denver, Colo. • I reached Caroline Wheeler Sawyer, who is lucky enough to live in Santa Barbara, Calif. She’s glad she studied Spanish so she can pronounce all the street names out there. But she really disliked the Vermont cold. She has five children. Two of them live nearby with families and they are a blessing. One daughter is a commercial artist. Nancy’s husband’s cousin was a treasurer at Middlebury for many years, from 1951. His name was Carroll Rikert. • Lura Hallett Smith was a roommate freshman year. She has six children and thoroughly enjoys them! She is living in Heritage Village Senior Center in a three-bedroom condo in Southbury, Conn. A daughter and granddaughter live with her. She has a daughter who is a Navy captain. She rose from an enlisted position in 12 years and is on Okinawa as a hospital administrator with a master’s degree. (Her dyslexic child!) She has a librarian daughter and a stockbroker girl. David and Scott are in computers and Bruce is chief fund-raiser for an art school that has many Chinese students. Three high school grandchildren (twins, 16) and one eleven-year-old boy are into acting! Lura plays bridge biweekly, reads mysteries voraciously, and has a master’s in divinity!

Our class was pretty special. • Bernard Friedlander sent an update to the College: “I recently submitted to the Atlantic magazine a brief account of a perfectly extraordinary bar mitzvah that occurred in 1911 in one of the far Western states to which Pres. Taft and 100 of the most outstanding people in American politics, finance, industry, and public affairs were invited. The piece describes an amazing event in a highly unusual setting and it’s part of a longer, more complicated slice of American history that was given to me in a 300-year archive. In a nutshell, a hash encounter in the Army in 1945, the day before Hiroshima, led to my lifelong friendship with a very unusual man. When he died in 2010 at 96, he designated me to have access to the archive of his Euro-American family papers and the authority to publish them ‘for literary purposes only.’ The archive tells quite a tale. One branch of Burton Fine’s family came to America in the mid-1700s. The remarkable patriarch, an intentionally obscure man, became one of the architects of the financial system that generated the incredible prosperity of Southern agriculture in the slave states. The old man himself—a retired sea captain—helped design some of the most economically efficient slave ships ever built. Another branch of the family steamed past the Statue of Liberty in 1892 in a fleet of four tramp steamers under the leadership of an illiterate old gypsy-Ukrainian-Jewish fellow who had made a lot of money in European transportation and shipping and had decided to come to America. He made a new fortune very fast in the East Coast harbor trades and then acquired a huge spread of land and lots of business interests in Rocky Mountain country. That’s where his grandson’s bar mitzvah took place. In addition to his legitimate businesses, the patriarch of this clan also got mixed up in a lot of shady political and business schemes on the dark side and made huge piles of money. When the bar mitzvah boy grew up, he took his turn in charge and cleaned up the family act. But he paid a terribly high price for his honesty, in the act of trying to create a whole new kind of legacy for the family. If I keep my marbles long enough, I hope to see this through to publication as The Narratives of Burton Fine: American Triumph—American Tragedy. If any classmates are interested in seeing brief samplers of the story (or of my science contributions to the seminar series at the Univ of Wisconsin) send your request to me via email at BZF202@gmail.com. Put ‘Midd ’50 Sampler Request’ in the subject line.”

51 Ken Carle writes, “After much hesitation, we moved north in May to a retirement home in Canandaigua, N.Y. We will still spend three months in Florida, but our kids are in
the Northeast. We have had 15 great years in Naples. Maybe I will ski again! We hope you are happy in your new home, Ken. It's hard to make these changes but being near the children is certainly great. You will still be able to escape some of the bad weather. • From Ed and Jean Maintain Higgins we received a Christmas card with a picture of them and their adorable new great-grandson, Gus. We also received a Christmas note from Carol Osborn Moger saying they have welcomed a great-grandchild into their family. Congratulations to all the new parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents. • Meg Curry Gregg and husband Don had a fascinating cruise with lectures around the Iberian Peninsula to celebrate their 60th anniversary. Meg had some health issues earlier in the year and they were thankful for her restored health. Don's book, Pur Shard, has had final editing and hopefully will be published by now. • Joan Allen Armour wrote that, as of December, California was still earthquake free, with lots of sun, flowers, greens, and water at son Tim's house just 10 miles down the road. They were planning a trip to Newport Beach, Calif., to the annual Christmas boat parade and then to Los Angeles for Christmas with sons Tim and Paul and families. Following that they were planning to go to the rodeo in Denver with Becky and Piper and other family members. She says they would like us ALL to visit them. • Barbara Pike Prinn says that her retirement community, Havenwood-Heritage Heights in Concord, N.H., is a great place to grow old with friends, activities, and continuous care. Her grandchildren range in age from one year to 40 years! She also has great-grandchildren in their teens. • Cristina Schweiker Herrlich has moved from her old farmhouse in Colchester, Vt., to an independent apartment in a senior housing complex in Essex Junction, Vt. She's finding the community of seniors friendly and welcoming. She's near the pool, where she swims every other day, and she can also continue gardening, as there are plots available. She continues volunteer activities and appreciates the help from her children, who live four hours away. Cristina is well, although she says, "Old age crept up on me when I wasn't looking!" • Dexter Whittinghill '50 writes that they faced many challenges and changes this past year. They're living at Carleton-Willard Village retirement community in Bedford, Mass. Wife Norma (Horsford) was moved to a higher level of care there. She has settled into her new program extremely well and enjoys having meals with friends and attending planned events. Dex included a poem composed by then Meg Curry, back in Middlebury days: "There once was a girl with a grin/whom Dex set his heart on to win/He worked and slaved at MTH/She studied hard for a Midd degree/But they both pined away and grew very thin/It seemed such a sin, so he dropped her his pin!" • Roly Coates and Liz spent two weeks on St. John in the Caribbean and missed five snowstorms in New Hampshire. The toughest thing they had to do was decide which beach to go to each day. They also headed out for their "March Mooch" to Florida, visiting friends and family en route, and looking forward to missing more snowstorms. • Jacob Shammass is very proud that his granddaughter, Amanda Hotvedt, was a freshman at Midd this past year and on the soccer team. She is the third generation of the Shammass family to go to Midd. • Irvin '53 and Ellie Hight Morris were proud but also apprehensive as daughter Julie Morris Ogden '86 ran in the Boston Marathon. She applied and was picked for a team raising money for the Mass Eye and Ear Infirmary for research for macular degeneration. • Sadly we learned of the death of Don MacLean on March 1. Alec Marshall writes, "My life the past 65 years has been and is the consequence of my father and Don's having a conversation about their sons. These two fathers were classmates in high school. A consequence of this conversation was a meeting with Sam Guarneracci '50, director of admissions, at which Don and I met and subsequently were accepted at Midd. Don was a funny guy, yes. He was also a wonderful, very substantial person. In some sense I feel we were connected at the hip. I am so grateful." Don had written recently that he had become a "great" great-grandfather. He was thrilled that the baby was born on his birthday. Don will be greatly missed, and our sympathy to all his friends and family. • We also learned of the death of John Gilmore on March 13 at home in Greenfield, Mass. He died surrounded by beautiful paintings he had done. John had studied and painted in Europe in the past. Bill Deming writes, "I roomed with John our sophomore year, so that is where our friendship started. We lost track of the Gilmores until we started going to Alumni College. We always enjoyed our time together at meals or after classes." Bill said that John was a gifted artist and his home is full of his works, which he would not sell. Phyllis Cole Deming remembers watching along on campus chatting with John when he made the suggestion that she should get to know Bill Deming! And of course the rest is history. "John and Helen (Reid) were always treasured friends despite our not seeing each other a lot over the years. They visited us in Vermont and we visited them in Greenfield—now I wish it had been a million more times. We are always saddened to learn of the passing of our classmates and send heartfelt sympathy to all their friends and families. We are always impressed to learn of the activities of you all. Even in retirement communities, there are so many opportunities to keep active. So please keep in touch and let us know what you're doing and thinking. Even if it isn't much, we just like to hear from you and share with our classmates. Best wishes for health and happiness. • —Correspondent: Les Webster McArthur (rmac@verizon.net), 725 Willow St., Cranford, NJ 07016; Beth Huey Newman (bethhueynewman@gmail.com), 300 Woodhaven Dr., Apt. 2509, Hilton Head, SC 29928. 52 Correspondent Barbara Cumminiskey Villet reports: Phyllis Mortimer Porter exchanged notes on nature with me—mainly her adventures with black bears who have been visitors to her home in Simsbury, Conn. The encounters have been dramatic, given the presence of two Labradors, whom her and her husband "babysit" for their kids at times. One of them, Diva, decided to defend her turf when a bear made his way into the family garage and hauled away a big bag of birdseed for lunch. Diva took exception to the theft and daringly dashed at the bear—scaring him mid-meal into retreating but scaring Phyllis as well. Especially as she had had her own encounter with another intriguing black bear. She had gone for the newspaper at the end of her drive and was looking at it when peripheral vision signaled something in motion nearby. It proved to be a bear close to her and continuing toward her in the brush. To complicate the situation, Phyllis has atrial fib, uncorrected, and so when she tried to back away, facing the bear as we are told to do, she found herself stumbling. Plainly, she needed to move out of the bear's way and so turned away from her home toward the town road, with the bear seemingly to follow. At that point, she said, she let out a "god-awful" scream of fear—frightening herself as well as the bear, who turned and fled. Ah nature, ah drama. Otherwise, Phyllis's life seems full of good stuff. She has two sons and a daughter, all of whom share the family cottage on Lake Dunmore, with her grandchildren in tow. There are now three granddaughters in the picture ages 22, 7, and 5. The five-year-old is an adopted child from Ethiopia who delights her grandmother with her cleverness and coping skills, all learned from harsh experiences that she has overcome. But the seven-year-old is no slouch either—her grandmother refers to her as a "sharp little bunny." And the 22-year-old is doing just fine out in the world already. Great talk—and I hope to see her in Simsbury one day soon. • Our new correspondent Jean Vaughan Varney has some news of her own. She has moved and taken a place that has opened in a retirement community nearby in Sterling, Va. There was so much to do just to clear out her home, sell it, and make the move that she is just now taking over for Mary Halsted Francœur. I (Barbara) would like to thank Mary for her wonderful help these past few years! • Meantime I spent some delightful time with Mary in Lake Bluff and Chicago between Christmas and New Year's. She not only guided me through the pash environs of Lake Forest on the way to her lovely home but also guided me in Chicago to see some of its wildly wonderful architectural achievements. But the highlight for me was a special trip we made to Milwaukee to see the art museum. The new Quadracci Pavilion by Santiago Calatrava is an astonishingly beautiful architectural achievement, truly breathtaking and not to be missed. It has wings that lift like those of a giant bird over the main building and every angle within seems to frame a view or
something stunning—like the great Calder hanging above as you enter from the parking garage. It was such a gift from Mary to take me and I remain very grateful.

Finally, in my continuing interest in catching up with classmates I've not heard from, I called Mary Mauesel Pulling in Atlanta, who began by telling me she had no news—and then of course there was lots of it. She retired from teaching a while back but took up with learning at the Senior University—a self-motivated and self-defined group of learners who have organized a variety of lecture series at Mercer College. The college lends its facilities but retired professors from a variety of schools and disciplines teach what Mary calls simply fabulous courses on everything from geology to literature. Somewhere along the line in our conversation I learned that Mary has had two heart surgeries, so she still rides a stationary bike and goes regularly to the gym to keep exercising. She sounded wonderful! And better by far in the art of self-maintenance than yours truly.

Finally, sad news came from Joyce Rohr Voss. Her wonderful “great Dane,” Olfert Voss, a renowned and highly honored Iron Age archaeologist, died this past winter, Joyce was in Boulder, Colo., when his death occurred, making this blow that much more difficult. We send our deepest sympathy to her.

Correspondent Chuck Ratte reports: I had a nice class greeting from John Taylor, which I will extend to all our classmates for him. We were saddened to learn of the passing of Pete Flickinger. We extend our condolences to his family.

Class Correspondent: Nancy Whittemore Nickerson

I called Ann McGinley Ross. She and Jim '51 have left the house on the hill in Cornwall, VT., site of so many great reunion brunches. They are thriving in their condo in EastView, the new development out by Porter Hospital. They felt they had to make the move and she said all the rest of us should do the same, downsize and get rid of a bunch of stuff. It helps if you have family nearby and they do. Daughter Patty Ross, who was a member of the U.S. ski team at the Sarajevo Olympics, is now coaching the College cross-country team, and their son runs the dining service at Vermont Academy. If they want to travel to more exotic places, another child lives in NYC. Classmates such as Pat Hamilton Todd, Anne Coleman Zehner, and Nancy Hamilton Shepherd abound, especially during the summer. As always, life is much colder than usual. We had to go back north, dodging storms, and skipping the chaos in Atlanta caused by snow and ice. So how was Florida? Beautiful, said Buzz. Of course! He confesses he has been lazy. Having given up carrier landings, the New Hampshire Air National Guard, and the insurance business, he is left with golf. But joint replacements slowed him down. Now with new knees, shoulders, etc., he is thinking of trying again. Of their three sons, the oldest lives in Park City, Utah, and serves the U.S. ski team as a meet arranger, getting to travel to all the famous venues. Second son lives on a mountain with the first, and the third lives in Rhode Island, selling wine, and raising their grandchildren. Having solved the winter weather problem, Buzz and wife Carol still get back to New Hampshire and Lake Sunapee in the summer. Buzz has kept in touch with Ivor Morris and Don Beers and, until recently, with his Gifford roommate, Cedric “Ceddie” Sherrer. The loss of Ceddie in December is part of this season’s bad news. Ceddie took his Vermont skis to Lake Tahoe and Bend, Ore., and had a grand time in the ski business, as well as at our class and golf reunions. Our condolences to wife Sue and family. We also learned of the death of Pat Heap Rockwell, who has followed husband Charles. Anyone with a copy of our 50th reunion Road Taken book should review their impressions. They will be missed. And although Ken Nourse '52 was not a member of our class, he was a friend, adviser, and father confessor to many of us. We’re sorry to hear of his passing. He did a lot for many at Middlebury and at the end was the companion and husband of our classmate Pat Todd. We mourn with her. To close on a happier note, the news from President Ed Perrin, via his corresponding secretary wife Carol, suggests that they have solved the downsizing problem, as well as the weather problem. If all went well, they spent a good part of the winter season in Kauai, Hawaii. Back in Seattle, they have the perfect spot, a retirement home near the downtown. Like the Rosses, they had a beautiful house on a hill with a great view (Lake Washington and Mount Rainier), but they were smart enough to downsize. Upbeat Carol says the new place has great people, food, cultural activities, and recreation. At Middlebury Ed ran cross-country, but now he treadmills while Carol hits the pool. Despite their new home’s fine dining (and chef), Ed likes it when he can stay in, relax, and enjoy Carol’s home cooking. Or so says Carol. Ed keeps busy with various committees. At one point he was chairing a committee to defend the pension rights of Univ. of Washington retirees. Bravo! When the Perrins head east, they usually get no farther than Indiana where they visit their daughter, Jennifer, and their grandchildren. Granddaughter Alyson is a med student in Indiana, Jessica is in the School of Nursing at Indiana Univ., and Tyler is studying audio production at the Illinois Institute of Art in Chicago. So Ed and Carol are good on the West Coast, with outposts east and west, but it would be nice to see them in Vermont again.

— Class Correspondent: Robert Parker (wparker@earthlink.net), 1065 Fruitland Rd., Springfield, OH 45503.

45 I hope classmates had a good time at reunion. We now need a new class correspondent!

Class Correspondent: Nancy Whittemore Nickerson (forger@prodigy.net), 4 Osprey Ln., Mystic, CT 06373.

55 REUNION CLASS Correspondent Sally Dickerman Brew reports: Cece Clark Forell sent a note about Joan Patterson Woodsum, who died February 2. “My friendship with Joan involved either my trips to Maine or the Woodsums’ visits to the Bay Area, frequently on their way to or from Hawaii. I visited their lovely old home on a point in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, where Ed has his law firm and Joan was so involved in the symphony and CASA. I adored the house—it was large and a bit funky (not modernized at least), most comfortable, and really a New England gem. Joan always delighted in showing me how they could see the sun set from their beach, which of course I pooh-poohed as they are on the East Coast and I, after all, live on the West. I think I have a photo proving her point. Her oldest daughter with a lawyer husband lives nearby with their three kids and Joan and Ed were always involved with those grands. Her middle daughter lives in Alaska and is married, and the youngest daughter lives in Vermont with her husband. Joan’s son I did not know, mainly because he was away at school and then possibly teaching somewhere away. Joan and I became good friends at Midd—in the beginning out of necessity, as we were the only females in our class who majored in economics. She graduated with honors and trotted off to Yale Law, and I went on to the publishing field in Boston. Ed is a natural leader and was president of everything from the National Audubon Society to school districts and charities of all kinds, so they traveled a lot, which she loved. I always felt she was essential to Ed’s life—they had a grand marriage and I’m sure he is devastated without her. I know I have a hole in my heart.” * As for Cece, she writes, “Life is good here in Tiburon, Calif. My grands are 14, 12, 11, and 9—the younger two are about 30 minutes away and the older ones are in a suburb of Auckland, New Zealand, where my son-in-law established an engineering office for his firm of which he is a partner here in San Francisco. They’ve been in that delightful heaven for almost three years— a beautiful country, divine people, and just a great place to live. The education for the kids seems great, and I can’t tell you how worldly my grands have become.” Our classmates have such varied interests. Lynn Fisher Markham is a plant breeder of irises. She and husband Peter have lived in the same house in Lunenburg, Mass., for 60 years! They have an acre with one-third under cultivation, especially for irises.
Until very recently Lynn did all the work of cultivation on her own and has just recently hired a gardener. Lynn learned how to breed irises from her mother and a cousin. Earlier in her career of breeding irises, Lynn would do the selling, shipping, and packing of the flowers in the summer. Lynn has won prestigious awards for bringing different species, through breeding, of irises into this country. Her daughter, Stephanie, is now also doing plant breeding of irises. Looking online one can view Markham Irises at Toadland Gardens. In addition to her career as a plant breeder, Lynn worked as a paralegal in a law firm, which she still does one day a week. When asked about Middlebury memories, Lynn was an actress and remembers spending much time at the Playhouse. She remarked that she were at Middlebury when the Playhouse burned down. (Classmates, do you remember that event?) Peter Markham's career was working with the advertising department of the Lowell Sun. Although he was never on a team while at Middlebury he has done a lot of coaching various sports, such as basketball. • Jojo Kittell Corey e-mailed the following: "We continue to be involved with family activities year-round; college hockey (UVM and Midd); some local community organizations; and opera—mostly in the summer at Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and Glimmerglass in Cooperstown, N.Y." Jojo, who learned to play the drums in later life, still plays in the percussion section of the Brattleboro American Legion band. They had their first grandchild college graduation last May—from Oberlin. A winter highlight was our granddaughter Bridget's high school basketball team. The team was 22-0 and won the Division IV New Hampshire State Championship. As far as reflections on Midd, we both feel that going to Middlebury was probably the most important choice that we have made in our lives—for lots of reasons! • When I called Betty Edwards, I was greeted with a shriek of delight. We had a wonderful chat about her life's work in the church. Betty received her MDiv from the Princeton Theological Seminary in 1962. Later Betty received a ThM in pastoral care and counseling. She especially enjoyed studying and teaching the New Testament. After that time, Betty was ordained as a pastor. Currently she is still on the staff of the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Trenton, N.J., as a parish minister. When not teaching or ministering, Betty goes off with Psychie, her Eskimo-poodle companion. She travels in a van camper, which has everything in it needed for her trips. She has driven several times across the country, camping along the way, to visit her sister in Huntington Beach, Calif. Someday, she thinks, it might be fun to drive to Alaska. When asked about her experience at Middlebury, she said the religion conference, held our junior year, really determined her career. Judy Mitchell Ward got her interested in helping with the conference. Chaplain Scott, who later came to Betty's ordination, was a big influence on the direction of her life. • Pat Hinman Makin continues to be actively involved in fishing, skiing, sailing, and bridge. She also plays bridge weekly. Keeping up the Middlebury tradition, she now has two grandchildren at the College, children of son Rick '84. Carter is going to be a senior and Jory is going to be a sophomore. Jory, an outstanding soccer player, made the varsity team. Pat had a fun event for her 80th birthday sailing in the Virgin Islands. Her children, Cindy '81 and Rick, did all the arranging of the trip. Pat, similar to many of our classmates, has not slowed down as she begins her eighth decade. • Correspondent John Baker reports: John von Hartz sent word that he has published online his latest book, a group of recollections from his life and the life he has shared with Kathy (Hughes). It's called Dining Tales, because the stories in it are ones they have often told during meals. If you go to Amazon and type the title of the book in the search window it will come up. John wanted it to be free but Amazon wouldn't let him so 99 cents was the cheapest he could make it! • Alan Frese reports that he has sold his sailboat but is still alive and well. (I still have mine!) —Class Correspondents: John M. Baker (jmbaker@bestwebnet.com), 76 Spooner Hill Rd., South Kent, CT 06785; Sally Dickerman Brues (sdbrews@ mindspring.com), 619 Benvenue Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024.

