Colby Tightens Budget Belt

Barbara Nelson’s Global Reach

Joseph Atkins on Racism’s Demise

For “Whit,” It’s 600 Wins—and Counting

The Real Faces of AIDS

The REAL NCIS

Tom Betro at the Helm
If you guessed E, you’re absolutely right. Did you know that if every Colby alum gave $25 to the Colby Fund, over a half million dollars would be generated to help provide an inspiring college experience for deserving students? That’s the power of participation.

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An Activist Womanhood | Professor Cheryl Townsend Gilkes delivered a Black History Month address at Michigan State Feb. 26. “Yet With a Steady Beat: An Activist Womanhood,” can be heard online.

Keyword: Gilkes

Ballroom Blitz | Alexandra Desaulniers ’11 didn’t expect to find a hotbed of ballroom dancing in Winslow, Maine. But that’s how it turned out when she and Corey Martin ’10 volunteered to ready 100 students for a Winslow High show.

Keyword: ballroom

Of Consequence | Jody Zorgdrager ’89 reads from her new book of poetry, Of Consequence. Her reflections transform seemingly prosaic details and moments.

Keyword: poetry
To raise awareness of eating disorders, Aleah Starr ’11 created a multimedia exhibit that brings together real people, photography, and stories. As shown here, words are projected on bodies in white T-shirts. Starr plans to take her exhibit to other schools and colleges.

*Photo by Kristin Nissen ’11*
Given the tumultuous times, I hope the stories in this issue of Colby offer a bit of reassurance. No, we can’t tell you when the economy will rebound. But we can show you that there are many good people out there—more than a few being bona fide members of the Colby community—and they still are going about their business of making the world a better place.

This magazine is chock full. Professor Barbara Kuczun Nelson ’68 not only teaches Colby students, but she offers her acclaimed Spanish language-instruction Web site free of charge, free of advertising, to students and teachers around the world (P. 14). What does Nelson get out of it? Read the e-mailed and heartfelt thank-you notes that accompany Lauren Pongan’s story—and multiply them by several thousand.

On television, cops are always hard on the trail of crooks and terrorists. Tom Betro ’81, head of the real-life version of TV’s popular drama NCIS, has spent his career in such pursuits, but in the real world (P. 20). The perps—from drug dealers to murderers to actual terrorists—aren’t bagged in an hour, but Betro’s global team usually gets its man (or woman).

Readers may be both heartened and dismayed by the work of Ken Wong ’83 at the Face-to-Face Aids Project (P. 26). Wong has inspired Jamie Goldring ’09, and both have worked to tell the human story behind AIDS in Malawi. It’s an effort—and a story—that takes a tragic situation and imbues it with courage and hope.

It takes courage to confront a problem as overwhelming as the AIDS epidemic or poverty. It also takes a certain amount of courage to remain optimistic in the face of adversity—or confronted by the inescapable reminders of it. This is a note about the power of optimism and the importance of a willingness to move forward in small but unyielding steps, so I must conclude it with a plug for Joe Atkins (P. 12).

Atkins is a psychology professor at Colby, and he also runs multicultural programs here. He is African-American and has felt the sting of racism. But Atkins, like millions of Americans, also has felt the sea change that was the inauguration of Barack Obama. Atkins has chosen to join what is not so much a movement as what he sees as an emerging reality.

Read his essay. You may choose to embrace this new reality, as well. And, like others whose stories are told here, you may feel that with good works comes the sometimes faint but still-inextinguishable fire of hope.
Making Their Mark

Volunteering with struggling Waterville residents gives students new perspectives by Hannah DeAngelis ’12

Julia Coffin ’09 is making French toast and can’t find the cinnamon. She rummages through the shelf of scattered spices again and sighs. “I’ll just pick some up next time I’m out,” she says under her breath. Suzanne Merkelson ’09 resumes cracking eggs, and the two women decide to continue cooking without the cinnamon.

It’s 6:30 on a Monday morning, and the French toast isn’t an early breakfast for Coffin and Merkelson to enjoy. It’s for the men and women sitting at the large wooden table behind them at the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter.

Coffin and Merkelson are two of many students who volunteer to help people in need in Waterville. While Colby is a picturesque campus on a hill, Waterville, like many former mill towns in New England, is a community working to redefine itself in a new post-industrial era. But it faces serious challenges. Good jobs are scarce, and the recent economic downturn is likely to make things worse. In January Maine’s unemployment rate hit its peak since 1983. Of Waterville’s 15,600 residents, 19 percent live below the poverty level. Many Colby students eagerly do whatever they can to help.

Q&A with Economics Department Chair David Findlay

Patrick Bagley ’10 admits to sweating while waiting for David Findlay for his interview, wondering whether the stories of the energetic, no-BS professor were true. They spoke about teaching at Colby, the nation’s struggling economy, and why baseball is a saving grace for economists.

The Darlings of the Dining Halls

Students say why they love the ladies who swipe their cards

Let’s face it. College is more fun than high school. Sure, the work is harder (it’s supposed to be!), but that’s a fair trade for high school’s nagging homerooms, mandatory study halls, and scheduled lunch periods.

Perhaps dining is the best way to digest the newfound freedom. No, we at insideColby are not suggesting downing soft-serve 24/7. That would be gross. Rather, we’d like to introduce some of Colby students’ favorite people—the ladies who swipe our cards at the dining halls. Each has a unique personality that students know and love. After all, when you’re away from home, who else is going to greet you at breakfast and tell you that you’re looking sharp?
A Very Few Degrees of Separation

Among the items I dealt with in my first month as president, July 1960, was a letter from Tom Mboya, a senior political leader in Kenya, one of a wide array of letters mailed to presidents of American universities and colleges. Mr. Mboya explained that funds from the Kennedy Foundation had been made available to pay airfare for a number of Kenyan students hoping to enroll in American institutions. This enterprise came to be known informally at the Kennedy Airlift.

As I understand it, the Eisenhower Administration had been approached but was not all that interested. John F. Kennedy, still U.S. Senator and not yet president-elect, was in favor of the program. The idea appealed strongly to me, and after consulting the Admissions Office I informed Mr. Mboya that Colby would participate. The Kenyan government sent two students for enrollment in the Class of 1964, Charles Angwenyi and Eric Levi. Both graduated and returned to Kenya. Charles became head of the National Bank of Kenya, and Eric took an engineering degree at Columbia and has practiced engineering in Kenya ever since. Charles was awarded a Colby honorary degree in 1988, but he died in middle life. One of his sons, Peter, graduated from Colby in 2000. A first cousin of Charles Angwenyi, Bill Mayaka, decided to follow along to Colby. He graduated in 1973, returned to Kenya, and entered the civil service, attaining the post of permanent secretary (a career rather than political appointment) in two cabinet ministries. One of his sons, Christopher, graduated from Colby in 1999.

In 1959, as part of a kind of vanguard of the Kennedy Airlift, a Kenyan student, Barack Obama Sr., enrolled at the University of Hawaii. On his return to Kenya it is my understanding that Bill Mayaka became acquainted with him and knew him well at the time of his untimely death. As Tolstoy observed, history emerges from small fragments accumulated over time.

Robert E.L. Strider II, president emeritus
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

Robot’s Place is in the Home

Regarding the interview with Computer Science Chair Bruce Maxwell (Q&A, winter 2009 Colby), I am a 1972 Colby grad who is just finishing nursing school after another career. I was very interested in your article since I have a long-standing interest in public health nursing.

I can definitely see a role for robots to supplement home health care such as monitoring vital signs, lab results, medication compliance, and patient safety. More and more patients want to remain in their homes—even if they are ill and alone. It will be interesting to see the applications that robotics provides.

The big question will be costs. If nurses and home health-care aides are being cut back, who will be able to afford robots?

Still, I believe robotic telemetry has a future in our health-care system. Keep up the good work.

Amy Becker ’72
Reston, Virginia

Parenting Means Sacrifice, Compromise

I was confused by the article “Double Duty” (winter 2009 Colby). Was the point to say that these women would be having an easier time if their husbands took on more domestic responsibilities, or was it a celebration of what these women are achieving in business?

I found it depressing. Every educated, two-career couple must make hard decisions when they bring a child into the world. That child arrives with a need for 24-hour-a-day care. Two parents with two full-time jobs suddenly have three full-time jobs, one of which comes with strong emotional needs. Every family must decide what will work for all of them as individuals and as a unit, and usually both parents need to make sacrifices and compromises.

The careers these high-powered women have chosen typically do not allow time for family, a condition that was at one time reserved for men. I’m not saying women should not pursue these careers, but I believe that families find more balance when one or both members of the couple put the brakes on their careers for a while when they have kids at home. Choosing to push careers forward full-throttle at a time when kids need you the most is not taking their needs into consideration.

Where people spend their limited time is a reflection of their values, whether it’s at work, the gym, volunteering at the homeless shelter, or at the tanning salon. And mothers and fathers who volunteer at school and attend sporting events are there because they value time with their children. Families that spend time together benefit by having a strong bond, shared memories, and a connection to their community. People who view parenting as taking turns relieving the nanny and taking a child to school once a month may never experience those bonds.

I know many women (and men) who are proud to be strong role models for their children by bucking society’s obsession with status, money, and egocentrism, and performing one of the most undervalued jobs in our country: raising our kids.

Christine Tuccille Merry ’91
Frederick, Maryland
Many Forms of “Double Duty”

I was very pleased to read the article, “Double Duty,” (winter 2009 Colby) about Colby alumnae mothers who are masterfully handling both corporate and family responsibilities. Their dedication is both admirable and inspiring. That being said, I think it’s important to note that the women portrayed are a mere subset of those considered working mothers. The Colby subjects are at top levels of their respective organizations and, in several cases, have the means necessary to hire nannies. While I laud their courage and hope to one day successfully combine career and family, I believe the term “double duty” is far more complex. It includes those parents, both married and single, who can’t afford nannies or childcare. Also included are women (and men) who work because they don’t have a choice.

It is encouraging to know that Colby women rise to top levels of organizations and simultaneously negotiate keeping a family together. But the media seem to direct our expectations toward the idealized working mother, one with an executive-level job and the drive to conquer the corporate world akin to that of her male counterparts. Whether a parent is a single mother working two blue-collar jobs or a father staying home while his wife is deployed overseas, “double duty” can be done well through a broad variety of means.

Lauren R. Schaad ’01
Glendale, Arizona

Where Were the Republicans?

As the parent of a proud Colby grad I enjoy reading Colby. This issue (winter 2009 Colby) was quite disappointing in reporting on campaign/inauguration news. Two opposing sides ran and Colby students worked on both sides—not just for Obama. You missed a wonderful opportunity to discuss how both sides reacted to the election and to the inauguration, and how important both sides are to our process. Although you likely reflect the liberal view on campus, the conservative minority deserves representation for the good of all.

Linda C. Johnson P’05
Loch Lloyd, Missouri

Editor’s note: Colby contacted several students involved in the McCain campaign. Only one, the student quoted in the winter issue, chose to comment.

Bring Obama to Campus

Regarding the article, “Racial Controversy on Campus,” (winter 2009 Colby), the potential for racial conflict is surprising at this point in time when our country has elected the first person of color as president of the United States and has received international acclaim from countries all over the world. Our country has gained stature because of the intellect, poise, and gentility of Barack Obama. Perhaps inviting him to speak to the students would enable students and faculty to expand their racial tolerance and their capacity for mutual respect.

Patricia A. Atherton, Ph.D.
Chicago, Illinois

On Cultural Insensitivity

I was dismayed to read about racial and cultural insensitivity on the Colby campus. A luau-themed party? A Cinco de Mayo celebration? When will it end? In solidarity with those who demonstrated, I will boycott Saint Patrick’s Day parties because green beer is an affront to my husband’s cultural heritage, and I will no longer buy Kaiser rolls because they are offensive to my German lineage.

Susanna Hofmann McShea ’71
Basking Ridge, New Jersey

A Healthy Response

Although I was dismayed to see an article titled “Racial Controversy on Campus,” (winter 2009 Colby) I perceive the decision to run the story and not suppress it as a hopeful sign of a healthy campus response to the events that were reported.

On a not-very-racially-diverse campus populated with many students and faculty members who hail from not-very-diverse communities, it’s not surprising that hurtful racial insults and incivility occur, whether or not they are intentional. Some young people, in particular, haven’t had much opportunity in their lives to learn about living side-by-side with others in a society composed of diverse cultures, religions, races, sexual orientations, physical abilities, etc.

More important than offensive incidents, however, is how one reacts to them. Colby is fortunate to have a program called Campus Conversations on Race and I hope the College will consider ways to offer the experience to more students, faculty, and staff. Engaging in face-to-face dialogue can help participants challenge their assumptions and build understanding, trust, and friendships across racial and ethnic lines. Good facilitators keep the dialogue respectful and real, allowing everyone to gain insight.

Besides being a civil thing to do, acquiring the skills to recognize stereotypes and build new relationships across old barriers is an element of preparing oneself for living, working, and contributing successfully in an ever-changing world community. As such, it is entirely consistent with Colby’s enduring mission.

Jeff Stone ’73
Milton, Massachusetts
SAT Options, Not SAT Optional

Colby applicants now have a third choice as they consider which standardized test scores to submit. Applicants to the Class of 2014 are no longer required to submit scores from the College Board Reasoning Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT) if they choose to submit three different SAT Subject Tests (formerly SAT II).

The change follows three years of study of the role of standardized tests in Colby’s admissions process. Last fall a faculty-led group recommended the change as a way for the College to move toward its goals of building a more diverse applicant pool and providing a more accurate way to predict student performance at Colby. The new policy was approved by the Board of Trustees in October.

The study group found that the three-choice policy:
• Allows students with a particular strength to showcase their achievement.
• Adds an opportunity for students from underrepresented groups to submit a language SAT Subject Test to help fulfill Colby’s test requirement.
• Recognizes that the results on the SAT Reasoning Test have been found to be affected by family income more than SAT Subject Tests. Students from more affluent families tend to do better on reasoning tests. The change offers economically challenged students an opportunity to show their academic ability.
• Is consistent with Colby’s finding that the third SAT Subject Test is a better predictor of first-year success than the SAT Reasoning Test.
• “Each of these alone is kind of a small thing, but when you add them all up it’s a considerable advantage,” said Steve Saunders, Charles A. Dana Professor of Music and a member of the study group.

The change will be implemented for a five-year trial period, beginning with the 2009-10 admission cycle. During this trial the College will evaluate the three-choice policy to see how or if it affects admissions process and the student body.

Admissions policies regarding standardized tests vary among Colby’s peer schools. Standardized tests are optional at Bowdoin and Bates. Williams requires the SAT Reasoning Test plus two SAT Subject Tests. Middlebury’s requirements are the same as Colby’s.

Saunders said the three-choice model was an incremental change made after a broad range of views was explored, with some study-group members advocating making SATs optional and others calling for requiring both the SAT Reasoning Tests and additional Subject Tests.

“I think this is a good move for Colby,” Saunders said. —Gerry Boyle ’78

MASS EXTINCTION? NOT SO FAST

An article written by Robert Gastaldo, chair of the Geology Department, with two Colby undergraduates among the coauthors, undermines a popular and widely publicized theory about the Permian Mass Extinction, the greatest catastrophic die-off of animals in Earth’s history.

“Instead of a sudden crisis, the largest mass extinction in Earth’s history might have been a prolonged event that stretched over hundreds of thousands of years,” is how the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s (AAAS) magazine reported the story online. “If confirmed, the findings could send researchers scrambling to find a new explanation for the greatest of mass die-offs on land.” Big news in the world of science.

The article in the March 2009 GEOLOGY magazine, the leading journal in the discipline, challenges the theory that a “dead zone” layer of sedimentary rock in central South Africa represents the clear and synchronized end of most animals from the Permian period—a theory championed by other scientists on the Discovery Channel, in National Geographic specials, and on Animal Planet.

The Colby researchers, working with two other scientists and funding from the National Science Foundation, found wide variations in the stratigraphic record at sites very near where the original layer dubbed “the dead zone” was discovered. The variations undermined the notion that it was a consistent marker of a relatively quick die-off across an area spanning continents.

C. Kittinger “Kit” Clark ’08 and Sophie Newbury ’08 are coauthors, and about a dozen Colby students have worked on site in the Karoo Basin of South Africa since 2003, when Gastaldo rocks in the area. The first two science writers to report the story online both made the same mistake: calling Newbury and Clark “graduate students,” when, in fact, they published the paper as undergraduates. —Stephen B. Collins ’74

Go to www.colby.edu/mag for a link to the GEOLOGY article.
Musical Islam

The musical sounds of Islam, rarely heard in Maine or even the United States, have made it to Colby. Music Artist in Residence Dhruv Sangari, a well-known vocalist in the genre, is teaching a course and presenting Sufi music—mystical Islamic music—using poetry and improvisation. “It’s the only real singing in an Islamic tradition,” said Colby Music Department Chair Steven Nuss, who helped bring Sangari to Colby from New Delhi, India, to teach and perform. “It’s a facet of Islam that we don’t hear a lot about.”

Sufi music may be sung in Hindi, Panjabi, Urdu, Persian, or other languages, and much of it surrounds love poems. “It’s a very florid, melodic style, something between operatic and birdlike,” said Nuss.

Sangari’s form of Sufi music, which comes from ancient temples of northern India and Pakistan, is primarily represented by Qawwali, a form of Arabic vocal music from the seventh and eighth centuries that eventually blended with preexisting local Indian forms and evolved into its own musical genre. Sangari, 27, has also recorded pop and rock fusion, blending sacred, secular and World music traditions.

—Ruth Jacobs

Downtown Development

Amid the economic slowdown, two mainstays of Waterville’s downtown are on the move.

After more than three years of planning and extensive historic renovation, the Hathaway Creative Center opened in November. The riverfront mill that once housed the Hathaway Shirt Co. welcomed its first major office tenants, MaineGeneral Health and the HealthReach Network. Work continued as apartment and studio space was readied, with the first residential tenants expected to move in this spring.

The project, undertaken by Rhode Island-based developer Paul Boghossian ’76 and business partner Thomas Niemann, is expected to be a mainstay of downtown redevelopment in Waterville. The mill is on the banks of the Kennebec River, affording expansive riverfront views.

Boghossian intends to follow the Hathaway renovation with redevelopment of two adjacent mills. Boghossian—and state, local, and Colby officials—predict the renovation of the mills will bring in a new wave of residents, office workers, professionals, and artisans to the city center.

Plans and fundraising also are underway for a $4-million renovation of the Waterville Opera House. Opened in 1902 with Waterville City Hall, the Opera House still is in use. But Lisa Hallee ’81, chair of Opera House’s development committee and senior major gifts officer at Colby, recently told city officials that the 900-seat facility needs extensive modernization. “It’s incumbent upon us to make sure this special place can benefit generations to come,” she said.

Plans call for upgrading the balcony seating, installing new flooring, reconfiguring walls to improve acoustics, and improving safety of exits. “The backstage is both crowded and unsafe,” Hallee told the Morning Sentinel. “It is crowded with three stories of dressing rooms dating back to 1902.” —G.B.
WIT AND WISDOM

“See what I mean? These students—they are good.”

Environmental leader Søren Hermansen to ABC News anchor Bob Woodruff following a meeting with Colby students. Woodruff was at Colby working on a Discovery Channel documentary about Hermansen, a guest speaker (see story, P. 11).

“It does seem strange that it’s ‘metric tonnes per square foot.’”

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Philip Nyhus, reviewing data that shows Colby reduced carbon emissions 32 percent since 1990 (based on CO2 per square foot of building space).

“Champagne Steps was disgusting.”

The Echo, in an editorial advocating a new end-of-classes celebration that includes faculty and staff and that passes “the propriety test.”

“I received two complaints about the heat. Both came from buildings where we did not turn down the heat.”

Vice President for Administration and Treasurer Doug Terp ’84, on faculty/staff reaction to building temperatures being turned down a few degrees between Christmas and New Year’s to save energy.

“I couldn’t see that well, but just being there with two million other people just cheering—this kind of hopefulness, the energy ... the excitement mixed with almost relief when Obama took the oath was just an absolutely incredible moment, one I’m going to carry with me for a very long time.”

Isaac Opper ’10, from Helena, Mont., on attending the presidential inauguration. Listen to the interview at www.insidecolby.com/podcast.

NSF Supports Colby Faculty

Four recent National Science Foundation grants are supporting research and programs at Colby, and all four have environmental themes.

An international conference, Climate and Cultural Anxiety, the first major gathering of historians of climate change, is scheduled on campus April 1-4. Thirty-two international scholars will discuss historical perspectives on climate change.

Professor of Science, Technology, and Society James Fleming received a $25,000 NSF grant to support the conference, whose formal title is Climate Change Science, Environmental Challenges, and Cultural Anxiety: Historical and Social Perspectives. Fleming billed the conference as “unique and unprecedented ... international, intergenerational, and interdisciplinary.”

A leading expert on the history of meteorology, Fleming said the field of historical studies of climate change is beginning to achieve critical mass. “Ten years ago it would have been me and one other person—and we did meet once in a while for coffee.”

Meanwhile, three other professors received NSF grants in the fall semester for projects focused on the environment. Whitney King (chemistry) is developing instruments that can measure iron and copper in seawater, Phil Brown (economics) is analyzing the pros and cons of dams in China, and Paul Josephson (history) is studying the role of science and technology in the Soviet conquest of the Russian Arctic.

Details on these NSF grants are online at www.colby.edu/mag.

S.H.O.U.T! It Out

A student-organized weekend about multiculturalism, centered on the theme of freedom, brought together students and members of the community March 5-7 for demonstrations, workshops, and a keynote address by Vagina Monologues author Eve Ensler (above, right).

This is the second year of S.H.O.U.T!—a reincarnation of the Diversity Conference first organized by Colby students in 2001. “The point of S.H.O.U.T! was really to spark discussion about underrepresented viewpoints and issues,” said Pamela Colon ’09, who helped found the event last year.

S.H.O.U.T! (Speaking, Hearing, Opening Up Together!) kicked off with demonstrations in Cotter Union—from Aaron Kaye ’11 breaking wooden boards to the Dynasty Step Team’s rhythmic performance (above, left).

On Friday Ensler spoke about her work in the Democratic Republic of Congo and urged the audience to take action on violence against women and girls.

Activities on Saturday included workshops on freedom of speech, religion, and more—giving students an opportunity to talk to their peers about issues relating to this year’s theme and what it meant to them on an individual level.

In the afternoon students participated in activities to learn about cultures through cooking, martial arts, salsa dancing, step dancing, and more. “It was so much fun because it’s such a group effort,” said Amelia Fogg ’11 about the Taiko drumming workshop.

The Pugh Community Board is planning to continue the conversation spurred by S.H.O.U.T! with many other activities including discussion forums, film screenings, and guest speakers.

—Jenny Chen ’12
Gerald Holtz ’52, Pillar of Fiscal Strength

Gerald J. Holtz ’52, who served on the Board of Trustees for 16 years from 1984 to 2001, died Jan. 3, 2009, at 77 in West Falmouth, Mass. He is remembered as a great supporter and friend of Colby. President William D. Adams, recalling Holtz’s diligence as chair of the trustees’ Budget and Finance Committee, said, “He had a gentle but firm way of keeping us on track. Much of Colby’s admirable financial strength and stability is owing to Jerry’s influence and leadership.”

A chemistry major at Colby, Holtz attended Bentley College and had the highest score in Massachusetts on the Certified Public Accountant exam in 1953. He served in the U.S. Navy and earned an M.B.A. at Harvard. He worked for Arthur Andersen for 35 years, eventually heading the firm’s tax quality control program. After retiring in 1992, he taught accounting at the Boston College management and law schools until 2001.

Lawrence Pugh ’56, former chair of Colby’s board, said Holtz was a devoted alumnus and trustee. “I think one of the reasons the school is in such good financial shape today is because of people like Jerry and because of the sound, conservative fiscal advice he gave.”

At Colby Holtz served as vice chair of the board and received a Colby Brick Award in 1992 and the Marriner Distinguished Service Award in 1995.

“He was so wise and experienced, and so gentle in his suggestions,” President Emeritus William R. Cotter said in a note to Holtz’s widow, Jane, adding that Holtz was “universally liked, respected, and admired at Colby.”

Holtz also served on boards at Temple Israel in Boston (where he was president), Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Salt Pond Area Bird Sanctuaries, and Penikese Island School.

InsideColby Profiles
“The Man”

In January first-year student Eva Ludvig scheduled a meeting with President Bro Adams, took along a digital recorder, and asked him questions that she and her friends had to answer during college interviews. “The Man, the Myth, the Bro” roams from The Godfather to France and from BMR to Tom Waits. Listen at insidecolby.com/podcast (episode 44).

Clogging the Brain Drain

Despite the discouraging economic climate into which the Class of 2009 will be venturing, there is some good news for college graduates planning to stay in Maine.

The Opportunity Maine program is a citizens’ initiative that passed unanimously in the Maine House of Representatives and by a large majority in the Senate. The program is a self-described, “ambitious, first-in-the-nation college affordability and economic development program.”

College students who received student loans as part of their financial aid packages since January 2008, and who continue to work in Maine after graduation, are eligible. Students must sign up in their college’s financial services office. For a maximum of 10 years, graduates who continue to live and work in Maine may claim up to $5,500 in income tax credit for each year in which they are repaying loans.

If a student leaves Maine, there is no penalty. They may also claim the tax credit if they leave and return to Maine a few years later. —L.P.

RESETTING REFUGEES

A full-day conference Feb. 7 that focused on the status of the more than 4.2 million Iraqis who have been displaced since the 2003 U.S. invasion brought together more than 75 students, Maine residents, and community organizers. The Iraq Refugee Awareness Movement (IRAM), a student organization advised by Assistant Professor of History Jason Opal, spearheaded the event. The Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement sponsored the conference.

Nour al-Khal, former New York Times interpreter and assistant to deceased U.S. reporter Steven Vincent, opened events with an emotional account of her painful journey to attain refugee status in the United States after being shot by Iraqi police impersonators.

Alaa Rasheed, an Iraqi translator and refugee now living in Worcester, Mass., discussed the logistical difficulties of transitioning to life in the United States.

Other speakers included Kael Alford, a photojournalist who created the book Unembedded, and journalist Anna Badkhen; two Iraqi refugees who have been resettled in the United States; two representatives from international nonprofits that aid refugees; and Laila Al-Arian, a journalist for Al Jazeera English.

