

Winter 2008

## Kenyon College Alumni Bulletin - Winter 2008

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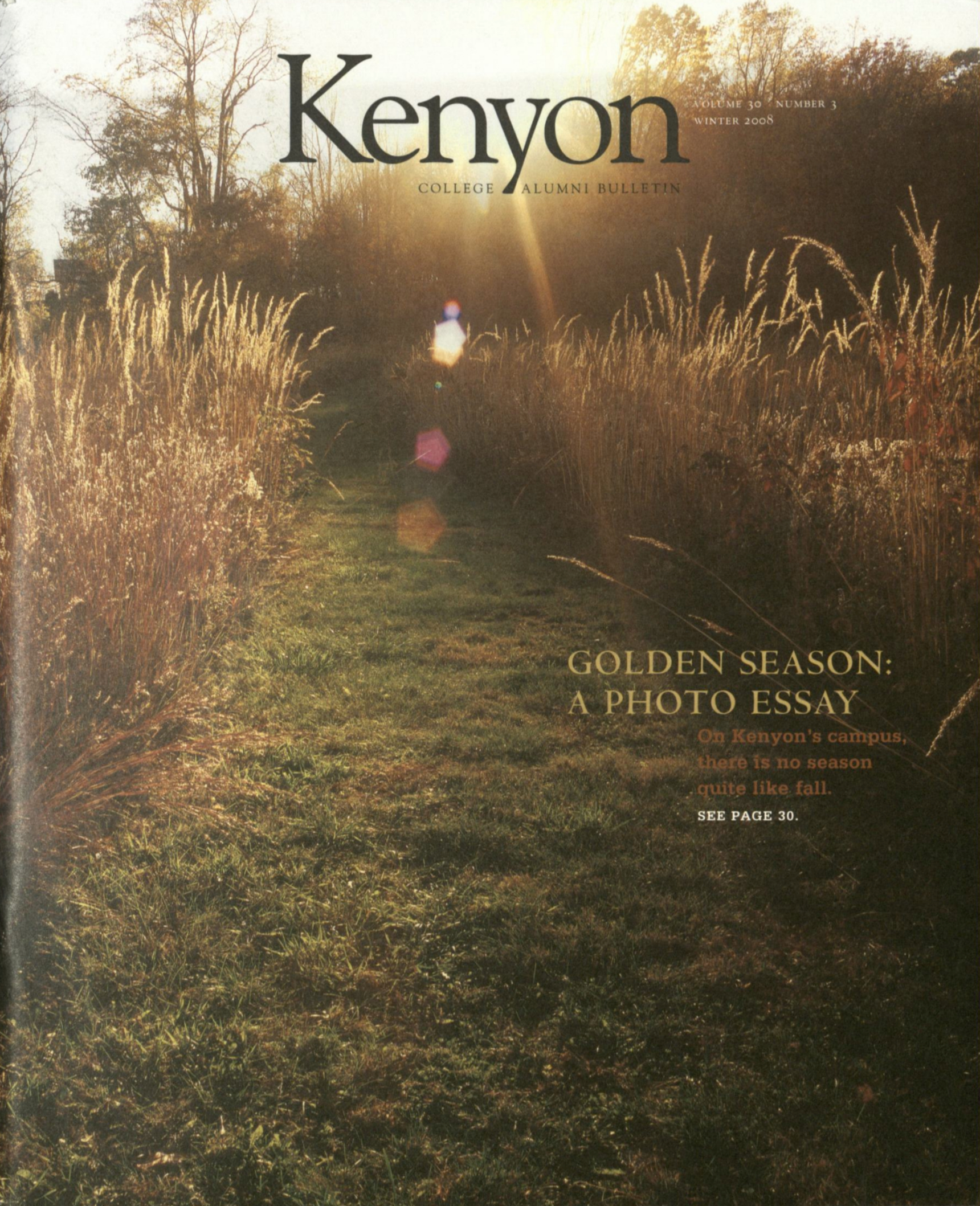
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# Kenyon

COLLEGE ALUMNI BULLETIN

VOLUME 30 NUMBER 3  
WINTER 2008

## GOLDEN SEASON: A PHOTO ESSAY

On Kenyon's campus,  
there is no season  
quite like fall.

SEE PAGE 30.



# Kenyon

COLLEGE ALUMNI BULLETIN



Megan Nadolaki

On the cover:  
Autumn light beckons  
along a path at the  
Brown Family  
Environmental  
Center. Photograph  
by Jeff Corwin.

Editor:  
Shawn Presley

Deputy editor:  
Dan Laskin

Associate editor:  
Amy Blumenthal

Designers:  
Aldrich Design  
Adam Gilson

Intern:  
Naomi Blauschild '10

Assistants:  
Patty Burns  
Mark Ellis  
Martin Fuller  
Rebecca Mazur  
Lori Porter  
Hays Stone '99

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Episcopal chaplain  
Karl Stevens '95  
presides over food  
preparation and  
spiritual fare at a  
Canterbury Club  
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A photo essay proves the point: on Kenyon's beautiful campus, there is no season quite like fall.

Photos by Jeff Corwin



Only at Kenyon did generations of students leapfrog a stone post with an anatomically uncomfortable nickname.

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Greg Sailer



## TERMS OF ENDEARMENT

Kenyon's beauty can be an acquired taste

by Shawn Presley

I was not impressed with Kenyon's campus on my first visit in the summer of 1997. Oppressive Midwestern heat sucked the life out of the expansive lawns while straggly, unpruned mums took over the flower beds long before it was their turn to put on a show. And what was this gravel-strewn dust bowl known as Middle Path? A fine layer of dirt covered my polished black dress shoes while little pebbles nicked at the leather during the campus tour portion of my job interview. If Kenyon made an offer, I would have to remember to request an allowance for shoe polish.

I've spent my entire career in higher education, and I grew up in a college town. I knew what a college campus was supposed to look like, and it was not supposed to look like this. Kenyon's admissions materials touted one of the most beautiful campuses in the country. There must have been a mistake. I must have been shipped to some satellite campus for the interview. Where were the neatly edged and mulched flower beds to which I had become accustomed? The sprinkler systems must have been on hiatus to preserve water. Perhaps landscaping around the historic buildings of south campus had been stripped away to make room for improvements as part of a forthcoming master plan. As for the mums, everyone knows they should be juiced up on steroids and planted early each fall for maximum effect.

I put the aesthetics aside and accepted the job when it was offered. Looks, after all, aren't everything.

Within a few months after I moved to Gambier in August, something magical happened. It was called autumn. As the air grew

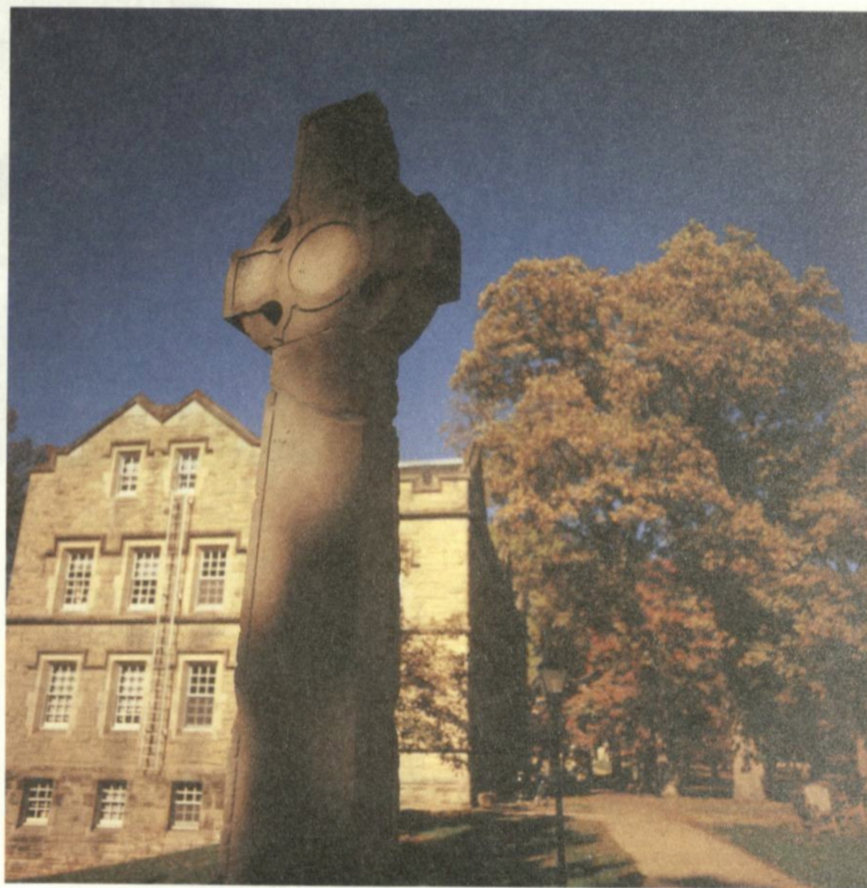
crisp and the leaves changed colors, I began to understand the spirit of this place. Middle Path, even with its mud in the spring, ice in the winter, and dust in the summer, permeates Gambier's sense of character. I later learned that Collegiate Gothic architecture is supposed to come sans landscaping. I began to understand that Kenyon is a rural campus that embraces its surroundings. Its beauty comes not only from the historic architecture but also from the organic nature of the landscape. Imposing a more urban aesthetic of mulched, edged, and pruned flowerbeds at Kenyon would be a crime.

Comparing Kenyon to other college campuses is like comparing a Manhattan brownstone to cookie-cutter suburban tract housing. Kenyon is really that different. Fall is our most glorious season. In higher education circles, autumn has become a cliché. All over America, glossy admissions materials trumpet campus glamour shots as weary copywriters struggle to find new ways to

define beauty. While those of us who work at Kenyon often tire of the scenic photos that adorn so many of our publications, I've come to realize that our alumni and friends do not. In fact, you often request that the *Bulletin* run more campus photos.

That's why I invited landscape photographer Jeff Corwin to campus this fall to photograph Kenyon and the surrounding countryside in its autumnal glory. The photos featured in this issue of the *Bulletin* are timeless. Whether you fell in love with Gambier on your first visit or learned to acquire a taste for it, I hope you enjoy the visual delights this issue of the magazine has to offer. I've worked at Kenyon for ten years and I still marvel at the beauty of this place. And I've become accustomed to polishing my shoes on a weekly basis.

*Shawn Presley is the editor of the Bulletin. Prior to Kenyon, his exposure to college campuses involved more urban settings in the Midwest and newer campuses in the South.*



Jeff Corwin



## LETTERS to the editor

**A lasting impression**

I am a former Kenyon student, Class of 1985, and read the haunted Old Kenyon fire stories in the Fall 2007 *Bulletin*. The article mentions "paranormal investigator" Lori Schillig's visit to campus in 1999, when she "picked up a strong intuitive impression of a person falling or jumping from a window."

In 1984 or perhaps 1983, there was another fire in Old Kenyon that I started (drunk with a cigarette in bed). Fortunately, no one but me was hurt. In addition to smoke inhalation and a few small burns, I suffered cut feet and a cracked pelvis from, you guessed it, falling from the third floor window.

The *Collegian* did an article on it at the time. It's an embarrassing footnote to my unfinished career at Kenyon. I did eventually sober up (more than twenty years now) and had a kid (eight years now). On the plus side, it was thanks to my irresponsibility and recklessness that smoke detectors were finally installed in Old Kenyon. I don't know if I was the "impression" that Lori Schillig picked up on, but I thought I would throw my two cents into the "it is said" lore of Old Kenyon. Lastly, I'd like to say that even though I did not graduate from Kenyon, my three years there were a vital learning experience, spiritually, emotionally, and academically.

—Jim Gibson 1985

**One cute football team**

The Fall 2007 issue of the *Alumni Bulletin* is just packed with wonderful photographs. I especially loved Howard Korn's portraits of professor Serfass and professor Turgeon as well as Emily Zeller's sublime photo of the 1947 football team—five of the cutest guys I ever saw in my life.

—Susan "Siouxsie" Hillenbrand Avallon '85

**Singing Sunday songs**

An a cappella singing group was very active when I was a student, and it preceded those in your KQ trivia question published in the fall *Bulletin*. I believe it was led by a student, Gordon E. Brown '53, who subsequently entered medical school. I am in possession of a recording labeled "Songs of Kenyon, The Kenyon Singers, Paul Schwartz, Ph.D., director."

I'm certain that there must have been other groups preceding the early 1950s. In the early years, Gambier was not a very exciting place to be, and singing college songs after Sunday lunch in the Great Hall (first seating only) was as close as it could come to being a highlight of the week.

—Lewis Portnoy '55

**A visual delight**

A month or so ago, my wife and I were strolling through an old warehouse building in Sarasota which has been converted into antique dealer stalls. Rounding a corner, I found myself mesmerized by a Metropolitan Museum of Art photo print. It was Steichen's *The Flatiron*. I kept glancing at it again and again and quickly purchased it.

A somewhat kindred experience befell me upon the arrival of Volume 30 Number 1 of the *Alumni Bulletin* (Fall 2007). The entire issue is a visual delight. Great organization and choice of graphic elements and photos and their croppings and positioning. The overall graphic design was exceedingly well crafted, methinks, and the result is a most appealing communion of modernity, human interest, and academe. The "Haunted Kenyon" cover photo is splendid, and I've found myself glancing at it repeatedly on the coffee table where it sits.

The *Bulletin*'s prose continues, remarkably, to improve with the graphics that cradle it so well. I'd grade the issue summa cum. Congratulations to editor Shawn Presley and his staff.

—John Hartman '47

**Good ghosts and good men**

I enjoyed your stories of "Haunted Kenyon" (Fall 2007). I want, however, to expand on your story of the Old Kenyon fire—not to correct you, but to provide a firsthand account and pay tribute to a real hero of that night, Edward H. Stansfield Jr. '52.

Ed awoke me in my room in Leonard, where we were pledging Beta Theta Pi. He had me look out the window, exclaiming that Old Kenyon was on fire. I saw a glowing in a first-floor window, threw on some clothes over my pajamas, and looked out the window again. By that time, four of five windows were showing fire behind them.

The dance that night was called an informal dance, and many Kenyon men, including myself, did not have a date. Instead, as assistant to Richard Shirk '49, the campus photographer, I took photos at the dance, using all but one sheet of film in the film holders for my 2 1/4 x 3 1/4 Speed Graphic. I had purchased it from Dick when he bought his 4 x 5 Graphic. Sadly, two of the last conversations I had that night on the sidelines of the dance were with Jack McDonald and Ed Brout, both of whom perished.

As soon as I dressed, I dashed out with my camera and the one sheet of film in its holder, and snapped the first picture of the

*continued on page 4*

**TO OUR LETTER WRITERS**

The *Bulletin* welcomes letters of 300 or fewer words. Letters to the editor may be used for publication unless the author states the letter is not to be published. Letters may be edited for style, length, clarity, grammar, and relevance to Kenyon issues. Please address submission to: Editor, *Kenyon College Alumni Bulletin*, Office of Public Affairs, Gambier, Ohio 43022. Letters may also be submitted to [alumni@kenyon.edu](mailto:alumni@kenyon.edu).



continued from page 3

fire, which was later used to determine where the fire started.

Back to Ed Stansfield. He had whoever was holding the ineffective fire hose in front of Middle Kenyon spray him with the water to offer some protection, then he dashed into the building and proceeded to pound on bedroom doors. He later told me he found George Pincus standing in his burning room and led him outside. George, however, succumbed to his burns. Ed's leather jacket had some of George's skin adhered to the shoulder, where he held on as Ed led him out. I don't know how many others made it out due to Ed waking them, but he will always be remembered by me as a true hero and my best college friend.

Dean Frank Bailey was also a hero that night, organizing, directing, and comforting us the next morning along with many of the dates coming back on campus from the Pines and other lodgings. The sight that awaited them could hardly be believed. Naked chimneys of scarred brick, previously covered over, showing them what were individual room fireplaces; giant, long bolts that held the buttresses from bowing out, now drooping from almost melting in the intense heat.

You have probably read the news reports and other descriptions—the flames more than two hundred feet over the roof, eating over the tops of firewalls to then consume both wings. No archival report can describe completely the horror of that night. My classmates and I will never be able to forget.

If there are ghosts from that fire, I can only feel they are good ghosts because they were good Kenyon men.

—F. Wain Harrison '52

#### Dispelling the *Poltergeist* myth

I enjoyed Wendy MacLeod's haunted Kenyon story in the fall issue of the *Bulletin*. In fact, when I was reading it, I got so spooked I had to get up and turn on the TV (because unlike what we learned in *Poltergeist*, it chases ghosts AWAY). It was genius reporting to go into the security files. I wondered if Wendy received any stories about Ascension? When I was at Kenyon, stories were told about the sound of footsteps following you down the center stairwell late at night. I felt it one night, or so I imagined, but I can't remember what the story was behind the ghosts there. Thanks for an enjoyable read!

—Deirdre van Dyk '85

#### Bravo for local-foods effort

My wife Janet and I receive the *Bulletin* as parents of a member of the Class of 2005 (J. Geoffrey) and former members of the Parents Advisory Council, and I was engrossed by the article "Along Local Roads" (Fall 2007) about Kenyon's initiatives to work with local farmers and to use their produce in the campus dining service and in broader collaborations.

As a professor of educational leadership who studies college presidents and as a former student affairs administrator, I have known of many good ideas that have floated in and out of campuses over the last three decades and more. Projects such as this, especially those involving multiple players and planning steps, do not happen by good luck or fortune. They happen because good ideas, whether percolated up from informed and interested members of communities—as is primarily the case with the Kenyon program—or pushed top-down, or a

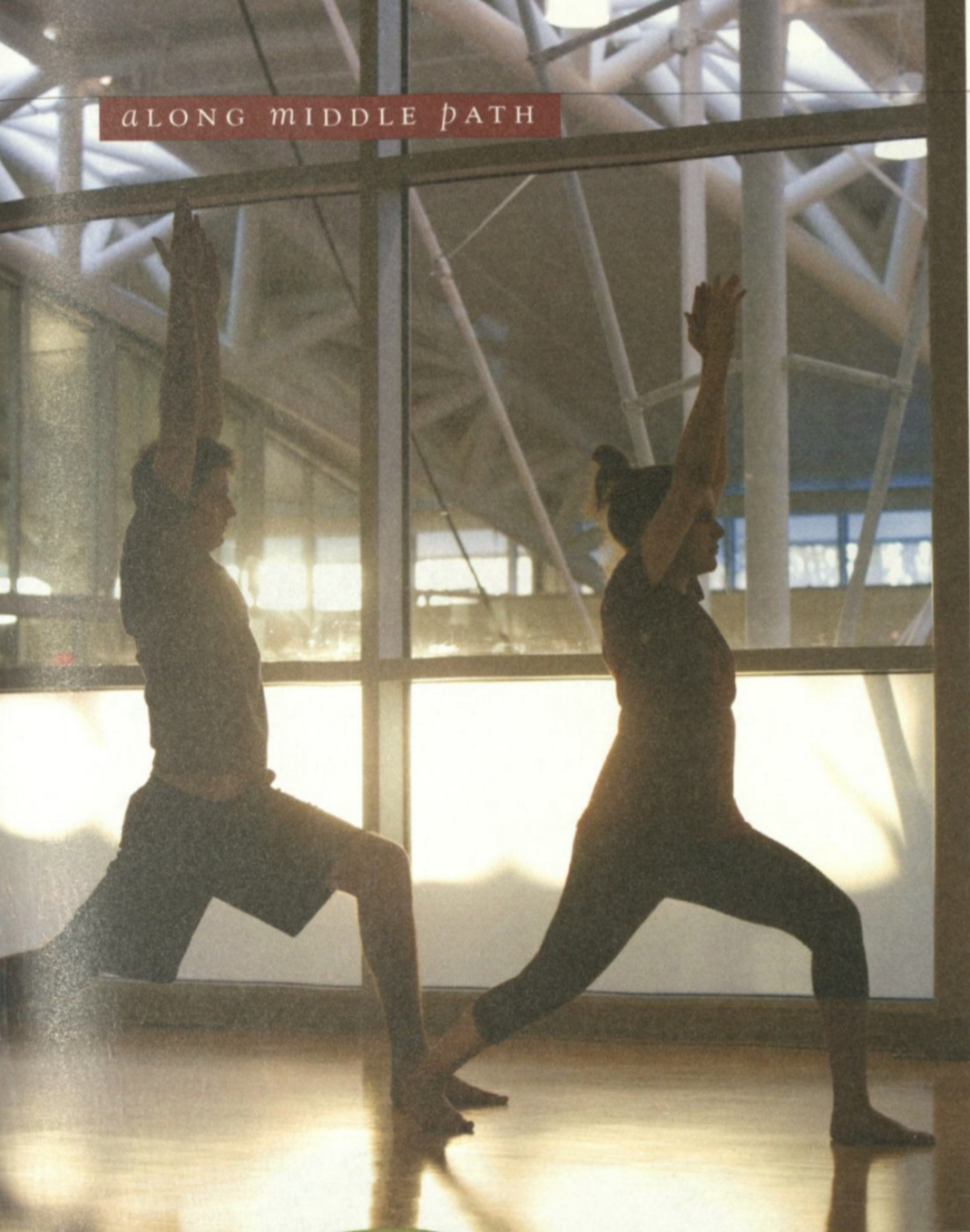
combination, are actually enacted and integrated into the administrative and management systems of an organization.

Though obviously still on the road to full development, awaiting the long needed renovations of Peirce and the completion of plans for the regional facility in Mount Vernon with Kenyon as a strategic partner, this is a ground-breaking story in the annals of the life of campuses across the country. Former President Rob Oden had the foresight earlier this decade to raise the issue and do something about the preservation of farmland and open spaces around the College. Though I don't know the full inside scoop, this program must also have had the leadership support of President Georgia Nugent and her core administrative cabinet, including those responsible for managing the relatively new campus dining service group and the dining staff itself. Clearly faculty and students, including some early student instigators from Geoff's class, have also contributed their vision and volunteer interests, as well as their learning and knowledge, to the cause.

Bravo to Kenyon for its leadership in an important environmental, economic, and community effort that, among other things, brings "gown" together with "town," and that shows that the ivory tower can and should extend itself to the broader world.

—Stephen J. Nelson P'05





Greg Salor

## TRANSCENDENTAL KENYON

The state-of-the-art dance studios of the Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC) are a world apart from the common room of a student apartment, but both work as the setting for a campus trend. Kenyon students have discovered the physical and psychological benefits of yoga—flexibility, core strengthening, and stress relief.

"I get really stressed with work, and yoga clears my mind," said Lora Pacht '08, pictured at left with Chris Chanock '08. Pacht founded the yoga club last year with five other students.

After applying for special-interest housing, the club leaders started the 2007 school year in one of the New Apartments, assigned to the club because it has the largest common room. Dubbed the Yoga House, it is now equipped with tapestries that set the stage and a large yoga mat covering the common-room floor for transcendent stretching.

Six days a week, the Yoga House offers yoga and yoga spin-off classes ranging from the more upbeat Yogalates (yoga and pilates) class to the low-key meditation event known as Transcendental Tuesday. Other classes include Yoga Therapy, Carpe Diem Yoga, Group Massage Therapy, and the Yoga Weekend Wind-Down.

Though space is limited, as many as fifteen students have shown up at the Yoga House for group massage therapy and other sessions.

Across the village, the KAC offers Yoga Fusion and Vinyasa Yoga several days a week. An anthropology major working on her honors thesis, Pacht started taking yoga classes during her junior year of high school and continued at the KAC until she started teaching her own classes at the Yoga House.

—Naomi Blauschild '10



Test  
Your  
KQ

WHAT'S YOUR KENYON QUOTIENT? TRY THIS QUESTION FROM THE WORLD OF KENYON TRIVIA.

Painter and art professor Joseph Slate, who retired in 1988 after thirty years at Kenyon, went on to a successful career as what?

- A. Animator
- B. Children's book author
- C. Journalist
- D. Magazine illustrator

ANSWER: B. Children's book author.

Slate, who helped to build the modern art major, did in fact work as a journalist before turning to a career in art. Since his retirement, however, he has earned some measure of fame as the creator—of the author, not the illustrator—of the popular, award-winning *Miss Bindergarten* series of books, about a border-collie kindergarten teacher and her classroom. Starting with *Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* (1996), the series now has seven titles, most recently *Miss Bindergarten Celebrates the Last Day of Kindergarten* (2006). This past fall, the Rose Theater in Omaha, Nebraska, presented the first professional stage adaptation of the books.



## A SCROLL OF SURVIVAL

Kenyon receives a Torah recovered from the Holocaust

Kenyon and its Jewish community received an extraordinary gift this fall with the arrival of a Torah scroll that disappeared during the Holocaust but was recently recovered and restored.

The hand-lettered parchment scroll, bearing Judaism's fundamental writings, was acquired for the College by Kenyon parents Michael Salzberg and his wife, trustee Deborah Salzberg, of Bethesda, Maryland. They joined the campus community, other trustees, and visiting religious dignitaries in October for a dedication ceremony.

Several dozen members of the community had the rare opportunity to assist in the final restoration process, inking Hebrew letters onto the scroll with a quill, thereby completing the text and symbolically connecting the ancient words to current and future generations in Gambier. They held the quill as the letters were filled in by Rabbi Menachem Youlus, the scribe who restored the scroll, which he estimates to be 175 years old.

"To any Jewish community, the Torah is a living, breathing text; a Jewish community needs the Torah in order to thrive," said Kenyon Hillel Director

Members of the Kenyon community got to hold the quill as Rabbi Menachem Youlus completed the restoration of the Torah. Youlus, a scribe, founded Save a Torah, a nonprofit organization that rescues abandoned Torahs from around the world.



Greg Sallor



Marc Bragin. Comprising the Five Books of Moses (Genesis through Deuteronomy), the Torah traces the history of the Jewish people and sets forth the commandments that Jews should follow in order to live a just and moral life, both individually and communally.

He noted the special significance of a Torah once used by a Jewish community that was eradicated in the Holocaust. "This is a statement of survival," Bragin said.

This particular Torah's journey to Gambier entailed both Kenyon and Salzberg family connections. The journey began in the fall of 2006, when Bragin, newly arrived at Kenyon, mentioned the need for a Torah to Alan E. Rothenberg '67, a trustee who has been actively involved in supporting the College's Hillel chapter.

Rothenberg spoke to fellow trustee Deborah Salzberg, knowing that her husband Michael took an interest in the restora-

tion of Torahs damaged during the Holocaust. Michael Salzberg immediately thought of Rabbi Youlus, a *sofer*, or scribe, whom he had met in the Washington-area Jewish bookstore where the rabbi works. He discovered, moreover, that the rabbi's organization, Save a Torah, had recovered a scroll from the very region near Lvov, Poland (now in the Ukraine), where the Salzberg family had lived. Some of Michael Salzberg's relatives survived anti-Jewish pogroms and emigrated to the United States prior to World War II. Others died in the Holocaust.

Youlus, who began tracking down lost Torahs about twenty years ago, estimates that thousands of scrolls survived the Nazis' devastation of European Jewry. Some Torahs were hidden away. Others were thrown into mass graves along with murdered Jews. Still others were taken by individuals, who kept them for altruistic or mercenary

reasons. The Nazis themselves kept many Torahs, intending to display them as artifacts of a dead culture.

At Kenyon, Youlus recounted some of his adventures in recovering Torahs while describing the mix of traditional art and modern technology he employs in analyzing the condition of scrolls and then restoring them. He and several other scribes spent four and a half months repairing Kenyon's Torah. A Torah contains nearly 305,000 Hebrew letters, and about two-thirds of the letters in this scroll were cracked or otherwise damaged and had to be corrected or entirely rewritten.

