The current economic situation, both nationally and globally, has put renewed emphasis on higher education and its future course. The *Alfred Magazine* staff thought this state of affairs, along with the fact that AU President Dr. Charles M. Edmondson is entering his 10th year at the helm of the University, would be a good time to visit the current and future state of academics on campus. In addition to the President, staff members conducted personal interviews with the Provost/Academic Vice President, each dean, and the director of libraries. What the staff found – we hope you agree by reading the following series of articles – is the academic path at Alfred University is on solid ground.
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President Charles M. Edmondson sees several challenges ahead as he enters his 10th year at Alfred University.

“Assuring the future of the University really requires us to address the challenges we face,” says Dr. Edmondson, who began his tenure as AU’s 13th president in 2000.

While the essence of Alfred – a small, but complex, university serving a residential, undergraduate population of traditional college-age students – may remain the same, “at the core of our challenges lies the necessity for Alfred University to find new populations we can serve,” he explains.
“Everyone tells prospective students they offer academic support, at least on paper. Alfred University actually lives up to the promise. Our faculty is an extraordinary group of men and women.”

Dr. Charles M. Edmondson, President

...need to reach out further to recruit students,” says President Edmondson. Traditionally, AU attracts about 60-65 percent of its students from New York State, and about half come from Western New York. The number of high school graduates peaks this year, and then drops steadily for the next decade or so throughout the Northeast. That will force AU, and the rest of the nearly 200 colleges and universities in New York, to look outside the state for students or to retrench programs and faculty.

Fortunately, Alfred University’s academic programs are strong and many of them are already attracting students nationally, or internationally. “There are many students who will be well-served by the things we offer,” says President Edmondson. “The challenge lies in identifying those students most likely to benefit from an AU education, and then reaching them with the message.”

Complicating the problems created by the declining population are the economic conditions pervasive through Western New York. “Our location continues to be a challenge for us,” says President Edmondson. “The area in which we are located is suffering an acute economic decline, which makes it more difficult to attract students, faculty and administrators than it was 40 years ago, when upstate New York and Western New York in particular were more viable and more diversified economically than they are now.”

The sense of community that alumni remember about Alfred, and that the University still strives to provide for its current students, is affected by the economic conditions. More and more faculty and administrators have spouses who are also professionals, but there are limited employment opportunities in Alfred. “Many of our young faculty members are choosing to live an hour or more away from Alfred to be nearer to their spouses’...continued on page 4
“There are many students who will be well-served by the things we offer. The challenge lies in identifying those students most likely to benefit from an AU education, and then reaching them with the message.”

Dr. Charles M. Edmondson, President

jobs,” says President Edmondson.

“When they go home at night, they are not coming back for performances, lectures and other events that make Alfred a vibrant community of scholars.”

Faculty do not care less about their students than in years past – that’s an Alfred tradition that continues – but opportunities for faculty and students to interact in social or casual settings no longer occur spontaneously; they have to be planned.

If the first initiative involves bringing students from new markets to Alfred, the second calls for taking “Alfred” to the students. As President Edmondson explains, students interested in master’s degree programs are often professionals, working full-time, who are interested in attending classes part-time.

**Alfred University has already** established a highly successful downstate program in cooperation with the Center for Integrated Teacher Education. Begun in 2006, the downstate program graduated its first cohort of 79 students who earned AU master’s degrees in counseling or literacy education last fall. An equal number of students is expected to complete course work this year, and for the next several years. President Edmondson sees potential for growth by offering additional master’s degree programs in New York City and on Long Island.

There are also efforts to expand Alfred’s reach internationally. A partnership is in place to offer Alfred University courses to students in Istanbul, and negotiations are under way for partnerships in other countries. While President Edmondson is cautious about expansion into other countries – other American universities have found them to be expensive, although worthwhile, ventures – he’s more enthusiastic about recruiting more international students to Alfred.

“We know we can provide a meaningful education for international students,” says President Edmondson. The presence of international students on the AU campus enriches the experience of all students, but the goal of recruiting international students faces some obstacles, “not the least of which is the post-9/11 concerns about national security.” Restrictions adopted after the Sept. 11, 2001 World Trade Center tragedy make it more difficult for students.

What Alfred continues to do better than most is create a genuine connection between students and faculty, says President Edmondson. “Our strengths lie in our natural and authentic commitment to individual students. The University as a whole is committed to our students, and we have an almost innate understanding our job is to help them, to do whatever it takes.”

The Alfred University faculty “really does help our students try to achieve,” a claim that many other colleges and universities make, but few truly deliver.

“Everyone tells prospective students they offer academic support, at least on paper. Alfred University actually lives up to the promise. Our faculty is an extraordinary group of men and women” with a rare and unusual commitment to student success.

He acknowledges that Alfred and all other colleges and universities are confronted with a common problem: Greater and greater numbers of high school students are simply not prepared academically for college. President Edmondson notes many “struggle with the level of reading, mathematics and science necessary to succeed in college. We see growing numbers of students who need remedial work, and other students who are highly motivated, well-prepared and ready to learn.”

**It’s a serious issue, and not just** for the colleges, says President Edmondson. “At the heart of the dilemma confronting colleges and universities is that the United States’ continued economic leadership in the world depends more on the
education of our workforce than it does on natural resources, or even work ethic. It’s ironic that the poorest nations in the world – India, China, Korea – have surged past us in preparing students for college-level work. We used to have among the highest high school graduation rates in the world. Today, the United States is 10th.”

Among the accomplishments

of which President Edmondson is most proud is the fact that in spite of the challenges Alfred University has met and will continue to face, “We have been able to preserve access to Alfred University for the kind of student we have historically served, those who lack only one ingredient to secure a good education, and that is family wealth. Throughout our history, we have provided our best service to those who need the ‘leg up’ in life we can provide.”

At the same time, the University has “preserved opportunities for middle-income students as they discover themselves and an identity apart from their parents. I think our faculty always kindles that sense of individual identity in students, without cues from the University.”

If he had unlimited resources, President Edmondson says his first priority would be to “eliminate cost as an obstacle to any student who wishes to attend Alfred University.”

But he laughs as he says “unlimited resources,” because even the wealthiest of institutions in the country don’t believe they have enough. The problems may be different at wealthier institutions, but every institution “struggles with the fact that the education we offer – not just at Alfred University but at every good college or university – is so costly that most people cannot afford it.” Worse, says President Edmondson, the accelerating costs “are not sustainable in the future, unless we find a new operating model for institutions of higher education.” Tuition alone has not covered the cost of educating a student at Alfred, or any other college, for years. The gap is covered by endowment income or fund-raising.

“What is both a strength and a weakness for us is the fact that our faculty is a stable body of people who enjoy tenure rights,” says President Edmondson. “Our strength is that they are committed to their students and to their work. At the same time, this poses a weakness in terms of our costs. At many institutions of higher education today, 60 percent, or more, of their faculty are part-timers, something that eases budgets, but also affects the quality of the educational program. It is really important to Alfred University to preserve the traditional kind of faculty, those who are in full-time, tenure-track positions, without which it would not be possible to offer our students the same kind of educational experiences they now enjoy. But it comes with a cost.”

A major advantage for AU is the strength of its Board of Trustees’ support and leadership over the past 30 years. “We have one of the most committed boards I have ever seen at any institution, and we have all enjoyed the benefits of that.” One of his most important responsibilities as president is to ensure that as trustees leave the board, they are succeeded by those who demonstrate the same kind of support, leadership and commitment as their predecessors.

During his nine years at Alfred, 23 new trustees have joined the board, but it is not enough to simply recruit new members, says President Edmondson. “We have to encourage their growth so that they become the kind of board leaders that have served us so well, that have really saved us as an institution. We need successors to our leaders who are not just willing to serve, but ready and able successors.”
Favorable winds of change have swept through the first three years of Dr. Suzanne C. Buckley’s service as Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs at Alfred University.

“I was attracted to Alfred because of its distinguished academic reputation, rich history, excellent presidential leadership, talented, collegial and dedicated faculty, staff and students, manageable challenges and many opportunities,” Provost Buckley says.

She is not disappointed. One of the most pleasing outcomes during her time at AU to date, says Dr. Buckley, is the interest in having “greater opportunity for collaboration across the schools and colleges, divisions and offices.”

One of the hallmarks of an AU education, she says, is the opportunity for students to take courses and classes outside of their selected majors, schools or colleges. For example, an engineer may take a dance class, or an art major may study environmental science.

That option to expand knowledge and enroll in classes across “borders” is beginning to increase, with more students opting for a double major or a dual-degree. Faculty interest is growing as well. Recently, says Dr. Buckley, there has been an “increased interest among students and faculty for a dual-degree;” a faculty committee is examining ways to facilitate the process. Several dual-programs getting close scrutiny for the future are degrees in art or engineering with a business component, attainable within five years. There is also much more to be cultivated in the way of internships, co-ops, service learning, study away and other academic and co-curricular experiences, says the Provost.

Additional bragging rights come along with AU’s outstanding reputation in many areas and with opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students to work side-by-side with acclaimed faculty members, as well as have ready access to state-of-the-art equipment. The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences was awarded a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, and the programs in Art & Design, Engineering, and Business have been praised by their national accrediting associations. Art & Design continues to be nationally ranked.

All programs are making progress in assessing student learning outcomes, thanks to the leadership being provided by a faculty committee, and many programs are using new technology in various ways.

Technology in teaching and learning, like assessment, is a given on college campus these days. Dr. Buckley notes the Blackboard system is widely used by both faculty and students and is scheduled for a major upgrade this summer. Blackboard is a virtual learning environment software system designed to support both teaching and learning. Faculty make student assignments, conduct testing, return corrected projects, collect and organize grades, among a number of activities. Students, in turn, use the system for the same projects and testing, and to communicate back and forth with professors. The system creates a much stronger connection outside the classroom and enhances the traditional student/professor interaction.

New resources/facilities are found across campus, says Dr. Buckley. In the NYS College of Ceramics, all classrooms in the McMahon Building feature “smart” technology for interaction between professor and students. Renovation work on the labs, offices, and research areas for ceramic engineering on the second floor, north wing of McMahon will be completed this summer. Similar renovations are in the design phase for the third floor of the north wing. And this summer, new windows will be installed throughout the building.

At Harder Hall, architects and engineers are working on construction documents for a three-floor, approximately 17,000-square-foot addition on the east side. Plans call for ceramic studios to be housed on the first floor, expanded media (sound/video/interactive digital) on the second, and a gallery, approximately 4,000-square-foot space with mezzanine.

In addition, Scholes Library of Ceramics opened a new collaborative learning space in fall 2008 known as The Gibbs Research Commons. The new open area affords students more workspace, computers, and improved lighting.
“AU is true to its mission of providing academically challenging programs in a student-centered environment.”

Dr. Suzanne C. Buckley, Provost

In the Performing Arts Division, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, a new, 475-seat, approximately 30,000-square-foot, proscenium theater is being added to the east side of the Miller Performing Arts Center. The addition is part of a multi-million dollar gift from Marlin Miller ’54, and it is expected to be substantially complete during the winter of 2010 and is scheduled for occupancy in August 2010. The planning for an inaugural year of events is under way.

In the recent past, the former Allen Hall was remodeled into Perlman Hall (using a generous donation from Robert ’64 and Lynn Perlman), home to foreign language labs and classrooms and the International Student Programs offices. Meanwhile, students in the College of Business’s Olin Building are reaping valuable real-world experience by having a stock exchange board on the premises.

**Dr. Buckley is enthused by a concerted effort in recent years encouraging students with similar academic interests, such as the environment, a language, or the Honors Program, to be housed together with the idea that an ongoing sharing of knowledge and experiences benefits the students and faculty. The most recent emphasis in shared-interest programming is on service learning. This academic year the Gary Horowitz Center for Service-Learning at Alfred University, a joint venture by the Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Affairs, is located in Joel’s House. Ten students are living as a group having identified a service-learning project to conduct throughout the year.

Another aspect of change has been developing partnerships in order to offer programs off the main Alfred campus. A thriving “AU Downstate” program offering master’s degrees in counseling and literacy is ready to graduate its second class of 85-plus students.

“A partnership in Istanbul will enable us to welcome students pursuing undergraduate degrees in select programs such as business. And a strong partnership with Chinese universities has paved the way for the several programs, including the Confucius Institute, opening on the Alfred campus this fall,” says the Provost.

Opportunities for the future abound, said Dr. Buckley and there many possibilities encompassed in the three main themes of the Strategic Plan: Holistic Sustainability, Innovation and Partnerships.”