Cheryl Hamilton from the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence and Arian Giantris from Catholic Charities Maine led a workshop that focused on acting locally to offer immediate aid to Iraqi refugees in Maine.

Sophie Sarkar ’11, an IRAM student leader, thought the conference forged a relationship between American conference attendees and Iraqis. “It made the issue a reality by connecting the Colby community to actual Iraqi refugees,” she said. —Lauren Pongan ’09
To Lend a Hand with Hands-On Skill

Though they received no academic credit for meeting two evenings each week, 22 students completed a Jan Plan enrichment series on how to research and write grant proposals for nonprofit and community-based organizations.

Students said the presentations by employees of local and state nonprofits offered them new options for civic engagement. “There is so much happening in Waterville. It would be great to help there,” said Jena Hershkowitz ’12. She said that working for a nonprofit in New York last summer showed her how difficult it can be to find someone with experience writing grants. “Now if they need a grant writer, I know I can help.”

Presenters came from the Maine Philanthropy Association, Grantwinners.net, the Maine Governor’s Children’s Cabinet, and other organizations. They spoke about researching and writing grants and about initiatives they have been able to support through successful proposals.

As he looks to graduation and a career, Brian Wadugu ’09 sees grant writing as an important skill. “It came at just the right time,” he said. His interest in learning a valuable skill convinced him to enroll even though the course carried no academic credit.

The Jan Plan workshop series was a collaboration between Community Outreach Coordinator Marnie Terhune and Associate Dean of Students Barbara Moore. Moore considers grant writing an essential skill from a career perspective, while Terhune sees the potential for students to give something back to their communities.

—Alexandra Desaulniers ’11

Loosening the Wind Belt

If all goes as planned, the United States will witness 20-fold growth in wind power consumption by 2030, and that’s not just because Obama won the presidency and Democrats have a majority in the House. According to Robert Gramlich ’91, policy director at the American Wind Energy Association in Washington, D.C., technological, social, economic, and policy factors are converging to create a welcoming climate for wind.

Supply? Check. “We’ve got a lot more wind capacity than we have electricity consumption in the country—more than we could ever use,” Gramlich told a room packed with economics and environmental studies majors, among others, on Feb. 6.

Demand? But of course. The challenge is getting the power to the demanders. The area of the country best suited for wind power—from the Texas panhandle up to the Dakotas, which energy tycoon T. Boone Pickens calls the wind belt—is sparsely populated. The power needs to go to the coasts. One subject of debate is who will pay for transmission lines, Gramlich said.

Despite the many issues to be worked through, Gramlich believes that the United States is on its way to 20 percent wind power (from one percent currently) by 2030. A primary factor is that, since it has the potential to create jobs, politicians who may have dismissed wind at another time could give it a chance. “There’s a lot of windy red states,” said Gramlich, “and that could really change a lot of the political dynamics.”

And, unlike in Cape Cod and Maine’s mountain regions, issues about disrupting views are less pervasive in the wind belt. “The only NIMBY problems we have in the middle of the country are the neighboring landowners who don’t get that lease payment,” Gramlich said. “They want it on their land.” —R.J.

Environmental Hero

Here’s a recipe for a successful campus lecture: serve refreshments, have a Discovery Channel video crew taping the talk, and invite a charismatic “Time Magazine Hero of the Environment” whose profile on Time’s Web site begins, “It’s amazing what a little free beer can accomplish.”

Søren Hermansen was the environmental hero on campus March 11, meeting with students and other members of the Environmental Advisory Group, getting taped for a TV special, and delivering a public talk. Hermansen gained acclaim when he led the island of Samsø in Denmark, population 4,300, to convert to 100-percent renewable and sustainable energy. In fewer than 10 years the islanders completely eliminated their carbon emissions and, by selling wind and solar power to the mainland, they now claim a 140-percent reduction in their collective carbon footprint.

Hermansen, who spoke less about technology than about changing social values and building consensus, addressed a question from a student about the role of beer in Samsø’s initiative. “Don’t believe everything you read in the newspaper,” he said—then went on to praise the role of coffee, cookies, and yes, sometimes beer, in the countless meetings required for islanders to unite in a common purpose. He also explained that identifying respected community members and making sure in advance that they would volunteer at those meetings helped ensure the project’s success. Hermansen is now a sustainability evangelist, talking around the world about Samsø’s success and running the island’s the Energy Academy when he’s at home.

“I always knew Scandinavians were some of the most civilized people on the planet,” Blair Braverman ’11 wrote in her blog after listening to Hermansen. “And now I have proof.” —S.B.C.
Is Racism Dead?

Only If We Act As If It Were, and Expect the Same From Others

By Joseph Atkins

The two days, Jan. 19 and 20, 2009, were among the most memorable in my life.

On the morning of Jan. 19 I was the keynote speaker at the Martin Luther King Jr. Day breakfast in Waterville; the next morning I was on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., to share in the historic inauguration of America’s first African-American president.

The title of my talk was “Inaugurating a New Era: If Racism Is Dead, Let’s Bury It,” and it addressed how Americans might celebrate the progress our nation has made relative to civil rights while accepting the challenges that lie ahead.

As a founder of the program Campus Conversations on Race at Colby, I’m privileged to work with many socially conscious students. This shapes my perspectives and keeps me future oriented.

One of Dr. King’s popular quotes is, “If you can’t fly, run. If you can’t run, walk. If you can’t walk, crawl. But by all means, keep moving.” When I think about racism and its legacy in America, I do so in a way that honors history and also continues to move us forward. I remain cognizant that Rosa Parks’s simple act of courage and defiance in refusing to give up her bus seat began what would be the end of institutionalized racism in the South. As has been said, Parks moved the nation by sitting. Much can be accomplished by even the simplest of gestures.

Racism was a fact of life for every American in my lifetime. It stood in the doorways of schools and universities and refused to admit students of color regardless of their talent and motivation. Racism made it possible in 1965 for the police in Selma, Alabama, to viciously assault a group of peaceful protestors on their way to Montgomery. These are events that many of my generation will never forget. But we must not let memories hold us hostage to the past.

Have we finally entered a post-racial period of the type Dr. King dared dream about, where “my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character?” In terms of many, if not most, Americans today, I think we have.

The reasons I’m willing to consider racism a thing of the past have to do with perspective and empowerment. What happens next is up to the new multiracial majority that I sense is taking hold in America. A hundred or so representatives of that post-racial majority were at the MLK Jr. breakfast and nearly two million were on the mall in Washington with me a day later. This majority is multiracial

The youth of today have a different mission than we did because they are citizens of a world many of us never thought we’d live to see.

The battle against racism and oppression is like weeding a garden. No matter how well it is done, it will always be a work in progress. It is not possible to weed a garden so well that you can say, “I’ll never have to do that again.” The very nature of opposing prejudice, in any of its forms, requires the work to be ongoing. On the eve of this historic inauguration, I acknowledged it is time to pass the torch to a new...
generation and let them move us forward, beyond racism, to implementing equality.

If racism was, but shall be no more, what shall we do with its remains? I think the new generation is empowered to say, “then please help us bury its stinking corpse.” You can still smell it in housing discrimination, in unemployment, in health care, and in our legal system. Isn’t it time to commence the funeral and relegate white supremacy to the same level of acceptance and credibility as the belief that Earth is flat? Some perspectives never die; progress just passes them by.

The youth of today have a different mission than we did, because they are citizens of a world many of us never thought we’d live to see. I would prefer that my grandchildren have the opportunity to get to know the grandchildren of those Selma policemen from 1965 as individuals rather than feel animosity towards them. This was the uncompromising spirit that resonated on the Mall at the inauguration. In my line of sight thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds cried and rejoiced together in the realization of Dr. King’s dream. I saw it in the faces of a church group that had come by bus from Atlanta and heard it in the shouts of five college students from Los Angeles on the roadtrip of a lifetime and in the voice of a recent college graduate who became a newfound friend that day. We all felt compelled to be at Barack Obama’s inauguration, but what we found when we got there was a sense of community America has missed all these years.

The recipe for dismantling racism is simple; whether you really believe it is dead or not, act as though it were. Do so in everything you say and everything you do. And expect the same of everyone else.

A former computer programmer, Joseph Atkins started college full time at the age of 40, earning a community college degree, a bachelor’s from Vassar, and a Ph.D. in brain and cognitive science from the University of Rochester. He is assistant professor of psychology and coordinator of multicultural programs at Colby.
The Spanish Lady
Every week Barbara Kuczun Nelson ’68, associate professor of Spanish, receives thank-you notes from her students.

Lots of thank-you notes.

Over the past 10 years, thousands of e-mails have arrived from grateful students in more than 285 countries and territories—even the Vatican.

These aren’t Colby’s international students, though Nelson has taught many of them over the years. These are the students she reaches through her popular Spanish language-instruction Web site, *spanish.language & culture with Barbara Kuczun Nelson*.

Just how popular is it? Consider *los numeros*.

• Of the 18.5 million pages viewed on Colby’s server in the fall semester of 2008, 4.9 million were views of Nelson’s site.
• Of the 26 percent of Colby’s Web traffic generated by Nelson’s site, less than 1 percent comes from within the Colby network.
• Of the 28 countries and territories that haven’t yet discovered Nelson’s site, eight don’t have access to the Internet. Give them time.

The wizard behind the curtain is fair-skinned, with short bobbed hair, glasses, and a wide smile. But don’t let her unassuming demeanor fool you. Nelson is hard-working and dedicated enough to serve both her Colby students and her global audience. And she does so from the place where she first discovered her passion for Spanish and without trying to make a penny from the site.

When Nelson decided to teach at Colby, in 1978, it was a return to her old stomping grounds, where she majored in Spanish as a member of the Class of 1968. In her junior year she studied in Madrid to become fluent. As a senior she started a Spanish program at Lawrence High School in Fairfield, next to Waterville.

After earning a master’s degree in Spanish literature at Middlebury in 1971, Nelson returned to Maine and taught Spanish at Lawrence High School for several years, leading school trips to Mexico and Spain. “Wonderful kids,” she remembers. But when she learned of an opening at Colby, Nelson immediately applied. Henry Holland, then chair of the Spanish Department, offered her the position without an interview.

Almost 20 years into Nelson’s teaching career, the opportunity to apply for an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant for developing technologies presented itself. Knowing Nelson’s teaching style, and thinking that Nelson could benefit from creating a Web site, Jackie Tanner, a friend and Colby colleague (now retired), dared Nelson to apply. When Nelson expressed reluctance, Tanner applied for her.

To her surprise, Nelson won the grant. “It was serendipitous,” Nelson said. “I had absolutely no interest in making a Web site. None. But I got hooked, and I loved doing it.”

When Nelson began designing her site, she had no knowledge of HTML (the markup language that is the foundation of most Web pages) or the principles of Web design. Embarrassed as she recalled her pilot version of the site, Nelson admitted, “It was a slow learning curve.”
Keith McGlaflin, Colby’s Web technology specialist who monitors Web statistics, praised Nelson’s adaptability and willingness to learn new technologies as a means of advancing the sophistication of her Web site. “That she has taken on learning HTML, Javascript, audio and video, and now Web application technologies like PHP [a scripting language] shows her passion not only for technology but also for teaching,” McGlaflin said. “Her dedication to keeping the site fresh and interactive by learning new technologies is what makes her site so popular.”

McGlaflin’s got that right. Since her early days struggling with HTML, Nelson has become a do-it-yourself Web guru. “I went to classes that were offered here, but there weren’t many of them then. I was a manual freak—I read everything I could get my hands on. And I experimented,” Nelson explained. She also credits McGlaflin for his encouragement as a Web design teacher.

Originally Nelson’s site was a private project supplementing the workbook in her class curriculum. Eventually, though, her friends and colleagues who knew about the site wanted to check it out. Word trickled out and the trickle soon turned to a torrent. Seven years and 285 countries later, it’s safe to say that its out. Word trickled out and the trickle soon turned to a torrent.

In its current state, the site is exactly what Nelson sought to create—an accessible, interactive gateway into the world of the Spanish language and of Spanish-speaking cultures. Unlike most other Spanish grammar Web sites, Nelson’s offers grammar lessons within the context of a larger cultural lesson. Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies Gary Aitken, at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario, said in an e-mail, “Barbara has designed her material in a way that encourages students to engage in enjoyable and meaningful activities that expose them to not only the words and structures of Spanish but also the sights and sounds that bring the language to life.”

What inspired Nelson’s commitment to cultural exchange? Ecuador.

Having traveled to Spain as an undergrad, Nelson admits she had never been especially drawn to Latin America. But upon her first visit to Ecuador, in 2002, she became fascinated by the culture and the people.

Every Jan Plan since 2004, Nelson has taught Colby students Intermediate Spanish I at the Andean Center for Latin American Studies in Quito. The course promises “a continued emphasis on interactive communication and cultural awareness,” she said.

Nelson created her Jan Plan class after she was struck by the lack of cultural exchange embedded in her curriculum. “My passion is that I want to give my students authentic experiences. To do that you need materials, and you need to actually go there and bring Third World culture back to them,” she said.

All nine of Nelson’s study modules except the basic grammar exercises (see sidebar) begin with audio or visual clips that introduce a cultural lesson. For example, her lesson about the festival of San Fermin in Pamplona, Spain, is told in story form, and it allows students to practice the preterite and imperfect tenses. The module also begins with a song.

In Ojalá que llueva café (If only it would rain coffee), her study module about the hope for prosperity in the Dominican Republic, the final exercise asks students to practice the present subjunctive as they describe the world’s most pressing problems and their hopes for the future.
Professor Barbara Nelson has tapped her experiences in Ecuador, where she teaches Jan Plan each year, to create authentic material for her popular Spanish language-instruction Web site. Above left, Nelson shows Ecuadoran children a video of themselves. At right, she poses for a snapshot with a friend.

The cultural points in Nelson’s study modules aren’t random. They share an underlying focus on humanitarian issues such as street children, the future of the Earth, rural agriculture, and oppression.

By the time students have completed a module, they’ve improved their grammar skills, but they are also more knowledgeable about one issue or concern that affects the everyday lives of fellow Spanish-speakers.

Nelson’s exercises also offer students immediate feedback and unlimited attempts to get the correct answer. “They self-correct, and a lot of them are very creative,” said Nelson. “By the time you get to the end, you’re creating things yourself. It’s not just forms.”

Students aren’t the only ones who have praised Nelson’s site. In 2002 the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) awarded Ojalá que llueva café the MERLOT Editors’ Choice Award for “best online teaching in all disciplines.”

Smiling, Nelson admitted that she’s pretty well known at technology-based language learning conventions. Aitken, Nelson’s counterpart at Trent, refers many students to her site. “In my mind, it is the absolute best one that I have seen for individual practice and development,” he said.

And, unlike many other online language programs, it’s absolutely free. With so much potential for profit, why hasn’t she sold the site?

“Because it’s her passion.

“I honestly haven’t considered that yet, even though a lot of people think I should,” Nelson said. After reflecting for a moment, she added, “I may. But then I receive all of these letters. Those people are really grateful. They really appreciate having a quality program that they can access for free. That has to touch you somewhere.”

Seven years after the site went public, Nelson still logs about 10 hours per week updating and improving it, on top of teaching classes—and it used to take more time. “In the beginning I was practically living here in my office at Colby. I spent every spare second on my site,” Nelson said. She has poured countless hours into making the site dynamic and interactive, and that’s something she feels she can’t put a price tag on.

Nelson’s newest module, Ofrendas (Offerings), also includes a teacher’s guide, which informs teachers about how to use her material effectively in their classroom.

On a few occasions, others have tried to replicate Nelson’s site and pass it off as their own or to copy the site and charge for the program. Nelson’s students or colleagues report the interlopers, and these copy-cats have always taken their sites down at her request, Nelson said. Her fan base remains loyal.

But the site is not only rewarding for its users.

“My own students have been my most enthusiastic fans and also my most valuable critics. Especially in the beginning we experimented together to find the most effective ways to get real interactivity on the site,” Nelson recalled. Inasmuch as Nelson listens to their feedback, her students around the world have had the opportunity to teach their teacher, but often, students—from 18-year-old first-years to retirees—get in touch simply to say, “thanks.”

“I am first year at St. Andrews in the UK and I just wanted to thank you for saving my life,” Chris, one Web site user, wrote to Nelson. “I am pretty sure I would have failed my exam if it weren’t for this site. … Sorry if this email seems to you a bit creepy, I wanted to express my gratitude.”

To see Nelson’s site, visit www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/.

Of the 28 countries and territories that haven’t yet discovered Nelson’s site, eight don’t have access to the Internet.
From the President

William D. Adams

The economic meltdown that began last fall has brought a new breed of message to my e-mail in-box. Every week—sometimes every day—I receive messages sent by college and university presidents to their alumni, discussing their schools’ responses to these very troubling times. As those of you whose e-mail addresses are in Colby’s database know, I, too, have sent a handful of those missives since October.

Reading several such messages every week is a sobering exercise. Each president tends to stress the ways in which her or his institution is coping successfully in straitened financial circumstances, and these efforts are heartening, particularly in what they stress—positive academic outcomes for students. But in the aggregate the letters paint a picture of an industry struggling with the challenge of preserving its core purpose in the midst of deep and frightening uncertainty. Colby, too, is engaged in that struggle.

Since I last updated you on Colby’s situation, some measures have shown deeper economic gloom. We are now projecting a 33 percent drop in our endowment, from approximately $600 million in June 2008 to approximately $400 million in June 2009. The 2009-10 budget will increase by less than 1 percent from the current year, reflecting the loss of endowment revenue, reduced interest on short-term investments, and anticipated loss of revenue from the Colby Fund (annual giving from alumni and parents). We are dealing this year with a shortfall of $500,000 in the Colby Fund, which immediately and directly supports College operations. Now, more than ever in my time at Colby, gifts from alumni in support of the Colby Fund are crucial to the College’s continued strength.

Reflecting this economic reality, next year’s budget includes additional funding for financial aid, as well as expense reductions of about $1.6 million, or 3.2 percent, in non-compensation areas across a broad range of categories. These include computer and equipment purchases, travel, plant maintenance, and utilities.

To balance our budget for 2009-10 in the face of these losses in revenue, Colby’s Board of Trustees has authorized a modest increase in the endowment payout rate (the percentage of the endowment drawn to meet expenses), as well as a 3.7 percent increase in the comprehensive fee, to $50,320, and budget reductions including:

- A freeze on most capital projects;
- A freeze on salaries for those employees earning more than $40,000 (with the exception of the one third of our faculty members eligible for merit raises next year, the final year of a three-year cycle). Employees who earn less than $40,000 (on a full-time-equivalent basis) will receive a $400 pay increase next year;
- Waiting longer to fill vacant staff positions, reducing the number of temporary workers we hire, and cutting overtime budgets;
- Eliminating overnight infirmary care at the health center;
- Placing initiatives identified in Colby’s strategic plan, but as yet unfulfilled, on hold;
- Moving from a three-year to a four-year replacement cycle for computer equipment (the industry standard);
- Reducing dining hall hours on weekends;
- Reducing staff travel, playing host to fewer events, and relying more on electronic communications;
- Reducing work done by outside vendors.

For up-to-date information on Colby and the economy, visit www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: economy
We are in the enviable position of hiring faculty at a time when some exceptionally talented teachers and scholars are seeking positions, and we are among a handful of colleges that does not package loans as part of a student’s financial aid award. Colby remains committed to:

- Continuing the “no-loan” financial aid initiative inaugurated this academic year and making additional funds available to families with increased need;
- Filling faculty positions as usual, which is a tremendous advantage for the College at a time when academic positions are dwindling across the country;
- Planning for key capital/academic projects such as a new science facility, so that the College will be ready to move forward when economic conditions improve.

Although we cannot predict that further budget reduction strategies will not be called for in the future, Colby’s conservative practices, including our cautious approach to endowment spending and the growth of operating expenses, have stood us in good stead for the near term. We are in the enviable position of hiring faculty at a time when some exceptionally talented teachers and scholars are seeking positions, and we are among a handful of colleges that does not package loans as part of a student’s financial aid award. Colby remains committed to:

When I wrote to families in mid-March to inform them of the comprehensive fee increase, I received many variations on the question: “Why is Colby increasing its fee at a time when other expenses are remaining flat and inflation is low?”

The answer is complex, but, in essence, a rise in the comprehensive fee offsets enough of the loss of other revenue to allow us to protect our core and critical academic program. A flat comprehensive fee would force us to make severe cuts in programs, personnel, and other areas, or to draw down the endowment at a rate that could seriously affect the College’s mission for generations. Neither the board nor the administration of the College regards that level of drawdown as necessary or prudent as circumstances now stand.

Colby has faced many challenges since its founding nearly 200 years ago and, thanks to the combined efforts of every constituency, has grown stronger at every turn. As we cope with the uncertainties of the near future, we will draw on the strength of our history and our community.
He knew he was in trouble.

Then a special agent for the U.S. Navy’s major law enforcement agency—known today as the Naval Criminal Investigative Service—Tom Betro ’81 was sitting in a car in a deserted gas station in Norfolk, Virginia. He was supposed to make a drug buy—two bales of marijuana for $2,000—but was met by four guys armed with knives taped to ax handles.

He knew there were a dozen cops waiting in the darkness. To summon them, all Betro had to do was utter “rip-off” into the hidden microphone taped to his chest.

“Rip-off!” he said, as the four guys drew closer. Nothing happened.

“Rip-off!” he barked again. And again.


The first ax handle broke the van window.

“It’s not transmitting, it’s dead, and now they’re reaching for the door, and I’m trying to lock it ... but I’m too late, and the first guy pulls it open.

“So I just jammed the gas. The tires are screaming, ... and the guy with the ax handle is hanging on the door. And I’m ripping out of the parking lot, ... I’m going over the curb, ... and they’re all running after me, and it’s just chaos in the streets.”

Betro lived to fight crime another day—and eventually to head the $500-million-a-year naval law enforcement agency now familiar to millions of viewers of the popular television crime drama, NCIS.
During the 23 years that followed the rip-off close call, Betro would survive half a dozen similar scrapes—even a heart-stopping near plane crash off the coast of Australia—as he rose through the ranks at the 126-year-old military law enforcement agency.

In recognition of his crime-fighting expertise and his career record, then Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter named Special Agent Betro director of the NCIS in January 2006. Said the Navy secretary, reviewing Betro’s credentials during a Pentagon press briefing: “Tom is certainly the right person for this job. He has ideas, abilities, and the respect of other law enforcement executives—along with the trust of the NCIS team and my own full support and confidence.”

Betro’s own assessment of his work is more understated. For more than two decades, he says, he’s helped “battle the bad guys” for the intelligence and crime-fighting agency that today operates out of more than 150 locations around the globe.

The battle is fought by about 2,800 personnel in 34 countries. About half are special agents. Another 500 are military, either active duty or reserves; the remainder are civilians. NCIS works to prevent terrorist attacks, combats global espionage, and investigates military-related crimes such as murder, drug trafficking, and sex crimes. Hundreds of NCIS special agents have been sent to Iraq and Afghanistan to perform counterintelligence operations and conduct criminal investigations.

Betro—square-jawed and clear-eyed, with the air of a college athlete—is responsible for all of the above. And the Colby government major—the son of a former Massachusetts police chief—wouldn’t have it any other way. “This kind of work, I think it gets in your blood,” he said. “Once you experience the camaraderie, the bonds that develop between us after all those nights spent hiding in the bushes—well, I think this job gets into your DNA, that’s all.

“After the tragedy of 9/11, we take our responsibility to help protect this country very seriously ... and we’re absolutely determined to do whatever it takes to accomplish that goal.”

Born and raised in the Boston suburb of Walpole, Tom Betro (pronounced BEE-troh) is one of 11 children, and his father, Joseph Betro, worked around the clock. “My dad worked as a police patrolman when I was a kid,” Betro said, “and, as you might imagine, it was pretty difficult to make ends meet with eleven children to feed. So he had three or four other jobs going at all times, and I don’t think he ever slept.

“I have a great deal of admiration for him—and also for my amazingly hard-working mother [Carol Sullivan Betro]. And, to this day, those two are still my heroes. Nobody in our family had ever gone to college ... but my parents made it clear that they expected us to go, and that there was nothing in life more important than getting your homework done.”

A standout student and athlete in high school, Betro was amazed to discover that most Colby students were just as bright as he was. “I got a major wake-up call right at the end of the first semester,” he said, wincing, “when I learned that I’d gotten a D in Biology 101.

“Up to that point, I’d been cruising along, playing soccer and attending lots of fraternity parties and assuming that I could get by with minimal academic effort. And then all at once the reality hit me: this isn’t going to be easy—you’re gonna have to put the [study] time in.”

Betro was a star soccer player at Colby, three-time All-New England forward, and the leading scorer on a team that won the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference New England championship in 1978. “He was definitely our go-to guy up top,” said soccer coach Mark Serdjenian ’73. “He was one of the best.”

Early on Betro fell under the sway of Government Professor Sandy Maisel. “Sandy was extremely passionate about political science,” Betro said, “and I can remember many occasions when he’d invite a bunch of students to his house and we’d all sit around arguing about the ‘shadows at the back of the cave’ [from Plato’s classic political dialogue, The Republic] and concepts like that.”

Maisel recalls Betro’s “transformation,” though he was surprised to have been credited for it. “He was no longer the fair-haired boy on the soccer field but somebody who was talking about interesting things in class,” Maisel said.

Betro says Maisel and other Colby professors taught him how to think critically and write clearly. “And that really paid off at NCIS ... because, as I later discovered, knowing how to write clear, well-organized [investigative] reports was actually a crucial factor in career advancement.”
Just a year after receiving his Colby A.B. in 1981, Betro launched his career as a special agent at the Navy’s famed criminal investigative branch and spent the next two decades working on a variety of cloak-and-dagger assignments, often having to immerse himself in dangerous situations. He was kidnapped in Pakistan during a botched undercover drug operation and held by a knife-wielding assailant before escaping. Betro survived another drug deal gone bad by signaling to police as he rode in the back of a taxi, sandwiched between two dealers and a bag full of hashish bricks.

“After the tragedy of 9/11, we take our responsibility to help protect this country very seriously ... and we’re absolutely determined to do whatever it takes to accomplish that goal.” —Tom Betro ’81
But his most terrifying moment took place off the coast of Australia in 1986, when the Navy C-2 cargo plane in which Betro was a passenger lost part of a propeller, sending the plane into a steep nosedive. “I saw my mother’s face,” Betro said, “and she was crying and asking: ‘What were you doing way out there in the middle of the Indian Ocean?’” The plane limped back to Australia on its remaining engine for an emergency landing.