The Torah will be kept in the College archives but taken out regularly for religious services. Bragin also hopes that religious studies classes will have access to the scroll. Plans are under way to design and build an ark, the ornamental cabinet used in synagogues to hold Torahs. **K**

## GAMBIER IS TALKING ABOUT...

**Bomb threats.** Kenyon was one of several colleges and universities plagued by e-mailed bomb threats early in the fall semester. College buildings and local businesses were evacuated on more than one occasion while administrators consulted with the FBI and local law enforcement officials.

**Gas.** New life was pumped into the heart of downtown Gambier with the reopening of the service station that had been shuttered for more than a year. A joint effort by Kenyon and the village government led to a lease agreement between the College and James Lee of Mount Vernon.



**Neff on the move.** The fall semester found Neff House perched on steel beams and temporary wood supports just a few yards from the spot on which it had sat since 1850. The house, which will become the home of the *Kenyon Review*, was moved onto a stronger, functional basement. The new site will also afford the building a more prominent and visible position along Wiggin Street.

**The future of voting.** Knox County election officials attended a campus forum in November to discuss voting laws and student participation in the 2008 presidential election—and to note Gambier precinct changes designed to avoid the marathon waits of 2004.



Greg Salter



## KENYON IN THE NEWS

**Kirk Emmert's** juggling of the roles of mayor of Gambier and professor of political science put him in the spotlight of a features column in the November 13 edition of the **Columbus Dispatch** in Columbus, Ohio. A former White House assistant and an expert on Winston Churchill, Emmert revealed a wry sense of humor. "I'm a small fish in a little pond," he said. Emmert ran unopposed in the November election.

Actor **Frank Dicopoulos '79**, who plays Frank Cooper on the television soap *Guiding Light*, was featured in a story in the November 4 edition of the **Daily Press** in Ontario, California. Dicopoulos, who has also appeared in *Dynasty*, *Hotel*, and *Falcon Crest*, said he took a drama course at Kenyon to "keep his grades up" for a run at medical school. The psychology major said the drama experience instead led to modeling and television commercial work.

A November 1 story in the online newsletter **Inside Higher Ed** on environmental sustainability quoted sociologist **Howard Sacks**, senior advisor to the president and director of the Rural Life Center. Sacks spoke about the Food for Thought program, through which the College buys from local farmers while involving students in a wide range of research projects.

A story on Fulbright programs published in the October 26 edition of the **Chronicle of Higher Education** included Kenyon on its list of top producers of 2007-08 Fulbright awards for bachelor's institutions. Eight Kenyon students accepted Fulbright awards, placing sixth on the list.

Kenyon's acquisition of a Torah that survived the Holocaust attracted news-media attention during the week of October 22. On October 24, the (Cleveland, Ohio) **Plain Dealer** published a front-page story that quoted Hillel director **Marc Bragin**. Bragin was also quoted in the October 25 **Columbus Dispatch**, and the next day the *Dispatch* published a photo of **Jesse Sarlin '10** holding the quill along with a scribe finishing the delicate work of restoring letters on the Torah.

A story about college-based advisors to presidential campaigns in the October 12 edition of the **Chronicle of Higher Education** quoted **William Melick** of the economics faculty and a campaign advisor on international-trade policy to Republican Senator John McCain. Melick, who holds the Bruce Gensemer Professorship, said the opportunity to shape public policy is a strong lure. "It's a way for an academic to not only see how the sausage gets made, but to try to influence how the sausage gets made," Melick said.

The **New York Times** carried two references to Kenyon in its Sunday edition on September 30. The Sunday magazine's weekly interview featured admissions-reform advocate Lloyd Thacker, who put Kenyon on a short list of "good schools." In the book review, meanwhile, author Stephen King wrote an essay about the precarious state of the American short story. King described his quest for good short stories in a book store, where he managed to find "fresh treasure" in a handful of literary journals, including the **Kenyon Review**.

The September 14 edition of the **San Diego Union-Tribune** included comments by **John Elliott**, professor of political science, in a Copley News Service analysis of the September 13 speech by President George W. Bush. Elliott, described as an expert on the presidency, said Army General David Petraeus proved to be an asset to Bush while the general weathered questioning in the U.S. House and Senate. "There is more confidence in the military than in the president and his administration," Elliott said.

**Michael Levine**, professor of psychology, was quoted in the **Galveston County Daily News** in Galveston, Texas, on September 12 in a story about public fascination with the weight and shape of Britney

Spears after her performance at the MTV Video Music Awards show. Spears was being punished for not living up to cultural expectations, Levine said, and was targeted with the most pejorative use of the word *fat*. "If she looked like a young, taut, buxom pole dancer, she probably could have staggered away . . . and people would have said, 'At least she looked great.'"

The online magazine **Slate**, on September 10, mentioned **Vernon Schubel**, professor of religious studies, as a source for a column explaining the Muslim approach to facial hair. A videotape showing Osama Bin Laden with an apparently dyed beard raised the question about the propriety of Muslim men altering the color of their beards. The conclusion was that Muslims can dye beards, but many imams discourage the practice.

A photo of **President S. Georgia Nugent** graced the cover of the September 7 **Wall Street Journal** Weekend Journal section and another photo was included inside the section as part of a feature on how the country's "movers and shakers" spent their summer vacations. Nugent said one of her summer goals was to take up tap dancing for a performance at the College's end-of-summer senior-staff retreat. The story noted that Nugent's three-minute performance to Cole Porter's "You're the Top" brought a standing ovation.



# THE HOT SHEET

BATTLES, BABIES, BOYS, AND SIX OTHER  
THINGS WE LOVE ABOUT KENYON



**Old Shoes.** The Brown Family Environmental Center collected used tennis shoes in the fall as part of the Nike Re-use a Shoe Program. Community members donated sneakers to be ground up and used in products from track surfacing to new shoes. We don't know whether Odor Eaters were accepted, too.

**Plaid about the Boys.** Kenyon men brought a dose of the traditional back to campus with plaid shorts in shades of blue, brown, red, and pink. Plaid kilts have yet to make a resurgence.

**Posterity.** Pre-orientation students filled a purple Nalgene bottle with prose and poetry, creating a literary time capsule that was placed in the new foundation of Neff House, which was being restored to become the future home of the *Kenyon Review*. Think of it as pouring metrical footers.



**Baby Girls.** Baby-doll dresses have become a campus fashion for women. The frocks feature empire waists and full, short skirts. Fashion pundits predict the trend will be short lived. Bye-bye, baby!

**Battle Recreationists.** The Peeps O' Kenyon staged a re-enactment of the Civil War's Battle of Antietam on Peirce lawn in the fall. The cavalry rode in on bikes. Nobody even scraped a knee.

**Speed Dating.** Kenyon's chapter of Hillel sponsored an evening of speed dating. While speed dating was originally started as a way for Jewish singles to meet, Kenyon's version was open to all religious faiths and sexual orientations. We vote for face-to-face over Facebook any day.

**A Leafy Labyrinth.** In November, Katherine Schroer '08 and chaplain Karl Stevens '95 raked together a labyrinth of leaves between Ransom Hall and the chapel. All were invited to walk the labyrinth, based on a Roman design, as a way to meditate and relax. No reports on whether anyone got lost and missed class.

**Robert F. Kennedy Jr.** Student Lectureships sponsored a campus talk by the environmental crusader in November. Listed as one of *Time* magazine's "Heroes for the Planet" for his work to restore the Hudson River, Kennedy delivered a lecture titled "Our Environmental Destiny."



**Dirty Runners.** October found some of the hardier members of the Kenyon community covered in grime, courtesy of the Mudman Triple, a trail run with three events, including a nighttime race complete with glow sticks.



## CELEBRATING A WRITER, AND WRITING

*Kenyon Review* award winner Margaret Atwood comes to campus to kick off a literary festival



Megan Niedels

It was a perfect idea, just waiting to blossom.

Every November, the *Kenyon Review* celebrates its Award for Literary Achievement with a dinner and fundraiser in New York, which has been a convenient site both for the winning authors and for participating dignitaries.

Why not extend the festivities to the Kenyon campus?

This past year, the idea blossomed—brilliantly. The *Review* not only brought internationally acclaimed novelist Margaret Atwood to Kenyon for a lecture, a book-signing, and a conversation with students; it also created a literary festival full of stimulating activities that embraced the wider Knox County community.

The first annual *Kenyon Review* Literary Festival included everything from discussions of Atwood's 2003 novel *Oryx and Crake* to panels offering advice for aspiring writers. Atwood herself spoke to a packed Rosse Hall audience on the evening of Saturday, November 10, delivering the Denham Sutcliffe Memorial Lecture.

Two days earlier, at the Four Seasons Restaurant in New York, the *Review* had presented the Award for Literary Achievement to the Canadian author. The seventh winner of the award, Atwood has published poetry, essays, children's books, and criticism in addition to the novels for which she is best known. Those novels include *The Handmaid's Tale* (1983), *Cat's Eye* (1989), and *Oryx and Crake*, all of which were short-listed for England's presti-

gious Booker Prize; and *The Blind Assassin*, which won the prize in 2000.

The award dinner also includes an auction that raises money for the *Review's*

"... the arts ... are not a frill. They are the heart of the matter, because they are about our hearts; and our technological inventiveness is generated by our emotions, not only by our minds. A society without the arts would have broken its mirror and cut out its heart. It would no longer be what we now recognize as human."

—MARGARET ATWOOD, THE DENHAM  
SUTCLIFFE MEMORIAL LECTURE,  
NOVEMBER 10, 2007

endowment and for scholarship aid to participants in the journal's two summer programs, Young Writers (for high school students) and the Writers Workshop (for older writers). More than two hundred guests, including New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, attended the event this November.

In Ohio, the literary festival actually kicked off earlier in the fall with a program called "Knox Reads!" Sponsored by the *Review* and the local public library system, it involved readers in discussions of *Oryx and Crake*, a disturbing, satiric vision of where genetic engineering, global warming, consumer culture, and social upheaval may take contemporary civilization.

Students and professors are already looking forward to next year's festival. At the *Review*, planning for 2008 is under way. ☐



## A NICHE FOR SOPHOMORES

Sophomore slump? No, these sophomores sizzle, as part of a new program focusing on food and local farm life

The College makes a special effort to acclimate first-year students, sends many of its juniors abroad, and toasts its seniors. Now there's a distinctive opportunity for sophomores, too, in the form of a program that connects them to food and the farming life of Knox County.

Inaugurated this year, the Sophomore Experience is an offshoot of the Food for

Thought program and was cooked up by faculty members impressed by their own experiences in a summer seminar exploring food-related issues.


"We thought it should be something extended more generally to the student body," said Howard Sacks, who conceived Food for Thought and is a professor of sociology and senior advisor to President S. Georgia Nugent. "We wanted to try something new."

After settling into college life during their first year, sophomores are ready to connect with the people and culture beyond campus and village, Sacks said. And they can take advantage of interaction outside the classroom with nine faculty members who join them along the way, exploring the way food is produced, bought, and consumed.

All sophomores were invited to write a

succinct essay making a pitch to join the year-long program, and seventeen students were selected based on "some fabulous responses," said Sacks. The program doesn't involve coursework or credit. Rather, the students take field trips to farms and a farm market, share in the preparation of some meals, and meet for discussions based on visits with local food producers as well as readings, including *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, by Michael Pollan.

A visit to the Mount Vernon Farmers' Market yielded the ingredients for a meal featuring bean salad and quiche, said Anne Kruk '10 of Lima, New York. "It was fantastic," she said. "I come from a rural area, and I have a strong interest in rural agriculture."

Sacks envisions an ongoing program that may be a model for other departments and faculty who can take advantage of common interests and shared activities. 

## Sound Bites

**"It's like** trying to get pregnant, going through a painful labor, then you give birth to six, eight, ten of them at a time and it's not even remotely comfortable."

—Clothing designer Eric Gaskins '80, who spoke at Kenyon in November, on putting together a fashion collection



Daily News LP

**"It's easy to feel** it's someone else's policy, it's someone else's war. But it isn't; it's ours." —Journalist George Packer, on American attitudes toward the war in Iraq. Packer, the author of *The Assassin's Gate: America in Iraq*, spoke at Kenyon in September

**"Look guys,** lay off the scabies, okay? They have just as much of a right to life as any of us—they are God's creatures, just like us, and we ought to respect that before we start complaining indiscriminately." —Collegian humor columnist Andrew Cunningham '08, writing about an unpleasant campus outbreak

**"It might be my** imagination, but it seems as if I see more and more student-athletes with ice on their appendages. I'm not concerned about their injuries. My concern is whether our students, all of them, are working too hard. How much down time do they have? Do they have time for civic engagement? Do they have time to relax with friends in the dining hall? Do they have time to reflect on life?" —Music professor Dane Heuchemer at a campus forum on balancing athletics and academics. (He was joking about not caring about their injuries.)



## Learning Leadership

On the basketball court and on mission trips in Central America, Eva George has grown into a key player

Eva George thrust her arms into the wet, coarse cement. The mixer was broken, so she took the lead in churning by hand. Shoveled and smoothed, the cement would harden into durable new flooring in nearly twenty ragged homes occupying the foothills near Tegucigalpa, Honduras—homes that previously had only dirt floors.

George isn't afraid to get her hands dirty and take charge. She leads by example, whether she's stirring cement on a mission trip to Central America with an Episcopal youth group or sinking buckets in Tomsich Arena as captain of this year's Ladies basketball team.

At Kenyon, the senior from Lincoln, Massachusetts, has served as an admissions tour guide on campus and a Spanish tutor at Wiggin Street Elementary School. Currently she's co-secretary of the Kenyon Student Athletes. But basketball fans know her best for her success on the court. Using her 5'11" frame to post up and overpower opponents, George averaged 8.6 points and 5.5 rebounds last season.

"Eva has evolved into one of the most important players in our program," head coach Suzanne Helfant said. "I have seen more growth in her over the past three-plus years than any other player."

"She has morphed into a very confident, capable player, but more importantly she has played a large role in keeping our team on the same page," Helfant continued. "She transcends all lines and seems to be able to connect with every single player on the team. She has a very unassuming personality that appeals to everyone she comes in contact with. She doesn't intimidate; she empowers the people around her."

Given those accolades, it's hard to believe that George arrived in Gambier with no expectations to play college hoops, and was basically a walk-on during her first season with the Ladies. That year, she played in twenty-one games but didn't start any of them and averaged just seven minutes of playing time. Last season as a junior, she started twenty-two games and averaged nearly twenty-six minutes of floor time.

George herself acknowledges the parallels between her basketball career and her

experiences on mission trips. "I've grown in many ways and learned what it takes to be a leader," she said. "I understand the importance of building trust, being selfless, and making sacrifices. The two environments are totally different, but in order to succeed, the same principles apply."

Leadership emerged gradually. George remembers that, during her earliest mission trips, she was more tentative, in part because she could speak very little Spanish. One summer, the youth group traveled to the impoverished community outside Tegucigalpa to build a cistern that provided clean water. Then came the trip in which George lent a hand, literally, with the cement.

Last summer, the group went to El Salvador. George, who had just finished her junior year at Kenyon, was now in the role of adult mentor, supervising the group as they worked on putting in the foundation for a school. While not fluent, she knew enough Spanish to feel more connected and more involved. The experience was correspondingly deeper.

"It's a great feeling being able to make a difference, to instill hope, and to just let others know that people do care," George said. "Not everyone lives like we do, and until you see that up close it's hard to describe. It rattles you; it's something you feel you need to fight, because it just can't go on. Sometimes when I get back home or back to school, that feeling fades, but the more and more I go back, the more it becomes a part of me."

George and the Ladies are shooting for a conference title this year. But beyond the prospect of victory lies a sense of satisfaction that nourishes everything she does. On and off the court, she has stepped up her game, provided leadership, and created space for those around her to grow as well.

"She came to our program with very little fanfare," said Helfant,

who has seen a good many impressive young women in her twelve-plus years at Kenyon. "But she will leave as one of the most respected players to wear a Kenyon Ladies uniform."

—Marty Fuller



Greg Sailer



## MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

**RECORD:** Placed fifth at NCAC championship

**RECAP:** Junior **Jim Boston** had a career year and was one of several Lord runners who showed marked improvement from the previous season. The Kenyon men climbed a rung in the conference standings, from sixth to fifth, and made a bigger leap at the regional meet, surging from eighteenth to tenth place. On an individual basis, Boston placed sixth at the conference meet, eleventh at the regional, and qualified for the NCAA championship meet, where he finished forty-first out of 280 participants.

## WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

**RECORD:** Tied for third at NCAC championship

**RECAP:** A budding squad displayed amazing maturity by the end of the season and became the first Kenyon team to qualify for nationals since 1995. The Ladies earned entry into the NCAA championship with a fourth-place finish in the regional meet. At nationals, the Ladies placed twenty-eighth. First-year student **Lauren Brady** emerged as the team's top runner. She placed second in the conference championship, placed sixth with a new Kenyon record time (22:01.50) at the regional race, and then finished forty-eighth at the national meet.

## FIELD HOCKEY

**RECORD:** 11-12 overall, 8-4 NCAC

**RECAP:** For the second straight season, the Ladies played spoiler, with two upset victories in the conference tournament, including a 2-1 finals triumph over Wittenberg University, a team that had bested them twice during the regular season. The feisty Ladies earned a position in the NCAA championship bracket, but their stay was short-lived as they dropped a 2-0 decision to SUNY Cortland in the first round. Senior **Lauren Keiling**, one of four Ladies to earn all-region honors, finished second on Kenyon's scoring chart with thirty-seven career goals.

## FOOTBALL

**RECORD:** 2-8 overall, 1-6 NCAC

**RECAP:** While the Lords' offense racked up a single-season College record 4,602 yards, the defensive unit struggled, allowing opponents to outscore Kenyon by an average of eight points per game. Senior quarterback **Rafael Sanchez** finished his career ranked among Kenyon's top five in several statistical categories, including rushing yards (2,828) and passing yards (5,636). Senior **Carlin Shoemaker** wound up with 3,000 career receiving yards, and senior defensive back **Josh Cowgill**, who had five career interceptions, was named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District Team for the second straight season.



LEFT: Senior **Lauren Keiling** scored 11 goals during the 2007 season and led the Ladies field hockey team to a share of the conference title.

RIGHT: **Rafael Sanchez**, the Lords' senior quarterback, ranked seventeenth in the nation with an average of 284.5 total yards of offense per game.

## MEN'S SOCCER

**RECORD:** 14-2-2 overall, 7-1-1 NCAC

**RECAP:** An infusion of youth propelled the Lords to their best season in a decade and their first conference title since the 1997 season. Freshman forward **Felix Hoffmann** netted sixteen goals and four assists while shattering the program's scoring record for a first-year player. He earned the conference's Newcomer of the Year award and helped push the Lords to a national ranking as high as number 23. Unfortunately, the brilliant season came to a close with a penalty shoot-out loss in the first round of the conference postseason tournament.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

**RECORD:** 9-7-2 overall, 4-3-1 NCAC

**RECAP:** Based on staunch defensive play, the Ladies battled through a difficult schedule—one that included five nationally ranked teams—and wound up tied for fourth place in the conference standings. Head coach **Kelly Bryan** earned her hundredth win with the program and the Ladies made their first-ever appearance in a national poll, debuting at number 23. The team also earned a spot in the conference postseason tournament for the third consecutive year, and senior **Jean Arnold** was selected as the conference's Defensive Player of the Year.

**CORRECTION:** The Fall 2007 *Bulletin* reported that lacrosse players Luke Larson '07 and Sean Wheeler '07 participated in the USILA North/South All-State Game. The students actually participated in the USILA's all-star game, which showcased the nation's, as opposed to the state's, top collegiate lacrosse players.



IMAGINE PEOPLE REGROWING LOST LIMBS, LIKE SALAMANDERS AND STARFISH. IT  
COULD HAPPEN, THANKS IN PART TO ALAN SPIEVACK '55, WHOSE FASCINATION  
WITH THE SCIENCE OF REGENERATION BEGAN AT KENYON. BY GORDON YOUNG

# IMMAGIC in the Matrix

When Alan Spievack arrived at Professor Maxwell Elliott Power's office in the spring of 1952, he wasn't sure what to expect. Power began by looking over his glasses at the freshman from Cincinnati and declaring that Spievack was the first person to tally a perfect score on one of his notoriously difficult anatomy exams. But Power wasn't about to congratulate him on the feat.

"He asked me a series of questions clearly designed to see if I had cheated," remembers Spievack, who graduated cum laude in 1955.

When Power determined that Spievack wasn't dishonest, just uncommonly smart, he strongly suggested that he pursue honors in biology. Then, about a week later, Power summoned him to his office again. This time he loaded Spievack up with gear and they headed to the Kokosing River. The professor instructed Spievack to roll up his pants and get to work catching what appeared to be tiny black bugs. They were actually salamander larvae. Spievack's job was to raise them, occasionally cut off their arms, legs, and tails, and figure out how they regenerate their limbs.

"He set up a private tutorial for me," Spievack says. "He showed me how to use a microscope, how to make tissue slides, how to use lab equipment and conduct experiments."

In high school, Spievack had tried to create a perpetual motion machine. Clearly, research and experimentation appealed to him, and

he quickly got so engrossed in the regeneration project that he didn't want it to end when the summer break arrived. Neither did Power. So they packed up all the equipment, including the salamanders, and relocated to Spievack's family home in Cincinnati, where he reassembled the lab in his basement. The salamanders took up residence in his mother's pie pans, and his younger brother, Lee, fed them hamburger and fish food with tweezers.

Spievack's collaboration with Power was cut short when the professor died in 1954. Spievack was "devastated" by the loss of his mentor, but he was not about to abandon the interest in regeneration that Power had sparked on the Kenyon campus.

He won a Fulbright Scholarship to Bologna, Italy, but chose instead to attend Harvard Medical School, and forged a distinguished career as a surgeon before he began another collaboration with a scientist named Stephen Badylak in 1996. Their work has revolutionized research into the human ability to regenerate skin and—someday, perhaps—even arms, legs, and organs. And it's not all theoretical; Spievack has already helped his brother Lee regenerate a fingertip he lost in an accident, and more than 500,000 patients have used regeneration treatments worldwide.

"People used to think it was Buck Rogers science to talk about regenerating tissues," Scott Bruder recently told the *Wall Street*









## In four weeks, the wound was closed. In four months, the finger had grown back to normal size.

*Journal.* He is vice president of Regenerative Therapeutics, one of several companies using regenerative technologies to provide medical treatment. "This is the new wave."

After Kenyon and medical school, Spievack finished his training in general surgery at Boston City Hospital in 1965. He joined the Harvard Medical School faculty the same year and began practicing in Boston and Cambridge. Not bad for a student who racked up his share of Cs—or worse—in high school.

"I flunked freshman algebra," he says. "I felt good about that because Albert Einstein did the same thing."

The years sped by, and Spievack was consumed with his medical practice, but he never lost interest in regenerative medicine. He continued to conduct research in the field, and in 1992 he worked with a small Cambridge startup on bone regeneration. That's why he was so intrigued by Stephen Badylak when he heard him lecture in Atlanta at an orthopedic surgeons' conference in 1996. Badylak, a medical doctor with a Ph.D. in anatomic pathology, was working as a researcher at Purdue University in the eighties when he conducted an experiment on Rocky, a mixed-breed mutt. He replaced Rocky's aorta with a piece of the dog's small intestine, mainly because it had a similar, tubular shape.

Over the next few months, Badylak discovered something amazing. Not only was the section of small intestine functioning properly, it was actually morphing into something very close to an aorta, with little, if any, scar tissue forming. In a 2007 *Esquire* magazine profile, Michael Rosenwald wrote that Badylak "had accidentally performed the biological equivalent of a magician turning a handkerchief into a dove. But this was not illusion."

"We've been spending the last twenty years trying to understand how that happened," Badylak told the *Wall Street Journal*.

The key to this biological magic is something called an extracellular matrix. It's the material that links cells to one another as they divide, grow, and become tissue and body parts. That's why it's often referred to as cellular scaffolding.

Badylak's research pointed to a form of extracellular matrix called the submucosa found in the intestines, bladders, liver, and other

organs of all animals. To test his theories, he inserted the submucosa into the injured organs of other dogs and got the same result—regrowth and healing without scarring or even infection.

Unlike salamanders and starfish, humans (and most other complex life forms) don't kick into regeneration mode when they are severely injured. It's all about survival, so scar tissue forms instead. And scar tissue simply doesn't function as well as normal tissue.

That's not the case, however, in the womb, where humans can quickly develop and grow new parts, as well as recover from fetal surgery. This ability begins fading approximately three to four months into gestation, about the time the immune system begins to take over. Badylak says children can still regrow fingertips up until the age of two.

In a sense, the extracellular matrix fools the cells into thinking they're in the womb again. The cells begin to combine and they are soon aided by stem cells from the body's own supply in bone marrow and elsewhere. These stem cells are not as useful as embryonic stem cells, but they still play an important role in regeneration.

Badylak's work dealt with the fundamental questions that had intrigued Spievack since his Kenyon days when he was living in Beta Theta Pi housing.

"If you could do something as an embryo, why couldn't you do it again?" Spievack asks. "Or maybe even a third or a fourth time. You basically want to turn off the scar tissue mechanism and turn on the embryology. That's what interested me about regenerative medicine."

And Spievack was definitely interested in what Badylak had to say in Atlanta.

"I sat there as this talk was going on and I noticed I was getting closer and closer to the edge of my seat until I was about to fall off," Spievack remembers. "This guy had done it. He figured out that all species—birds, fish, mammals—can regrow themselves more than once."

The pair connected after the lecture and became friends and unofficial collaborators. Badylak, who is now a researcher at the University of Pittsburgh's McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, acted as an advisor for the company Spievack launched in 1999 called ACell, Inc., which focuses on treating injured animals. Spievack turned to pig bladders to develop a form of extracellular





**A model airplane propeller proved no match for the matrix powder that healed Lee Spievack's finger. The regenerated fingertip is "younger" than his other fingers.**

matrix called urinary basement membranes. He tested it out on himself, using it to clear up a case of poison ivy. After a court fight with Purdue University, he now holds the patent rights for it.

Since 2000, collaboration between Badylak and Spievack has resulted in their obtaining ten National Institutes of Health research grants under the Small Business Innovative Research Program, totaling more than \$3 million. These grants have resulted in publications demonstrating the regeneration of the larynx, vocal cords, esophagus (soon to be tested in humans), urinary bladder, all the components of the muscular skeletal system, and many other tissues. Spievack presently holds nineteen medical-device patents. Studies with the United States Army hope to advance the trauma applications of this regenerative technology.

While Alan settled in Boston, his younger brother Lee stayed in their hometown of Cincinnati. An expert model builder, he's the assistant manager at HobbyTown USA. In 2005, he was inspecting the malfunctioning engine of a model plane when the propeller cut about three-eighths of an inch off the top of his middle finger. While he was wrapping his bloody finger in paper towels, he had no idea that the

work he'd done with his brother in their basement lab would have a major role to play in his recovery.

He went to the emergency room for treatment and scheduled an appointment with a surgeon, who recommended a graft using skin from his thigh or forearm. Lee had his doubts about the treatment, so he called his brother from his car in the hospital parking lot. Alan told him there was no need for him to be injured twice.

So Lee canceled the appointment, and Alan sent him a vial of matrix powder, which resembled grated parmesan cheese. He applied the powder to his finger as Alan instructed. In four weeks, the wound was closed. In four months, the finger had grown back to normal size. In the winter, Lee noticed that while his other fingers chapped in the cold, the regenerated finger did not. He also has to trim the fast-growing nail on his middle finger every couple of days.

"The fingertip is only two years old now, but the rest of me is sixty-nine," Lee says. "I never had any inkling that it would not work. I've always had that kind of confidence in Alan."

There's no doubt that Lee Spievack's story is encouraging, if not amazing, and that regenerative medicine is being used to speed the recovery of patients with a variety of injuries all over the world. The military is funding studies right now to determine if regenerative medicine can help soldiers injured in combat. But the reality is that doctors and scientists are really just beginning to fully explore this field.