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Hello classmates! We sent out the call for news, and it was answered promptly and well! John Chase, always ready with interesting items, wrote from California: "Barbara and I celebrated our 80th birthdays in June with a BBQ party in Nicasio, with the cows. We're off to do the Rhine River in October by boat for several weeks and then retire. We are well, involved in running our retirement home and in local ventures." • Dick Catlin continues to amaze us with stories about the engineering teaching duo of Benz and Catlin, who are into yet another project: "Mark Benz and I are back on campus helping to coordinate a new course on alternative fuels. We're working with Prof. Noah Graham, chair of the physics dept., and Prof. A.J. Vasiliou, a newly hired chemistry professor. The chemistry course will concentrate on new ways to store methane. You may remember our J-term course was successful in reconfiguring an antique Ford tractor to run on methane, as well as hydrogen and natural gas, but the universal problem with these fuels is limited storage and therefore limited range. This course will concentrate on new ways to increase storage capacity. Our antique Ford tractor is living at the Middlebury Hannaford Career Center, where students under Hayden Thomsen '07 are continuing to refine the tractor's operating abilities. Mark continues to oversee much of that work as well." • Jody Newmarkerman Crum celebrated her 80th birthday in May by cruising from Rome to Copenhagen. "The most important stop for me was Normandy where my dad, 12th Connecticut Legion Commander, conducted Memorial Day services years ago!" • Sally Thomson Clark writes, "Tom and I are still upright and celebrated our 48th wedding anniversary June 16. We have sold our camp in the Adirondacks and are sort of homeless this summer! But we have children in Vermont and New Hampshire. We love our life in Savannah, Ga., for eight months each year and love all that beautiful city has to offer. Tom has become famous as the Savannah expert on early childhood education, beginning with the education of parents so children from birth on will be ready for kindergarten—a big undertaking as most people, including our legislators, think pre-K is the answer—not true. I'm still painting and will lead a two-day workshop this summer at View, our art center in Old Forge, N.Y. I'm also preparing for a joint show with a quilter friend in Savannah in October. We call it 'Brush and Needle.' Hello to everyone!" • Dick Brigham entered his 80th year with his own teeth and he's never flossed. He has never been known as a person of interest, never been in-bedded, and never worn flippy flops. He and Janice were married in 1946 and live in central Connecticut. • Liz Alexander Brierley writes, "The TV pictures of Russian army trucks in western Crimea have had a special impact for us. Last September Jim and I traveled those same roads (Balaklava, Sevastopol, Bachcsari, Yalta) in a tour bus. We were on a Black Sea cruise that included 'Charge of the Light Brigade' territory, a Greek seaside temple, Chekhov's house, etc. We can't help feeling it was just in time." • And, as a sad reminder that our wonderful lives are not forever, we report the passing of Linda Donk Gray and Marilyn Robinson O'Quinn. Linda and Marilyn were among the sweetest and kindest of our class of coeds. They always had smiles, were smart as whips, and were among the quietest and loveliest ladies, who were always easy to be with. Our deep sympathy to their families. • Joan Dotson, wife of David Dotson, sent us this note. "My husband passed away on May 8, 2013, after a long, difficult time with colon cancer that required two surgeries and three series of chemo. I'm sure that many who read this have been touched by this horrible cancer! David carried on with life and never complained from first being diagnosed in 2007. All who knew him were amazed by his attitude to life and his love of his fellow man. He made everyone, even strangers in his path, appreciate his sense of humor and great love of life. His love of fishing and hunting never left him, and he ventured out with family and friends as long as he could. The pastor of our church became his most frequent fishing friend, and they shared many good times on the water hunting for Musky! Our sons and their families kept us busy over the years. Our sons played hockey, and our middle son and his two boys still play; and that son loves to arrange pick-up hockey games with his brothers, nephews, and friends and their sons. It was one of David's most special times, watching them at the beautiful indoor facility that our Toronto Maple Leafs practice
Katherine Entwisle '08 married Alex Palmisano '07 in Carmel Valley, Calif., at Holman Ranch on April 27, 2013, amongst family and lots of Middlebury friends: Natalie Shettle Herter '07, Dana Heritage '10, Anne Entwisle '15, Lauren Battaglia Keohane '06, Lacey Farrell '08, the newlyweds, Taryn Petrelli '09, Lindsay Patterson '08, Nina Daughtery '08, Kate Perry '07, Lilly Fitzpatrick McKenna '08, Reid Berrien '08, Chase Delano '11, (second row) Aaron Herter '06, Richie Fuld '07, Will Simpson '07, Brett Shirreffs '07, Ryan Keohane '07, Audrey Nelson '08, Dave Campbell '08, Donald Notman '82, Sam Palmisano '11, Jeff Schneider '07, Cary Palmisano '12, Abbey Glover '11, Bryce Connery '07, Matt Ferrer '09, Skyley Hopkins '08, Mike Walsh '08, Ben Parsons '08, Alice Demmerle '09, Mark Spadaccini '06, and Jed McDonald '08. Middlebury friends and significant others got together for the 2013 Cow Sh** Festival: Gil Owren '07, Kitty Clapp '63, Bob Lilly '62, (third row) John Sinclair, Judy Tobey, Sally Tingle Southard '06, (second row) Arnold Manthorne '62, Lynn Steinle, Sue Goodwin Hopkins '60, Marge Gray, Pete Steine '62, Gordon Eaton '62, Betty Allen Hornbostel '62, John Hornbostel '52, Steve Adams '63, Al Lamson '60, Charles Tobey '62, Judy Tobey, Sally Tingle Southard '61, Brud Conn '62, Beedee Dworkin, Leah Dworkin, Jerry Dworkin '62, Kitty Clapp '63, Phil Latrelle '61, (third row) John Sinclair '62, Nancy Sinclair, Felice Manthorne, Jim Southard '59, Bob Dorf '65, Bonnie Boyd Russ '62, Lowrie Gibb '60, Patti Dorf, Sue Hibbert Lardner '60, Brock Lardner '60, Jim McKeeown '63, Howard Mettee '61, Judy McKeown, Brud Folger '60, Julie (Brud's friend), Fran Conn, Carrie Kittell Hunt '62, Harvey Gray '61, (fourth row) Jess Sinclair, Laurie Devlin, Mike Devlin '64, Sherm Russ '60, Bruce Burnham '60, Eugenia Cannon Burnham '60, Bill Butler '61, Ralph Cobb '60, Lucia Swallow, Peter Swallow '65, Sue Taylor, Gail Lilly, Dave Taylor '63, Bob Lilly '62, and John Hunt.

in when home in Toronto. Our youngest son, with his wife and daughter, has a history of doing triathlons, and he accomplished the Ironman in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, in August 2013. All of our seven grandchildren, between sports, school activities, and now their chosen vocations, gave David so much joy. Having no girls, our daughters-in-law shared a deep love and friendship with him. Our family is missing him terribly and his friends as well! Their love is keeping me going. David made my life worth living, and he was, and is, my greatest gift on earth." We send our condolences to Joan and her family.

— Class Correspondents: Dick Powell (repowell$@comcast.net), 15518 Ryton Ridge Ln., Gainesville, VA 20155; Judy Phinney Stearns (judyasteams@att.net), 53 Carriage Dr., Glastonbury, CT 06033.

57 Jane Smith Brekke writes, "We (I) do the same old things: go to the gym, hike, and volunteer for the retired teachers group. We took our annual trip to Lake Tahoe with son Kris's family. That's always fun. Last year Darrell and I did some good hikes in the Mt. Rose (Nev.) area, where we saw spectacular wild flowers in mid-July. For the annual Sons of Norway lutefisk dinner, I spent two days helping make cookies—rosettes—and I did about 400. Tedium work but not demanding on head or body! Then, along with Kris's family, we celebrated being Norwegian for an evening." • Peter "Dip" Decker writes, "In January, I met up with Sabra Harwood Field and Hugh Marlow in Hanover, N.H., to attend the memorial service for James Armstrong, former president of Middlebury." • Carol Van Duyan Terhune writes, "Much to my great pleasure, another generation of Terhunes has matriculated at Middlebury. Following in the footsteps of his dad, Jim Terhune '86, and his mother, Marnie Cunningham Terhune '88, John Terhune '17 graduated from Waterville (Maine) High School last June and started at Middlebury in August. Happily, that means he will graduate the year of our 60th reunion, and I'm already planning on attending both occasions. We only regret that Flip '56 was not with us to share our pleasure at having another family member at the place that has been so important in our lives." • Betsy Hauck Thumann is indeed a very active '56er. Her lawyer husband, Henry, has spent the last 13 years commuting back and forth from L.A. to D.C., handling cases for a major airline. Betsy goes for 10 days to D.C. and he takes long weekends back in L.A. each month. Betsy has been a tour guide at Mammoth Ski Area for years and still is. Duplicate bridge is another of her interests. And she works with her German shepherd service dog, which she takes with her on her airplane trips. • In December Rabbi Edward Maline celebrated his 50th anniversary in the rabbinate. At our request, he sent us a copy of his remarks about what motivated him to enter the rabbinate and who influenced him to become the
rabbis he is today. "It all began at Middlebury, where I was compelled to attend Chapel vespers services every Sunday. I complained to the Chaplain that this requirement was unfair. He asked if I wanted to break a tradition in effect for 150 years and I replied yes. He said he would think about it and a week later he called me into his office and said he would make a deal with me. If I could get 10 Jewish students to form a group, he would exempt me from the requirement. I proceeded to get 20 students and formed the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation. Today Hillel is still thriving. My involvement with Jewish activities at Middlebury motivated me to consider the rabbinate as a vocation. I applied to Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and was admitted." During his studies, he was greatly influenced by at least three faculty members: Dr. Nelson Glueck, one of the world's foremost archaeologists, who imbued him in a love for Israel; Dr. Sheldon Blank, a professor of bible, who emphasized the role of the ancient prophets in placing the primacy of ethics and morality over ritual and ceremony; and Dr. Ezra Spiechandler, a professor of Hebrew literature, who gave him an appreciation of the Hebrew language. In 1963 he was ordained by Dr. Glueck. His rabbinate has been characterized by prophetic social justice. He once read that Chassidic rabbi Israel Salanter said any rabbi whose congregation did not try to fire him at least once was no rabbi. And any rabbi who allowed himself to be fired was no mount. In Edward's 50 years there have been those who have wanted to fire him because he has spoken out on issues they disagree with and they wanted to deny him the freedom of the pulpit. But thanks to the wisdom and intelligence of the majority of his members, he is still there and trying to be a mount.

—Class Correspondents: Gail Bliss Allen (gallen@comcast.net), 3290 1st Ave. S, #318, Federal Way, WA 98003; Barclay Johnson (johnsonbarclay@optonline.net), 119 Thomaston Rd., Apt. 65, Watertown, CT 06795.

58 Here's a true-life story to start our class notes. Durf (Linda Durfee Dean) was persuaded by a few of us to write what I found to be a touching account of what happened to her at Middlebury: "My Middlebury story explains why I have been an advocate for the College and for the Class of '57 for most of my adult life. I do not tweet but I think it would be appropriate to label my story #family. Middlebury first supported me when I was an undergraduate, with scholarships and work opportunities that paid for the wonderful education I received there. In the fall of my junior year my father was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital with complications from a blood cancer and I was called to Boston. As I was packing to go, I was summoned to the dean's office where 'Ma' Kelly handed me cash, which she said I would need. I was again summoned to her office after my father's funeral. This time I was informed my second semester bill had been paid by a fund provided by a trustee of the College and Dean Kelly suggested I might write him a thank you note. During my father's hospitalization he was given over 40 pints of blood for which we were billed a substantial amount to pay if we were unable to replace the blood. My Middlebury sorority sisters managed to arrange for the Vermont Red Cross to transfer credits for blood they donated to my father's account. The stories of their adventures in donating are too numerous to recount here. To this day I enjoy the friendships and support of classmates and of many Middlebury staff members. What a privilege it is to be part of the Middlebury family!" • The student who is the recipient of the Class of 1958 Assistance Scholarship wrote a thoughtful thank you letter. "Going to a small liberal arts college has been the perfect opportunity for me to take risks; to take on new perspectives; to learn inside and outside the classroom. Deciding to pursue my college education at Middlebury was probably one of the best decisions I've made." • Mike McDonough, retired lawyer, reports that he and wife Rita are clearing out their three-story Edwardian house in preparation for downsizing. They spend summers on the Maine coast. • In California Marti Belknap continues to teach English as a Second Language to women from Japan, Iran, and Colombia. She also enjoys taking classes in art, music, poetry, and yoga. Husband Bill and Marti take extended hikes in the mountains and quiet walks along the beach near their home in Cardiff by the Sea. • Our condolences go to the family and friends of Mary Bachman Wright, who died on October 28, 2013. Elaine "Ellie" Humme reported that the memorial service was a lovely service for a woman with a lovely spirit. Ellie read a Native American prayer, which she felt evoked Mary's love of nature. "I give you this one thought to keep. I am with you still. I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow. I am the diamond glint on the snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain. I am the gentle autumn rain. Do not think of me as gone. I am with you still in each new dawn." • Sonny Wilder is stepping down and I (Mary) want to thank him for doing a fabulous job of connecting with classmates and writing class notes, all the time being incredibly organized. He will be missed! If you want to get in touch with him to say thank you or just to touch base, he is at wilder371@gmail.com. The good news is that Deborah West Zipf has agreed to join me as a correspondent! You can contact either of us at the addresses below.

—Class Correspondents: Mary Rosemole Crowley (artandmarycrowley@comcast.net), 7 Hill Pond Rd., Rutland, VT 05701; Deborah West Zipf (dzipf@optonline.net), 10 Stewart Rd., Apt. PH-4E, White Plains, NY 10603.

59 The fourth annual Bradenton Midd mini-reunion was held in late January outside Bradenton, Fla. Attendees were co-hosts George and Anne Martin Hartmann, and Joy and Andy Montgomery, with guests Hilt Bicknell and Ginny, and Dottie Dever Frost and friend Jim Wagner '57. • Pamela Payne Lewis is dealing with metastatic bone cancer, currently stabilized. She is teaching part time and singing and was honored to speak at the graduation of Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon. Son Kevin has successfully initiated a health insurance cooperative in Maine, earning national recognition. • Richard Sherwin was one of three people in the country to receive the Robert E. Gard Superior Volunteer at the annual meeting of the American Assoc. of Community Theater held in Carmel, Ind. Dick has been involved with the Tallahassee (Fla.) Little Theater as a volunteer for the past 48 years, having served in every office and aspect of community theater. In addition, he is also an officer with the Irish Repertory Theater, also in Tallahassee. • Sukey Tallman Walter writes, "We are renting a house on Hatteras Island, N.C., for the first week in August for the whole family. You could call it a Middlebury reunion as both our oldest son, his wife, our daughter, her husband, and William '53 and I attended Midd." • Ruth Wininger Reitman writes, "My decision to return to the awesome beauty of southwest Utah has been a sound one. The whole area has become more progressive. My only sadness is that Carl didn't live long enough to re-experience this part of the world." • Dick Krasker reported that he purchased a Canada Goose long parka, good to 30 below; to survive the Fryeburg, Maine, winter. • Anne Goebel Barkman experienced northern lights in January near James Bay (-29 degrees F), having driven 170 km to get there in the middle of the night. The son who was working in Alaska has now moved to Ottawa. • Richard Hofman continues to travel the world with visits to Germany, northern Italy, Provence, Paris, southern Brazil, and Buenos Aires. • Alice Brittain Griffin plans a trip to the Far East including two destinations in Vietnam, thinking of classmates who served there plans a trip to the Far East including two destinations in Vietnam, thinking of classmates who served there and wishing to express gratitude to them. • In her 27th year of the El Paso Children's Festival, a major event, Barbara Hart Decker will design most of the highly varied, hands-on, activities for families. • John Medici checks in from Ostrander, Ohio, reporting that he truly challenged himself this past year, swimming in 19 master swimming events and entering three major competitions, USMS Short-Course Nationals, Pan Am Champs (Sarasota) and National Senior Olympics (Ohio), and came home with more medals than our U.S. Men's Olympic hockey team. In what extra time he has, he mows 13 acres, collects fossils with sons, and assists his wife Betsy, a Master Gardener. • Activities for Ailene Kane Rogers include writing, church volunteering, and working with homeless families. In phone conversations, Barbara Decker helped guide Ailene's significant other, Steve, through eye surgery; complicated with glaucoma. Grandson Alec has volunteered in Alaska in the Student Conservation Program, through which Ailene volunteered as a young adult. • We are
Class Acts

sorry to report the loss of three of our classmates in the first quarter on 2014: Ted Parker on January 17; Deborah Bruce Halverson on February 21; and Jim McGowan. Regarding Jim, Anne Weston McGowan writes, "Jim quietly stopped his laborious breathing on Friday, March 7. He had been feeling pretty well since November, regaining some of the 70 pounds lost due to lung disease and enjoying outings and friends. On Wednesday he awoke from his nap with a raging fever, Friday, March 7. He had been feeling pretty well since the first quarter on 2014: Ted Parker on January 17; We're grateful that Jim had such a long hiatus in his decline, and such a quick and painless end." • Mary Charles Hubbard Blakeborough writes, "I have added TAPPING (EFT—Emotional Freedom Techniques) to my career coaching and Processology practice and am so excited. In mid-July I'm planning to spend some time in San Francisco and possibly Denver with friends.
—Class Correspondents: Lucy Payne Kezar (lucykezar@myfairpoint.net), 134 Main St., Kingston, NH 03848; Andy Montgomery (joyandym@aol.com), 8910 Hilo Way Rd., Eden Prairie, MN 55347.

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REUNION CLASS Ken Haupt wrote that living in the San Francisco Bay Area is a wonderful experience. The summer-like weather provides for plenty of golf, mountain bike riding, and some great trout and steelhead fishing, all catch and release. Ken misses seeing more of the class, but noted that 3,000 miles is a long way to go for a weekend. • Kathryn Olds Falconer says her grandchildren keep getting more interesting and fun each year. With a titanium plate in her back and a pacemaker in her chest, she has become a bionic woman. While her running days are over she finds enjoyment in reading, playing bridge, and church activities. • Last year Bob Millert's daughter decided to be married in Algoma, Wis., where Bob and Joyce have a vacation home. What made the wedding especially memorable was that for the first time in six years all three of their children with spouses and grandchildren were togethertogether. • Last fall, Jean MacInnes opened her cross-country ski season for four days on the first weekend of October in Bozeman, Mont., so the Montana State Univ. Nordic ski team could train. She remains ever thankful for son Chris's partnership and help with Bobhart Ranch. They opened officially on December 1, but the racing season was problematical due to subzero temperatures. • Last October loey Boon Hill, Caroline Vineiguerra Cassels, Geni Cannon Burnham, Nancy Hill Griswold, and Nancy Mumford Mulvey had a mini-reunion in NYC. They created their own dormitory with adjoining rooms in the hotel, visited the Frick Museum, took a bus tour with the worst tour guide any of them had ever encountered anywhere, enjoyed the musical Once, and visited the 9/11 memorial. • Last summer, while on a yacht-club cruise, Helen Smith Folwereller-Chipman had a layover day in Essex, Conn. As she was window shopping she heard her first name called out. It was Sue Hibbert Lardner. She and Breck visited with Helen and Dave on their boat at the end of the day and then invited all back to a "cook-in," as a thunderstorm was in full force. • In 2013 Bette and Pieter Schiller traveled with each of their families—to Alaska, to London, and to Ireland. In December, two days after Pieter had a hip replacement he was home and doing well. They said that it was a wonderful year, especially the time with family. They realize how lucky they are. • Penny and Art Myles had to Photoshop two of their baker's dozen grands into their holiday photo. In spite of the dry summer last year, Art's dahlias bloomed from July to November. Of the 35 varieties he planted some reached heights of eight feet. • Last summer Mel and Polly Johnson Stephens spent three days at the Wayside Inn in the center of Chatham on Cape Cod with their son and eight-year-old granddaughter. Anna loved to play "Eloise," go up and down in the elevator, and get ice from the ice machine. • Space doesn't allow for thanks to all who sent cards including Bruce and Geni Burnham, Bob and Judy Dickerman Blodgett, Mary and John Emory, Linda and Bill French, Shari and Dave Lutton, Robin and Dick Wilkinson, Amy and Mike Robinson, Christl Guthe Riedman, Julie and John Eegenberg, and Bette and John Gilwee. More will appear in the autumn column. Please send Vcey and Jean an email when you travel.
—Class Correspondents: Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeanandre@ mindspring.com), 100 Eastview Terrace, Apt. 240, Middlebury, VT 05753; Vcey Strekalovsky (vcey@ strekalovskyarchitecture.com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.

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John Harris emailed from China that he and wife Koko (Hart) '63 were at that moment there on a tour. As he put it, "One more checked off our bucket list." John reports that they winter at Saddleback Mountain in Maine, where they volunteer as hosts and enjoy skiing with their three children and four grandchildren. The rest of the year John and Koko live on the coast in South Bristol, Maine. John spends time volunteering at the Owls Head Transportation Museum near Rockland, where he leads tours and drives visitors around in a vintage Model T Ford. He is also involved in several antique car clubs and the Young Eagles program, where he introduces children to flying. • In January Pete "Pepi" Connal and wife Ruth were invited to attend the induction of his brother Scotty Connal into the Sports Broadcasting Hall of Fame in NYC. Pepi reports this was quite an exciting time because Scotty was responsible for Pepi coming to Middlebury. When Scotty was working on the Today Show with host Arlene Francis, he had a secretary who graduated from Middlebury and loved it. So when Pepi was looking at colleges, she recommended Midd. While Pepi and Ruth were on their six-week winter vacation in Grand Cayman, the local paper had an article about the Middlebury College rugby club being on the island to play three matches against the local Caymanian clubs. Mid was scheduled to play the national team. Pepi wrote that wearing a Middlebury hockey T-shirt, he was welcomed by Coach Phillips and his team. "We watched a very close 16-15 match. I was asked to get in a picture with the team afterwards." • Brad Mintener sent an update: "I'm writing a book about my great-great-grandfather, U.S. Senator Albert S. White of Indiana (1839-45), who was a federal judge under Abraham Lincoln from 1861-63. I'm also organizing the U.S. Presidents Club and 'Famous Footsteps' travel seminars, as well as Rushton Wilderness canoe adventures. • I'm always looking for more class news whether your travels take you afar or you stay in the comfort of home.
—Class Correspondent: Janet Reed (jreedz8@me.com), 929 W. Foster Ave., #2620, Chicago, IL 60640.