Not all of the highlights of his career have involved drug dealers and maydays. He did two tours as an NCIS “special agent afloat” on the aircraft carriers USS John F. Kennedy and USS Enterprise. Along the way he earned a master of arts degree and won the James Forrestal Award for Excellence in Strategy and Force Planning from the Naval War College.

After stints as assistant director of counterintelligence and deputy director for operations, he was selected to become the director of the Navy’s primary investigative service.

In recent years, partly as a result of Betro’s leadership, NCIS has made headlines investigating the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole...
Left, NCIS Director Tom Betro ’81 crosses the grounds of the Washington Navy Yard en route to his office. Above, a director’s chair given to Betro by the producers of NCIS, the popular television drama based on the real-life agency. The show’s writers and producers have consulted with Betro as they create weekly episodes. Betro filmed a skit with the cast (see link, above right).

More on NCIS, the agency:  
www.ncis.navy.mil/

More on NCIS, the television show:  
www.cbs.com/primetime/ncis/

To see NCIS Director Thomas Betro with his television series counterparts:  

guided missile destroyer in Yemen, for uncovering millions of dollars worth of fraud against the federal government, and for solving 50 homicide cases with its renowned cold case unit.

Betro may not be married to his job, but he is married to NCIS Special Agent Erin Betro. The Betros have two children, Courtney, 15, and Tyler, 10. But the couple is careful not to bring their professional roles home, Director Betro said. “For one thing, it’s always clear who the boss is—she is,” he said. “And it’s also true that we’re both so tired from work by the time we get home that the last thing we want to talk about is what went on at the office.”

After 25 years on the job, Betro says success in his NCIS career has required a strong work ethic, attention to detail, perseverance, and patience. He’s also learned how to remain flexible and open-minded and is willing to look continually at new ways of accomplishing NCIS’s mission. Colleagues also say his personality is well suited for this kind of work. “Tom Betro is pretty easygoing, pretty down to earth,” said NCIS Special Agent Frederick E. Barnes, “and he’s also got a terrific sense of humor. He’s extremely serious about meeting his responsibilities as director, but he doesn’t take himself too seriously, and I think that’s a real asset when it comes to managing people effectively.”

But there is one frequently asked question about which Betro does not joke: Can we prevent the next 9/11 from happening? “I do think we’re much better prepared now than we were back in 2001,” he said. “On the other hand, I also think we need to remember that we’re dealing with an adversary that’s very agile, very smart, and isn’t constrained by public policy the way we are. The terrorists are formidable, and they are going to remain formidable in the years up ahead.

“But you can also be sure that we’re going to do everything we possibly can to stop them.”
THE LIVES BEHIND THE PORTRAITS

PHOTOMOSAIC ILLUSTRATES THE COMPLEX AND COMPELLING STORIES OF AIDS VICTIMS IN MALAWI

RUTH JACOBS  STORY

Children show off their white teeth and cherubic cheeks. Mothers kiss and cradle their infants. Men pose in suit jackets with an air of confidence. A boy stares into the camera with a pronounced frown. These are the faces of AIDS in Malawi, but, thanks to Ken Wong ’83, they are more than that.

An East Asian studies major who delved into photography after Colby, Wong believes that these photos do not speak for themselves. As a documentary photographer, Wong had been covering the effects of AIDS in Boston when Harvard Medical School asked him to do something similar in southern Africa. He knew he needed more than a camera. “In the Nineties there were a lot of people taking photographs of people with HIV/AIDS, and it was all, you know, the really horribly skinny. And it was just a picture,” he said. “If there was a story about them, it was about how horrible their life is with HIV. I wanted to do more than that.”

Wong finished the project for Harvard but didn’t stop there. He founded the Face-to-Face AIDS Project, a nonprofit that aims to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in Malawi and Cambodia through two towering walls of portraits showing people affected by the disease. Each panel is flanked by a poster with a couple of sentences about each subject—the result of hours of interviews. The Face-to-Face AIDS Photomosaics came to Colby in March not because Wong is an alum but because of James Goldring ’09.

A mutual friend brought Wong and Goldring together, and during the summer of 2006 Goldring served part-time as Wong’s assistant in Malawi. Goldring returned to Colby with a clarity of purpose: to raise money for an orphan care organization and to raise awareness on his campus. “It is big,” he said. “But we’re doing it.”

In Malawi, Wong, often with Goldring, spent hours with each person, listening. Listening as Joyce Chingwalu, 52, said that she tries to eat plenty of soybeans and milk to remain healthy. When Chrissy Jamu, 23, explained her strict policy with the two teenage orphans she cares for (they must do well on their exams). When Patrick Mwakilama, 17, said that he took up carpentry because he couldn’t afford to attend school and support his mother and seven brothers.

Through that experience Goldring discovered what he could do to help. Back at Colby he set out to follow the community-based approach—supporting community organizations already helping people in Malawi. “I think it’s innovative,” he said. “I think only now, really, are the big organizations realizing that there’s this network of community-based organizations [CBOs] that have sprouted up all over sub-Saharan Africa and then elsewhere in the world.”

One such CBO is the Luzi Orphan Care Organization, which, among other things, provides home-based care to people affected by HIV/AIDS. Goldring set up his own organization, LuziCare, to raise money for the existing Malawian organization. To date LuziCare has funneled $6,000 to the Malawi-based organization, which allowed it to more than triple the number of people receiving aid. Goldring and fellow students have raised an additional $3,000 since October, with more to come.

“The reason for the growth of the existing home-based care program is LuziCare,” Goldring said, “because of those capital inputs, because of the ambulance bicycles, because they can get around more easily.” Much of the money, he says, came from Colby students and their parents through fundraisers on campus.

Two years into the project, Goldring sought to bring the photomosaics to Colby. Having put so much into, and gained so much from, the photomosaics project, Goldring wanted his classmates to see it. “I see each portrait and I remember the interview. I remember the several hours we spent with that person, and I know the back story really well,” he said. “It’s sort of like I’m sharing something very important to me, very personal to me, with the rest of Colby. And to see … their response, to see them interested—not just interested but sort of enthralled—is really, really rewarding.”

After installing the photomosaics in the Diamond Building, Wong spoke to Colby students about his work. He showed photos and videos of the people in Malawi. He told stories. About people who died of AIDS because, he believes, they gave up hope. About a girl who was so close to death that she couldn’t speak, but who now loves to sing. And he talked to students about going abroad. “Don’t go abroad convinced that you’re going there to help them,” he said. “You have to be really careful of placing your Western attitudes on their culture. The best way to go is just to go and learn.”

Americans can help, Wong said, through supporting local organizations and by allowing the people in these communities to take responsibility and control.

He urged students who go abroad to avoid making promises they can’t keep, and he said that too many in Africa have been given false hope by people who never return. He encouraged students to learn as much as they can about people, their culture, and their history—really get to know people. “It really is about the individual,” he said. “It’s about their lives, it’s about them connecting with you.”

Goldring said underclassmen plan to take over LuziCare after he graduates. “We’re working very hard this semester to create the organizational structure such that it will be able to continue next year.”

Just as Wong shared his passion with Goldring who, in turn, inspired a movement at Colby, Goldring has passed his passion on.

Hear Ken Wong ’83 speak on the need to confront the AIDS pandemic. www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: luzicare
Since her first year at Colby, 1992, Mitchell Family Professor of Economics Debra Barbezat has lectured about gender-based inequities in the labor market in Econ 254.

Each year she tells her students, “Gender influences your opportunity.” “They don’t believe it,” she said. “Men or women.”

Though she hasn’t given up on the time-honored, stand-and-deliver lecture, Barbezat recently has employed a powerful new hook. For the past three years the biggest class assignment—30 percent of the grade in The Economics of Women, Men, and Work—is a project requiring students to research their own families to explore how gender affected the labor-market experiences of the students’ parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, or even great-grandparents. The semester ends with presentations to the whole class.

“Rather than listen to me say it—and not really believe it—they do it through their own investigation,” Barbezat said.

Sure, students read about trends and study statistics that show how women are penalized as they bounce in and out of the labor market to rear children and manage domestic duties. How men, meanwhile, are groomed for executive positions with professional development and company-supported training. How trailing spouses who follow a partner’s career moves aren’t as likely to advance in their professions or achieve their pay potential.

“It is kind of eye opening when you look at your own family and look at other people’s families,” said Mike Policinski ’10, an economics major from Minnesota. “It makes it more real.”

“Ninety percent of the class did fit the gender trends we were talking about,” Policinski estimated. “Everyone kind of fit into it—their parents and their grandparents.”

Meghan Saccone ’10, from Andover, Mass., said the project was a departure from her other work in economics, “where you study the models and you find the answers.”

In Barbezat’s class, Saccone said, “we looked at things like divorce and childbirth and explained those in terms of the economics we know. We did the economics of deciding to get married and the multiple reasons why you might do that.”

She learned that her great-grandmother, a second-grade teacher in New Hampshire, “upon entering wedlock, was forced into compulsory retirement as was mandated by state law at the time.”

Her grandmother, also a teacher, wanted to be a CIA interpreter. “That was shocking. ... It’s part of her I never knew about,” she said. But her grandmother didn’t express any regret about giving up that ambition to return to New Hampshire in order to marry.

Saccone also wrote about her aunt, who earned a master’s in French literature and then was the primary breadwinner and did most household tasks while her husband worked long hours for little pay to finish his medical internship and residency. Upon becoming a doctor, he relocated the family from Long Island to New Hampshire, and the aunt took a “significant wage cut” in the transition.

Saccone wrote that her aunt’s working life illustrates many characteristics of women in the workplace. “She had two significant periods of absence from the market, which corresponded
perfectly with the birth of her oldest and youngest children. Most discontinuous workers, like Sharon [her aunt], experience significant decreases in earning potential as a result of their time off.

The notion that a spouse’s higher education—a form of human capital—can be figured into divorce settlements interested several students. If you work to put your spouse through law school or medical school, say, a judge may award part of your spouse’s earning potential to you in a divorce decree. “I never considered that someone could try to claim that they should have part of your educational attainment in a monetary way,” Saccone said. “It makes you think.”

Brooke Wanlass ’11 learned from her great aunt’s experience about the importance of human capital—in that case earning a master’s degree, which “enabled her to do what she wanted.” The story reinforced Wanlass’s interest in going on to law school. “Sometimes it’s hard to imagine going to graduate school when you’re working so hard here. It’s like, ‘Oh, I just want to be done!’ But I think it will pay off, and doing this project showed me it is a good investment.”

Amy Snickenberger ’10 wrote about her great-grandparents’ marriage: “Laurens and Ethel met and married after she attended college. The D factor scale indicates that the opportunity cost for their marriage was minimal. Their parents introduced them because they were in similar social groups, which made their courtship easy and convenient. ... The fact that Laurens already had a stable job was an economic incentive for Ethel to marry him.”

While some American students balked at applying the terminology of the so-called dismal science to love and matrimony, Barbezat noted that students from South Asia and Africa, where arranged marriages are common, said such calculus came as no surprise.

Barbezat stressed the value of international perspectives, noting that more than 20 countries were represented in the class, between international students and children of immigrants.

Tuboto Musumali ’09J, from Zambia, wrote about gender discrimination in her grandparents’ generation, which extended to her grandmother, the “senior wife” in a bigamist marriage, being banished from her grandfather’s land after his death.

Soule Sow ’09, from Senegal, wrote about his grandparents, who owned and traded in cows in an era when ethnicity acted as a caste system that defined job prospects in Senegal. A generation later his aunt and uncle moved to France in search of better job opportunities. When the uncle moved back to Senegal, the aunt stayed in France. Though she had sacrificed her own education so he could attend graduate school and her human capital was limited, Western Europe offered job opportunities that Africa did not.

Barbezat didn’t invent the family history; it’s a project that’s been passed around among economists who teach gender economics courses, she said. And it’s proven as popular with students’ families as with the students themselves. “They loved it,” said Brooke Wanlass of the interview with her great aunt and great uncle. “They’d go on and on.”

And what did students find? Some discovered exceptional women and men who challenged “occupational gender segregation” or broke gender barriers in the workplace. But the many case studies followed statistical trends. Si Rioux ’10, from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, concluded: “With this evidence, it is clear that although economic and social circumstances have improved for many women, the United States still has a long way to go to eliminate gender bias in the labor market.”

“It is amazing,” wrote Amy Snickenberger, “that as our country moves forward to combat gender discriminations in the workforce that gender discrepancies still exist within many jobs.”
The Storybook Life of Colby Jack

FROM MAYFLOWER HILL TO THE WORLD SERIES, JACK COOMBS LED THE LIFE OF “A CLEAN, HONEST, TRUE-BLUE ATHLETE”

John “Colby Jack” Coombs (Class of 1906), at right, wears his Philadelphia Athletics uniform while being feted at Coombs Day at Colby in 1912.

The movie pitch: Turn of the century (the 20th). The son of a small-town blacksmith is spotted on the baseball fields of Kennebunk, Maine. Recruited by Colby College, he stars in three sports and earns his tuition money (pre-NCAA rules) playing summer baseball for $25 a week. Planning to go to graduate school (MIT) in chemistry, he is recruited again, this time by Connie Mack, legendary manager of the Philadelphia Athletics. The strapping Mainer signs for the then-astonishing sum of $2,400 and, immediately upon graduation from Colby, packs his glove and boards a train for Philly. Vaulting to stardom, he pitches his team to back-to-back world championships.

That’s the 30-second version of the story of Colby Jack Coombs (Class of 1906), which baseball writer John Tierney meticulously recounts in Jack Coombs: A Life In Baseball (McFarland, 2008). It’s a remarkable tale, from Coombs’s meteoric rise, to his battles to overcome career-threatening injuries and illness, to his adherence to a strict code of clean living, on and off the field. Said Coombs, speaking at the dedication of Coombs Field at Colby in 1951, “I hope that all young men who play upon it will be inspired to live the lives of clean, honest, true-blue athletes.”

No steroid scandal here. In fact, Tierney’s book can be enjoyed both for its recounting of Coombs’s remarkable career and for its depiction of professional baseball long before nine-figure contracts and A-Rod’s dirty laundry.

Just a year out of Colby, in 1907, Coombs already was one of the top pitchers in baseball. He had beaten Boston’s Cy Young (yes, the Cy Young) and was building a reputation as a gutsy gamer with nasty stuff. “He works like an old-timer,” reported The Washington Post, “and incidentally, has a lot of speed and excellent curves.”

An arm injury derailed that season, but Coombs was back in 1908. That caught the attention of none other than sports columnist Ring Lardner, then with the Chicago Tribune. “For weeks he has pitched every third day at least, and for a while he was used every other day,” Lardner reported. “In the twelfth and thirteenth rounds yesterday he appeared to weaken.” Coombs won the game, and Lardner would go on to describe his pitching as “one of the wonders of the land.”

This was before pitchers became specialists, taking the mound for an inning or even a single batter. In Coombs’s day, a starting pitcher was his own closer. As Tierney tells it, “With darkness beginning to settle in during the sixteenth inning, [Coombs] ended his performance with a flourish, striking out the last three Chicago hitters.”

Sixteen innings, 18 strikeouts, three hits. For Coombs, another day at the office.

He would go on to help the A’s win the World Series in 1910 and 1911, his salary climbing to $5,000. The 1911 championship earned Coombs a bonus of more than $3,600. He was a celebrity and formed a vaudeville act with two teammates. A former Colby thespian, Coombs was the star.

In the spring of 1913, Coombs contracted typhoid fever, the infection settling in his lower spine. He spent months in a body cast and missed two seasons. When he returned to baseball in 1915, with the Brooklyn Robins, he was more crafty than overpowering and, while successful, couldn’t bring home another World Series championship.

But, as Tierney recounts, Coombs was stoical about the downturn in his career, seeing athletics as being as much about character as success. When the Black Sox game-rigging scandal broke in 1920, Tierney writes, it was suggested that “somebody like Jack Coombs” be appointed to a board to police the sport.

Coombs went on to coach college baseball, settling at Duke University after a stop at Williams College. He wrote a landmark baseball textbook, a 300-page scientific examination of the game. Coombs and his wife, Mary, had no children, and his players and students came to be his family, Tierney writes. Perhaps because of his illness-shortened career, Coombs was never elected to the Hall of Fame.

A baseball writer and historian, Tierney doesn’t overdramatize his subject. In the end, the facts, some of which were gleaned from Miller Library’s Special Collections, speak for themselves. It seems a fitting tone, just the way Coombs would have told the story himself. “There is much in life if a man lives and does all things above-board,” Coombs said in a 1943 interview with the Sporting News. “I hope I have lived that kind of life at all times.”

Write that into the script.
**Recent Releases**

**Turnaround: Leading Stressed Colleges and Universities to Excellence**
James L. Martin ’70 and James E. Samels
Johns Hopkins University Press (2009)

At the time this book was written, the economic downturn hadn’t yet added to the ranks of stressed universities and colleges. But endowment decline isn’t the only factor that puts colleges and universities at risk. Saging enrollment, loss of accreditation, even hurricanes are threats. Martin, a professor of English at Mt. Ida College and academic vice president of The Education Alliance, and Samels, head of the same organization and a lawyer specializing in higher education, have produced a guide for running colleges and universities. A roster of administrators provides informed advice on risk analysis and turnaround strategies.

**We’re All in the Same Boat**
Zachary Shapiro ’92 and Jack E. Davis
Putnam (2009)

Shapiro’s wacky retelling of the Noah’s Ark story, accompanied by Davis’s zany and whimsical illustrations, is a tale of a cruise gone sour. The rain is unrelenting and the animals turn alphabetically grumpy. “The camels were complaining. The dogs were demanding. The elephants were enraged.” But when an exasperated Noah, in cruise-director garb, invokes the line in the title, the animals come around. Sure enough, the sun comes out and the ark sails off into the sunset, leaving in its wake a lesson for all of us.

**Woman Who Speaks Tree: Confessions of a Tree Hugger**
Linda Tatelbaum (English, emerita)
About Time Press (2009)

“Sshhhh … The trees have something to say. In Woman Who Speaks Tree, Tatelbaum offers a “memoir with a mission,” from which all of us—even non-tree-huggers—can learn, like her, to “respect nature for the lessons it offers on how to live.”

Tatelbaum’s playful but thoughtful chapters highlight important phases of her life: homesteading, parenting, teaching, aiding aging parents. As the chapters unfold we witness Tatelbaum’s ability to decipher nature’s wisdom in order to navigate a world riddled with dualities. “Where’s the boundary between use and abuse?” Tatelbaum asks early on. Treading gently on the earth gets complicated when vexing decisions arise, like whether to cut down a tree if it’s blocking your solar panels. “Life choices are not as simple as weeding in the garden, where it’s clear what goes, what stays.” Can “speaking tree” help us accept the gray areas?

Yet speaking tree is no walk in the park. The language of trees is “gestural, cyclical, and inclusive,” a language that encourages flexibility, grace, and pride, Tatelbaum writes. She demonstrates this most powerfully in her final chapter, “The College and the Woods,” which recounts her 2005 effort to save two beech trees threatened by the expansion of Cotter Union.

Uncertain how, or if, to challenge the architectural design, she received advice from an old maple near Runnals, she writes. “Leaf,” the tree suggested—but leaving the College would accomplish nothing. “Bark,” it offered, and Tatelbaum found her voice. “Branch,” it said. Then “stump.”

Heeding the tree’s advice, Tatelbaum formed Friends of the Beeches. Petitions were passed; ultimately, one tree was cut down. An angry Tatelbaum eventually softened—when she adopted tree thinking: A tree would stand with dignity and accept its fate.

Tatelbaum writes that trees have taught her to “accept and defend. Love, and be furious if that’s what gets you moving.” After all, “Maybe you can only change people by accepting who they are. And you become changed in the process.”

Woman Who Speaks Tree offers hope and inspiration in a time of environmental crisis. We would be wise to follow Tatelbaum’s example. “Being green,” she suggests, “isn’t just about saving the environment, but actually learning from it.” —Laura Meader

To hear Jody Zorgdrager read from Of Consequence, go to www.colby.edu/mag, keyword: consequence

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Of Consequence
Jody A. Zorgdrager ’89
The Backwaters Press 2008

Of Consequence offers an intimate glimpse into the concerns of poet Jody A. Zorgdrager ’89, whose reflections transform seemingly prosaic details and moments—“a black thick umbrella,” “dirty hands,” and “watching TV”—into matters truly of consequence. In this, Zorgdrager’s first book, childhoods and relationships are the forces that most powerfully shape the selves we become. She conveys this knowledge through smart, original observations and metaphors, in language that is simple yet innovative. Central to Zorgdrager’s consciousness are her mother’s chemotherapy treatments, the behavior in childhood classrooms, and love. No stranger to pain, she confronts cruelty, loss, and heartbreak.

—Lauren Pongan ’09

(If you were a bird, you’d be a swallow.
If a tree, a weeping willow.)

Outside your window meanwhile a season changes: the oaks are letting down their leaf-rain, their used and crumpled pages, like excuses or like tissues stiffening in the bed you didn’t make but lie in.

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Basketball coach Dick Whitmore is swarmed by his players after his 600th win, against Bowdoin in January, with dozens of former players on hand.

Whit’s 600th

IN 38TH YEAR, COACH DICK WHITMORE REACHES ANOTHER MILESTONE—AND CREDITS GENERATIONS OF PLAYERS

STEPHEN COLLINS ’74 AND BILL SODOMA STORY  JEFF EARICKSON PHOTO

Men’s basketball coach Dick Whitmore joined an elite club Jan. 17. With the coach’s 600th career victory on the line and Colby’s biggest rival in the house, the Mules played gritty defense down the stretch for a convincing 65-55 win, making Whitmore just the seventh basketball coach in NCAA Div. Ill history to record 600 wins.

Adding to the pressure: Bowdoin is Whitmore’s alma mater, and the Polar Bears won the teams’ season opener in the fall.

Whitmore is one of just 51 men’s coaches in the history of all NCAA basketball divisions to reach the 600 milestone. After the buzzer, as alumni players going all the way back to his first Colby season 38 years ago congratulated the smiling coach, Whitmore was eager to share the glory. “It’s 600 wins by 600 players,” he said. “It’s the players who are responsible for the wins. I’m just glad to be here.”

The team continued to play well, beating Amherst late in the season and, as fourth seed, earned home court for the NESCAC quarterfinal Feb. 21, which turned out to be an upset by fifth-seeded Bowdoin. That put Whitmore’s record as a college coach at 607-321, an enviable 65-percent win rate.

Whitmore graduated from Bowdoin in 1965 with a degree in classics and a 1000-plus-points basketball career. He then followed his father, who had won state championships in Maine and Massachusetts, into high school coaching.

After he was hired as Colby’s varsity coach, in 1970 by athletic director John Winkin, Whitmore’s team beat the University of Maine in the State of Maine series the subsequent year with a buzzer-beater. “I’ll never forget that shot, because I tore up my knee,” Whitmore said. “I was jumping up in the air and came down wrong. I had to have the knee operated on.”

For 38 years Whitmore has sat side by side with Waterville basketball legend John “Swisher” Mitchell, who’s been assistant coach since before Whitmore arrived. Both are in the New England Basketball Hall of Fame.

For Whitmore Colby basketball is a family affair. His parents attended more than 500 of his games, he calls his wife, Mary Kay, the “rock of the family and my inspiration,” and the couple has four children. Kevin ’91 scored 1,357 points playing for his father for three years and earning All-America honors in 1991—with players from several decades, he was on hand for number 600.
Lucy Garrec '12 shows precedent-setting form. Garrec won the 15K at the NCAA Div. I Bates Carnival, making her the first Colby Nordic skier to win such an event.

One of the reasons Lucy Garrec ‘12 chose Colby was the hope that she might help build the women’s Nordic ski team into a serious contender. It took her exactly one weekend of competition to raise expectations. In her very first college race, the 5K classical race at the Bates Carnival in January, Garrec came in third among 92 entrants—an extraordinary accomplishment for a rookie in an event that’s not her strongest.

That gave her confidence, and the next day she was first among 82 skiers in the 15K freestyle. It was the first time a Colby Nordic skier ever won a race at an NCAA Div. I carnival, and it contributed to a third-place team finish in the event—particularly sweet, Garrec said, because that put the team ahead of perennial powerhouse Middlebury.

Garrec was a top recruit, said Nordic ski team coach Tracey Cote, but she surprised everyone by beating opponents she finished behind during high school. “You look for people who you think have the potential to do that, but then you just cross your fingers,” Cote said.

Garrec attended Burke Mountain Academy in Vermont her last two years in high school and chose Colby to stay in New England, to compete at the highest collegiate level, and because there seemed to be “a lot less hype” and competitive pressure than at some of the Vermont and New Hampshire schools, she said.

She qualified early for the NCAA Div. I national championships and went in as fourth seed, but had a disappointing finish. A collision with another skier led to a brief fall in the freestyle mass start, and she finished that 15K in 27th place. She was 14th in the 5K classical race. Teammate Kathleen Maynard ’09 finished 32nd in classical and 37th in freestyle in her final Colby race.

—S.B.C.

EMMA LINHARD ’11 of the INDOOR TRACK team earned All-America honors with a sixth-place finish in the mile run at the NCAA Div. III championships in Indiana March 14. Her time was 5:00:44. ... KELSEY POTDEVIN ’09 set a new Colby record in the preliminary heat and earned All-America honors in the 100-yard backstroke for WOMEN’S SWIMMING, finishing eighth at the NCAA nationals in Minnesota March 20. The team had one from each class—POTDEVIN, DANIELLE CARLSON ’10, CHELSEA HENEGHAN ’11, and MANDY FERGUSON ’12—named All-NESCAC. ... WOMEN’S and MEN’S SQUASH sent sister and brother SAMANTHA ’10 and HARRY SMITH ’12 to the national individual championships after the teams finished 23rd and 19th in the nation respectively. ... WOMEN’S ICE HOCKEY won a NESCAC tourney quarterfinal against Bowdoin Feb. 28. Leading scorer BECKY JULIAN ’09 was second-team all-NESCAC for a second year. ... MEN’S SWIMMING standout SAM WAMPLER ’09 was All-NESCAC, setting school records at the NESCAC meet in three individual events and as part of two medley teams. ... WOMEN’S BASKETBALL made it to the NESCAC quarterfinal round but fell to Amherst to finish the season with a 13-12 record. RACHEL MACK ’12 was named Maine Women’s Basketball Coaches Association rookie of the year. ... MEN’S ICE HOCKEY (6-15-3) beat Bowdoin with senior DEAN FEOLE in net Jan. 27 and closed the season with a 6-1 win over St. Michael’s. The team graduated just four seniors. MICHAEL BELLIVEAU ’10 and BILL CRINNION ’11 were the top scorers. ... MEN’S BASKETBALL finished 17-8. ADAM CHOICE ’10 was first-team All-NESCAC, ARTIE CUTRONE ’09 was second-team. Co-captains Cutrone and MAC SIMPSON were among four graduating seniors.