In all of its academic endeavors, “AU is true to its mission of providing academically challenging programs in a student-centered environment,” she says. “We really are achieving our mission. We are practicing what we say we do.”
The Alfred University College of Business has always embraced innovation, looking for ways to create a unique learning experience for its students that takes them beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

Dr. William Hall, associate provost at AU and acting dean of the College of Business, talks about ways the College will continue to adapt to meet the changing needs of students, faculty and the business world.

Creating unique learning opportunities is nothing new for the College of Business. In 1995, the University became one of the first in the nation to create an investment fund managed primarily by students. The Student-Managed Investment Fund (SMIF) has been a success throughout the last 14 years, with the fund enjoying solid growth and AU students routinely performing well in competitions for student managed stock portfolios.

SMIF has been part of a larger effort to create an environment that places students in “real world” settings, which was cited by the College’s accrediting body, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. “One of the best practices the AACSB said was ongoing at AU was our active learning initiatives,” Hall comments.

Students are actively involved in other projects aimed at giving them hands-on experience. Marketing students have helped area small businesses develop strategic marketing and advertising plans. Hall envisions that program someday expanding to allow students to work with larger businesses in Western New York. Some active learning initiatives have served the local community. For example, each spring, students volunteer to assist foreign students and senior citizens with completing their tax returns.

“I think a culture has developed here, where you have students not getting a grade but still participating” in community-oriented projects, Hall says. “It says a lot about the importance of community service.”

As the economy has become more and more global, so too has the College of Business. “There is increased pressure to globalize and help create a smaller world,” Hall says. “Business can’t be isolationist; we need a broader perspective.”

In addition to study abroad programs that have been available for years, the College has taken other initiatives to introduce students to business in an international setting.

Students have traveled to other countries to present papers, and two summers ago, a group of AU students attended the Cannes Lions International Advertising Festival in France. The College has been involved in a cooperative exchange with Heidenheim University in Germany. Last spring, a group of AU faculty and students traveled to Heidenheim, participating in lectures and visiting local businesses. German scholars have visited Alfred, Hall says, giving students a presentation on a simulation program, which shows how a business would work in different countries.

In February, the University announced that it had been chosen to host a Confucius Institute, which is devoted to promoting Chinese language and culture through education. Dr. Wilfred V Huang, professor of management in the College of Business, will serve as director of the Alfred University Confucius Institute, one of only 47 in the United States and three in New York State.

“Making our offerings more of a global experience is what we’re aiming for,” Hall comments. “We want to provide an experience that’s richer than what students can get at other institutions.”

More and more emphasis has been placed on technology. A stock trading room in the College’s F.W. Olin Building includes tote boards, financial news displays, and a commodity exchange quote board that allows quick, easy access to electronic source of financial and investment data.

The University is a member of the SAP University Alliances program. SAP, the nation’s largest business
software company, provides the College with access to SAP Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, the dominant ERP software used by Fortune 500 companies. Having exposure to the software when they leave AU will attract students to employers, Hall surmised.

The AU College of Business will continue to evolve in the next decade, as it has in the last, Hall speculates. He anticipates a modest increase in undergraduate students and envisions continued growth in the graduate program.

“I don’t see a lot of new academic programs being developed,” Hall says. “We want to strengthen and get depth in our existing programs.”

**Hall expects the College’s graduate program to grow over the next decade as students, and not just those who majored in business as undergraduates, realize the value of obtaining their MBA.**

“I think we’ll see an increase in the number of non-traditional students pursing a graduate degree. We’re talking to students in other colleges — engineering, art and design — about what they can do with an MBA,” Hall says. “There is greater pressure on kids to have additional experience, beyond their four-year degree. We’re living in an entrepreneurial world and getting the extra year (of education), getting an advanced degree, is something that gives students an advantage.”

Hall says developing new concentrations in the MBA program, with expanded certificate programs is possible. One example would be development of a track that emphasizes SAP software training; another would be offering accounting coursework to MBA students required for them to sit for the CPA examination.

Hall counts a “diverse and committed” business faculty as one of the College’s greatest strengths. Indeed, the business faculty represents numerous countries, which exposes students to wide and varied viewpoints and sets AU apart from many institutions of similar size. He expects that to remain true a decade from now as AU becomes a greater presence in the region’s business community.

“I think we’ll have a more diverse faculty that is even more representative of our global business environment. We’ll have increased access to academic environments in other parts of the world by using technology,” he says. “And I see us having a greater presence in Western New York through outreach programs.”
“Curriculum is a dynamic entity. It can’t stay unchanged for very long.” That’s how Dr. Alastair Cormack, dean of the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering, NYS College of Ceramics, feels about the underpinnings of the school’s programs. And that is why “We continue to look (at program) to see if what we are doing is best practice, to see if the way we’re doing things is the best way. Is the curriculum producing the type of students we want?”

On the other hand, much of “engineering (content) is specific,” he says, noting a lot of the material is “fixed.” But new topics are continually being woven into the texture of the coursework, he says. Today that includes new offerings in biomaterials and nanotechnology.

“The curriculum evolves, research topics change, but we need the core competencies,” says Dr. Cormack. He doesn’t foresee any new majors, but predicts “we will see a shift in the emphasis of what’s in our degree programs.”

“There is a growing interest in biomaterials and related activity,” Dean Cormack reiterates. And there is a “resurgence of research,” particularly when it comes to ceramic engineering materials. “The majority of our faculty is interested in research” and the “academic climate” at AU “is allowing us to focus on graduate and undergraduate research,” says Dr. Cormack.

Once those students complete the programs, it’s important to know whether the knowledge is being transferred effectively, he says. Assessment, or looking at learning outcomes, is a long-time practice in the School of Engineering. It’s important to see if students are meeting program and curriculum objectives, says Dr. Cormack. In order to retain ABET (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology), AU must show it is meeting the program educational objectives. “We are always checking with employers, alumni, and current students to make sure the curriculum is producing the type of students we want,” explains Dr. Cormack. “We cannot lower our expectations of our graduates,” he adds.

He fervently believes that Alfred’s size and commitment to students, both undergrad and graduate, are the greatest strengths of the School of Engineering. The small class sizes allow faculty and students to interact nearly on a one-to-one basis. That commitment comes along with an “extensive set of instruments and equipment for teaching and research, second to none, usually found only in major research universities.”

Dean Cormack does predict the graduate engineering programs will grow within the next 10 years, but not so much as to erase the opportunities that come with a smaller-size student cohort. Positive moves, such as the hiring of two Kazuo Inamori Professors (with a search for two more under way) “will allow us to provide focus and attention on graduate research activities,” he says. That research, though often underappreciated outside the School of Engineering, is what attracts major funding from business and industry. “For cutting-edge research, we need instruments and facilities,” he emphasizes.

A prime example is the Student Engineering Project Lab, or as the students say, the STEP lab. STEP houses the Division of Mechanical Engineering’s laboratory space, providing students with access to the necessary tools to construct their mechanical engineering projects, including vehicles — and enough space to test them. In recent years, Alfred University students have had enormous success on a national level with Extreme Gravity racing car projects “born” in the STEP lab, notes Dr. Cormack.
Another welcome teaching tool and community outreach vehicle will be the upcoming addition of the Museum of Fine Ceramics, says Dr. Cormack. The new museum will be located on the second floor, north wing, of Binns-Merrill Hall. Work begins this summer, thanks to a grant from New York State to match a $10 million gift from the Kyocera Corp. to endow the school.

It’s a given that technology and state-of-the-art equipment play a prominent role in the engineering classrooms and laboratories. Every classroom in the McMahon Building has “smart” technology, a computer-based, multi-faceted environment. The McMahon conference rooms will soon have two-way video capability. Faculty take full advantage of the technology, says Dean Cormack. Most faculty also use the Blackboard course management system for lecture notes, assignments, and announcements, he says. Future tools will include animation, video clips, and virtual laboratories.

But all is not engineering terminology and laboratory results for students enrolled in the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering, says Dr. Cormack. The students are well-rounded – some also complete BA degrees or business minors, for example – and highly involved in campus life, experiencing the full Alfred University environment, he says. He notes the current and previous president of Student Senate, for example, are engineering students. One graduate student was track coach, while others have been assistant coaches. And it was an engineering graduate student who launched the men’s hockey cub, notes Dr. Cormack. Still many more students participate in sports, the concert band, orchestra, and chorus, he says.

“The curriculum evolves, research topics change, but we need the core competencies... we will see a shift in the emphasis of what’s in our degree programs.”

Dr. Alastair Cormack, Dean, Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering
The world of the Alfred art student. Ask most people familiar with Harder Hall, and they'll describe those seemingly hundreds of cluttered spaces tucked away in an almost labyrinthine tangle of halls.

It can be any time of day, though in many cases, it is very, very late, when creativity seems to be at its height. A student is bent over a potter's wheel, trying to coax a symmetrical form out of a shapeless mound of clay, or perhaps there is a student perched on a ladder, reaching up to put the finishing strokes of paint on a canvas that extends nearly to the ceiling.

In essence, this has been the life of the Alfred art student for over a century, and will continue to be part of all young artists' training and preparation. However, there has been a quiet, though steady, evolution going on in art and art education over the past two decades, and Joseph S. Lewis III, dean of the NYS College of Ceramics School of Art & Design, is making sure that his students not only develop their creative talents, but prepare for careers as innovative professional artists.

“If I were to sum up what the Alfred experience is for our young artists, it's 'interdisciplinary activity,'” Dean Lewis emphasizes, “and here at Alfred, we're taking full advantage of all our resources.

“As I reflect upon my five years at Alfred, more than ever I realize the world and people have changed, and how art is integrated into society has changed,” says Dean Lewis. “A lot more critical discussion and theoretical curiosity is taking place regarding art, and successful artists have multilayered roles. They are producers, organizers, educators, and entrepreneurs. The blending of the resources of the School of Art & Design with other Alfred University schools and offices, as well as outside partners, is providing a more complete educational experience to our students.

“In my many travels,” Dean Lewis recounts, “I have found that Alfred's imprintur is very strong, especially in the areas of graduate ceramics and glass. So, in particular, we are looking forward to the expansion of our existing international partnerships.

“Faculty members such as John Gill '75 and Wayne Higby, Peer Bode, Xiaowen Chen and Joseph Scheer '84, have had connections in China at Beijing's Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) for several years, and there are some exciting new developments there that will affect students. We are putting finishing touches on a master of fine arts in electronic integrated arts through which Chinese students will get their Alfred MFA in China. There are numerous exchange possibilities that will be included in that opportunity.”

Also, a ceramic program that's connected to a manufacturing base is also nearing completion there and will expand the students’ creative foundation to include teaching, residencies, and the incorporation of CNC (computer numerical control) manufacturing processes for large-scale production. It is connected to an existing manufacturing facility which will provide the students with comprehensive, high-tech, real-world training.

“These unique opportunities will continue to build upon AU's legacy and will allow our students to interact within the international realm.

“We are also looking forward to the new bachelor of science degree in art history debuting this fall,” Dean Lewis adds. “We want to attract the student who has a high talent skill level in the creation of art, along with serious immersion into the history of art. What makes this unique is that prior to selecting this as a major, or concentration, the students have to already be accepted into the School of Art & Design on the basis of their portfolio. This major will appeal to the art student who has the ability to achieve a special balance of creativity and organizational skills.”

With society's increased concern for the environment and sustainability, Dean Lewis says that efforts have been taking place here to ensure that students and the institution are active in service learning. The student initiative RePo (Reusable Materials Depot) was founded in 2006 by art student Bland Hoke '07 after recognizing a need to recycle excess and discarded supplies from art students, faculty, businesses, and residents for use by other art students. The RePo Center garnered AU's 2006-07 Bergren Student Innovation Award for Hoke and continues to thrive under the oversight of current students.

A quiet turning of the wheel

By Rick McLay '89
“Not only is RePo an environmentally-conscious enterprise, but it has resulted in thousands of dollars in savings for waste management costs for the University, and savings to students’ materials costs,” Dean Lewis comments. “This spring the School of Art and Design held workshops on solar energy, as well as biodiesel fuel in conjunction with the School of Engineering. Again, in a cross-disciplinary way, our students have greater awareness and are involved.”