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In August of 2013 the Cow Sh't Festival group gathered at John Sinclair's home in Springfield, Vt., to celebrate Middlebury and friendships, a gathering that started 44 years ago. This Middlebury group has been getting together every other year since 1969, when the idea was conceived by classmates John Sinclair and Pete Steinde. The weekend gathering first started at the Steinle "farm" in Vermont, moved to Breck '60 and Sue Hibbert '60 Lardner's home in Essex, Conn., and for the past several years has been held at John and Nancy Sinclair's place. The same band, the Flames, has played at the festival for the past 25 years and also played at the 50th reunion for the Class of 1962. To see a photo of the 2013 attendees, see page 66. People who missed the photo include Andy Ferrentino and wife Carol (Keyes) '63, Spencer Jackson, Duke Manley '60, Tom and Warren Ward Meehan, Chuck Gately, Sandy and Jim Black '65, and Bette and John Gilwee '60, Kate Lamson, and Rose Mettee.
—Class Correspondents: Judy Bosworth Roisset (jboisset@comcast.net), 1680 Marisal Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759; Liza Dunphy Fischer (betsy@brentopalmer.com), 611 Oakland Ave., Iowa City, IA 52240; John Sinclair, 482 Woodbury Rd., Springfield, VT 05156.

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The "reconnect" and "reboot" themes of our 50th reunion live on. When correspondent Chris White posed a question on Facebook wondering if anyone recalled Pete Seeger's visit to Middlebury (off campus) our freshman year, numerous recollections came forth. It was heartening to sense our togetherness of feelings and appreciation for Seeger having been a part of our lives. • Chuck
and Sue Handy Burdick express fond memories of our reunion, and we reciprocate in thanking them for the leadership they exhibited in making the event so successful. Sue currently is well on her way to full recovery from double knee surgery replacement this past fall. The Burdicks were planning a visit in late March with Dave Arnold and wife Andra on Sanibel Island. Time in the sun does us all good. • Dave Akin of Harwich, Mass., reported in March that he and wife Vicky were in Dallas, Texas, to support a daughter’s performance as a ballerina—and in the process hoping to dodge an ice storm that threatened their flight back to Boston. This summer they were planning a cruise in Rhode Island waters in their sailboat Cirrus. • Our class Facebook page relates that Wallace Pringle has retired from the chemistry dept. of Wesleyan Univ.—noting that his replacement is a recent Middlebury graduate. Good recruiting! • Lynne Purple Baker and her husband made their winter journey to their place in Scottsdale, Ariz. Hopefully they were able to have good weather for some good hiking. • We also heard of a visit Charlie Buell and wife Sybil made in mid-January to Washington, D.C., with Noel and Betty Ann Cooper Kane, doing the tourist things but a bit too

BREAD LOAF SCHOOL OF ENGLISH

In Buffalo, N.Y., both Jody Douglas (MA ’83) and Bill Clough (MA ’99) were named to the 2014 edition of Who’s Who in Education. Jody is the head of school at Buffalo Seminary and Bill is the head of school at Nichols School. • Steven Harvey (MA ’84) will retire after 38 years of teaching English at Young Harris College. He’s the author of three books of essays including Bound for Shady Grove (Georgia) and will continue as a founding faculty member in the low-residency MFA program in creative writing at Ashland University in Ohio. Last year his essay “The Book of Knowledge” was selected by Cheryl Strayed for The Best American Essays 2013. • In April Patricia Conley Dunn (MA ’85) was honored before a Florida Marlins game by former student, Michael Hill, president of baseball operations for the team. His saying thanks to her was part of the “Marlins Fishing for Teachers” program, an initiative set up for employees to recognize impactful teachers. • Dale Lumley (MA ’85) has been named the next superintendent of the Butler (Pa.) School District. He lives with wife Dreama in Summit Township and they have two sons, Nicholas and Calvin. • Michael Irani (MA ’02) has become the new principal at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School in Charlottesville, Va. Previously he was assistant principal at Cale Elementary School in Charlottesville. • Richard Meyers (MA ’04) is the tribal relations director and program coordinator for the American Indian Studies program, a major he developed, at South Dakota State University. • Tracy Trivas (MA ’04) was featured in a New York Times Sunday Review opinion piece called “Really? You’re Not in a Book Club?” She is a professional book group facilitator and presides over three adult groups and one children’s group. • Michael Irani (MA ’02) has become the new principal at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School in Charlottesville, Va. Previously he was assistant principal at Cale Elementary School in Charlottesville. • Richard Meyers (MA ’04) is the tribal relations director and program coordinator for the American Indian Studies program, a major he developed, at South Dakota State University. • Tracy Trivas (MA ’04) was featured in a New York Times Sunday Review opinion piece called “Really? You’re Not in a Book Club?” She is a professional book group facilitator and presides over three adult groups and one children’s group. • Annie Hartnett (MA ’11) has been serving as the writer in residence at the Boston Public Library and working on her novel, Rabbit Cake.

GERMAN SCHOOL

The Rev. G. Donald Pantle (MA ’64) recently retired from the Univ. of Scranton, where he directed the retreat center at Chapman Lake and taught German and Spanish. • This summer Beatrice Henselmann Werner (MA ’67) is teaching a Language for Tots class through the Boulder City (Nev.) Parks and Recreation. The class will introduce young children to Spanish, German, Italian, and French. • John Lauffer (MA ’01) writes that he is translating an old manuscript in German on home remedies for horse ailments for personal interest.

ITALIAN SCHOOL

Anthony Julian Tamburri (MA ’72) has published Reading Italian America: Specificities and Generalities on Literature and Criticism, which has been called “a brilliant analysis of the status of Italian American studies in America and Italy.” He is a professor and dean at the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute of Queens College/CUNY.

SPANISH SCHOOL

Robert Hatton (MA ’59) sent word that on June 25, he and wife Marlene observed their 60th wedding anniversary. “We were married on the live, black and white NBC-TV program, Bride and Groom, in NYC on June 25, 1954.” They celebrated the occasion with their three children, nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and friends. • Gilda Gely (MA Spanish ’90), who was serving as Grand Rapids Community College provost and executive VP, recently began a new job as executive VP and provost at Aquinas College, also in Grand Rapids, Mich. • Audra Longert (MA ’00) was recently hired by Bibliomotion, books + media as the director of special market sales, supporting book sales and speaking efforts for authors. Previously she managed publisher relations for getAbstract. • In April Charles Fleis (DML ’08) was honored by Bridgewater (Va.) College with the 2014 Martha B. Thornton Faculty Recognition Award for showing “caring concern for students well beyond the role as teacher.” He is an associate professor of world languages at Bridgewater.

and Partners International Guide to the Legal Profession. Virginia Robbins (MA ’72) was included in Alumnus Award, for translating his life’s experience into of Massachusetts Amherst alumnus, the Distinguished highest and most prestigious honor bestowed on a Univ. Annie Harntett (MA ’11) has been serving as the writer in developing a major he developed, at South Dakota State Univ. • Tracy Trivas (MA ’04) was featured in a New York Times Sunday Review opinion piece called “Really? You’re Not in a Book Club?” She is a professional book group facilitator and presides over three adult groups and one children’s group. • Michael Irani (MA ’02) has become the new principal at Meriwether Lewis Elementary School in Charlottesville, Va. Previously he was assistant principal at Cale Elementary School in Charlottesville. • Richard Meyers (MA ’04) is the tribal relations director and program coordinator for the American Indian Studies program, a major he developed, at South Dakota State University. • Tracy Trivas (MA ’04) was featured in a New York Times Sunday Review opinion piece called “Really? You’re Not in a Book Club?” She is a professional book group facilitator and presides over three adult groups and one children’s group. • Annie Hartnett (MA ’11) has been serving as the writer in residence at the Boston Public Library and working on her novel, Rabbit Cake.

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early for the cherry blossoms. However they thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie. • Ken Delmar continues to amaze us with his reboot efforts. Besides exhibiting his lucrative paintings he does on paper towels, he appeared January 14 on the Queen Latifah Show in L.A. Take a moment to watch it at queenlatifah.com/fun/comedy/ken-delmar-s-bounty-paper-towel-masterpieces. It is quite entertaining. Ken, his wife, and daughter have also become realtors in Stamford, Conn. • Louise Hurlt Frankenfeld of Dalton, Mass., reports that at long last she is simplifying her life. This summer, she is moving into a much smaller home in town, enabling her to shed stuff and have more time for summer kayaking and winter cross-country skiing. • On November 7 Ed Hixson kicked off the Saranac Lake (N.Y.) Library “Lunch Series” with a slide presentation of his three expeditions on Mt. Everest. In total, he has spent over nine months on the mountain. We are told the presentation was very well received. Ed retired in 2011 after practicing general surgery at the Adirondack Medical Center in Saranac Lake and also having served as battalion surgeon in the Vermont National Guard. We wish Ed and his wife Karen well. May they continue hiking the high peaks and canoeing lakes and rivers. Sure would be a kick for a 1963 “Skyliner” to run across them in some wilderness spot.

• Larry Ring reports from Tucson, Ariz., that James “Coy” Cole from Littleton, Colo., spent a few days with the Rings. Larry also relates that during the winter the he and Bill Dyson made it a point to take in several Univ. of Arizona basketball games. • We also heard that Judy and Jim McKeown took an informal tour of golf Take a moment to watch it at queenlatifah.com/fun/comedy/ken-delmar-s-bounty-paper-towel-masterpieces. It is quite entertaining. Ken, his wife, and daughter have also become realtors in Stamford, Conn. and daughter have also become realtors in Stamford, Conn. and daughter have also become realtors in Stamford, Conn. and daughter have also become realtors in Stamford, Conn.

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—Class Correspondents: Janet Bresvoort Allen-Spencer (janallen-spencer@gmail.com), 2 Arizona Pl, Huntington Station, NY 11746; Christopher J. White (cnbrycat@aol.com), 547 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.

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On a sunny and comfortably warm Sunday, February afternoon, in Washington, D.C. (a bit surprising given the miserable winter this year), a group of classmates gathered at the home of Christine and Bob Baskin for a mini-reunion. Edie Sprenger Ching and husband Wally c回合ed the event and were responsible for the mimosas that everyone enjoyed. In addition to the Baskins and Chings, those attending were Bob Benedetti and wife Sallie, Jan Gibboney, Mary Jenkins Kraaij, Eliot Levinson, Nancy Perry, John Taylor, Bob Seeley, who came down from New Jersey, and John Vecchiola, who made the longest trek down from Connecticut. Some of us had not seen or spoken to each other since graduation and it was great to get caught up on how life has treated everyone. It's always fascinating to me (Bob) that even after such a long separation, the relating of memories at Middlebury such as the mudslide, skiing, and dorm life stories made it seem like it was just last week, not 50 years ago. While a few had other obligations that would keep them from the main event in June, most of us expressed the excitement we felt about returning once again to the College on the hill.

—Class Correspondents: Marian Demas Baade (michaela@ aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956; Bob Baskin (roberthaskin@msn.com), 6925 Woodside Place, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; Pam Nottage Mueller (pammuelleryr@gmail.com), 601 Smithfield Rd., Centreville, VA 20120.

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REUNION CLASS Carol Burr writes, “The Class of ’65 is revving up for what we hope will be a spectacular 50th reunion in June 2015. Thirty-eight of us met last October to reconnect and brainstorm. It was an amazing three days! We reminisced, talked about what was happening in our lives now, grieved the loss of 42 of our classmates, celebrated each other’s achievements—both personal and professional, and thought about how we wanted to return on June 4, 2015, to put all of it together. After T’Dall and Polly Moore Walters worked their magic to get us all to Middlebury, an intense day of planning pulled together a team to lead the reunion effort. Four co-chairs— Randy Brock, Bob Royer, Nancy Smith, and Carol Burr—stepped up, Randy to organize, update, and maintain our database; Bob to oversee activities at the reunion; Nancy to chair the Gifts Committee; and Carol to oversee outreach and the yearbook with the support and expertise of our own Polly Walters. Andy Johnson Perham and Fred Stetson are serving as editors for the yearbook, which we are calling New Frontiers: The Class of ’65 Now and Then. They plan to create a multimedia story of school memories, experiences since graduating, and what is important to us now in any form contributors choose—poems, photos, drawings, letters—you name it! We really want everyone from the Class of ’65 to come together for what will be a party and a life review. We all had different experiences at Middlebury, but we got a great education and made some lasting friends and memories. We can compare aging processes with our classmates, our class or another. Serendipitous encounters are great fun. A little sparkle goes a long way. We welcome your tales of such ventures.”

—Class Correspondents: Janet Bresvoort Allen-Spencer (janallen-spencer@gmail.com), 2 Arizona Pl, Huntington Station, NY 11746; Christopher J. White (cnbrycat@aol.com), 547 Duck Cove Rd., Bucksport, ME 04416.

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Last year was an eventful one for Dave ’63 and Carol Gillen June. After Carol’s hip replacement in April, they made the decision to leave a large home with two steep staircases and to relocate to a more appropriate place near one of their children. Their daughter Becky ’96 now lives in West Texas and son Steve is in Cumberland, R.I. Carol writes, “We believe our blood may have thinned a bit during our 10 years in the South, so we decided to move near our son Matt and wife Tatiana and their three children in Florida. Our goal: one-floor living within 30 minutes of family achieved at a time when sponsor its first recipient this summer. Now almost 50 years later, it’s time to celebrate! You will be hearing from classmates over the next year, but please put June 4–7, 2015, on your calendar and promise yourself a few days in one of the most beautiful places in the U.S. with people who helped form you and launch you into the complicated, challenging, and ultimately satisfying life that followed.” • Correspondent Polly Walters adds: Planning our 50th has been a rewarding experience; the chairpersons and the committee members are having a good time getting together both in person and via conference calls, generating a lot of good ideas and enthusiasm. We are reconnecting with people whose paths have diverged but are happy to be found. As with all good things and good times, there is a downside: as we hunt for people whose names have slipped out of our database, some of the news is sad. We have lost several classmates. • A great storyteller and legend among representatives in the ski industry, Dennis Harrington passed away December 11, 2013. Born and raised in Jefferson, Mass., Danny lived in Connecticut after leaving Middlebury but returned to Jefferson in 2002. A Sig Ep, he was always open, kind, and generous with his time; later Dennis stepped in to help his sister raise her five children, following the death of his brother-in-law. He is survived by his son Jed Harrington, his sister Elaine Drawbridge, and his nieces and nephews. • Peter Teige, a member of PKT at Middlebury, passed away in Tampa, Fla., May 28, 2011. Originally from Waterville, Maine, Peter had worked for GTE and was the general manager for its Caribbean and Mexico division, living for several years in Puerto Rico. He later moved to Tarpon Springs, Fla. • Originally from Nashua, N.H., following graduation from Middlebury, Jim Ancil, an ATO at Middlebury, moved to NYC where he received an MA from NYU in Slavic languages. From there he moved to Portland, Ore., where he was an expert translator, college instructor, and diarist; active in the LGBT community, he was also a square dancer, a chorus singer, and prolific visual artist. Jim died in July 1997 in Portland. • Class Correspondents: R. W “T” Tall Jr. (ahmic@shoreham.net), 204 Clark Rd, Cornwall, VT 05753; Polly Moore Walters (polly@frii.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.
we would have the will and energy to relocate and re-settle.” The Junes found their "almost-perfect" house at the end of August. They moved the third week of November to a place about 20 minutes from Matt and family and about 30 minutes north of Orlando. Carol writes, “Stephen and family and Becky and husband have said they would much rather visit us in Florida than North Carolina, so it seems to have been a good decision. We hope to see lots of old friends. Please contact us if you’re in the area.” • We were glad to hear from Gary Bevington, who has been retired for about 15 years. Recently, he has been exhibiting some of the antique maps of Montana and the Northwest that he has collected over the years. He provided maps of Montana for an exhibit at the Missoula Public Library last May, in celebration of the sesquicentennial of Montana becoming a territory. The library scheduled a public lecture in conjunction with the exhibit as well.

• “Nothing spectacular going on here,” writes Rick Church from Nelson, N.H. “I’m still enjoying my role as town moderator with town and school district meetings to run in March and elections to supervise. Betsey and I have been doing some traveling with a trip to Morocco last fall and a ski week coming up in Austria with friends. Old age and lots of use will have me skiing in a brace. I continue to write articles on Nelson town history for our website and I’m leading a group that’s building hiking trails in town. Our grandchildren are learning to ski and we are enjoying that, too.” • Rob Corkran sends warm regards and writes that he and wife Suzanne (Forrest), MA French ’93 have moved from San Francisco back to Seattle. This tests their “casual comments to the effect that the fogbound, chilly, and windy summer in the Haight is worse than a Seattle winter. We miss the San Francisco Symphony, whose clarity and depth of sound astonish with every performance. With the lack of snow last winter in the Sierras, we were relying more than usual on roller skiing in Golden Gate Park for our exercise. Though we’d been doing this for almost 20 years, we were still regarded with bemusement and curiosity by the natives and we invariably thrilled small children. There was the occasional startled tourist who would break into the Norwegian cheer ‘Heia! Heia!’ heard at all x-c ski races. We’d respond with increased power and tempo, at least in our imaginations. There was also the rare but inevitable bone-jarring crash on pavement, which could be humiliating. Especially when one was struggling on three artificial joints to untangle and upright one’s self and concerned passersby were converging from all directions on the downed senior citizen!” • Harriet Williams was in the Phoenix news last year for a talk she gave for the Arizona Press Women. She spoke on the colorful 300-year history of a little-known street in Manhattan called Extra Place. According to Harriet, it’s just off the Bowery in the East Village near the Lower East Side. She lived in New York for about 15 years after college. The talk was a follow-up on a lon-
Gary Margolis’s new book, *Raking the Winter Leaves: New and Selected Poems*, was nominated for the 2013 Pulitzer Prize. This spring he read his poem “How We Know We’re Here” in a class at Middlebury. Those courses emphasized that the geog-raphy of a place, clear down to the bedrock, substantially molds today’s lifestyles in that locale.

Gary Margolis

Barbara Ensminger Stoebenau says, “I, who despite majoring in biology and avoiding botany courses whenever I could, have gotten myself entirely too deeply involved in a large, very busy, 100-year-old garden club. It’s a lot of fun and full of interesting and talented women, and a few men. I’m finally learning a lot about horticulture, which I could have studied for credit in lovely, green Middlebury had I been willing or interested at the time. Last Christmas found us back in Hawaii with son Christopher ‘99 and his family. We get to babysit for our other grandchildren, who are in Takoma Park, Md., a little more often, when both parents are traveling for work to different countries at the same time.”

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Class Correspondents: Prue Frey Heikkinen (pheiikkinen@att.net), 1914 Wayne St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104; Francine Clark Page (fpage2@myfairpoint.net), 19 Brigham Hill Ln., Essex Junction, VT 05452.