For more sports coverage go to www.colby.edu/athletics.
My classmates are not good correspondents! So, I have a scarcity of news. Of course our numbers are rapidly declining as our age advances. At Christmas I heard from Kay Howes Brooks and she was successful in all our class would come to our 65th reunion this June. There were very few classmates (three) present this past June. Betty Wood Reed is doing okay on dialysis, although her eyesight has been affected. Pauline Tatham Stanley is also doing well and enjoys her extended family. Donna Caldwell wrote that her mother, Nancy Bell Martin, died Nov. 17, 2008. She had been working on her admission for the past year or so.

Cloyd Aarseth wrote: “When Joan and I sent our granddaughter, Kim, to Cornell, my thoughts traveled back 65 years to my arrival at Colby. My tuition, room, and board cost less than $1,000, but I believe Kim’s education will not be 50 times better than mine.”

Jean O’Brien Perkins recently met with Eric Cote ’69 to see what Saco, Maine, has done with alternative energy. Eric has made an avocation of researching alternative ways of generating energy and has saved Saco a lot of money with wind and geothermal power.

Betmar, the best park in Florida. Directing a one-act play for the Dessert Theatre with a chorus of 100 voices. Keeping real busy. Son Toby is in South America and will go to Antarctica before coming north again. Daughter Becky is in Acton, Mass., and has an empty nest as the two kids in college. Becky and her daughter Samantha were here the last week of January. Aaron Sandler corresponds with us via e-mail and we hoped to have another mini reunion of the Class of ’48 and any additional participants from other classes sometime this winter. Today, Feb. 2, we received a call from Jordan Kaplan, who is vacationing in Boca Raton. We will definitely meet with Jordan and his wife, Dorothy.

We were pleasantly surprised to receive a telephone call from Jean Hillsen Grout ’49, who now resides in Bradenton, Fla. Jean had just finished reading the class news in the recent edition of Colby and decided to call to bring us up to date. For many years David and Jean worked together on various Boston Colby alumni projects and it was good to hear from an old friend. Jean’s husband, Stuart, passed away three years ago, and Jean was saddened to learn about the death of Ann Rodney Gould ’49 in the recent Colby magazine. Jean says she still enjoys a martini, but not very often. Please send us your news about activities, classmates, and family.

Thanks to three of you who heeded my suggestion of a New Year’s resolution to send some news for our column. Janet Pride Davis hopes to get to our reunion in June, but, in the meantime, here is some of her news. She has lived in Gloucester, Mass., since 1987 when she retired from the Wellesley, Mass., school system. She worked part time first in a real estate office and then at the front desk of an athletic club until 2004 when she “retired” again. Every March she visits friends in Florida, but in spite of urging she’s not ready yet to move and leave her family up north. Travels farther afield with family include London and Paris. Her family includes four children and six grandchildren—four in college, one accepted for next year, and the last not ready yet to move and leave her family up north. Travels farther afield with family include London and Paris. Her family includes four children and six grandchildren—four in college, one accepted for next year, and the last not ready yet to move and leave her family up north. She also enjoys a martini, but not very often. Please send us your news about activities, classmates, and family.

From left, Sara Orton Glickman ’71, Ann Arbor ’70, and Lin Stone Gallagher ’70 en route by taxi from the bus to their B & B in Banos, Ecuador. Have an interesting photo to share with Colby classmates? Send it along to communications@colby.edu.
still live in Boston with a year-round house in East Orleans on Cape Cod. Arthur keeps active as a member of the board of directors of two large companies, writing a book, and keeping up with all the grandchildren. And lastly I heard from Ann Jennings Taussg in California. She will be back at her home in Wolfeboro, N.H., in April for the summer. She looks forward to our reunion and is excited to be returning to Colby. Remember, June 2009 is our 60th reunion and I’m looking forward to seeing you there!

1950

Betsy (Dudie) Jennings Maley
classnews1950@alum.colby.edu

Dick Leonard has been retired for 10 years. He spends time in Center City, Philadelphia, with his computer, trying, among other things, to learn German so he can access German literature. He listens to a lot of music, much of which was introduced to us 60-plus years ago by Dr. Compandetti. Every summer he and Dottie (Washburn ’52) go to Europe for a time and then to a house that they’ve rented for 30 years on Swans Island off Mt. Desert. They have four children and seven grandchildren. Dick heard recently from Don Jacobs ’51 in San Antonio and every so often sees Chet Brigham and his wife, Anthea. Chet has recently written two interesting books about Gloucester, where he now lives. Bud Everts has three sons and seven grandchildren, all living close by. Two are in college, Ithaca and Elon, one will go to Gettysburg this fall, and one is still making his decision. Barbara Hill Millett and her daughter, Robin, visited Ireland, where they saw Robin’s daughter, Thayer, sing with the Boston College Choral Group at St. Peters Cathedral in Dublin.

Mary “Skippy” Jordan Megargee and her husband have moved to Tampa, Fla. Last spring Harriet (Sargent ’48) and George Wiswell had a wonderful trip on a canal barge, which took them through Belgium and Holland. They visited historic sites and, of course, the beautiful tulip gardens. Last fall they planted bulbs purchased in Holland. George was asked by a friend to do some engineering for a large storage shed at his boatyard in Westbrook. In return, the friend loaned them Carina, a 48-foot aluminum sloop, to sail in their annual yacht club cruise last summer. It was great fun, particularly because they had sons and grandkids aboard for most of the two weeks. Harriet and George recently attended the second annual Fairfield County Colby Club gathering. The two women who put it together were Class of ’55. “We then felt that we might be aging, slightly, in view of the fact that our oldest granddad graduated in ’01.” George knew of the event, but working in Moscow made it impossible to attend before, and even more so because his friends held a birthday party for him on the same date, in Sochi, a ski resort in the Ural Mountains and site for the next winter Olympic Games. Bill ’51 and Ellen Ken- nerson Gelette took a cruise to Alaska with friends from Arizona, where they spend the winter. They visited Ketchikan, Juneau, and the amazing Glacier Bay.

1951

Chet Harrington
classnews1951@alum.colby.edu

Cass Lightner happily reports that his diabetes has subsided to the point that he’s been taken off all diabetes medicine. He also reports that the Colby Fund participation rate for our class remains strong. Please continue to give what you can.

Charlie Tobin wins in Sun City Center, Fla., and summers in Den- nispot on Cape Cod. Charlie’s only grandson graduated from Colby last May, and the entire family celebrated on Mayflower Hill. Last summer Charlie had lunch at Clancy’s with Jan “Sandy” Pearson Anderson ’52 and George ’52 and Betty Winkler Laffey ’53. Cynthia and Walt Russell traveled to Egypt last April. Their fabulous trip included a week in Cairo, day trips to the Valley of the Kings, the pyramids, and the Sphinx of Giza, and a train ride to Alexandria. A cruise up the Nile rounded out their vacation. They also took an extended trip down the West Coast, beginning in San Francisco and ending in San Diego at the Lawrence Welk Resort. Bump Bean serves on the board for the Friends of Minuteman National Historical Park in Concord, Mass. Bump focuses on membership development as the park prepares for its 50th anniversary this year. George Wales became a member of the Newton (Mass.) High School Hall of Fame—a much deserved honor. George was a super athlete at Colby, Ed Fraktman ’53 was also honored.

I haven’t heard from Ted Shiro lately but will look him up in Naples, Fla., this winter. Hopefully he is well and still playing some tennis. I also hope to see Bruce Carswell in Naples and any other Colby alumni in the area. Hope and Stanley Sorrentino celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this year. In July they’ll travel by train to Indiana for a family reunion and then travel to Buffalo for the Society of American Magicians annual conference. Stanley still practices magic as a hobby and is active in Rotary and his Masonic Lodge. Last summer he came in first in the 80-and-over division for the Little Compton (R.I.) Road Race—a 4.9 mile race. Happy and healthy 2009 and keep in touch.

1952

Jan “Sandy” Pearson Anderson
classnews1952@alum.colby.edu

Greetings from the Northeast! We don’t have much news this time around, but a couple of items I will pass along to you. Annie Plowman Stevens drove out west last summer and was very pleased to have marvelous weather for all 5,000 miles. She said, “We went as far as Yellowstone and even stopped on the way back in Ann Arbor to see where I had taught in the 50s. My biggest accomplishment on the trip was to go up in the arch in St. Louis, as I am afraid of heights. No problem though— it was great.” I’m still working in the library— frequently check out Robert Parker ’54’s books as well as books by Annie Prouk ’57 and then a recent book by Peter Cameron (Don and Sally Shaw Cameron’s son). Small world.

Another sad note: our local Cape Cod paper had an obituary for Jerry Holtz, who passed away at 77 from myelofibrosis. We send his wife, Jane, and the rest of the family our condolences.

Dave Lynn reports that as a self-appointed Colby Eight representative, he and his wife, Sara, attended the centennial concert of the Yale Whiffenpoofs in New Haven. Dave says the concert compared well to the 50th and 60th Colby Eight reunion concerts, except in proportion and fashion. Their venues sat 2,600 and the “Whiffs” (their own nickname) wore white tie and gloves. Interestingly the Whiffs are seniors selected each year from more than a dozen a cappella groups at Yale. The finale of all the Whiff concerts is their theme song, The Whiffenpoof Song. Whiff alumni in the audience were invited on stage to join in its singing— there must have been 200 people standing side by side. When pressed, the Whiffs reluctantly admit that the melody for The Whiffenpoof Song was, perhaps, written by a Harvard man. That’s it for this time around, folks. Hope you are faring well and will share all kinds of news the next time.

1953

Barbara Easterbrooks Mailey
classnews1953@alum.colby.edu

The mail has been almost nonexistent this winter, but I did have a couple of contacts with classmates. Ginnie Falkenbury Aronson sent a note about her unusual Christmas gathering: 18 guests and eight dogs. She didn’t go into detail, only mentioned that they all survived. The other piece of news is on the somber side. Nelson Beveridge phoned me about the passing of Judy “Jay” Veevers. Nelly sent me the obituary, which mentioned that at the time of her unexpected death she was a communications and marketing consultant. She supported many charities and was involved in so many philanthropic and community services, they were too numerous to be listed. I am sure she will be missed by her family, friends, and community contacts.

Jan “Sandy” Pearson Anderson ’52 was nice enough to call me about the passing of my husband, Pete Mailey ’57. I told her that I would pass on the news that she is doing very well after the loss of her lifelong companion/husband, Chuck. I hope to have more news from our class in the next column. Write me, won’t you?

1954

Art Eddy
classnews1954@alum.colby.edu

Dave and Betsy Powley Wallingford’s plans for 2009 are to stay healthy, stay connected to friends, stay active, count their blessings, have fun, and attend ’54’s 55th in June.

In the December 2008 Pastel Painters of Maine exhibit, Judy Jenkins Totman received the Best of Show Award for her work titled...
Greetings, classmates, on this unusually cold day in Florida. Kudos to all you brave folk who are tired of ice, sleet, and snow. Off we go to Salt Lake City to visit two daughters and their families, including five grandchildren. Nancy hopes to meet Robin Hunter Clutz soon, as Robin also has family in Utah, and is in touch with Colby roommate Marcia Legru Olney. Nancy was sorry to miss the 50th reunion but had a conflicting family commitment. “Hope to see you at the next reunion!”

1958
Mary Ellen Chase Bridge
classnews1958@alum.colby.edu

Nancy Derderian Bagdasarian and her husband, who live in Wellesley, Mass., often travel to Salt Lake City to visit two daughters and their families, including five grandchildren. Nancy hopes to meet Robin Hunter Clutz soon, as Robin also has family in Utah, and is in touch with Colby roommate Marcia Legru Olney. Nancy was sorry to miss the 50th reunion but had a conflicting family commitment. “Hope to see you at the next reunion!”

1955
Ann Burnham Deering
classnews1955@alum.colby.edu

“I think that it would be great if each member of our class were to choose a base amount, say $25, then pledge five times that amount as a gift to Colby for our 55th reunion. I hope to see you all in June.”

1956
Joan Williams Marshall
classnews1956@alum.colby.edu

“Stampede 5.” She and husband Frank ’53 continue to enjoy living in southern Maine. She encourages everyone to attend our 55th reunion. • Ben and Diane Stowell Duce often stay at their “home away from home” in Damariscotta, Maine. Ben is still involved with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and is a Legionnaire. Diane continues her volunteer work at the Veterans Agent Office in Westbrook, Mass. • I think that it would be great if each member of our class were to choose a base amount, say $25, then pledge five times that amount as a gift to Colby for our 55th reunion. I hope to see you all in June.”

505 NEWSMAKERS

The City University of New York Graduate Center named sociologist David Lavin ’53 a co-recipient of the Grawemeyer Award for English for 2008. Lavin and fellow recipient Paul Atwell co-authored a study that demonstrated the long-term benefits of providing disadvantaged women with access to higher education.

Deaths:

Nancy Derderian Bagdasarian and her husband, who live in Wellesley, Mass., often travel to Salt Lake City to visit two daughters and their families, including five grandchildren. Nancy hopes to meet Robin Hunter Clutz soon, as Robin also has family in Utah, and is in touch with Colby roommate Marcia Legru Olney. Nancy was sorry to miss the 50th reunion but had a conflicting family commitment. “Hope to see you at the next reunion!” • Helen Payson Seager notes that Peter Rè turned 90 March 17. “What better time and excuse for class members to get out our checkbooks and send Colby our donations in honor of his life and work! If you have an anecdote about Peter—inspirational, reminiscent, comy, humorous, grateful, whatever—enclose it and maybe these can be compiled, perhaps with contributions from other classes.” • Larry LaPointe loves what he is doing: spending the winter in Florida enjoying theatrical events and teaching part time at the University of Maine at Augusta in the summer and fall. He also enjoys spending time with 11 grandchildren. “Sure enjoyed Christmas with them as they added meaning back.” Dear, dear Bobbie will be missed by all. • Happy news from Jan Nordgren Meryweather, who is enjoying Florida after finishing up all her treatments mid December. • Susan Miller Hunt is back singing in both her church choir and the Wellesley Choral Society. • In December my husband, John, sang with The Outer Cape Chorale an all-Beethoven program to three nights of standing room only. We will see David and Rosemary Crouthamel Sortor when they visit Christine Layer Larson. Reunion will a hot topic. • Coach Don Rice and wife Sherry left South Carolina for the month of February to watch a granddaughter play basketball in Greenfield. • Until next time, know that John and I are grateful for each and every one of you. God Bless.

MILESTONES

1957
Guy and Eleanor Ewing Vigue
classnews1957@alum.colby.edu

The Washington fanfare is over and now everyone has an eye toward spring. It was quite a day January 20, one of which we should all be very proud, regardless of political persuasion. • Ken Haruta played in the men’s singles tennis league last summer at Sand Island in Bethelhem, Pa., where the synthetic clay courts are excellent. Ken was placed in the “super seniors” group (for over 70s, not Wimbledon ability!), and he won the championship! Playing any singles games at our age is “super,” let alone winning the division—congratulations! • Ever the good-natured joker, Tom Brocklin’s news regards the “maintenance” department and that he will be receiving a second hip replacement soon. Tom wonders if any of our classmates suggest additional body replacement that he should consider. My suggestion would be to hold on to his great sense of humor—that can’t be replaced. • Despite one knee giving him some trouble, John Conkling enjoyed many hours on the ski slopes of New Hampshire. • Ellie Shorey Harris spent a few weeks this winter in Virginia and was happy for the reprieve from the storms in Massachusetts. Ellie is extremely proud, and rightly so, of her grandson, Morgan Harris (a student at Washington and Lee University), whose photograph of musicians silhouetted against the city of Prague’s ancient architecture in Main Square was included in the 2009 National Geographic Glimpse calendar (month of February). • Last fall Michaline Chomicz Mannino enjoyed a trip to Eastern Europe, which included the operas in Vienna and Berlin. Most of her year was spent volunteering and raising money for student scholarships in the performing arts. • Bob Pettetrew is still busy in his consulting business helping clients with new business development. Bob also does voice-over commercials for television and radio, along with narration for industrial training DVDs. He has just published a new CD, Very Mello Piano, featuring the wonderful standards of the 1930s and 40s. • Janet Kimball Clymer has moved from N.H. to Denver, Colo., to live near her daughter, Elizabeth. Janet had a setback right after the move but has recovered nicely. Ellie Gray Gatenby tells me that the availability of medical services in Denver will be a huge plus for Janet. Her new address is 3065 W. Highland Park Place, Denver, CO 80211. She loves to receive cards. • The Viques have joined the ranks of embattled Maine’s who are tired of ice, sleet, and snow. Off we go to St. Simons Island, Ga., for the month of March and half of April. The golf courses beckon as well as the friends we have made there over the last 12 years. • Please keep the news rolling! We don’t expect to hear of great feats of strength like you’re swimming the English Channel or climbing Mt. Everest, just the day-in, day-out rhythms of life will do! In fact, they are the meat of our columns, and we look forward to hearing from people who have not been included in our writings over the years.

1958
Mary Ellen Chase Bridge
classnews1958@alum.colby.edu

Nancy Derderian Bagdasarian and her husband, who live in Wellesley, Mass., often travel to Salt Lake City to visit two daughters and their families, including five grandchildren. Nancy hopes to meet Robin Hunter Clutz soon, as Robin also has family in Utah, and is in touch with Colby roommate Marcia Legru Olney. Nancy was sorry to miss the 50th reunion but had a conflicting family commitment. “Hope to see you at the next reunion!”

1959
Joanne K. Woods
classnews1959@alum.colby.edu

Not much news this time. Sandy and Steve Levine have a new home in Sarasota, Fla., as of Dec. 30. Their move went very well. • I hope that when this reaches you, you’ll be
recalling the least. Tony Kramer’s daughter, Stephanie, is junior at Colby. They went scuba diving in Mexico, and then she headed to Ecuador and worked at a health clinic and took a course or two at the local university. His son, Stephen, is at the University of Kansas. Tony and his wife, Linda, split their time between the Chicago area and Nuevo Vallarta. Last year they visited Colorado, and will be in touch about our 50th reunion.

1962 Patricia Farnham Russell Nancy MacKenzie Keating classnews1962@alum.colby.edu

Apologies that miscommunication resulted in no column in the last two magazines. Here’s some news from last summer. Tony Kramer’s daughter, Stephanie, is junior at Colby. They went scuba diving in Mexico, and then she headed to Ecuador and worked at a health clinic and took a course or two at the local university. His son, Stephen, is at the University of Kansas. Tony and his wife, Linda, split their time between the Chicago area and Nuevo Vallarta. Last year they visited Colorado, and will be in touch about our 50th reunion.

1963 Paige French classnews1963@alum.colby.edu

Mel and Jean Elliott Thomason enjoy retirement by cruising north in the summer and south in the winter in their trawler. In between cruises they relish visits with children and six grandchildren. They spent several months in Trinidad in last year and will do volunteer work for the Bahai’s faith again this year.

Peggy Fuchs Singer has had a challenging fall—their surgeries for breast cancer, the last one a bilateral mastectomy. The good news: no chemo or radiation, and her prognosis is excellent. The implant reconstruction process is going along well, and she expects to be back to herself by spring. Daughter Ilana, who returned from a wonderful year in Jerusalem, will be married in the Berkshires in September. Peggy is anticipating the publication (by the University of Alabama Press) of her memoir Legacy of a False Promise: A Daughter’s Reckoning, due in October. The book is a family history which deals with her parents’ experience as left-wing activists in the ’30s and ’40s and her trauma when she learned of their political history just as the McCarthy Era was in full swing. Peggy looks forward to seeing everyone at our 50th.

Randy and Bunny Read McElroy
Wouldn’t a secure, fixed-income stream be a welcome addition to your retirement planning?

Give us a call to learn about how a gift annuity can help Colby, and help you.

Let’s talk.

Sara Shaw Rhoades
classnews1964@alum.colby.edu

1965
Dick Bankart
classnews1965@alum.colby.edu

AUTHOR, AUTHOR!! Pam Plumb Carey, Delray Beach, Fla., has published her first book: Minor League Mom: A Mother's Journey through the Red Sox Farm Teams. It recounts "the chronicle of stamina" Pam and Charlie ’63 endured as they experienced their two sons' progress through the six levels of professional baseball leading up to Fenway Park from 1992 to 1999. It is available from Amazon.com in paper (affordable, says Pam) and the Colby Bookstore. “Now, on to the next one!” • Jim Foritano, Cambridge, Mass., writes for Artscope—New England's Cultural Magazine. An arts magazine published by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, it’s “available at most art galleries, public and private,” writes Jim. “I would love to hear from classmates about matters artistic and non.” • Tom Donahue, Denison, Texas, takes “courses that appeal to me, history mostly, and do a lot of writing relating to my reading and travels. That and taking care of animals and this property definably fill my days until it’s time to kayak and sail again.” Tom spent some tourist time last December in Hannibal, Mo., and focused on the Mark Twain attractions. “I had the place to myself in the sleet and cold. All that Twain describes in the two novels that start there is plainly visible yet.” • Jane “Jemmie” (Michener ’66) and Matt Riddell enjoy life in Hendersonville, N.C., where Matt is golf operations manager for a local country club. They enjoyed a cruise to Alaska in 2008 and “spoil[ing] five grandchil-dren.” • Lew Krinsky, Houston, Texas, was elected national chair of American Friends of Magen David Adom in October 2008. This is the American affiliate of the official Red Cross organization in Israel. MDA operates Israel's national blood bank and a fleet of 700 ambulances. Lew led a delegation to Israel in February to review needs relating to the recent rocket attacks. • A Christmas card note from Sunny Coady, New London, N.H., recounted her tale of a Zimbabwe safari adventure last October with Rick and Nancy Winslow Harwood, East Lyme, Conn. They visited Johannesburg, Soweto, and Seychelles “for a week of sailing, snorkeling, and exploring the wildlife and beaches.” Then they went to game parks in South Africa and Zimbabwe. They helicoptered over Victoria Falls. • Nick Locsin has moved into the Woolwich, Maine, house. You may recall he spent much of the time on our 40th reunion Portland harbor cruise in lengthy phone negotiations about this project. Now a short 48 months later they have moved in. "The quality of life can't be beat and I plan to do some deep water fishing this spring/summer.” • John '63 and Nancy Godley Wilson, Lexington, Mass., spent 10 months planning and building a year-round home on Deer Isle, Maine, they plan to use four to five months a year. “We cleared the land ourselves with the help of a forester.” They attended John's 45th at Colby last June. • Ruth and Harold Kowel report from Brighton, Mass. “I will take a few minutes off from watching my retirement account go further into the tank to reply to your request for news. In 2008 about all I accomplished was to have installed two new knees. Now the pain is gone but I have not regained my
Ah—news from classmates not recently, or in some cases ever, heard from!! Sue Hader Babash, at Colby just for her freshman year, is preparing to retire after 15 years as controller for Nexus Software in Raleigh, N.C. She and husband Bill did a Viking River cruise on the Rhine from Amsterdam to Basel last October to celebrate 45 years of marriage, and a Danube cruise from Budapest to Nuremberg the year before. Highly recommended, says Sue. 

Phil MacHale of Bronxville, N.Y., writes, “My kids don’t want to see me, my books aren’t selling, I’m off to China to teach their kids how to get into American colleges. Was up on campus this fall. Fortunately, I’m dating someone half my age, so the kids didn’t look all that young. Trust all is well with that any remember me.” Brad Simcock has been busy with retirement from Miami University of Ohio since 2004. He and wife Like (pronounced Lika) do some travel as she builds her next career in gerontology, spending summer of 2008 in Amsterdam and having a great side trip rendezvous in Berlin with Peter Grabosky and his wife, Brynwn, who were traveling far from their home in Australia. “Three cheers for the globalization of friendship,” writes Brad. He vacations in Maine every summer, but not in the reunion month of June so far. 

Training for her third sprint marathon this summer helps Ellie Caiio Thompson strive to feel Younger Next Year. The book of that name by Crowley and Lodge is Ellie’s bible on how to live these next 30 years in good health. (Required reading for the Class of ’66?) She and John continue to travel, celebrating their 40th anniversary last year with a trip to a Scandinavia and Russia. They do lectures and make DVDs on how they manage the challenges of travel with wheelchair-bound John, trying to inspire others with disabilities to travel by land, sea, and plane all over the world. Ellie, Marty Walker Marchut, Linda Kaiser Wantman, and Gretchen Wollam O’Connor get together yearly for a weekend away, taking up where they left off the year before. 

Another traveler, and one who highly recommends the Colby alumni tours, is Californian Peter Anderson. He and Elena spent two weeks in Morocco last March with a retired Colby professor, a guide, and 10 alums from other small colleges. Peter says it was wonderful and considerably less expensive than the Stanford alumni trip they recently took to Israel. The economic downturn is not making it easy to sell his company, Pacific Geotechnical Engineering, so Peter may have to work a bit longer. He’s still very involved with Rotary International, working in the World Community Service branch, traveling to developing parts of the world to arrange for humanitarian assistance projects. He says the pay for that is “phenomenal, probably similar to that of a class correspondent....” Uh-huh. 

Happily retired Kay McGhee Wilson and her husband, Dave, love their new winter/ spring home in Placitas, N.M., and plan to sell their longtime Stockton Springs, Maine, home this spring. They will rent a place for their summer/fall months in Maine. She and Dave are relieved not to have jobs to lose, and they keep busy with their singing, running, sailing, ballroom dancing, golfing, hiking, camping, and pestering their non-rettired friends. I’ll close by quoting Kay’s wrap-up of her news: “We are excited and hopeful about the future of our country. We do believe that the turn away from greed and consumerism will lead to healthier and more conscientious lifestyles, more concern for all the inhabitants of our planet, and a better world for us to share. We wish you all the best during these interesting times.” Well said!