"We are very uninformed about how all this works," Badylak recently told the Associated Press. "There's a lot more that we don't know than we do know."

Alan Spievack played a big role getting the field of regenerative medicine to this exciting juncture, a role that began when he aced an exam in professor Power's anatomy class at Kenyon. It's fitting that Spievack was the first recipient of the Maxwell E. Power Prize in Biology, awarded on Honors Day in 1955. Despite all that he's accomplished, Spievack is still wondering what's next.

"There's a question that haunts me," he says. "What's on the next page?"



# A Quest for HIGHER MEANING

A RELIGIOUS  
THREAD IS WOVEN  
INTO THE KENYON  
EXPERIENCE, EVEN  
AS STUDENTS  
QUESTION THEIR  
FAITH AND SORT  
OUT THE MYSTERIES  
OF LIFE. THE  
KENYON STUDENT IS  
PART PILGRIM AND  
PART SKEPTIC.

by Mark Ellis  
photos by Megan Nadolski

What's cooking in the Parish House? On this Tuesday evening, pasta, tomato sauce, and a taste of religious community.

Surrounded by a gaggle of students and seen through a cloud of steam, the kitchen maestro is the Rev. Karl Stevens '95, assistant rector and, thanks to an endowment to the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio, the college chaplain at Harcourt Parish.

Stevens stakes a spiritual claim on what he calls the night campus, when College offices are closed, most faculty members are safe at home, and students ponder their next moves.

"The question is, 'How do we reach them?'"

"And how do we help them do the things we must wish for them to do, which hopefully they wish for each other and themselves?"

The weekly Tuesday night dinners are an exercise in faith, hosted by Stevens and the Canterbury Club. Four or five students, with Stevens directing the kitchen traffic, prepare the meal, which is open to all comers. A short presentation or speech by a professor or other guest caps the evening.



Rev. Karl Stevens '95  
sees more students  
in his church than he  
remembers seeing  
during his years as a  
student at Kenyon.



About twenty-five young men and women trickled in for the 5:30 p.m. dinner on this night, first forming a circle from which they introduced themselves and mentioned a blessing, happy event, or accomplishment that marked their week. The upbeat notes touched on a roommate's birthday, a paper that was completed, and a breakthrough understanding of a relationship with God ("I'm not alone.").

The students in Canterbury Club are one incarnation of religious life at Kenyon, where the intellect and the soul are fellow travelers. Clergymen, professors, and students draw a spiritual sketch of the Kenyon student as seeker, more open-minded than in the past, not much inclined to formal worship, and curious about the religious experiences of others. Spiritual quests here take many forms.

The number of religion-themed student organizations has grown over the years, to ten approved for the 2007 fall semester, from two in 1967. Bible study groups, Quaker meetings, and Zen Buddhist meditation add to the diversity. Religious studies professors often play to a full house. Stevens sees more students in his Church of the Holy Spirit than he remembers seeing during his own undergraduate days.

On the other side of the aisle, the Allied Skeptics of Kenyon, a club of agnostic and atheist students, sprouted this year. And this is the campus where—according to a survey of first-year students in the fall of 2004—most students do not pray, just a shade over half believe in God, and 82 percent think most people can grow spiritually without being religious.

Survey results arrived in a 2004 report, *Spirituality in Higher Education*, prepared by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles. Kenyon students were among 112,232 first-year students at 236 colleges surveyed. At the national level, most college students do pray, almost 80 percent do believe in God, and 64 percent say people can grow spiritually without being religious.

Are Kenyon students less in touch with religion than their peers around the country, or are they on a more refined quest to explore the metaphysical?

"Somehow, it has to do with why people choose to come here," said Vernon Schubel, professor of religious studies and department chair. "They choose this environment because it seems tolerant of their secularism and their religion. We get students who believe in God, and we get students who don't believe in God.

"Kenyon is a place where both belief and non-belief are tolerated because I think there's a recognition that we come here in order to learn and in order to grow."

Sorting out the difference between spirituality and religion helps to shed light on the relationship between students and their sense of a higher power. The Rev. Donald Rogan, professor emeritus of religious studies, a former Kenyon chaplain, and, at seventy-seven, a practiced counselor, has little use for the word spirituality when it stands alone.

"(Spirituality) focuses solely on what the individual potentially does for him- or herself, and religion is a mixture of what you can do

for yourself and what can be done to you and for you by God, by influences of various kinds, by traditions, by all sorts of things," Rogan said. Religion, he said, forces people to develop and extend themselves in ways that mere spirituality does not.

## FINDING A COMMUNITY IN SERVICE

*The* spiritual journey of Stephen Robishaw '09 has led him, at Kenyon, to a new embrace of religion. The twenty-one-year-old Monroe Falls, Ohio, resident arrived at the campus as a Roman Catholic and a baseball recruit. The sports experience soured in his second year, and he found himself adrift until he heard about Canterbury's Tuesday night dinners, a staple since 2001.

"I was looking for a welcoming place," he said. "They didn't care who I was. They just cared that I was a student looking for some help, and they helped me out, and I've been involved ever since. It's cool."

The club's service-oriented emphasis suited Robishaw. Before the recent dinner in the Parish House, he was applying scissors to construction paper, making posters to promote a money-raising project for global clean-water development through UNICEF. Club members also provide tutoring for disadvantaged children and volunteer at a hot-meals program in nearby Mount Vernon.

"Having such a firm social-justice agenda, we're putting forth the message of Christ that we must include all people in our faith," he said. "We're not a large community, but it doesn't mean we can't contribute."

Robishaw was received into Episcopal membership in the spring of 2007. Stevens has been a steady influence.

"Karl talked about his own faith journey, and I thought it was interesting that a guy was willing to speak in front of a group of people and be vulnerable in that way," Robishaw said.

The once-rebellious son of a Methodist minister, Stevens, thirty-six, has trod a spiritual path that has taken him from teenage atheism, to the pursuit of mysticism, to a senior-year visit to the Church of the Holy Spirit, where he was smitten by the beauty of the Episcopal liturgy.

After graduating, the Wisconsin native became an AmeriCorps volunteer, worked at a food bank, and then entered a seminary. He returned to Gambier as a priest in 2003 and set up shop in an office in the church basement.

His office walls are decked with photos from what he believes has been the "best thing" he initiated since his return: the visits of Kenyon students to hurricane-torn New Orleans for hands-on volunteer reconstruction work.

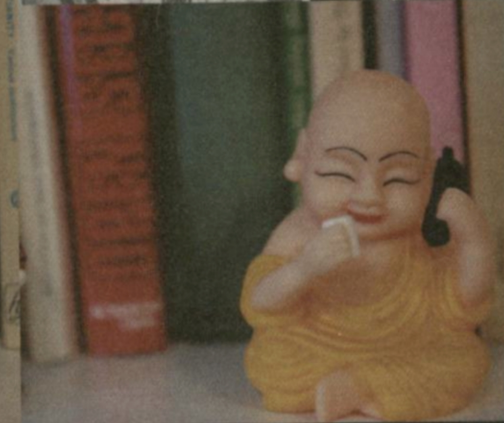
Stevens believes religion has a more public and accepted face, with greater Sunday attendance in church now than when he was a student. The terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, sparked some religious revival, he said.

"It's really fascinating, because I think that if you'd ask a lot of students what is the take on religion at Kenyon, they would say many





Religious studies professor Royal Rhodes says religion courses are filled to capacity. This wasn't the case when he arrived at Kenyon in 1979.



people aren't really religious, there isn't a lot of belief in God, it's a secular place," Stevens said. But the recent survey indicates a glass half full to him when it comes to belief in God (50.3 percent).

"That's a lot more than I thought ... and a lot fewer out-and-out atheists (17.4 percent) than I would have imagined."

Students said they find spiritual meaning in art, music, and nature. That heartens Stevens, who believes that service projects, concerts, and activities at the Brown Family Environmental Center all provide students with extra opportunities to consider "the deep questions about the meaning of life."

A discussion of religion on campus during first-year orientation was added this year as an aspect of campus life, a sign, Stevens said, of fresh interest in religion among incoming students.

Stefanie Wilson '08 addressed religion during orientation. The twenty-two-year-old native of San Juan Capistrano, California, said the context of her remarks was "taking care of myself while at Kenyon."

"Since coming to college, prayer has become a lot more important in my life," she said.

Wilson is a lifelong Episcopalian, a religious studies major, and a member of the Canterbury Club. When she arrived on campus, she figured she had at least temporarily left religion behind with her family. While that remains true of some of her friends, Wilson longed for a sense of community. "Religion provides ... a group of people I can talk to about things in my life in a very safe way."

## THINKING CRITICALLY ABOUT A SUPREME BEING

*Almost* 62 percent of Kenyon students found themselves disagreeing with their parents about religion in the year the survey was taken, topping the national number by 10 percent. That fits Alison Fisher '08, who is a founder of the agnostic and atheists club. The twenty-one-year-old was reared in a Presbyterian family in Rochester Hills, Michigan.

"I've been going to church my whole life," Fisher said. "I went back at Easter ... and the minister was talking about how death was the great enemy. And I thought, 'Is death really the enemy?' It just happens. It's a part of life. That's the nature of being on earth. And after you die? Nothing."

Fisher began calling herself agnostic after she arrived at Kenyon, and sees no evidence of a supreme being. "I guess I really am an atheist," she said. "So being in college made me more of a critical thinker."

She sees few signs of religious activity on campus. "We don't have a lot of vocal people."

The club is an opportunity to bring like-minded thinkers together and explain agnosticism and atheism to others.

Molly Schlemmer '08 helped Fisher form the agnostics club. The twenty-one-year-old Gambier resident attended the First United Church of Christ in Mount Vernon as a child and showed renewed interest in the seventh grade, when attending church was important to fitting in with peers.



A SURVEY OF 112,232 FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, ON MATTERS RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL INCLUDED 340 KENYON STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2008. HERE IS A SNAPSHOT OF SOME RESULTS THAT CONTRAST THE VIEWS OF KENYON STUDENTS WITH THE NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE.



|   | INSTITUTIONS<br>KENYON | ALL    |
|---|------------------------|--------|
| BELIEF IN GOD   | 50.3 %                 | 78.5 % |
| BELIEF IN GOD AS CREATOR                                    | 34.4                   | 56.2   |
| BELIEF IN LIFE AFTER DEATH                                  | 34.6                   | 48.1   |
| ESSENTIAL OR VERY IMPORTANT OBJECTIVES:                     |                        |        |
| SEEKING BEAUTY IN MY LIFE                                   | 79.6                   | 53.9   |
| SEEKING TO FOLLOW RELIGIOUS<br>TEACHINGS IN EVERYDAY LIFE   | 24.9                   | 40.2   |
| AGREE STRONGLY OR SOMEWHAT:                                 |                        |        |
| MOST PEOPLE CAN GROW SPIRITUALLY<br>WITHOUT BEING RELIGIOUS | 82                     | 63.7   |
| PEOPLE WHO DON'T BELIEVE<br>IN GOD WILL BE PUNISHED         | 14.6                   | 36.7   |
| DO YOU PRAY: YES  | 46.4                   | 68.9   |
| ENGAGE IN SELF-REFLECTION                                   | 83.8                   | 64.1   |
| NOT ON A SPIRITUAL QUEST                                    | 17.3                   | 17.1   |
| FIND RELIGION TO BE HELPFUL                                 | 49.5                   | 68     |
| QUESTIONED RELIGIOUS/SPIRITUAL<br>BELIEFS IN LAST YEAR      | 74.6                   | 57.2   |

The social landscape changed at college. "Most people just don't talk about it," she said. "I'm in college. My parents are religious, and I don't need to be doing that now.

"And no one makes a big deal if you are religious. We're very open-minded."

Religion remains an element of her social life, however. She has played a leadership role at Kenyon Hillel, where she often joins Jewish friends at social events. "One of the tough things about Hillel, and about spirituality in Kenyon in general, is getting people involved," Schlemmer said.

From his perspective as Hillel director and Jewish chaplain, Marc Bragin sees a national trend toward religious attentiveness on campus. The number of Hillel directors and other informal Jewish educators on college campuses has become "much more widespread" over a decade, he said. And the questions posed by "amazingly brilliant and analytical" Kenyon students keep Bragin at the top of his game. "They're going to challenge me."

Bragin is embarking on a two-year tour as director of the Board of Spirituality and Religious Thought, a group that usually meets monthly and supports religious life at Kenyon. The panel includes clergy, an assistant dean of students, and student representatives. The board plans programs, helps pay for projects proposed by religious groups, and encourages spiritual growth.

The panel was called the Board of Campus Ministries until Bragin became director this school year. He proposed the name change because the former name carries a Christian connotation and because it may have alienated some of the spiritual seekers on campus.

"Let's be more accepting and more open," Bragin said. "As director, I need to worry about the entire campus.

"There's a lot of interest within religious life from incoming students," he said. "Students ask about religious life on campus. It's OK to talk about God. It's OK to talk about why you're here."

Religion is one piece of the identity puzzle being shaped by students, Bragin said. "That piece is going to move depending on who you are, and that piece is going to play a larger part of your life sometimes and sometimes a smaller part.

"And I want to give you the tools to enable you to move and change the puzzle piece, to give you enough knowledge to make reasonable choices about who you are."

## RELIGION AS A FIELD OF STUDY

*The* search for higher meaning has brought more students into the classrooms of the Department of Religious Studies. The faculty jumped to six from two between 1964 and 1973—at least partly, according to Rogan, the product of the burst of interest in comparative religious study spawned by the counterculture romance with Asian religions. The list of instructors in religious studies now numbers eight, which accommodates sabbaticals and includes Rogan, who teaches one course a year.

"This kind of expansion of religious studies occurred throughout higher education in this period," Rogan said. "Kenyon was unique in being the first church-related, liberal arts college to offer Jewish studies (1967)." Eastern religions arrived in 1969 and Islamic studies in 1971—"fairly unusual at the time."

Schubel teaches "Classical Islam," a course that attracted twenty-six students in the fall semester, among 259 students enrolled in fourteen fall courses. "These are kids who are really interested in understanding religion in all its diversity," he said.



When Royal Rhodes joined the department in 1979, an introductory course in world religions attracted about eight students. "Now, we're pretty much over-enrolled, and that's wonderful. In some sections of ["Introduction to the Study of Religion"] we try to cap it at eighteen or twenty, and we'll have thirty," he said. Rhodes's course "Meanings of Death" has drawn as many as 120 students. He capped the course at forty, but it still fields as many as fifty.

"When I first came here, a significant number of students thought the academic study of religion was unfaithful to their own religious identity," said Rhodes, the fifty-five-year-old Donald L. Rogan Professor of Religious Studies. "We've been doing a really good job of addressing that. If you have faith, it can stand up to any questions. And I think a place like Kenyon has, by and large, been much more open to questioning."

Many students in religious-studies courses have more than an academic interest in their subjects, Rhodes said. Those people are "looking for some anchor or points of reference ... a kind of foundation for a life of service" beyond a professional career.

#### THE EVANGELICAL EDGE

*Proselytizing* is not part of the professorial package, and that extends to religious groups on campus, Stevens said.

"Religious people on campus are not here to convert you," Stevens said. "We all believe that we're dealing with something that's right and good and has truth in it, ultimate truth. But we're not going to force you into our assumptions."

As a Southern Baptist, Thomas Lewis '09 is at home with the evangelical tradition. But he found himself uncomfortable when the College leased the Kenyon Athletic Center for a three-day Will Graham Celebration in early October. Graham is the grandson of the Rev. Billy Graham and son of the Rev. Franklin Graham, who stirred controversy with comments decrying Islam.

Lewis believed the celebration on the Kenyon campus was inappropriate, and his experiences as a participant in similar crusades have left him skeptical of their long-term spiritual value.

The twenty-year-old Memphis, Tennessee, native is a religious studies major considering both academic and clerical careers. He has shifted his Baptist orientation to become a Cooperative Baptist, "old school," as he said, with renewed emphasis on tolerance.

"I don't want to say that I've lost my evangelical edge, but I'm more interested now in what other people are thinking rather than just trying to convert them into my way of thinking," Lewis said.

"When students come to college, they're away from their parents. If they grew up religious, they're away from their churches," he said. "They encounter the party scene. They encounter professors who will challenge them to really think outside the box."

"What I really find in the student body is a group of seekers. I don't see them going to worship very much," he said. "I feel like the religious students on this campus are not really comfortable going to an organized place that maybe they've grown up in."

Spurred by the Will Graham event, Lewis started to show up at meetings of the Board of Spirituality and Religious Thought and came up with an idea to help students who are confused about their faith or just want to talk about religion. Lewis pictures a group of students who, after training, will become sounding boards or advisors for their puzzled peers.

The notion is intriguing to Bragin, who emphasized the need for proper training of student advisors. The board is considering the idea, he said.

#### THE SOUND OF ONE GONG CHIMING

A small statue of Buddha sets the tone when the gong sounds to start Zen Buddhist meditation at 10:15 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in Fink House. Jessica Francois '09 leads about a dozen students, starting each forty-five-minute session with a strike on a metal "singing bull."

The twenty-year-old Yorktown Heights, New York, resident has never attended church on a regular basis but is interested in religion and familiar with her mother's Roman Catholic tradition and the Jewish faith of hometown friends.

She dabbled in meditation techniques as early as middle school and took a course in Buddhist thought and practice in her first year at Kenyon.

"I think that lots of people who grew up in the Western religious traditions find it really interesting because you don't have a specific god figure," she said. The core practice of living fully in the moment is an attraction for Francois.

But she is not ready to declare herself a Buddhist. "For me, meditation is more of a spiritual experience," she said. "Lots of people use it as a time to pull their lives together, to get centered."

She knows many students who attend church while at Kenyon, but most students are open to the religions of others and want to share those experiences.

"Most people view religion as a journey, not a constant state. That's the way most students at Kenyon are," Francois said. "You always achieve a different level of understanding. You're questioning."

Questioning is a part of self-reflection, something the Kenyon student does with more frequency than students at other colleges, based on survey results. Of the Kenyon students surveyed, 83.8 percent engaged in self-reflection weekly, topping the national number, 64.1 percent.

Self-reflection speaks to the nature of the student and the place. The quest for religious truth on this campus begins with that reflection. What starts with the mind often embraces the spirit as well. ☸

*Mark Ellis joined the staff of the Office of Public Affairs in 2007, after a career in print journalism. Mark was the city editor at the Columbus Dispatch, where he also worked as a news and features reporter. This is his first feature for the Bulletin.*



Trestle parties. Bagging. Spring Riot. Allstu wars.  
Kenyon's unique character owes a lot to the unofficial traditions  
and flights of frivolity that students have always  
invented, all by themselves.

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# ONLY AT KENYON

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Let us now praise tribal bonds.

The trestle, with its subversive allure. The urge to catapult drenching bombs off dorm roofs. Philander's Well, and the primal streams that watered it. The Scrotum Pole, and the primal screams that vaulted it.

We are talking about Kenyon traditions here. No, not the College's gown-clad ceremonies and officially sanctioned rites of passage. We are celebrating the unofficial and the antic, the juvenile and faintly perverse: the rituals and taboos, collective trials and persistent superstitions, the rites (and wrongs) that students have invented for themselves, generation after prankish generation.

Why does one touch the post (aka the Scrotum Pole) between the College gates (aka the Gates of Hell) for luck?

What led that goodly race of Kenyon men to hold an annual springtime ceremony devoted to anointing the A\*\*hole of the Year?

These are complex anthropological questions. Every far-flung island has customs that enact deep-seated fears, express elemental yearnings, and enforce cultural norms. This business of coming of age, whether in Samoa or Gambier, always deals in primal stuff.

Rather than dissect or psychoanalyze, however, we aim here simply to present some of that stuff, self-reported by the natives—i.e., you. Last fall, in the *Kenyon News Digest* (our e-mail newsletter), we asked alumni to send us their memories of “unofficial traditions.” You responded with anecdotes that give a glimpse of, um . . . that offer insights into, er . . . well, we'll let the anthropologists finish this sentence.

Suffice it to say that you provided ample evidence that “community” at Kenyon exists, and endures, partly because students create it and perpetually renew it—effortlessly, just by being young.

Enjoy this sampling of self-made traditions. And send us more.

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BY DAN LASKIN | ILLUSTRATIONS BY JONATHAN CARLSON





### Fraternizing and Harmonizing

Fraternity traditions fall into a category of their own. It would take far more than a mere magazine article to list even a fraction of the rituals and customs that govern (if that's not too tame a word) fraternity life. Not to mention that a good many fraternity rites are secret.

One former fraternity tradition deserves mention here, though, if only because it was so public, so popular, and so much a part of the texture of campus life: singing on the Path. For many years, following their meetings on Tuesday night, the fraternity men would march down Middle Path from Bexley Hall south to the dorms, four abreast, arms linked, singing their groups' songs. At one time, all of the fraternities had songbooks provided by their national organizations, with arrangements of the songs in four-part harmony.

Many alumni, and older Gambier residents as well, have fond memories of those evenings. Onlookers would pause to listen. Some would join in and march along. Faculty children drifting off to sleep would catch strains of song that rose to their windows. According to Thomas Boardman Greenslade's history of Kenyon, "Visitors would sometimes make it a point to come to Gambier on Tuesday evenings just to listen."

The book also notes the tradition of singing songs after dining, with a major sing taking place on Sundays after the noon meal. (See "Of Pranks and Songs and Sodden Peep Nights" on page 64, by

Douglas W. Downey '51, for more on the Peirce Hall Sunday sing and other traditions.)

The weekly sing along Middle Path was still going strong in the mid-1960s. By the early seventies, it had disappeared. Perhaps the arrival of women hastened this change in campus culture. More likely, the singing ceased because youth culture itself changed.



### The Boisterous Past

Boys will be boisterous. When Kenyon was a stag affair, traditions often emerged from the urge to lock horns. Starting in the 1920s, the first weeks of the academic year included a freshman-sophomore fight. There was also a frosh-soph tug-of-war, with the classes facing each other from opposite banks of the Kokosing River.

For sheer mayhem, however, nothing matches Cane Rush, which sometimes took place at Benson Field, at halftime during a football game, and sometimes on the lawn north of Ascension Hall. Greenslade provided a description in *Kenyon College: Its Third Half Century*:

"A cane was placed upright in the middle of the field and the sophomores and freshmen lined up at opposite ends. At a given signal there was a rush for the cane. The class having the greater number of hands on the cane at the end of a certain time interval was declared the winner."

The description doesn't do justice to the chaotic nature of the event, which generally ended in a pile of writhing bodies. The incentive to "win" was strong: If the freshmen prevailed, the restrictions imposed on them (beanies, etc.) would be relaxed.





### Relief at the Well

The site of Philander Chase's well, a few yards from the middle of Wiggin Street near the College gates, is a humble but venerable Gambier landmark. It was actually Chase's second well, his first attempt (closer to Old Kenyon) having failed to find water. But, never mind; the point is that this site evokes the heroic era of our founding and summons up all sorts of stirring, liquid metaphors—drawing water from the well of wisdom, slaking the thirst for knowledge, and so on.

Long after the College stopped tapping the well, students found a distinctly non-metaphorical use for it. By the 1960s, the well survived only as a pothole-like depression in the roadway. In other words, a natural pit stop, centrally located between the beverage-brimming party you had just left and the dorm bathroom that suddenly seemed too far away for your ever more pressing need. Usually there was standing water visible at the bottom, which served as a kind of invitation.

Hence the innocent tradition of relieving oneself in Philander's Well. Watering the well became part of the rhythm of campus evenings. A rustic pleasure—which, through repeated indulgence, grew into an assumed entitlement. And, in its own way, an affectionate recognition of the well's historic stature.

It's not surprising, then, that when the state highway people patched the pothole in 1965, students rebelled. According to Edward Ordman '64, Kenyon

students actually tore up the state's handiwork several times before a solution was found. The hole would be filled, but the site would be marked by a round plaque. The plaque, bearing the words "Philander Chase Well 1826-1965," was accidentally paved over a few years ago, but later uncovered. It is there today, trod on but dry.



### Bagging

It was the early sixties, pre-hippie and pre-permanent-press. Which is to say that Kenyon men (it was also pre-women) still wore actual shirts that needed actual ironing. A new, space-age material was sweeping the country: plastic.

Enter the plastic bag and a whole new world of possibilities. In brief, Kenyon students discovered that the dry cleaner was packing their freshly laundered shirts inside an ingeniously simple new inspiration for mischief. What could be easier or more satisfying? Remove shirt from bag. Add water. Seal shut. And launch the bulging bombulet from a handy tree, window, or roof—aiming, of course, for an unsuspecting passer-by below.

Splat. Gush. Drench.

By the late 1960s, according to one account, the Delta Phi fraternity had a "bagging machine" made of surgical tubing and a plastic bucket—in effect, a catapult for water balloons. Pranksters would let fly from the roof of Hanna Hall. With practice, a skilled bagger could score a direct hit on a victim emerging from Leonard, across the way. In one case, reportedly, the water bomb landed on a student's mother.





### Down by the Trestle

An eloquent *Bulletin* writer once called the old railroad trestle spanning the Kokosing River a “capital of the unofficial Kenyon,” part of the “ungoverned domain created by students” on the periphery of campus, an escape from “obligation and intellectual regimen—from analysis, exactitude, order, deadlines.”

Trestle traditions include “trestle parties,” some of which apparently took place when the trains still ran. There’s a story about a group of students, gathered at the trestle with a keg, who had the bright idea of stopping the train and offering a beer to the engineer. Some time later, a federal official paid a visit to Dean of Students Tom Edwards. It seems that the unscheduled stop had forced a temporary halt in all rail traffic between Mansfield, Ohio, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

“Trestle jumping” was also popular. One would think that these daring leaps were pretty dangerous, but the divers knew where the deep pools were, or were lucky. In any case, the history of Kenyon tragedies doesn’t include any trestle-jumping deaths.

And then there was the “A\*\*hole of the Year” election, conducted at the trestle on the hung-over Sunday morning of Spring Dance Weekend—or, by one account, in the dark hours after midnight. The heyday of this event seems to have been in the sixties, just prior to coeducation, although several alumni from the early seventies remember an additional vote for the “A\*\*hole Couple of the Year.”

Perversely, some candidates actually sought the honor; they would climb into the superstructure of the bridge to make campaign speeches. Mean-spirited as it sounds, the event may have offered the campus jocks a ritualized, back-handed way of recognizing the nerds: paying homage in the guise of scorn. Then again, maybe it was just flat-out mean.

In any case, a nameless trustee still remembers the drinking song that accompanied the festivities. Sung to the tune of “Oh My Darlin’ Clementine,” it went: “I’m an a\*\*hole, I’m an a\*\*hole, I’m an a\*\*hole ’til I die!”



### Spring Riot

The last ice melts from Middle Path. The breezes grow warmer. The mud dries. Tender leaves sprout, and birds warble their praises for the new green season.

A young person’s thoughts turn, naturally, to—burning sofas.

The concept was simple enough. Build a bonfire in a central spot on south campus, and feed it with, well, anything. We’re not sure when Spring Riot started, but the tradition lasted into the 1990s. The impulse probably owes less to hormones than to the need to purge the pent-up stresses of an academic year and shuck off the tedium of a long, dreary winter. Spring Riot was pure catharsis.

“It was a great way to blow off steam at the end of the semester, with comps and term papers looming,” wrote Peter Whitcopf ’90. “Scores of people would stand



around the fire, most drinking beer (it was legal then if you were over eighteen), taking turns throwing stuff in. My senior year, I threw a copy of my comps paper in, and it felt great.

"Among the more memorable items I saw thrown into the fire were an ugly sofa and foosball table, and an ancient (for the eighties) computer terminal some physics major dug up somewhere. It is a wonder nobody was hurt when the thing exploded."

Indeed, safety became an issue, as did vandalism. Students began to throw things like fireworks and aerosol cans into the fire. They also threw in College-owned furniture. So the authorities decided to put out the fire, forever. Students still have their riotous moments, but Spring Riot ignites no more.