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Class Correspondents: Susan Davis Patterson (sdp@alumni.middlebury.edu), 67 Robinson Hwy., Burlington, VT 05401; Alex Taylor (ataylort1145@gmail.com), 215 Wells Hill Rd., Lakeville, CT 06039.
may well be more than you wish to print, but I know how much I enjoy reading about the lives of other classmates. • Molly Hubbard Kent reports, "I'm still working and I live in Tucson, Ariz. • Dick McMahon writes: "My wife Lindy (Allen) '70 and I were on vacation and not able to get back to Middlebury for our 45th, but God willing, we won't miss the 50th. It's hard to believe that so much time has passed since we were dropped off at the dorms by our parents! It was a life altering experience for me and I will always cherish the times we had together." • Julie Gratiet Peterson writes, "My life is busy and happy, but not too remarkable. I do stay busy with work at church and I'm still doing freelance editorial work from home for the Cricket and Zoobooks families of magazines. I also play violin in the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra, compile and edit its printed programs, teach church school, and enjoy swimming, hiking, and cross-country skiing. In April 2013, husband Dave and I drove from Illinois to Utah. We were delayed by a blizzard in Nebraska but eventually made it through the Rockies. The various landscapes in Utah are beautiful—some rolling, some rocky, many very desolate. Dave attended a Native American flute camp in Springdale, Utah, just outside Zion National Park. While he was in class, I had time to read and swim in view of the red cliffs of Zion. We also hiked in the park. We drove home by way of Bryce Canyon, which is breathtaking in more ways than one: the spectacular views take your breath away and after hiking down toward Queen's Garden, I huffed and puffed on the way back up! Since the late '80s I have become a huge figure-skating fan. I've attended Nationals and Worlds with friends several times (when either are near enough to drive or in a place we'd like to visit). I visited Robbie Hamblen while attending 1997 Worlds in Minneapolis; Dave and I attended 2001 Nationals in Boston with Barb Faeten Burton and her husband, Craig; and Barb and I met Ann Masotti Hengerer for a visit to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., while there for Worlds 2003. I'm planning to attend 2016 Worlds in Boston. If anyone is interested in meeting me there, email me for ticket info (julieyr7@comcast.net). " • North Shetter says, "Jan and I enjoyed our short visit to the College for our reunion. We certainly appreciated the kindness of David and Magna Leffler Dodge, hosting all of us for a rainy cocktail party. It was a pleasure to catch up with folks we had not seen in years. Over the summer we had a chance to catch up with Gail and Frank Ashde, who are doing what is called in boating 'the great loop.' They left Florida in the spring and traveled up the East Coast, then through Canada to Lake Michigan, where they stopped in to visit us with their dog Radar. They stored their boat in Lower Michigan for the winter and have continued on through the Midwest and down the Mississippi this year. Jan and I continue to spend the summer in Menominee, Mich. I'm still working part time for my former partner. We winter in Punta Gorda, Fla., where we do local cruising on our old trawler. • From Vermont Eric Weiss reports, "After 42 years as a math teacher and two as a behavior specialist in a middle school, I just started a new job coordinating a math center at the high school level. I was teaching at Lamoille Middle School in Hyde Park, and now I'm at U-32 High School in East Montpelier, where I began my career and taught for 30 years. I had bought a house two miles from Lamoille Middle School last May so I wouldn't have the commute from Alburg, where I spend the summers on the lake. (The house cost less than the gasoline I was consuming)! Now I have an hour drive again! I continue to run in several 5K and 10K races every year. I'm also Vermont's representative on the National Education Association's board of directors. Hoping to retire to the lake when my term on the NEA board ends in 2015 but still keep my day job." • Bob Friedman writes, "After practicing internal medicine solo for 33 years, I succumbed to the pressure to join a big group. That started in early 2013 and, in short, it did not work out, for me or my patients. So, feeling miserable in this situation and unable to practice medicine the way I used to, I had to retire. But that's really not what I wanted and after a while I landed a job as a physician evaluator for Medicare. It's all house calls—I do a thorough review of all the patient's medicines, problems, preventive care issues, and social situation and do a limited exam that is tailored to their primary diagnoses. I make recommendations to them and forward these to their doctor and health plan. I see new people every day who request this review, and I have plenty of time to spend with each patient, or sometimes patients as I often see couples. I head out each morning with my medical bag, my lunch, GPS, and iPad and it's a new adventure every time. There's plenty of time to listen to people and even for a joke or two and perhaps make them a little special. The planning is already underway Looking forward to seeing you all there!" • Lynn Wilson shared this wonderful news: "Mike Hibbard and I were married in October 2012 with a small family group in attendance, then had a larger wedding reception in June 2013. Our summer after that was quite busy—I sang in Edinburgh with the Berkshire Choral Festival, then we went to various family events in California and Idaho. Over Labor Day I earned my black belt in Poekoealan Tjinmilde Tilen after a 48-hour test. I started training Poekoealan seven years ago after going to my son's tests in that martial art. Happily my husband has taken it up as well. We finally got around to taking our honeymoon to Tibet and Nepal in late September. We survived altitude sickness to climb to 17,600 feet, sleep at over 14,000 feet, and got to the north base camp of Mt. Everest. It seems inadequate to say that the experience was amazing." • We heard from first-time contributor Steve Austman: "After graduating, I did a two-year stint as a probation/parole officer for Delaware and a year-and-a-half at law school, then I found my calling and graduated from the Univ. of Pennsylvania School of Social Work with an MSW. Thereafter, I was fortunate enough to head several community-based organizations focused upon underserved families and communities throughout Delaware and Pennsylvania. These included multileath, educational, women's, family service, and legislative initiatives. Since then, involvement has been in land preservation, elder-care reform, poetry, photography and graphic expression. Should folks be interested, our effort can be found at savethevalley.org or the Beaver Valley Conservancy (savebeavervalle.org), D.K. Johnston and I remain friends and we visit often. I continue to try to reconnect with Bill Halapin and others. We continue to embrace our immense gift living within the First State National Monument. Bring your bikes, horses and hiking shoes." • Al Perry writes, "I've been busy in the last two years since 'retiring' as the VA medical center CEO in Fresno, Calif. Now I have a nice executive coaching/consulting business with clients around the West; I sit with dying veterans each week in the VA and we visit often. I continue to try to reconnect with Bill Halapin and others. We continue to embrace our immense gift living within the First State National Monument. Bring your bikes, horses and hiking shoes."
Marathon on the Dana-Farber charity running team, and I was named a ‘Veterans’ Real Community Hero’ by the American Red Cross for leading the new WWII Honor Flight program in Central California. This past winter I spent a week with Rob Apple skiing the steep and deep of Jackson Hole, Grand Targhee, and Bridger Bowl, where we met up with fellow alums, and fellow Midd ski patrolman (STILL a Jackson Hole Pro-Patroller!) Larry Detrick ‘72 and also Susan Apple ‘69.

• May Coors sent this brief update: “We were made grandparents again with the birth of our second grandson, Luc, on December 11. To any/all of my other bipolar classmates I send a hug of empathy, support, and understanding, having been discharged yesterday after my second mixed-state bipolar episode in 15 months.”

• Dave Desrochers writes, “Harry and Lynn Francis ’71 Zinn invited us for soup after skiing this winter at their home in Steamboat, Colo. Are there other senior Midds around Steamboat? Let’s get together.”

• Correspondent Beth Prasse Seeley sends this note: “We are sad to report that our classmate Lynda Basehore Cioci passed away on March 22. Ginger Ward and I share wonderful memories of living with Lyn in the Château our senior year. We will always remember her love for bridge, her infectious laugh, and her unselfish friendship. Lyn is survived by her husband of 42 years, Ray, and two grown children. We will miss her!”

• Sue Ellen Thompson sent this update: “My fifth book of poetry will be published in October. It deals with some pretty intense family issues, including gender identity and relationships among the generations. If any of my classmates who are on Facebook would like to be informed when the new book is out, they should like my page, Sue Ellen Thompson, Poet.”

• And a note from your class correspondents: We love hearing from all of you, but especially those who have never sent us a news item—so if you’re one of those people, we would really appreciate the opportunity to share your news. Just drop us a line at the email addresses below!

— Class Correspondents: Beth Prasse Seeley (beth@seeley.com), Nancy Crawford (ncrawford_sutcliffe@comcast.net).

Two leading campus activists from our era, Steve Early and Torie Osborn ‘72, returned to Middlebury January 22 for a panel discussion titled “Middlebury in the 1960s: Student Resistance and Social Change.” Joining them was Dennis O’Brien, the former dean of the College, who was a frequent sparring partner of Steve and Torie’s during those interesting times. The discussion, held in Dana Auditorium in connection with a student-led winter term course “A People’s History of Middlebury College,” attracted nearly 100 students and alumni. The speakers touched on the Vietnam War, women’s rights, civil rights, ROTC, abortion, gay rights, fraternities, and social and economic justice. Steve recounted details from the student strike of
1970, which focused on stopping the war in Southeast Asia and ending "campus complicity with the military," or ROTC. To put the strike into perspective for the millennials in the audience, Steve said the fatal shootings of four unarmed students at Kent State Univ. by Ohio National Guard soldiers in May 1970 impelled four million college students to go on strike at 350 colleges and universities around the country. Fifty of those colleges didn't reopen until the fall of 1970, he said, calling it "the largest student uprising in U.S. college student history." For the first few days of the strike, Dennis O'Brien recalled, college administrators thought they had the situation pretty well in hand. "We were in the midst of taking a week off to do the teaching and talk about the importance of the university in the context of American society. But then the burning of a building on campus changed all that." You might remember that the building, called Recitation Hall, a small wooden structure already targeted for demolition, was set ablaze by an arsonist on May 7, 1970. "The fire was enormously upsetting," O'Brien said. "It was a very, very tense period." Steve's commitment to activism has not diminished since he graduated. As a lawyer, organizer, negotiator, and author, he has devoted his career to the labor movement. Torie, similarly, has made a career as a community organizer, nonprofit leader, and advocate for progressive causes, mostly in Southern California. Dennis O'Brien spent 12 years at Middlebury and later served as president of Bucknell Univ and the Univ of Rochester. • From Rippton, Laurie Miner Cox writes, "I retired from my job as a school counselor almost two years ago. I truly did enjoy my job, but I love retirement! Art has reentered my life, as I am taking courses in pottery and oil painting. We have built a great post-and-beam garage with a beautiful second floor that I plan to use as a studio. Last fall I joined a memoir-writing group facilitated by our own Abi Proctor Sessions—a wonderful experience. I continue to chair Rippton's selectboard, which I became a part of 28 years ago. I also serve on the family selection committee for the local Habitat for Humanity group. Singing with Maiden Vermont Chorus remains a significant part of my life. Our older son, having completed graduate work in engineering plus law school, is working at the U.S. Patent Office in Washington. Our younger son lives about two miles from us and works for the Counseling Service of Addison County. My dad passed away last winter at age 93 and being retired allowed me to spend some significant time with him in those last months, going out to Seattle three times in three months. I'm still returning there, as my mom (91) remains active and I want to enjoy this time with her." • James Hartman sent us a long and funny note, "for which there is room only for an excerpt (full text available from your correspondents): "I would like to submit a complaint. I have been living in the Big Apple for nearly 30 years, at the same address, having only changed apartments once. I realize my address says the Bronx, but it's only Riverdale, and we like to call it the Bronx so we seem more sympathetic and down-to-earth, not among the wick ed one percent like most Midd grads. And yet practically no one from my Midd days, from my class at least, has ever contacted me in New York. If this continues, and I see you one day in the afterlife, I will most certainly shun you. All this is to say; I sincerely invite any of my former friends and colleagues to the Hartman Bronx compound as, in spite of everything, I would like to see some of you—and you know who you are."

—Class Correspondents: Barbara Laudenlager Mosley (barbaramosley@metrocast.net); Carolyn Ungberg Olivier (carolyn.olivier@gmail.com), Rob Waters (robwaters7012@mindspring.com).

72 Charli Fulton competed in the 2014 American Quilter's Society Quiltweek in Paducah, Ky., and won third place in the Bed Quilt Category! Her hand-stitched quilt, "Vandalia Album," contains 25 of her favorite flowers, which burst into color in their individual blocks. See this beautiful quilt at www.charlestondailyemail.com/foodandliving/201403060263. Charli grew up in Maine and was an American literature major at Midd. She went on to law school at Northeastern Univ in Boston and retired in 2012 after more than three decades in law. She wanted to take time for quilting and to learn more about music and art. This is very cool, Charli! Our Midd '72 alumni rock.

—Class Correspondents: Jennifer Hamlin Church (jbcarch@sinahights.edu), Evey Zmudzyk LaMont (evoyalmont@prontotransition.com).

73 Lindy Osterland Sargent, joining Lisa Donati Mayer as your class co-correspondent, shares, "Greetings, longtime, longtime, and recent Midd friends! I got interested in taking on this job after our 40th reunion last June. We might have been in the smallest tent on the lot right next to the port-a-potties, but it was a quality group. Something about being over 60 makes for some very sincere, genuinely interested, and definitely interesting conversations among classmates at this point in our lives. Just like those conversations we enjoyed during the college years! I'd love to hear stories about how 'different and the same' our lives are now. Are we the same people we were in college, finding our way and our place? Forty years wiser? Whether you share in this column or on the Middlebury College Class of 1973 Facebook group page, it will be great to start the discussion and hear what you're up to. Thanks for getting in touch!" • Lisa adds, "It has been a wonderful month for me, getting in touch with old friends and new acquaintances. Not everyone is quite ready to provide an official update, but many of us seem to be reflecting on this time in our life, where there is much looking back as well as looking ahead." We both want to thank Deborah Schneider Greenhut for her many years as correspondent and for her able and generous mentoring as we try to take on this welcome task. • Alison Sommers Kennedy writes, "After 30 years as a designer, art director, and creative director at WGBH, Boston's public television station, I think it's time to say a few things. As much as Middlebury has shaped my life, working at WGBH has defined my life for the past 32 years. It's a curious thing, to have worked at a single institution for so long. I go back and forth between thinking I should be moving on to new environments and new challenges to feeling that WGBH is absolutely the right, the best place I could possibly be. Most of the time I end up feeling the latter, even more so these last few years. The creative challenges continue to stimulate and engage me, and I do sense that my work makes a difference. My biggest joy is mentoring young designers, who know way more than I ever will about technology, but who need guidance only experience can bring. Like so many boomers, I want to be where the action is, and it is definitely happening where the younger designers are. My life with Jeff (an industrial designer specializing in interactive technology and science museum exhibits), my husband of 30 years, is intertwined with WGBH; it was through him that I began what I thought was a two-year job as an assistant designer in 1982. Working at a television station was like being in a foreign country and not understanding the language, customs, or protocol; I didn't even know what a scan line was, much less how programs appear on a TV set at home. In fact, coming to Middlebury that fall of 1969 was like being dropped in a foreign country, so unfamiliar was I with life in the U.S., having spent the last six years in Bangkok, where my father was working for the State Department. I spent most of my time at Middlebury trying to figure things out and fit in. So much has happened between then and now: graduate school, teaching, freelancing, waitressing; then meeting and marrying Jeff, settling in Cambridge, Mass., working at WGBH, watching our wonderful artist son, Lee, make his own way in the world; it has all been amazing, and there is still so much to come. I'm not planning to leave WGBH any time soon, but I do wish for more time to pursue my own artistic interests. The path to the present has been circuitous, with many bumps, wrong turns and missteps, but I feel grateful and content about where I am now and how I got here. My closest friends, even now, are women I met in Batt North. Our friendships and shared experiences mean even more to me as we age; indeed I feel we grow closer as the years go by." • Susie Crandell also has fond memories of Batt North and reports, "I have a two-year-old grandson, Zcke, who has the bad judgment to live as far away as you can get and still be in the continental U.S. I fly to San Francisco to see him every month, which is heaven. Luckily, my work as a consulting editor at Life Reimagined, an AARP initiative, can be done anywhere I have a computer and a phone. Husband Stephan Wilkinson spends Monday
Laura Ellis

Determined to stay in Vermont after graduation, Laura Ellis settled on the iconic Old Nash Farm in New Haven, where she and her husband raised two daughters and all sorts of livestock, from cattle to draft horses. For a natural science illustrator and landscape painter like Laura, the setting was perfect.

But after 30 years in Vermont, she moved to New York City and began a new adventure. She was unsure how her painting skills would translate to the Big Apple, where the competition was intense. She needed a niche—but what?

On a walk through the West Village, she saw dogs everywhere—sprawled under lunch tables, riding in shoulder bags, dashing around in dog parks. Stores and cafes set out drinking bowls for thirsty pups and treats were at every cash register. Here was an untapped market for a dog-loving, dog-painting Vermont transplant.

She printed up business cards and began stalking interesting dogs to paint. Word got around that someone with traditional skills was painting dogs and Brush and Bone Portraits was born. Though dogs are the greater percentage of her clientele, Laura has had commissions to paint horses, cats, rabbits, and even a turtle.

After a one-man show at the Salmagundi Club on Fifth Avenue, Laura was accepted as a member. Her work has been profiled twice in the Wall Street Journal, and she is represented by the Hamshere Gallery in London, England.

Today Laura can be found at her studio on Union Square in New York. She welcomes visitors, especially those with fur!
Center of Washington, D.C., also employing her journalistic expertise in moderating events and as a member of several institutes. Anne is working as a multimedia researcher in the Office of Legislative and Public Affairs at the National Science Foundation. Anne and Peggy met up again the next day to hear Eileen Rockefeller Growald read from her book at the Library of Congress. • Ross Eisenbrey is the VP of the Economic Policy Institute, a progressive think tank that researches and advocates policies to raise labor standards, including the minimum wage; researches the employment effects of U.S. budget and trade policies; researches and promotes sound education policy; and publishes a comprehensive biennial analysis of the American labor market, The State of Working America. Ross has had a couple op-eds in the New York Times in the past year. He encourages classmates who would like to know more about those efforts to contact him at reisenbrey@epi.org. It figures that his favorite novel of the last three years has been Les Misérables. • Nancy Vaughan O’Neal writes, “I recently retired from my French position at Westmoreland (N. Y.) High School. I still love being in schools, however, and am substituting in the Utica city schools. There are lots of recent immigrants (40 different languages in the Utica schools) here. I’m focusing on elementary grades now, which is lots of fun. John (MA French ’75) and I will be moving to San Diego in two years when he, too, joins the retirement ranks.”

—Class Correspondents: Greg Dennis (gregdennisvt@yahoo.com); Barry Schultz King (kinglet@together.net)

75 REUNION CLASS Please send us your news! And put the weekend of June 5-7, 2015, on your calendar for our 40th reunion!

—Class Correspondents: Kevin Donahue (donahuekv@vbran.uu); Nan Rockeble McNicholas (bhmiddd@yahoo.com); Joanne Scott (jscott@smcvt.edu)

76 Correspondent Gene O’Neill reports: From Worcester, Mass., Jo Herron Truesdell says she has been teaching for the past 38 years at Bancroft School and hubby Huck works for the Commonwealth, buying conservation land for wildlife protection. They’ve raised a lad, Sam, who is a marine biologist and planning for his PhD in Maine. Jo mentioned that she is only aware of the time when she realizes that as a kindergarten teacher, she is teaching the children of her former students. Sensitive to colors in that environment, Jo pointed out that in her students’ portraits of her, the Crayola box is not necessary to depict her hair—a pencil will do. • James Spink, who simply drove up Route 7 to Burlington to spend the rest of his life, reports that he is practicing law, raising an 18-year-old and 15-year-old and, like me, still spending time on the soccer pitch. Mr. Spink was the center half on the College team and now plays in an over-55 league and continues to travel to tournaments!

77 Congratulations to Karen Stolley, who was recently elected to a five-year term on Middlebury’s Board of Trustees! • Gin Jones sent word that her first novel, A Dose of Death: A Helen Binney Mystery, came out in June. She plans to write two sequels. “In other news, I’m now on the board of directors for XHL Network (x-linked hypophosphatemia), a patient support group.”

—Class Correspondent: Bob Lindberg (boblindberg29@ gmail.com)

78 Wendell Fleming sent in a photo of a multigenerational hike she took with her son and friend. See it on page 84. • Christine Klein continues to teach environmental and natural resources law at the Univ. of Florida Levin College of Law. In March she published a nonfiction environmental history book, Mississippi River Tragedies: A Century of Unnatural Disaster (with Sandra Zellmer, NYU Press). Reviewers have written that the book provides “a thoroughly engaging account of the human contributions to so-called ‘natural’ disasters that reads like a good mystery novel.” Also, “With grace and passion, Klein and Zellmer intertwine riverine with legal history in a powerful indictment of human efforts to control the Mississippi River. Anyone who loves rivers will find compelling the authors’ pitch-perfect plea for ‘giving rivers room to flood.’” Check it out on Amazon!

—Class Correspondents: David Jaffray (djaffray@mchsi.com); Phyllis Wendell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com); Anne Rowell Noble (annenoblemail@aol.com)

79 With great sadness, we report the news of the death of George Varga on April 9. Peter and Kathy Byrd Mandel shared these thoughts about him: “Geo was one of our closest friends in this world, as well as my college roommate, and a frequent visitor. As those of you who knew him well realize, he was an idealist—not the vapid, boastful kind like most of us these days—but the real thing. The rare thing.” Their thoughts go out to George’s friends and family. George’s full obituary will be in a future issue. • For some of us, Reunion Weekend was a chance to return to Vermont again as well as to reconnect with friends. For others, the College is always just a quick trip down the road. Nancy Karlson writes, “Brian (Calhoun) and I have lived in Vermont for 25 years. We have a beautiful piece of property with lots of maple trees, leading to what’s commonly called sugaring, or making maple syrup. Blue lines traverse the hillside and fancy equipment makes it quite hi-tech. We do still put out a few buckets for fun! Brian is an anesthesiologist at Porter Hospital in Middlebury, and I have several occupations, including painting watercolors and teaching kids to cross-country ski. We have had two children graduate from ‘the College,’ with another starting this fall! Kelsey ’12 is a science writer (always looking for work) and Suzanne ’14 has a business, Suzanne’s Sweet Savories, making fruit-based ‘sauces’ that are savory, not sweet (delicious but hard to describe). We’d love to see folks, and we have a little house in Middlebury available for rent on weekends.” Contact Nancy at nmkpaint@gmail.com if you are interested.

• According to Maine Antiques Digest, Greg Hamilton knows the secret to success in the antiques business. While other shops have come and gone, Greg’s shop, Stone Block Antiques in Vergennes, Vt., has continued to thrive for over 15 years. His secret? The shop is open only one day a week—Friday! Greg is also the president of the Vermont Antiques Dealers’ Assoc. and spends much of his time exhibiting at shows. After 25 years in the business, he says, “I still consider the business a huge amount of fun.” • Rick Weston writes, “All’s well with us. Karen (Lindstadt) ’81 and I have been married 30 years, and we’ve been in Waterbury, Vt., for the last 24. Daughter Rachel (23) is three years out of Smith and working with a consulting firm in D.C. Paul finished at Swarthmore in 2012 and, unhurried, is a ski instructor at Stowe. Karen’s been 23 years with the local animal clinic, and I’m still with the small energy and environmental policy nonprofit that I joined in 2000, after 11 years as a utility regulator in the state. I’ve been running our China program for several years now, but it looks like I’ll be moving over to the European one for a change of pace, or at least for better air, wine, and cheese. The travel is getting to be a bit much, though—five to six months a year away from home—but the cause is good and the work exciting. We’ve been awfully fortunate.” • After living in Colorado for almost eight years, Susan Sondheim Mohr and husband Dave returned to northern Virginia in 2004, with sons Alex and Luke. In May, Alex graduated from UVA’s McIntire School of Commerce and is starting a job in Chicago this fall. Luke finished his second year at Virginia Tech’s College of Engineering, where he is majoring in mechanical engineering. Dave works for a small government contractor that specializes in high tech projects, and Susan is involved in various activities in their community. • Ron Hershey is nationally certified in acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine and has offices in Croton and Cold Spring, N.Y. In a profile in the Westchester County Business Journal, Ron explains that he was already a husband and father when he de-
cided on a career change from his original work editing documentary films to "something that would allow me to help people." Ron's documentary work included Bill Moyers' landmark series, *Healing and the Mind*, which contributed to his decision to leave the film field to embark on studies for his new career. • I (Alice Lee Openshaw) was sorry to miss our reunion as I was attending my daughter's grad school commencement on the West Coast the same weekend. My consololation has been hearing news from so many of our classmates. Keep the news coming! —Class Correspondents: Debbie Fish Butler (midd74@butler@gmail.com); Alice Lee Openshaw (alice.openshaw@gmail.com).