Do you remember crowding around that TV in Runnals to watch The Beatles on Ed Sullivan? Remember laughing when they sang: “Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I’m 64.” Ah, how times have changed, and this year most of us will actually be 64.

Charlotte Killam has served as library board chairman in Greenwich, N.Y., and last summer her church activities included being in charge of the Summer Interfaith project, which served lunch in the park every day to about 150 children. The economic climate meant that there were more children than ever before. She’s travelled to California to visit family and went to Israel for a week with a group of friends in February. 

Larry Sears started a new career as a professional counselor and will work for Family Services of El Paso, Texas. Larry made his way Down East last summer and had an informal reunion with Steve Dock and Dick Hunnewell. In 2008 Betty Coffey Gross celebrated her 40th anniversary, her parent’s 70th anniversary, her mother’s 90th birthday, her father’s 94th, and her brother’s 65th! She and her husband, Mike, spent May to October at their place on Unity Pond (Maine). In the winter, for a diversion, she works with other retired teachers and does NEAP testing in Connecticut for the federal government.

Bill Loweth has been active, busy, and successful. Bill transferred to Syracuse and graduated with a degree in business and then went into development for an independent school. For the past 25 years Bill and his wife have lived in Houston, where Bill has started several insurance companies and has enjoyed being a Texan. He now spends much time with his two grandchildren. Good to hear from you, Bill. 

Bob and Kathy Denely Lewis were among the many folks in southern New Hampshire who were without electricity after the big ice storm in December. They woke up Friday morning to the pops and crashes of trees but no power. They made it through the first night in front of the fireplace and quickly went through their meager supply of wood. Then they’d had enough. They packed up, drained the pipes, emptied the fridge, and headed off to Conn., where they stayed with daughter Jen until the lights went on in N.H. again. 

Mark and Sue Barden Johnson celebrated a number of family anniversaries and birthdays and enjoyed their children and grandchildren at the holidays. They hiked through Wales with Country Walkers in June 2008 and spent another week around London tracing the family tree. Sue can now trace her family unbroken to 1300, and from there to 106 in Kent. She was thrilled to spend a day searching for the town of Borden (pre-American spelling of her maiden name). Mark was thrilled to have survived driving on the left side of the road for a week. They put another 100-plus miles on their hiking boots hiking the Arizona Trail as part of their preparation for hiking in and out of the Grand Canyon in October. “To fund these adventures, Mark and I remain employed, and probably will be until our 401ks get back on track (in 2020)!” Perhaps you noted the big event in Washington, D.C., Jan. 20. Michel (Mike) and Pam Cooper Picher watched it in style, since they had a connection. Their son Jean-Michel ’96 was deputy director of events for the inauguration. But Jean-Michel wasn’t their only Colby connection in Washington. Michel and Pam joined Phyllis Jelbert at the Canadian embassy and watched the parade from a rooftop balcony. Michel kept Dick Lemieux updated on events well into the evening when they attended the Neighborhood Ball. 

We’re getting older, and a few of us are losing our hair, but we know you’re out there experiencing life to the fullest. So, if you’d like to read about the Class of ’67 in the next issue, please do as the Beatles say and, “Send me a postcard, drop me a line / Stating point of view / Indicate precisely what you meant to say / Yours sincerely, wasting away....”

Mary Jo Calabrese Baur writes, “In October, Steve Campbell and I and my older daughter spent 10 days in Sicily and found it an fascinating island. An incredible history and many sites to see from Greek temples to Roman mosaics and beautiful weather too. Great food was another plus. What a wonderful trip!” Barbara Brown still resides in Eagle, Idaho, a rural community that is rapidly changing into a California/Seattle transplant area with an “arty” quality to it. “My youngest daughter is getting married in Boise this summer. I love the new wedding traditions (actually lack of traditions). Allows people to be creative about this important event. Waiting impatiently for golf season to start anew. Plan to do a little snowshoeing soon.” Ken Lane writes, “I’m in my 33rd year of medical practice (anesthesiology)—a career that has taken me through Boston, San Diego, Bozeman, Mont., Grand Junction, Colo., a city which shall remain nameless in the central valley of Calif., and now to Santa Fe, N.M. (which I hope is the laststop). Our big
achievement for 2008 was escaping central California after finally deciding it was time to live where we wanted and make the work stuff secondary. I’m now in a state of semi-retirement. My career has had plenty of ups and downs, and overall I would recommend that any classmate’s children considering a medical career should probably think of doing something else. I still ski, snowboard, bike, hike, and generally try to act like it’s still 1968. I have a wonderful wife (third time is the charm) and a great dog (who loves me but never listens to me) and we are very happy with our move to Santa Fe. I’ve stayed in touch with Bob Aisner, Arti White ’70, Charlie Levin ’67, Bill Goldfarb, and just heard from Alan Crosby out of the blue after a 40-year hiatus. And a note to Pete Rouse, my first-year roommate: just because you’re a little busy helping our new President with the four million things he has to do doesn’t mean you can’t dictate a little note or e-mail and reply to me! No, I haven’t saved the world or cured cancer, but I’ve worked hard in the medical trenches and guided about 25,000 patients through their surgical procedures and have tried to do the right thing in most of my endeavors. I cherish my four years at Colby and would love to do it all over again. Best wishes and if anyone is passing through Santa Fe, give me a call.” * It’s great to hear from classmates who have been out of touch for many years. I know there’s more of you out there. Drop us a line!

1969
Ray Gerbi
classnews1969@alum.colby.edu

June 4 is just around the corner, and I’m hoping to see many of you on campus during Reunion Weekend! * Cherrie Dubois is an adjunct English professor at Salem State College in Massachusetts and is a library trustee in her hometown of Reading. Currently she is working with the Friends of the Library on their annual house tour to be held in May. She is also a volunteer driver for people who need transportation to medical appointments and is considering other volunteer opportunities for the future. Cherrie enjoys a recently completed addition to her home that includes a beamed family room/library with a circa-1750 look, an upstairs room, and an enclosed three-season porch. * I received a brief note from Eddie Woodin, whom we will be seeing at our reunion. As you saw in the last edition of Colby, Eddie was recently named the Scarborough Leader’s “Great Person” for his dedication and contribution to charitable organizations worldwide. Four years ago Eddie, an avid birder since he was 8 years old, started the organization Friends of Birds and Nature, whose mission is to protect bird habitats, and this year he started a program to provide birdseed to older adults who no longer can afford to buy seed to fill their birdfeeders. * Dave Noonan hopes to make it to reunion, his first since our 25th. He is in touch with Jon and Paula Joseph Eustis, and they expect to attend reunion as well. Although Dave trades Christmas cards with Dave Blair, he hasn’t spoken to him in quite awhile, but it appears he and his family are doing well. Dave Noonan’s life is very good in San Diego, where he practices law. His business litigation practice, (Kirby Noonan Lance & Hoge) has 20 attorneys who have been together since 1976 with offices over-looking Petco Park (home of the Padres) and San Diego Bay. Dave and his wife, Barbara, have four children—Jim graduated from the University of Arizona, is married, and works in commercial real estate; Sara graduated from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, works for Dave, and is applying to law school; Colleen is a sophomore majoring in business at Loyola Marymount in LA; and Kevin, a junior in high school, plays football on a team that won the California state championship last December. Dave doesn’t see retirement soon but says the law practice is still fun. Dave has a vacation home in Park City, Utah, for skiing and winter experiences. * In October I “semi-retired” from Concord Hospital in Concord, N.H., and relocated to Brunswick, Maine. I still go to Concord two days a week to do some follow-up work, but am enjoying extra-long weekends and joining my wife, Pam, in exploring and learning about the mid-coast region of Maine. I look forward to seeing many of you on campus in June!

1970
Deborah Fitton Mansfield
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Looking forward to our 40th reunion in June 2010? Planning begins soon. In the meantime, if you haven’t been featured in our class column within the last few years, please e-mail your update! * Joani Katz writes from Newton, Mass., that she is hopeful about the new administration. She continues to develop her geriatric care management professional practice and plays tennis when not injured. She saw Debbie Anderson McPhail, Ben Kravitz, Bill Aldrich, Charles Terrell, and Anne Pomroy among others this year. Joani continues to help with the Colby Fund and enjoys catching up with folks during her fundraising. * In October Debbie Anderson McPhail resigned as director of the senior care program at Overlake Hospital, a community-based program for seniors, which she designed and built up for more than 22 years. Debbie volunteers as a community organizer, putting together an innovative new approach to aging, and has a small consulting practice called Innovations in Aging. Husband Michael develops ultrasound software for handelds. Daughter Holly teaches English as a Second Language in Vietnam, and daughter Kim is a sophomore at University of San Diego. Debbie enjoyed getting together with Joani Katz and Anne Pomroy in the last few years. If you are in the Seattle area, contact Debbie at d-anderson@att.net. * Bill Aldrich’s 60th birthday inspired him to join the 37th RAGBRAI (Register’s Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa) with more than 15,000 cyclists biking across Iowa from west to east: 580 miles over seven days. One day he joined a “rather rowdy bunch of fun-loving 20-somethings.” Bill continues, “I saw the damage that the June floods had done to western Iowa. I saw how the production of ethanol is wasting water and polluting the watertable. I also met lots of friendly people.” Bill encourages others to participate in future RAGBRAI rides. * Mike Seif’s son, David, passed the bar and practices in Charlotte, N.C. Daughter Allyson works at a home for troubled youth in Asheville. Mike wonders whether she could have helped the “troubled youth” at DKE during the ’70s. Mike enjoys a life of leisure in Charlotte, where he keeps an eye on the Red Sox and Colby hockey. * Martha Belden Kleinerman lives in Providence and is back in the legal profession, this time as a paralegal at a firm in nearby Massachusetts. She is also pursuing her avocation of raising dogs. * Terry Halbert has shifted from faculty to admin at Temple University, where she is now director of the new general education program. Her favorite part of GenEd is the way it mixes students’ experiences in Philadelphia with the new courses, and its themes of sustainability and community-based learning. “This is something like overlaying Colby’s Program II (1968 experimental program allowing 25 of us to invent our own curriculum) onto a huge urban research university. A good job for an old hippie.” * We’re looking forward to catching up with all the old hippies in June 2010. Mark Zaccaria reminds us that Jack Wood, who lives in Switzerland and visits the States only once a year, plans to attend. Mark wonders whether Ken Stead and Bob Kaufman might gossip about you, Jack, if you aren’t there to defend yourself. Perhaps there is Pepper Hall antique dirt to dish? Seriously folks—if Jack can attend from Switzerland, those of us within driving distance have no excuse whatsoever! * In the meantime, please e-mail your updates. The Class of 1970 wants to hear from you!
Picking up where I left off in the last column, I can now report that I did have a wonderful long chat with Tom Gallant. Aside from his demanding medical career, he is passionately involved in the world of motorcycles and enjoys long-distance journeys across the country and up into Canada. Even during the cold winters in Wisconsin, he decks himself out against the elements and heads out. Roger Shell writes in as a "longtime listener, first-time caller," and has appreciated with enthusiasm reading about our classmates over the years. He is now the senior and managing partner of a prominent New Jersey cardiology group as well as being on the teaching staff of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J. His hard work allows him to play hard as well: skiing, tennis, and golf. He enjoys chasing his 5-year-old grandson around, and last fall he ventured with his wife to Tuscany to perfect a 5-year-old granddaughter. She continues to study and enjoy retirement and our time together. We spend a great deal of our time visiting our two daughters. We spent Thanksgiving and Christmas in Colorado visiting and skiing with our daughter, Kaylen. In March we went to Costa Rica for two weeks to visit our other daughter, Corrie, who is a teaching assistant in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. May 2009 be a wonderful year for everyone—things can only get better! Love well, laugh often, love much!

Carolyn “Lindy” Dewey moved from Norwich, Vt., to Whitefish, Mont., and loves "creating a life with outdoor recreation at the heart of it in and around an area called the ‘crown jewel of North America,’ Glacier National Park." Her three sons are grown and live mostly in the Seattle area, where she visits often and she feels blessed with a 2-year-old granddaughter. She continues to study and practice touch therapies, primarily craniosacral, myofascial, and polarity therapies. “Life is good, actually life is awesome!” She hopes that time has blessed her classmates with “good health, a great family, a love for life, and enduring friendships that surprisingly get rekindled.” Janet Holm Gerber’s oldest son works as an assistant golf professional in the Palm Springs, Calif., area and just went back to college to begin an architecture program. Her youngest son graduates in May from Vanderbilt University, where he studies music and business. Janet continues to love her work in administration at a local independent Episcopal school. In her free time she is trying to put a legitimate golf game together, chip away at projects in her beloved 1920s home, and tries "to laugh about the aging process!" She regularly sees Dave and Liz Ross Withnell, who are busy with their government law careers and their four children. George Peabody has 35 years of experience in water treatment applications for electric power plants, which earned him a return trip to Europe as the power market technical director for Naico Co. "Who would have guessed the useful durability of a Colby degree in chemistry?" His wife, Robin (Sweeney) ’74, and he moved from Colorado to The Hague, Netherlands, in August and expect to be there three to four years. He writes, "The Hague is a great small city to live in: friendly, full of parks, and easy to get around in. Happily, nearly all of the Dutch speak English!" He travels throughout Europe to support power customers, working with his local sales and service organization. Mike Amster has been living in Concord, Mass., for the past 18 years. He’s in disbelief that he has finally joined the ranks of his classmates with a son who is a college graduate! His environmental health and safety company is in its 10th year. Since his 50th birthday he has run 17 marathons, three half ironmans, and one Ironman. (You go, Mike!) Lee Hobbs Steege attended Colby for two years before moving on to other colleges. Because her learning disabilities, "it took me six colleges and 12 years to finish my undergraduate degree." She worked for over 30 years as a medical technologist and married Steve Steege ’70 in 1982. They have two sons, Eric and Brian. "Steve and I are both retired and split our time between Ossipee Lake Freedom, N.H., and Boca Raton, Fla." They keep in touch with Kathy McGirr and Linda Warren Simmons and would love to hear from Pat De Berry Nordstrom. And finally, my husband, Steve, and I both still enjoy retirement and our time together. We spend a great deal of our time visiting our two daughters. We spent Thanksgiving and Christmas in Colorado visiting and skiing with our daughter, Kaylen. In March we went to Costa Rica for two weeks to visit our other daughter, Corrie, who is a teaching assistant in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve. May 2009 be a wonderful year for everyone—things can only get better! Love well, laugh often, love much!
in Europe, or coming to visit, can contact Robin at 46Eklow@gmail.com. • Shelley Bieringer Rau has changed jobs and is now the occupational therapist at a small, rural elementary school in Leeds, Maine. She works with children with everything from physical disabilities to learning disabilities to autism. Here office mate, the school counselor, is Colby Class of 1980. Daughter Adrienne works at Akamai in Cambridge, Mass., providing back-end Internet services to companies like Amazon and Yahoo. Son Lucas is a high school choral music teacher in Middletown, N.Y., and performs with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale in the summer. Shelley’s husband, Rick, works as a psychologist with a family practice in Leeds. They continue to enjoy their log home in Turner, Maine. • Harriet Hults King and her husband practice family law in Burlington, Vt. Their son attended the Colby basketball camp and was on the all-star team. He will graduate from Cardigan Mountain School in New Hampshire and will probably attend a New Hampshire boarding school for tenth grade. Her daughter, an eighth grader, is starting to play the electric guitar. She is looking to soundproof the house! • Linda Krohn has a new job working for a State Farm Insurance agency less than two miles from her home. Her daughter, Lindsey Vonn, continues to wow the skiing world with wins in a variety of races around the globe, including this year’s World Cup overall and downhill championships. • Deborah Watthen Finn participated in the CAN Career Services Weekend at Colby, where she did a mock interview with a student and served as a moderator for an international-related careers panel. One student asking for advice was the daughter of Dave ’75 and Susie Benson Tumbell ’75. Deb also attended the Colby-Middlebury football game and saw Colby win. She joined Gail and Remi Browne and their daughter, Christie ’10, as they cheered on their son, Ben ’12. Deb then spent the evening at Vicki Parker Kozak’s renovated “camp” on the Belgrade Lakes and enjoyed time with Vicki and Jill Gilpatrick Richard and her daughter, Robin. The highlight of Deb’s year was an invitation to join a delegation of women executives from the construction and development industry on a nine-day trip to Israel in November. • Art Bell didn’t send me information on what he is doing, but he sent updates on Sten “Rocky” Goodhope and Howie “Beam” Lazar. While the rest of us were sitting down to Thanksgiving dinner last November, Rocky was sailing across the Atlantic in a 48-foot sailboat, taking part in the annual Atlantic Rally for Cruisers. Rocky’s boat, Amulet, finished 37th in its class. He was at sea for more than 13 days with more than 200 boats sailing from the Canary Islands to St. Lucia in the Caribbean. Rocky reports that “the Atlantic was a piece of cake—we had an interesting Atlantic crossing—wishes for more wind and a stronger spinnaker”—and the fact that “rum is cheaper than tonic makes for a powerful cocktail hour!” Howie continues to survive as an attorney in Alaska and had some modest accomplishments in 2008: He broke 80 several times on the golf course, had only one trial in 2008 (but kept his 13-year trial win streak), and modestly admits he “wasn’t very good at catching fish this past year.” He did have one memorable day last July when his kids landed a 32-pound king salmon, a 40-pounder, and a Lazar-family-record 60-pound king salmon. Art, Rocky, and Howie will attend our 35th class reunion in June, and we hope the rest of our readers will join us in Waterville.

1975

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Thank you for the new year’s e-mail from new and old contributors. • Rich Whitecar is retired and enjoyed working the press box for the Philadelphia Eagles for the past three seasons and keeping an active membership in the Sea Isle City, N.J., Polar Bear Club. • Laurie Fits Loosliigan loves her work at the service learning program at Phillips Exeter. After making their last college tuition payment and celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary, she and Wayne are in the process of owning a small apple orchard in southern New Hampshire. They planned to visit their youngest daughter, Emma, in Panama, where she is completing her McGill undergraduate work. Daughter Megan ’05 is teaching at the Governor’s Academy in Byfield, Mass., and son Matt (Bowdoin) works with music education and performs children’s music in Brunswick, Maine. Laurie still plays ice hockey and is climbing and pruning apple trees in her spare time. Laurie occasionally sees Elizabeth “Binkle” Cammack Closmore at Exeter, where Binkle’s sixth child is a student. • Mike Fletcher and his wife, Barb, celebrated their 36th anniversary and live in Greensburg, Pa. They have four children: a son, 17, who is a senior in high school; a son, 30, who’s a graduate of Penn State; a daughter, 25, who graduated from St. Michael’s; and a daughter, 28, who was in the Class of 2003 at Colby. Mike is the national accounts general manager with Moulding & Millwork, a Canada-based distributor of lumber products. • Pam Bradley Burton wrote from Santiago, Chile, where she was starting a new position as VP of global marketing for software company Mincor. She anticipates lots of travel and relocation to San Francisco. She plans to maintain her roots in Gloucester, where she is the VP of marketing for the Cape Ann Symphony in her spare time. She is proud of the year-long youth initiative for the symphony. They produced an original score for Katy and the Big Snow, a children’s book written and illustrated by Cape Ann native Virginia Lee Burton (her husband’s aunt). Pam was excited by the production, which brought art, music, and Gloucester together to sell-out crowds. • Many classmates wrote about family travels last year. Susie Gearhart Wuest spent 10 days visiting in London while offering support for 25-year-old son, Eric, a professional violinist who was in a competition. She and husband Paul traveled to Poland to meet newfound relatives and sightsee throughout the country.
the country. • (Rev. Dr) Peter Luckey spent five weeks last fall in India preaching to local congregations and visiting schools, mission sites, and orphanages. A highlight of the trip was meeting a child that their family had been sponsoring for the last 10 years. • Sarah Rosenberg still lives and works in Portland, Ore., but had just returned from a three-week family trip to Italy. • Marty Womer celebrated his fifth-year anniversary with his wife, Mary Keefe, and the first-year anniversary of his law firm in Kennebunk, Maine. He was on the February cover for the National Academy of Elder Law Attorney News. Marty spent two weeks visiting in Scandinavia including tracing his roots in Sweden. Marty has set up a Facebook group for the Class of 1975 and encourages classmates to participate.

1976

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1977

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It was great hearing from and conversing with so many of our classmates in the past month. Patti Stoll reports that after a 25-year career in banking and investment management, she made the career jump into philanthropy. She is now deputy director of the Harvard NeuroDiscovery Center, a Harvard Medical School-affiliated biomedical research group focused on curing neurodegenerative diseases including Parkinson’s, MS, ALS, and Alzheimer’s. Patti’s role is marketing and fundraising. “It’s a terrific cause, and I believe classmates to be in touch if interested in what we’re doing to tackle these truly devastating diseases!”

• Last summer Chris McKeown Burr had a great trip sailing 4,000 miles roundtrip from Chesapeake Bay to Newfoundland and back. In December she attended a neighborhood Christmas party and was introduced to the new neighbors who had just bought a home on her street: Bill Yoder and his wife, Lorry. More evidence, as Chris says, that “it is a small Colby world.” Chris continues to work at the Pentagon as an assistant deputy under the Secretary of Defense. She found it very interesting watching the transition to the new administration from close up. • Melanie Dorain Green looks forward to attending Colby’s commencement this year, when her son, Kevin ‘09, will graduate. Kevin is a computer science major and hopes to find a job in the Boston area. He is a competitive downhill mountain bike racer and he joined four other Colby students last fall at Sunday River for the ECCC mountain bike races, placing third in the downhill race (for Division I and II), and helping Colby win the Division II fall series. A few weeks later Kevin placed fifth in the DII downhill race at the nationals at Banner Elk, N.C. Melanie’s younger son, Connor, plays football at Middlebury. Daughter Kirby is out of school working in Boston. Melanie regularly sees Janet McLeod Rosenfield, who also has a daughter at Colby. Melanie lives in Wellesley, Mass., and works at Harvard with Vicki Johnson. • Finally, I prodded my Colby roommate, Michael Rieck, into giving us an update. Mike is associate professor of computer science at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. He’s been “stuck in Iowa” for the past nine years, but says being at Drake has turned out to be a very nice opportunity. Mike teaches mostly computer science, with an occasional math class tossed in. “I’m always hoping to give the students a sense of the enjoyment of the material that I first got from my good ol’ profs back at Colby. When advising and mentoring, I sometimes think of my advisor at Colby, Professor Roger Metz, who encouraged me and went out of his way to help find opportunities for me. I’ll always be grateful to him and the whole Colby family.”

1978

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Stephen Miller writes, “I’ve lived in the Tampa, Fla., area for 25 years now. My wife, Terri, son Max, 17, and I have lived on the beach in Treasure Island for 11 years. Quite a contrast to the frigid four years on Mayflower but somehow we manage.” Stephen owns a CPA firm in Tampa and works with medical and law practices. He also plays in a couple of bands. The Jammin’ Jews play religious music at Temple while Bab and the Morphs plays more secular music. • Jennifer Meade moved to Waldoboro, Maine, in December 2006 to be closer to her family. She works part time at an investment firm. Last summer she met up with Shirley Kydd Bastien ’49 when Jennifer and her mother were holding a Haitian arts and crafts sale at Shirley’s church in Skowhegan. • Ray and Leslie Stiller Kissner are empty nesters and enjoying it. Daughter Emily ‘08 lives in Portland, Maine. Their eldest son, Ben, is a junior at Johns Hopkins, majoring in mechanical engineering, and Andrew is a freshman at Kenyon, where he plays lacrosse. Leslie saw Izzie Rex Mackie a few months ago and “it was great to catch up and remember how silly we were so long ago.” • Martin G. Connolly writes that he has had some rough times. He is a recovering alcoholic and sober for a year and a half. Since graduating from Colby, he attended the New England School of Law before deciding journalism was his calling. While working at papers throughout the country, among them the Miami Herald, Boulder Daily Camera, Rocky Mountain News, and Lowell Sun, Martin was nominated for and received several journalism awards for his work, which focused on political corruption, social injustice, and the plight of the underdog. He lives in Billings, Mont., having moved from Kansas City, Mo., where he was an investigative reporter for the Kansas City Star. During that time he cared for his father, who had Alzheimer’s. With an interest in Native American language and culture, he is looking to start a new life in Montana, although he notes that, “Bob Woodward would find it impossible to land a job as a newspaper reporter!” He adds a “hello” to Jana Kendall-Harrison, James and Grace Coddington Thrall, Lucinda Kearns Hepp, Gary Weaver ’68, any of the wonderful Joseph family, and all the faculty in the Philosophy Department. • Nancy Piccin and her 12-year-old daughter had a wonderful time together on a road trip from Spokane to Idaho to Flathead Lake, Mont., for a family reunion in August. • Thanks very much to all who wrote in with news. It’s great to hear from people who wrote for the first time!

1979

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Sam Koch had another successful year with UMass soccer, making it back to the NCAA Tournament. Unfortunately they didn’t make it as far as the previous year, as they were knocked off by the Harvard Crimson. Sam was one of the final eight coaches for National Coach of the Year for the second year in a row and will receive the National Merit Award for the College Soccer Coach from the National Referees Association. Sam says that most of the refs responsible for his yellow and red cards received while coaching at Stanford must have retired before votes were cast!

• Emily Grout Sprague still teaches senior English at Watertown (N.Y.) High School and is the teacher/adviser for the yearbook. It brings back fond memories of putting together the Colby Oracle, and she looks forward to pulling out our old book at reunion this June. Emily sees Stacy Cox Slowinski and family frequently, as well as Betsy Bucklin Reddy. They had a wonderful time celebrating Betsy’s wedding to Jim Reddy in the summer of 2007 and were thrilled to spend time with Nick and Kim Rossi Nichols too. Emily’s daughter Caroline will graduate from Hamilton College in May and daughter Julia is a sophomore at St. Lawrence. Emily and husband Phil have dealt with the empty nest syndrome by working hard and playing harder and traveling when possible (Scotland last spring with her dad, Don Grout ’54, was the highlight). • Nick Mencher and wife Joan are settling in nicely to the empty nest syndrome now that Catherine and Peter are in their respective schools and off-campus living situations. Catherine is a junior at the University of Georgia majoring in international affairs and minoring in Spanish. Peter is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina, Asheville, majoring in philosophy (following his father’s footsteps). Nick celebrated his second year at TIAA-CREF, where he is head of consultant relations. Now that Peter has departed for college, Nick is looking for a new band to play with. • That’s it for this time—short column, but great news to share. I won’t be at reunion this year, but hopefully you will! Keep in touch.