A M U C H A N T I C I P A T E D A D D I T I O N to Harder Hall is the McGee Pavilion. Tentatively scheduled for completion in late 2011, this facility will have a ceramics area, a two-story exhibit space to accommodate large-scale work, and an area for high definition audio/visual productions. “We’re calling this the ‘black box,’” Lewis explains. “This is a high tech, enclosed 24 feet x 24 feet space that will allow artists to experiment and create within ‘immersive virtual reality.’ Through the use of multilayered video projections and sounds – or for that matter, any creative work that requires an enclosed space – the students will be physically put into a simulated environment that is limited only by their imaginations.”

Dean Lewis also cites a recent on-campus example of the interdisciplinary approach that he feels is essential to the future of the School of Art & Design’s mission. The School is partnering with AU’s College of Business to establish an e-commerce site for AU’s Cohen Center Gallery. “If this won’t be the country’s first e-commerce site that exhibits and sells high quality alumni and faculty work from within the institution, it has to be one of the first. Students will gain a wide range of exposure to most aspects of the professional gallery experience, including curatorial work, display projects, and sales,” he says.

“I’m very excited about what’s going to be happening over the next 10 years in the School of Art & Design. We will continue to be creative in our use of resources and facilities in Harder Hall and the other departments on the Alfred University campus. But, most importantly, we will continually rethink our pedagogical strategies as we guide students toward successful and dynamic careers as multidisciplinary artists and leaders.”

Joseph S. Lewis, III, Dean, NYSCC School of Art & Design
The prospect of working at a small liberal arts college is what brought Dr. Mary McGee from Columbia University to Alfred at the beginning of the 2008-09 academic year. “I see exciting things happening at small colleges,” says Dr. McGee, “where dynamic, teaching-centered faculties are rethinking and transforming curriculums through innovation and forward-thinking.”

Alfred’s College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS) certainly has that potential, says Dr. McGee, with a faculty as committed as she is to teaching and educating responsible global citizens and future leaders. Her first year in the dean’s office in Seidlin Hall has been spent learning about the College and the University—its people, its strengths and its hopes for the future. Now she’s ready to get to work.

First item on the agenda: Examining the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences’ general education courses, that complement of requirements which creates the foundation for a good liberal arts education. “We will be looking critically and thoughtfully at how our curriculum measures up, and whether we might want to make any changes.”

It’s hard, and perhaps a little scary for everyone involved, to make changes in something so fundamental in defining an AU education. “But we are educators, and as teachers we need to model what we ask our students to do everyday: be open-minded, critically examine both the familiar and the unfamiliar, and be willing to try new experiences and new ways of thinking, knowing that we will learn something about ourselves and our world in the process.” In these times, observes Dean McGee, “we need to be creative about our use of resources, institutionalize common sense, and have the courage to make change where needed.”

As Dr. McGee remarked to new students and their parents during fall Orientation, “An Alfred liberal arts education involves more than just learning scientific facts, economic policies, or the political structures or art forms of another culture; it is a process of developing critical skills and competencies that will help you to live responsibly in a world that is rapidly changing, a world where you may find yourself in a job 10 or 15 years from now that you never imagined.” What skills, competencies, values, and knowledge should our General Education curriculum reinforce in this 21st century to prepare our students to be versatile thinkers, life-long learners, and leaders in a global society?

This is the kind of question Dean McGee plans to explore with the CLAS faculty in a series of conversations around general education next academic year. In tandem with this series about what we teach (general education), McGee is developing a series of workshops about how we teach (pedagogy.) These workshops, each to be led by different CLAS faculty, will provide an important opportunity for faculty development, allowing faculty to share ideas and discuss teaching strategies across disciplines and programs. McGee, a historian of religion with a specialty in South Asia religions, reports that some of the great ideas she has implemented in her own teaching have come from colleagues in biology and business.

Those open discussions among peers are particularly important as the College hires new faculty members. “We have several new faculty members this year, and we will have more next year,” says Dr. McGee. To help them become acclimated to AU, she’s started a new faculty orientation program and asked veteran faculty members to
ment or their newer colleagues.

One of the things that excited her about Alfred University is the variety of opportunities for students to travel abroad, particularly with faculty. While spending a semester or a year abroad can be a life-changing event for students, some find it difficult to do because of financial constraints or employment. In recent years, the University has been developing a series of semester or half-semester courses that culminate with a two-week trip to another country.

In January, for example, students spent two weeks in Belize with Dr. Robert Myers, professor of anthropology, and Dr. Cheryl Emmons, professor of biology, gaining perspectives from two disparate fields of study. Developing more such courses across the curricula and among academic units would be “good for AU, good for our students,” says Dr. McGee.

She notes the University is already committed to bringing the world to Alfred “in multiple ways,” from Fulbright Scholars-in-Residence from other countries to exchange programs, and visiting artists and lecturers. But there are always ways to do more, she says, pointing to an innovative program at Rollins College in Winter Park, FL, for example, that guarantees every single faculty member will travel abroad every three years, bringing back to campus their rich and diverse experiences.

She’s also enthusiastic about programs that allow for faculty to spend a semester with their peers, reading books and articles about a particular country, discussing what they have read from the perspective of their own fields, and then visiting the country together. While AU has supported individual faculty participation in Council on International Educational Exchange programs, McGee notes having a small group of faculty from AU travel together would provide an opportunity for faculty to support each other upon their return as they explore ways to infuse what they learned into the curriculum or to create a new course together. “Can you imagine how exciting it would be to be able to visit West Africa with a chemist, a historian, a modern language professor, a poet?”

Dr. McGee also thinks that AU, being a small university, might be a great venue to explore a common topic or theme annually (or every other year) across schools. For example, a university-wide focus on China for a year would provide a great opportunity for students and faculty alike to learn about China and its contributions to our world. “We have numerous named lectures – in ethics, history, religion, chemistry” – and

dr. mcgee

continued on page 16
for that year, a number of them could focus on how China has influenced thinking or study or research in those fields. “With advanced planning, a focus on China could be incorporated into a number of existing courses, exhibit spaces, visiting lectureships, performances, and lecture series using existing resources. AU and certainly CLAS have a history of curriculum innovation, and this could be another way to expand and celebrate interdisciplinarity by exploring a common theme through a range of academic lenses and experiences. As teachers, we need to recognize that students learn differently, notes McGee, and “taking on a shared topic, question, or theme across our curriculum and schools allows for different ways of learning as well as sharing different viewpoints.”

One of the things she knew about Alfred before she sought the deanship is that the University not only allows, but encourages, students to earn double majors or even two degrees, often from different schools or colleges within the University. “These kinds of programs allow us to use resources, pulling them together in interesting ways that support the goals and inquisitiveness of our students,” she says.

She also knew that AU prides itself on the close connection between faculty and students, but she didn’t fully realize what that meant until she arrived here. She sees it happening on many levels, in the classroom, certainly, but also in service learning projects, in research, in extracurricular activities, in performing arts.

Those mentoring relationships, she observes, are “what keep students and faculty here and keep them connected, even after they have left the University. When alumni talk about their alma mater, they remember their teachers, more than the subject matter; it is that experience – the interaction with faculty on multiple levels – that is valued.”

Dean McGee has highlighted this aspect of life at Alfred during this year’s open houses for accepted students, asking teams of faculty and students to offer unscripted remarks about their experiences together. “I was so proud. It was humbling, and exciting at the same time,” she says.

It also underscored what she believes is integral to a liberal arts education at Alfred: “It’s about the learning experience, not necessarily the major. It’s about the mentoring: faculty and students working side-by-side, learning together within as well as outside the classroom,” says Dr. McGee.

To foster those connections between faculty and student, Dr. McGee cites the excellent faculty-student advising system within the College. “Advising is a form of teaching,” she believes, and extremely important, particularly for the growing number of students who arrive on campus with no idea what they want to major in. “So many students haven’t declared a major, and that’s okay,” says the dean. “We want to expose them to different ways of thinking, new areas of study. They will find their majors when they find a subject they love and that engages them.”

While many colleges ask students to choose their major even before they arrive, Dr. McGee favors exposing them to a variety of fields, through the general education course requirements; offering them solid advising, and a chance to form student-mentor relationships with professors; and then celebrating with them when they make their decision about a major.

“General education,” explains Dean McGee, “imparts a breadth of knowledge and skills, which provide an important foundation for the major. But it is within the major where students will deepen their knowledge in a particular area while honing their analytical and communication skills.”

She, too, is trying to build better connections with students, meeting with them frequently, inviting them to serve on College committees, and listening to their comments and concerns in evaluating and revamping programs. “There is a lot we can learn from the students that will make our programs even stronger,” Dr. McGee believes.
Alfred University’s Herrick Memorial Library and Scholes Library of Ceramics have undergone significant changes in recent years. Technology is one factor which has transformed the libraries’ role and made them more attractive to students.

“Academic libraries are quickly adapting to the learning styles of a new generation of students, often called ‘Millennials,’” says Carla C. Johnson, dean of Libraries. “They have grown up surrounded by digital media and have a strong preference for information delivered electronically. Many work best in groups and prefer library environments which bring together technology, content, and services — including information experts — in one place which supports teamwork and social interaction,” she explains.

“At AU we still provide traditional study carrels and small group study rooms, but we see these being used less and our open, collaborative ‘commons’ areas used more.”

In spite of these trends, Dean Johnson stresses that the AU libraries “treat students as individuals ... we adapt our instruction and services to accommodate students of all ages and recognize that they have unique personalities, backgrounds, and learning styles.

“Our collections also continue to reflect the importance of materials in traditional formats, such as illustrated art books and journals, and the unique materials and manuscripts in the libraries’ Archives and Special Collections,” she notes.

Dean Johnson notes that “the libraries are the grateful beneficiaries of many gifts, from donations of books and other materials to new, student-oriented facilities. In addition to the 2007 renovation of Herrick Library, a new Learning Commons in Herrick was made possible by Alumna Judith Leondar ’52, and a Research Commons was created in Scholes, thanks to a gift from AU Trustee Frederick W. Gibbs ’54. Each is equipped with computers, scanning equipment, and comfortable furniture which can be rearranged to allow for collaborative work with peers, faculty, tutors, and other teaching/learning partners.”

The libraries’ web pages are designed to connect students to library holdings, course reserves and other instructional materials 24/7, but Dean Johnson comments that library staff also make personal connections with students through reference consultations (in person or online), service transactions in all departments, and e-mail. Social networking tools are being tested for communicating with students.

The library faculty and staff are “our greatest strength,” Dean Johnson states. “Some are more visible to the public, providing instruction and reference assistance, Interlibrary Loan, and services in Circulation, Reserves, and Visual Resources. Others work behind the scenes in areas such as Cataloging and Acquisitions but are still accessible to AU students and faculty.” The libraries also employ approximately 100 student workers, who are “an extremely important part of library operations.”

Dean Johnson notes that the AU Libraries continuously assess their resources and services, with a particular focus on student learning outcomes in the area of Information Literacy, according to standards developed by the Association of College and Research Libraries. The professional librarians’ role in campus instruction and their collaboration with the classroom faculty in these efforts have increased dramatically in recent years. Standardized tests and surveys, and feedback from instruction sessions, assist them in assessing the effectiveness of their teaching.

According to Dean Johnson, no one is quite sure what the future holds for libraries; some writers predict that print will disappear from the scene, while others say that books will be increasingly appreciated in the coming years. In a recent interview, when the question of whether we are likely to see the “‘bookless library” in the near future was raised, she was pleased by the response: “If there’s a librarian in it, then it’s a library!”
The McComsey Career Development Center (CDC) on AU’s campus is a crucial resource for alumni, as well as current students. Mark McFadden MS ’99, the director of the CDC, is very hopeful for the future and encourages all alumni to seek any help that they may need at the career center.

McFadden notes that during this school year, 2008-09, the CDC has made 369 alumni contacts including “face-to-face meetings as well as working with alums via e-mail.”

“The number of alums we work with…is much easier to track with the new database system,” says McFadden. He notes that in the 2007-08 school year the CDC met with 242 alumni which was approximately 14.5 percent of all appointments, and in 2006-07 they met with 201 alumni which made up about 12.6 percent of all appointments. “The problem with the 2006-08 stats is that we could not track the number of alumni that we worked with electronically…it is safe to assume that the numbers for the previous years would be higher,” says McFadden.

For the current school year, the overall appointments and contacts for alumni is at 18.8 percent; which compared to the 2006-08 school years is a significant increase.

However, the stats will continue to grow until the end of the school year. “The 2008-09 data is incomplete; we will continue to gather this data until the end of this semester,” says McFadden.