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**REUNION CLASS** Anna Gebelein Keegan reports, "Husband Steve and I enjoyed our first year as empty nesters with son Willy a sophomore at Lehigh and son Sam a freshman at Syracuse. As reported in the spring column, a group of us met for a mini-reunion weekend in NYC to see Pippin on Broadway. And yes, there was a great deal of off-key singing! Other than that all frivolity, I am in my 14th year of teaching history and economics at Lunenburg (Mass.) high school, which I love." • Joan O'Brien was selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities for a study last summer called "Living on the Edge of Empire," looking at the 1704 raid in Deerfield, Mass. She was looking into possible studies regarding China and politics for this summer. • While experiencing her first year as an empty nester, Robin Howe found herself devoting time when not at work to various nonprofit groups in the Chattanooga area. Her involvement ranges from education to Alzheimer's support to working with women in underserved areas. • Zander Grant writes that his eldest daughter, Audrey, graduated from Middlebury in May and already has a job in finance in Boston. Second daughter Lily is at Texas, for an unofficial but timely reunion weekend in February in support of Laurie and Doug Dickson who lost their son Donovan '11 in October. The group included Pete Price, Dave Storrs, Roy Heffernan '78, John Burchard, Eric Kemp '80, Paul Scheufler '80, Donnie Roach '80, Duane Ford '78, Mike Haynes '80, Andrew Nestler '80, Jim McKeen '82, Steve Clancy, Garret Gifford, Bob Ritter '82, Beau Coash '82, Jeff Johnson '82, Roy Giarrusso '83, Rick Ryan, Jim Ryan '80, John Hayes, Art Poltrack '80, Michael Price, Peter Hurwitz, Jim Carey, Bob Marchesi '80, John Underwood, Mike Heffernan '82, Coach Jim Grube, Dave LaPann '78, Scott Laughinghouse '83, Charlie Robinson '82, Erin Quinn '86, and Anton Becker. A photo of the group will appear in a future issue of the magazine! —Class Correspondents: Carolyn Bausch (cbausch@verizon.net); Elaine King Nickerson (eknick@aol.com); Marcy Parlow Pomerance (pomerance@comcast.net).

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Jeff Clarke has been named CEO of Philanthropy Northwest, a community of grant makers and philanthropists working in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming. He will provide strategic leadership for the board and staff and work closely with regional philanthropists and national partners to promote and facilitate effective, collaborative grant making. Prior to joining Philanthropy Northwest, Jeff worked as a consultant and served as interim CEO of the Council on Foundations. • Lydia Mason Hill sent the update that she has completed her teaching contract in Thailand. Before returning to the States, she put together a variety of experiences, including a week with elephants, a week teaching yogaic breath work, teaching English in Cambodia, and visiting Angkor Wat. She planned to meet her kids, Mason and Mariah, in Portugal for a vacation as well. • In Massachusetts Mary Ann Petkiewicz Wilmarth continues to commute from Andover to Cambridge, where she is the chief of physical therapy for Harvard Univ. She also teaches in the DPT program at Northeastern, has her own practice, Back2BackPT, and is working on a book. She says, "Daughter Tori graduated from Duke in 2013 and lives in Cambridge (yay—close) and works as a consultant for IBM. Tori's twin sister Lauren is in her second year of vet school at Cornell. Son Zach had to give up crew due to time restraints with architecture and rowing. It seems that they don't want you when you are going through architecture school—or ever. We miss the crew races—maybe we will have to take it up ourselves. Hope everyone is doing well. Hi to all." • Pat Mahoney writes that she has been teaching high school English for 32 years, since our graduation from Midd. She has been at Glen Rock High School in Bergen County, N.J., for the past 25 years, where she is the head of the Department of English. This year, she was named Teacher of the Year in recognition of her longtime commitment to her students, colleagues, and the teaching profession. —Class Correspondents: Wendy Bebringringer Nelson (gommog@bellsouth.net); Caleb Rick (crick@northboston.net).

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Hugh Coyle reports that he continues to work as a freelance writer and editor in Vermont and maintains ties to Midd as an admissions board member for the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference. Last fall he and his husband traveled to France, Italy, Austria, and Sweden on a research trip for the historical novel he is writing. • Ginny Wolnowicz works in real estate in Florida, where she lives with husband Marcel, son Julian, who was born in 2010, and their two yellow labs, Pocho and Gardel. She previously worked in international banking and got a master's in economics from NYU. She loves being a mom and writes that Julian is loving, affectionate, and into blocks, magnets, painting, and singing. • Big news from Dan Ellish! A musical he wrote was being produced this summer at the TriArts Sharon Playhouse in Sharon, Conn. It's called *Nine Wives* and is based on a novel that he wrote of the same name. He wrote the script and cowrote the lyrics with Douglas J. Cohen, who also wrote the music. He invites anyone who is in Sharon the last weekend of July to come check it out and say hi. He claims that his life is otherwise pretty unexciting but in a good way: kids in school (fifth and second grades), trying to see an occasional movie with his wife, writing, and teaching piano. • Danny Kagan is still waxing poetic over our 30th. He had a blast and claims to have enjoyed seeing each and every one of us that made it back. This reunion was particularly special for him because his son and Sue Parsons Ritter's daughter served as class leaders for our reunion class. He says, "Like many of our classmates, I'm blessed to be able to go through Midd again, this time as a Midd parent." Both of his kids are finishing college in 2014—son Max with Midd in May and daughter Rachel with Elon Univ. in December. Danny himself is a trial lawyer in Maine at Berman & Simmons and if Facebook has any truth to it, enjoys occasionally playing hooky to do some skiing. • Charlie Tercek is working in advertising and happily raising a family with his wife in Beverly Hills, Calif. His 10th grade daughter was planning to attend the college's summer soccer camp. Hopefully he bumped into some other '83ers there if he did drop off or pick up! • Kathy Pelton Murphy's son graduated from high school in June and will be in college this fall! Kathy is still teaching French and Spanish at Dennis-Yarmouth (Mass.) Regional High School. • Al Bucknam is a grandfather! Congratulations to him on that. His oldest son and wife gave him a beautiful granddaughter in NYC, born on July 31 last year. His only daughter is getting married this summer and his two younger sons are at the Univ of Florida and at UVM, respectively. He continues to live in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., with his "lovely

A large contingent of Middlebury alumni representing classes from 1978–1986 mobilized quickly and traveled to Austin, Texas, for an unofficial but timely reunion weekend. 2013 and lives in Cambridge (yay—close) and works as a consultant for IBM. Tori's twin sister Lauren is in her second year of vet school at Cornell. Son Zach had to give up crew due to time restraints with architecture and rowing. It seems that they don't want you when you are going through architecture school—or ever. We miss the crew races—maybe we will have to take it up ourselves. Hope everyone is doing well. Hi to all." • Pat Mahoney writes that she has been teaching high school English for 32 years, since our graduation from Midd. She has been at Glen Rock High School in Bergen County, N.J., for the past 25 years, where she is the head of the Department of English. This year, she was named Teacher of the Year in recognition of her longtime commitment to her students, colleagues, and the teaching profession. —Class Correspondents: Wendy Bebringringer Nelson (gommog@bellsouth.net); Caleb Rick (crick@northboston.net).
wife" and works in solar energy in Edison, N.J. A few other tidbits gleaned from Facebook: Roy Giarrusso’s son plays lacrosse for Midd and Javier Damien does a lot of very cool-looking skiing. The College received word that David Wallace, who’s a partner with Taft Stettinius & Hollister in Ohio and co-chair of the litigation group, has been invited to become a Fellow of the International Society of Barristers. —Class Correspondents: Allison Barroughs (abarroughs@nutter.com); Victoria Seiden Gomin (victoriagomin@gmail.com).

84 We hope everyone who could make it had a great time at reunion! We would like to step down as correspondents and would love to have volunteers to take over. Let us know!
—Class Correspondents: Elizabeth Eppes Winton (ewinton@mac.com); Andrew Zehner (andrewzehner@gmail.com)

85 REUNION CLASS As always, Ruth and Denah are very grateful to our classmates who shared stories of their lives with us. We heard from Pamela Brown: "I am leading a super-busy life, living and working in Bedford, Mass., with my 10- and 11-year-old boys. They are into Scouts, karate, lacrosse, baseball, soccer, swimming, and tennis—and oh yeah, school. I work way more than 40 hours a week and spend many nights in various town halls doing development permitting and sometimes writing zoning bylaws for communities. I combined my Midd environmental degree with a master’s in community planning and a 30-something law degree to qualify myself to spend many nights before local boards. My work circled me to Matt Caffrey ’88, who is a lawyer working in Andover. I wear many hats and do lots of volunteer work, including Bedford Chamber of Commerce, Honorary Commander of Hanscom Air Force Base, Cub Scout den leader, teaching citizen planner/law seminars, and serving as a corporator for Emerson Hospital. I’m pleased that I was elected to the Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP)—a very selective national honor."
Our world traveler classmate, Wes Carrington, wrote, "It’s been a while, so many may not know I came back to the U.S. in 2012 after spending the previous 10 years overseas at our U.S. embassies in Quito, Ecuador; Lisbon, Portugal; and Brasilia, Brazil. How quickly a decade flies by! I’m currently working on our European Fulbright programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, but will be taking off again in September (without family), going to Afghanistan for a year. Our oldest son will be a senior this year at William & Mary, our middle son is deciding where he’s going after high school, and our daughter will still be with us for a while longer—she’s only in 8th grade. I may not be able to make it back for reunion next summer and can’t invite anyone to visit me in Kabul, but I hope to keep up with you all through Denah and Ruth’s class notes!" We also loved hearing from Shelagh Connor Shapiro, who told us she and husband Jerry traveled to Key West, Fla., in February and cycled back home to Vermont. Shelagh’s novel, tentatively titled Shape of the Sky, will be published later this year by Wind Ridge Books of Vermont. Robyn Rieser Barkin (who was Denah’s roommate during our junior year in Paris) wrote that she is living in Atlanta, her hometown, and is married to Tom Barkin, who works at McKinsey and Company. They have two teenagers, who go to Westminster, which is where Robyn went to school. Their oldest, Sam, is off to college this fall. Robyn writes that she took him up to Midd in the spring of 2013 where they ran into Cecil Barron Jensen and her daughter on their college tour! Robyn said she fell in love with Midd all over again during their visit. Their daughter Katie is getting ready to enter high school in the fall. Robyn serves on the board of trustees at Westminster, as well as at the Fox Theatre and the Atlanta Speech School. Robyn concludes, "Already thinking about next year as our 30th reunion year! Can’t wait to be there and see everyone again. The 25th was such fun, and I hope everyone will come back again next year."
Lisa Miller Browdy kindly responded to our plea: "After 20 years in Oak Park, Ill. (just west of Chicago), I have relocated to Salt Lake City, Utah. My husband David accepted a job as CFO of the Univ of Utah Health Science Center, so we moved here in August of 2013. We made sure to see The Book of Mormon musical in Chicago for research before we left! Actually, Salt Lake City is much less LDS than we expected, and it is lovely to be living amongst the mountains again! Our son Joel finished his freshman year at Eckerd College in Florida and our daughter Tavia adjusted to her sophomore year at a small, private high school after her big, diverse public school back home. My new passion is teaching Nia, a fusion of dance arts, martial arts and healing arts. Anyone who wants to get in touch can find me on Facebook under Lisa Miller Browdy." We also heard from Jacob Appelsmith: "As you may be aware, my last name at Middlebury was Smith, and it became Appelsmith when I married my wife, Beth. We have a daughter, Violet (12), and we live in the midtown section of Sacramento. I got my law degree from UC Berkeley in 1988. From 2008 to September 2013, I was a senior adviser to Governor Jerry Brown. He also appointed me as the director of the California Dept. of Alcoholic Beverages, a position I held from 2011 to 2013. I’m now chief campus counsel at UC Davis, which has 34,000 students and 22,000 employees. I report to the university’s chancellor, and I oversee the legal office with five lawyers and am responsible for the legal affairs of the university, including its hospital and health system."
Thank you, Midd 1985 classmates! Please keep us posted on your life adventures! And be sure to put the weekend of June 5-7, 2015, on your calendar for our 30th reunion! —Class Correspondents: Ruth Lehmann Davis (ruth.davie63@gmail.com); Denah Lohmann Toupin (denah@comcast.net).

86 Melissa Koff Eljama writes that she is in her 17th year working for the University of Michigan (UM) in Ann Arbor as the manager for an academic department in their liberal arts college. She was looking forward to taking a group of 11 students to Morocco to do volunteer work and learn about the Moroccan culture in May. Despite her pitches to have her daughter apply to Midd, she just finished up her freshman year at UM, studying international relations. Her son will be a sophomore in high school. "I stay connected to Midd by coordinating prospective applicant interviews in Michigan. I had a wonderful girls’ weekend visit with Amy Snyder Weed in Boston last August and keep in touch regularly with Vicky Litz in Princeton." Cory Zanin married longtime partner Tom Buchberger on December 27 in Minneapolis, Minn. Other 1986ers in attendance were Allan Jones, Henry Persons, Kathryn Cater Bergquist, and Brad and Katie Carpenter Nelson. Congratulations, Cory! Torsten Garber writes, "I’m still working and raising kids who get bigger and bigger. Our house is filled with my wife and me, three kids, two dogs, and two cats. My youngest child is 10 years old and has turned into the family basketball player. His grandmother, the tennis pro, taught him how to play tennis last year and now he and I go several times a week and play. An advantage of living in Southern California is that you can play tennis year-round. My two other kids are now dancing as competitive ballroom dancers. It’s amazing to see what they can do. As for me, I work for Engility Corp. and I provide acquisition and program management support for the Navy in the systems engineering area. My wife (MIT class of 1991) does much the same thing for a different company.
Heather Pierce Post plans to be in Midd much more now that she has permanently moved to Grenfell, her new home on the New Haven River on Dog Team Road, Brooksville, Vt. "I had aunner fall watching my senior Midd kid, Lindsay, and her soccer team go practically undefeated. Capturing the NESCAC crown by beating Williams was such a highlight. Then charging through the NCAA tournament to the FINAL FOUR and making college history was really thrilling. We lost in the semis to the home team of San Antonio Texas-Trinity. I’m enjoying living in Addison County again. I’ve been trained to be a Hospice volunteer for the area and look forward to making a difference. Would love visitors and can look forward to a gathering at my house for our jortho!" Thanks for the class reunion invite, Heather! Kathrynn Donahue deSouza shares this news: "My 14-year-old son Paul has qualified in sailing for the Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, this summer! He placed fourth at the North American Championships Regatta, which
was a Continental Qualifier. Only 30 youth sailors will qualify to compete. My children are dual citizens of the Bahamas and the U.S. (we live in the Bahamas) so he will be representing the Bahamas at the Youth Olympic Games. He is also representing the Bahamas at the ISAF Youth World Championships in Portugal in a Laser sailboat. *Shannon Miller Hathaway and husband Gary were expecting their first grandson in June! And their youngest son, Jack, spent last summer doing an internship at Focus Features with David Bloch.* "Jack is working this summer as a page for NBC Universal at Rockefeller Center in NYC. This July a group of '86ers—myself, Amy Weed, Barbara Barry Coates, Virginia Gates, Leidy Lashkari, and Beth Clark—are planning to celebrate our 30th birthdays in Italy.* "Speaking of David Bloch, Shannon shared via Facebook that David, SVP of marketing at Focus Features, was at the Oscars to watch Focus Features' *Dallas Buyers Club* take home Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor!* "Ellen Bauman Metzger and husband Carl are living near Boston, where she works as a math specialist and he works as a lawyer. Their son graduated from high school this spring and will attend Colorado College after a gap year. Their 15-year-old daughter was in Argentina doing a semester-long cultural exchange with AFS, living with a host family and attending a high school in a small rural town. *Wyman and Laura Mungan Briggs were in Middlebury Memorial Day Weekend to celebrate as their oldest daughter, Elizabeth, graduated from Midd.* "John C. Cummings, previously Carroll Cummings, writes, "I underwent gender reassignment surgery in December and have been living as a man since November 2012. The C. in my name stands for Carroll, but I go by Chip and John." He appreciates the support he has received from friends who work with him as he does admissions and development volunteer work for the College and friends from the Class of '86. *Real Man Adventures* by T. Cooper '94 is a very accurate and moving memoir about a transgender man and Chip read that and is in touch with T. Chip lives in Brattleboro, Vt., and teaches at Mount Snow Academy, where he is in his 11th year. A silver medalist at Sochi, Devin Logan, was his student while in Cleveland this past February (minus-nine degrees). "I thought I'd toss an '87 class note your way to update any folks that I'm not already connected to on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Pinterest, Vine, Klout, LinkedIn, or my Vimeo and Youtube channels. In December last year I started a new job at Key Private Bank in Portland, Ore., as a senior portfolio manager. I still create and manage investment portfolios for HNW clients, but now I do it for the Cleveland-based bank with 18,000 employees and $70 billion of client portfolios instead of the five-person shop I was part of for the prior six years. And a quick news flash for my fellow classmates: the Class of '87 is getting old. By the time this is printed, I will have one daughter out of college, two daughters in college, and a high school junior very excited about having the house to himself. I don't see a ton of things they do. Felice lives in Newport, Mass., with husband Peter and their cat Gia. She's a clinical social worker for the Dept. of Mental Health in Tewksbury and completed her studies as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor in May. She's enjoying an internship for school at a women's prerelease prison, where she runs a therapy group with older inmates looking at the roots of addiction and its relationship to trauma. *Beth* lives in Hull, Mass., and is the controller for the New England Regional Council of Carpenters. Her son Chad graduated from college and is working for the New England Regional Council of Carpenters. I will have one daughter out of college, two daughters in college, and a high school junior very excited about having the house to himself. I don't see a ton of things they do. Felice lives in Newport, Mass., with husband Peter and their cat Gia. She's a clinical social worker for the Dept. of Mental Health in Tewksbury and completed her studies as a licensed alcohol and drug counselor in May. 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88 After more than six years at the Jane Goodall Institute, Claire Gwarkin Jones recently joined the communications team at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. Claire will specialize on shining the spotlight on the Society's numerous grant recipients, who do field research all over the world. In social news, Claire had a wonderful visit with Liz Nightingale in January. Liz was in town from her new home in Kuala Lumpur (KL), Malaysia. Liz's husband, Drew, works for the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Officer. He is currently posted to the U.S. Embassy in KL. Liz and Drew moved to KL last July and will remain there until summer 2016. While there, Liz is working for the international law firm of Baker & McKenzie, specializing in trade and telecoms. She started with the firm in Hanoi, Vietnam, and most recently worked in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. Liz would love to visit yours! *Class Correspondents: Amy Puri Brunnick (abrunnick@gmail.com); Claire Gwarkin Jones (gwoatkoyahoo.com).*
Mark Ely is living in Tiburon, Calif., with wife Polly, and kids Cameron (15) and Anna (13). He is working on launching a consumer electronics startup (www.simple.tv) while trying to reserve some time to hike, bike, and otherwise enjoy Marin with his family. • Vanessa Trien was featured in a Middlebury Magazine “Pursuits” feature on her life as a performing musician/educator for kids and families. She performs frequently around Massachusetts and the Northeast with her band, the Jumping Monkeys, as well as teaches early childhood music. Her children are ages 5 and 9, and they live in Brookline, Mass. Vanessa would love to connect with more Midd friends in the Boston area! • Victoria Fischer Luksch lives in Leverkusen, Germany, and is busy raising five kids between the ages of 3 and 12, and “getting a bit nervous about the coming years with several teenagers in the house—does anyone have some good advice on this subject? I would also like to extend again the note that if anyone is coming to Germany or the whereabouts to please get in touch. We live exactly halfway between Cologne and Düsseldorf.” • Suhail and Saba Ahmed Shaikh are living in Scarsdale, N.Y., and have two boys, Aazum (17) and Fazl (15). “We are so proud to say that Aazum is following in our footsteps and will be attending Middlebury this fall with the Class of 2018! We will be making lots of trips up over the next couple of years, as proud parents. Hope everyone is well—where did the years go?” • Craig Hajduk is enjoying life in Seattle, Wash., with a full household of three boys (8, 6, and 4), and he tries to get up in the mountains any chance he can. “A recent highlight has to be when Chris Waddell spoke to my oldest son’s school earlier this year, and he absolutely blew him away.” • Alden Whittaker writes with big changes: “I decided after a decade of living in Africa to relocate back to the U.S. I rented an apartment in Arlington, Va., and returned in March. No job yet but will begin looking shortly for something related to wildlife conservation in Africa. I have changed my address already on the Midd website and look forward to attending some alumni events and catching up with those in the area. Please write to me at alden.whittaker@juno.com if you are up for lunch, drinks, or whatever. Looking forward to settling in to my new life and seeing many of you!” • Mariette Johnson Wharton and family have been loving life in Northern California these last six years, spending as much time as they can hiking, biking, rock climbing, and skiing. In October 2013 they sold the enterprise software company husband Scott and Mariette founded in 2008. “It was an exhausting and exhilarating experience that we were relieved had a good outcome.” Their boys, Dane (13) and Reid (10), have been bitten by the travel bug with some fun family travels recently to Egypt, France,
Switzerland, Japan, the Virgin Islands, and the U.S. East Coast, including Midd. "Before we plunge into the next entrepreneurial venture, we’re unwinding and we have more adventures up our sleeves." • Marika Holmgren is featured for her work as a cancer survivor advocate working on chemical policy reform in the documentary The Human Experiment, narrated and produced by Sean Penn. She’s been enjoying traveling to film festivals to speak about the need for stronger chemical regulation. She also spent time in Minneapolis recently catching up with Randall ’90 and Sara Brenner Barry and their children Peter (12) and Catherine (10).

• Catherine Speth McCullough is going to the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference for poetry in August. —Class Correspondents: Marika Holmgren (holmgren.marika@gmail.com). Lucy Randolph Liddell (lucyliddell7@gmail.com).