### Allstu Wars

For anyone who has spent time at Kenyon during the Era of E-mail, the term "allstu" needs no explanation. For others, let's start by noting that this phenomenon, although a product of modern technology, fits perfectly into the age-old Kenyon culture of insularity breeding community spiced with verbal virtuosity resulting at times in communal lunacy.

At Kenyon, you see, unlike almost every other college in the world, the e-mail network is all but wide open. If you have a College network account, you can blanket the campus with ads for upcoming speakers, pleas for the return of lost scarves, or diatribes about absolutely anything. All you have to do is send to "allstu" (for all students) and/or "allemp"

(for all employees). You can send as many messages as you want. There's no censorship, no screening, no limits.

It's true that people can opt out of those mass e-mails. But the realm of the allstu remains a teeming marketplace of ideas, or at least utterances. And it's a free-for-all, where, at any hour of the day or (especially) night, students not only announce, inform, and urge, but also beseech, cavort (linguistically), debate, declaim, free-associate, poke, prod, rhapsodize, tease, and vent.

The debate sometimes escalates, with one message or exchange setting off a chain of responses that can run for days. Civility usually makes a few appearances during these "allstu wars." Wit and humor flavor many postings. Some are hilarious. But the tone can also degenerate into insult, poor taste, sarcasm, and vulgarity: Kenyon students at not quite their finest.

Some of the most virulent allstu wars involve gender and sexual-orientation issues, and questions of political correctness. But any topic can spark a skirmish. One Wednesday in November, for example, students sparred over the virtues of the band Radiohead, responding to an initial post titled "The Radiohead Myth." Comments ranged from "Their soul is unmusical and I find their disciples sadly uncritical," to "So tell us your point or get over yourself," to "You're stupid."



### You Must Remember This

For the past decade or so, a few students have maintained—and unsystematically added to—a list of practices, places, people, habits, coinages, and daily doings that will strike a chord with recent alumni. The items



are not traditions per se, but they're similar in that they belong to shared experience, instantly recognized and remembered as distinctive parts of living in Gambier.

The list is called, bizarrely, the Kenyon Cheese Compendium. Our sources say that it was originally published by Greg Hannahs '97 and the Secret Underground Cheese Kids (we don't understand, either), then passed along in the manner of a sacred text, or at least a running joke. Our copy has well over 300 items. Here are just a few:

- Spelling words with "K" or "Ph," as in "Kamp Kenyon" or "Philander's Phun Phebruary Phling"
- Not stepping on the seal in the entry hall of Peirce
- Kenyon cornstalk T-shirts
- Calling Columbus (Ohio) "C-Town"
- Extendo
- Going to the cemetery to write poetry
- Posing as the Renaissance statue in front of the Renaissance statue
- Open hours at the observatory
- The "must use tongs" sign on the bagel case in the bookstore
- Making out in the train by the Kokosing Gap Trail
- Making out at Sunset Point
- Making out in the library (oh, come on, you know you have at least once)
- Calling Mount Vernon "the Vern"
- Getting lost in Mather or McBride
- Sledding down the Ernst hill on lunch trays
- The yellow package slips in the post office
- The Christmas lights on Middle Path in winter
- The "dork bell" in the library (if you're not there late enough to hear it, you're not a true nerd)
- Trying to catch a bat in your room
- Feeling like you're not connected to the outside world

#### MORE, PLEASE

Thanks to all the alumni who sent us anecdotes and memories about unofficial Kenyon traditions and other characteristically Kenyonesque customs and events. We're sorry we don't have space to publish them all. But keep them coming. Perhaps a future issue of the *Bulletin* will feature "Only at Kenyon, Part II."




#### The Pull of the Pole

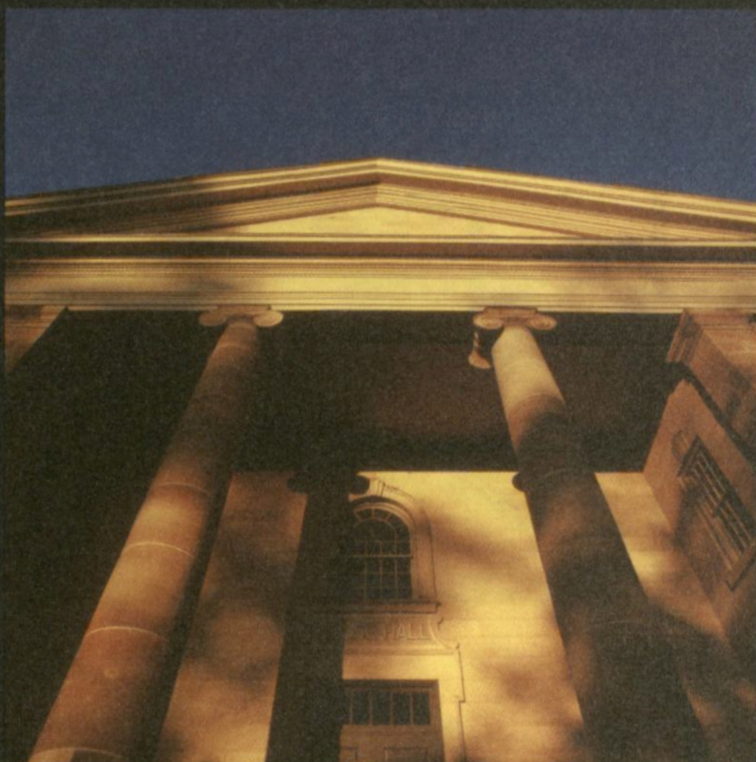
The center post at the College gates has been a focal point for both superstition and initiation.

Recent alumni report that, going through the gates—especially around exam time—they would touch the weathered stone pole for luck. "I found myself touching the stone every time I passed," wrote Grace Culbertson '05, "even though I was sure it had been peed on fairly regularly."

For older alumni, the central pole is indelibly linked to the indignities inflicted on freshmen—hazing-like rules that pre-date World War II. There were required caps and beanies. There was a "pajama parade night," when the first-years were forced to crawl in a line while singing "There Is a Hell for Freshmen." And there was the leapfrog: all freshmen had to leap, spread-legged, over the post whenever they went through the College gates.

It doesn't look forbiddingly tall, this post. But it's anatomically evocative, a sturdy, stumpy, vaguely uncomfortable reminder of one's own softer parts. Kenyon men made sure to aim high, so as to avoid collisions with what came to be known as the Scrotum Pole. 





# GOLDEN SEASON

A certain slant of light against the pillars of Rosse, the surrounding foliage blazing the stones' Greek revival beauty. Purple veils of fog hovering over the meadows at dawn. The rich burl of the chapel's beams.

A world of gracious proportions, nestled in nature's splendor.

To those of us moved by the beauty of Kenyon, there is no season quite like fall. Lit by autumn's poignant palette of tender purples, fiery reds, and heartbreaking golds, or shadowed in the waning of abbreviated days, our hilltop campus summons memories and kindles aspirations.

Last fall, the *Bulletin* invited photographer Jeff Corwin to capture the glory of Kenyon in its most iconic season. Now we invite you to experience the results of his visit. Linger with us in the landscape we love: touched by the turning of the year, but timeless in the way it calls to us.

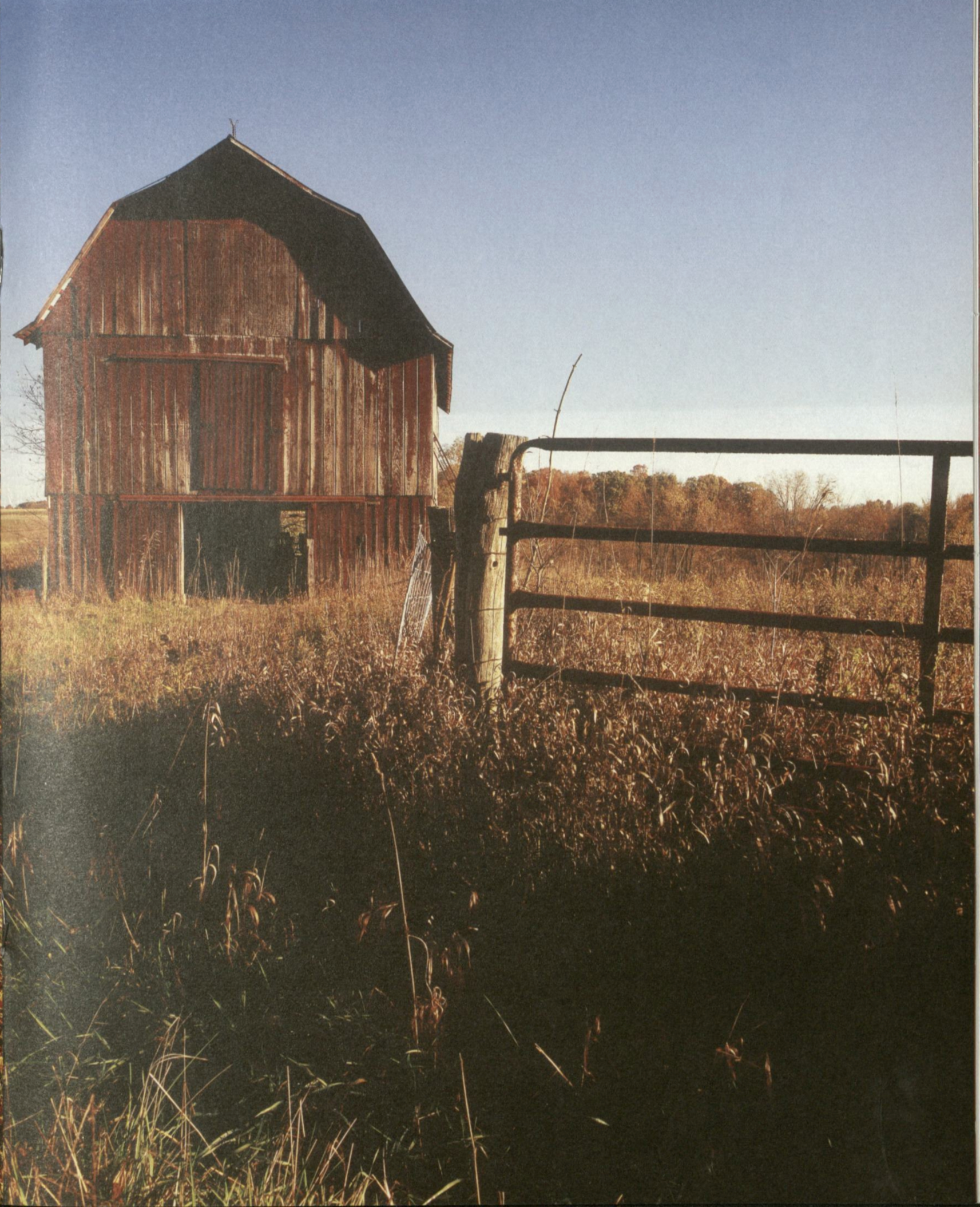
PHOTOS BY JEFF CORWIN





































# STRUGGLING WITH A SECRET

In *Falling*, veteran young-adult author Doug Wilhelm '74 depicts teenage turmoil with authenticity and sensitivity

At school, ninth-grader Matt Shaw seems like a regular kid. He's a solid student, comes from a middle-class family, and lives in a good neighborhood in an all-American small town.

But behind the accent of normalcy, Matt's family life is falling apart. His older brother, who still lives at home, has begun using drugs, and Matt is afraid to tell anyone because he doesn't want his brother to go to jail. His parents, well-meaning but distracted, haven't caught on yet. And Matt, struggling with the implications of his secret, has become withdrawn, giving up his spot on the basketball team and pulling away from his best friend, KJ.

He wonders what life is all about, or even if it's worth figuring out—until he meets Katie, a sparkling fifteen-year-old classmate who loves to ask questions.

*Falling*, Doug Wilhelm's eleventh novel for young adults, takes on two tough subjects: falling in love and falling out of innocence. It's not new territory for Wilhelm, whose 2003 young adult novel *The Revealers* told the story of three seventh graders who are beleaguered by bullies and decide to confront their tormenters and the culture that fosters bullying behavior.

*The Revealers* was based on Wilhelm's research and his own experiences as an adolescent, and it touched a nerve across the country. Hundreds of schools, libraries, and communities have used the book as a platform for exploring the problem of bullying and how kids can deal with it, and Wilhelm has visited schools to talk with discussion and support groups.

*Falling* (published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2007) promises to have a similar impact. With authentic main characters and a plot as taut as a mystery novel, it depicts teenage turmoil with honesty and sensitivity. Matt's journey from disaffection to confrontation takes him through some pretty rough patches, but in the end, he discovers that there are some people you can trust. It's a lesson that will resonate with kids from all backgrounds.

—Traci Vogel



[EXCERPT]

*In Matt's neighborhood* the new green leaves were just unfurling on the trees. They made Grove Street, as he walked along it, seem leafy and sheltering. The cars whizzed by too fast, rushing out of town. The houses out here were all nice, the lawns manicured, then you came to the country club, with its deep-green golf course undulating along the left side of the road. Matt, walking away from town, pulled on his headphones and pulled up his hood. He selected a song and turned up the sound. Against a big beat, Tupac Shakur started saying it was just him against the world.

Matt loved a certain type of deep-city hip-hop, a certain type of song. He had pulled the stuff he liked off audio sites and CDs till his player was a solid little cabinet of the ones that fit him, that spoke to him. The iPod was his one and only companion. He trusted it like a friend. It held his music.

Out here it was raining very softly now, like a mist in the air. The bright and delicate new green of spring was everywhere, freshly growing on the trees and the lawns, sometimes mingled with the dark green of pine trees. Matt did notice the new green, and he knew it wouldn't last. Nothing lasted. As he came past the golf course, the rain started thickening. A few players hurried off the course into the clubhouse in white carts, and in the parking lot a few others were stowing clubs in the trunks of their nice cars. Out on the road, Matt walked by the golf people unseen, as if he and they were creatures in a divided universe. He kept on walking.

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## reviews



### PRESERVING NEW YORK: WINNING THE RIGHT TO PROTECT A CITY'S LANDMARKS

By Anthony C. Wood '76  
Routledge Press

It sounds like something out of a fairy tale, but a corner of East 79th Street on New York's Upper East Side was once home to a replica of a sixteenth-century Loire Valley chateau. Built by manufacturing magnate Isaac Brokaw in 1887, the mansion stood for nearly a century as one of what the *New York Times* called the city's "finest examples of the baronial and classical homes of New York's kingly merchants and bankers . . . extravagant, luxurious constructions designed with pride and pardonable ostentation."

Then, in 1965, the wrecking ball arrived. Preservationists lost the subsequent fight over keeping the mansion, but they won the bigger battle. That year, New York enacted its Landmarks Law and established the Landmarks Preservation Commission to protect sites "thirty years old or older" that had historical interest or value "as part of the development, heritage, or cultural characteristics of the city, state, or nation."

In *Preserving New York*, Anthony C. Wood gives the background to this drama. While urban legend tells us that New York's Landmarks Law began with the fight over Penn Station, Wood unearths a far more interesting story reaching back to the 1800s, complete with historic photos of key players and landmarks. By giving the history behind the history, Wood has created a compelling document worthy of coffee-table browsing and deeper study.

—T.V.

### ABC TRAVEL GUIDES FOR KIDS

By Matthew G. Rosenberger '89  
ABC Travel Guides for Kids

During a family trip to Boston in 2001, Matthew Rosenberger noticed that his two-year-old daughter was just as fascinated by her new surroundings as the adults were. If only, he thought, there were a travel guide to help kids learn about a new city's landmarks.

And so *ABC Travel Guides for Kids* was born. Full of colorful photos of iconic places arranged by the letter of the alphabet, the books guide kids through Manhattan (from the American Museum of Natural History to the famous Zabar's gourmet shop), Philadelphia (the Art Museum at Avenue of the Arts to the Zooballoon), and, in a brand new addition to the series, Boston (the Aquarium to Zakim Bridge).

Each book includes a map of the city that shows where the landmarks are located, and the Boston book features factoids along with

the photos. The featured landmarks are chosen for their child-friendliness (Tadpole Playground and Whale Watch tours in Boston, for example). The sturdy little books make great souvenirs—and, who knows, they may just turn your child into a virtuoso globetrotter, one letter at a time. —T.V.

### TRINITY: A HAYDN & SPEAKER MYSTERY

By Reed Browning  
Xoxox Press

The versatile Reed Browning has once again happily enlarged his intellectual range. Browning, who retired last year after four decades on the history faculty, has won recognition not only as a teacher and scholar but also as a chronicler of baseball history. He's an avid amateur composer, too.

Now he brings us a mystery novel, one that embraces arson, Herodotus, and the

### OF INTEREST

#### NONFICTION

**Jim Reisler '80**, *The Best Game Ever: Pirates 10, Yankees 9: October 13, 1960* (Carroll & Graf). "Nothing like it had ever happened before—or has ever happened since." With equal measures of authority and verve, Reisler skillfully weaves together the back-stories, subplots, personalities, and inning-by-inning dramas that culminated in Bill Mazerowski's famous game-seven, bottom-of-the-ninth, World Series-ending home run. Baseball fans will savor this book for its detail and enthusiasm, its relishing of the colorful world that is our national pastime.

**Jessica Dorfman Jones '91**, *The Art of Cheating: A Nasty Little Book for Tricky Little Schemers and Their Hapless Victims* (Pocket Books). The clever subtitle sets the tone for this highly amusing book,

which is not really a manual for wrongdoing but rather a deft piece of cultural commentary. With chapters ranging from "Faking Beauty" to "Cheating on a Diet"—and, more seriously, from "Cheating on Your Significant Other" to "Falsifying Your Résumé"—Jones has our collective number. Her book will make you squirm, and laugh.

#### FICTION

**Jonathan Kleinbard '60**, *Sons* (New Academia Publishing). Kleinbard's novel springs from an emotionally complex situation—a famous writer with three sons, each by a different marriage, each struggling with issues of his own. The tale is told by the writer's amanuensis, which adds another layer of complexity.



secret lives of small-college denizens. In *Trinity*, we meet Connie Haydn, a retired philosophy professor who favors "Nietzsche is Peachy" sweatshirts, and Shrug Speaker, Haydn's self-described "would-be theologian sidekick." A retired farmer on his deathbed hires them to solve a years-old mystery: Was the man who died in prison for the murder of Vince d'Amato the real culprit; and if not, who was the killer? As Haydn and Speaker start turning over old stones, the secrets they unearth threaten their small town's sense of stability and lead to a bloody warning delivered with the morning paper.

Originally published online in serial form, *Trinity* can be downloaded in its entirety from the website of Xoxox Press ([www.xoxoxpress.com](http://www.xoxoxpress.com)), which is based in Gambier and run by Jerry Kelly '96. Because it's a gripping, fast read, the online format works well, although it is also formatted for printing out. As the publisher notes, it's a "page-turner or screen-scroller, as the case may be." And while we don't want to give away any secrets, the twist at the end will have you redefining the idea of a "mastermind." —T.V.

#### EUROPE AT BAY: IN THE SHADOW OF U.S. HEGEMONY

By Alan W. Cafruny '74 and Magnus Ryner  
Lynne Rienner Publishers

When the celebrated Maastricht Treaty established the framework for what we now know as the European Union in 1993, hopes rode high. The treaty gave citizens the right to move to and live in any member state, led to a universal currency, and set out promising economic and social agreements. The EU would challenge the United States's dominance on the world scene, boosters said, and solidify a pan-European identity among the separate states.

In *Europe at Bay*, Alan W. Cafruny takes off the rose-colored glasses and investigates the current state of the EU. Working

against orthodox analyses, Cafruny argues that various problems plaguing the EU—slow economic growth, high unemployment, and weakened social cohesion—reflect not a crisis of integration but rather the limitation of neoliberal policies and the fact that global economic structures work to maintain the pre-eminence of the U.S.

Cafruny, who is the Henry Platt Bristol Professor of International Affairs at Hamilton College, and his co-author render what Fred Block of the University of California, Davis, calls a "brilliant, polemical work of intellectual synthesis"—one that those invested in the future of Europe would do well to ponder.

—T.V.



## Closer Introducing Real Analysis

Carol S. Schumacher

#### RECENT FACULTY BOOKS

**Sarah Blick**, editor, *Beyond Pilgrim Souvenirs and Secular Badges: Essays in Honour of Brian Spencer* (Oxbow Books); associate editor, *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage: Journey, Spirituality and Daily Life Through the Centuries* (CD-ROM, Centre for Christianity and Culture).

**Ted Buehrer**, *How to Listen to and Appreciate Jazz* (sound recording, Recorded Books).

**Scott D. Cummings**, **Rosemary A. Marusak**, and **Kate Doan**, *Integrated Approach to Coordination Chemistry: An Inorganic Laboratory Guide* (John Wiley & Sons).

**Bruce L. Kinzer**, *J.S. Mill Revisited: Biographical and Political Explorations* (Palgrave Macmillan).

**Matthew W. Maguire**, *The Conversion of Imagination: From Pascal through Rousseau to Tocqueville* (Harvard University Press).

**Evelyn K. Moore** and **Patricia Anne Simpson**, editors, *The Enlightened Eye: Goethe and Visual Culture* (Rodopi).

**Carol S. Schumacher**, *Closer and Closer: Introducing Real Analysis* (Jones and Bartlett).

**Judy R. Smith**, *Yellowbird* (Lewis-Clark Press/Sandhills Press).

**Hideo Tomita**, *Essentials of Japanese Grammar for Teachers: from Theory to Practice* (Kurosio).

**Stephen C. Volz** and **Part T. Mgadla**, translators and editors, *Words of Batswana: Letters to Mahoko a Becwana, 1883-1896* (Van Riebeeck Society).



## BURNING QUESTION

Students have always loved popular music, and in recent decades music scholars have been giving it more serious attention. Old dichotomies like highbrow-lowbrow are fading as groups like the Beatles enter the musical canon. Is this simply a debasing of culture, or is there value in studying pop? We asked Assistant Professor of Music Victoria Malawey.

## WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM BRITNEY AND MADONNA?

**A:** It's wrong to assume that mass appeal and musical excellence are mutually exclusive. Numerous pop stars produce music that is just as worthy of analytic attention as centuries-old masterpieces, and many musical techniques are ubiquitous in Western tonal music—regardless of style.

Consider the hit "Bills, Bills, Bills," by the now disbanded pop singing group Destiny's Child. The song uses a common chord progression based on a descending bass line that has been associated with lament for centuries. Monteverdi used it, in his "Lamento della Ninfa." So did Purcell, in *Dido and Aeneas*; and Beethoven, in the Waldstein Sonata.

Variants on this bass line can also be found in songs by the Eagles, Lenny Kravitz, Jim Croce, and Madonna. The styles differ drastically, but the songs share this musical construct, and in most cases it produces a similar emotional effect.

Even some of the most sophisticated musical structures are apparent in many pop songs. A highly complex rhythmic phenomenon called "metric modulation" is used in works by American composer Elliott Carter, who coined the term, but also in several Beatles songs ("Bungalow Bill" and "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds") and a song by Björk ("Desired Constellation"). Again, the difference between "classical" and "popular" has less to do with the degree of musical complexity than with stylistic traits.

One obvious advantage of adding popular music to the mix of what we study is that students identify with and search for meanings in it. It speaks more directly to them than other genres. Avid listeners, they talk about popular music in the hallways, on Middle Path, in and out of class.

Take the recent release of Radiohead's *In Rainbows*, which caught the attention of the media for its unorthodox distribution. (Consumers may purchase the album electronically on the Internet directly from the band—bypassing the traditional record companies—for whatever price they feel is fair). Even before the album was released, students in my introductory music theory class asked me, "Professor, have you pre-ordered the new Radiohead album? How much did you pay for it?"

Once it was released, we discussed its merits, as well as the economic implications of the band's marketing strategy and how the music relates to topics we were studying in the class. In a more advanced class, I brought in the opening track of the album, "15 Step," as an example of the dorian mode and an asymmetrical composite meter.

Popular music also provides a lens through which we can view cultural issues that arise in some of the courses we teach. Popular musicians have long been offering commentaries on the world, politics, and social questions. Many artists and bands—Björk, Neil Young, Paul Simon, Joni Mitchell, The Dixie Chicks, Green Day, to name a few—have presented such messages in ways that resonate with our students.



Carl De Souza/APP/Getty Images

When I teach "Women and Music," for example, we take the music of transgender artists such as Lucas Silveira (of the Clinks) and Antony Hegarty (of Antony and the Johnsons) as a starting point for understanding cultural constructions of gender. We study k.d. lang's video of Cole Porter's "So in Love" (released as part of the AIDS benefit Red, Hot and Blue) to better understand the

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profound effects of loss due to terminal disease. We also examine the music of Tori Amos, to explore issues surrounding body image, abuse, and gender.

Some female pop artists, moreover, provide particularly good examples of how different types of femininity can be constructed. Britney Spears and Madonna often project sexualized personas in ways that serve, ironically, to empower themselves. Artists like Queen Latifah and Beyoncé consciously embody autonomy and self-assertion. Others, including Ani DiFranco, Courtney Love, and Annie Lennox, subvert conventional notions of what femininity can be. Many of these artists' songs demand scholarly attention because of their socio-cultural meanings.

Ultimately, my students' (and my) passion for pop shapes how and what I teach. And my teaching informs my research, which includes musical analysis and transcription of pop songs. As I share my findings with students, they reciprocate by introducing me to songs and artists I have not heard before. This exchange influences the scholarly work I do and then, in the end, feeds back into the classroom.

At the end of the day, teaching music that students already enjoy is a no-brainer. As Duke Ellington said, "If it sounds good, it is good." Every genre—from country to rock, from jazz to classical—offers music that "sounds good" from which everyone can learn. 

Victoria Malawey teaches music theory and "Musical Structure and Analysis," as well as "Basic Musicianship" and "Women and Music." She did her graduate work at the prestigious conservatory at Indiana University, where her master's thesis was on Brahms and her doctoral dissertation on Björk.

## THE VIRTUES OF CRAZY

Professors know that inspired silliness can bring ideas to life in the classroom

**Y**ou never know what you'll find when you peek inside a professor's pedagogical toolbox. At Kenyon, you may discover a jar of "Gambier air," ready for auction, or a surprise midterm.

Those were just two of the ideas that faculty members shared last fall at a panel discussion on "crazy but effective" teaching practices. The panel was organized by Associate Professor of Mathematics Judy Holdener, who had just started a four-year term as the John B. McCoy-Banc One Distinguished Teaching Professor.

In keeping with the chair's purpose of fostering teaching excellence, Holdener has planned a series of discussions on topics ranging from undergraduate research to the merits and perils of PowerPoint.


The fall panel grew out of an e-mail survey that she had sent to the recently graduated Class of 2007. While the students weighed in on professors who were good lecturers or discussion leaders, who created challenging assignments, and who fostered critical thinking, their most enthusiastic responses addressed a question about classroom craziness.

The panel featured four professors cited by students as particularly adept at bringing ideas to life and making points stick through inspired silliness. Two of these inventive teachers:

**Joel Richeimer** of the philosophy faculty. Students can't cram for Richeimer's midterms, because he doesn't announce when they'll take place. He also arbitrarily changes the value of quizzes—one might

be worth just 10 points, another 100 points—in order to undermine complacency. And he'll repeat quizzes, verbatim, giving *negative* grades if students make even one mistake on the second go-round. All of these diabolical practices are designed to keep students on their toes. "Students come to class on autopilot," said Richeimer. "They know the game very well. I try to sabotage the game."