1980

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Congratulations to Dan Salimone and his wife, Leilani, on the Oct. 12, 2008, birth of their daughter Gabriella, who arrived 12 hours after the Salimones moved into their new house in Campbell, Cali. Dan has been a medical technical consultant for the past six years, specializing in sports medicine, and in his spare time he is a test pilot for Pearson Arrow Surfboards. Leilani is the operating room charge nurse at Camino Medical Group’s surgery center in Mountain View. Dan and Leilani are planning a trip to the Philippines to visit family, show off the kids (including Arianna, 3), and surf! • Tamara Hannah is still in Chicago but trying to spend as much time as possible in Miami. Her law practice specializes in all types of real estate as well as small business corporate entertainment matters. Anyone doing a small business tax deferred 1031 exchange should contact her. • Rachel Lavengood, Lisa Turner, and Lydia Mason had a mini reunion in June at Rachel’s cabin on Camano Island, Wash. In November Rachel hosted Amy Butcher, who was in Seattle to receive an award as one of the winners of the National Novel Writing Month. • Andy Miller has been in northern New Mexico for the past six months, where he is a drill rig geologist performing groundwater investigations. In late 2008 Andy passed a national exam allowing him to register as a geologist in numerous states. Look for him this summer on Cape Cod, where he’s helping several towns find and develop new drinking water supplies. • In January Cate Talbot Ashton had dinner at Colby with Jonathan Bees, who was helping his daughter move in after spending her first semester in Spain. Cate’s sons are first-years at Allegheny College and the University of New Hampshire. She reports that, after a semester of adjusting, empty nesting is not so bad! • Grace Koppelman Drown recently joined the middle school faculty at Hebron Academy, where she teaches English and advises the winter drama productions. • And congratulations to Pete Lee, who recently had his ninth short story accepted for publication. He reports
that all is well with the Seeley/Lee family.
• I recently had a blast from the past with an e-mail from Katie Taylor Oxnard, who was a Pomona exchange student our junior year. Katie lives in Acton, Mass., and was on campus this fall helping her son move in for his freshman year. • Don’t forget, our 30th is just a year away: June 2010! Anyone wishing to help with the planning and organization should drop me a line and I’ll make sure you’re included.

1981
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After visiting Colby during Parents Home-coming Weekend to see daughter Claire, a first-year, Lisa (Sukeforth ’84) and Jay Donegan were reminded how beautiful and special Colby is. “Claire is very happy at Colby,” says her dad, “and her experience will be more enjoyable and rewarding than ours.”

Another set of proud Colby parents are Dan ’80 and Liz Pizzurro Ossoff, whose son Ben is a junior and a runner like his dad! Dan and Liz hosted a slew of Colbyites in November for their annual “Colby Friends Thanksgiving” day before the actual holiday. Visitors included Doug and Amy Parker Cook, Bruce and Ellen Reinhalter Shain, Deb (Zarella) ’79 and Richard Dube, Marty MacMillin and husband George Plesko, Steve Finch ’83 and Lisa (Sukeforth ’84) and husband Ken, and their three kids, Iain Hoefle ’82, and Greg and Ginny Low Pomeroy. “We rotate it around to different people,” says Liz. “We also get together every summer for a weekend at someone’s nice and beachy!” Dan and Liz saw Ginny and Greg the following week for dinner in Boston, where Greg was presenting at an orthopedic surgeons’ conference.

• Paulette Lynch, husband Ken, and their son Gabriel attended President Obama’s inauguration. • Milwaukeean Faith Bramhall Rodenkirk was pleasantly surprised to run into Chicagoan Sam Weiser, who was officiating a meet at Faith’s swim club, where their sons were competing. • Kim Hokanson has enjoyed using Facebook to connect with lots of classmates, including Joyce Cannell, Lynne Brunet Winter, Paulette Lynch, and Karen Sondergeld Whitney. • Nancy Welsh Isbell gets to see Leslie Breton often, since Leslie teaches math at Lawrence Academy in Groton, Mass., where Nancy’s son is a sophomore. • Next fall both of Jen Sears Supple’s sons will be attending Colby: Will ’12 and Jared ’13. • As for me, I’m on a mission to get back to my Colby graduation weight—without the goalie equipment!

1982
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Greetings from Maine. I’ve enjoyed seeing Tracy and Michael Beland at ski races this winter. My husband, Jay, coaches his son, Jason, in the Sugarloaf weekend racing program. Mike built a ski house at the end of Fox Hollow Road in Redington. He has been building furniture and cabinets professionally since 1995. • Kathleen Nicholson Massey writes, “Over the holidays I enjoyed a fabulous vacation in Paris, where we rented an apartment. Along with family and friends we walked all over the city, visited museums and othersites, shopped at the local markets, and feasted on delicious food. The trip brought back great memories from Colby in Caen. I would love to hear from anyone living in or visiting NYC at kathleen.massey@dechert.com.” • Carolyn Berry Copp writes, “After a 35-year hiatus I’ve started taking piano lessons again, and I love it. I no longer have to set an egg timer for 30 minutes of practicing. I’ve brushed up on some of my classical favorites that I played when I was 13 (at the peak of my career), and I’ve moved on to some more contemporary. I still can’t play and sing at the same time, so a career as a lounge singer/player won’t be for me. Anyone interested in supporting my performance in this year’s Performance can find me on Facebook!” • Eric Ridgway reports, “I took my wife and two step-kids to Italy this past summer to meet my mother’s side of the family, who live in Sicily. While in Italy we climbed the highest mountain in Europe, Mount Etna, as well as the actively erupting volcano on Stromboli, watching the fiery red embers busting into the air at night. Absolutely awesome! Visited Venice, Florence, Rome, and Pisa and ate lots of fantastic Italian food.” • Sue Miller lives in Victor, Idaho, with her partner, Greg Collins, and two feisty cats. She continues to be a mountain guide and avalanche educator in the Tetons. Her biology degree is put to use in the spring with a bald eagle study on the Snake River. She also grows vegetables for the local farmers market. • Gae Savannah says if you’re into contemporary art and live in New York or New Jersey, come on down to the three-floor, 30,000-square-foot gallery she’s involved with in Newark: Rupert Ravens Contemporary (www.ruperravens.net). All media, nothing conventional!” • From Susan Reese Krevat: “Husband Matthew ’80, my daughter, my two sons, and I went to Colby at the beginning of December. My older son went for an interview and we all went on the tour. The campus is amazing! I loved all the new facilities and amenities, like the panini making station in Roberts dining hall. I was particularly impressed with the new science building with its two greenhouses and a science library. On the tour we learned that biology is the most popular major at Colby. My husband made sure to bring all of us

AGENT OF CHANGE | Jim Donahue ’88

No one could accuse Jim Donahue ’88 of backing away from a new challenge. But a decade ago, no one could have predicted that the banker and teacher would apply his turnaround skills to the 18th century.

Donahue is president and chief executive officer of Old Sturbridge Village, in Massachusetts, one of the country’s largest living-history museums. While the museum recreates colonial life, running it has called on Donahue’s very modern business acumen.

After graduating from Colby with a degree in economics, he began what might have been a typical career route by landing a job with Fleet Financial Group in his native Providence, R.I. But teaching a high school Junior Achievement class inspired him to stay in the classroom to teach sixth-grade math and science and to serve as assistant headmaster at a Providence charter school. Donahue led a merger of the school with a nonprofit, serving as CEO of both.

And then, in 2007, it was time for another challenge.

The new century has not been kind to living-history museums in general. Even the granddaddy of them all, Colonial Williamsburg, sees only about half the visitor numbers it had during its peak in the 1970s. And Sturbridge Village had seen a drop from a peak of 750,000 to just 220,000 in 2006.

It was time for someone to turn things around, and Donahue was, in the words of the president of the Sturbridge Village board, “the perfect candidate.” Quickly, the organization moved toward interactive exhibits (visitors to Sturbridge now can make their own candles and hammer their own pewter dishes).

“People are looking for new experiences beyond just going to see and read,” Donahue said. “It’s all part of adjusting to different tastes and learning what brings in families today.”

Under Donahue’s leadership, the museum saw annual attendance grow eight percent in 2008, from 228,000 to 240,000.

“We need to do what we do best,” he said, “which is to present the region’s history in a compelling way.”

—Douglas Rooks ’76
to the Mary Low lounge so the kids could see the exact location where we met. Of course, the building has been somewhat reconfigured, but you get the idea. On the home front, I’m still helping both sons with their French essays and homework. It’s a good thing my memory still functions.” • Jean Appeloff Segal attended an alumni lecture in Boston called “The 1960s: Then and Now,” presented by professors Cal MacKenzie and Robert Weisbrot. They discussed their recent book, The Liberal Hour: Washington and the Politics of Change in the 1960s. “I roped Claire Brovender Lilledahl into coming with me, despite the fact that she studied Russian history at Colby, not U.S. history. We ran into Ron Shapiro as well.”

1983
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Hello friends. It’s truly my pleasure to offer some news. FYI: Colby is cooperating with the universe by simultaneously banning wordiness and tree-wasting. The result is that my column is shorter by design. I’m not wordy and tree-wasting. The result is

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1984
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Hi everyone! I hope you all are doing well. I haven’t heard from anyone this quarter, so I will assume no news is good news. As you know, our 25th reunion is this June and I hope everyone who is available will come up to Colby. It will be tons of fun; the school has made a big effort to ensure a good time for everyone. Please make your plans to spend June 4-7 in Waterville! See you there!

1985
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Not a whole lot of news this time around but as we gear up for our 25th reunion in June 2010 I would like to point out that Cicil Bevin Gordon has put together a Colby College Class of 1985 page on Facebook. It’s an open group, and Cicil and I would like to encourage all Facebook users to join it. So far there is a growing collection of old, ‘80s-era photos as well as another album of recent candids. No one seems to be identifying the faces in the candids, which may actually be more entertaining, as it makes for a good guessing game trying to remember everyone. As we get closer to the actual reunion the page should become a good resource for tracking attendance and announcing planned events

Cath Stehman-Breen suggests people search Colby ‘85 on Facebook as so many of us have pages now. “John “Gin Pup” Collins responded to my request for news by writing, “I don’t have any news but I do have a comment. I don’t mean to pick a fight with another class column, but did you read in a past issue where 1987 correspondent Scott Fab” Lainer said that the Class of 1987 was the “coolest” class at Colby? Naturally, I think the Class of 1985 was certainly a vintage class year for coolness along with some other primo classes like 1954 and 1975 (and who could ever forget those partiers in 1949?). Mary Low’s class was probably the coolest at the time—well, at least for Mary Low.” When I responded to John with news of my own, I mentioned that my oldest was just about to turn 13 and that my husband and I have been watching for horns to emerge on his normally angelic head and John responded, “I’m well into the children bearing horns stage. My 17-year-old left-wing daughter, Meghan, is a senior in high school and will be attending Mount Holyoke in the fall. My 15-year-old son, Jack, is a laid back, shoulder length hair, year-round surfer who plays guitar and plays in various bands in our area (we live near the Jersey Shore). I’m an insurance attorney at American Express (in NYC). My wife, Maureen, does public relations for a private school in our area.” John and his son are looking forward to a trip Boston in May to catch the Mets playing the Red Sox, courtesy of Brad Whitaker. John said, “The Colonel was kind enough to get two tickets for me. (In 2000 my daughter and I stayed with the Colonel’s family in N.H. to help Gore win in the primary reasons). In 2004 my daughter and I went again to stay with the Whitakers, this time for Howard Dean. We figured we skip 2008 and not jinx Obama—and it worked).” That’s all this time. I hope to hear from more of you soon.

1986
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How Beth Schwartz finds time to coach soccer games, attend dance recitals, and watch theater productions with husband and daughters, Lauren, 14, and Meagan, 12. I don’t know. “Life is busy but wonderful!” says Beth, who was promoted to full professor in the psychology department at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Va., and is beginning a term as an assistant dean of the college. She also coauthored Optimizing Teaching and Learning: Practicing Pedagogical Research, a book published in January. Thanks to husband Joe’s sabbatical from Colby’s Government Department, Susan Maxwell Reisert, Joe, and kids Margaret, 12, and John, 9 enjoyed a classic three-month European grand tour last fall. They started “slow,” taking the Queen Mary 2 to London and ended in Paris. In between, they visited Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Prague, Vienna, Salzburg, Venice, Florence, Rome, Pompeii, the Cinque Terre, and Geneva. See the details at their blog jreisert.traveller-point.com. Peter Coley was travelling last fall, too, taking a respite from the financial markets and work at Citibank Smith Barney in Cambridge, Mass., to revisit southern Africa. His self-described odyssey involved a return visit to the Danhiko school in Harare, Zimbabwe, where he taught in 1985. The spiritually rewarding visit, coupled with witnessing the ongoing tragedy of that country’s collapse, has led Peter to begin setting up a foundation on the school’s behalf. During his trip he also visited the coast of Mozambique and rendezvoused with Dail Zimmerman ‘87 and Swing Robertson ‘85 for a mutual friend’s nuptials in Kruger Park, South Africa. “Dave Mace passes the cold winter in Montpelier, Vt., by cross country skiing and snowshoeing right into March and sometimes April. When not outside, Dave works doing communications and PR for the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, having left journalism for corporate public relations. Dave will try to catch the Colby hockey team when they come to Northfield to play Norwich University—he says he grooves on being the only person in a Colby sweatshirt in a sea of rabid Norwich fans!” John Rafferty, wife Geri, and kids Molly, 5, and J.D., 2, enjoy the warm winter in their new home in the Houston area. Having left Simsbury, Conn., and John’s longtime employer, MassMutual, for a new job with AIG last May, John knows “you might be saying to yourself at this point ‘holy cow, he really stepped in it,’” but notes you’re only partially correct. Things have settled down to almost normal, particularly compared to the surreal week in September when he and family were on the run from Hurricane Ike as Wall Street began to crumble and AIG’s fate hung in the balance. John has dubbed their new neighborhood (in a planned community north of Houston) Stepford—what it lacks in charm and character it makes up in convenience, amenities, and tidiness. John’s looking forward to our 25th reunion in two years, and I hope you all are planning on coming, too! Keep the news coming. Best, Hank.

1987
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Quick reminder: class notes are always delayed by one issue due to layout process. So if some guy announces that he is having
a ballet recital this Tuesday, as I am, most people will not know about it in advance. And they will miss a spectacular show! Now the news: Cammy (Howe ’92) and Sven Duble had a boy, Miles Cameron, Jan. 7. He joins brother Peter, who is going on 5. “We live in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, where I teach history at nearby John Carroll University and my wife runs an academic enrichment program for underprivileged middle school girls in the Cleveland area. Cammy’s folks live on Penobscot Bay, so we still get to Maine on a regular basis, but never quite often or for long enough.” (Here’s a reminder, Sven. It’s freakin’ cold.) * 2008 was an eventful year for Pam Blanchard Harrington. “We finished a one-year remodel of our house, had our third baby, Natalie, at 43(!!), Sept. 22. My husband started a new job in Los Angeles, and we are moving south at the end of the school year!” (My best to George Clooney, Pam, who wears a wig and gets daily face lifts!) * All is good out here in Oregon. I try not to get eaten by cougars and bears,” says Bill Clandenburg. “Spending my weekends in the Cascades with my family in the winter, skiing, snowmobiling, and having snowball fights with my two boys, 9 and 6. In the summer, fishing, boating, waterskiing, and ATVing. No other critical life changes.” * Teri Scally Kinsella just moved from Scituate, Ariz., to Rockville, Md., with her family. “While we miss our friends in AZ, we are so happy to be back on the East Coast. Of course, it is only a matter of time before Obama calls me and begs me to take a job in his new administration, so at least I am living close by!” (Obama who?) * “For once,” quietly proclaims Heide Schmaltz Lasher, “I actually do have some noteworthy news: a new company, www.obama-bling.com, that has really taken off and gotten some technology industries.” * Michael T. Vail ’85 was featured in a Tampa Tribune article titled “Sweetbay’s New Chief Tackles Job.” Vail is now president and chief operating officer of Sweetbay Supermarket. A former defensive end on Colby’s football team, Vail has been with Sweetbay and Hannaford Bros. (its sister company) for 20 years.

80s Newsmakers

The Driscoll Agency, Inc., an insurance and bonding provider in Norwell, Mass., named Jay C. Driscoll ’81 president. Driscoll is a licensed property and casualty producer with more than 27 years of experience in the insurance industry in both underwriting and new business development. * Barrie H. Thasher III ’83 was elected chair of the board of directors of the National Audubon Society. Thasher is a founding member of Audubon Connecticut and served since 2001 as chair of the Connecticut board. He is a managing director and the founder of Moorleand Partners, a global boutique investment banking firm specializing in mergers and acquisitions in the information and communication

1988

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Hello fellow 88ers. Obviously we are all busy with life, as I only have heard from two of you, but lucky for me, the two respondents happen to be two of my favorite people from Colby! * After stealing the show at my wedding as my most beautiful bridesmaid, Kimberly Ellis Fisher had her own stunning wedding, to Barry Fisher. They find themselves in Fort Myers, Fla., which is a surprise to them. “We (me, Barry, Ben, 12, Cameron, 11, Abbey, 9, Will, 8, two dogs, a cat, and two turtles) have stretched out our two- to three-year stay to five and have decided to stay until the kids graduate. Although we do not like many things about where we live—the snakes freak me out and some days I think I’m going to melt in the heat—it seems to be the right thing to do for the kids. We have good friends, I love the beaches, the kids are very happy, and we like their schools. We’re in the process of renovating our house. Barry and I will go to Williams’ graduation in a UHaul and then head north. Our plan is to convince all the kids to go to college ‘up north.’ I’ve been telling them that, with few exceptions, there are no real colleges south of the Mason Dixon line.” * Kim and brood spend lots of time up north in the summer. She sees Joann Koletsky Grazzaro and her family every summer and Betsy Lockhart Casey, Beth Kellogg Getto, and Donna Perrine MacLean off and on. Kim taught some education classes at a local college after a long career as a special education teacher. Currently she manages the driving, homework, and schedules of her family. * It was also great to hear from Jonathan Selkowitz. Jon is doing neat things in life and probably having a lot more fun than most of us. “I’m still skiing at a lot as most of my work is ski photography and I live in a great place to ski. Biz has been extra tough lately, although I will get by as I do not have any dependents and no longer any employees. Last week White Mule ski teammate Steve Masur visited with his girlfriend, Kim. They live in NYC and were making a ski tour of the inter-mountain west. In December Rok Zajec, another White Mule varsity ski team veteran, joined me for a few days in Beaver Creek, Colo., while I was photographing the Alpine World Cup races. Our fearless Colby ski team leader, RB Klinkenberg ’87, showed me the way up the mountain at Bolton Valley last spring.” * My threat to bore you with details of my paddle tennis season and children’s sports still looms. Please get your news in for the next issue. Also, as the latest bored housewife to join Facebook (a real epidemic here in Fairfield County)—and, according to my 13-year-old son, something that makes me a real loser—it is fun to reconnect via that resource. Look for your classmates and say hi! You can also keep me posted with your news on my wall and I will include that in the next issue. Stay well!

1989

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Everyone must be saving their news for reunion, because only five of you responded to my latest plea for column fodder. * Rachel Tilney is still at Kimball Union Academy, where she says Colby alums far outnumber those from Bates and Bowdoin. Rachel was promoted to assistant head of school for external affairs, which means she has lots of responsibility for admissions and fundraising, which is challenging in these economic times. * Also in academia is Mark Cosdon, who in addition to offering me half of his tuna-fish sandwich the other day via Facebook, earned tenure at Allegheny College. He is now associate professor of theater and performance studies, and his book, The Hanlon Brothers: From Daredevil Acrobatics to Spectacular Pantomime, will be published in the fall. Mark will miss our reunion because the poor guy is being forced to lead a study tour of Italy at that time. In his spare time, Mark “cyberstalks” old Colby friends (and he emphasized “old”) like me, John Reynolds, Kerri Hicks, Chris Treiman, and Tim Fisher. * Ingrid Kasaks has returned to the corporate world after a five-year absence and is enjoying her work with JPMorgan Chase. * Tina Clifford Comparato just moved from Boston to San Francisco with her husband and three daughters. The move may be temporary, but she’s hoping to reconnect with Colbyites out there and hoping to make it to reunion, soon. * Displaying his usual impeccable timing, Jim Klimek opened his own securities law practice in Indianapolis in late 2008. * As for me, I’m trying to survive yet another Minnesota winter. Finding classmates on Facebook provides a much-needed respite from the never-ending cold. Miracles never cease, because Meg Christie joined Facebook recently. If she can do it, so can you! And I hope to see everyone in June in Waterville.

1990

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Brian and Sue Gouws Korn welcomed their second son, Justin, in November. Their first son, Jason, 3, started preschool last fall. In addition to the concrete company they recently bought, they own two bar/restaurants and real estate in New Mexico. Sue’s 10-year stint at Washington Mutual has been a roller coaster, with her falling victim to its historic demise in September (she joined in 2005 through an acquisition). Perhaps
in our country and that is one of the things I love about my job. We are truly sitting in the front seat of history! In a small-world coincidence, I was working an event at the White House in December with President Bush and recognized George Moore as one of the attendees at the 2008 Recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom where his in-laws were honored. It was fun to see him and to meet his beautiful family. I recently reconnected with Colleen Halickey Taylor courtesy of Colby magazine. We’ve gotten together on several occasions and I’ve met her husband, Ray, and children Quinn and Campbell. I guess that’s what the alumni columns are all about!”

Matt Melander has been on the 40th birthday circuit: last August Matt Dumas’s 40th in Greenwich, Conn., included Dan Bouvier and Erik Pothole; in January in Denver, Colo., an improv performance for Walker Fenton included Keith Thomajan, Chip Smith, and Charlie Allen. Great fun! Dr. Melander reports that his sports medicine practice is growing and he is having a lot of fun with his girls, Willa, 5, Addie, 3, and Lucia, 1.

Susan Gerstberger Goggin writes, “I currently live in Washington, D.C., with my husband, Kyle, and our daughters, Addyson Mackenzie, 3, and Keaghan Cannon, 8 months. I’m a Secret Service agent on the Presidential Protective Detail and work at the White House. As you can imagine, it has been a busy few months preparing for the Inauguration! So after little sleep and many hours working in the cold, we had a successful day and a new president in the White House. It is a unique opportunity to participate in such a historical moment in 2009 is the year the day job gives way to the entrepreneurial portfolio! 

### 1992

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Dr. Margaret Russell Ewalt’s book, Peripheral Wonders: Nature, Knowledge, and Enlightenment in the Eighteenth-Century Orinoco, was recently published by Bucknell University Press and is available online. Check it out. Congratulations to Sarah Periss, who got married Oct. 19 to Paul Spiritu in Hartford, Conn. She’s an attorney in West Hartford.

Laurence and Molly Beale Constable, and their son, Webb, 3, welcomed Sadie Goodyear Constable into the family. Molly reports that Sura Dubw Lennon just had a third child, a boy, Heath Patrick Lennon. Jim and Lzy Makely Best had Charles Logan Best. Kelly Wenger is due with her second in February. Molly lives in Boston, Sura in Chicago, Lzy in northern N.J., and Kelly in Portland, Ore. Last August Sura, Lzy, and Molly had a mini reunion—minus the late nights of beer and wine. Seems like 2009 is the year of the baby. Congratulations to all of you!

### 1993

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• In September Scott Abrams moved from Waltham to Belmont, Mass. In the two months following, Scott set a personal best time in the Marine Corps Marathon in Washington, D.C., and he and Favianna Vasconcelos were married on a catamaran off the coast of Key West. Laurie and Dave “Deau” Crittenden, Cindy and Dave “Tubby” Lauman, and flare and Kelvin “Elvis” Lui ’92 attended the wedding.

• Glocence Nickerson Burk expected her second baby girl in January. “With $55,000 of graduate school bills, no job, slight weight gain, a receding hairline, and a 1997 Ford Escort that didn’t pass inspection, Patrick Robbins looks forward to a summer of living at his parents’ house. He would like to tell his fellow alums that there is no excuse for not sending in their story.”

• Brian and Nancy Emerson Kress have two boys, Clay, 5, and Glen, 3, and are expecting another child this summer in their Lyme, N.H., home. Brian is a research professor in Dartmouth College’s physics department and Nancy teaches math at Hanover High School.

• Janine Deforge Olson works as a financial advisor with Smith Barney in Waltham, Mass. She and her husband, Sven, expect their fifth child in June.

• Kathryn Steele Zoldan and her husband welcomed their second son, Simon Dylan, June 11, 2008. Their 4-year-old, Alexander, loves his brother very much, and they are all doing well. Last year Sarah Burditt McDougall ran her first half-marathon since 1992. She thanks Coach Deb Atken for her early inspiration. She enjoys lots of sunshine and outdoor activities in Bend, Ore. Give her a heads up if you’re in the area. She has also enjoyed catching up with some old Colby classmates on Facebook.

### MILESTONES

**Births:** Triplets, Giselle, Lauren, and Jackson, to Heather and Jason Jabar ’96. A son, Benjamin Baker Klemesrud, to Brad Klemesrud and Shannon Baker ’98.

**Deaths:** Alison Werner Barton ’96, March 1, 2009, in Killingly, Conn., at 34.

### 90s NEWSMAKERS

Laura Senier ’90 received the Karen Wetterhahn Memorial Award from the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences for work in community outreach and environmental justice in Rhode Island. Senier, currently a graduate student in sociology at Brown, is the first social scientist to receive the award.

• President Barack Obama named Jay Heimbach ’91 to his legislative affairs team. Heimbach was chief of staff for Democratic Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio. He also held positions in the Office of Legislative Affairs and as policy advisor to the deputy chief of staff in the Clinton White House.

Tara Falsani Harkins ’98 as one of its rising stars for the state of Minnesota. Harkins’s practice specializes in intellectual property and business litigation. The rising stars list includes only 2.5 percent of the lawyers in the state each year.