92 Doug Fischer and husband Robbie are raising their four-year-old son in Santa Barbara, Calif. While Doug misses the fall foliage, he does not miss mud season. • Kingman Gordon has had the chance to visit with Bance Jones and Tristram Perkins and had a mini-reunion with them and John Rudge, Charlie Watson, Warner McGowin, Bill Tice, and Jon Owsley to see the Allman Brothers perform their last few shows at the Beacon Theater in NYC. • Brian Willing, who still lives in Falmouth, Maine, reports that "Dan Thomson works at a private school (Waynflete) in Portland, and I recently saw Rob Luce, who still lives in Johannesburg, South Africa." • Rebecca Sofferman Buerkett was recently appointed secretary of the New York Library Assoc. Section of School Librarians. She is working as a school librarian and technology coordinator in Tupper Lake, N.Y. She lives with her daughters in Saranac Lake, N.Y., and welcomes Adirondack visitors to reconnect if you’re in the area! • Jonathan Freirich, Ginny Reel ’94, and Jude (a prospect for Middlebury Class of 2028) welcomed Jude’s little sister, Sadie Zelig Reel Freirich, into the world on November 29, 2013. They all continue to enjoy life in Charlotte, N.C., where Jonathan serves as the associate rabbi for Temple Beth El, the largest Jewish congregation in the Carolinas, and Ginny continues to make amazing Jewish art in the form of Jewish marriage contracts. (Check her website: www.ketubah-arts.com.)

• Shawn Emory Ankeny writes that she, Timmy Rankin Braemer, and Robin Madsen ’90 met up for a ski weekend in Whistler. She writes, "It was so much fun to get together for three solid days of skiing! We stayed at Robin’s newly renovated condo, which is for rent, if anyone is interested. I highly recommend it! Robin is an orthopedic surgeon in Seattle and lives with her husband and two kids; Timmy is living in Nashville with her husband and three kids; and I live in Jackson Hole with my husband and two kids and welcome anyone to ski with! I see Ted Kyle, Anthony Rojo, and Brian Schilling every Saturday at the Village dropping our kids off at ski school! Very fun to have that Middlebury connection here!" • Kate Côté Gillin recently published Sheryl Harrold: Women, Gender, and Racial Violence in South Carolina, 1865-1990, with the University of South Carolina Press. • Lilly Gray Dawson shared, "I had a lovely and long overdue summertime visit with Kelly Watson Holley and Susan Scheer Ward last July when they visited for a long weekend out in Sagaponack, Long Island. In Long Island, I’ve become friends with Sarah Brooks Minardi ’02, who does a knockout job as a realtor in the Hamptons. And after 20 years in the art business—auction, museum, and galleries—I decided to strike out on my own with my own art advisory business, Gray Dawson LLC, specializing in American Art, as well as postwar, contemporary, and photography. It’s been a blast so far in a market that’s as crazy, challenging, and fun as ever!" • Noelle Stevens writes, "I am a wife and mom of two children (ages 12 and 9). I also work as a family physician for a large medical group in Glens Falls, N.Y. Over two years ago, I opened Core of Glens Falls, a group fitness studio, offering Les Mills classes. I teach BODYPUMP, CXWorx and RPM. I run into classmate David Cunningham regularly at the hospital. I’m happy and healthier than ever before." • Christina Raskopf Seale and her family celebrated the birth of Amelia in September 2013, who joined big sisters Julia and Olivia. Mom, Dad, three girls, and two dogs all live in NYC and see a lot of Julia Kaye Goodman ’93 at the kids’ school. • William Okin is still teaching math and horsemanship at the Thacher School, a boarding prep school in Ojai, Calif. He says, "Each year a few of my students seem to end up at Middlebury. Last year Midd was fortunate to get three of my favorites—the admissions department surely knows how to pick them. I’m married to Patty Waltcher and my two stepkids Thomas Waltcher ’23 and Genevieve ’26 are bragging their 20s in the wide world. No easy task. Thomas works at the Union Cafe in NYC and Genevieve is teaching Spanish to first through seventh graders at the Oak Grove School in Ojai and in the midst of applying to acting schools. I’m still balancing full-time teacher—with full-time Buddhist—for instance over spring break I went to Pullahari Retreat Center in Cayucos, Calif, to do a nine-day solitary retreat. And I have an amazing dog, Marlowe, the cutest little sucker you’ve ever seen." • Nils von Zelowitz announces the arrival of Leo the cat to his family’s household. He joined them last December and made himself immediately at home. They were also fortunate to spend some time in NYC with Duke Beardsley and his family last fall. It was a real treat to get together and catch up. Great reminder of how the strong bonds of the Middlebury experience last a lifetime. • Bruce Silverman writes, "My animal hospital continues to be crazy busy, and last January I started CARF: The Critical Animal Relief Foundation. In the past year, CARF has saved the lives of over 200 animals and found wonderful homes for them. This year we look forward to growing our operations and saving even more little souls." • Hieu Nguyen writes that 2014 started with a cross-country drive from Maine to Southern California in order to avoid Storm Hercules. "After 15 wonderful years in New England (five in Maine and 10 years in Vermont), Shannon (Detweiler) ’95, the kids, and I decided to return to San Diego in order to be closer to family and friends. I shoveled my last driveway on December 31 and have since traded in the boots and gloves for flip-flops and swim trunks." • Sara Weale writes, "John (Rudge) and I are living in Katonah, in northern Westchester New York, with our children, Charlie (11) and Elizabeth (9). Elizabeth was extremely fortunate to have Lynn Proudnik Garofolo as her third grade teacher this past year. Elizabeth said she was "the best and most fun teacher ever!" Lynn’s son, Gerard, is also in third grade, but not in his mom’s class. And Mia Puccio, daughter of Justin ’93 and Cindy Parson Puccio ’93 was also in Lynn’s class—so there was a lot of Panther pride going on in the third grade at Katonah Elementary! I’m currently pursuing a master’s in social work and will likely work with the older adult population when I graduate next year." • A new alumni chapter has opened in Seoul, Korea, and Catherine Lee sent a photo of a picnic they had. Check it out on page 84.

93 Marc Pina recently left Coldwell Banker and became executive VP/managing broker of Century 21 Redwood Realty in Arlington, Va. He’s pleased to also be living back in Arlington and enjoying the five-minute commute to work. • Randy Weiner writes, "My start-up, BrainQuake, is excited to be part of a great group of companies in Zyngra.org’s and NewSchools Venture Fund’s second cohort at the co.lab!" Check out playcolab.com/companies. • Dexter Mahaffey sent an update: "It’s been a long, long time, and I hope this finds you and yours well. Having not submitted anything for class notes before, I’ve been up to a couple of things recently that seem to merit passing on. Last year I finished my PhD with a dissertation entitled The Rhetoric of Africa: Historical Turns in Constructing a Continent, 1780–1890. This coming year, after having worked in independent and public schools around the country since graduating from Middlebury, I will assume the head of school position at Vermont Commons School in South Burlington. My wife and I and our two sons are looking forward to a return to the back roads, streams, and culture of northern Vermont, not least because it puts us once again in close proximity to old New England, Middlebury, and Bread Loaf friends." • Lamia Dennis McKearn moved with her 11-year-old son Ronan to Denver, Colo., in July 2013.
from New Orleans, La. After living in the South for 15 years it was time for a change! She decided to get back in the furniture biz after a six-year hiatus and in April 2014 opened her store Discoveries Furniture & Finds (www.DiscoveriesCO.com) in Lowry Town Center, Denver. Middlebury friend Shawn Rae Passalacqua, who also lives in Denver, made a surprise visit on her opening day!
— Class Correspondent: Maria Diaz (latinawriting@gmail.com).

— Class Correspondents: Mary Strife Cairns (mcaims@middlebury.edu); Gene Swift (generswift@gmail.com).

REUNION CLASS With less than 12 months until we celebrate our 20th reunion, we hope June 2015 is on everyone’s calendar so that we can catch up in person and enjoy each other’s stories. • Both James and Carol Tonge Mack work in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati (UC). James is the new assistant head of the chemistry department and Carol was promoted to assistant dean. “Our daughter Allyson Carolyn (AC) is no longer the child running through Proctor dining hall during J-term, she’s a 22-year-old fashion design major at UC. Our last child, Anthony, is almost 13 years old and preparing for the eighth grade.”  • Keep your news flowing through email, as we all enjoy keeping up via class notes. See you in June 2015.
— Class Correspondents: Emily Aikenhead Hannon (hannon.emily@gmail.com); JP Watson (jpwatson@heritagehawks.org).

Congratulations to Rebecca Rhynhart, who was named one of the 40 under 40 up and coming business leaders in the Philadelphia region by the Philadelphia Business Journal. She is the budget director for the City of Philadelphia. In her profile she says her biggest accomplishment of the past year was balancing the city’s budget and her proudest moment was running a half-marathon. She lives in Rittenhouse Square with daughter Julia (q). • Sarah Merrill loves her work as a personal historian, assisting families in compiling their family histories and guiding individuals in the writing of their memoirs. After years working as a journalist, she founded Merrill Memoirs, in 2012 and has worked with families all over the country. Her clients range from centenarians to recent retirees. Sarah wants everyone to know that recording your family history and your life stories is the ultimate gift for future generations (www.memoirsbymerrill.com). • Juliana
1 A Middlebury Alumni Chapter opened in Seoul, Korea, and many Midd people with family and friends had a picnic: Jaden Choi, Chunshimee (the dog), Annica Nassiry, Andy Umans, Arthur Choo '12, Elizabeth Howell '03 with Clara Umans, Sarah Kim, Robin Cho '15, Catherine Lee '92, Emily Goldsmith '08, Ruth Kim, (second row) Hyukjun Moon, Blake Johnson '10, Hanah Rhee, MIDS '13, Harbin Oh '17, Jonathan Yun '17, Joshua Kim '17, Lydia Kim '17, Michelle Kim '17, BK Park '08, Eun Ah Choi '15, Kyeongmin Lee '14, Ed Bogart '02, and Dave Kim MILS '05. Ashley Kerr '06 married Jason Muilenkamp on July 13, 2013, in Wayne, Pa., with several Middlebury friends and significant others in attendance: George Buchelis, Kerry Krauss '05, the newlyweds, Steve Mahoney, Elise Beeger '06, Brock Wester, (second row) Parker Fader, Mark Barber '06, Merissa Kraham Velez '06, and Kevin Velez '06. Two generations hiked one of Colorado's more difficult fourteeners—Mt. Lindsey at 14,042 feet: Luke Cunningham '11, Katie Remington '10, and Wendell Fleming '78.

2 Birnbaum sent the news that she and Louis Fox have published Sustainable [R]Evolution: Permaculture in Ecorocilies, Urban Farms, and Communities Worldwide. She writes, “The book features 60 sites on five continents where regenerative design solutions are demonstrating what a more just and sustainable future might look like.” She and Louis have two daughters, Lila and Screepe.

3 Heidi Erdmann Vance McCann writes, “Paul and I welcomed our fourth child, James Ryan, on December 17. Big sisters Martha “Martie” (9), Ava (7), and Caroline (4) love their baby brother!”

4 Congratulations to Ben Sigel, who was honored with the K’lal Israel Award by the Synagogue Council of Massachusetts for his service to Greater Boston’s Jewish community. He has been involved with numerous local and national boards and was honored by Combined Jewish Philanthropies as one of 18 “Chai in the Hub” under-40 rising stars. He’s an attorney with law firm Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky, Popco. "We had another kid! Skye Caroline Tyler was born on December 17. Big sisters Katie Whittlesey Comstock (katie.comstock@am.jil.com); Catherine Mitchell Wieman (cnmitchelby@gmail.com)."

5 Athena Fliakos writes, “My news is that I just founded a little social justice/ enterprise, www.thegoodbrain.org, to reimagine the business of teaching and learning. Midd Kids Kelly Dane, Emily Voorhees, Laura Beilles Coppola, and Sarah Graff Crawford all serve as advisors in some capacity.”

6 Clare O'Reilly '05 and Ole Waldmann were married on July 26, 2013, at the General’s Residence at Fort Mason, San Francisco, Calif. Celebrating with the couple were (all '05 unless noted) Alexandra Castillo-Kesper, (second row) Laura Robinson, India Mandelkern, Tyler Kremberg '03, Jarvis Lagman, (third row) Ari Joseph, Jennifer Kim, Meenah Park, Johanna Rosenfeld Kremberg, the newlyweds, John Schirm, and Julie Lornoff Schirm. Teaching in an international school, Eleanor Leyden, MA French '93 was happy to learn her French student, Elizabeth Lee '17, was attending Middlebury.

7 Athena Fliakos writes, “My news is that I just founded a little social justice/ enterprise, www.thegoodbrain.org, to reimagine the business of teaching and learning. Midd Kids Kelly Dane, Emily Voorhees, Laura Beilles Coppola, and Sarah Graff Crawford all serve as advisors in some capacity.”

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Earth to the Moon. • We'll have news about reunion in the fall column! — Class Correspondents: Melissa Pruessing Miraski (mpruessing@yahoo.com); Peter Steinberg (captain99@gmail.com).

**00 REUNION CLASS** Congratulations to Dave Philipps, who won the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting! A reporter at the *Colorado Springs Gazette*, he won the award for his three-day investigative series, "Other Than Honorable," focusing on wounded combat veterans who are mistreated and lose benefits after being discharged by the Army for minor offenses. • Evan Stevens owns and operates a backcountry ski lodge in the Vahalla Mountains of British Columbia with his wife, who grew up there. He writes that he has "been living and working and married up in BC for almost 10 years now. I am a fully internationally certified Mountain Guide (IFMGA)—one of four that have come out of Middlebury, which is cool considering there are only about 80 fully certified guides in the States." • Melanie Curtis is still growing her life-coaching and online business at highcomms.com. "I'm still insanely driven by my passion for entrepreneurship and helping people live the lives they actually want to live. Sounds cheesy, but in the actual details of people's lives and the relationships we cultivate—yeah, it's such rewarding work and I'm truly grateful. In other news, I got hitched! Nick Grillet and I married March 11, 2013, and had our big wedding celebration in January." • Jamie McBride De Weer and her husband Jan are proud to announce the birth of Miles Joseph De Weer on March 6, big brother Max, and their parents are all doing well and loving life in St. Louis, Mo. • Matthew O'Connell updates, "Went to the fall column!—Class Correspondents: Melissa Pruessing Miraski (mpruessing@yahoo.com); Peter Steinberg (captain99@gmail.com).

**01** Scott and Sarah Theall Lenke and big brother Jack are happy to announce the birth of Maximilian (Max) Charles on January 30. • Kristen Lyall Dodge writes, "Garrett and I welcomed our daughter, Hadley Madeline Dodge, in early December. She's keeping us busy (and sleep-deprived)! Looking forward to introducing her to Midd friends when we are back East in August." • Tamsen Fricke and Miranda Hillyard are both in the D.C. area continuing their adventures. They are very happy to have reconnected. Tamsen is now the operations manager for Divine Chocolate and Miranda is an emergency veterinarian. • Kelly Knapp and Frank Schroeter (Colby College '93) were married on June 30, 2012, in Skaneateles, N.Y. Middlebury grads in attendance included Jean Burr, John Colianni, Kate Wright Kelly, Jess Stahl, and Andrew Snow. The same crew, plus Kristy Lamarcee Kerin, and with help from Frank, surprised Kelly with a baby shower in Hinesburg, Vt., on March 8 of this year. The Schroeter family is living in the Syracuse area of Central New York and Kelly finished up her eighth year as the school psychologist in the Lyncourt Union Free School District. • Mary Tucker Arbuthnot and husband Stephen welcomed their second child, daughter Sybil, into the world on October 22. They are still based in the UK and love it. • Rich Gallup reports that a preproduction meeting was held for *The Ben and Rich Show: The Next Generation* as Ben Coello, wife Carrie, and son Armando visited Rich, wife Becca, and son Calvin at their new home in Sudbury, Mass. Ben and Rich continue to enjoy careers in their major of video games as Ben is senior cinematics artist for ArenaNet out in Seattle, and Rich is executive producer for Disruptor Beam. While you wait for *TBARS.TNG* to hit Middlebury in 2013, you can hear Ben and Rich talk about being new dads on their podcast, *Dad Strength*. • Jackie Fitzpatrick Waters and husband Nat welcomed their second son, Tobin John, on May 5, 2013. Happy Cinco de Mayo! • Chris McKinlay was the subject of an article in the *The New York Times* with the title "How One Man Hacked OKCupid to Find the Girl of His Dreams." • Matt Whitcomb attended the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, as a coach of the U.S. women's Nordic squad. • Eleanor Henderson's novel *Ten Thousand Saints* is being made into a movie starring Ethan Hawke. It was shot this winter in NYC and is slated to hit the festival circuit this fall. Her latest book is *Labor Day: True Birth Stories by Today's Best Women Writers*, which she edited with Anna Solomon. • Weekend Reads: Japan, *West of Eden: The Untold Story of the Issei Who Came Out of Middlebury*. • Antonio Macia sent word that his latest film, *Affluence*, is coming out this summer. He hopes to screen it on campus in the fall for students and faculty. Check out a review on page 57.

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**02** Joshua Howe has published *Behind the Curve: Science and the Politics of Global Warming*. In his book he tackles the conundrum of why our global society has yet to find real solutions to the problem of global warming when for over 50 years, scientists have been researching climate change, particularly through the measurements of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that are depicted by the Keeling Curve. • This spring Uniting Against Lung Cancer announced the recipients of its research grants and Christine Fillmore, who is doing research at Children's Hospital Boston, has received funding.

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**03** After a year of surfing, backpacking, and eating her way around Indonesia, New Zealand, Turkey, and the Western U.S. with her husband, Alexandra Wang has just started at the Wikimedia Foundation in San Francisco. She will be making grants to support more women and people from the global south to add their knowledge to Wikipedia. • Michael Stabler joined Strong & Hanni as an associate attorney in December 2013, focusing in civil defense in the areas of construction law; premises liability, and personal injury. Strong & Hanni was founded in 1888 and is recognized as one of Utah's most respected law firms with 32 attorneys in two offices (Salt Lake and Sandy) that practice in the Intermountain West. Michael has also been very active with the Utah State Bar, organizing several continuing legal education events, including a two-day trial academy in May 2013. • Ron and Story Parker Schildge are heading to Paris in August with their boys, Dougie and Andrew, to teach at the American School of Paris. They are looking forward to life in France and having their boys grow up bilingual. Anyone in Paris is encouraged to give them a call! • This winter Marla Weinstein Ostroff, Nathan Davis, Tom Egan '04, and Joanna Ostrem, MA French '04 gathered with friends and family at the Beaver Creek home of Arlyn Davich (Bowdoin '03), where the great Colorado snow was eclipsed only by the cheer and shenanigans of catching up with dear friends.

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**04** Last October Sarah Grenert-Funk was inducted into the Sewickley (Pa.) Academy Sports Hall of Fame for her achievements in soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. Congratulations! • Last October Sarah Grenert-Funk was inducted into the Sewickley (Pa.) Academy Sports Hall of Fame for her achievements in soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. Congratulations! • Class Correspondents: Julia Herwood Breedon (judith.breedon@gmail.com); Athena (Tina) Fischer-Rodney (princess1238@yahoo.com).

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**05** REUNION CLASS Congratulations to Christopher Taylor, who was elected mayor of Swisher, Iowa, in February in a special election. He is a stay-at-home dad and Internet developer and has a one-year-old son and five-year-old daughter. • In June the Vermont Historical Society held its Vermont History Expo at the Tunbridge fairgrounds. • Last October Sarah Grenert-Funk was inducted into the Sewickley (Pa.) Academy Sports Hall of Fame for her achievements in soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. Congratulations! • Class Correspondents: Julia Herwood Breedon (judith.breedon@gmail.com); Athena (Tina) Fischer-Rodney (princess1238@yahoo.com).

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**06** Class Correspondents: Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com); Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).
Adam Swick and Hannah Delong sent an update: “We’re both doing well here in Madison, Wis. We bought a house in December, a 1920s Craftsman Bungalow, and it’s been going well so far. We both had some professional developments in the past year.” Hannah started a new job as a psychiatric nurse practitioner at Journey Mental Health Center. Adam finished his PhD at the Univ of Wisconsin in cellular and molecular biology and started a postdoctoral fellowship at UW Hospital, studying head and neck cancers. • Schuyler Winstead and Chris Matthesen ’04 were married on August 17, 2013, at the Rolling Rock Club in Laughlintown, Pa., surrounded by Middlebury friends and family. They live in Washington, D.C., with their dog, Madaket, and cat, Scout (Middlebury ’06). Schuyler works as an emergency room and primary care veterinarian at Friendship Hospital for Animals and Chris works as a government relations consultant.

—Class Correspondents: Alex Casnocha (alexander.casnocha@gmail.com); Jack Donaldson (jack.c.donaldson@gmail.com); Jess Van Wagenen O’Rielly (jessorielly@gmail.com); Nura Suleiman (nura.suleiman@gmail.com); Laura Lee (laurawhitneylee@gmail.com); Michelle Cady (michelle.elizabeth.cady@gmail.com); and Emily Johnson.

Lindsey Jones Hauchka writes, “Now that the dust has settled a bit, Steve and I are finally able to reflect on our experience at Super Bowl 48. It was a whirlwind to say the least, filled with family, friends, a Bruno Mars concert and, of course, a pretty amazing football game. Steve climbed a ladder up to the stands after the game to say hi to fellow Panthers Alex Buggy, Geoff Homer, Pat Mott, Eric Martinez, and Glenn Bickley ’08. He threw a couple of footballs in their direction, one of which Scott Secor caught. Macklemore played until three in the morning at the players party and afterwards Steve headed into NYC with some friends to the Marquee nightclub. Back in Seattle, close to a million people showed up to cheer us on as we paraded through the city in duck boats and military trucks.” • Mateo Fisher has fulfilled his childhood dream of becoming an attorney. After college graduation he worked for two years at a Web-hosting IT company, just to make sure seven-year-old Mateo was actually the right person to listen to when choosing a career path. He then spent three magical years in Austin attending the Univ of Texas School of Law and was a founding member of the UT Law/Middlebury grad lunch club. He now works in commercial litigation at Susman Godfrey in downtown Houston. He lives with his beautiful girlfriend and two cats. • Matt Hersheson is one of the founding members of Mercury Capital Advisors, a spin-off of the Merrill Lynch Private Equity Funds Group in NYC. He loves New York, but still makes as many trips home to Vermont as possible.