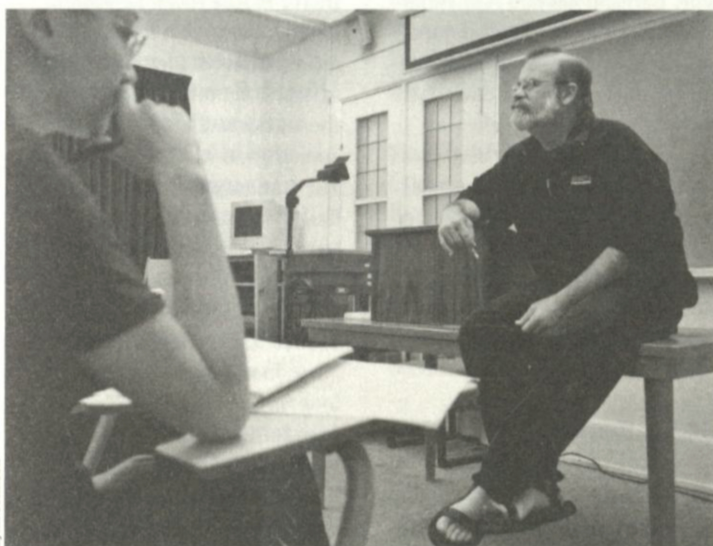
**Pamela Camerra-Rowe** of the political science faculty. Fundamental concepts like "scarcity" have wide-ranging ramifications but can induce yawns in the classroom. Camerra-Rowe gets students to *experience* the idea by holding a mock auction. Her jar of utterly common Gambier air fails to elicit much interest. Not so when she auctions off "the one A I'm going to give out." Camerra-Rowe also demonstrated an exercise in which four people with different preferences have to agree on one way to spend Friday night. There were several perfectly fair ways to decide, but the outcome varied depending on which decision-making process was adopted. Rules matter. Lesson learned.

Other crazy professorial practices: hopping around like a squirrel (Robert Mauck of biology), dressing like a Nazi (Mac McCarthy of sociology), singing Yiddish songs (Fred Baumann of political science). To find out why they do these crazy things, you'll just have to take their courses. 



## DRINKING, NOT DEBAUCHERY

For anthropologist David Suggs, research on college alcohol use involves going to parties—and discovering a neglected responsible majority



Lynn Johnson

Walk down the corridors of a residence hall on nearly any Friday night. Of the students you see in those hallways, who are you most likely to notice?

Probably the handful of drunk ones, according to David Suggs, professor of anthropology. "You can't miss them—they are loud and obnoxious," he says. "But you don't notice the two hundred other students who walk by, many of whom have been drinking alcohol, but who are not drunk and obnoxious."

It's those two hundred students drinking responsibly who have been ignored by most researchers, Suggs says. He wants to change that. For the past six

years, Suggs has studied alcohol use by Kenyon students—the kind that doesn't make headlines, that doesn't result in deadly car crashes or stupid accidents. In short, it is the kind of drinking that many adults enjoy on a regular basis. "If we want to understand collegiate alcohol problems, we first have to understand what is not a problem. We have to understand what leads students to drink alcohol in the first place."

Suggs has approached the research in a typically anthropological way: by doing field research. He has spent many Wednesday and Friday nights in bars, at large fraternity and dorm parties, and at smaller "pre-parties." He has observed social

organizations with names like the Friday Afternoon Drinking Club and the Masters of Beer Pong. While this may invoke images of *Animal House*-style debauchery, the reality is much more mundane, and dare we say it, mature. "Most of the students don't act much like adolescents when they drink; they really are young adults," Suggs says.

That doesn't mean there aren't problems, he emphasizes. But he believes some of the problems we face today are the result of changing the minimum legal drinking age from eighteen to twenty-one in Ohio and around the nation. When the drinking age was eighteen, nearly all college students could drink beer in public, where they learned the concept of "halting points" in front of their friends, their professors, and their neighbors. "As a student, you knew that one of your professors might walk by when you were drinking in a public bar. There were built-in controls to how much you consumed," Suggs says.

Moving the minimum age to twenty-one has not stopped drinking; it has just pushed it underground, where it is more difficult to monitor. One of the consequences is an increase in binge drinking, which is often defined as having five or more drinks in one sitting. But Suggs says that his research suggests that most college students don't binge to get drunk; rather, it is a response to the availability of alcohol in public places.

Students know that they won't have easy access to alcohol in bars or large public parties. As a result, they drink more at the

smaller, private pre-parties they attend before they go out. The goal is to drink enough so that when they go to public parties they can maintain a "moderate state of intoxication" for several hours. "For most students, the pre-party drinking is not a problem, even if it is defined as bingeing," Suggs says. "For a few, it is, particularly when many students come to college without enough experience drinking alcohol to know appropriate halting points."

Suggs says one of the challenges of doing this research has been handling public perceptions. "One of the dilemmas is that some people start thinking you are this advocate for student drinking, and nothing could be further from the truth," he says.

Actually, Suggs's interest in studying alcohol use began long before his focus on college students. For many years in the 1980s, he researched the topic among the people of Botswana, in southern Africa. Many of the issues that he finds among American college students—such as learning halting points—were the same among the young people of Botswana, he says.

In doing his field research in Botswana, as well as at Kenyon, Suggs says he has had to learn to blend into crowds where he was an outsider. "People will ask me how students could accept me when I was with them at parties; didn't I stand out with my white beard and balding head?" Suggs says. "As I told one guy: you think I blended in in Botswana?"



—Jeff Grabmeier



# 1930s

**'31 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'32 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'33 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'34 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'35 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'36 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'37 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**John W. Bingham Jr.**, Foley, Alabama, reports that he is living "the life of O'Reiley" in the deep south with his devoted chocolate lab, Pardner.

**'38 Jay C. Ehle**  
8945 Random Road  
Fort Worth, Texas 76179  
jcehle@charter.net

**Joseph H. Allen**, New Canaan, Connecticut, informs us that he is still playing tennis, playing "cocktail-lounge" piano, traveling, and helping out with community activities.

**'39 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

# 1940s

**'40 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'41 George Lytle**  
14 Lonsdale Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45419  
Co-Agent: Richard H. Stevens  
richstevens@adelphia.net

**'42 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'43 Phillip T. Doughten**  
204 Gooding Avenue, Northwest  
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663  
philmoll@tusco.net

**'44 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'45 H. Noyes Spelman**  
1630 Post Rd. E, Unit 202  
Westport, Connecticut 06880  
gaybowers@hotmail.com

**'46 Kenyon College**  
Office of Public Affairs  
College Relations Center  
Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**Thomas F. Lechner**, Potomac, Maryland, writes that in late June 2007 he competed in four swimming events at the National Senior Olympics, age group eighty to eighty-four, in Louisville, Kentucky. He hoped his Kenyon t-shirt would help him find other alumni swimmers. **Charles H. Porter**, Lake Barrington, Illinois, tells us that at age eighty-three he is still hanging in there strong. His wife, Barbara, has had Alzheimer's disease for about eight years, and he is able to visit her several times a week at the nursing home where she has been living for the past few years. Chuck keeps busy with work, church, bridge, tennis, and helping friends. He is thankful for his good health and reports, "I can still beat my four sons in tennis!"

**'47 Samuel P. Todd Jr.**  
670 Riesling Knoll  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45226  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**'48 60th Reunion 2008**  
**John L. McKenney**  
602 Henry Street  
Apartment 1D  
Eden, North Carolina 27288

**Henry J. Abraham**, Charlottesville, Virginia, reports he received the Daughters of the American Revolution's 2007 National Citizenship/Americanism Award in Constitution Hall of Washington, D.C. **Charles L. Barr Jr.**, St. Charles, Illinois, writes that he enjoys playing golf, as well as writing numerous letters to national and state legislators and to opinion columns for various newspapers. **David W. Endsley** informs us that he has moved to a new address: 1312 Wisconsin Street, Apartment 110, Hudson, Wisconsin 54016.

**'49 Theodore K. Thomas**  
21305 Ann's Choice Way  
Warminster, Pennsylvania 18974  
tedthomas@earthlink.net

# 1950s

**'50 Louis S. Whitaker**  
Wheeling, West Virginia  
stife41@aol.com

**David F. Andrews**, Lewiston, Idaho, reports that he recently retired from his lifelong work in ammunition technology. He was the author and editor of numerous ammunition reloading manuals. **Randolph D. Bucey**, Jensen Beach, Florida, informs us that after thirteen marvelous years of living in Gambier, he and his wife, Ann, have permanently relocated to Florida. Ran also notes, "Our door is always open and we look forward to seeing old Kenyon friends." **Joseph B. Organ**, River Forest, Illinois, writes that he retired nine years ago and is enjoying spending his time at the horse races. "This is something I learned from my Kenyon classmate **John 'Jack' Mooney Jr.**, one of the brightest and most decent people I have known," Joe notes.

**'51 Douglas W. Downey**  
Northbrook, Illinois  
d-downey@sbcglobal.net

**'52 Richard D. Sawyer**  
Nokomis, Florida  
mlgsawyer@aol.com

**F. Reed Andrews Jr.**, Moreland Hills, Ohio, informs us that he has started his fifty-first year of sports car racing in his Honda Civic. Reed was featured in the February 2007 issue of *SportsCar*, the official publication of the Sports Car Club of America, for his fifty years of racing.



**'53 55th Reunion 2008****Ronald R. Ryan**

Jupiter, Florida  
migr617@aol.com

**Arthur W. Sprague Jr.**

La Grange, Illinois  
awsprague@sbcglobal.net

**Thomas H. Bott**, Harwinton, Connecticut, reports that he continues to be busy with numerous volunteer activities. He serves on his local library board and at a camp and conference center and the Trinity Arts Series, is a member of the Connecticut Episcopal Diocesan executive committee, and acts as a *guardian ad litem*. Tom also enjoys visiting and spending time with his children and grandchildren.

**'54 Richard R. Tryon**

Frankfort, Michigan  
keepontryon32@aol.com

**John F. Barton**, Washington, D.C., relates that in retirement he is working as a pastoral caregiver at Sibley Hospital and recently participated in a cancer residency at Washington Hospital to enhance his skills. **Edgar C. Bennett**, Kailua, Hawaii, informs us that in March 2007 he and his wife, Win, traveled to French Polynesia. Ed had cruised the Marquesas Islands in 1979, and he is "sorry to say civilization has arrived—paved roads, municipal services, and tourists. Still, it was a delight to retrace one's steps."

**'55 B. Allen McCormick**

Indianapolis, Indiana  
bamccormick@indy.rr.com

**James A. Hughes Jr.**, Kenilworth, Illinois, reports that in April 2007 he was elected a trustee for the village of Kenilworth. Jim still enjoys working as a compensation consultant on a part-time basis.

**'56 Christian Schoenle**

Phoenix, Arizona  
chris@cfchefs.com

**Frank W. Budd**, Duluth, Minnesota, writes that he is the chairman of his local township's board of directors, and is also active in Rotary.

**'57 Donald A. Fischman**

New York, New York  
fisch@med.cornell.edu

**Henry J. Steck**

Homer, New York  
steckh@cortland.edu

**Paul Todtfeld**, Savannah, Georgia, informs us that he and his wife, Judy, welcomed their sixth grandchild, Avery, on July 20, 2006. The Todtfelds continue to enjoy Savannah but spend their summers in the Berkshire Mountains.

**'58 50th Reunion 2008****Adolph Faller III**

Olmsted Falls, Ohio  
afaller@sbcglobal.net

**'59 William Harley Henry**

Atlantic Beach, Florida  
harleyhen@bellsouth.net

**Donald Bomann Jr.**

Stamford, Connecticut  
realty3@aol.com

**Rev. Canon Jeremy W. Bond**, Grover Beach, California, writes that he and his wife, Kathleen, are "doing fine here in paradise." They are hoping to attend Jeremy's fiftieth reunion at Kenyon in 2009.

**1960s****'60 Robert G. Heasley**

Gambier, Ohio  
bpheas@ecr.net

**Jonathan Kleinbard**, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, informs us that his novel, *Sons*, was just published by New Academia Publishing and is available at amazon.com. His book explores the role of memory in experiencing evil and despair through the eyes of the book's narrator, Tom.

**'61 David C. Brown**

Louisville, Kentucky  
dbrown@stites.com

**R. Hutchins Hodgson Jr.**

Cumming, Georgia  
hhodgson@hotmail.com

**'62 Jonathan S. Katz**

Newton, Massachusetts  
j.katz@ngc.com

**William P. Russell**

St. Charles, Illinois  
bigo2060@comcast.net

**'63 45th Reunion 2008****Neal M. Mayer**

Millsboro, Delaware  
nmayer@mindspring.com

**Calvin S. Frost**

Lake Forest, Illinois  
cfrost@channelledresources.com

**William K. Woods**, Cincinnati, Ohio, reports that in the spring of 2007 he was elected chair of the governing board of Common Cause/Ohio, the state chapter of the national citizens' organization that works for government and political reform.

**'64 Joel D. Kellman**

Huntington Woods, Michigan  
jkellman@dykema.com

**David A. Schmid**

Norwell, Massachusetts  
davidschmid\_dds@hotmail.com

**Lt. Col. Alan M. Bourne**, Lexington, Kentucky, writes that he retired for good in July 2006 and "moved to the heart of Bluegrass," where he is enjoying late mornings, lazy afternoons, and "an occasional glass of good Kentucky bourbon." **D. Douglas Brown**, Indianapolis, Indiana, reports that he is the president of his neighborhood association, as well as a board member of the Indiana Astronomical Society.

**'65 Frederick J. McGavran**

Cincinnati, Ohio  
fmcgavran@fuse.net

**James L. Miller**

North Baltimore, Ohio  
millers45872@peoplepc.com

**'66 David W. Foote**

Wilmette, Illinois  
dwfoote1@sbcglobal.net

**Thomas A. Mason**

Indianapolis, Indiana  
thomas.a.mason@comcast.net

**'67 Alan T. Radnor**

Bexley, Ohio  
atradnor@vssp.com

**'68 40th Reunion 2008****Howard B. Edelstein**

Shaker Heights, Ohio  
hbe@edelsteinfinancial.com

**Rev. Carl H. Beasley III,**

Colorado, Maryland, reports that in November 2006 he chaperoned a group of West Nottingham Academy students on a trip to a sister school, Bangkok Christian College, in Thailand. Hunt plans to retire from teaching at the end of the 2007-08 school year and return to parish ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of Easton (Maryland). **Ronald E. Long**, New York City, informs us that he has been promoted to, and tenured as, an associate professor in the Program in Religion of Hunter College, City University of New York. **Mark E. Sullivan,**



Raleigh, North Carolina, was recently presented with a certificate of appreciation from the State Bar of Texas in recognition of his "dedicated service for providing legal support to U.S. military personnel and their families in Texas." Mark is a retired Army Reserve JAG colonel and practices family law in Raleigh.

'69 **Christopher H. Marty**  
Medina, Ohio  
kitmarty@zoominternet.net

## 1970s

'70 **Stephen T. Scott**  
Willis, Texas  
steve725@hotmail.com

'71 **W. Peter Holloway Jr.**  
Wheeling, West Virginia  
wp.holloway@comcast.net

'72 **Douglas G. Holbrook**  
New York, New York  
dholbrook2@nyc.rr.com

'73 **35th Reunion 2008**  
**R. Benton Gray**  
Avon Lake, Ohio  
rbgraylaw@sbcglobal.net  
**Shelley A. Hainer**  
New York, New York  
sah10025@rcn.com

**R. Benton Gray**, Avon Lake, Ohio, reports that he traveled to China this past October with a delegation of lawyers from the American Association for Justice. The delegation spent time in Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, meeting with people involved in China's evolving legal system and exploring Chinese society. Ben was the only Ohioan, and one of just a few employment law practitioners in the delegation. **Charles H. Semple III**, Louisville, Kentucky, writes that last summer he was cast in the title role in *Mark Twain on the River*, the premiere of an original musical comedy performed on the RiverStage, a floating amphitheater moored at Jeffersonville,

Indiana. The venue "is just a few waves away from where Twain got his first lessons as a steamboat pilot while grounded on the rocks for four days in an 'ancient tub' called the *Paul Jones*."

'74 **Gregg J. DeSilvio**  
Naperville, Illinois  
gdesilvio@alumni.kenyon.edu

**Thomas A. Andrew**, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, informs us that last summer he celebrated twenty years of teaching English and coaching soccer at Moses Brown School in Providence, Rhode Island, by walking England's Coast-to-Coast Path for the fifth time.

**Janet Bloss Shuff**, Southlake, Texas, informs us that she and **Ronald F. Shuff** are the parents of two teenagers, Matthew (sixteen) and Suzanne (fourteen), adding, "God grant me the strength." Her family recently added a black German shepherd named McLovin to its menagerie of dogs and cats. Her new hobbies include ballroom dancing and guns (target shooting, specifically). Janet says that she is presently using revolvers, but that she hopes to become proficient with semi-automatics.

'75 **Maria M. Muto-Porter**  
Phoenix, Arizona  
mutomgt@cox.net

**Jean M. Amabile**, San Francisco, California, reports that she received the Ruth Young Award in recognition of over twenty years of work as a San Francisco public defender. Her two children, William and Liza Mattimore, attend universities in Canada. With a room available in her house, she welcomes guests from Kenyon. **Thomas M. Bruggman**, Luther-ville, Maryland, informs us that his son, Thomas Williams "Twill" Bruggman (two), graduated in June from Baby Friends School. He says Twill is already a great lacrosse player and Hall of Famer. "We only have twenty more years of paying private school and Kenyon College tuitions. Does

that scare you? It does my wife, Julie," Tom states. **Elizabeth Levitt Resnick**, Ridgewood, New Jersey, writes that her two children, Gregory (thirteen) and Amanda (seventeen), are now a freshman and senior in high school, respectively. She and Amanda visited North Carolina this December on a rebuilding mission. Elizabeth says that Kenyon is still one of her best memories and that she would love to catch up with her classmates. She sends "regards to all."

'76 **Michael Young**  
Carlsbad, California  
michael\_young@eisai.com

'77 **Laurence G. Bousquet**  
Syracuse, New York  
lgbousquet@earthlink.net  
**Denise Fink Giordano**  
West Hempstead, New York  
denese602@yahoo.com

**Antonio R. Anziano**, Corte Madera, California, writes that he is taking a break from legal practice and has assumed responsibility for the management of three major bridge projects in the Bay Area: the new East Span of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (SFOBB), the new West Approach to the SFOBB, and the new Benicia-Martinez Bridge.

'78 **30th Reunion 2008**  
**Daniel T. Plummer**  
Lake Charles, Louisiana  
dan.plummer@us.sasol.com

**William M. Carlson** reports that in March 2007 he accepted a new position at NFI Industries of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, in the IT department. He and his wife, Barbara, live with their two children, Matthew (sixteen) and Maya (eight), in Hainesport, New Jersey. In August they celebrated their twentieth anniversary.

'79 **Daniel A. Gulino**  
**Mary Ann Gulino**  
Athens, Ohio  
mgulino@nbia.org

**Kristin Olsen Kiser**, Chevy Chase, Maryland, reports that she and her classmates **Jalmer D. Johnson**, **Nancy Jones Johnson**, **George M. Layburn**, **Diane Massell**, **Virginia S. Peabody**, **Martin A. Secrest**, **Mary Tuck Staley**, and **Susan A. Walsh** had a great time celebrating their fiftieth birthdays in St. Michael's, Maryland. **William S. Whitaker**, Concord, Ohio, and **Hamilton DeSaussure**, Hudson, Ohio, report that "only thirty years after noodling around on acoustic guitars in Gambier," they have decided to start a band. The Jillettes (named for their "chick drummer," Jill) play various northeast Ohio venues and recently took second place at the Akron Bar Association's "Jamming for Justice" battle of the bands. Spotted so far at Jillettes gigs: **Thomas B. Queen** and **Lauren Shaffer Fox**. '80. **Margaret Garland Whitman**, Towson, Maryland, informs us that she has just completed her first year as a school nurse at Calvert School, her alma mater, where her youngest child, Robert (twelve), is a student. Margie writes, "It was a lot of fun—and I am happy to have the summer off!" **Constance de Mauriac Wiener**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, writes that her older daughter, Ariella (twenty-one), is a master scuba diver instructor in Thailand and would like to start a career in scuba diving. Ariella is sending out "world-wide feelers." Any ideas or leads can be emailed to arzparz@hotmail.com.

## 1980s

'80 **Lisa Dowd Schott**  
Mount Vernon, Ohio  
schottl@kenyon.edu

**Cindy A. Poorbaugh**, New York City, informs us that in May she became certified as a psychoanalyst in New York. She plans to continue studying at the Jungian Psychoanalytic Association as she begins to build a practice



in the city. **Robert W. Thomas**, Sewickley, Pennsylvania, writes that he recently visited Monticello with his family, where he saw **Robin H. Gabriel**, the director of education there. He notes that "Monticello has undergone recent restorations and is a great place to visit." He adds, "make sure you visit with Robin."

—  
'81 **Kenyon College**  
bulletin@kenyon.edu

**Peter White Jr.**, Springfield, Illinois, has joined the faculty at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine as a professor of internal medicine, specializing in pulmonary medicine.

—  
'82 **Brian K. Wilbert**  
Oberlin, Ohio  
bwilbert@oberlin.net

**Michael K. Zorek**, New York City, informs us that his son, Jeremy (five), has been cast as the son of Julianna Margulies and Aidan Quinn in the new Fox series, *Canterbury's Law*. The show was scheduled to begin in January and air on Thursday nights at 9:00 p.m. Jeremy, seen only in flashbacks, has shot one episode and may have a recurring role in the program.

—  
'83 **25th Reunion 2008**  
**Reid W. Click**  
Washington, D.C.  
rclick@gwu.edu  
**Gregg O. Courtad**  
Canton, Ohio  
courtad@muc.edu

**Frederik S. Barends** married Rachel Beecraft on June 9, 2007, in Lancaster, Ohio. Fred's children, Hannah (eleven), Peter (eight), and Parker (four), were all in the wedding party as bridesmaid and groomsmen. **David P. Thomas** '81 and **Chester A. Baker** '81 served as ushers. Fred and Rachel honeymooned in Jamaica. Additionally, Fred tells us that in 2007 he coached Capital University's first NCAA Track All-American

## A WORLD MORE VIVID

Jeremy Harrison '82 traverses the Arctic wilderness by canoe

Jeremy Harrison '82 remembers with awe the feeling he had when the caribou herd went past his campsite.

"We just sat there for an hour watching them stream past. We were so close we could smell them and hear their breathing, and their hooves clicking against the rocks on the tundra."

This was just one of many awe-inspiring moments on a remarkable Arctic canoe trip that Harrison undertook last summer with his twin sons and a team of friends. Seeking a deep-wilderness experience, and hoping to raise money for conservation, the team paddled and hauled their craft across eight hundred miles of snow, ice, tundra, and sand, from McLeod Bay, on Great Slave Lake in Canada's Northwest Territories, to Chantrey Inlet on the Arctic Ocean.

In the process, they traversed the Barren Grounds, a region in northern Canada that, despite its name and treeless landscape, teems with life. During the trip, from June through early August, the voyagers exchanged stares with grizzly bears and watched a wolverine approach and trot off. They saw wolves, musk oxen, and countless birds.

Harrison, who teaches art and computer graphics at an independent school in the suburbs of Boston, had dreamed of a trip like this for a long time. As a boy, he spent summers in a Minnesota wilderness program called Camp Kooch-i-ching. When his twin sons, Sam and Alex, got old enough to go to the camp, he started volunteering at Kooch-i-ching in exchange for their tuition.

"Over the years I have come to appreciate the feeling of connection to the wilderness I get from canoe tripping," says Harrison. "For me, life becomes so intense on these trips that I see the world more vividly."

"I thought to be able to share that with my sons and close friends would be particularly rewarding."

He began planning in 2006. The team included a whitewater expert who was also qualified as a wilderness medic; a guide who had previously traveled with Harrison; his sons (who are now eighteen); and a friend of theirs who had canoed with the family before.

They approached sponsors, with the goal of raising \$30,000 for the World Wildlife Fund Canada. Equipment donated by sponsors would be given to Camp Kooch-i-ching.

In June, the six adventurers drove to Yellowknife, the capital of the Northwest Territories. They packed their gear and three canoes

into a small seaplane that flew them to McLeod Bay. Then they set out.

When they hit ice, as they did frequently on the first leg of the trip, they had to carry the canoes. In total, they pulled their canoes across eighty miles of ice, refilling their water bottles by chopping holes in the frozen surface. At times, they rowed against fierce winds, shot through whitewater rapids, and climbed over sandbars. At night, they huddled in sleeping bags in tents.

But the landscape and wildlife were spectacular. Boreal forest gave way to tundra, desert-like except along the rivers. The group also marveled at the contrast of deep blue water against the white of the eskers, snake-shaped hills of sand and gravel formed when the last ice sheet was melting.

It wasn't until the very end of July that they encountered the caribou. "We came around a bend and there were hundreds of them lined up, ready to make the swim across the river," said Harrison. That night, the migrating herd went past their camp.

Fifty-one days after they'd set off, the canoers hit the Arctic Ocean at Chantrey Inlet, where they were picked up by a small plane. Readjusting to civilization was jarring. In the wilderness, the team felt "in sync," said Harrison. "You feel a connection to the earth. It's a very freeing, liberating experience."

Back home Harrison has been able to raise \$20,000 for the World Wildlife Federation Canada, just \$10,000 short of his goal, which he still hopes to reach.

Readers can learn more about the trip, see photos, and learn how to make donations at [www.transarcticexpedition.com](http://www.transarcticexpedition.com).

—Traci Vogel





since 1978 in the high hurdles. He had twelve NCAA qualifiers. **Kenneth A. Hirsch**, Cleveland, Ohio, writes that he finds it hard to believe he is looking at a twenty-fifth reunion already. He tells us that his son Geoff (sixteen) lettered in swimming as a high-school freshman and his other children, Peter and Emily, just turned thirteen. Three years ago, he cofounded a boutique investment bank in Cleveland, Western Reserve Partners, which specializes in mergers and acquisitions and capital-raising for middle-market companies. He is "loving the thrill of building a business." **Nancy R. Powers**, Dublin, Ohio, tells us that after twelve years of living in Tallahassee, Florida, she and her husband, John Duffey, and their sons, David (nine) and Joseph (seven), moved back to Ohio to be near family. Nancy writes, "I hope to be able to make reunions now!" **Charlotte Pillsbury Wood**, Camp Connell, California, reports that she and her husband, David, are in their third year of running their environmental consulting firm, Aperio Inc. She writes, "we're growing and very busy. Never thought I'd be a corporate CEO!"

'84 **Pamela J. Bardonner**  
Richmond, Virginia  
pambuddysmom@aol.com  
**Beverly Sutley**  
Tyrone, Pennsylvania  
bxb35@psu.edu

**Kelton R. Boyer**, Shiojiri Nagano, Japan, writes that he has finished his year off traveling around Japan by RV and is back at work, yearning to get back on the road again. He encourages anyone coming to Japan to get in touch with him at [kelt@mhl.janis.or.jp](mailto:kelt@mhl.janis.or.jp). **Mallory M. Cremin** writes to say, "We are still living in Idyllwild, California. It is time for a southern California reunion!" **Sarah Hill**, Kalamazoo, Michigan, informs us that in 2006 she founded a biodiesel venture in Kalamazoo along with two chemistry

professors at Western Michigan University. The project, Bronco Biodiesel, broke ground last summer, and will be fueling buses with biodiesel made from waste cooking greases. For more information, see [www.wmich.edu/biodiesel/](http://www.wmich.edu/biodiesel/).

**Randal T. Inman**, Charlotte, North Carolina, writes of a discovery following a recent visit to Hanmer, Wales. As it turns out, Randal's wife, Diana Hamner Inman, is not the first person in her family to marry a Kenyon man. Apparently, George Kenyon, the second Baron Kenyon, married Margaret Emma Hanmer in 1803. (Hanmer is the original spelling of Diana's maiden name.) Although the name "George" may not ring any bells, it was in fact George Kenyon, the second Lord Kenyon, who provided Bishop Philander Chase with the funds to enact his vision of a seminary in Ohio. Randal jokes with his wife that "Margaret married the Kenyon man, while she simply got a Kenyon man."