McFadden says that the alumni do use the CDC when they need it, and because of the current economy the use has increased. With technologies such as LinkedIn.com, contacting alumni is easier and more efficient. “Since the beginning of the academic year, this group has grown from 200 to 492,” says McFadden. This is a 150 percent increase over the past seven months. He says that these numbers represent an increase in the ease and comfort of online networking, as well as the need to secure as many resources as possible in these tough times.

McFadden says that the career centers on college campuses have grown in the past 10-15 years. “When I was attending the University of Pittsburgh in 1984-85, we had a bulletin board for job postings,” says McFadden. He said that there were no career fairs or networking opportunities 25 years ago, and that services to students and alumni have come a long way.
Alfred University students say among the aspects about living in Alfred, NY, they value most are the community and the “safe environment.”

Neither happens by accident, particularly the safe environment.

After a particularly “eventful” Hot Dog Day several years ago, Scott Cicirello, then the chief of the Alfred Police Department, organized a meeting with Kathy Woughter ’93, vice president for student affairs, and John Dougherty, chief of public safety at AU, along with their counterparts at Alfred State College.

“Chief Cicirello wanted to be proactive, to try to avert problems in the future,” explains Woughter. The initial group became the Alfred Community Coalition (ACC) and expanded its membership to include representatives from both campuses and the town and village of Alfred.

Joining Woughter and Dougherty on the ACC are Dr. Norm Pollard, dean of students; Pam Schu, health and wellness educator; and student Nate Kisselburgh ’09.

The ACC is “dedicated to addressing issues that arise regarding students living in the Alfred community. The Coalition works proactively to reduce high-risk behaviors of students in the community. The Coalition is also committed to promoting responsible decision-making of college students and to educate students on their rights and responsibilities as good neighbors and citizens in the Village and Town of Alfred.”

Woughter sums it up more succinctly: “Our goal is to keep people safe.”

While emergency response plans to major incidents may be discussed, and efforts to promote responsible consumption of alcohol may be a perpetual topic, the ACC efforts go beyond that.

One area in which the ACC has found success is in improving tenant-landlord relationships, which seems to be a frequent source of contention in any college town. Alfred University now requires students to live on campus for three years. Before students are allowed to move off campus, they are required to complete a seminar detailing rights and responsibilities as tenants.

That has helped a great deal – students, for example, now should know what to look for in a lease – but what is also helping is a risk-management seminar for property-owners the ACC offered.

“I certainly changed my lease after going through the seminar,” said John Ninos Jr., who owns several properties he leases to students. Ninos received two awards during the first-ever community awards reception hosted by the ACC. In addition to a certificate for implementing good risk-management practices, Ninos earned the “Community Spirit Award.”

Another initiative supported by ACC and developed by Pollard is the use of mediation to resolve less serious disputes or issues that may arise, rather than taking students into court for alleged violations. The first group of mediators was trained earlier this year by the Center for Resolution and Justice in Olean, NY.

“We want students to understand they are community members, too, and to take pride in that fact,” says Woughter.
Want to know more about these and other stories?

**Professor receives ACE fellowship**
Dr. Nancy J. Evangelista, professor and chair of the Division of Counseling and School Psychology at Alfred University, has been chosen to participate in the American Council on Education Fellows Program for 2009-10.

**Paterson to speak at AU commencement**
Gov. David Paterson will deliver the address at Alfred University’s annual commencement at 10 a.m. May 16 in McLane Center.

**Rich receives Corning Fellowship**
John Rich ’06, a student in the Ph.D. program in glass science in the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering at Alfred University, has been named a Corning Inc. Foundation Science Fellow.

**Phi Beta Kappa chapter inducts new members**
Alfred University’s Alpha Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa initiated 17 students and two faculty members during its annual induction ceremonies.

**Faculty receive accolades at Honors Convocation**
Dr. William Carty, professor of ceramic engineering and materials science in the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering at AU, is a double winner of excellence in teaching awards presented at the University’s annual Honors Convocation. Carty was among many faculty members who were recognized during the ceremony.

**LaCourse develops technology for super-strong glass**
Wine glasses that don’t shatter? Baby bottles that don’t break? Coffee mugs that last generations? Dr. William C. LaCourse, professor of glass science, has developed a process for strengthening household glass and ceramic wares so they are nearly unbreakable – even when dropped from 10 feet onto a concrete floor.

**Alfred creates Confucius Institute**
Alfred University’s College of Business joins a select group of colleges and universities internationally as host to a Confucius Institute, devoted to promoting Chinese language and culture through education.

**Investigators probe AU’s compliance to Title IX requirements**
An investigator from the federal Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights will be conducting a routine investigation into Alfred University’s compliance with Title IX, the Equal Opportunity for Education Act, adopted in 1972.
Go to our new online Alfred Magazine:

We’re unveiling a new online Alfred Magazine. There will be features from the current issue of the magazine, plus some additional articles to complement those features. There will be links to take you to AU headlines and news; opinion pieces; class notes; the alumni events page and the new Saxon athletics Web site.

You’ll be able to comment on the magazine features and search for past articles in the archives.

Want to know the latest Alfred University news? We make it easy for you to stay in touch with what’s happening at AU.

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www.alfredmagazine.alfred.edu
Reflections:

It’s about the people

By Michael N. Christakis Ph.D.
AU Class of ’99

I have the good fortune of returning to campus at least twice a year these days; once for Reunion in the summer and again in the fall for Homecoming. This May will mark 10 years since I crossed the stage with my classmates, and while much has changed in a decade at AU, much still remains the same.

Visiting campus twice a year reminds me of that fact each time I drive into town, and each time I drive out of town, there’s the campus that I called home for four years nestled on a hill. “Academic Alley” is a path traversed by decades of AU students to and from classes daily, and is made up of an eclectic mix of buildings – new and old. I distinctly remember the creak of the stairs in Kanakadea Hall, the scrawls on the desks in Seidlin Hall, the rain spots on the windows in Myers Hall. I recall the newness of the Olin Building and the way that the Miller Performing Arts Center rose up out of the hill in my first year on campus.

But buildings are buildings. Otherwise lifeless were it not for the people that occupy them and the interactions that we have while occupying them. The creaky stairs in Kanakadea wouldn’t amount to much had I not been rushing up them for an advisement appointment with Dr. Stuart Campbell or skipping down them for a discussion seminar with Dr. Gary Ostrower ’61. The scrawls on the desks in Seidlin and the rain spots on the windows in Myers are meaningless if not for the personal attention given to me by the likes of (the late) Carol Burdick or Dr. Rob Williams. Even the newer more pristine Olin Building offered me the platform to interact with the likes of Drs. Tom Rasmussen, Robert Heineman, and Karen Porter.

While people come and go, those fond recollections always remain the same. Our recollections initially drift to “where” we were, and then quickly refocus on “who” we were with. After all, the buildings that remain are little more than gift boxes that contain our experiences and interactions with renowned faculty. The real gift within are the poignant moments that characterize our individual Alfred memories with caring faculty that shaped us. The academic excellence I found as a student at AU, that hundreds of thousands of students discovered before me and that countless more have experienced after me, rests with the people that make up our collective “Alfred experience.”

I hope you’ll join us on campus for Reunion 2009: June 12-14, to revisit and remember who shaped your Alfred experience.

I hope you’ll join us on campus for Reunion 2009 – June 12 – 14, 2009 – to revisit and remember who shaped your Alfred experience.

Until next time… Fiat Lux!
Editor’s Note
This year at Reunion, the Class of 1959 celebrates its 50-year anniversary. Members of each prior class are designated as “Golden Saxons” and are invited as a special honored group that gathers for Reunion, June 12-14, 2009. See you then!

1934
Catherine Davis Simpson
505 Bering Drive, Apt. 103
Houston, TX 77057-1461

Robert B. Sloane makes his first submission to Class Notes as he enters his 91st year. He has been painting full-time while being retired. He is an active member of The New England Watercolor Society and The Portrait Society of America. Robert’s paintings can be viewed at his Web site, www.robertbsloane.com.

1939
Evelyn Stevens Gorman
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Class Correspondent Evelyn Gorman files a lengthy report: “In July 2008 Margaret Ames Parker made a memorable trip from her Florida home to northern New York State. It was truly a sad but celebratory and fulfilling undertaking. Her husband Merle Parker ’40 died Dec. 14, 2007, and Marg was taking his ashes to their final resting place in a cemetery family plot in the town of Malone, NY. The ceremony was a ‘global gathering’ with friends and family members of all ages attending from several other states, and two foreign countries, Egypt and Ireland...

“Ellis ‘Chick’ Berger is a rather unique classmate. He is the only one who sends a handwritten letter on personalized stationery! His Christmas note always includes pictures of the family’s sumptuous, towering, and beautifully decorated tree. What a great tradition! The pictures included also a very good one of Chick and his wife Tudy, and of Muff, their daughter, who helps them immeasurably. Chick received holiday messages from Reg Miner and Jack Wall ’40 who are both doing well. Always the optimist, Chick writes that he has already paid his club dues for the ’09 golfing season!

“Bob Sinclair is keeping well and active in many organizations of interest to him. Fortunately, he continues to drive his car, so is able to attend the meetings and dinners of the Rotary Club, American Legion, and South Coast Shrine. He enjoys his life at The Covington, where he is a member of the Executive Board of the Council which oversees the many activities at the residence. Bob still participates in the Conference of California Historical Societies. The spring meeting this year was held in Downey, CA, where many of the components of the first spacecrafts were developed ... Bob sees his family regularly but continues to be concerned about the futures of his five grandsons ...

“We talked on the phone recently with Isabel (Riggs) Geibel in Del Norte, CO. She’s the undaunted lady who drove solo across the country in 2008 to attend our 65th Alfred reunion. A few weeks ago she was dismayed to discover a medical challenge, but not a life-threatening one. In the meantime, she’s distressed by being more or less confined, and not being able to drive. Very unsettling to me, as Isabel has been one of my best friends since AU student days. A few days ago, she was heartened by a visit from the Heart and Eagle, a local chapter of the national Federation of Women who volunteer for community service work. Here’s wishing Isabel a quick recovery.

“Bob Starr is doing well and looking forward to attending the 2009 reunion at Alfred with his son Daniel Starr ’77. Bob is fortunate he has a son who’s also an Alfred graduate, and followed his father’s goal of a Ph.D. in education ...

“In 2008, we lost two classmates. There may have been others of whom I’m not aware. I’d like to write something about their lives and achievements, because I had personal communications with both of them. Please allow me to elaborate. On Aug. 20 our class lost one of its most successful and versatile members, Guy Hartman MD, who had lived his special life to the fullest. Truly ‘a man for all seasons,’ Guy received his medical degree at the University of Buffalo, then spent three years in the Occupation Forces in Germany as a commanding officer in the Medical Corps. Retiring to civilian life, he served a residency in pediatrics and...

Frank Bredell ’52 and his wife, Jean Carnahan on Easter Island. See story page 26.
became a pioneer and internationally known speaker and writer on the prevention of child abuse and neglect. Guy’s passion for music permeated his life, from playing the glockenspiel in the school marching band, to becoming the regular organist in the Salt Lake Temple ... Guy’s survivors include his wife, Shirley (Baldwin) Hartman ’44 and their five children and their progeny to perpetuate Guy’s legacy.

“A lady I’ll always miss is Rhoda ‘Do’ Ungar Merriman Jost. She passed away peacefully on Oct. 15, 2008, in Toledo, Ohio, where she had lived since 1951. Do was predeceased by her husbands, Harold “Slim” Jost, and S. Grant Merriman ’44. Do was the embodiment of a person ‘happy in her own skin.’ She was an avid gardener, raised her own fruits and vegetables, and made special jams, jellies, and pickles every autumn. She enjoyed swimming, bicycling, and other physical activities. Do always cared about helping others, as indicated by her volunteer work at the Toledo Hospital and Toledo Museum of Art. She traveled widely, including winter visits to Puerto Rico with her husband, Slim ... To her family and friends, she was a vibrant and tireless person.

“Do never forgot her ties to AU and kept in touch with her Theta Theta Chi sorority sisters ... Do is survived by her son Seth Grant Merriman III and daughter Carla Merriman, and a beautifully written eulogy by Carla herself.

Our classmates want to hear from you!
We are always delighted to hear from you, but your classmates and friends look forward to it even more. Our goal is to have as many alumni names as possible listed in Class Notes within each issue of the Alfred Magazine. So keep your notes, postcards, photographs, and e-mails coming.