—Class Correspondents: Rebecca Feinberg (rebecca@gmail.com); Nura Suleiman (nura.suleiman@gmail.com); Isabel Yordan (icyordan@gmail.com).

Tyler Cotton began a new job at Wandboxa, handling international PR for the Beijing-based mobile content search engine and the international version of its Android phone manager software, SnapPea. After a 10-month stint home in the States, he is happy to be back in Beijing hanging out with other Midd Chinese alumni and trying to keep up with the breakneck pace of start-up work. • Amelia Goff is living in New Haven, Conn., where she is at Yale for their accelerated graduate-entry program in nursing. She is a family nurse practitioner candidate with a concentration in global health. Amelia is looking forward to spending some time in Jackson Hole, Wyo., this summer for a community-health clinical rotation. Amelia meets up often with Scott Greene and Andrea Glaessner, and got together for a great big New Year’s hang at the LaRocca home on Lake Champlain, with at least a dozen Midd alums from classes ’05–’08. • Dylan Graetz has been attending medical school in Connecticut, living in West Hartford. She finished in May with her MD/MPH and is going into pediatrics. Avery LaChance graduated with Dylan (same degrees—same town!) and is going into dermatology. Dylan had the opportunity on the interview trail to see Suzanna Fowler, and Elise Tarbi and Alex Garlick (who were married last May!), and she had a nice big reunion in San Francisco, which included Nancy Schneider, Dan Skold ’07, Heidi Erbe ’06, Lauren Miller ’07, Maddie Oatman, Tracy Young, Nate Randall, and Ryder Musselman. Dylan gets to see Abby Blum when she is lucky! • Dan Goulette is living in Boston, doing clinical rotations for the last year of physician assistant school at Northeastern Univ (graduating in August). Dan is looking for jobs in the area. He still hangs out with Ethan Robert and Adam Posner regularly, and Mike Gentile occasionally pops down to visit from Tuck Business School at Dartmouth. • Frank Granara is living right outside of Boston in Medford and going to Babson’s MBA program at night while working in commercial construction sales. He is halfway done with Babson and it has been a great experience so far. Dave Campbell is helping Frank create a website to sell home energy-efficiency products online. Frank spent a weekend in February in NYC with Nate S breen, Brian Young, Dave Randolph, Drew Schlegel, and John Lanahan. The group went to a concert at the Bowery Ballroom, featuring Brian’s soon to be brother-in-law. • Claire Groby lives in Pittsfield, Vt., with her husband and son Dean (6). Claire teaches theater at the local middle school in Hanover, N.H. • Rachel Lincoln Grindrod and her husband moved to Atlanta, Ga., last summer. In November, they celebrated the arrival of their son, Henry Thomas Grindrod. Congratulations, Rachell! • Matt Groce received his PhD in social psychology last fall from Miami (Ohio). In June, he moved to Winston-Salem, N.C., where he is a trial consultant at Womble Carlyle Sandridge and Rice. Attorneys (in the firm and outside the firm) hire Matt to help with jury selection, pretrial research (focus groups, mock trials), prepare witnesses for trial, and general suggestions for trial themes. He loves his job and is learning a lot. • Ella Hazlip is still in NYC. She started working for Serious Change, a social impact VC last fall. Ella saw a couple of Midd Kids in the fall at a get-together to launch David Dolginow’s ’09 new cider company, Shacksbys. • Alison Glassie updated us after returning from chap-eroning a student exchange to Iceland! “I’m still living in Middletown, R.I., with my husband Dave, our dog Freya, and cats Maia, Calabash, and Leonard Cohen (formerly of Weybridge House). I finished my last semester of teaching English at St. George’s School and am excited to start a PhD in English at the Univ of Virginia in the fall (less excited about the prospect of moving),” • Thanks for sharing! As always, send any updates to Michelle Cady or Laura Lee.

—Class Correspondents: Michelle Cady (michelle.elizabeth.cady@gmail.com); Laura Lee (laurawhitneylee@gmail.com).

Summer of 2014 is here! Can you believe it has been five years already? • June Trinos is working in Chattanooga, Tenn., at a hospital pharmacy and is looking at grad school in the near future. • Jessica Clayton graduated with a master’s in international development practice from UC Berkeley this spring. She reports that she had a great New Year’s visit from Catherine Suppan, who began medical school at UVM this year, and a spring visit from Lindsey Dattels, who will be graduating from Duke with a master’s in environmental management. • Also attending graduate school is Melina Ward. Melina is working on her master’s in health policy from the Harvard School of Public Health. Cambridge, Mass., is home to Michelle Personick, who is a post-doctoral researcher at Harvard. Michelle received a PhD in organic chemistry from Northwestern Univ. in 2013 and is now developing new materials to enable environmentally sustainable chemical processes. • Ling Fang has been enjoying the sunshine in Los Angeles, where she’s been living since attending UCLA after graduation. She studied computer science and is now working for Google. • Reporting from across the pond is Siddharth Baveja. Sid has been in London since 2011, where he’s been working for an international secondary ticket marketplace. In between global travels, he’s met up with David Hu and Caroline Woodworth, who are also residing in London. • Elizabeth Herron-Swee has been working as a legal assistant at a large New York-based corporate law firm in São Paulo, Brazil, since mid-2011. She also plays on an amateur women’s soccer team that has appeared on Brazilian television several times. She is currently working towards getting a translation certification so she can work in translation and interpretation full time in the near future. She was very sad that she could not
attend our five-year reunion, but its proximity to the start of the World Cup in Brazil made travel out of the country at that time unfeasible. • Bobby Gosney sent in a photo of a rugby event. Check it out on page 74. • We welcome a new 2009 class correspondent: Ashley Bell Volwiler. Ashley is joining us from Boston, where she works as a software consultant and lives with her husband Adam Volwiler, who is working for a private-equity start-up. Ashley and Adam got married on the shores of Lake Champlain last July. Many thanks to Eva Nixon, who is stepping down, for all her years as a correspondent!

—Class Correspondents: Billie Borden (billie.borden@gmail.com); Ashley Bell Volwiler (ashley.volwiler@gmail.com).

10 REUNION CLASS From storytelling to sheep, members of the Class of 2010 are pursuing their passions around the globe. • Marty Schnure has recently founded Maps for Good, a place-based visual storytelling team in Northern California. “For most of us, when we think about maps, we think about navigation and we think about Google, and that’s it. Instead, I want us to start thinking about a map as a canvas for telling a story—a tool that can bring a place to life. That’s what we do at Maps for Good, and that’s what makes us different.” Marty and her team create maps that visualize the work of better-world initiatives, such as conservation projects and social enterprises. The company began while she and her partner were working as cartographers at National Geographic. “We saw an unmet need out there. Better-world initiatives need fresh, beautiful visuals to showcase their impact, tell their story, and connect people with places.” With that, the two founders left their jobs to pursue mission-driven cartography. Their first assignment? Fly to the bottom of the earth on a shoestring budget and live in a tent for three months mapping a new national park in Patagonia. Now, a year later, with the support of sponsors like National Geographic and Patagonia, they’ve published the first map and guide to the future Patagonia National Park and launched an interactive map to encourage people to explore the place online. Learn more and check out their maps at mapsforgood.org. • Roz Vara is creating stories of her own, serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal, where she is working as a sustainable agriculture extension agent and speaking the local language, Wolof. “I work with farmers to increase their field crop yields, improve soil fertility, and reduce chemical inputs. Much of my experience revolves around simply being here and living with my family as they live: drinking tea under mango trees, waiting for the heat to subside, lying outside at night with my host mother looking at the stars, and joking with the children.” • Back on the East Coast, Schuyler Beeman is having countless adventures that he never dreamed of working with William Berloni.
Theatrical Animals. Bill Berloni, the original dog trainer for Annie, sends Schuyler to theaters around the country with professional dogs, who play Sandy, Toto, and Bruiser (plus many more, including a baby lamb he raised for five weeks in his room). Schuyler even gets to be in some of these shows, continuing his love for musical theater performance. When not on theater contracts, Schuyler works at Shepherd's Hey Farm in Dickerson, Md., the family sheep farm of his a cappella brother Todd Langstaff ’13. • And to wrap things up, a wonderful note from Federico “Kiko” Velge Urquijo, reminding us that no matter where you are, you’re never far from Midd! For those avid class note readers, you may have seen the following note from Elena “Nena” Johnson ’00 in the spring issue saying, “I’m doing an MBA in advanced farm management at the Royal Agricultural University—a small school in the middle of the English countryside. A few days into our first term, I noticed someone in the back row wearing a Middlebury T-shirt.” Turns out, that guy in the back row wearing a Midd T-shirt was Kiko! He writes, “I’m doing a different MBA (agriculture and food industries), but we have a lot of classes together. As she said, we’ve spent many hours in the university pub wondering what the odds are that two alums of a small New England college, 10 years apart, end up at a small agricultural school in the UK at the same time! If anyone finds themselves near Cirencester, UK, the Middlebury welcome wagon is ready and waiting!” • Please continue to send stories of your adventures and Midd run-ins to Hannah or Tim.

—Class Correspondents: Hannah Burnett (hannahchburnett@gmail.com); Tim Henderson (tim.k.henderson@gmail.com)

11

It’s hard to believe it’s already been three years since we graduated! Our classmates continue to impress us with the exciting new challenges they’re taking on. • Ben Wessel writes, “After spending the last couple years working on political campaigns up and down the East Coast, I’ve landed in San Francisco for the time being, working at a Super PAC aimed at electing candidates who are strong on climate change.” • At the Univ. of Chicago, Gabrielle Friedman participates in the Urban Teacher Education Program and the SESAME Program and works for the Consortium on Chicago School Research. She will receive an M.A. with certification in elementary education and an endorsement in mathematics for middle grades in 2015. • Cedar Attanasio is working on a journalism project in Brazil, trying to use the skills he learned as a Kathryn Davis critical language fellow. He says, “Please get in touch if you have any contacts that deal with soccer teams in Brazil.” • Ashley Cheung has completed her second year at Harvard Law School, where she is managing editor of the Harvard Business Law Review, VP of the Harvard Association for Law and Business, and a board member of the Women’s Law Association. Ashley is spending the summer working at Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York with fellow Midd Kid Hillary Coleman ’10. • Patricia Dawson Gomez is heading branding and communications at Accion East—the nation’s largest nonprofit microlender. She launched her branding and design agency, Dawson Sinclair, in 2011 and will soon be moving to Syracuse, N.Y., for six months to launch her new company: Syracuse PR. Check out her websites at www.SyracusePR.com and www.dawsonsinclair.com. • Gillian Durkee writes, “I’m living in NYC and working on a few exciting writing projects. One is a new play for Rhapsody Collective, a theater group in which several Middlebury alumni are involved. Another is a new comedic web series called That Reminds Me... Rhapsody’s Seven Deadly Play series went up in May at the Alchemical Theatre Laboratory.” • Peanuts4Peanuts (P4P) is a social enterprise cofounded by Lizzie Faust. In the fall of 2013, Lizzie and her cofounder, Kendra Wilkins, launched a successful Indiegogo campaign, raising nearly $17,000, and attended Draper University, a two-month entrepreneurial program in Silicon Valley. P4P helps to address food insecurity in the poorest nation of the Western Hemisphere. Through the employment of Haitian farmers and factory workers, P4P provides a mixture of medicinal micronutrient fortified peanut butter to a malnourished child in Haiti for every jar of all-natural U.S.-sourced peanut butter sold here in the States. P4P is sold online and in select stores in the Boston area—check out www.peanuts4peanuts.com to learn more! • Amy Napaporn Saekow recently left her job in asset management and is starting an herbal beverage company in NYC. • James McNinch writes, “I will be a first-year medical student this fall at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Come visit!” • Claire Gwartkin Jones ’88, director of communications at National Geographic, sent this message: “Shabana Basij-Rasikh was named to the 2014 class of National Geographic Emerging Explorers. As a member of this year’s class, she came to the Society’s headquarters to address the staff during the annual Explorers Symposium. She so wowed the crowd with her story that she was voted one of this year’s staff favorites. That says quite a lot as she was up against a variety of luminaries, from paleontologists to investigative journalists fighting the ivory trade.” • Thanks to everyone who submitted notes this quarter! Email us any time at midd2011@gmail.com—we love hearing from you!

—Class Correspondents: Ashley Cheung (cheung.ash@gmail.com); Carly Lynch (cjlynch48p@gmail.com)

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Hello, Class of 2012 and 2012.5! Thanks to so many of you for sending in notes and photos. Keep up the great work! Read on to see what some of us have been up to. • Hillary Aidun lived in Ecuador as a Fulbright fellow, studying conservation efforts in indigenous territories in the Amazon, until July 2013. Since then she has been working at the Climate Law Institute at the Center for Biological Diversity in San Francisco. • Talha Ansari reports, “Last fall, I started my master’s program in electrical and computer engineering at Columbia. I’ve been living in International House, a private nonprofit graduate community of around 700 international and American students. I will be entering my second, and last, year of the program this coming fall, and will be looking forward to learning more of computer science and enjoying the time I have in International House. Wishing everyone best of luck!” • Kyle Atwood reports, “I’ve been living in Washington, D.C., and working at CBS News for Bob Schieffer and as the Face the Nation primary researcher for about a year and a half. I absolutely love my job and the city. A few highlights include doing the interview research and meeting former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and Prime Minister Netanyah. I also loved helping Schieffer cover the 50th anniversary of JFK’s assassination for all CBS news platforms. I am also writing and shooting some of my own stories for CBSNews.com.” • Claire Bovet says, “I’m thriving in medical school at the Univ. of Colorado in Denver and was excited to begin my third year in April. I’m also very pleased to have conducted my first Middlebury alumni interview this year and am looking forward to many more years of interviewing!” • Brittany Gendron hosted a MALT trip to her middle school in rural Society Hill, S.C. She says, “It began as a pen-pal program as a 14 and I started, and my scholars’ wildest dreams came true as they got to meet Midd Kids face to face. From tutoring basketball, roller-skating, and a winter formal, I am so grateful to all the Midd Kids who have been pen pals past and present—and to those who attended the trip!” • Jarrett Dury-Agri reports, “Last year I finished up an awesome and rewarding year as a Fulbright foreign language assistant in Oerlinghausen, a small town in Germany. While I was based there, two Middlebury friends, Alice Urban and Jessica Appelson, and I managed to arrange a fantastic meet-up in Morocco, where we did everything from bartering in broken French to camel trekking in the Sahara. After another summer teaching ceramics at a children’s art camp, I moved to Norwich, Vt., where I’m doing a one-year MA in comparative literature at Dartmouth College. It’s been a whirlwind experience, but in a good way! I feel lucky to report that I’m considering a few offers from doctoral programs in German studies and will probably be moving to either Chicago or the Bay Area for next year, gearing up for that new challenge. Hit me up to see where I end up settling, and I’d love to meet up if you’re nearby!” • Luis Rivera says, “After graduating, I became a Lower School Spanish teacher at Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, NY. I have been teaching Spanish now for two years and have thoroughly enjoyed being at my school. Recently, I was accepted into the Middlebury Spanish School graduate program and I will be completing my mas-
13 Greg Dorris is a contributing writer for Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update and recently hit the 10,000 follower mark on Twitter. He is currently in the middle of a 100-city tour with comedian Mike Birbiglia. • Just hours after the conclusion of his Feb graduation, AJ Guff boarded a plane headed to Sochi, Russia, where he joined NBC's operations department in their broadcast of the XXII Olympic Winter Games. • Hannah Newman is pursuing a master’s in science journalism at NYU, writing about topics from health to consumer technology. You can find her most recent stories at scienceline.org/author/hannah-newman. • Dylan Levy writes, "After recently moving to Austin, Texas, I'm searching for jobs in film festival programming or management, film exhibition, or film journalism/criticism. I'm looking forward to life down here and to seeing some Midd alumni." • According to her LinkedIn profile, Sydney Smith is working in the area of "Individual and Family Services," otherwise known as "Jobs that Didn't Sound Professional Enough and Needed a Euphemistic Label." She is neighbors with Oprah and is really banking on the possible networking opportunities that could arise from this geographic proximity. Sydney is, of course, furthering her education, taking on loans and pursuing a second degree in a field (nursing) in which she may actually be able to get a job that will allow her to feed and house herself. Currently, she attends Santa Barbara City College, the #1 city college in the nation. As soon as she learns to color inside the lines in her Human Anatomy Coloring Book, she will welcome credit for the class.

— Class Correspondents: Elma Burnham (eccburnham@gmail.com); Peter DiPrinzio (peterdiyyi@gmail.com).

14 Welcome to the alumni class notes! We need two volunteers to serve as class correspondents for the class. It's a fun way to stay in touch with classmates and see what they're up to. If you're interested, please contact the alumni editor, Sara Marshall, at smarshal@middlebury.edu.

32 Nancy Moores Poltrack, 102, of Ayer, Mass., on July 26, 2013. At Middlebury she was a Phi Mu. With a master's from Mt. Holyoke College, she taught in the Stamford and Darien, Conn., schools for many years. She was a charter member of the American Assoc. of University Women and an active volunteer in libraries, hospitals, and community groups. As a writer, she had several stories published in magazines. Predeceased by husband Stanley, she is survived by son Peter, daughters Cynthia '64 and Cecelia, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include nephew Arthur Poltrack '80.

34 Dorothy A. Major, 100, of Norway, Maine, on July 24, 2013. A Phi Mu at Middlebury, she had a career in education teaching physical education. With a master's from Rutgers Univ., she spent 38 years teaching in junior and senior high schools and supervising in elementary schools in New Jersey. She is survived by nephew William Schmitt, niece Marion Barnes, and extended family.

36 Malcolm E. Gross, 88, of Lincoln City, Ore., on June 28, 2013. At Middlebury he was a member of Kappa Delta Rho and ran cross-country. In 1938 he joined the research department of BF Goodrich Co. in Akron, Ohio, where he spent his career of 42 years. In 1950 he earned his PhD in chemistry from Western Reserve Univ. He and wife Esther (Joslyn) had two sons.

37 Ruth Furness Lombardy, 88, of Bridgewater, N.J., on August 1, 2013. A Phi Mu at Middlebury, she was a longtime educator, teaching in the Three Bridges, Bridgewater, and Hillsborough, N.J., school systems, retiring in 1972. In 1979 she established the Frank Lombardy '35 Memorial Scholarship Fund at Middlebury for aid to an intercollegiate athlete, preferably on the golf team. Predeceased by husband Frank '35, she is survived by sons Ned '62 and Steven, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

38 John E. Cridland, 95, formerly of Johnstown, N.Y., on July 22, 2013. At Middlebury he was a member of Chi Psi and played football. He earned a master's and teaching certificate from New York State Teachers' College and served as a school superintendent and principal. During WWII he served in the Navy in both the European and Pacific Theaters. He served again during the Korean War as a lieutenant commander and as commodore of Mine Group 44. He continued working in positions with the Navy until retiring in 1970 as a captain at which point he returned to teaching. He is survived by wife Kathleen (Sammons), daughters Maichaele and Nancy, sons Brian and Sean, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Eugene Streim, 95, of New York, N.Y., on June 12, 2013. With an MD from NYU's College of Medicine, he served as an Army physician in the South Pacific during WWII. He then practiced obstetrics and gynecology in NYC for over 50 years, delivering more than 2,000 babies. He is survived by wife Betty, daughter Deborah, son Martin, stepdaughters Joanne, Catherine, and Caroline, 11 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Mary MacFarlane Kelley, 94, of Winthrop Harbor, Ill., on August 25, 2012. She taught English and Latin in Vermont for many years and after daughters Gail and Lynn were born, she continued teaching and homemaking. She was predeceased by husband Allan.

Gertrude Bittle Murray, 95, of Cornwall, N.Y., on June 11, 2013. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma at Middlebury and received the Mortar Board and Optimist Award. She was a teacher for many years and a homemaker. Predeceased by daughter Katherine and husband Thomas '39, she is survived by daughter Martha '71, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Paul E. Crocker, 93, of Falmouth, Mass., on July 21, 2013. A Theta Chi at Middlebury, he left after two years to serve in the Air Force during WWII. With a degree from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, he worked as an architect in NYC for Philip Johnson then Mies van der Rohe. He became an associate with I.M. Pei and Associates, where he worked 19 years before moving to Cape Cod and starting his own architectural business. He is survived by wife Mavis (Hayden), daughters Tam, Holly, and Kit, and three grandsons.

Gloria Tanner Assie, 81, of Paris, France, on December 20, 2008. A Phi Mu at Middlebury, she lived most of her postgraduate life in Paris where she worked 31 years for the Boeing Co., retiring as the office manager of the Paris office. She and husband Michel had one son, Michel. Deceased Middlebury relatives include sister Gladys Tanner Myers '53 and brother Ernest '52.

John A. Heywood, 90, of Yarmouthport, Mass., on July 13, 2013. During WWII he served with the Army in Peru. A Sigma Epsilon at Middlebury, he worked on his MBA at Babson before joining the Draper Corp., where he rose to the position of VP of Latin American sales. He later purchased Minuteman Travel Service in Westborough, Mass., and operated it until retirement. Predeceased by daughter Lynn, he is survived by wife Margaret (Wheeler), daughter Leslie, sons Douglas and John, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Katherine Spaulding Ragone, 86, of Westwood, Mass., on July 2, 2013. A Pi Beta Phi and chemistry major at Middlebury, she worked as a chemist at Massachusetts General Hospital after graduation. Among other positions over the years, she taught chemistry at the Univ. of Michigan in Ann Arbor, was assistant dean at Dartmouth College, and was chair of the Cuyahoga Municipal Housing Authority in Cleveland. She is survived by husband David, children Nina and Peter, and three grandchildren.