'85 **Susan B. Berger**  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio  
[berger@pepcleve.org](mailto:berger@pepcleve.org)  
**Laura A. Plummer**  
Bloomington, Indiana  
[lplummer@indiana.edu](mailto:lplummer@indiana.edu)

'86 **Lauren D. Cottle**  
Palo Alto, California  
[loricott@yahoo.com](mailto:loricott@yahoo.com)  
**Frank S. Crane IV**  
Staten Island, New York  
[fcrane@statenilandacademy.org](mailto:fcrane@statenilandacademy.org)

**Richard K. Black**, Chicago, Illinois, reports that he has been named to *Worth Magazine's* Top 100 Wealth Advisers list. It is one of the top honors in his field, so naturally he is very excited about his inclusion. **Elizabeth Sigel Bouchard** writes that she is currently living in New York City with her husband, Tim, who is at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, and their twin sons, Max and Jacob (ten), who are in the fifth grade. Elizabeth is engaged in numerous volunteer activities in

the city, where they will be posted until the summer of 2008. **Todd A. Nash**, Galena, Ohio, reports that in August 2007 he was appointed chief of staff of Banfield, The Pet Hospital of southwest Columbus. A Columbus native, he says, "I am excited to return home, be near family again, and work with colleagues that I have known and worked with in the past."

—  
'87 **Colleen R. Siders Eaton**  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
[colleen.eaton@gmail.com](mailto:colleen.eaton@gmail.com)

—  
'88 **20th Reunion 2008**  
**Patricia Rossman Skrha**  
Cleveland, Ohio  
[pskrha@bw.edu](mailto:pskrha@bw.edu)

**Lori Smistek Alf** writes that she is having a great time in Boca Raton, Florida, with her husband, Christopher, and their three children, Caterina (ten), Christer (eight), and Chapin (five). Lori spends six days a week training Caterina in figure skating, "which is her passion." Lori also works as a consultant for Christopher's global transportation (airfreight) company, which, she says, is "one of the largest suppliers of transportation services for the Department of Defense in the war effort."

**John R. Huntley** and his wife, Cheng Hong Ang, announce the birth of a son, Gene Goh Huntley, on August 8, 2007, in Singapore. John is an immigration attorney and his wife works for Chevron. The family resides in Los Lunas, New Mexico. **Annie Kay Taylor**, Winnetka, Illinois, reports that she and her family have returned to the Chicago area after living in Denver, Colorado, for five years. Annie Kay is pleased to report that she is also once again teaching English at New Trier High School.

—  
'89 **Andrea L. Bucey-Tikkanen**  
Hudson, Ohio  
[andrea.bucey@citizensbanking.com](mailto:andrea.bucey@citizensbanking.com)  
**Joan O'Hanlon Curry**  
Ossining, New York  
[gijoan9@aol.com](mailto:gijoan9@aol.com)

**Jennifer L. Barton** writes that she has been living in San Francisco, California, with her husband, J.R. Romanko, and their son, Oscar (three), for the past two years. She is in her third and final year as a rheumatology fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. She says of San Francisco, "We love the city and only occasionally miss the snow." **Lincoln E. Bleveans** relates that he has just joined the independent power company Tyr Energy as its chief development officer. Lincoln and his wife, **Meredith Pastore Bleveans '90**, live in Pawling, New York, and Lincoln says, "Tyr is based in Kansas, which is a bit of a commute, but after a few years of more staid corporate work, it's great to be doing deals again."

**Mary Bennett Smith** tells us that after three years of living in North Carolina, she and her husband, Clayton, have moved to Ruther Glen, Virginia. She encourages those alumni in the North Richmond area to stop and say hi. **Ann E. Stevens** married James Hichak on September 9, 2006, in Greenwich, Connecticut. Members of the wedding party included Ann's father, **Douglas H. Stevens '65** and matron of honor **Laura C. Chaveriat**. Ann and James reside in Alexandria, Virginia.

## 1990s

'90 **Jenny Ross Thurber**  
East Lansing, Michigan  
[jenny.thurber@davenport.edu](mailto:jenny.thurber@davenport.edu)

**Jane Cohn Burse** and her husband, John, announce the birth of their first child, Jenna Elizabeth Burse, on December 4, 2006. Jane writes that after sixteen years of working for the Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri, she will be taking some extended time off to be with her daughter. The Burse family lives in St. Louis, Missouri. **Michael L. Collyer**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, informs



us that he has started a new job as an assistant U.S. attorney. He is prosecuting gun cases now but will be moving to the economic crimes division soon. He writes that his wife, **Jane "Jennie" Janssen Collyer '91**, and their daughters, Rachael (fourteen), Katy (twelve), and Ava (six), are all doing well. **Mary "Mea" Fischelis** and her husband, Doug Sanders, announce the birth of their second child, Ashley Mary Lowell Sanders, on June 1, 2007. She joins her big brother, Tyler (two), keeping their parents busy. Mea and her family live in Seattle, Washington. **Kerry Smith McCruden** and her husband, Kevin, announce the birth of their son, Liam McCruden, on February 22, 2007. The McCruden family lives in Spokane, Washington. **Tanya R. Melich**, Forest Park, Illinois, writes that she is currently a faculty practice member of Rush University College of Nursing, working with multi-disabled youth. She was named a Schweitzer Fellow for 2007-08, and she is now pursuing a master's of public health/nursing degree. **Elizabeth Wright Wempe** and **Kenneth A. Wempe II**, Rome, Georgia, inform us that Ken started the 2007-08 school year as dean of students in the middle school at Darlington Elementary School. He continues to teach English and coach cross country. Elizabeth works as a nurse practitioner in geriatrics. Their children, Clara (seven) and Henry (five), are both attending Darlington Elementary.

—  
**'91 Angelique Tober Wentzel** Pewaukee, Wisconsin  
toberwentzel@yahoo.com  
**Phillip E. Wilson Jr.**  
Yardley, Pennsylvania  
phillip.wilson@dlapiper.com

**Alison J. Black**, Natick, Massachusetts, informs us that she ran the Boston Marathon in the spring of 2007 and loved it. She plans to run it in 2008 as well. Alison would love to hear from

Kenyon folks at [alisonblack@alumni.kenyon.edu](mailto:alisonblack@alumni.kenyon.edu). **Jane "Jennie" Janssen Collyer**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, writes that she and her husband, **Michael L. Collyer '90**, are happy and busy with their 1920 "fixer upper," a crazy number of pets, and their three wonderful daughters, Ava (six), Katy (twelve), and Rachael (fourteen). Mike has started a new job as an assistant U.S. attorney and Jennie is teaching a three-year-old preschool class three days a week. She says, "Life is good. Hope yours is too!" **Timothy C. Hollister**, Chicago, Illinois, informs us that he is the medical director of radiation oncology at Saint Joseph Hospital, on the shores of Lake Michigan in Chicago. He was honored to receive a U.S. patent in 2006 for an anti-cancer drug he researched during his residency at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. **Christopher T. Munster** married **M. Regina Phillips '92** on June 22, 2007, in Wading River (Long Island), New York. The couple lives in New York City, where Chris works for the Department of Homeland Security and Regina works as a litigator in the health care field. **Samantha Rosenberg**, New York City, writes that after twelve years of practicing employment law at large employment-law firms, she has opened a solo practice in Manhattan. The Law Office of Samantha Rosenberg ([www.rosenberg-lawoffice.com](http://www.rosenberg-lawoffice.com)) provides litigation prevention services, employment law counseling, and defense of employment claims to employers of all sizes. **Anne V. "Shelly" Webb**, Baltimore, Maryland, tells us after many years of working with teenagers, including eight as a high school teacher and dean of students, she has decided to pursue a new career working in professional baseball with the offices of the Baltimore Orioles.

—  
**'92 Alise A. Stuart**  
Maywood, New Jersey  
[Shuarta@yahoo.com](mailto:Shuarta@yahoo.com)

**Jacob M. Adler**, Arlington, Virginia, reports that in the fall of 2007 he spent three months in the Hyderabad, India, office of Deloitte Touche. Normally based out of Washington, D.C., Jacob was helping his company's real estate analysts learn how to solve problems for U.S. clients that invest in commercial properties. **Alexandra Price Baj** and her husband, Douglas, welcomed both a son and a daughter, Jonathan and Tessa Baj, in May 2007. The Baj family, which also includes Amelia (two), lives in Arlington, Virginia. **Adam M. Bleifeld**, Port Washington, New York, reports that he and his wife, Gretchen, are busy with their three boys, Spencer (seven), Sawyer (five), and Dawson (two), but they get out on their sailboat as often as possible. Adam tells us that he has visited with **Moss Freedman**, **James A. Glassman**, **William "Mark" Jordan**, and **Justin B. Richland**, as his job has sent him to all of their hometowns. **Kate Foster Boyd** and her husband, John, welcomed a new daughter, Frances Boykin Boyd, on August 18, 2006. She joins her older sister, Gayle (four). The Boyds live in Columbia, South Carolina. **Sharon Flower Citino** and her husband, Nathan, announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Louise Citino, on September 22, 2006. The Citino family, which also includes Helen (two), lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. **Rebecca Hamilton Niño** and her husband, Jose, announce the birth of their daughter, Isabel Francesca Niño, on October 31, 2006. Rebecca and her family live in Evanston, Illinois. **M. Regina Phillips** married **Christopher T. Munster '91** on June 22, 2007, in Wading River (Long Island), New York. The couple lives in New York City, where Chris works for the Department of Homeland Security and Regina works as a litigator in the health care field. **Diane Rochat Wise** and her husband, Daniel, announce the birth of their first child, Quinton

Rochat Wise, on March 4, 2006. At that time, Diane resigned from her position as associate pastor of a church in Franklin, Indiana, to be a stay-at-home mom, and she loves her new occupation. She does volunteer several times a month at the local pregnancy care center and enjoys ministering to struggling mothers there. The Wise family lives in Fairland, Indiana.

#### — **'93 15th Reunion 2008**

**Kevin Kropf**  
Jackson, Michigan  
[kevin.kropf@hotmail.com](mailto:kevin.kropf@hotmail.com)

**Carolyn E. Anderson**, Oakland, California, informs us that she is working as a project manager in medical device development and manufacturing. She is back from a year off work, making a fresh start with a new job, two new cats, and a new loft apartment. She writes, "Contact me out of the blue anytime!" **Katherine A. Beller** married Yonald Chery in November 2006, and on July 22, 2007, they welcomed a son, Yonald Chery Jr. In 2006 they bought a home in Watertown, Massachusetts, and Katherine welcomes any Kenyon folks coming into the Boston area to pay her a visit. She says, "It's been a lot of change in a short amount of time but all is wonderful." **Emily Black Bremer**, Saint Louis, Missouri, writes that she took over her father's insurance brokerage firm, Liggett, Black and Company, when he passed away in 2006. She loves running her own business, but it keeps her pretty busy, she says. Emily and her husband, Derek, have made time for traveling, and recently took trips to New Orleans, Louisiana, and Orcas Island in Washington State. **Mary Kay Costello** married Tim Nuttle (Northwestern University) on July 20, 2007. **The Reverend Sarah Fredriksen McCann '94** officiated the ceremony, and Kenyon Professor of Music Ben Locke sang during the wedding mass. The couple resides



in Chicago, Illinois. **Rhonda Baker Debevec**, Mentor, Ohio, informs us that she has been named a partner at the law firm of Spangenberg, Shibley, and Liber in Cleveland. **Elyse S. Forkosh** married David Cutler in the presence of immediate family on August 26, 2007, in Lake Delavan, Wisconsin. Dave is a partner in the mobile technology practice of Accenture and Elyse continues to work as the director of strategic planning for a hospital system. The Cutlers live in Chicago, Illinois. **Caroline H. Jacoby**, Kathmandu, Nepal, informs us that she is still working for Johns Hopkins University. She will try to make the reunion, but no guarantees. "Namaste," she says. **Kevin C. Kropf** tells us that he has been named the director of admissions at Albion College, and as a result, Kevin, his wife, Meredith, and their daughter, Marguerite Joy (one), have moved to Jackson, Michigan, from Arizona. They all look forward to midwestern summers again. **Melissa A. Lord** married Mathias Holzhacker (SUNY Maritime) on August 17, 2007, at the Beaver Park Campground in Harriman State Park in New York. The ceremony took place during the evening of the sixth day of the Empire State AIDS Ride, a seven-day, 560-mile charity bike ride from Niagara Falls to lower Manhattan. It was Melissa's fourth year riding the event and Mathias's second year volunteering. Melissa says, "It was an amazing experience all around!" **Angela A. Taneja** married Steve C. Hawkins on September 8, 2007, in Columbus, Ohio. Angela and Steve live in Dublin, Ohio.

—  
**'94 Sarah E. Hall**  
 Somerville, Massachusetts  
 stretch.hall@gmail.com  
**Paul M. Penick III**  
 San Francisco, California  
 neil\_penick@yahoo.com  
**Chad J. Withers**  
 Cincinnati, Ohio  
 withers.cj@pg.com

**David C. Baum**, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, writes that his marriage, work, sailing, and two dogs have been keeping him busy. **Michael A. Baumholtz** and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of their son, Myles Baumholtz, on June 8, 2007. Michael and his family live in Helotes, Texas, and he reports that they are happy and healthy. **Tasha Y. Willis**, Long Beach, California, reports that she teaches social work at California State University of Los Angeles. She says, "I love it as it provides the perfect blend of social justice and intercultural communication—my two passions." She enjoys living in Long Beach, where she is "an involved godmother, a human relations facilitator, a salsa fanatic, and a coffee shop lurker." Tasha looks forward to hearing from Kenyonites when they are in the Los Angeles area, and adds that she just ran into **Rebecca L. Feldman** at a concert. **Meghan Brady Zavod**, Davis, California, writes that she and her husband, Matthew, just bought a home. Their son, Samuel (one), keeps them "constantly entertained," and the family loves to have visitors.

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**'95 Edward B. Bierhaus**  
 Golden, Colorado  
 bierhaus@comcast.net  
**Colleen R. Canning**  
 New York, New York  
 ccanning@alumni.kenyon.edu  
**George W. Stone**  
 Washington, D.C.  
 georgewstone@gmail.com

—  
**'96 Courtney A. Carlson**  
 Washington, D.C.  
 courtneyc@kubark.com  
**Shannon P. Galvin**  
 Chicago, Illinois  
 galvin73@yahoo.com  
**Delia A. Kloh**  
 Charlottesville, Virginia  
 delia1974@comcast.net  
**Sarah E. Michael**  
 Santa Monica, California  
 sarahemichael@gmail.com

**Elizabeth S. Baroody** married Michael E. Solomon on October 14, 2006, at Christ Church Episcopal in Pittsford, New York. Mike and Liz reside in Rochester, New York, and are active in the Adirondack Mountain Club, through which they met, and the Rochester Scottish Pipes and Drums. **Lisa Cafferata-Zurn** and **Derek S. Zurn '97** announce the birth of a daughter, Annika Zurn, on June 7, 2007, Lisa's birthday. The Zurns, whose family also includes Declan (one), recently moved from Irving, Texas, to Sudbury, Massachusetts. Derek has joined a pediatric dentistry practice in Stoughton, Massachusetts, and Lisa continues to work as an education consultant for the Young President's Organization in Watertown. **Elizabeth Bennett Hebbeln** and her husband, Mark, announce the birth of a son, William McPherson Hebbeln, on December 1, 2006. The family lives in Chicago, Illinois, where Beth is working as a lecturer at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, doing some media consulting on the side, and enjoying parenthood. The Hebbelns visited Gambier in the spring of 2007 for the graduation of Beth's sister, **Melinda M. Bennett '07**. "It was great to be back," says Beth. **Adrienne Biggert Morrell** and her husband, Jarrett, announce the birth of a daughter, Greer Margaret Morrell, on August 21, 2006. The family resides in Bethesda, Maryland.

—  
**'97 Ed O'Malley**  
 Mantoloking, New Jersey  
 eco@ospreytc.com  
**Elizabeth A. Pannill**  
 Houston, Texas  
 epannill@alumni.kenyon.edu

**Elizabeth C. Belanger** and her husband, Ethan Curren, announce the birth of a daughter, Rendell Elizabeth Curren, on March 12, 2007. Beth writes, "Rendell has been lucky enough to visit with her 'auntie,' **Emily D. Spowls**, and, thanks to her

aunt **Sarah G. Belanger '02**, is now fully outfitted in Kenyon gear." Beth completed her Ph.D. in American studies at Brown University in the summer of 2006 and is now working as an assistant professor of history at Stonehill College. She and her family reside in Watertown, Massachusetts. **Alisoun Davis Bertsch** and her husband, David, announce the birth of a daughter, Maryrose Evelyn Bertsch, on May 22, 2007. The family, which includes Maryrose's older brother, "Sander" (three), lives on a farm in Danville, Pennsylvania. **Julia Smith Buckner** reports that she and her husband, Lee, have moved from Florida to New Haven, Connecticut, so that Julie can complete her clinical internship at Yale University School of Medicine. Although the Buckners miss the South, they are enjoying life back in the Northeast. **Barrett A. Coker** married Edward P. Krise on October 7, 2006, in Atlanta, Georgia. **Kathryn A. Webber '97** served as Barrett's maid of honor. The couple lives in the historic Cabbagetown neighborhood of Atlanta. **Gordon G. Fraser**, Jersey City, New Jersey, writes that he has been busy "painting up a storm" in New York City and has launched a website to showcase his paintings, [www.gordonfraserfinearts.com](http://www.gordonfraserfinearts.com). **Amanda J. Mason** married Patrick Gadrow on May 19, 2007, at Patrick's parents' home in South Kingstown, Rhode Island. Among family members present were Amanda's brother **Joshua A. Mason '00** and his wife, **Amy Waterman Mason '02**. The Gadrows honeymooned on Sanibel Island in Florida and currently reside in Bridgewater, Massachusetts. **Corinna Cosentino Quintana**, Ellettsville, Indiana, reports that she and her husband are living on a small farm just outside Bloomington, Indiana, with three dogs, three cats, eight horses, a goat, and a ton of chickens. Corinna teaches for Indiana University's ballet department and has also opened her own Pilates studio in



Bloomington. This past year she began a horse breeding and training program at her farm and has been competing in rodeo events in the area. "Stop by if you're ever in Indiana. We have lots of room in the old farmhouse," she writes.

**Dwight K. Schultheis** married Lauren Heller on September 16, 2006, in Cape Porpoise, Maine. The ceremony was held by the water at sunset. Dwight is the president and founder of aME-Nity, LLC, which provides men's skin care products, and Lauren is the founder and chief designer of Sugar Goat, LLC, creator of organic women's apparel. Dwight and Lauren live in Waltham, Massachusetts. **Ross A. Stanger** and his wife, Kimberly, announce the birth of their daughter, Lauren Beth Stanger, on June 3, 2007. Ross was sorry to miss the class reunion last June, but extends his greetings to all members of the class of 1997. The Stangers live in Bridgeton, New Jersey.

#### '98 10th Reunion 2008

**Jonny Nicholson**  
Andover, Massachusetts  
jonny.nicholson@gmail.com

**Karen S. McDonald**  
South Euclid, Ohio  
karenbabb@hotmail.com

**H. Clay Aalders** writes that he is living in Knoxville, Tennessee, with his wife, Nicole, and is the owner and head guide of Smoky Mountain Gillies Fly Fishing Guide Service. When he's not guiding, Clay can be found hunting or fishing with his labrador, Billie Holiday, or spending time woodworking and remodeling his house. **Joshua S. Adler** married Lara Schecter on October 22, 2006. The couple now resides in Los Angeles, California, where Joshua is writing and directing films. **Jefferson S. Barlew**, Signal Mountain, Tennessee, informs us that he is serving as the academic facilitator at Signal Mountain Middle School and was excited to return to the classroom after a summer of travel

in South America. **Aimee P. Block**, Asheville, North Carolina, reports that she and her husband, Andrew Schatzberg, just opened their own recording studio.

**Christine Robinson Boese** and her husband, Steve, announce the birth of twins, Henry Thomas Boese and Hannah Rose Boese, on June 15, 2007. Christy graduated from Augsburg Physician Assistant School in May 2007 and began working half-time at an express care clinic in the fall. The Boese family resides in Elk River, Minnesota. **David W. Eppley**, New York City, reports that from August to December 2007, his artwork was shown at the Tang Museum in Saratoga Springs, New York. All of Dave's recent exhibitions and updates can be found on his website, [www.DaveEppley.com](http://www.DaveEppley.com). **Middleton Boon Hinckley** and **James C. Hinckley** announce the birth of a daughter, Susan Middleton Hinckley, on March 30, 2007. The Hinckley family, which also includes a son, Brent (two), lives in Ogden, Utah, where Jim is managing one of the family Dodge dealerships and Middleton is staying at home with Brent and "Middy." **McClain L. "Macy" Howarth** married Bridger McGaw (Harvard) on June 23, 2007, in Edgartown, Massachusetts, on Martha's Vineyard. Macy's brother, **R. Clinton Howarth '01**, was among the family members in attendance. Macy and Bridger live in Washington, D.C., and both work as national security consultants at Booz Allen Hamilton in McLean, Virginia. **Carrie Kepple Jadud** writes that she and her husband, **Matthew C. Jadud**, both received their Ph.D. degrees during the summer of 2007, Matt's in computer science from the University of Kent and Carrie's in English from the University of Wales. They recently moved from Canterbury, England, to Needham, Massachusetts, where Matt is teaching at Olin College. **Jonathan E. Keeling**, Alexandria, Virginia, informs us that he recently started

a new position in the homeland security division of SPA (Systems Planning and Analysis), Inc. He's still loving the Washington, D.C., area, and writes that friends always have a couch to crash on.

—  
'99 **Hilary A. Lowbridge**  
Delaware, Ohio  
lowbridgeh@alumni.kenyon.edu  
**Jesse A. Savage**  
Redwood City, California  
jsavage@alumni.kenyon.edu

**Frances M. Black** married Lucas Landreth on December 2, 2006, in Boulder, Colorado. **Jessica E. Shakin** served as a bridesmaid. The couple resides in Tempe, Arizona. **Alice McCunn Hensley** and her husband, Nathan, welcomed their first child, Grace Elizabeth Hensley, on September 5, 2007. Alice and Nathan say that they are "blessed to have her, and she teaches [them] something new every day." **Zachary B. Nowak** reports he is "still living la dolce vita" in Perugia, Italy. His Italian life revolves around working for the Umbra Institute, an American study abroad program located in Perugia, and publishing his guidebook for the city. **Erica L. Vogeley**, Cambridge, Massachusetts, writes that she graduated from MIT's Sloan School of Management in June. She is now working at Cone, Inc., a brand strategy firm that specializes in cause-related marketing. **Amelia Armstrong Weinman** reports that in the past year she has spent much of her effort starting her own photography business, Amelia Ann Photo. She will be assisting other professionals and gradually growing her own business. She and her husband, **Jeremy L. Weinman '00**, are happily settled in Santa Monica, California. **Mareike B. Wieth**, Marshall, Michigan, informs us that she and her husband, **Jonathan J. Nycz**, are doing well. Jonathan is working and taking classes toward his teaching certificate, while Mareike holds a tenure-track position at Albion College and is

loving teaching at a small liberal arts college. In March, 2007, the couple bought their first house and are enjoying having their own space. **Crosby Wood** married Nancy Davidson on November 5, 2004. On July 12, 2006, they welcomed the birth of their first child, Oram Davidson Wood. The Wood family resides in Unionville, Pennsylvania.

## 20005

'00 **Austin D. Barger**  
New Albany, Ohio  
barger.50@osu.edu  
**David W. Shearer**  
Nashville, Tennessee  
dwshearer@yahoo.com

**Susan Oman Bennett**, Pasadena, California, reports that she is in the middle of working on her Ph.D. in clinical psychology as well as her master's degree in theology. "My husband, Jason, and I have two adorable cats and are enjoying life in southern California," she writes. **Kathleen S. Birck** informs us that she finished her commitment to the National Health Service Corps in September. In October, she moved to Kingman, Arizona, where shortly thereafter she began a job as a nurse practitioner at North Country Healthcare. **John A. "Alex" Grabowski**, Hayes, Virginia, writes that he spent some holiday time with **John B. Pecorak Wakefield** and his wife, Rory, in Dayton, Ohio, last year. Then in September, Alex and his wife, Sadie, J.B. and Rory, **Stan Zhukarev** and his wife, and **Paul W. Stinson** and **Heather Graber Stinson** reunited at Alex's home on the Chesapeake in Virginia. "Cold beer and hot crabs," writes Alex. "Nothin's changed." **Maraleen D. Shields** tells us that 2006 was a big year for her. She moved, bought a house, changed jobs, and got married. Maraleen married Kevin L. Orloski (Cornell University) on November 4, 2006, at Heinz Memorial Chapel



in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The couple now lives in Allentown, Pennsylvania, where they both practice law, Maraleen in the professional liability group of Post Schell, P.C. and Kevin as a plaintiffs' attorney with The Orloski Firm. "We are enjoying our new home and are constantly looking for new ways to 'trick' out our house in eco-friendly ways," writes Maraleen. **Daniel Torday** writes that he and his wife, **Erin Sullivan Torday '99**, recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary. They were married outside of Raleigh, North Carolina, on July 1, 2006. The couple now resides in Philadelphia, where Erin is beginning her second year at the Drexel University College of Medicine and Daniel is a visiting writer at Bryn Mawr College.

—  
**'01 Erin Shanahan**

Chicago, Illinois  
shanahane@hotmail.com

**Margret M. Bava** married Jeremy Miller on July 21, 2007, at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles, California. The couple resides in Sherman Oaks, California. **Rowan Williams Haug**, Shalimar, Florida, tells us that she is enjoying the sun and beach and working at the Zoo Gallery. Her art has been shown in several galleries and museums in the Southeast since she earned her M.F.A. two years ago. **Frederick R. "Fritz" Horstman** writes that he is currently working as a sculptor. He lives in Bethany, Connecticut. **Megan Anderegg Malone**, Petaluma, California, writes that she has started a new job working in admissions at the Oxbow School, a unique, visual arts-intensive boarding program for high school juniors and seniors. She travels the country describing the opportunities available at Oxbow, a job that combines her love of art with her desire to work with young people. She is also starting a low-residency M.F.A. program in creative writing at Bennington College in

Vermont. Megan's husband, **Ian P. Malone**, continues to enjoy his work as a director of Vineyard Investment and Finance at Premier Pacific Vineyards in Napa, California. They recently moved to a converted schoolhouse in Petaluma. Megan says, "We love California and hope to stay here indefinitely." **Kyra Whitson Smith**, Chicago, Illinois, reports that she recently graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a master's degree in social work. She is looking for employment, working part-time with the real estate investment company of her husband, **Benjamin S. Smith '00**, and still loving Chicago. **Matthew L. Williams** married Hallie Joseph (University of Wisconsin) on April 28, 2007, in Daufuskie Island, South Carolina. The couple resides in Chicago, Illinois, where Matt works in real estate as a senior acquisitions analyst.

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**'02 Chris Van Nostrand**

Chicago, Illinois  
Chris\_vannostrand@yahoo.com

**James J. Greenwood**, Mount Hermon, Massachusetts, writes that he has had a very busy past year. In May 2007 he completed his master of arts in teaching from Brown University, and he has accepted a new position as the director of multicultural education and associate dean of students at a boarding school, the Northfield Mount Hermon School in western Massachusetts. Last summer James participated in the prestigious Klingenstein Teaching Institute, sponsored by Columbia University, where he saw two other Kenyon alumni, **Lauren E. Coil** and **Kathryn J. Patt**. He also participated in another summer leadership program in Auckland, New Zealand, sponsored by a program called Australean. **Margaret C. Scavotto**, St. Louis, Missouri, reports that she finished clerking for Judge Kenneth Romines on the Missouri Court of Appeals and joined Lashly Baer, P.C. in St. Louis as an associate in the corpo-

rate and health care departments. **Stephanie L. Spaulding** married Matthew Hoffman on March 3, 2007, in Fort Myers, Florida. "We bought a house in 2005 and got a greyhound the same year. Now we are fostering another retired racer," she writes. The Hoffmans reside in Fort Myers, where Stephanie works as an assistant state attorney.