Lara Senier ’90

Laura Senier ’90

Tara Falsani Harkins ’98

90s Newsmakers

Mark your calendars for Reunion Weekend at Colby: June 4-7, 2009. Greetings Class of ’94, Wewriters have been encouraged to keep it short to save space for the magazine... sorry to not have more space to elaborate. As I write this on a cold Sunday in late February, I find myself relocated to the Boston area (Stow, Mass., to be exact) taking a new job running the corporate foundation and community giving programs for BJ’s Wholesale Clubs. But more importantly, I’m with my family as my father struggles with the end stages of brain cancer. We’ve had a good fight these last 10 months and are now enjoying our new friends in hospice and their wonderful care.

• Jon Kaplan is now the spokesman for Congresswoman Ellen Tauscher of California.

• Cecily Totten has lived in South Africa for almost a year working on a horse farm that does pony treks into Lesotho. She has a horse named Becks, and she loves living in a small town in the mountains.

• Marina Netto Grande is pregnant with another baby girl. Alice, due in September. Alice will join big sister Amanda. Amanda works as a manager in the association that defends the telecom industry in Brazil, and she lives in Sao Paulo. The Grande’s will travel to New York to see old friends, including Paul Marnoto, Julie Ackerman Kaeli, and Jocelyn Hiller Kane.

Last September Marina was in China and Dubai and met up with Adam Furber and his wife, Lin, in Hong Kong. 

• Ali Meyer Hong moved to a new house in Newton last summer and balances working part time in college guidance at Newton Country Day School with raising two energetic boys: Clay, 5, and Tommy, almost 4 months. 

• Sara Ferry Gyan reports that Rebekah Freeman Schluz expects baby number two in May. Sara’s family visited with Marlie Haylon Borden and her crew for 10 days in Harbour Island.

• Jason and Stephanie Cain Sherman welcomed their third child, Juliette, July 12. Juliette joins Annabelle and Harold. Life with three under the age of four is perpetually buried in juice boxes and diapers.

• Janet Powers welcomed Arlice Aimee Lee on February 2/09/09 and she is already daddy’s little girl! Sean Devine, who has been at UNH the last 13 years as an assistant football coach and has called the shots on offense the last two, has moved on and is the new offensive line coach at Boston College.

• Jennifer Hurd is getting married in August
A Brooklyn Brewer | Robin Ottaway ’95

Brewer Robin Ottaway ’95 likes his beer. And he isn’t the only one.

“People are caring more about what they consume. They’re drinking less and drinking better,” said Ottaway, partner in and vice president of sales for the out-of-state division for the Brooklyn Brewery.

Nowadays the “Brooklyn” name carries marketing cachet and widespread appeal. But when Ottaway started working at the brewery in 1996, that wasn’t the case. “When we started, people would say, ‘Why on earth would you name a premium product after Brooklyn?’” Ottaway said. “But Brooklyn is sexy now.”

Sexy enough for the Brooklyn Brewery’s brands to sell in 23 states and 12 countries. “We’ll do about a million cases this year,” Ottaway said. “But we don’t want to go public. We’re been approached by a number of international brewers, but we have no interest,” said Ottaway.

“For years we weren’t profitable. Now we’re making a bit of money and we have no debt. We don’t want to go out now.”

Ottaway is definitive on that point. Ask him what his favorite beer is and that’s a different matter.

“Wow, that’s tough,” he said. “In our beer-geek world, we’re always asking each other; ‘if you could drink just six beers for the rest of your life, what would they be?’ For me, it’s wheat in the summer, something stronger as the weather gets cold ... but I don’t think anyone can pick just one favorite beer.”

—Mackenzie Dazor ’99
Seattle for eight years. Joy works as a family nurse practitioner for Planned Parenthood and John works as a program director for the Alliance for Puget Sound Shorelines. They have two boys, Connor and Kieran, ages 6 months and 3 years. They saw Caleb Dolan over the holidays. Caleb and Joana plan to move to Boston from North Carolina in June. They also report seeing Miranda Miller. Joy and John also claim that Jess Boyles is still in San Francisco and Ben Otto works for a newspaper in Jakarta, Indonesia, where he seems to have few plans to come home any time soon. • Marc and Courtney Marum Robaczynski welcomed their third daughter, Marlena Paige, Jan. 9. Big sisters Sabrina and Soren are happy with the new addition. • Thanks to all for writing in after reading the column from the last issue. I still haven’t heard from about 87 percent of you, so please drop a note and let me know what you’re up to.

1997
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The Class of ’97 has lots of baby news this quarter, including three sets of twin boys! Bill and Liz Baker Meehan welcomed sons Patrick and Thomas Jan. 10, 2008. Ashley Ring Gair gave birth to Jackson and Wyatt Dec. 18, 2008. Ashley is in her second year of her pediatrics residency at UT Southwestern in Dallas. Josh and Kate Charbonnier Oeltjen welcomed Lucas and Benjamin Jan. 6, 2009. Born five weeks early, they join big sisters Olivia, 4, and Emma, 1/2. Kate writes, “Josh is working at Ocean Spray Cranberries in research and development. I’m still an attorney, but staying at home with the kids until everybody gets into preschool. We live in Marion, Mass., near Buzzards Bay and see Matt and Jen Robbins Doyle and Delaney, 2, quite a bit. Jen still works in Boston. We are also in good touch with Jen Mason Drolet, who works in Denver, Colo., for a firm she helped to build called IModerate. Jen continues to travel a ton, both for business and for pleasure and is usually planning her next trip. JJ Eklund McGawn had a baby girl, Janie, last June, joining her big brother, Brady. JJ works part time as an attorney for the same firm she was with before she had kids.” • Jon ‘95 and Denise Mailloux Bowden expect their first child in early June. Over the last three years Denise has been building her acupuncture practice (denisebowdenacupuncture.com) with a specialization in fertility, pregnancy, and postpartum health. She lives and works in San Francisco. • Neema and Ryan Mayhugh welcomed son Cameron Dec. 5, 2008. Ryan shared, “His older brother, Connor, 1, thinks that we got another pet and is excited (maybe a little too excited) to pet Cameron’s head. Cameron is still waiting to experience his first Cleveland Browns victory, but everyone has high hopes for next year, as we always do.” • Yawa Duse-Anthony and Vanessa Newell Couto are both expecting additions to their families early this spring. • Zoë Kaplan Presley will become a certified psychologist when she graduates from Pacifica Graduate Institute this summer. She plans to start her practice, Sound of Healing, this fall in Portland, Ore., where she’ll combine depth-oriented psychotherapy with cross-cultural music and sound healing modalities. • Lauren Vitrano married Seth Wilson of Colorado Oct. 25, 2008. Celebrating with Lauren and Seth were Jenny Johns and Jon Bolton ’98, Sonja Noll ’98, Suzanne Stonehouse ’98, Shannon Sawyer ’00, Dr. Don Allen (professor of geology), as well as Candace Kim-Scott ’98 and Brian Scott ’99 and their two children, Andrew and Elsie. Lauren teaches at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics in Dallas. She and Seth are both members of the SIL International and have accepted assignments in mainland Southeast Asia. Lauren will coach people in learning unwritten languages, and Seth will do literacy work with minority language speakers. • The Marin Independent Journal recently ran an article featuring our very own Liz Fagan Gottlieb. The article tells the story of Liz and her twin sister, Mary, who both teach biology and coach cross country at separate schools in Marin. Find the article at http://www.marinij.com by searching “Liz Fagan.” • I’ll finish the column with a bit of my own news. My husband, Sean, and I traveled to Seoul, South Korea, in November 2008 to adopt a beautiful baby boy, Owen Tae-hwan. He will celebrate his first birthday in March. Owen is our little charmer, and he makes every day more wonderful than the day before!

1998
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Congratulations to Ben ’00 and Liz Magyar Stockwell, who had their second son, Adam Lawrence Stockwell, Oct. 26, 2008 at 1:32 a.m., just 22 minutes after they arrived at the hospital. Though 10 days late, once he decided to make his move he came in a hurry! Their eldest son, Ethan, is doing great in his new role as big brother. They’re moved to Scarborough, Maine, work remotely out of the house, and enjoy the Maine lifestyle.
• Congratulations to Casey and Melissa Carpenter Haire on the birth of their second baby girl, Isabelle Eire Haire, born Dec. 10, 2008. Courtney is 17 months now and very happy to be a big sister. • Tara Falsani Harkins was named as a 2009 Rising Star in intellectual property litigation by Minne-sota Law and Politics magazine. • Paul and Katie Page Litterer relocated to Beverly, Mass., with their identical twins, Sophie and Madeline. Complications resulting from severe prematurity kept Sophie in the hospital for 109 days, but she is now home and thriving. They look forward to welcoming Maddie home very soon. • Peter Christopher Felmy continues his karaoke singing at various bars around the Kittery, Maine, area, and is preparing for the upcoming spring competitions. • Graham Quigley is enjoying his first year of acupuncture school at the Acupuncture and Integrative Medicine College in Berkeley, Calif. He also teaches acupuncture for animals at the Acupuncture Institute in Berkeley. • Alexis and Joshua Stevens White Scharbach welcomed their first child, Noah Finlay Scharbach, Nov. 1, 2008. Noah was waterborn at home in New York City, and the Scharbachs were featured in a New York Times article on homebirth, “Baby, You’re Home” (Nov. 13, 2008). • Jen Rose and Charlie Costanzo had a baby girl, Marie Elena, and they’re having so much fun being new parents. They currently live in Brooklyn, N.Y., but are making plans to move to the Bay Area, most likely Berkeley. Jen is in touch with Lizzie Ivy Cooper, who still lives in Westchester, N.Y., and is finishing up a campaign job with N.Y. Senator Chuck Schumer. Jen also reports the following: Emily Record Lane and her husband recently moved back to Maine and bought a house in Freeport; Christine Vaughn Hendrickson had a baby girl in October and loves being a mom; Lin Pimentel is in law school at UCorn. • Congratulations to Charles and E.J. Levin Hammann, who welcomed their first son, Tucker Jackson Gordon Hammann, Dec. 29, 2008. • Have a great spring!

1999
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On Aug. 30, 2008, David Brein Lomasney and Kim M. Potvin were married on Kim’s parents’ property in Nova Scotia. Caroline Calhoun attended. • Jared Woodward-Poor and Megan Davis Poor are expecting their
second child in April, around the time of the second birthday of their son, Jesse. They live in St. George, Vt. • Joe Anderson proposed to Jen Kassakian while they were skiing in the Cascades on her December birthday. The couple is deciding on a location and a date for the wedding; either Rhode Island or Washington State, either 2009 or 2010. • Scott Friedman and Melissa Bradbury were engaged a week before Thanksgiving. They became friends in their first year at Colby and started dating after their fifth reunion. Melissa is associate director of admissions at Tufts Dental School, and Scott has a career as an environmental consultant. • Jeremy Barron graduated from MIT’s business school last May. Since then he has started a software company, 3Play Media, that focuses on creating low-cost captions for Web video. • Sarah Cook is finishing her last six months of OB/GYN residency at Maine Medical Center in Portland and will be moving to New York in July for a gynecologic oncology fellowship at NYU. Sarah will miss Maine but is excited for new adventures in New York. • Jason ’99 and Jessica Porter welcomed Cailin Christine Stauth Aug. 1, 2008, in San Francisco. Jessica completed her Ph.D. at Berkeley in 2007 and now works as a quantitative research analyst with a financial services company. • Bryan Bibeau and Erin Darling were married Sept. 27, 2008, in Bethel, Maine. Courtney Igenfritz Beyer, Carrie Keeling Miller, Liz Hart, Karen Lee Baksi, Kate Davies Grugan, Andy Miller, and Hillary Evans ’01 were there to celebrate. • Morgan McDevitt and wife Suzanne welcomed their first child, Kathryn Emilia, Oct. 28, 2008. Morgan graduates from Cornell Law in May; in July they’ll move to Philadelphia, where he will begin as an associate at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius in the fall. • Charlotte Tiffany Stephenson is a registered dietician in Boston and gets together with Debbie Sabath and Jessie Davis Keppeler. Last September Julia Humes married Luke Taylor-Brown in a beautiful ceremony overlooking vineyards in Healdsburg, Calif. Melinda Stockmann, Debbie Sabath, and Charlotte were bridesmaids.

2001 Dana Fowler Charette classnews2001@alum.colby.edu Welcome Colby Class of 2028? There are a lot of babies arriving, so you never know. Perhaps some will follow in their parents’ footsteps. I’m thrilled to announce that Bret and Michelle Chandler Oettmeier welcomed a baby boy, Jack Ryan Oettmeier, Jan. 24 in London. He arrived with a full head of blonde hair! • Danny and Annie Miller Orgad welcomed their adorable baby, Eli David Orgad, this January as well. • Trent and Jenny Kiszkiss Cunningham welcomed Caroline Grace Cunningham Jan. 21. • Stephanie Greenleaf Fyfe and her husband had their second baby, Harper Fyfe, Oct. 28. • Kait and Fred Floberg had their first baby, Isabella Katherine Floberg, Oct. 6. Fred works as a firefighter/paramedic in Carson City, Nev. • Coji and Yuki Koderia Watanabe welcomed Maya Karen Watanabe, a big baby born Dec. 12. They are all enjoying life in Kansas. • There are a lot of babies on their way this spring! Scott and Melissa Alitto Murley expected their second child March 3 to join big brother, Carl, 2. • Jon and Jenny Burbruck Engel are expecting a baby two weeks before my husband and I (both babies are due in April). • Piper (Elliott ’02) and JJ Abodeely live in Seattle, and Piper is expecting their first child in May. • Ben Schreiner is engaged to Amanda Gorman and they are planning a 2010 wedding. • Jemison Foster moved from Auckland, New Zealand, to Bangkok, Thailand, where he took a job with a British international school. He spent a couple of weeks in Nepal over the winter holidays. He is always happy to see Colby kids, so if anyone is in the Southeast Asia area feel free to give Jemison a call. • Dave ‘00 and Grace Price Sherwood moved to Costa Rica two years ago. Grace works for L.L. Bean in their Latin American sourcing office; Dave works as a freelance environmental reporter, as well as researching and writing documentaries throughout Central America for CAVU, a Costa Rica-based NGO. • Owen Patrick married Christina Counsellman Oct. 12, 2008, in Baltimore. In attendance were longtime COOT friends Eric Lantzman, Annie Miller Orgad, and Steve Feldman. Owen’s groomsman included Mark Cattrell, Bill Goldman, Steve Feldman, and Tony Frangie. • Mary Elizabeth “M.E.” Leroy and Andre “Coach” Picher were married outside Asheville, N.C., in August. In attendance were Michel ’67 and Pamela Cooper Picher ’67, Jean-Michel Picher ’95 and Gregoire Picher ’98, Zack Kahn, Vanessa Pickett Moore, Sarah Castille, Dana Dupre, Kimberly Schneider, Anne Wulschlagler, and Fred Perowne. • Kimberly Schneider lives in Portland, Ore., and works on economic development for the mayor with Skip Newberry ’00. • Stephanie Nichols graduated with her Ph.D. in science and mathematics education from the University of Texas at Austin last May. • Melanie Morin graduated from her psychiatry residency program this spring and is moving wherever the Army sends her, likely Kentucky or Georgia, with her hubby and two dogs. She will deploy to Iraq in early 2010. We wish her a safe trip and a very safe return!
2002
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Marcia Ingraham married Alexander Tatum (Bowdoin ’01) June 28, 2008, at the Wentworth by the Sea Country Club in Rye, N.H. Anna Beardslee, Becca Bruce Valli, Lauren Rodier Daley, Whitney Pearce Flitts, and Sarah Browne Trinward were bridesmaids. More news about Meg Casella’s wedding. She married Thomas Hand in September in Salem, Mass. Mary Zito, Katie Nastou, Carolyn Lindley, Catherine Benson, Sarah Dressler, Dave Erlich, and Leah Robertson ’03 joined in the celebration. Andrew Jaspersohn teaches art in a local elementary school and also teaches at the University of New England. He is busy with a printmaking cooperative that recently sold a portfolio to the New York Public Library’s permanent collection. He planned to race the Birkebeiner in Wisconsin this winter along with Chris Cogbill and several other alums. Carl Tugberk started part time at Georgetown for a master’s of professional studies in sports industry management.

Jeff Brink and his wife, Anna, welcomed their son, Dylan Martin, Nov. 24, 2008.

Dave Hauser has been taking a lot of baths in California due to the lack of jobs and the economic downturn. Rashad Randolph teaches at Packer Collegiate Institute and did a Habitat for Humanity project with his students in New Orleans. He’s accepted a teaching position at Middlebury College for the second consecutive summer. Trevor MacDonald is currently the director for marketing and external relations in the athletic department at Washington University in St. Louis. His wife, Annica, is graduating with her M.B.A. from WUSTL in May. They expect their first baby at the end of May—it’s a girl.

2003
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Happy belated Doghead, Class of 2003! Hope spring arrived like a lamb for everyone!

First, engagements, weddings, and babies! Gretchen (Black ’04) and Ben Tuff are expecting their second child in the beginning of June. Ben, Gretchen, and Wyatt are living and teaching at the Kent School in Kent, Conn. Kate Carroll just got engaged! She will marry Frata Kendall (Smith College ’06) in June 2010. Kate just finished up her first year of law school in San Francisco. Michelle Keady got engaged on New Year’s Day to James Hadley, a UNH-alum. Aaron Henckler got engaged to Mara Caruso (Bowdoin ’03) during a trip to Montreal last fall. Aaron and Mara are planning to get married sometime in late 2010. Megan Shannon-Winterson and Dimitri Michaud are engaged, living in Silver Spring, Md., and planning an August wedding. Megan recently became senior policy advisor for Rep. Jan Schakowsky of Illinois after working for Rep. Tom Allen of Maine for four years, most recently as his legislative director. Dimitri works as the consumer finance analyst and information development manager for KCG, a D.C.-based strategic advisory firm. Congrats all! Ellen Whitesides has ended her term as a teacher trainer in rural South Africa and moved back to New Orleans, where she is working now for the Recovery School District. She has been back in the states, she visited Boston in December and got together with Stoph Hicks Hirst, Holly Niles Gettis, Julia Boehm, Michelle Keady, Clayton Donahue, as well as Matt Getty ’04, Josh Gutierrez ’04, and Lindsay Antolino ’04. An annual tradition of sorts was continued this past December when Laura Shufelt, Jill Geissler, Gretchen Groggel, Jenny Grace, Andrea Beaur, Erin Bodner, Amanda Epstein, Sarah Dean, Beth Urstadt, Kira Vassar, Jill Gutekunst, Sara Schwartz Mohan, Averell Ryland, Katie Spier, Merrill Hawkins, Heidi Packard, and Ann Mau met up in New York City for a weekend of fun and of course, a visit to Serendipity. Laura had some additional news: Alyson Lindquist bought her first house in Mass.; Gretchen Groggel is almost finished with her J.D. at Berkeley and has accepted a position in SF starting this summer; Jill Geissler is finishing up her Peace Corps assignment in Guatemala this spring; and Amanda Epstein is still living and working in Kenya. As for herself, Laura started working on her doctorate in education at Northeastern this winter and just got a new puppy. She also works as an academic advisor at Northeastern. Lexi Grant spent the second half of 2008 traveling solo around French-speaking Africa. I’ll end with this: Kim Niederberger Lynch completed her eighth marathon in Manchester, N.H., in November 2008. She ran for a little bit with Jordan Burke ’04. Maybe marathon number nine in 2009?? For those of you who find yourselves weaker in arithmetic, I’ll do the math for you—that’s almost 210 miles of running! Congrats!

2004
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I hope everyone is getting ready for the reunion in June! Katie O’Neill and Ted Farwell ’05 got engaged. They are both headed to the University of Wisconsin business school in the fall to get M.B.A.’s. The wedding will likely be in the spring of 2010. Breilyn Brantley has been living in LA for four years with Michael Hepburn as a roommate. During the week she works on the show Family Guy as the animation producer’s assistant. Weekend she teaches ballet and tap to kids from the ages of 1 to 6 at Fox Kids Dance Studio. Ironically it has no relation to the Fox TV network that broadcasts Family Guy.

Kelly Welch recently got engaged to Cory Ernst ’05 and they plan a spring 2010 wedding on Cape Cod. She is graduating from the family nurse practitioner program at Boston College this May. Shawn Legembre has been acting legislative director and senior legislative assistant for Congressman Mike Michaud, who represents the Second Congressional District of Maine (including Colby) in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Amy Tolsdorf flies all over the country for internal medicine residency interviews! She is especially interested in ending up in Colorado or the Northwest.

Susie Blair married Peter Rufo in a small ceremony in her hometown of Manchester-By-The-Sea, Mass. Colby alumni in attendance were Caroline Blair McKay ’01, Marley Orr, Ande Nicoletti, Tim Smith, and Abby Wheeler. Susie attends Boston College Graduate School of Social Work and will graduate this May with her M.S.W.

Anne Olmstead recently appeared as Diane Lee in the Northeast premiere of the musical Bare with the F.U.D.G.E Theater Co. in Watertown, Mass. Her current show, Cabaret, opened in February with Concord Players, where she played Frenchie.

Steve Sarno will graduate in May from the joint-degree program with Pace Law School and Bard Center for Environmental Policy, just in time to send his partner to business school.

Rachel Tobie graduated from Portland State University with her master’s in writing and publishing. She does freelance book design and started working in the development office for Thomas A. Edison High School. Next August she will attend the weddings of Almea Jack, Meredith Crane, and Armit Bur.

2005
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As the 2009 nuptial season approaches, more wedding plans are taking shape. Wendy Sidcar and John Cole were engaged over Thanksgiving weekend in California. They plan an October wedding in Vermont. Laura Miller, Kristi Eck, Chris Van Wagenen, Tom Ireland, Dan Seifert, and Cory Cramer will be in the wedding party. Nicole Wessen and Jared Cushman were engaged Christmas Day and are planning a summer 2010 wedding.

Katie Slomp and Greg Sawyer ’03 were recently engaged and are planning an August wedding. Nora Gouge reports that Eric Luth and Emily Quann ’04 will tie the knot in April.

Nora is still in NYC working on her doctorate in clinical psychology at Yeshiva University.

Todd Moore is at Fordham Law and will be working at Weil, Gotshal & Manges this summer. Ted Farrell will leave his roommate of seven years, Steve Whelpley, this summer when he heads to Madison, Wis., with fiancée Katie O’Neill ’04. Both Ted and Katie will pursue M.B.A. degrees this fall.

Newlyweds Wendy Bonner and husband Ryan Spicer purchased their first home in northern Virginia, just outside of Washington, D.C.,
and are settling into married life after their August 2 nuptials.   Caitlin Chamberlin is celebrating her recent engagement to fiancé Colin Bunnell and is planning their September wedding in Seattle. Caitlin was at Head of the Charles in Boston in October where she reunited with fellow rowers Sarah Dunham, Megan Loosigian, Caroline Andersen, Katie Jones, Ted Farwell, Steve Whelpelay, Sam Gray, and Mike Feldman.   Lis Maguire is moving to Scotland this fall, where she will pursue her master’s in museum and gallery studies at the University of St. Andrews.   Megan Loosigian still enjoys her teaching position at The Governor’s Academy in Byfield, Mass. She is working toward her master’s in Spanish at Middlebury College during the summers and recently became a friend. We plan to spend a couple of days column while on a flight to London to visit a School of Business in Hanover, N.H., this fall.

2006

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Jessica Varnum completed an M.A. in international policy studies with a certificate in nonproliferation studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. She currently works as a research associate at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, where she manages a number of deliverables for projects relating to nuclear, missile, chemical, and biological weapons nonproliferation. She is considering moving back to D.C., but will hate to leave sunny California!   Brandon Smithwood is still in Brookline and working for a renewable energy and energy efficiency company. Brandon is also applying for grad school.   Liz Shepherd will receive her M.S. in teaching from Fordham University in May. She plans to continue to teach middle or high school English.   Andrew “Todd” Loehsen achieved superior-plus proficiency in Russian after completing the Overseas Russian Flagship Program at St. Petersburg State University in May 2008. He works for the TASS news agency in Moscow but is looking forward to returning home this summer.   Adam Atkinson-Lewis lives in San Francisco still, but started a job last August working for the Energy Foundation on climate and transportation policy in the U.S. He lives with Emilie Coulson and has fun with Charlie Hale, Katie Himmelfraum ’07, Mariah Whitney ’07, Meredith Major-Blaszcov, and a bunch more Colby grads. Meredith is in San Francisco, spent October volunteering in Indiana on Obama campaign, and still works at Google.   Kristin Schmidt works for the Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C. She moved there in August and was selected for the position from more than 400 applicants. She received her M.S. in criminology from the University of Pennsylvania in May.   Noah Balazs teaches middle school history and social studies and plans on finishing his master’s degree in elementary education this summer. He’s teaching himself how to play the banjo!   Josh Montague’s big accomplishment for 2008 was running his first marathon on Labor Day! Ian London ’07 was there to cheer and take photos. Josh also attended a Christmas party held by Alexis Heimann ’07, Katie Price ’07, Kali Abel ’07, and Ian were also present.   Melissa McNulty lives in D.C. with Aine McCarthy, Stephen Planas, and Nate Stone. Melissa writes that “Aine and I work for the RAND Corporation and we are both in the process of applying to grad schools. Stephen earned his master’s in music journalism from Syracuse last year and is now at the Kennedy Center. Nate earned his master’s in education from Pepperdine and teaches at the Maret School, where he came very close to having Sasha Obama in his class.”   Eric Post and Meredith Hagner were married in New Hampshire in July.   Brittan Hamblin recently completed her first marathon! She ran on behalf of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in Walt Disney World. She and Samantha Chun still live in Brooklyn, N.Y., and recently had dinner with Brendan Sullivan, Ed Kotite, Tim Geisenheimer, and Jairus Steed. Beth Foxwell and Jen Coliflores also met up with Brittany and Sam for a mini 40 Winter Street reunion in January. Sarah Kelly ran a marathon in San Francisco and Liz Turnerrn the Chicago Marathon!   Katy Sage Barus, Holly Edenberg, Jenna Morrison, Kate Zeigler, Monty Hankin, and Todd Rockwood met up in Washington, D.C., to decorate gingerbread cookies.   Nani Phillips and Jon Moss ’05 have a new puppy, Natty! It is, of course, named after their favorite beer—die beer of choice during their Colby years.