Eugenia Reinehrct Parker, 85, of Bloomington, N.Y., on July 17, 2013. At Middlebury she was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma and swam with the synchronized swimming team. She was an active volunteer, particularly with the Girl Scouts, while her daughters were growing then worked for many years at insurance firm Alexander and Alexander as the office manager. Predeceased by husband Bob '49, she is survived by daughters Anne, Susan, and Jane, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Charlotte Clark Hay, 83, of Rolling Meadows, Ill., on June 16, 2013. She was an active volunteer while living in both Cleveland and the Chicago area, especially in support of performing and visual arts, educa-
tion, and hosting guests from around the world. A loyal Midd alumna, she served as president of the Cleveland Alumnae Club, as a class secretary, and as a member of the Alumni Admissions Committee. Survivors include her husband of 62 years, David, daughter Catherine, son Thomas ’80, and four grandchildren, including Clark ’05 and Emily Read ’07.

Myron M. Hunt, 87, of Buffalo, N.Y., on July 30, 2013. During WWII he served with the 99th Infantry Division of the Third Army in Germany. At Middlebury he was a member of Delta Upsilon and played football and baseball. He worked 10 years at Hunt Real Estate Corp. before founding Myron M. Hunt, Inc., a commercial real estate development company specializing in retail properties. He was responsible for the development of more than 3 million square feet of retail projects. He is survived by wife Nancy (Rice), sons Thomas, Andrew, and Christopher, and six grandchildren.

Jacqueline Logan Nye, 82, of Albuquerque, N.M., on September 6, 2012. She earned a master’s in social work at Boston Univ. After raising her children, she became the office manager of her husband’s private medical practice. Predeceased by husband William, she is survived by son Scott, daughter Amy, and three grandchildren.

Richard H. Ragle, 80, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., on May 13, 2013. During WWII he joined the American Field Services, Middle East Forces and served in North Africa then served with the U.S. Navy as a naval aviator until 1948. During the Korean War he served in the Navy Reserve Air Corps. With an MS in geology from Dartmouth, he had a long career as a geologist, particularly in the Arctic and Antarctic. He was also an adjunct professor teaching geology at the Univ of Alaska, Anchorage, and at Alaska Pacific Univ. He is survived by wife Harriet, daughters Wendy, Hilary, and Holly, stepson Edward, and six grandchildren.

Knight H. Washburn, 84, of Addison, Vt., on August 27, 2013. After WWII, he served with the U.S. Army of Occupation in Italy. At Middlebury he was in Alpha Sigma Psi and the choir. With a degree from the New York Theological Seminary, he was ordained a Presbyterian minister and served four churches over 39 years. He is survived by wife Mary Jane (Reimer), daughter Meredith, sons Andrew and Jonathan, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Deceased Middlebury relatives include brother John ’51.

David Y. Parker, 82, of Brookline, Vt., on July 12, 2013. For 20 years he worked for a family-owned manufacturing firm in Buffalo. Moving to Vermont, he worked for Specialty Paperboard, a division of Boise Cascade, as the export sales manager, developing their European market and helping to open their Latin/South America and Far East markets. In 1978 he obtained his private pilot’s license. He is survived by wife Carol (Wertz), son David ’74, daughter Valinda ’77, and two grandchildren.

Parmelia Willard de Winter, 80, of Boxford, Mass., on June 15, 2013. A Kappa Kappa Gamma at Middlebury, she earned a master’s in education at Harvard after graduating and taught elementary school. After one daughter was born hearing impaired, she received her certification in moderate special needs from Boston Univ and Lesley College. She was a special needs teacher in Boxford and Georgetown, retiring in 1999. She is survived by daughters Carol, Jane, and Lisa, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Alfred M. Norton Jr., 81, of Nashua, N.H., on May 15, 2013. A member of Sigma Epsilon at Middlebury, he attended the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and served as a deck officer on weather ships for three years. In 1960 he joined Maine Manufacturing Co., where he worked until 1996, retiring as president. He was a longtime boating enthusiast. Survivors include wife Jane (Guthrie), daughters Mary ’80 and Kristen ’87, son Alfred, and seven grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include nephew Robert Carroll ’77.

Willard S. Heminway Jr., 79, of Greenwich, Conn., on July 24, 2013. At Middlebury he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon and played tennis and hockey. After serving in the Army he joined Heminway & Bartlett Manufacturing Co., where he became president and worked 35 years, retiring in 1991. He was an avid golfer and served as president of the U.S. Senior's Golf Assoc. He is survived by wife Betsy (Rowland), daughter Alexandra, and two grandchildren.

David C. Dotson, 78, of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on May 8, 2013. At Middlebury he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. He had a long career in sales and marketing, particularly with Popsicles Industries in Toronto. He is survived by wife Joan, sons Dan, Mark, and Scott, and seven grandchildren.

Suzanne E. Babidge, 77, of Islesboro, Maine, on July 25, 2013. A Kappa Kappa Gamma at Middlebury, she launched her career in computer sales after graduating, becoming one of the first women to work at IBM as a systems analyst. She then worked at various computer management positions in the banking industry before retiring in 1986. She is survived by son Douglass, daughter Amy, and three grandchildren.

John B. Middleton Jr., 77, of Southbury, Conn., on June 16, 2013. At Middlebury he was in Kappa Delta Rho and sang in the choir. With an MA in journal-
IN MEMORIAM

The following is a list of deaths reported to us since the previous issue went to the printers. Full obituaries will appear in future issues of the magazine.

Marjorie Clark Headley '35 .................February 11, 2014
Eileen Whitney Wilson '37 ..................March 26, 2014
Estelle J. Houston '38 .......................February 18, 2003
Frances Cornwall Hutton '40 ..............April 18, 2014
Francis R. Hitchcock '40 ....................February 5, 2014
Marjorie Burditt Steiker '40 ...............March 15, 2014
Donald W. Kitchin Jr. '41 ..................April 21, 2014
Nina Camuti Danielsen '42 .................March 22, 2014
Richard C. Davis '42 .......................February 22, 2014
Carolyn Cole Byington '43 .................January 29, 2014
Margaret Bullock Marti '43 ...............April 16, 2014
Jean S. Hebert '44 .............................March 31, 2014
Katherine Rowley Tuttle '46 ..............April 8, 2014
Shirley West Johnson '44 ...................March 9, 2014
William D. Neale '44 ......................March 9, 2014
M. Jane Nielsen '44 .........................August 11, 2013
Earl L. Fox '45 .................................March 11, 2014
Marjorie Harwood Greer '45 ..............February 27, 2014
Richard P. Merrill '45 .....................January 25, 2014
Donald C. Seeley '45 ......................February 9, 2014
Dee Anne Bonsib Thomas '46 ............February 12, 2014
Charlotte Davis Wilson '47 ...............April 2, 2014
Marvin G. Holden '48 .......................March 31, 2014
Irene Waller Zellers '49 ....................October 7, 2013
Harriet Miller Correll '49 .................February 16, 2014
John D. Freese '49 ............................April 10, 2014
June Smith Mylin '49 .......................March 3, 2014
Merton H. Stevens '49 ......................February 10, 2014
Lura Williams Wood '51 ....................March 5, 2014
DeWitt C. Drohat '50 .......................February 22, 2014
Stanley H. Vegors Jr. '55 .................April 29, 2014
Joan Kent Warnke '50 ......................February 19, 2014
Gordon R. Britton '51 ......................March 20, 2014
John J. Gilmore Jr. '51 .....................March 13, 2014
Thomas M. Jacobs '51 .......................April 10, 2014
Donald H. MacLean '51 ...................March 1, 2014
Kenneth J. Provoncha '51 .................April 14, 2014
Samuel P. Davis Jr. '51 .....................April 21, 2014
Florence Frisbie Wells '52 .................March 27, 2014
Paul G. Hudson '53 .........................February 9, 2014
Dorothy Ransford Patch '53 ...............February 21, 2014
Roger Chapin '54 .............................August 16, 2013
Peter H. Cooney '54 .........................April 19, 2014
Edgar J. Wholey Jr. '54 ....................March 13, 2014
Anne Johnson Clark '55 ...................January 30, 2014
Joan Petterson Woodsum '55 ............February 2, 2014
Rosemond Mueller Dauer '56 .............April 23, 2014
Kimball E. Mann '56 .......................April 16, 2014
Barbara Bennett Murphy '56 ..............April 24, 2014
Marilyn Robinson O'Quin '56 ...........February 17, 2013
Diane Hildebrand Neff '57 ...............April 7, 2014
Weston F. Cowles '58 ......................February 3, 2014
Gale Lorenzen Flagg '58 ...................April 17, 2014
Deborah Bruce Halverson '59 ............February 21, 2014
Jeffrey A. Heebner '59 .....................October 1, 2009
James D. McGowan '59 ...................March 7, 2014
Donald M. Towne '59 ......................November 24, 2013
Paul L. Butler Ill '62 .......................March 20, 2014
Donald F. Carr '64 ........................March 20, 2014
David L. Smith '64 ........................April 30, 2014
James A. Anctil '65 ......................July 3, 1997
Nancy Ewald Jackson '68 .................April 11, 2014
Lynda Basheore Cico '70 ..................March 22, 2014
Davis C. Barrett '71 .......................April 12, 2014
David L. Thompson '72 ...................April 20, 2014
Melissa T. Hochschild '78 ...............March 5, 2014
George W. Varga '79 ......................April 9, 2014
Christopher W. White '84 ...............April 21, 2010

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

Mary Peet Green, MA Education '36 .......February 7, 2014
Judith Engel Haygood, MA English '60 ....March 15, 2014
Lois M. Craig, MA English '70 ............January 31, 2014
Langdon F. Lombard, MA English '71 ....May 26, 2014
John E. Couard, MA English '88 ..........April 7, 2014
Theresa Giordano Munson,
MA French ..........................September 2, 2012
Ralph V.S. Chamblin, MA French '32 ...March 10, 2014
Frances L. Thompson,
MA French ..........................December 30, 2013
Georgia Machotka Johnson,
MA French .................................February 17, 2014
Nancy A.N. Orth, MA French '63 ...May 25, 2014
Jan Z. Wiranowski, MA French '66 ....March 31, 2014
Geraldine N. Ballestrini,
MA French .................................January 4, 2014
Renee Hoffmann Fosse,
MA French '75 ..............................February 6, 2014
Raymonde A. Bulger, DML French '76 ...February 3, 2014
Mark A. Kreidler, MA French '88 ....May 6, 2013
Ross L. Foertmeyer, MA German '52 ..August 23, 2013
Erma Landis Whitmore,
MA German '61 ..........................February 26, 2013
Alice F. Auerbach, MA German '72 ....March 12, 2014
John J. Rock, MA German '73 ..........May 4, 2014
Thomas H. Leech, MA German '79 ......April 25, 2014
Irina Cianfranco Matranga,
MA Italian '52 ..............................March 2, 2014
Marion Lignana Rosenberg,
MA Italian '86 ..............................November 28, 2013
Alexander Rolich, MA Russian '49 ....March 25, 2014
S. Kenneth Raskin, MA Russian '52 ..May 14, 2014
Ronald D. Mantzke, MA Spanish '58 ....May 5, 2013
Nena Miguel Smith, MA Spanish '68 ....August 14, 2012
Gordon D. Smith, MA Spanish '69 ......May 6, 2013
Roger R. Ross, MA Spanish '84 ..........April 14, 2014

ism from the Univ. of Missouri, he reported for the Providence Journal, edited for the Washington Post, and wrote for Medical Economics magazine. In 1977 he and his wife purchased the Heritage Village newspaper, which they published until they retired in 2000. He is survived by wife Virginia (Havighurst), daughters Martha and Amy, and four grandchildren.

60 Elizabeth A. Andrews, 75, of Pittsfield, Mass., on July 27, 2013. After graduating cum laude from Middlebury, where she was a member of Sigma Kappa Society, she earned a master's in international affairs from the School of International Affairs at Columbia Univ. For 30 years she held positions in education and educational publishing. She is survived by son John Wesley Weigel.

Sandra Feldmann Williamson, 74, of Virginia Beach, Va., on May 22, 2013. She was a Delta Delta Delta at Middlebury. With an MA in English literature from Wayne State Univ, she worked as an editor of academic publications. She was active in civic affairs such as fair housing and payday lending. She is survived by husband Robert, daughter Elizabeth, and stepson Timothy.

62 Michael Sevareid, 73, of Mount Joy, Pa., on August 4, 2013. At Middlebury he was in Delta Upsilon and involved with WRMC. In the '60s he was an actor in theater, film, and TV, in the '70s he was an executive with CBS; then he worked as a motion picture executive and writer/producer. In 1990 he joined the faculty of Elizabethtown College, teaching communications and theater. Predeceased by wife Jill (Powroy), he is survived by daughters Tara '87 and Alexandra, sons Matthew, Colin, and Eric, three grandchildren, and companion Julie Strickland.

65 Christopher V. Smith, 71, of Middlebury, Vt., on July 7, 2013. A member of Delta Kappa Epsilon, he worked in NYC for Irving Trust Co. and Bank of New York for 32 years. Retiring, he moved to Lincoln, Vt., where he owned Mt. Pleasant Farm for almost 30 years. He is survived by brothers Crosby, Dudley, Jeremy '68, and Geoffrey '74, and several nephews and nieces, including Cynthia Smith '88 and Lindsay Wiener '92.

Peter M. Teige, 67, of Tarpon Springs, Fla., on May 28, 2011. With an MBA from the Univ of Chicago, he worked all over the world for Owens-Illinois, Vallarino Group, and GTE Lighting Products. He and wife Helen had three children.

66 Robert E. O'Connell, 69, of San Francisco, Calif., on July 19, 2013. A Phi Kappa Tau at Middlebury, he was also on the WRMC staff and served as the manager. After earning a master's in communication from Stanford Univ, he spent two years as a
lieutenant in the Army then worked at Hibernia Bank. With a law degree from the Univ. of San Francisco, he practiced law for 31 years with the VA and the USPS. Survivors include wife Lynn (Ferrari) and sons Ted and Michael.

68 Mildred Spillane Pease, 66, of Durham, N.C., on May 18, 2013. Her career was in human resources, first with CIGNA and then with Shawmut National Bank. She retired in 1996. She is survived by husband Jim, daughters Melissa and Aimee, son Edward, and eight grandchildren.

71 Betsy Eckfeldt, 63, of Roxbury, Vt., on August 13, 2013. She taught preschool in Waitsfield, Vt., for 24 years. She also was a cocreator of literacy programs for the Vermont Humanities Council and was a certified yoga and mindfulness teacher for both adults and children. She is survived by husband Norman Vandal, daughter Emily '02, son Nathaniel '06, and one grandson.

Edwin H. Hunter Jr., 62, of Harrison, Ark., on June 26, 2012. For many years he was a graphic artist with Mass Merchandisers, Inc. He also served as the director of Peacehaven, a nonprofit corporation dedicated to human fulfillment.

77 Elaine LeBlanc-Baker, 58, of Portland, Maine, on June 30, 2013. After college she began a career in high tech, working as one of the first product managers in the software industry and later as a marketing executive. With studies in finance at Boston College's O'Connell School and worked 15 years as a substitute teacher after her retirement in 2003. She is survived by sons T. Beal and Homes Jacobs, two grandchildren, and former husband Travis Jacobs.

GRADUATE SCHOOLS

49 Theresa Giordano Munson, 87, MA French, of Carlisle, Pa., on September 2, 2012. She served as a librarian at Dickinson College and at the U.S. Army War College and the Carlisle Barracks.

50 Marion Page MacGhee, 80, MA Spanish, of Mt. Holly, N.J., on February 5, 2013. She worked as a professor at Rutgers Univ. and then as a social worker for Burlington Township School System.

51 Alfred C. Gaggiini, 88, MA French, of Somerset, N.J., on March 7, 2013. During WWII he served in the Army. He was a foreign language teacher at Rutgers Preparatory School and taught for several years. In 1982 he joined the Middlebury College staff as a secretary in the development dept. In 1987 she became the assistant director of alumni relations, which evolved into the Alumni and Parent Programs coordinator, a position she held until her retirement in 2003. She is survived by sons T. Beal and Homes Jacobs, two grandchildren, and former husband Travis Jacobs.

52 Maurice J. Cloutier, 82, MA French, of Putnam, Conn., on January 20, 2013. He had a 35-year career in teaching French at Putnam High School and worked 15 years as a substitute teacher after retiring.

57 Eloise McBride Barrett, 83, MA French, of Nashville, Tenn. She worked as a civilian employee of the Armed Forces in France in the 1950s and tutored French in Nashville.

62 Georgiana S. Gordon, 77, MA Russian, of Arlington, Va., on January 14, 2013. She worked as a Russian language instructor at the university level, taught French at Bel Pre School, and worked on Russian translation projects with Informatics.

Theodore A. Litman, 73, MA French, of New York, N.Y., on March 21, 2013. With a PhD in Romance languages from Harvard, he taught French at City College of New York.

63 John Callan, 78, MA Spanish, of Tallahassee, Fla., on April 23, 2013. He had a 32-year teaching career, as both a religious Brother and a lay teacher.

65 Florence T. Aubin, 81, MA French, of Alburgh, Vt., on February 4, 2013. She spent 28 years teaching English, French, and Latin at schools in northern New York State.

68 Mary Ann Aiello-Peabody, 68, MA Italian, of Reston, Va., on April 20, 2013. She was the director of the Italian Studies Center at Nazareth College and then taught at Jeb Stuart High School for 20 years.

69 Max B. Horton Jr., 91, MA German, of Waterford, Mich., on March 12, 2013. During WWII he served in the Army 15th Weather Squadron in New Guinea. He taught German at Dondoro High School in Royal Oak, Mich., for many years.

70 Donald E. Jones, 78, MA English, of Orwigsburg, Pa., on March 31, 2013. He was a teacher at Blue Mountain High School for 40 years and served as chair of the English dept.

George R. Paradis, 80, MA English, of Portland, Maine, on April 11, 2013. During WWII he served in the Army Air Corps as a staff sergeant with the 411th Bombardment Squadron in Guam. He taught English at Southern Maine Technical Institute, where he was chair of the English dept.

Carolyn Hanson Schildgen, 66, MA Spanish, of Northbrook, Ill., on April 22, 2013. For 32 years she taught Spanish at every level at Highland Park (Ill.) High School.

73 Frances Jarvis Smith, 91, MA English, of Atlanta, Ga., on February 20, 2013. She taught English, humanities, and Latin classes at Mountain Lakes High School in New Jersey; retiring in 1984.

89 Catherine Neal Wilson, 48, MA French, of Simsbury, Conn., on February 26, 2013. She taught French at Kingswood Oxford School in Connecticut and Salem Academy and Salem College in North Carolina.
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Finding Mom

My father was raised a Jew; my mother, a Quaker. Neither had much use for religion, though, so my childhood weekends were spent doing yard work. Our house sat on three acres of land, and my siblings and I were the yard crew, raking up weeds, rotten apples, and dead leaves.

In third grade, when Jay Follensbee insisted I'd go to Hell when I died because I didn't attend church, I decided I'd better get religion. I told my parents I needed to go to Sunday school. After much discussion, they finally agreed to send me to a Unitarian Church about 10 miles away.

I lasted three Sundays. My dress had an itchy petticoat, and I spent class squirming in my chair, scratching my stomach. So despite Jay Follensbees threat, after the third Sunday I told my parents I wasn't going anymore. I can't remember if I ever told them why.

Not long after my Sunday school experiment, my mother announced with great indignation that the congregation of the local Episcopal Church had fired their assistant minister because he had helped the first African American family move into our community. The hypocrisy of the congregation's action was not lost on me, even at eight years old. Between this event and the itchy petticoat, I decided I didn't need religion. And I managed to live my life well enough without it.

Until my mom died.

During the final days of her life, my father, siblings, and I huddled around her hospital bed in the intensive care unit, stroking her hands and hair. In a morphine haze, she suddenly asked my sister, Nancy, who had found religion in her 40s, to pray. As Nancy did, Mom began to whisper, "Take me home, God. Take me home." At some point, she drifted into unconsciousness. Over the next 24 hours, her breathing became slower and more labored, until one breath became her last.

Without religion, I found no comfort in thoughts of Mom in some kind of happy afterlife, reunited with family and friends who had arrived before her. For 57 years, she had always been there for me, but now I had no idea where she had gone. Not knowing consumed me.

Three months after Mom died, my father, Nancy, and I drove to Westtown School in West Chester, Pennsylvania, to spread her ashes in the arboretum there. Mom had been a "lifer" at Westtown and had loved that school with all her heart.

Pulling into the arboretum parking lot, I was sure we were in the wrong place. Mom had spoken about the arboretum with such reverence that I expected stately wrought iron fencing and a gate guarding the entrance. Instead, we saw a simple wooden sign and a seemingly random stand of specimen trees planted on a sloping hillside.

Nancy found the spot. Three evergreens had grown together over the years; their lower branches formed a natural shelter. Stepping into it, I inhaled the sharp scent of fresh pine needles. My father removed a plastic bag from the black box he had carried into the arboretum. Undoing the twist tie, he turned the bag upside down. As Nancy and I steadied him, he began to spill the contents onto the ground. We rotated clockwise, and as we did, the ashes formed a chalky circle on the bed of pine needles. When the bag was empty, we stood inside the circle, held each other tight, and wept. At that moment, I knew where Mom was. She was there with us, under those three evergreens that had grown together.

She was home.

Carolyn Rundle Field '78 is a freelance writer, the former editor of Wilton Magazine, and a reformed advertising executive.
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