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**'03 5th Reunion 2008**

**Phillip E. Ross**  
Anaheim, California  
babyface1981@earthlink.net

**Matthew D. Latuchie** informs us that he has just moved to Washington, D.C., from Philadelphia. He is enjoying his new job as the associate director of marketing and new business development at The Advisory Board Company. **Natalie C. Philpot** married Jason Pergament at a beach ceremony on July 21, 2007, in Carmel, California. The couple recently moved to Belize, where they will be teaching at a plantation school in the rainforest, the Gallon Jug Community School. **Ann M. Racek**, Hopkins, Minnesota, writes that she is currently serving in the Peace Corps. She is stationed in Ukraine, teaching English. **Megan B. Rafferty** married Mathew Barnes (University of Tennessee) on September 1, 2007, at St. Patrick's Church in Victor, New York. **Amy L. Bergen '04** was the maid of honor, **Amy E. Gallese** was a reader, **Randolph "Robby" Ketcham '04** was the cross bearer, and **Daniel F. Mason '99** was the videographer. The couple now resides in Baltimore, Maryland.

—  
**'04 Cynthia A. Cunningham**

Chillicothe, Ohio  
cynthia.cunningham@gmail.com  
**Jesse G. Spencer**  
Los Angeles, California  
jessegspencer@gmail.com

**David R. Ashe**, Sarasota, Florida, tells us that he has become a cyclist, vegetarian, and self-

proclaimed beach bum. He is a self-employed tango instructor, and he writes that if he's not at the beach, on a dance floor, or in a kitchen, he can be found "making long commutes late at night, wishing he could somehow read and drive at the same time." He still "sings, reads, writes, and babbles for unbearable lengths of time about the joys of life and his current minutiae of interest." **Lauren E. Bierman**, New York City, relates that she is currently attending Teachers College at Columbia University. **Robert L. Bloch**, St. Louis, Missouri, reports that he has left the boarding school where he had been teaching English for the past two years. In July, he attended an international teacher program in Jerusalem at Yad Vashem: The Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Authority. This fall Bobby began teaching middle-school and upper-school English at the Crossroads College Preparatory School in St. Louis. **Georgia M. Burman**, Kew Gardens, New York, informs us that she has graduated from nursing school and is now working in an emergency department in Queens. She encourages any Kenyon graduates with questions about nursing to drop her an e-mail at burmang@gmail.com.

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**'05 Alexandra M. B. Whitaker**

Rockville, Maryland  
alexandrawhitaker@gmail.com

**Heather A. C. Blake**, Oakdale, Connecticut, informs us that since graduation she has been teaching Spanish at St. Thomas More School, an all-boys boarding school in Connecticut. She teaches four classes, supervises in the dorms, and is the yearbook advisor. Heather also recently participated in a community service trip to northern Honduras, with an organization called Sustainable Harvest. The organization helps teach farmers alternatives to "slash and burn" farming. **Alissa M. Mitchell** married Josh



## A CALLING

Danielle Strickland steers Mexican street children toward a better life

Danielle Strickland '02 goes by a few nicknames in Guadalajara, Mexico. There's *flaca*, Spanish for "skinny." Or *guera*, slang for a light-skinned person. But when she takes her seat at a knee-high table in a library downtown, she is *maira*—the Mexican word for a companion-educator.

With Tomas Trinidad (nickname: "chubby"), a friend and fellow *mairo*, she runs an after-school program for about eighty-five street kids, kindergartners to teenagers, who spend most evenings on the busy sidewalks and plazas of Mexico's second biggest city.

On a Monday afternoon last spring, these children gathered around Strickland with math homework and pages of reading. A few struggled to use their library voices.

"Nine minus zero," a first-grader named Ismael screamed in Spanish.

"Nine minus zero is the easiest of all," Strickland said gently.

These children come from cinderblock houses outside the city and from rented rooms downtown. They wear simple school uniforms and hand-me-downs. The older kids, some of the harder ones, have picked up bad habits of the city.

They are, Strickland says, in a "street situation."

To be poor and a child in Guadalajara carries a list of obligations: Go to work at an early age, skip your birthdays, wish only for small things.

But Strickland hopes the nonprofit she and Trinidad direct, called CODENI, an acronym that translates to Children's Rights Collective, will balance the pressures of the street and steer the kids toward a better life.

"Our work is preventive," she says after an evening at the library. "We want these kids to continue with an education to escape poverty."

When she talks about what she does, Strickland says it's a calling. She sees a need and

knows she can fill it. Then she tells the story about Cancun.

When she was nine, Danielle's family took a vacation to the resort city. For a day trip, her parents rented a car and drove Danielle and her brother and sister away from the white-sand beaches. Stopped at an intersection outside Cancun, she saw them—children her own age with crumpled newspapers, offering to clean the car's windshield for pesos. That day was her introduction to poverty.

At Kenyon, Strickland majored in international studies, spending her junior year in both Guadalajara and Ecuador. Again, she was drawn to the street kids.

She brought a new sense of purpose back to Gambier her senior year. To keep up her vernacular Spanish, she did an internship in Columbus where she'd meet Latinos. She wrote a senior thesis on street education. By the September after her graduation, she was back in Guadalajara.

Her role there blends teacher and big sister, fundraiser and social worker. She has grown the CODENI street program from eight kids in 2004 to ten times that by the end of last year. The group now has a staff of a half dozen, including a psychologist, and hopes to raise \$150,000, an imposing 1.5 million pesos, in 2008.

In Strickland's dreams for Guadalajara, an army of street educators finds all of the city's lost children, keeps them safe, and offers them normal childhoods. But during the work week, rewards are often smaller.

There are the sessions in the library. There are drives with Tomas Trinidad to Cerro del Cuatro, a trash-littered neighborhood in the hills. On one trip last spring, the two walked a group of kids to elementary school and, once there, convinced the gym teacher to let girls play in a soccer game. They made house calls as well, checking in on individual kids.

Then it was back down the hill, to a city full of children who need an advocate, along with some help with long division.

—Pete Dybdahl

*Pete Dybdahl writes for the Roanoke (Virginia) Times, where this story first appeared. Readers can learn more about efforts to aid street children in Latin America at [www.ahala.org](http://www.ahala.org), the website of American Hands Aiding Latin American Youth. The organization is a Virginia-based sister group of CODENI.*

Sauder (Bluffton College) on May 12, 2007, in Jackson, Michigan.

**Kimberly Moore Waggoner** and **Kyle K. Benson** participated in the ceremony, and other Kenyon friends attended. The couple now resides in Grabill, Indiana, where Josh is a youth pastor. **Kathryn E. Oczkowski** tells us that she has moved to Madison, Wisconsin, to start a new position with Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions and to be with **David J. Gold '04**. **Josiah R. Venter**, Brooklyn, New York, writes that he continues to make music. His website is [www.josiah-venter.com](http://www.josiah-venter.com). **Benjamin P. Woodcock**, Shaker Heights, Ohio, informs us that in April, 2007, he was promoted to branch manager of KeyBank in Cleveland.

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**'06 C. Hayes Wong**  
Atlanta, Georgia  
[hayeswong128@gmail.com](mailto:hayeswong128@gmail.com)  
**Andrew J. Hass**  
Chevy Chase, Maryland  
[andrew.hass@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.hass@gmail.com)

**Mary K. Hostenske**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, writes that she recently joined the anthropology Ph.D. program at the University of Pittsburgh. She loves the city and enjoys hanging out with her Kenyon friends there, including **Laine Scott Nelson** and **Molly El Mickinak**. **Anne J. Valuska** reports that she has moved to Sacramento, California, where she is a Ph.D. student in the University of California at Davis's animal behavior program. **Allyson M. Whipple**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, tells us that she has finished the first year of her M.A. in English from Case Western Reserve University and this year is writing a thesis on hypertext literature.

—  
**'07 Emily C. Martyn**  
Brattleboro, Vermont  
[ecmartyn@gmail.com](mailto:ecmartyn@gmail.com)

Josh Metzler, Roanoke Times





## IN MEMORIAM

**F. Beale Betts II '41**, on May 9, 2006. Beale, eighty-eight, lived in Houston, Texas.

Frederick was a member of Alpha Delta Phi and was the manager of the basketball team. He joined the Navy in 1941 and served until 1947, including duty on warships during World War II. He advanced to the rank of lieutenant commander and was assigned to the public relations staff of the Navy secretary. Frederick then worked in sales and public relations for General Motors, became vice president of the Saratoga (New York) Harness Racing Association, and launched two businesses in Santa Fe, New Mexico: the Betts Motor Car Company, a Cadillac dealership, and the Turquoise Trading Company.

**Hallock B. Hoffman '41 P'66**, on December 13, 2006. The resident of Desert Hot Springs, California, was eighty-eight.

Hallock was a speech major who graduated magna cum laude and was admitted to Phi Beta Kappa. He was editor of the *Kenyon Collegian* and a member of Delta Tau Delta, Flying Club, Philomathesian, and Student Council. After graduation, Hallock returned to Kenyon to manage the airport and teach flying. He entered the Army Air Forces in 1942 and left the service as a captain in 1945 after flying overseas cargo missions during World War II. After several years as the owner and manager of Hoffman Sound Recording in Pasadena, California, Hallock went to work for the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization dedicated to community service projects. Hallock later worked for the Fund for the Republic, a think tank that challenged McCarthyism in the 1950s, and its spin-off organization, the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, where he filled various roles, including director of the study of politics and coordinator of studies. In 1964, Hallock became presi-

dent of the Pacifica Foundation, a network of commercial-free radio stations, and was a frequent on-air commentator.

Developing his career path as an educator, Hallock joined the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia in 1970, rising to the role of dean of the School of Critical Studies. In 1974, Hallock co-founded the Fielding Institute, a graduate school in psychology and human development, which is now the Fielding Graduate University in Santa Barbara, California. He became chair of the board of trustees at Fielding. Hallock joined Human Solutions, a software-development firm, as executive vice president in 1987. He joined the faculty of the Western Behavioral Sciences Institute in 1988 and served as board chairman at the institute in the early 1990s, before retiring.

Hallock was married four times. He had a lifelong interest in aviation and was an active pilot into his eighties. He cultivated intellectual friends and met often with a peer group to discuss art, film, and the written word, said his daughter Nina Kiriki Hoffman of Eugene, Oregon, a fantasy-fiction writer. Hallock also went on "really cool" volunteer neighborhood crime-watch patrols well into his retirement, she said. "He was very thoughtful and always curious," she said. "He was forward-thinking."

Hallock is survived by his wife, Frances; daughters Nina Hoffman and Valley Reseigne; sons Paul, Erik, Kristian, and Kaj Hoffman and Nikolas Boshco; and six grandchildren.

**Roger G.B. Morgan '41**, on July 12, 2007. The Marshall, Texas, resident was eighty-nine.

Roger served in the Army Air Forces in World War II. He became a high school teacher and then a psychologist. Roger earned a master's from East Texas State University in 1969. In recent years he was a mentor for children in a Marshall elementary school.

He is survived by a daughter, Celeste Hagaman; sons Roger and David Morgan; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

**Fred S. Henschel Jr. '42**, on June 9, 2007. The Reseda, California, resident was eighty-six.

Fred competed on the swimming team and was a member of Sigma Pi. He graduated with a degree in economics. On a training trip to Florida with the swimming team, Fred was driving near a canal and spotted a person struggling in the water. Fred saved the person from drowning.

In 1942, Fred joined the Navy and served in World War II. Fred then sold steel tubing and other metal products for twenty-eight years in the Chicago area. Fred flew private planes and enjoyed golf. He was a founding member and first president of Temple Jeremiah, a reform synagogue in Northfield, Illinois. In 1980, he moved to Encinitas, California, to do metal finishing for the Vulcanium Corporation, a titanium-products company. Fred eventually became the West Coast representative for Vulcanium as a sales manager and professional consultant. He wrote several articles on metal finishing.

Fred is survived by a daughter, Peggy Henschel; sons Tom Henschel and Jim Hart; nine grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. Contributions in Fred's memory can be made to the Jewish Home for the Aging, 18855 Victory Boulevard, Reseda, California, 91335.

**William S. Sawyer '42**, on August 7, 2007. The resident of Chevy Chase, Maryland, was eighty-seven.

William was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon. He was a political science major. William joined the U.S. Army Air Forces after graduation and served until 1946 in the Pacific theater, leaving the service as a first lieutenant. While still in the service, he wrote a letter to Kenyon saying that he enjoyed re-

ceiving the *Alumni Bulletin*, which was forwarded to him by his parents. "The only thing that detracts from that pleasure is the news that some of the men I knew there are casualties," William wrote. "It just doesn't seem right that it should happen to them." William earned a master's in political science at the University of Michigan in 1948. He went on to a career in the Central Intelligence Agency.

William is survived by a daughter, Joan Berghane, and a son, William "Buzz" Sawyer. Memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association of Maryland, Executive Plaza One, Suite 600, 11350 McCormick Rd., Hunt Valley, Maryland, 21031.

**William C. Wilson '42 GP'06**, on June 3, 2007. The resident of Wheaton, Illinois, was eighty-seven.

William was a member of Phi Kappa Sigma. He was involved in many activities at Kenyon, including football, track, and the Pre Med Club. He graduated cum laude and received the first Robert Bowen Brown Prize for original work in biology. William later attended Northwestern University, where he earned a master's and a medical degree in 1945. During World War II, he served as captain in the Army Medical Corps. After the war, William began his medical practice in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. In addition to his practice, he served as an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University and the University of Illinois at Chicago. William was also the director of the Fox Valley Mental Health Clinic. He was a pioneer in working with children and learning disabilities and was the co-author of *Minimal Brain Dysfunction*.

William and his wife, Marjorie, retired to Venice and Nokomis, Florida, in 1985. After fifteen years, they moved to Wheaton, Illinois.

William is survived by a daughter, Melissa Coons; sons Michael, Scott, and Christopher Wilson; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.



**Anthony G. Pizza '44**, on June 19, 2007, of pancreatic cancer. The resident of Holland, Ohio, was eighty-five.

Anthony was a World War II veteran, serving as a navigator with the Army Air Forces in the Pacific theater and leaving the service as a second lieutenant. He graduated from the University of Toledo College of Law in 1950 and took a job as an assistant prosecutor in Lucas County, Ohio. Anthony built a reputation as a crime-fighter and was elected Lucas County prosecutor in 1976. During his tenure, the number of assistant prosecutors grew to fifty, from ten, and the number of felony trials grew to three thousand, from six hundred. He became known as the "maker of judges" in Lucas County because many of his protégés went on to serve on the bench. He tried six cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. Anthony established the Toledo/Lucas County Victim-Witness Assistance Program in 1990. In 1991, he successfully filed suit in U.S. District Court to prevent the state of Michigan from developing a hazardous-waste dump that could have led to waterways pollution in northwest Ohio. He retired from public life after forty-five years and developed a private practice for ten years.

"Toledo has lost one of its elder statesmen and a pillar of the legal community," Toledo Mayor Carty Finkbeiner told the *Toledo Blade*.

Anthony is survived by his wife, Madlynn; sons, Michael and Toby Pizza; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and brother, Francis Pizza. Memorial donations may be made to the University of Toledo College of Law, 801 West Bancroft, Toledo, Ohio, 43606, and the St. Vincent DePaul Society, 1001 Washington St., Toledo, Ohio, 43602.

**Edward P. Bruch Jr. '45**, on June 11, 2007. The resident of Peachtree, Georgia, was eighty-five.

Edward was a member of Alpha Delta Phi. He left the College in 1942 to enter World War II as a pilot for the Civil Air Patrol and engaged in antisubmarine patrol duty over the Gulf of Mexico. He also flew with a tow-target group out of San Jose, California. He was awarded the Presidential Medal for meritorious achievement and was discharged as a captain in 1945. Edward began a career in sales in Cleveland after the war. He moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, in 1963, and started a charter sailboat business and operated the Bahai Mar Marine Store for twenty-eight years.

Edward's interests and achievements were many. Taking advantage of his pilot training, Edward became an aerobatic pilot, participating in air shows and competing at the national level until he was seventy-three. He organized the 1990 Fort Lauderdale Air Show. Also a musician, he played in a Cleveland-area jazz band for many years. He raised and trained Labrador retrievers, was president of the Buckeye Retriever Club, and became a national field-trial judge. He was an avid woodworker in his retirement and created distinctive furniture.

Edward was an athlete who competed in marathons and qualified for the Boston Marathon. He rode a bicycle well into his eighties.

Edward is survived by his wife, Devereaux; three of his four children, Lynn Bruch Baker, E.P. Bruch III, and Marguerite Bruch; three stepchildren; eleven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Mayo Clinic, Department of Development, 4500 San Pablo Road, Jacksonville, Florida, 32224.

**M. Richard Marr '47**, on December 3, 2006. The resident of Bellaire, Michigan, was eighty-three.

A political science major, Richard enrolled with the Class of 1945 but his college career was interrupted by World War II. He served in the Navy as an officer in the South Pacific and then returned to Kenyon, graduating in 1947. Richard was a member of Sigma Pi and was part of equestrian and polo clubs at Kenyon. He became an independent insurance agent and owner of the Marr Insurance Agency in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, and later sold real estate for Vacation Properties Network. Richard retired in 2003.

While in the Navy in 1944, Richard sent a contribution to the College with a letter that read, in part, "Kenyon means a great deal to me, and I'm very anxious to help her, even in my limited way."

Richard is survived by sons William, Cam, and Richard Marr, and six grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to the Meadow Brook Foundation, 4543 M-88 Highway, Bellaire, Michigan, 49615 or to the Church in the Hills, 6401 Shanty Creek Road, Bellaire, Michigan, 49615.

**John "Jack" D. Safford 1945**, on May 2, 2007, in his home of fifty years and surrounded by his family. The Bloomfield, Connecticut, resident was eighty-six.

Jack was a member of Psi Upsilon. He attended Kenyon for one year and was then drafted into the Army Air Forces in 1942. He served as an aerial gunner in the European theater. He left the service in 1945 and began a thirty-year career as a buyer for Sage-Allen, a department store chain based in West Hartford, Connecticut. Jack also cofounded the Tri-State Detective Agency. As a young man he had played drums with Zeke Safford and the Delta Rhythm Boys, which sparked his life-long love of jazz. Jack became an avid tennis player in middle age.

Jack is survived by a daughter,

Mary Curtin; sons Duncan and Stewart Safford; and three grandchildren.

**Robert J. Erman 1946**, on December 4, 2006. The Cincinnati, Ohio, resident was eighty-two.

Robert enrolled at Kenyon in 1942 and was a member of the Middle Kenyon Association. His time at Kenyon was interrupted by World War II, and he enlisted in the Army Air Forces in 1943. After the war, Robert continued his education at the University of Cincinnati and graduated in 1949. Robert developed a career in real estate at P.G. Graves, Inc., where he became vice president. Robert later joined the Cincinnati firm of Jerry Devitt & Associates, where his specialty was industrial and commercial properties. He was active in the Cincinnati community as the business manager of Cincinnatians, a sixty-five voice male chorus.

Robert is survived by his wife, Patricia.

**Frederick L. Gratiot '46**, on July 10, 2007. The resident of Hoboken, New Jersey, was eighty-three.

Frederick was part of the Kenyon Choir and worked for the Kenyon Collegian. His college career was interrupted by service in the Army during World War II, during which he rose to the rank of second lieutenant and served in the Army of Occupation at General Headquarters in Japan, where he was a translator for General Douglas MacArthur. A master of languages, Frederick was fluent in Japanese, Cantonese, Mandarin, French, German, and Esperanto. He also spoke Korean and Thai. After graduating from Kenyon, Frederick earned a master's in Chinese languages at the University of Chicago. He taught courses in the languages and culture of East Asian countries at Yale University and C.W. Post College before taking a job as a housing assistant for the New York City Housing Authority. Frederick retired from the housing authority



after twenty-five years and began a twenty-five year teaching career at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Frederick is survived by his brother, Richard Gratiot '50.

**Robert H. Zimmerman 1946**, on August 12, 2006. The Bingham Falls, Michigan, resident was eighty-one.

Robert, a member of Alpha Delta Phi, enrolled in 1943 and left later that year to join the Navy, where he served during World War II in the Pacific theater and on Yangtze River patrol in China. He returned to Kenyon in 1946. The Eagle Scout later worked in the construction business.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-eight years, Lillian; son, Craig Zimmerman; daughter, Sarah Michael; and two grandchildren.

**George R. Benner '49**, on March 20, 2007. The resident of Laguna Woods, California, was eighty-eight.

Before applying to Kenyon, George worked as an assistant to a bookkeeper and then joined the Army, where he served from 1941-45 during World War II. At Kenyon, George was a member of Sigma Pi. He graduated with a degree in economics. George went to work for IBM and was promoted to senior systems engineer in 1969. He retired from IBM in 1980 and began what he called "a new career" in fishing, golfing, and hiking. He was active in Kenyon alumni affairs, serving on the San Francisco Regional Association steering committee as both president and secretary. In 1989, George was given the Kenyon Distinguished Service Award, presented to alumni who have made significant contributions to Kenyon through their alumni activities.

George's wife, Fran, died in 1994. George is survived by his daughters, Marilyn and Barbara Benner.

**Robert J. Himmelright Jr. 1950 P'82**, and a former College trustee, on June 29, 2007. The eighty-one-year-old Delray Beach, Florida, resident died after a stroke.

An English major, Robert participated in the Kenyon Singers and was a member of Alpha Delta Phi. He enrolled in Kenyon after serving in the Navy during World War II. Robert served on a destroyer escort in the North Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. He attended Kenyon from 1946 through 1948. Robert continued his education at the University of New Mexico, graduating in 1951 after pursuing an accelerated course of study. He was recalled to active duty in the Navy during the Korean War.

Robert joined the Monarch Rubber Company, later Teledyne Monarch Rubber, in Hartsville, Ohio, and eventually became president and then chairman. The company had been founded by an uncle and his father, among others. In 1986, Robert and other family members established the Himmelright Professorship in Economics at Kenyon, funded by a gift of \$1 million. Robert served Kenyon as a trustee from 1985-91 and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1987. Presenting the degree, Philip H. Jordan Jr., College president, said, "You represent the spirit of American enterprise at its best."

Robert was active in alumni affairs throughout his life and was chair of the Kenyon Fund and vice chair of the Campaign for Kenyon in the 1980s. He was active in Ohio Republican politics and served as an alternate and delegate at Republican national conventions.

Robert is survived by his wife, Suzanne; daughters Christina Hickman and Anne Dewese Himmelright; sons Robert J. Himmelright III and George H. Himmelright; and four grandchildren. Donations in his name may be made to Kenyon, Office of Development, College Relations Center, Gambier, Ohio 43022,

and Trinity Lutheran Church, 415 Tuscarawas St. W., Canton, Ohio, 44702.

**John "Jack" D. Mooney Jr. 1950**, on October 24, 2007.

Mooney, eighty-seven, had divided his time between Fort Pierce, Florida, and Madison, Ohio.

After serving in the Navy during World War II, Jack attended Kenyon from 1946-49. He graduated from Ohio State University after transferring. While at Kenyon, he shared a room with Paul Newman '49. Jack loved golf and horses. He owned trotter and pacer racehorses and worked for several race tracks.

He is survived by his wife, Audrey "Joan;" daughters Virginia Withrow and Jennifer Court; son, John D. Mooney III; and five grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to Hospice of the Western Reserve, 5786 Heisley Road, Mentor, Ohio, 44060.

**Robert C. Shutt '50**, on August 6, 2007. The resident of Mentor, Ohio, was eighty-seven.

Robert was a physics major who won the Ingham Prize in physics, graduated magna cum laude, and was admitted to Phi Beta Kappa. He was an Army veteran who served in World War II. Robert went on to a thirty-four-year career in engineering with the Lincoln Electric Company in Euclid, Ohio, where he became chief engineer and then vice president of the Electrode Division. Robert was an avid reader and had a great interest in historical fiction, particularly novels related to World War II. Involvement in church activities and horseback riding also filled his time.

In a letter to a College official, Robert wrote, "I am certainly glad I went to Kenyon. I believe I have an understanding of fundamentals which many engineers never had."

Robert is survived by a daughter, Debbie Pulman, and sister, Annabelle Hume. The family suggested contributions in Robert's memory be made to St.

Andrew Episcopal Church Memorial Fund, 7989 Little Mountain Road, Mentor, Ohio, 44060.

**William E. Strasser 1950**, on July 8, 2007. William, of Atlanta, Georgia, was eighty-one.

William was an economics major at Kenyon for two years before transferring to the University of Minnesota, where he completed his undergraduate degree. While at Kenyon, William was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and was the business manager for the yearbook and the *Kenyon Collegian*. William served for two years in the Army Air Forces. He went on to a career as an investment banker and became president of Telegraph Saving and Loan in Chicago, Illinois, before retiring from the Allied Mortgage Company. William had been a deacon at the First Presbyterian Church in Evanston, Illinois. He had an interest in competitive sailing. He also served as a park commissioner in Evanston.

"My uncle adored Kenyon and was very proud to be among the school's alumni," said his niece, Sarah Van Oosterhout Shannon '85.

William is survived by son William Strasser; daughters Hannah Strasser and Amy Kistulinec; eight grandchildren; and a sister, Joanna Van Oosterhout.

**David N. Scourfield 1952**, on September 21, 2007. The resident of Franklin, Indiana, was seventy-seven.

A member of Beta Theta Pi, David was enrolled for two years at Kenyon before spending four years in the Air Force during the Korean War, when he was stationed in Saudi Arabia. In a note sent from Saudi Arabia to the College, David mentioned "local uprisings" and forced abstinence from "Beta Brew." He added, "I am quite ready to return to the Hill." But David went on to graduate from Miami University, in 1956.

David worked for twenty years in management positions



for manufacturing companies in Indiana. In 1975 he became an entrepreneur, opening Mike's Grill Bar in Franklin.

In a 1986 alumni note to Kenyon, he wrote, "We had fun!"

David is survived by his wife, Annette; daughters Susan Scourfield-Murphy, Rebecca Scourfield-Curry, and Megan Scourfield-Hearin; five grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorial donations may be made to the Shriner's Children's Hospital, 1900 Richmond Rd., Lexington, Kentucky, 40502.

**Albert P. Wickham '52**, on February 18, 2007. He was seventy-six and a resident of Marshfield, Massachusetts.

Albert was a member of the swimming team and Delta Kappa Epsilon. He graduated from Kenyon with a degree in physics and served in the Navy as a lieutenant commander. He went on to the University of Michigan, where he earned a degree in naval architecture and marine engineering in 1954, and Northeastern University, where he earned a master's in engineering management in 1969. Albert began his career as a naval architect for Bethlehem Steel, which later became General Dynamics, and he became chief of project engineering for the Quincy Shipbuilding Division in Massachusetts. He later did consulting engineering work for M. Rosenblatt and Son. Albert also served on the Conservation Commission for Marshfield, Massachusetts.

He met his future wife, Miriam Titus, in Gambier. Miriam was the daughter of Paul Titus, a long-time faculty member and the Edwin Stanton Professor of Economics. In the 1980s, Albert and Miriam founded Wickham Books, an out-of-print bookstore in Duxbury, Massachusetts. Tracking long-lost books for customers became a welcome challenge for the Wickhams. "The most fun is the interesting people we meet," Albert wrote in a 2005 note to

the College. Albert enjoyed overseas travel with his family, as well as boating and fishing.