Here’s how to get your news published:
• Contact your class correspondent. Names, addresses and e-mails may be found by looking under your class year in the class notes section.
• E-mail us: clarkd@alfred.edu or enews@alfred.edu
• Send your news to Debbie Clark, Alumni Publications Editor, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802
Upcoming Class Notes deadline: Aug. 1, 2009
well as trustee of the Elks and frequently played Santa at the annual Christmas party. He belonged to the Masonic Lodge for 50 years and was Grand Marshal of the Strawberry Festival Parade. In his later years he wrote a weekly column for a local newspaper, was past president, board member and consultant for the Tioga County Arts Council, during which time he created and founded the Hickories Smoked Music Festival. He started painting two years ago and uncovered the fact that he was a gifted painter. He would not have said so but his paintings do. Jim is survived by his children James Jr., Mary, Mark, and Beth; five grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. I was blessed to be a close family friend.

“A letter from Madge Evans Smith announced the death of Richard E. Smith, age 84 who graduated from AU in 1949 as a ceramic engineer. Madge and Dick were back at Alfred for our 50th class reunion. I especially remember all of us being together for breakfast that Sunday and I have warm memories of him from our days on campus. As I read these obituaries of Dick and Bob Becker, I am struck by the historic role they played in WW II as did many AU alumni from 1948, ’49 and ’50. Dick was a first lieutenant, a B-24 pilot with the 8th Air Force in England who flew 35 missions over Germany including what turned out to be the last bombing mission of the war in Europe. His career as a ceramic engineer covered employment with Pittsburgh Glass and then 32 years with Sylvania. After retirement he was in commercial real estate sales with Dan Gabriel. He and Madge lived in Lee, NH for 25 years where he was an active member of the Lee Congregational Church, a deacon and long-time trustee. As his health failed he and Madge moved to Wolfeboro, NH with their daughter and son-in-law. Dick is survived by his wife of 58 years, three children — Brad, Torie, and Meg; and four grandchildren. Madge said in her letter that she had recently heard from two AU classmates Betsy (Dibble) Dwyer and Bert Gallo Anania.

“After Jim Wood died, I heard from two of his old buddies from Burdick Hall days on campus, Paul Riley ex-’49 and Paul Kiesow ex-’49-’50. Paul Riley is now living in Eclectic, AL after retirement as a college professor in Florida. Paul Kiesow lives in Oxford, NC.”

Roger Knowlton, son of Donald Knowlton of Waupun, WI, wrote to say his father died on March 15, 2009. He was married to Eileen Roberts. Following their marriage in 1952, the couple resided in California for a few years and in 1959 moved to Jackson, MS where Donald was plant superintendent for Mosaic Tile Co. In 1972 the couple moved to Antioch, IL where Donald was quality control manager for Pickard China, from which he retired in 1993. In 2005, they moved to Waupun. Donald was a member of the American Society of Ceramic Engineers and a past member of Rotary International. He is survived by is wife; a son, Pastor Roger Knowlton and his wife, Diane of Waupun; and three grandchildren: Joshua, Elisabeth, and Annie Knowlton.

1950 AU GOLDEN SAXONS REUNION YEAR!

Dr. Herbert Leon MacDonell
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forensiclabor@stny.rr.com

Class Correspondent Herbert Leon MacDonell presented “Sixty Years of Forensic Investigations” at Syracuse University March 24, 2009. He is a director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science in Corning, NY and has testified as an expert witness in 33 states and in countries across the globe including in such celebrated cases as the Joan Little murder trial in Raleigh, NC; the O.J. Simpson double-murder trial in Los Angeles; the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles; and the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis, TN.

The Steuben County legislators approved Herb to be inducted into the Steuben County Hall of Fame on April 25, 2009. He is also working on a book, titled “Sixty Years of Forensic Investigations,” including write-ups of his cases he has collected over the years.

“Roy VanAlsten notes: ‘Yes, still gratefully alive! I recently attended the Sarasota (FL) Alfred Alumni Luncheon, an enjoyable annual event. The only others from class of ’50 in attendance were Bob and Betty Jo Champlin, Hatch and Jim and Liz (Berglund) Thayer and my wife, Mary (Forrest) VanAlsten.

“Don Rosser and wife Helen Miller have moved to a retirement community in Mt. Laurel, NJ. The lower age limit is 55, ‘for which we are overqualified.’ Don plays bridge and trains on his bicycle daily. For the past three years, he has won the New Jersey State Time Trial in the 75-and-over category. He expects to see you all at Reunion 2010.

Susan Harnly Peterson died March 26, 2009 following a long illness. She completed a master of fine arts degree in ceramics at AU and began teaching ceramics in 1952, continuing to do so until her retirement in 1994. Susan traveled extensively and became an advocate for ceramic arts worldwide.

Her writing career began in 1974. She has 11 books in print, including a third edition of “Working with Clay,” and the fifth edition of “Craft and Art of Clay,” both published by Laurence King Ltd., London, distributed in the United States by Prentice

for additional class notes and information on alumni events!
Hall and Overlook-Viking and around the world by Thames and Hudson. Six years ago she founded the Ceramic Research Center at the Arizona State University Art Museum with her study collection of objects, ceramic library, and personal papers.

Susan received numerous awards throughout her career including Fellow of the American Craft Council, National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts Lifetime Achievement Award, and the College of Fine Arts of Arizona State University’s Distinguished Achievement Award.

She is survived by three children and seven grandchildren. Former husband Jack L. Peterson died Nov. 4, 2007.

Frank continues: “John K. Fisher says he retired as president/CEO of St. Vincent’s College in Connecticut in July 2008, but ‘did not really “retire/retire,” just traded working five or six days a week for working only four.’ He now has been teaching two days a week as an adjunct professor of mathematics at Norwalk Community College and doing administrative work two days a week at St. Basil’s College. Also, during the past year he and his wife, Beulah, became grandparents again with the birth of a new grandson. They now have six grandchildren (four girls and two boys). John hopes to be able to attend the June Golden Saxons reunion to renew acquaintances.

“Al Baxter notes, ‘I am in deep depression watching our government drive us down the road to bankruptcy as Congress after Congress, and president after president spend more and more money that we don’t have, and they are shameless for it. That’s not what Economics 101 that I took in 1951 taught us! I remember something about the consequences of debt. God help us all!’

“Kersten (Curly) Styrh reports, ‘Still traveling with, and living with Mary Redeker, 15 years now. Kay died 16 years ago. Unreal! Mary and I still live in her upstairs condo overlooking her dock and boat on Huntington Harbor. The boat is an (OLD FOLKS), Duffy 18 electric, golf cart that floats. It is Coast Guard-approved for 18. Come join us! You can stay in my Leisure World condo, two bedrooms and two baths. I maintain it, wheelchair accessible, weekly housekeeping service, local buses nearby, free, etc. although we haven’t stayed overnight there in two years … ’”

“Marjorie (Bard) McNamee says she is ‘still working at the Fox Theater in Atlanta and getting older by the minute.’”

“Val Cushing recalls that 2008 was a very busy year for him, ‘thank goodness.’ He had a one-person exhibit of about 70 pieces of his pottery at the Artisan Gallery in Northampton, MA, and had two teaching gigs—at Shakered in Seweece, TN, and Anderson Ranch in Snow Mass, CO. Then there was the slide lecture and panel discussion at the 1,000-year-old porcelain city in Jingdezhen, China. In March of this year he was one of four presenters at the Alabama Clay Conference in Huntsville, AL, giving demonstrations, a lecture and showing five pieces of new work.”

“Martin Moskof had a show complete with reception at the Hudson River Gallery and Conservatory in Yonkers, NY, this spring. The gallery sent out elegant invitation folders complete with Marty’s ink brush self portrait.”

Louis Menendez e-mailed Fred: “I have been in many hospitals for most of the year. Yesterday (April 3) I finally returned home from weeks of rehab. I was treated for congestive heart failure and pneumonia. It feels great to be back home, even though I am still very weak and unsteady on my feet. My main news otherwise is that last September I went on a two-week tour of pottery studios in South Korea. It was a great cultural trip and I came home with a wonderful warrior on horseback sculpture by one of the leading Korean potters.”

Barden Conroe says his wife, Jody, ‘continues to do well on the golf course and won the gold medal in the Empire State Games masters division last year. She qualified for the nationals as a result and is looking forward to the Empire State Senior Games this year. She plays in the NYS Senior Amateur event in the fall.’ They generally spend March in Cocoa Beach, FL and e-mailed from there. Bard also said he entered two oil paintings in the “Both Ends of the Rainbow” exhibit at Schweinfurt Memorial Art Museum, Auburn, NY.”

James Schultz writes: “Hi all you Alfred University Graduates: My dad, James B. Schultz, graduated with a ceramic engineering degree in 1952. I would like to find out something about his college years. His dad ran the Akron Daily News and was not very supportive of my father going to college. His successful graduation and employment at National Gypsum was the pride of his family at the time. I guess that was not uncommon in those days. I just received his yearbooks from my brother. There was a good mix of women/men but the women all had careers listed as secretary or lab...”
assistant. My daughter is in high school and has expressed some interest in the engineering field. It would be great if she got the chance to visit or attend college at her grandfather’s alma mater. Anyone remember my dad?"

Jerome and Evelyn Ackerman celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Sept. 12, 2008. On Sept. 21, they were honored by the Museum of California Design and awarded the Henry Award for distinguished contributions to American Design (see photo, page 26 and also www.mocad.org/2008benefit.html)

In February 2009, a retrospective of their work opened at the Mingei Museum, San Diego, CA. Some of their pieces also appeared in the book “California Design: The Legacy of West Coast Craft and Style.”

Laura Ackerman Shaw, their daughter, writes: “Charles Harder ... recruited my father ... He enjoyed classes with Dan Rhodes and lectures from Marguerite Wildenhain. My parents were good friends with Ka Kwong Hui, Fong Chow, Val Cushing, Wayne Husted, Karen Karnes, David Weinrib, Herbert Cohen, Bob Fluhr, and Bob Turner ... A number of pieces are in the collection of the Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art on campus (AU) as well as in the Smithsonian/Renwick Gallery, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and other museums and private collections.”

Carol Dunham Sheets
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Richard H. Glassberg reports: “I enjoyed this year’s class reunion weekend. I’d like class members of Beta Sigma Psi/Tau Delta Phi and others I missed to know I’m still vertical. To those who inquired about how natives of my part of New York pronounce our area, it’s as follows — first word ‘Lawn,’ second word ‘Guyland’ with emphasis on ‘Guy.’ I would love to hear from some of you.”

Diana Petteys Miller writes: “After many years as an administrator at the Queens Botanical Garden and the Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment in New York City, I finally have just completed my Master Gardener Certification in the Rio Grande Valley in south Texas. I was able to teach some of the subjects in the Master Gardener program I was taking since I’ve developed, after retiring in 1992 to San Benito, a very compact bird and butterfly garden that has become something of a tour destination. At this time of year, I am frantically busy as the volunteer coordinator of the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, which attracts thousands of participants from around the world because of the unique birds found in the Valley.”

Diana also reports that her husband, Dave Petteys ’51, died in May 2007. Dave spent

(Thomas) John Calletto ’69, ’70 (left) and Ed Butera ’69 (right) show their support for John McCain during a visit to Pittsburgh, PA. The photo was taken by Tom Sciortino ’70. Ed and his wife, Vonnie, were showing them around on the “Strip.” (John notes they all took five years to graduate, except his wife, Lorna (Raquet) Calletto, far left).
Raymond Spear and Susanne Swick celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in November 2008.

Former Trustee Robert C. Double Sr. of Pittsford, NY, died Dec. 11, 2008, at the age of 76. He was a member of the Class of 1953, earning a B.A. degree in economics. He was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, the Blue Key Honor Society, Pi Gamma Mu National Social Science Honor Society and the yearbook committee.

After earning a master’s degree from Penn State University, Bob joined the Eastman Kodak Co. and worked there for more than 30 years.

While enrolled at Alfred, Bob met his wife, the former Nancy Lobaugh, also a 1953 graduate. They were married Sept. 1, 1956. As a couple, the Doubles continued a lifelong connection with many friends they made during their Alfred years. They also remained committed to the University. Bob was a long-time member of the Alumni Council, and served as an alumni-elected trustee from 1979 to 1982. The Alumni Council recognized his outstanding contributions by presenting him with the Lillian Nevins Award for Lifetime Service to Alfred University in 1987. Bob served as an alumni representative on the Presidential Search Committee in 1999-00.