2007

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Bayley Lawrence married Nick Freeman on New Year’s Eve in Vermont. Emily Forman, Emily Wilbert, Jordan Levinson, Emma Carlson ’08, Natalie Ginsburg, Elisa Chinari, Miriam Trotscha, and Claire Thompson ’08 attended.   Amanda Lee James was recently promoted to special field claims representative in the St. Louis Residential Property Office of Farmers Insurance Group. In this position she trained several groups of new hires as they entered the world of property claims adjusting, was elected to the Claims Representatives’ Advisory Council, and headed a pilot program for handling customers’ supplemental payment requests.   Mark Biggar continues law school at Northwestern and will be working in Chicago this summer for Paul Hastings as a summer associate. Mark, Geoff Buckle, Tucker Kelton, and Ryan Scott visited Tim Brown, Peter Carty, Jess Bernhard, and Peter Arlein in Aspen in January.   Ian London lives in Denver where he pursues his J.D. at the University of Denver while skiing and rendezvousing with Alexis Heimann, Josh Montague ’06, James Cryan, Liz Cougan, Katie Price, and Kali Abel with some regularity. Chris Zajkowski teaches science at Teton Science Schools in Jackson, Wyo., and recently moved into a house with Erik Lambert ’04. He still moonlights as a wedding singer with Tom Rogers ’04 and recently traveled to Salt Lake City to take the Tabernacle Tour with Jan Weidner, Tony Gill, Cliff Johnson, Anders Wood, Matt Wallach, Katie Price, Becca Flint, and Tom Goth.   Last summer Ian Cross worked at the Little Field Home Orphanage in Chigamba Village, Malawi, Africa and hiked the Long Trail. Ian ran a marathon through Death Valley Feb. 7 as a fundraiser for Little Field Home Orphanage and is currently employed as a calculus teacher at Hebron Academy in Hebron, Maine.   While still reporting for a New Hampshire-based newspaper, Robin Respaut is growing a fledgling freelance writing career by contributing to local magazines and building her own Web site.   Becky Anderson lives on Boston’s North Shore in Beverly and teaches study skills and coaches swimming at The Landmark School.   After a year in Copenhagen Elisa Chinari now works as the marketing manager for Preserve and lives in Cambridge.   Last October Bryan Gattis began his yearlong around-the-world adventure and will be traveling mainly throughout Europe, East Africa, and South East Asia. Bryan is currently volunteering at a health clinic on Rusinga Island in Lake Victoria in Kenya.   Jennifer Hinson lives in Brooklyn, Mass., with Alison Mcardle, Sarah Elmers, and Lena Bachmair and began working at a small public involvement firm in downtown Boston, right across the hall from Charlie Patton. In January Jennifer flew to Dubai for 10 days to spend some time sunning, riding camels, and skiing indoors with Michael “Kip” Kropip and Tunde Bamigboye.

2008

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Here it is—our first class column! I received a lot of great updates, and everyone seems to agree it’s unbelievable that we graduated nine months ago! Luckily for me, I’m still at Colby working as the assistant director of alumni relations, so feel free to contact me about anything “Colby.”   Melanie Ungar teaches English in a Fulbright in Austria at two business vocational high schools. She lives in Vienna and enjoys Austrian culture.   TJ Kelley, Josh Reber, and Arthur Fitch live in Heerenveen, Netherlands, playing professional hockey for the Haje Flyers.   Will Kinder and Jamie Waters took a road trip to Great Falls, Mont., where Willis is serving a one-year AmeriCorps term as a legislative policy advisor at a nonprofit organization. He frequently visits Matt Hirsch in Jackson Hole, Wyo., where Matt is one of the resort’s most promising new lift attendants.   Sasha Bartels works in Burlington, Vt., at Green Mountain Antibodies, a biotech company.   Julia Gilstein spent the summer at the Columbia Publishing Course at Columbia
**University in Manhattan. She was recently hired at Pearson Education as an editorial assistant in Boston and lives in Brighton.**

**Ian Singer** lives in Manhattan and works for NERA economic consulting as a research associate. **Katie McCabe** is head coach of the girls basketball team at Worcester Academy in Massachusetts. **Kristin Weigle** lives in Sacramento, Calif., and attends law school at University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law, which she loves. **David Sternesky** is the production manager at a music venue in downtown Houston and has also begun writing and recording his new album. **Steve Frechette** is living in Manhattan and began working at Barclays as an analyst in the IBD Financial Institutions Group, after training for two months in London. **Anna Bimbarg** lives in Chicago and works in the special education department of an elementary school. She’s also enrolled in a master’s program at DePaul University for Secondary Education. Anna traveled to Australia over the summer, then visited New York last fall, where she stayed with **Lauren Langford**. **Linsey Walker** works in Boston as a research assistant for a neurologist studying human developmental brain malformations at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School. **Lane Marder** teaches English in Sevilla, Spain. **Avi David** lives in Providence, R.I., and teaches music to children with learning disabilities at the Wolf School. **Brent Aigler** and **Sharon Fuller** were engaged the week before graduation and married in August in Waterville. Grooms men included **Dan Adams**, **Bou Pullos**, and **Menya Hinga ‘09**. Brent and Sharon now reside in Boulder, Colo., and are pursuing master’s degrees at the University of Colorado. **Meaghan Fitzgerald** lives in London, where she works as director of marketing for a Web startup. She’s seen **Joerose Tharakan** and **Kip Kiprop ‘07**, who also live in London. She hopes any classmates traveling through the area will get in touch! **Ben Herbst** and **Mike King** live in New York City, where Ben teaches second grade in the Flatbush neighborhood of Brooklyn while pursuing his master’s in education in Manhattan. **Elizabeth Petit** is spending the school year as an English teaching assistant at a high school in Compiègne, France. **Emily Wagner** is working on her master’s in public health at Tufts and has recently decided to run 191 miles from Boston to Maine this spring to raise money and awareness for the Central Asia Institute. Thanks for the news, and I hope to see you all back on campus in June for our one-year reunion!

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**Vesta Alden Putnam ’33**, Feb. 5, 2009, in Hallowell, Maine, at 97. Along with her husband, she operated Alden Camps in Oakland, Maine, while raising her children. Hostess, cribbage player, antique collector, and painter, she received an award from the Maine Tourism Association and collected many blue ribbons for her horticulture and flower arrangements. Predeceased by her father, Frank W. Alden 1898, and her husband of 70 years, George C. Putnam ’34, she is survived by five children, Elizabeth Hinebauch, Priscilla Putnam Minkel ’63, Deborah Putnam, Carol Putnam ’69, and James R. Putnam ’73; 12 grandchildren including Kristin E. Putnam ’05 and Garret A. Hinebauch ’88, and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Eleanor Tolan Hooker ’36**, Feb. 2, 2009, in Attleboro, Mass., at 96. She taught medical scientific shorthand at Colby and served as assistant alumni secretary until 1940. She taught high school business for 27 years in Maine and Massachusetts, retiring in 1971. She was an active grandmother and belonged to the Holbrook (Mass.) Historical Society. Predeceased by her husband of 65 years, Wade S. Hooker ’39, she is survived by three children, Wade Hooker, Ann Gventer, and Jean Carmichael, nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Rossiter W. Marcou ’36**, Dec. 21, 2008, in Portland, Maine, at 100. Before serving in the Navy during World War II, he sang baritone with the Paulist Choristers in New York City, sang with the weekly radio show “The Catholic Hour,” and performed at the 1939 World’s Fair. He was choir director at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland and taught high school physics. He enjoyed gardening, oil painting, cooking, and baking bread into his 100th year. Predeceased by his wife, Bernardine Libby Marcou ‘32, and his brother, Rene J. Marcou ’28, he is survived by his grandson, Nicholas, and a great-granddaughter.

**Louis G. Rancourt ’36**, Jan. 26, 2009, in Palm Bay, Fla., at 96. He graduated from Tufts Dental School in 1940 and became an oral surgeon, practicing in the Waterville area for 30 years. He served in the Pacific as a lieutenant in the Navy during World War II. Golf occupied his retirement, and he shot his age until he was 88. Survivors include his wife, Mary Alice, and two sons, Charles G. and Allan L. Rancourt ’73.

**Kathryn Carson Smith ’40**, Dec. 30, 2008, in Dover, N.H., at 90. An author, poet, and historian, she earned her bachelor’s in 1969 from the University of Southern Maine. She was a substitute teacher and literacy volunteer, a piano player, a genealogist, and a social and political activist. She read four newspapers a day until late in life. Survivors include her son, Edson, a sister, two grandchildren, and a great-granddaughter.

**G. Flint Taylor ’40**, Feb. 9, 2009, in Auburndale, Mass., at 92. He served in Europe with the Army during World War II and received a Purple Heart. He earned a master’s from Boston University and then taught history, economics, and psychology at Worcester State College for 30 years, later becoming director of admissions. He earned a Ph.D. in 1958 from UConn. Survivors include his wife of 68 years, Elena, three children, four grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

**Hoover R. Goffin ’41**, Nov. 14, 2008, in Delray Beach, Fla., at 91. He served in the Army during World War II and earned a Victory Medal. He obtained a master’s from Columbia University, and then taught history in high schools in New Jersey, New York, and Maine. Along with his wife, Ida, he raised two children. He was predeceased by his father, Herman O. Goffin ’16.

**Roger H. Poor ’42**, Dec. 15, 2008, in Beverly, Mass., at 89. He was accepted to Harvard Graduate School of Business but was called to serve with the Army during World War II. He later earned a master’s in education from Salem State College and taught school for 22 years. Survivors include his daughter, Elizabeth Jordan, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Raymond M. Tuller Jr. ’44**, Feb. 10, 2009, in Bradenton, Fla., at 88. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and was decorated with the Belgian Croix de Guerre. He worked in business, coached football, hockey, and baseball, and was involved with local politics and civic organizations. Survivors include children Raymond III, Christine, and Jeffrey, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

**Helen Fieldbrave Cserpes ’45**, Aug. 28, 2008, in Menlo Park, Calif., at 86. A social worker, she worked at a Red Cross station hospital aiding returning World War II soldiers. She later worked for 25 years as an assistant credit manager for Sears. In retirement she volunteered helping seniors at the Little House in Menlo Park. Survivors include her brother, Theodore, and two nieces.

**Florence Thompson Ward ’45**, Feb. 21, 2009, in Burt Hills, N.Y., at 85. She worked as a social worker, teacher, and librarian in New York,
Robert Singer ‘46, Jan. 15, 2009, in Warren, R.I., at 85. He served in the Army during World War II and participated in the Battle of the Bulge. He owned Hillhouse, Ltd., a men’s clothing store in Providence, R.I., for more than 50 years. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Harriet Glashow Singer ‘46, three children, four grandchildren, and two brothers.

Annette Hall Carpenter ‘47, Feb. 4, 2009, in Scotch Plains, N.J., at 82. She earned an M.S.W. from Catholic University and for more than 20 years was a caseworker for Plainfield, N.J., retiring as director of welfare for the city. Survivors include four children, Annette Friedman, Cynthia Jefferson, Lori Bembry, and Wayne Carpenter, five grandchildren, and two brothers.

Raymond F. Kozen Jr. ‘47, Feb. 5, 2009, in Augusta, Maine, at 89. He served in the Air Force with the Air Transport Command during World War II. He worked in administrative roles for manufacturing companies in Maine, retiring in 1984, and belonged to the Rotary Club for 54 years. Survivors include his wife, Mary Campbell Kozen ‘47, a son, a sister, and three grandchildren, including Alexander C. Kozen ‘06.

Jerry M. Merrill ‘47, Feb. 1, 2009, in Charlotte, N.C., at 86. He served with the Army Air Corps during World War II. A longtime resident of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, he worked for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. He played tennis until he was 80, sang tenor and played the clarinet, followed world events, and played bridge. Survivors include three children, Susan, Christopher, and Mark, and three grandchildren.

Richard H. Rabner ‘48, May 21, 2008, in Havertown, Pa., at 84. He served in the Army during World War II, finished his Colby degree, and earned a master’s in economics from Columbia. He was a marketing and management consultant and was an instructor at Delaware County Community College. Survivors include two sons, Ken and Robert, and two grandchildren.

Mary Louise Clare ‘49, Nov. 8, 2008, in Hingham, Mass., at 81. She earned a master’s from Columbia Teachers College and then taught first and second grades for 38 years in Manchester, Conn. Survivors include two sisters.

Mario Di Frederico ‘49, Jan. 5, 2009, in Saco, Maine, at 83. He earned his master’s from the University of Maine, Gorham, and then taught and coached at Kennebunk (Maine) High School for 35 years. He helped establish the Kennebunk Parks and Recreation Department and belonged to the Knights of Columbus. Survivors include his children, Mary Ann and Brent, a sister, and six grandchildren.

Marylou Reed Huse ‘49, Jan 20, 2009, in Annapolis, Md., at 81. A housewife and mother, she enjoyed gardening, bridge, and sailing. Survivors include four daughters, Katie McCann, Mary McBride, Elizabeth Wagner, and Margaret Larson, a brother, Carlton D. Reed Jr. ‘53, a sister, Hepzibah Reed Powers ‘56, 10 grandchildren, and a great-grandson. Also surviving are nieces Prudence Reed Kraft ‘75, Susan Reed Parker ‘76, Hopestill Reed Spillane ‘78, and nephew Thomas C. Reed ‘87, all married to Colby alumni.

Jeanne Pelletier Sutphin ’49, Feb. 3, 2009, in Oak Park, Ill., at 81. She worked as a secretary in New York City for many years before getting married and raising her children. She was a tennis instructor and played the game into her 70s. Survivors include four children, Hoyt Sutphin Jr., Geoff Sutphin, Marge Reed, and Jeanne Franko, a brother, and 10 grandchildren.

Alfred W. Tranten ‘49, Jan. 20, 2009, in Mission Viejo, Calif., at 90. He served in Air Force during World War II and then worked as an engineer and in business. He and his wife, Rita, raised two daughters.

A. Buxton Warren Jr. ‘49, Dec. 24, 2008, in Waterville, Maine, at 88. He left Colby to serve with the Air Force during World War II, finishing his degree after the war. He worked for 35 years as an industrial engineer at the C.F. Hathaway Shirt Company in Waterville. Survivors include his children, Barbara, Gerry, and Peter, and five grandchildren.

Agnes Alger Stephanian ‘51, Jan. 9, 2009, in Simsbury, Conn., at 78. A mother and homemaker, she worked for the Connecticut Department of Transportation. She played bridge and tennis, quilted, and donated pheresis and blood for leukemia patients. Predeceased by her brother Walter E. Alger Jr. ‘50, she is survived by children Stephan Stephanian and Michelle Ditts, sister Georgina Alger Mikoleit ‘49, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Gerald J. Holtz ’52, Jan. 3, 2009, in West Falmouth, Mass., at 77. He attended Bentley College, served in the Navy, and earned an M.B.A. from Harvard. He worked for Arthur Andersen for 35 years and, after retiring, taught accounting at the Boston College management and law schools. He served on Colby’s Board of Trustees for 16 years and received a Colby Brick Award and the Mariner Distinguished Service Award. He served on numerous boards including Penikese Island School and the Temple Israel in Boston. He loved sailing and crafting model ships. Survivors include his wife, Jane, sons Andrew ‘82, Ben, and Jack, and sisters Judith (Holtz) Levow ‘55 and Gale (Holtz) Hartstein ‘61. He was predeceased by his daughter, Keren ‘83, and brother-in-law Barry Levow ‘54.

Judith “Jay” Veevers ’53, Dec. 24, 2008, in Dallas, Texas, at 77. She was a marketing and communications consultant who worked as marketing director for the Mall at Chestnut Hill (Mass.) for more than 15 years. She supported numerous art and civic boards including the Brookline GreenSpace Alliance and Cambridge College. A world traveler, she preferred sleeping in tents and immersing herself in local culture. Survivors include her daughter, Kirby, two grandsons, and a sister.

Barbara Ayers Haslam ’55, Feb. 3, 2009, in Mendham, N.J., at 74. An artist and watercolor painter, she taught children’s art classes, founded the St. Mark’s Church (Mendham) Art Show, and belonged to the Somerset Art Association. She worked 20 years for a financial advice company in Morristown, N.J. She loved to garden and play tennis. Survivors include three children, Susana
McClure, Carrie Vallacchi, and David Haslam, a brother, and four grandchildren.

Eloise Larned Petrik '55, Nov. 29, 2008, in Gladwin, Mich., at 75. A librarian, counselor, tutor, and teacher, she worked for institutions in Maine, Montana, and Michigan. She loved theater and the arts and belonged to American Legion Post 171 Ladies Auxiliary. Survivors include her husband, Stephen, four children, five stepchildren, a brother, 16 grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and her former spouse, Paul A. Wescott ’53.

Paul W. Lycecte '56, March 1, 2009, in Ridgeland, Miss., at 79. He served in the Korean War and pitched for the Boston Red Sox organization before coming to Colby. He graduated from Southern College of Optometry and practiced as an optometrist for 40 years. He coached youth sports and was a Bible teacher. Survivors include his children, Lori Cotton, Doug Lycecte, and Lisa Goforth, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

Toni C. Jaffe ’57, Nov. 18, 2008, in Berlin, Md., at 73. A housewife and a mother, she belonged to Temple Bat Yam in Maryland. Survivors include her children, Lori, Jeffrey, and Bradley, four grandchildren, cousin Peter H. Lunder ’56, and former spouse Daniel Yarchin ’56.

Gedeon G. Picher ’58, Jan. 6, 2009, in Lewiston, Maine, at 72. He earned a bachelor’s and master’s in civil engineering from Carnegie Mellon. A traffic engineer and planner, he worked for the Maine Department of Transportation for 36 years and represented Maine and the United States on various committees. After retiring he ran his own consulting company, Mainesurf, Inc. He promoted social justice and peace through his church. Survivors include his wife, Annette Wyman Picher ’59, four children, eight grandchildren, and a sister and brother-in-law, Annette Picher ’57 and Kenneth A. Houston ’57.

Beverly Pearson Mac Neil ’61, Jan. 20, 2009, in Framingham, Mass., at 69. She worked for a period at Old South Church in Boston and also at Widener Library at Harvard. Her greatest pleasure was being a wife and mother. Survivors include her husband, David, three children, and one grandson.

David F. Westgate ’63, Jan. 25, 2009, in Mattapoisett, Mass., at 68. He enjoyed careers in banking and business and was committed to economic development. He was a tireless volunteer and active in his community. He sailed, skied, cycled, and played squash. He sang, played the trumpet, and loved nature. Survivors include his wife, Sally, two daughters, Julia Lown and Rachel Westgate ’98, a grandson, a mother, and a sister.

Gail Koch Cooper ’64, Jan. 31, 2009, in West Brattleboro, Vt., at 66. She earned an M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and dedicated herself to teaching, education, and social work. She volunteered extensively in efforts to promote social justice, literacy, and voter registration. Survivors include her husband, Peter A. Cooper ’64, two children, a granddaughter, and a sister.

Elizabeth Luce Love ’68, Feb. 23, 2009, in Machias, Maine, at 63. She earned a master’s in guidance from the University of Maine. She taught history and was a guidance counselor in Washington County, Maine. In 1993 she was Maine’s Guidance Counselor of the Year. Survivors include her husband, Roy, two children, two grandsons, and a brother.

David W. Durkin ’70, Jan. 7, 2009, in Reston, Va., at 60. He worked as a meteorologist for United Airlines for 33 years and was president of TWU Local 540. He enjoyed music and gardening. Survivors include his wife, Carrie, two children, and a sister.

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Jane Alexander Haines ’70, March 1, 2009, in East Bridgewater, Mass., at 61. She taught first grade and was a correspondent and columnist for local papers. She played the French horn, was active with La Leche League, and served on numerous community committees. She was the 2008 East Bridgewater Citizen of the Year. Survivors include her husband, Ted, four children, two grandchildren, and cousins including Susan K. Nutter ’66 and Deborah Winslow Nutter ’68.

Roger F. Billings ’71, Feb. 24, 2009, in Blue Hill, Maine, at 60. He worked for 40 years in business operations and financial management. He was an accomplished sailor, a fly fisherman, and served on church vestries. Survivors include his wife, Carol Wasserman Billings ’71, his parents, four brothers and a sister, two sons, and two grandchildren.

Donald J. Furcillo ’78, Jan. 3, 2009, in Concord, Mass., at 53. He worked as a medical salesman for 13 years and then taught middle school for 10 years. A star athlete in high school and college, he coached football at UMass Lowell and hockey teams in Massachusetts. He earned a master’s in 2000 from Cambridge College. Survivors include his wife, Gilda, his parents, four children, a grandson, and two sisters.

Alison Werner Barton ’96, March 1, 2009, in Killingly, Conn., at 34. She was a vice president at State Street Global Advisors and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. She died in a car accident on Interstate 395. Survivors include her husband, Gavin, her parents, Karen (Sward ’68) and Eric S. Werner Jr. ’66, and a brother.

John M. Dudley, Jan. 5, 2009, in Green Valley, Ariz., at 82. He taught physics at Colby from 1964 to 1991. He received his bachelor’s in two and a half years from M.I.T. and earned his doctorate in nuclear physics from the University of California, Berkeley. In retirement he volunteered at the Waterville food bank and the evening sandwich program. Survivors include his wife, Constance ’83, three children, and three grandchildren.

Harold B. Raymond, Dec. 13, 2008, in Evansville, Ind., at 89. A professor of history at Colby from 1952 until 1993, he chaired the History Department for several years and specialized in the history of England, Russia, and the American Civil War. He served with the Army during World War II, after which he earned his doctorate in history from Harvard. He belonged to the First Congregational Church in Waterville, read murder mysteries, and followed the Red Sox. Survivors include his wife of 57 years, Dorothy, a son, and two grandchildren.
Where Is Science Behind Climate Change Claims?

By Dave Epstein ’86

As an environmental advocate I have placed land under conservation and restored habitats. I recycle, reuse rainwater, walk when others drive, and generally leave a small environmental footprint.

Yet I am angered by climatologists, environmentalists, and politicians who purvey one of the biggest myths of modern time: that climate change (aka global warming) during the past half century is primarily due to anthropogenic (manmade) causes.

I know this statement will likely have readers scurrying to fire off rebuttals. Many may point to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report that says a 90-percent chance exists that the observed temperature increases of the last 50 years are the result of greenhouse gas emissions. The report goes further to say that human activities have begun affecting specific aspects of the climate, such as heat waves, wind patterns, and continental temperatures.

The IPCC doesn’t conduct its own research or monitor data. Its function is to collect original research produced around the world and synthesize the results. The 90 percent, often quoted by the media, was chosen to draw attention to the panel’s findings and is rooted in no hard data. It is used as the basis for a prediction of global catastrophe, but we should remember that science is hardly infallible.

Recall for yourself all of the scientific predictions from reputable individuals and organizations that have failed to come to fruition. Here are a few: The Y2K catastrophe on Dec. 31, 1999, the planet running out of oil, Legionnaires’ disease, the bird flu epidemic, solar flares knocking out the power grid, the global cooling of the 1970s, and even Einstein predicting that nuclear energy was “unattainable.” However, now our computer models are trusted to be the definitive predictor of the behavior of the planet’s climate well into the future?

Here’s what a Ph.D. friend said to me regarding his view about whether man is the major cause of climate change: “Maybe it’s like religion to me. It’s just a feeling, faith, and belief in something I can’t prove but intrinsically I know is right.”

Therein lies the problem. The argument about the cause of climate change is not like faith or religion, right or wrong; it’s a scientific hypothesis. Climate models are produced by computers that are fed a series of equations and assumptions and then spit out a prediction of rapid global warming. To date these models have failed to identify the current planetary cooling. In 2006 NASA scientists said the cooling was just a “speed bump” on the road to global warming.

Many factors contribute to the climate. As I write this (during a Jan Plan at Colby, when temperatures plummeted to minus 25 F) we are in the second-quietest period of sunspots since 1900. The Pacific Ocean remains in a cool phase of a multi-decadal oscillation and actually may contribute to a cooling the planet over the next decade. Long-term climate data indicate that world climate varies naturally, and those cycles are the collective result of scores of interrelated variables, playing out either in consort or not. Volcanic activity, sunspots, ocean currents, global winds, and more interact to cool and warm Earth. Man plays a role, but it is dwarfed by the natural variability of the planet.

The media support the idea of man-made warming through the omission of important facts. They fail to tell the public that glaciers grew in Alaska in 2008—the first time in 250 years—or that overall ice coverage in Antarctica has reached an all-time record level. We cannot assume that the data used to report the worldwide temperature warming are accurate. NOAA’s reported October 2008 warm record was thrown out after some of September’s data had “accidently” been used in the calculation. Over the past 20 years, hundreds of colder, former Soviet Union stations have been dropped from the temperature database, leaving a warmer bias in the data. In an ongoing project, Anthony Watts, a former television meteorologist and expert on weather measurement, discovered hundreds of the U.S. observational stations are not compliant with NOAA regulations.

Examination of past data shows there have been far more alarming temperature trends than we have witnessed recently. As the last glacial period was ending, about 12,000 years ago, and temperatures rose, an abrupt return to glacial cold occurred. This lasted for about 1,000 years and is known as the Younger Dryas. Evidence of the end of this cold period found in ice cores shows where temperatures in Greenland rose 15 F (8 C) in less than a decade. No Hummer caused that meteoric rise in temperature.

What exactly is this ideal climate we are trying to achieve? What level of cooling is acceptable? Are we trying to return to the 16th and 17th centuries and the Little Ice Age, where massive crop failure and severe cold were the norm? If we now were in another Little Ice Age, would these scientists urge burning of fossil fuels?

The entire premise of man controlling the weather or climate will, if left unchallenged, yield rules and regulations as crazy as the very premise on which they will be based. Conserve, preserve, and find alternative forms of energy. But let’s do it because it’s the right thing to do, not because of the fear associated with some unproven hypothesis.

Dave Epstein ’86 is a television meteorologist in Boston, teaches at Framingham State College, has taught Jan Plans at Colby, and is host of a gardening Web site, GrowingWisdom.com.
SPRING EXHIBITIONS

COLBY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

WHISTLER AND THE FIGURE: PRINTS FROM THE LUNDER COLLECTION
Through May 31, 2009

HANNAH COLLINS: A CURRENT HISTORY
Through May 31, 2009

ANDY WARHOL: SCREEN TESTS & PHOTOGRAPHS
Through May 31, 2009

JOHN COFFER, “PHOTOGRAPHER”
Through May 31, 2009

FROM SALT- TO C-PRINTS: PHOTOGRAPHIC METHODS & MATERIALS
Through May 31, 2009

SENIOR SHOW
May 7–24, 2009

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