Albert is survived by daughters Ann and Jennifer '89 Wickham; sons William and Jeffrey Wickham; and nine grandchildren. Memorial donations may be sent to First Parish Church, P.O. Box 1764, Duxbury, Massachusetts, 02331.

**Charles Douglas Waters '52**, on July 4, 2007. The resident of Cleveland, Ohio, was ninety.

Charles joined the Army in 1942. He worked in a laboratory in England before he attended Cleveland College in 1937-38. He enrolled at Kenyon in 1951 and became a member of the Archon Society. Charles graduated cum laude with a degree in philosophy. In 1957, he earned a master's in education from Western Reserve University and became a teacher. His wife, Margaret, died in 1977.

**Halton Axtell '53**, on August 18, 2007, surrounded by his four children. The Salinas, California, resident was seventy-five.

Halton transferred to Kenyon after two years at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. He served in the Army in 1953 and 1954. He went on to earn a law degree from New York University in 1956. Halton then joined the Ford Motor Company in New Jersey and worked in industrial relations for many years, relocating to Michigan and then California. He learned Spanish and helped establish a Ford automotive plant in Hermosillo, Mexico, working for five years there before retiring in 1994. An animal lover, Halton was particularly fond of dogs. He was athletic throughout his life and played tennis or golf on most days during his retirement.

Halton is survived by daughters Carolyn Hornberger, Valerie LaCommare, and Kate Walker; son, Dean Axtell; eleven grandchildren; brothers Silas '52, Dan, and Ashley; and several nieces and nephews. Memorial

donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73123.

**Edward G. Koran '53**, on September 22, 2007, of chronic pulmonary obstructive disease. Edward, seventy-five, lived in Phoenix, Arizona.

Edward was a political science major and played varsity baseball. He served two years in the Army after being drafted in 1953. Edward moved to Phoenix and prospered in a long career with Merrill Lynch & Company, retiring as a senior financial consultant. Edward wrote poetry and short stories and was a master joke teller. He also enjoyed fishing, golf, scuba diving, tennis, and water skiing.

In an e-mail to the College in 2000, Edward wrote, "I found myself humming some old school songs, and recalled my dismay when the kids at the alumni gathering said that they don't sing at Kenyon as much as we used to. Well, of course, when the student body was all-male, what else was there to do ... but sing like lonesome tomcats?"

"Still, I think something good has been lost."

Edward is survived by his wife, Ann; daughter, Tiffany Marsitto; sons Jeffrey and James Koran; two grandchildren; and sister, Millie Gange.

**James M. Soden '57**, on September 1, 2007. James, who lived in Walla Walla, Washington, died in his sleep at seventy-seven.

James was a member of the Archon Society. A German major, he earned a master's degree in the language from Harvard University after graduating from Kenyon. While at Kenyon, he described his principal recreation as music, and he was a talented pianist. James was a professor of foreign languages and literatures (German) at Whitman College in Walla Walla from 1964 until he retired in 2005. He had been a

department chair and was active in many college committees. He continued to teach independent studies courses in philosophy and literature after his retirement. James was a dog lover and a bird watcher with a keen interest in the natural world. He supported efforts to restore natural habitats in Walla Walla County.

A friend and colleague, Robert Tobin, Cushing Eells Professor and chair of the Department of Humanities and Arts at Whitman, said, "His undergraduate education was at Kenyon College, where he was deeply inspired by the intellectual and creative energies that the small liberal arts college can unleash. I believe he always wanted to re-create that spirit here." James played piano for hours a day and loved to attend opera performances in Seattle, Tobin said.

James is survived by his brother, Pat, and a niece and nephew. Contributions in James's memory can be made to the Blue Mountain Humane Society, 7 E. George Street, Walla Walla, Washington, 99362, and to the Cagley Fund at Whitman College, 345 Boyer Avenue, Walla Walla, Washington, 99362.

**Barton Hoexter '58**, on June 3, 2007. The resident of Great Neck and Manhattan, New York, was seventy.

Barton was a member of Phi Delta Epsilon. He graduated with a degree in biology and went on to George Washington University School of Medicine, where he earned an M.D. in 1962. Barton undertook his internship at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and remained there for residential work. From 1964-66, he served in the U.S. Public Health Service as a surgeon. Upon his return to Mount Sinai to continue residency, Barton became interested in the specialty of colon and rectal surgery and began a practice in that field in 1970 in Great Neck, New York. Barton contributed to education on colon



and rectal surgery though video presentations, book chapters, and forty-one publications. He was president of the New York Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons and the Northeastern Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons. Barton served on the board of directors of the Nassau-Suffolk Division of the American Cancer Society for fifteen years. He was repeatedly named a "best doctor" by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd. and *Town & Country*. He retired in 2005 but remained active in his field.

Those close to Barton describe him as a role model for many surgeons who are in practice today, an indefatigable professional with a kind and generous spirit.

Barton is survived by his wife, Nadya; children, Kenneth, Jill, and Laura Hoexter; and stepson, Leland Snaider.

**John A. McCurdy '59**, on September 14, 2007. The St. Louis, Missouri, resident was seventy.

John, a history major, joined Beta Theta Pi and played baseball, basketball, and golf. Later in life he played golf, tennis, and volleyball, and held a membership in the United States Volleyball Association. He built a career as president and owner of the Shield Packaging Company in St. Louis. In a note to the College in 1991, John, then retired, said, "Kenyon gave me the background, and hard work (gave me) the results."

John is survived by his wife, Sharon; daughters Stacey Wyett and Whitney Schroder; son, John McCurdy; and ten grandchildren.

**Thomas R.B. Waylett '63**, on May 10, 2007, of cancer. He was sixty-six and lived on Kiawah Island, South Carolina.

Thomas was a member of Delta Tau Delta. In 1966, Thomas began a thirty-five year career with Marsh & McLennan Companies, a professional-services business in New York City. In 1982, Thomas was named managing director of budget and finance of the Consulting and Financial

Services Group of Marsh & McLennan. He was later named chairman of Mercer Consulting Group, a Marsh & McLennan subsidiary, and became responsible for all mergers and acquisitions for all Mercer companies. Thomas served on the board of Marsh & McLennan, and was credited with building the management consulting arm of the company. Upon retirement in 1998, he and his wife moved to Kiawah Island, where he was able to pursue his true passion, golf.

Thomas is survived by his wife, Karen; son, Matthew Waylett; daughter, Cherie Waylett Merryman; four grandchildren; and his mother, Frances Waylett.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Charleston Breast Center, 1930 Charlie Hall Boulevard, Charleston, South Carolina, 29414; the Hospice of Charleston, 3870 Leeds Avenue, Suite 101, North Charleston, South Carolina, 29405; or the Kiawah Island Conservancy, 23 Beachwalker Drive, Kiawah Island, South Carolina, 29455.

**Dwain McKinzie '65**, on July 21, 2007. The resident of Indianapolis, Indiana, was sixty-four.

Dwain was a member of Delta Phi. He graduated with a degree in English. In 1969, Dwain became the production coordinator in the consumer electronics division at RCA Corporation, where he worked for several years. Later, he joined the Buehler Corporation as production control expeditor. Dwain continued to be active in his fraternity's affairs after graduation.

**William F. Heinlen '66**, on September 3, 2007. William, sixty-six, was a resident of Bois Blanc Island, Michigan.

William was a history major at Kenyon and went on to earn master's degrees at the University of Michigan, in history, and at Case Western Reserve University, in library science. He became a reference librarian at the Henry

Madden Library at California State University, Fresno, in 1970 and was, for a time, head of the reference department before he retired in 1998.

A former colleague at Fresno, librarian Colleen Mitchell, said William was an innovative administrator who helped modernize the library. "Bill was good with everybody," Mitchell said. "He was definitely the most well-educated and intellectual person on the staff. Kenyon College was important to him. I heard a good deal about it."

One of his passions, she said, was "clear, functional prose." Another was sailing. He built a boat and was skilled at single-handed sailing and once sailed to Hawaii. He wrote *Celestial Navigation in Plain English*, which was published in 1991. After retiring, William often spent winter months in Ireland, taking time to visit Paris, France, a city he loved.

**Barry W. Bellinger '67**, on July 3, 2007. The Washington, D.C., resident was sixty-three.

Barry was a member of the Archon Society. He graduated with a degree in music. In 1967, he began a career at the Library of Congress as a searcher-trainee. He later became co-editor of *LCPA Broadside*, a publication of the Library of Congress Professional Association, and then senior editor of the classification editorial section. Barry was a member of the Daniel A.P. Murray African-American Culture Association, an employee organization at the Library of Congress for which he did writing and editing. Barry's longtime friends note that he frequented Washington galleries and was well known in the contemporary arts scene.

Barry is survived by his mother, Lenore Bellinger. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73123.

**Howard A. Levy '67**, on September 26, 2007, of complications from cancer. The Shaker Heights, Ohio, resident was sixty-two.

Howard was a member of Beta Theta Pi and worked on the *Kenyon Collegian*. He graduated cum laude in English and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Howard began his coursework for a law degree at the University of Chicago Law School but decided to teach at a Cleveland middle school. He earned a master's in education from John Carroll University in 1969. He later resumed law studies and graduated from Case Western University Law School in 1972. Howard became a partner at the Persky Marken Koenigsberg and Shapiro firm before joining the Benesch Friedlander Coplan and Aronoff firm about twenty-five years ago. At Benesch Friedlander, Howard was chair of the labor and employment practice group for more than twenty years. Howard was an outspoken critic of prejudice and discrimination in employment and was involved in the Anti-Defamation League. He served as chair of the ADL civil rights committee for six years before being elected chairman of the ADL for the Ohio/Kentucky/Allegheny region in 1999. Howard's daughter, Erica, married television journalist Geraldo Rivera.

Howard is survived by his wife, Nancy; son, Joshua Levy; daughter, Erica Rivera; three grandchildren; mother, Joan Levy; and brother, Kenneth Levy. Contributions in Howard's memory may be made to the Anti-Defamation League/Cleveland Chapter, 505 Terminal Tower, Cleveland, Ohio, 44113; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Avenue, New York, New York 10065; or Temple-Tifereth Israel, 26000 Shaker Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio, 44122.

**Rev. Christopher T. Connell '68**, on April 23, 2007. The Miami, Oklahoma, resident was sixty.

Christopher was a member of Sigma Pi. He graduated cum



laude with a degree in drama. At Kenyon, he was on the board of directors of the Kenyon College Drama Club and an active member of the Hill Players. He was involved in seven productions, including "The Old Glory," as Endicott, and directed "The Dumb Waiter," among others, and also participated in the Gambier Summer Playhouse. Christopher joined the special services division of the Air Force and completed basic training in 1969. He received a master's in theater arts at the University of Michigan in 1973. Christopher continued his education at the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he was ordained after receiving a master's in divinity in 1974. Christopher then began work as curate at the Parish of Christ Redeemer in Pelham Manor, New York. In 1975, he left Pelham for Metuchen, New Jersey, where he was named associate minister. He continued his career as a minister at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Hammon-ton, New Jersey; St. Raphael's the Archangel Church in Brick, New Jersey; and All Saint's Episcopal Church in Great Neck, New York. While at St. Mark's, he served the Diocese of New Jersey as director of Youth Ministries. After retiring from full-time parish ministry, he served as collections manager for the Museum of the American Numismatic Association in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In Oklahoma, he served as supply priest to St. Martin of Tours in Pryor and St. Basil's in Tahlequah. Christopher's interest in drama never faded, and he joined the Miami Little Theater and appeared in several productions.

Christopher is survived by his wife, Susan; son, Adam Connell; daughter, Garie Connell; mother, Vivienne Connell; and sisters Meris Connell Sparrow and Tara Connell Zuckerman.

**B. Leslie Koch '72**, on October 26, 2007. The Cincinnati, Ohio, resident was fifty-seven.

An English major, Leslie embarked on a career in international publishing after he earned a master's in marketing from the University of Michigan in 1979. Leslie traveled widely, lived in cities around the globe, and spoke several languages. He was European sales manager at Harcourt Brace Jovanovich; Asia/Pacific regional manager for John Wiley

and Sons; executive vice president of Thomas Nelson Australia; and director of international sales and marketing for Houghton Mifflin Co. Much of his work in publishing involved working with international education ministers to help create strategic alliances and develop reorganization plans for academic-publishing companies. He most recently was a sales man-

ager in the hospitality industry.

Leslie appreciated books, fine wine, and music. He favored classical compositions when playing the piano.

Leslie is survived by sons Brian and Cameron Koch; mother, Evelyn Koch; father, Robert Koch; sisters Bobi Jean Donathan and Lisa Joan Smith; and a brother, Tobin Koch.

## MARISSA BOYAN '04

**Marissa Boyan '04, on September 11, 2007, of cancer. The resident of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, was twenty-six.**

Marissa was an English major whose battle against a brain tumor interrupted but did not stop her career at Kenyon. She was twenty when she learned about the disease, but she returned to the College, where she was an exceptional athlete who competed in cross country, swimming, and track. Overcoming the effects of surgery and cancer therapies, Marissa went on to earn a master's in education at the University of Pittsburgh in 2005. She had spent her summers working in the office of the Venice Presbyterian Church, where her family attended. Marissa was a seventh-grade language arts teacher and a girls' high school cross-country coach in the Bethel Park School District in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania.

Her spirited fight against cancer inspired many people, including Brent McAuliffe, a childhood friend and an assistant swimming coach at the University of Pittsburgh. McAuliffe attempted a swim of the English Channel in July 2007 to raise thousands of dollars for a scholarship fund in Marissa's name.

Marissa's parents, William and Janet Boyan of Canonsburg, returned to Gambier on October 27, 2007, for a memorial service and the planting of a tree in her memory near Wilder Track. "Marissa loved Kenyon," Mrs. Boyan said. "It was the right school for her, and she made so many friends who will be life-long friends of ours. We love it there, and we'll be coming back at least once a year."

Her daughter was an overachiever who loved to compete, Mrs. Boyan said. "She excelled at so many things. Even with all that happened to her, it just didn't stop her," she said. "She went back to Kenyon with a brain tumor and she never complained. She dealt with each situation."

Marissa's strength of character was evident before the illness, said Duane Gomez, head

coach of the women's cross country and track and field teams. "Marissa was one of the most incredible individuals I've ever had the pleasure of

knowing and coaching," Gomez said. "Marissa was always positive and upbeat even in the face of the most looming obstacles.

"I would say she was the most selfless person I have ever come across," he added. "She was always looking out for her teammates. Marissa always looked for the best in people and for the best in life.

"Her courage, her wonderful outlook on life, her sunshine smile will certainly be missed."

A favorite Kenyon mentor for Marissa was P.F. Kluge, writer-in-residence, who met her after her diagnosis. "She had returned to finish her work here," Kluge said. "What struck me then and what I will remember about her forever is the way she handled a situation that anyone would find terrifying. And she handled it with humor and grace and courage.

"No one who knew her, as old as they may get to be, will ever forget her."

Marissa's passion for teaching made a strong impression on her colleagues and students, Nancy Aloï Rose told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Rose, deputy superintendent for Bethel Park schools, hired Marissa. "She touched the lives of so many children," Rose said.

Marissa is survived by her parents; brother, Gregory; and grandparents, Jim and Lee Hanna and William and Ruth Boyan. Marissa was engaged to Jay Fletcher.





## SHARE YOUR HISTORY

**K**enyon is full of stories from across the generations—many well known, and many known only by a few. The Kenyon Stories Initiative, a project spearheaded by Alumni Council in collaboration with the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs and College Historian **Tom Stamp '73**, aims to collect and share these personal accounts of life at Kenyon. All members of the Kenyon family are encouraged to submit tales about their experience at the College. Remembrances can be recorded in video, audio, and written form.

Tales collected to date cover a range of topics, including social events, academic, athletic, and extracurricular life on campus, and post-graduation encounters with fellow members of the College community. Whether you're a current or former student or employee, a parent, a spouse, or any other observer of life on the Hill, your stories will enrich the collection.

Although the Kenyon Stories Initiative is a new project, the endeavor is already bearing fruit. A recollection of life in Gambier in the 1940s and 50s by **Douglas W. Downey '51**, recently submitted to the project, appears on the last page of this issue of the *Bulletin*. Alumni have given oral histories on video during the past two Reunion Weekends, and Archon and Brothers United alumni were interviewed in June 2007.

Alumni Council and the College plan to create an archive of these and other oral and written histories so they can be shared with anyone who wishes to learn more about Kenyon's history and traditions. If you would like to make your stories a part of the College archives, send your audio, video, or written account to Tom Stamp, 105 Chase Avenue, Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio 43022-9623, or [stamp@kenyon.edu](mailto:stamp@kenyon.edu).

## BACK TO SCHOOL

**L**ast fall, fifteen alumni had the chance to become Kenyon students once again when the Alumni College made its debut. For this return to school, held September 30-October 2, Professor of Political Science Pamela Jensen and Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes jointly taught a seminar, "Democratic Faiths," which received excellent reviews from the students. Alumni College participants also attended classes with current students and professors and took part in organized activities, including tours of local farms and properties that have been protected by the Philander Chase Corporation.

The second annual Alumni College is scheduled for September 17-19, 2008. Registration material will be mailed to interested alumni in the summer of 2008. More information about

the event will be available in the spring. For information or questions about this new program, contact **Sonya Broeren '90** at [broerens@kenyon.edu](mailto:broerens@kenyon.edu).

**Political science professor Pamela Jensen speaks to a class of alumni in Weaver Cottage at Kenyon's first Alumni College.**



Joel Beckett '08

## BULLETIN BOARD

### SUMMER IN NANTUCKET

Do your summer plans include travel to Nantucket? Martin McKerrow '64 and Bill Wallace '57 P'92 will host a Kenyon event on Nantucket this summer for all members of the Kenyon family who will be on the island. All year-round residents of Nantucket will receive invitations. Any summer residents or others who are in the vicinity can receive an invitation by contacting Jill Shriver at [shriverj@kenyon.edu](mailto:shriverj@kenyon.edu) or 740-427-5147.

### CALLING ALL OUTDOORS CLUB ALUMNI

The Kenyon College Outdoors Club is growing and has plenty of activities and trips planned for this year. The club would love to hear from alumni and share its plans and photos of past outings. For more information on this year's adventures, e-mail [outdoors.club@kenyon.edu](mailto:outdoors.club@kenyon.edu).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Learning in the Company of Friends:

**Columbus, Ohio**, Wednesday, April 9, with Kenyon Historian Tom Stamp '73

**Los Angeles, California**, Thursday, March 6, with Associate Professor of Drama Jonathan Tazewell '84

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, Tuesday, February 26, with Professor of American Studies Peter Rutkoff

**San Francisco, California**, Tuesday, April 29, with Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes

**Seattle, Washington**, Thursday, May 1, with Professor of Religious Studies Royal Rhodes

**Toledo, Ohio**, Tuesday, February 12 with Kenyon Historian Tom Stamp '73

**April 21-23:** Post-Fiftieth Reunion

**May 30-June 1:** Reunion Weekend



## KENYON GOES TO the U.K.

**K**enyon was well represented in the United Kingdom last fall, as President S. Georgia Nugent visited England and Wales. On November 15, 2007, Nugent was named an honorary fellow at the University of Wales Lampeter. At the ceremony, Tony Brothers, classics professor at the university, noted several similarities in the origins of Lampeter and Kenyon. Both institutions were founded by Episcopal bishops in the 1820s, and both were located in the remote western parts of their respective countries. Moreover, when Philander Chase made his famous fundraising tour of England, he traveled with Bishop Thomas Burgess—Lampeter's founder.

Nugent and Vice President for College Relations Sarah Kahrl traveled to England the next day to join Kenyon alumni, parents, and students for a rare Kenyon-in-London event. The event, hosted by **Janet Heckman '76**, was held at Citigroup's London headquarters.



President Nugent joined University of Wales Lampeter President Brinley Jones (left) and Vice Chancellor Robert A. Pearce.



Jean Buhr P'01 (left) and hostess Janet Heckman '76 at the November 16 reception in London.

## A KENYON FEST



A number of alumni gathered to celebrate the fiftieth birthday of David Knowlton '80 on September 22, 2007. It was "a Kenyon fest," in the words of Jim Pierce '78, one of the party-goers.

Celebrating Knowlton's fiftieth, from left to right, were Walter Cabot '80, Guy Riegel '80, Jack Stevenson '80, Joe Hagin '78, David Knowlton '80, Ellen Griggs '77, Jim Pierce '78, and Peter Bianchi '78.

## CAREER ADVICE

**A**re you trying to advance in your field or change careers? Do you have an externship to sponsor? Don't forget about the Kenyon Career Network, online at [alumni.kenyon.edu](http://alumni.kenyon.edu). The Kenyon Career Network is a resource for career contacts, extern sponsors, and career advice.

The Kenyon Career Network online is easy to use, with the ability to search by occupational category, location, keyword, externships, and other criteria. Current volunteers may also update their home and business profiles, indicate contact preferences, and share their personal career histories.

If you are a registered user of the Kenyon Alumni Association Online Directory, select the "Returning User" button and enter your username and password. If you have never registered, contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs at 740-427-5147 or [help@alumni.kenyon.edu](mailto:help@alumni.kenyon.edu) to request your identification number that is required for access.

## Make a difference.

Your gift to the Kenyon Fund supports the entire Kenyon experience, widening opportunities for students today and tomorrow. Give online at [gift.kenyon.edu](http://gift.kenyon.edu).

## The Kenyon Fund



## OF PRANKS AND SONGS AND SODDEN PEEP NIGHTS

By Douglas W. Downey '51

Returning from the movies in Mount Vernon one night, my friend Fred climbed the stairs to his third-floor single in Leonard Hall, only to find the room empty. No bed, no desk, no bureau, no chair.

He immediately knew what had happened. He rushed back to the stairway and peered out the front window. There, down on the grass near Middle Path, was his furniture, arranged exactly as it had been in his room. The desk lamp was lit and the radio was playing.

Fred had been victimized by the old Removed Room Prank.

Pranks and homemade traditions were very much a part of student life during my years at Kenyon. In 1947, my first year, students decided to revive two pre-war traditions, the beanie and the leapfrog. Freshmen (known as "fuzzies") were ordered to purchase purple beanies and wear them at all times. And we were required to leapfrog over the post at the entrance to the south campus. Those of us who were seventeen or eighteen did as we were ordered. Our classmates who were World War II veterans refused.

Everyone, though, participated in the Kenyon tradition of singing. The fraternities would march down Middle Path, singing their official songs, and once a year there would be an interfraternity singing contest. It was taken very seriously—so seriously that some of us less skillful singers were instructed to mouth the words rather than sing out.

We also sang in Peirce Hall, following the noon meal on Sundays. Kenyon songs predominated here, ending of course with "The Thrill." But just before that, there was often a Sing Around the Hill. Fraternity pledges were required to learn not only Kenyon songs and the songs of their own fraternities, but the marching songs of the eight other fraternities as well. We'd start with "A Band of Brothers in DKE" and conclude with "March On, Archon." (Students who did not belong to fraternities had mixed feelings about this event.)

Peirce would sometimes resound with the Anvil Chorus from Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. We'd sing just syllables, not words. And we'd end with the name of a student who, the night before, had consummated (or claimed to have consummated) a certain rite of passage.

Chapel wasn't exactly a tradition; it was a requirement. But there were traditional ways to dodge it. Overachieving agnostics would attend the services but sit in the rear of one of the wings and do their studying. Students could receive chapel credit by attending services in Mount Vernon and signing a roster; at least one Catholic student (who shall remain nameless) became very skilled at signing multiple names on the roster at St. Vincent's.

Then there were Peep Nights. They usually began on a hot evening when all of the windows were open, with a provocateur making "peep-peep" noises outside of a neighboring dorm or division. Someone inside would fill a wastebasket with water and throw it out the window on the peeper. The peeper's

allies, armed with wastebaskets of their own, would storm the stairs of the dorm to retaliate. At least one battle between North Leonard and Middle Leonard ended with a visit from the campus police.

Much has been written about Dance Weekends, from the imported dates to the big-name bands that played on Saturday night. Less has been said about Sunday morning, when we would gather at the football field for a milk-punch party, featuring milk mixed with cheap whiskey in a large wash bucket. After the ladies departed, we were able to revert to our normal gross behavior and language, and the thank-God-they're-gone parties would begin.

There's so much more. The nicknames we had for professors and administrators. The Homecoming bonfire. The Beta Rock and its frequent waterings. And that Peirce Hall Coffee Shop favorite, the PBLM: a peanut butter, lettuce, and mayonnaise sandwich.

Ah, the PBLM. That's a tradition you don't easily forget.

Doug Downey gathered these memories as part of the Kenyon Stories Initiative, an effort by Alumni Council and the College to collect personal accounts of life at Kenyon through the generations. Doug had the help of Ed Karkow, Mike Schiffer, Bob Vallera, Lew Weingard, Roger Whiteman, and Bob Wilson, all from the Class of 1951; Ted Thomas '49; and John Hallenberg and Jim Hunt, Class of 1953.



Bucket: Richard Goery/Stock Photo. Ladle: Emre Arican/Stock Photo



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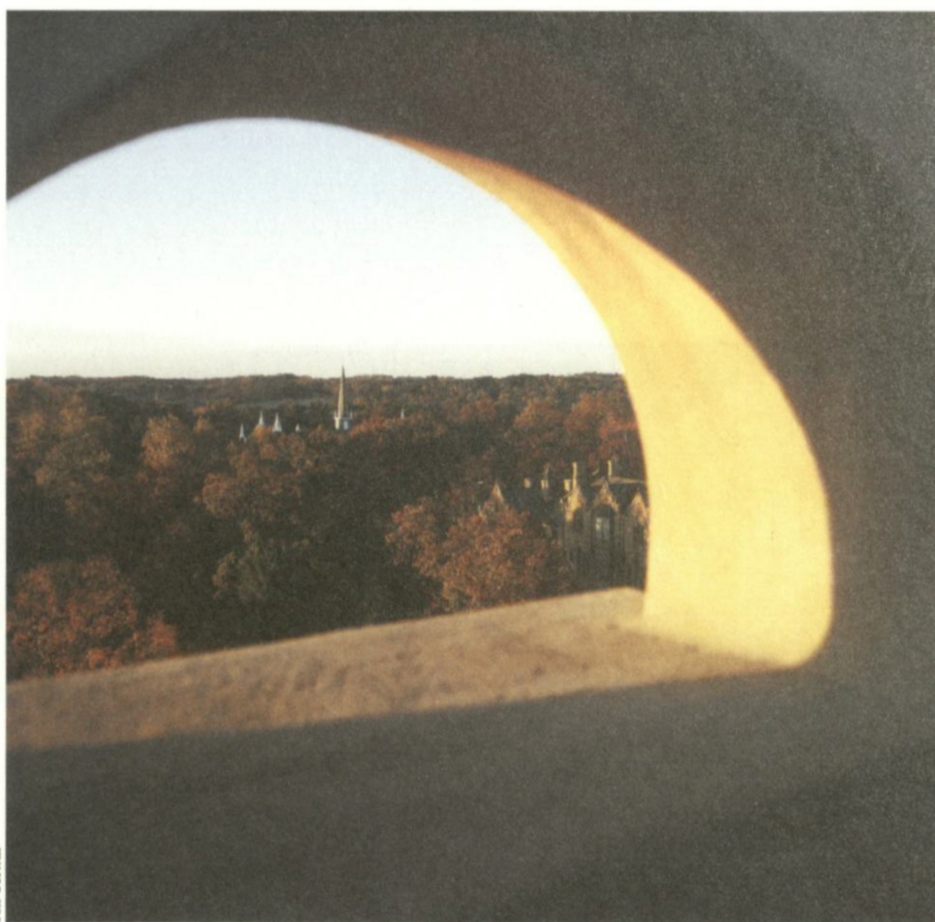
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## MORNING GLORY

The spires of Old Kenyon are seen  
in October's morning light through  
the stonework of Peirce tower.



Jeff Corwin