The Doubles had two children, both of whom were graduated from Alfred University. Robert C. Double Jr. is a member of the Class of 1980 and the late Suzanne E. Double was a member of the Class of 1986.

Bob is survived by his wife Nancy as well as son Bob Jr., and daughter-in-law Linda, a member of the AU Class of 1981, and three grandchildren: Alexander, Katelin and Robert C. Double III of Farmington, NY.

At the family’s request, contributions in memory of Bob may be made to Alfred University, c/o University Relations, 1 Saxan Drive, Alfred, NY 14802.

Morton Pinsks writes: “I have been retired for a number of years. I have volunteered for my Temple Emanuel in Yonkers, NY, and I am now volunteering for other organizations.”

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In October 2008, George Graine was invited to speak at the international Master Gardener Coordinator Conference in Washington, DC. He discussed “How to Succeed at a Management Caucus.” The talk was designed to show state coordinators how to supplement, complement, and enhance Master Gardener Programs. George created the Northern Virginia Master Gardener Caucus in 2003.

Ronald Lehman writes: “I am finally retired after working as an orthopedic surgeon for 30 years and as a consultant for Disability Adjudication Department of the Division of Human Resources for the U.S. Department of Labor for 15 years. I truly miss Hank Greenberg ’53, Stu Fries ’54, Marvin and Gene Greenberg ’55 and ’56, and imbibing all afternoon at Mal! I spend considerable time playing golf with Joe Amdur ’51 and visiting a classmate of my brother Ken ’59, Steve Cohen ’59. Kenneth now has an MBA and law degree and lives in Alexandria, VA. I now live with wife, Judi, at 4,000 feet on a lake in Cashiers, NC. I spend most of my spare time documenting my achievements for AU in the hopes that the committee will find it in their hearts to nominate me for membership in the Phi Beta Kappa chapter for Alfred University now that the fraternity system has been disturbed.”

Klan Alpine brother and ceramic engineer Jack “Herb” Peterson died Nov. 4, 2007. He had been living in Arlee, MT. He retired from the high temperature space industry and started to farm alfalfa. He left three children, his former wife, Susan Harney Peterson ’50, who died March 26, 2009, and seven grandchildren.

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1955 AU Golden Saxons Reunion Year!

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1955 AU Golden Saxons Reunion Year!

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1956 AU Golden Saxons Reunion Year!

1956 AU Golden Saxons Reunion Year!

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1958 AU Golden Saxons Reunion Year!

From you Class Correspondent: “Bob Greene writes that he did have a pretty good winter traveling in his fifth-wheel trailer. He left the mountains of Utah in the fall and visited Beal and Vandenberg Air Force bases, Admiral Baker Rec Center, and Camp Pendleton Marine base, al in California. He played some golf and did some sight-seeing. He is currently in Las Vegas and will head back to Utah in late April.

“Ann and Bruce Boulton will be leaving for Ann’s Class of ’57’s nursing reunion in mid-April, which will be held in Phoenix, AZ. It is being hosted by Tinker and Dave Wilcox this year. They try to get together every two years somewhere in the USA. Then in mid-May, they will be hosting a core group of the Men’s Glee Club that sings at the LXA reunion in the Poconos this June. They hope to be rehearsing some new songs. Bruce continues to teach a class in Christianity 101 as a Certified Religious Counselor, at the Fulton County Correctional Facility.

“Warren Mintz sent a short piece to the Alfred Magazine about ‘Found Art that Found a Home.’ The piece deals with found art that was cast into the world of infinite possibilities in Central Park, Manhattan by an art class from Alfred. Of all of the possible destinations, the art piece got picked up by Warren. It was taken to his office where it was placed in the company of other items that connect to Alfred. On the wall there was a painting by Gene Lewis (BFA, ’58). In a bookshelf was a sculpture by Jenny Floch (MFA, ’59). On a cork board was pinned the Fiat Lux obituary for Mike Sibley, who invited all of his students to join him in the questions of philosophy and who, in an orchard on his farm, married Warren and his wife. On a wall near to Gene Lewis’ painting, was a collage that included a cutout of Steinheim Hall. On a table near that found art, was a black mug with connections to Alfred, Kappa Nu fraternity, and the year 1958. Once again he became aware of how the connections to Alfred have
Faculty members and alumni of AU downstate gathered in New York City in February. From left, Dr. Jay Cerone, Dr. Terry Taggart ’96, Mark Ersckoff, second year counseling student; Andrew Fuller, husband of Diana Fuller, second year counseling student; Dr. Bob Bitting; Elizabeth Tedeschi, second year counseling student; Philip Sheehy, second year counseling student; and David Robinson, 2008 downstate counseling program

become imbedded into his life.

"Dan Green and his wife just returned from Dallas where he had an intensive two-day ‘Lonestar PETS Training’ course to prepare to become the president of the Rotary Club of Sugar Land starting July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. Guess no one else would ‘volunteer’ and he got drafted!

"Ed Law is feeling well and has been somewhat occupied with family, church, and everyday living of the retiree’s life. He and his wife, Geri, made a brief sojourn across the southlands in October/November ’08, visiting former colleagues and close friends from Baltimore to West Virginia to North Carolina and Florida. They have high hopes of visiting other people out West later this year. Perhaps there may also be an ocean voyage on the horizon.

"Carole Siver is in Cape Town, Africa on a ‘research leave’ from her university; she is professor of English and chairwoman of Humanities at Yeshiva University’s Stern College for Women, New York City. This last autumn saw the publication of a book she edited and wrote a long introduction to. It’s called “Sarah Heckford: A Lady Trader in the Transvaal.” It’s about one of those intrepid Victorian ladies who went off into the wilds of Africa and traveled and traded. Interesting story. Also Carole participated in a large exhibition on William Holman Hunt, a once famous Victorian painter. It was in Manchester, UK, and is now in Toronto. Now... helping her husband write biographies of leading anti-apartheid activists. She sends regards to all and is SO sorry she can’t get to reunions.

"Barney DiBenedetto and his wife snowbirding in Florida visited with Russ and Pat Fahey and other friends. The Faheys and their grandchildren were scuba diving in Cozumel. Russ and Andy Scaman will be together again soon on a 60-mile bike ride in Florida.

"Ed DeChristopher planned on being down in Fort Myers from 20-27 December and hoped to see Sam and Joy Hulbert while down there.

“A note from Georgia Jones: ‘Some of us “northerners” love winter! If any of you decide to ski this winter either here in Lake Placid at beautiful Whiteface Mountain. or in Park City, Utah, do let me know — maybe we can take a few runs together.’

“I just started taking drawing lessons. One of my pieces will be shown in a local student exhibition to be held in Doylestown, PA in early April.

“Bill Dick has signed up for Reunion this year and he will play in the golf tournament, too. Last year he opted out of the tournament so that he could be in the St. Pat’s Parade.”

Al Newman writes: “I would be pleased to hear from members of the class of ’57, ’58, and ’59. I am retired and living in Peabody, MA. My hobby is painting and woodworking. I enjoy turning wooden bowls on my wood lathe along with a host of other activities. Since I retired, my wife and I have just about traveled the world. If anyone is interested, my e-mail is: algr76@msn.com.

Ray Urode is preparing to watch the Nabisco LPGA golf tourney at his local club, Mission Hills, in Palm Springs, CA. As usual, he plans to be at the 18th hole, waving his Alfred flag as the girls come off the 19th hole.

1959 AU Reunion Year!

Elissa Finelli Cerone
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Your Class Correspondent Lisa Cerone writes: “The time is getting very close to our 50th Class Reunion. I hope by now you have made all your plans and reservations to return to Alfred. The Nurse will be there, of course. We still never miss a good time. I’ve heard from so many of you and am looking forward to seeing everyone again. They say you can’t go back, but guess what, YES YOU CAN, at least for a long weekend. Linda and Karen and I are already gearing up for our usual ‘after hours at the Brick.’

“I had my annual day after Thanksgiving lunch with Marty and Barbara Stenzler, and met Stan and Paula Schumann in Los Angeles.

“I also went to New Jersey to help Judy (Seligman) Roland ’60 celebrate her birthday.

“I heard from Viola (Rigby) Albert who writes that she was named Outstanding Worker of 2008 by the Delaware County Youth Board. Viola has served as a Big Buddy for 20 years.

“Mary (Cavanaugh) Graves has once again been elected as Mayor of Bellbrook, Ohio, for her seventh, two-year term. Why aren’t we surprised, Mary? I’m looking forward to seeing all of you in June.”


1960

Ms. Hilda Frischman Schulkind
6 Barnett Place
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bigaich@aol.com

Carlton Blanchard writes that daughter “Dr. Cheryl Blanchard ’86 is director of Research and Chief Scientific Officer at Zimmer Orthopedics, Warsaw, IN. She is most proud of the new gender solutions knee replacement for women.” Cheryl states, “It is a major orthopedic breakthrough for women,” and gives them the flexibility and freedom of movement that other knee replacements lacked.
Wallace M. Dale is currently district director for the San Francisco District of Score (Service Corps of Retired Executives) which is sponsored by the Small Business Administration. SCORE members counsel business start-ups and existing business units on a volunteer basis.

1961
Dr. Richard H. Gross
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E-mail: grossr@musc.edu

Your Class Correspondent Dr. Richard Gross writes he has a fascinating career as an orthopedic surgeon and has worked in places like the West Bank, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Vietnam, and will be going to China next year.


1962
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Richard H. Demott writes: “I’m still alive and kicking working for the NFL as the Jets sideline coordinator. I now have six grandchildren ages 7 to 22.”

Richard M. Denton writes: “It is exciting to begin a new year. Just one year ago, I suffered a heart attack that resulted in angioplasty and two stents being placed in a major artery. As I was just on the way to recovery, another wake-up call came in the way of gall bladder miseries. After surgery in July, things started to turn around. My health is much better, thanks to diet, exercise, and medication. I am still working some, and we are traveling again, having recently returned from Aruba. It has been a long winter in New England and we are ready for warmer times and golf season. In July, I hope to make my fifth, short-term mission trip to Romania since 2001.”

Joel Philip Myers, one of BLENKO’s most successful designers, was featured in “Heart of Glass,” an article published by the Herald Dispatch newspaper, Huntington, WVa.

Dr. Stephen Eisenstein recently responded since his last report seven years ago — “We now have 11 grandchildren with another due any day.” He is retired but works part-time as a kosher supervisor and had also been teaching law part-time at a nationally, privately owned university. He spends his free time in his workshop and volunteering. He and his family still live in Houston and welcome anyone who is visiting the area to stop by for a home-cooked meal!

1963
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http://widdicombe.com

John Sprung reports that he retired in June from Merrill Lynch after 28 years with the company, during which he served as General Counsel of two of Merrill’s divisions. John is currently acting as an arbitrator for the financial industry’s national regulatory association (FINRA), and is a director of ACA Financial Guaranty, a bond insurance company. He writes, “For those who recall me as part of the singing group, the ‘Five minus Two,’ with fraternity brothers Bob Levine ’64 and Mike Weiner ’64, I am still making music.” His latest CD, “Side Effects,” was released by Fraternity Records in mid-August and consists of 13 original songs which have already had airplay on several National Public Radio affiliates and other stations. Fifty percent of the proceeds of all album sales to alumni will be donated to Alfred University. “While this may not be sufficient to enable the establishment of a
endowed chair in folk music, it may be enough to supply the tennis team with a season’s worth of tennis balls,” he quipped. He invites fellow alumni to visit www.cdbaby.com/sprungjohn2 or his Web site, www.folklawproductions.com, for more information.

1964 AU Reunion Year!

Mrs. Elaine Jermansen
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Cynthia Bringle and Norm Schulman ’58 were feted at an award ceremony and reception honoring them as “2009 North Carolina Living Treasures” at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington in January 2009.

Frederick Cohen and 19 other construction lawyers have moved to Duane Morris in the New York office, where he is a partner.

1965

Janet Seamon Pitt
4164 Capistrano Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88001
jpitt2step@netzero.net

William Eckman is “somewhat” retired after working in the glass industry for close to 40 years. He is currently volunteering at the Ohio Glass Museum in Lancaster and holds the position of museum director. He welcomes everyone to come visit!

1966

Joan Diamond Silver
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joan_silver@fujifilm.com

Kenneth L. Govendo was retained in November 2007 for a second, six-year term as Superior Court Judge in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. He is currently the main Family Court Judge. Kenneth moved to Saipan in 1976 after practicing law in Southern California for over five years. During his time on Saipan he has worked in government, private practice, and served as legal counsel for the local community college.

1967

Gary Shapiro
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shapgary@optonline.net

“While I have ‘served’ as the Correspondent for our class for many years, candidly, there has been very little information forwarded to me, or directly to the school, regarding the members of our class. I plead guilty to not having visited campus since our 20-year anniversary with my children, who only wanted to know what do you do here? (They subsequently graduated from the University of Wisconsin). Last week I was visited by Amy Jacobson, director of planned giving for the school. During our very pleasant conversation, I happened to mention that while in school, I lived on top of the hoagie store, commonly called ‘The Apartment’ (sign and all) next to the Sorority House from Tech. She informs me, she believes that area is now a BAR. You mean you no longer have to drive nine miles ‘down the road’ to drink?

“I would invite all members of the class to just get in touch in writing and let others know how you are spending your life since Alfred, as we get closer to that 65 age. I personally have been a solo practitioner of law, living and working in Woodbury on Long Island. I have been married 40 years (I’ll play the hand that I have been dealt), have two wonderful children 33 and 36, who have provided me three grandchildren, who are the apples of my eye. They both live an hour away in Westchester, affording us the opportunity to be with them frequently. “Finally, I would like to comment on a remark made by the Class Correspondent of 1965 regarding not remembering Howard Schnabolk. Personally, having attended his funeral and listening to the heart-rendering eulogy of Doc Bernstein, I would dare say that anyone whoever came in touch with Howie would never forget the sort or individual he was. He exemplified the humanitarianism found in few individuals. This included his enlistment to fly helicopters, when he could have avoided the Vietnam War while in graduate school at Yale.”


1968

Peter L. Williams
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cppmm24@comcast.net

Eileen Hickey-Hulme was featured in the Crazy Monkey Holiday Group Show from Nov. 28- Dec 28, 2008 in Amagansett, NY. Her work has been shown in exhibitions throughout New York City, in East Hampton and Amagansett.

1969 AU Reunion Year!

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1970

Peter L. Immordino
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Phone: 707.433.9380
Studio Poone & Fax: 707.433.4471
E-mail: ptt@aol.com

Nancy Zawacki of Pittsford, NY was promoted to vice president of marketing and communications at the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

for additional class notes and information on alumni events!
Kate Daly produces New Jersey’s first monologue cabaret bimonthly at Pianos Grill in Bloomfield. The event is titled “Monologue Mania,” and is quickly becoming a 21st century salon for actors and writers. She says, “Think of it as a poetry reading, but for monologues.” All of the readings are original work from both local authors and those from various other states...“It’s both the warmest and the toughest house in the world, knowing that your work will be experienced by fellow artists in the audience.” Kate encourages any AU alums who are authors and would like to have their work read at “Monologue Mania” to contact her at Kate@KDaly.net. More information about the cabaret is available at http://monologuemania.blogspot.com.

Paul Sachs married Dana McBride in June 2008. He lives in Corinth, TX and is the owner of Sachs and Associates, Inc., a manufacturer’s representative agency. Paul has two daughters; Erika, an RN in Bryan, TX, and Lindsay, who is in her senior year at Texas Tech.

Janice Brewer Smith
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E-mail: jsmith78@rochester.rr.com

Debra Rhodes Sinemathecoke, owner of Debra Rhodes Fine Art Services, successfully passed the Uniformed Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice offered by the Appraisers Association of America.

Wayne Rosenfield Ph. D. presented “Motivating the Unmotivated: Using Novel and High Frequency Activities to Engage Long-Term Psychiatric Patients in a Public Hospital” at the Nefesh Israel Conference, on Jan. 22, 2009, in Jerusalem. He is a psychologist in Connecticut in a psychosocial rehabilitation unit at Connecticut Valley Hospital, Middletown, and in the Emergency Department at Backus Hospital, Norwich. Wayne finds time for ham radio (callsign K1WDR) and is treasurer for the Radio Amateur Society of Norwich.
The parents of Michael Steven Schreiber, who died Oct. 25, 2008, write: “Michael loved Alfred and would like to be remembered by staff and fellow students. He was an attorney and an associate law professor. Thank you for giving him the opportunity of a fine education.”

Mark Brostoff
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St. Louis, MO 63117
E-mail: brostoff@wustl.edu

Class Correspondent
Mark Brostoff joined the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis as associate dean and director of the Western Career Center in January 2009.

Mark returned to the AU campus this spring to present a Bergren Forum “Becoming Visible in the Workplace: Changing Times for Gays and Lesbians;” speak to a class in the College of Business; and conduct a career conversation.

The Wachovia Way Award for 2008 was presented to Barry Sullivan, a Gold Level FiNet owner, at the Wachovia Securities Financial Network Premier Advisor Recognition Conference in June 2008.

Denise Queffelec, Maria Pino Magnuson and Joanne Candella gathered in New York City in the little Italy area. Their fun get together was a part of a trip Maria planned for her daughters to the city.

Joanne Buell of Fairport, NY has been hired by the Childcare Council as a health care consultant and Medication Administration Training (MAT) trainer.

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Joanne Buell of Fairport, NY has been hired by the Childcare Council as a health care consultant and Medication Administration Training (MAT) trainer.

Mark Brostoff
7033 Berthold Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63117
E-mail: brostoff@wustl.edu

Class Correspondent
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Mark returned to the AU campus this spring to present a Bergren Forum “Becoming Visible in the Workplace: Changing Times for Gays and Lesbians;” speak to a class in the College of Business; and conduct a career conversation.

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Your classmates want to hear from you!

We are always delighted to hear from you, but your classmates and friends look forward to it even more. Our goal is to have as many alumni names as possible listed in Class Notes within each issue of the Alfred Magazine. So keep your notes, postcards, photographs, and e-mails coming.

Here’s how to get your news published:

- **Contact your class correspondent.** Names, addresses and e-mails may be found by looking under your class year in the class notes section.
- **E-mail us:** clarkd@alfred.edu or enews@alfred.edu
- **Send your news** to Debbie Clark, Alumni Publications Editor, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802

Upcoming Class Notes deadline: Aug. 1, 2009

nationwide selected to participate in NASA’s Mercury Messenger program. He is one of seven who went to Mission Control in Baltimore to see the data and photos of Mercury as they were transmitted from space.

Some of Greg Leshe’s new hybrid writing and sculpture pieces are featured in a show in Newark, NJ at City Without Walls’ 26th Annual Small Works Exhibition. His work was also mentioned in a *New York Times* Regional Art Review. Greg also has work in a Newark show at Gallery Aferro. The exhibition is entitled “Tabula Rasa;” his two-channel video installation “Surface Dog” is featured. A catalog and an accompanying book for the show have been released. For more information, visit the Gallery Aferro Web site: http://www.aferro.org/websitehaker/wb/pages/home.php or the Book Link: http://www.lulu.com/content/6115977

A story about Kirk Reber’s glass business was featured in *The Florida Times Union* in October 2008. Kirk is the owner of Creative Glassworks, a company he started 15 years ago in Atlantic Beach.

1986

Catherine Riscili Staszewski
350 Buchanan Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47906
E-mail: rtaszewski@verizon.net

Jimmy Wachter says he had a stellar year in 2008. He “dove into the theater head-on doing three musicals” one of which he co-wrote, titled “Colour Me Stresisand.” He was in “Batthouse: The Musical” in June 2008 which ran to sell-out audiences at the Jazz Central in Syracuse, NY. He is now onto performing his first, one-man play titled “The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me.” He was fortunate to see some alumni friends in the audience for a few of his shows, Michael “Bubba” Dean Anderson and his wife Kristen, and Christi Haritatos.

1987

Mrs. Susan McDonald Gould
35 Carriage Court
Pittsford, NY 14534-4031
E-mail: sgouldroc@frontiernet.net

Cory Grosewal has spent the past 14 years in California after being relocated by his former company, Olin Corp. For the past three years he has been the corporate controller for K/P Corp. headquartered in San Ramon. He currently lives in Brentwood, and is thrilled to note his niece Erika Raye ’12 is a freshman at Alfred University enrolled in pre-veterinary studies.

David Moss is an associate professor at the Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut. He is the recent recipient of the University of Connecticut Teaching Fellow Award — the highest university-wide honor conferred for instructional excellence and leadership.

Jennifer Tweedie writes, “I wanted to send an update note to try and find some other classmates. I have moved around a lot and lost touch; it would be nice to get some e-mails of friends from Alfred.” You can e-mail Jennifer at jennifer.tweedie@wcicommmunities.com. She is currently the membership director of Hammock Bay Golf & Country Club, Naples, FL.

Charles W. Miller has been appointed president of Harper International, a global provider of advanced thermal processing systems.

1988

Kara Mackey Dopman
11 Briar Lane
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
E-mail: kmopman@aol.com

Michelle Green, MPS, RHIA, FAHIMA (NY), CMA (AAMA), CPC, PCS, SUNY (State University of New York), teaching professor of physical and life sciences at Alfred State College was named among the Top 10 in HIM (health information management), as published in the Advance for Health Information Professionals newsletter.

Allen Bernard has joined FaciliTech as vice president of Welsh Facility Services, Minnetonka, MN, where he will oversee the day-to-day operations. He has a certificate of completion in drywall estimating from the Carter School of Estimating and is a member of the Institute of Real Estate Management.

1989 AU Reunion Year!

Mrs. Stephanie (Niles) Conroy
1265 Lake Summerset Road
Davis, IL 61019-9653
E-mail: JOHNSTEFF@peoplepc.com

Your Class Correspondent reports: “Tracie Golbaum-Euker is an elementary art teacher (for the past 18 years) with the Liberty Central School District, Sullivan County, NY, a mom to two boys, Madden, 6, and Cameron, 4. She became a figure competitor with the International Natural Body Building Federation. She won her first show and has gone on to place in three more shows. Tracie shows in both Women’s Figure and Fit Body (a hybrid of figure and women’s body building). She writes, ‘I have always admired the fit bodies of the women I saw in fitness magazines, but that level of fitness always seemed unattainable, especially giving birth to two babies. Never did I imagine when I was younger dabbling with aerobics classes and weights at the gym that I would one day be living my dream now at 41! I am very proud of my accomplishments and to be a role model for my children, students, moms, and women over 40. My message is clear: if you can dream it, you can create it! Not only...”
am an artist who creates on paper, but also one who sculpts a body of art. Special thanks to my husband, Brad, and my sons for their support! Contact me at: Tracie Goldbaum or Tracie Euker on classmates.com or Tracie E. on Facebook.

Ellen Shindelman Kowitt, a fellow Sigma Chi Nu sorority sister, wants everyone to know that EXN has an Alumni Group on Facebook. Sigma sisters would probably recognize many of the members there from our years at Alfred. It’s a great way to “see” people, chat online, and hear what's going on in everyone's busy lives. Ellen lives in Colorado with her husband and two daughters, ages 4 and 3. She works part-time as an editor and keeps busy shuffling the kids around. She would love to hear from other alumni and enjoys the “perpetual reunions” reconnecting on Facebook with alumni and friends.

David J. Tilley served as grand marshal of the 2009 St. Patrick's Day Parade, Buffalo, NY. David is a resident of South Buffalo.

Twins Doreen Barnhart DeHart and Jeaneen Barnhart ’92 celebrated their 42nd birthday in January 2009 as well as their accomplishment of creating the official posters for the 2009 Kentucky Derby Festival. Jeaneen specializes in painting and drawing while Doreen is in graphic design.

Theodore Hanousek was appointed University Records Manager in the Syracuse (NY) University Archives and Records Management Department.

The Columbus Council on World Affairs has recognized Coral Lee Link as the 2009 State of Ohio International Educator of the Year. This yearly award honors a unique K-12 educator whose commitment to international education and awareness serves as a stellar example to students, colleagues and the local community.

1990

Andrew Weller
149 Orchard Court
Blue Bell, PA 19422
E-mail: aweller@chestnuthillacademy.org

Anne Holmok of Alfred Station has been hired in the Alfred State College Athletics Department to coach women’s soccer, serve as assistant coach for track and field, and as a physical education instructor.

Diane Petrilli has joined the American Rado Relay League, Inc. headquarters staff in Newington, CT. She brings more than 15 years of experience in marketing and membership management to the League.

Jennifer Elsner, principal of Viewers Like You, Austin, TX, was honored by the American Institute of Graphic Design (AIGA) for “Florian Slotawa: One After the Other,” a brochure designed by her studio. She was cited for outstanding design produced in 2007. The brochure was part of 365: AIGA Year In Design 29, a public exhibition at the AIGA National Design Center in New York this past winter.

1991

Karen Schrader Greabell
10 Elm Road
Kings Park, NY 11754
greabell@verizon.net

Joe Alberici, head coach for Army, West Point, has been chosen to serve as an assistant coach for the U.S. Men’s Lacrosse Team that will compete in the 2010 Federation of International Lacrosse World Championship in Manchester, England. In the past, Joe has served as a graduate assistant at Alfred University, where he was a two-time All-American for the Saxons.

Josh DeWeese teaches at Montana State University as assistant professor of art in ceramics.

1992

Desiree Lombardo ’01 married Christopher Caruso on Jan. 17, 2009 in Cancun, Mexico. On hand for the occasion were (from left) Jamie Wolff ’01; Corey Dunn ’00, ’03; the groom; Penny (Schader) Dunn ’00, ’02; Tracy Young ’03; Kurt Kochey ’99; and the bride.

Jon McLaughlin will be taking over as the offensive coordinator for the University of Pennsylvania football team.

Michelle Peck
12001 South Anna Drive
Rockville, VA 23146
E-mail: Michelle_Peck@Pediatrics.com

Gregory Connors, AU trustee and managing partner at Conner & Ferris LLP, received a Rochester (NY) Business Journal 2008 Forty Under Forty Award. He was nominated by a committee of business leaders. The award recognizes men and women, under the age of 40, who have achieved professional success and have also made significant civic contributions to the Rochester community.

Christine Greene writes: “Hello to my fellow ’92 classmates. Sophia Joseph-Parrilla visited NYC this summer. We all had fun. A big hello to Lisa, Tina and Marlies!”

Barb Schrage, advanced practice nurse at Highland Community Hospital, Rochester, NY, was selected as a recipient of the Rochester Business Journal 2009 Health Care Achievement Award.

for additional class notes and information on alumni events!
1993
Tracy Lazarony Rudd
3634 Skipjack Court
Abingdon, MD 21009-1030
E-mail: tracylazarony@hotmail.com

A.J. Mesalic, president and general manager of Class Kid Inc. Toy Company of Las Vegas, sells his products to retailers and restaurants, becoming known as a baby product entrepreneur.

1994
Ellen (De Biasa) Kolonoski
18 Crestview Lane
Hamburg, NJ 07419
E-mail: mekolonoski@netzero.com

Your Class Correspondent writes: “Jason Maring and his wife Melissa had their first child, a daughter, Aug. 3, 2008, and her name is Lucy Lourdes. Jason is the director of marketing for Terramesa Resort Properties, a national real estate developer, and is living near Waterville Valley, NH.”

La-Verne Gittens was honored and recognized by N.S.P. (Non-Stop Production) Youth, Inc. Brooklyn, as an individual who has helped make the N.S.P. what it is today. N.S.P. is dedicated to empowering youth through the arts, leadership, and community service. La-Verne is a television producer who resides in Brooklyn.

1995
Randi (Jermansen) Albiston
139 Kingston Court
Madison, NJ 07940-1151
Phone: 973.443.4491
E-mail: rjermansen@verizon.net

A story about Linda Cordell’s ceramic works was featured in Journal Santa Fe in February 2009. Linda lives and works in Fredonia, NY.

1996
Suzanne Alesso
229 Barnes Court
Rochester, MI 48307
Phone: 248.608.9650
E-mail: Suzanne.Alesso@GM.com

Faith Klemick moved in summer 2008 to Hamburg, PA with her husband, Philip, and her son. In September 2008 she had a baby girl, Audrey Clare.

Jennifer (Eichstadt) DiMarzio ’95 and Marco DiMarzio ’96 welcomed daughter Liana Grace on Dec. 25, 2008. Jennifer writes: “We never thought of ourselves as parental material — and we certainly weren’t sure what a child of our mad scientist alchemy would look like — but Liana has melted everyone’s hearts. Marco’s preparing to keep teen-age boys at bay with one of his patented scowls, and I am trying to develop affection for pink, since baby girls are apparently supposed to look like marshmallow confections. We’ve made grandparents out of Marco’s folks, on which they’d given up after our 12 years of marriage. All in all, it was a pretty wonderful Christmas miracle.”

Peter Bergmann has been promoted by the Catholic Health System to the dual post of president and CEO of Sisters of Charity Hospital and St. Joseph Hospital, Buffalo, NY.

Sarah Canfield was featured in an exhibit at the Gallery on High in Pottstown, PA titled “All Aboard.” Her pastel piece entitled “Inside” depicts the image of a hand holding a Christmas ball ornament with the reflection of two people inside of it. Sarah joined the Gallery on High as a member artist who years ago. She started showing her work professionally in 2002 and has since been featured in over 40 exhibits.

1997
Kari (Jermansen) Martin
2 Central Ave.
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758
732.787.8529
kljermansen@yahoo.com

Your Class Correspondent writes that she and husband Joseph announce the birth of their first child, Astri Lynn Martin. Their daughter was born on March 12, 2009, at 1:24 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 5 oz. and measuring 20 inches. The Martins live in the Port Monmouth section of Middletown Township in New Jersey. Kari is policy communications director at Clean Ocean Action, a nonprofit environmental organization, and Joe is an associate/project manager at Birdsall Services Group, an engineering firm.

The Martin Group, a Buffalo branding/marketing firm, has named Ryan Connolly brand manager. Ryan has 10 years of industry experience.

Mirtha Almanzar received a master of taxation degree from Nova Southeastern University on Oct. 31, 2008.
Andrew P. Alessio
2916 Willowood Drive
Erie, PA 16506
E-mail: andrewalessio@aol.com

Michael N. Christakis
E-mail: mchristakis@umail.albany.edu

Steven Colby was featured in an article titled “Not just for looks” on Postindependant.com. The article exposed his passion for making “pieces for the masses.” His functional cups and bowls with reliable heftiness and soft colors are fun and inviting, simple to understand and easy to use in the everyday home.

Catherine McIntyre married Kirk Barker on Aug. 23, 2008 at Taughannock Falls in Ithaca and now goes by the name Catherine Norton-Barker. She is researching and developing an outreach program at Cornell University, Sci2Centre that uses computer virtual worlds to motivate adolescents’ interest in school. For more information on her work see www.scientzt.org or e-mail Cathy directly at cm25@cornell.edu.

1999

AU Reunion Year!

1998

Natalie Krauser McCarthy
1211 Prospect Ave.
Plainfield, NJ 07060
E-mail: natalie@1211prospect.com

Deborah Nall writes: “I’m a senior print producer at J. Walter Thompson, an advertising agency in midtown, Manhattan. I’ve been here 1.5 years and loving it. In addition to my regular duties of getting ad campaigns into the market, I head up our sustainability team ‘JunkWasteTrash’ to reduce our carbon footprint 20 percent by 2010. I also went back to school in January for interior design at the New York School of Interior Design in Manhattan. It’s challenging me in many ways so that’s exciting. Weekends I spend walking my dog Baker through Prospect Park, going to the gym, and playing ‘tourist’ with my friends. Remember: ‘Life is a mystery to be explored.’”

George Wiedmaier is the new Parenting Outreach Director for Focus on the Family, Colorado Springs, CO. He brings a unique, rich and intimate knowledge of parenting as he and his wife have served as surrogate parents to 42 children and youth of poverty from urban NYC, Philadelphia, rural Pennsylvania, California, and other regions of the United States.

2000

Katie Isaac Franklin
993 John Leo Drive
Webster, NY 14580-2365
Phone: 585.654.7694
E-mail: kifranklin@yahoo.com

Chandra K. Leister
93 Mountford Road
North Yarmouth, ME 04097
E-mail: andshewas23@hotmail.com

Jasmine “Jacy” Lellock
23 The Horseshoe
Newark, DE 19711
E-mail: lellojcis@yahoo.com

Josh Wexler ’00
and Amy (Laurence) Wexler, had a son, Carl E. Wexler, Sept. 20, 2008

Ted Smith is directing two theater productions this coming year (“Kiss Me Kate” and “Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat”) and recently met David Cassidy. He and his partner Marc, are enjoying life in Franklin, PA, and recently celebrated the anniversary of their commitment ceremony. Ted is also busy as director of Emergency Services for the local Red Cross. E-mail him at tedsmith.patio@gmail.com.

2001

Christa Christakis
E-mail: christa_nyman@yahoo.com

Kizzy M. Parks
4805 Lake Waterford Way West, Apt. 2
Melbourne, FL 32901
E-mail: kizwiz@hotmail.com

Lauren Pidcoe
8 First St. SW
Lesseburg, VA 20175-3821
Phone: 703.998.6297
E-mail: rennie7879@hotmail.com

Jane Gilliland of Belmont, NY has been hired as senior director of Student Financial Services at Alfred State College, were she supervises the areas of financial aid and student accounts.

2002

Judy Tsang
2165 East 23 Street
Brooklyn, NY 11229
718.743.3820
E-mail: judytsang@gmail.com

Jennifer Baltrush
19B Louis Ave.
Albany, NY 12204
E-mail: baltruja@alfredalum.com

Alexis Piekarsky
7413 Coventry Court
Riverdale, NJ 07457
E-mail: piekaras@yahoo.com

After graduating from Alfred, Michael McGuire received a M.A. in psychology from Duquesne University and worked for three years in a community mental health and substance abuse clinic in Buffalo, NY, while teaching introductory psychology at Erie Community College. Since 2006, he has worked for Peace Corps in northern Peru. In 2009 he will coordinate an HIV/AIDS Prevention Initiative in nine local municipalities with assistance from the President’s Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). See photo page 38.

for additional class notes and information on alumni events!
Jessica Sick and Matt Rossi ’01 were married at Belhurst Castle in Geneva, NY on Aug. 16, 2008. Over 35 AU friends and family attended.

Kendra (Stratton) Alberston and her husband Bradly Albertson welcomed a beautiful baby boy, Peyton Michael, on March 30, 2009. The family resides in Jericho, VT and thanks everyone for their congratulations and well wishes.

2003

Jill Culeton
431 Cline Road
Victor, NY 14564
Phone: 585.924.8289
E-mail: jculeton@rochester.rr.com

Danielle Johnson-Kutch
9713 51st Place
College Park, MD 20740
johnsonkutch@msn.com

Sebastian White
262 W. 24th St., Apt. 5D
New York, NY 10011
seb@sebastianwhite.com

Tammy Brackett of Andover, NY, is an assistant professor in the School of Management and Engineering Technology at Alfred State College. She teaches in the digital media and animation program.

Lauren Selig’s article, “The Aesthetics of Style in an Urban High School Art Class,” was published in the March edition of Art Education, which is the journal of the National Art Educational Association. The article is based on the research she did with her students while she was a graduate student at Maryland Institute College of Art. The study focused on her students’ aesthetic responses to their everyday visual culture.

2004

Adam Jwaskiewicz of Liverpool, NY has joined Pinckney Hugo Group as a senior interactive designer.

Patrick Wayne describes his two-year experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya in an article featured on cnylink.com/cnynews. He describes his living arrangements, the culture, traditions, and the weather of Kenya, as well as his plans following his return to the United States.

2005

Emma Buckthal
21 Drybrook Road
Barton, NY 13734
E-mail: emmabuckthal@hotmail.com

Tim Inthirakoth
23 Union Park, 1
Boston, MA 02118
617.279.3703
Laminus@msn.com

Crystal Myers is a residence hall director in Alfred State College’s Main Gate B, where she manages its facilities, supervises the paraprofessional staff, and participates in judicial hearings on campus.

Surrounded by family and friends, Tom Prather married Tomas Medina ‘04, ’05, on Sept. 7, 2008, at the Newton White Mansion, Mitchellville, MD (see photo page 39). The Medinas spent 10 days honeymooning in Punta Cana Resort & Spa, the Dominican Republic. They are currently residing in Yonkers, NY and are enjoying their time putting their home together.

Tomas is an accountant for the public firm Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP. Tia is an administrative assistant within the RD.com division at the Reader’s Digest Association. When she finds time, she is also a freelancer and artist. Some of their hobbies include hanging out with their friends, playing tag-football on weekends, and watching movies together.

Jesse Small was a guest artist in February 2009 at the Norman Museum of Contemporary Art at Johnson County Community College, Overland Park, KS, collaborating with the JCCC fine arts and art history departments.

Casey Lumbra is the assistant director of Communications with the NYS Division of Veterans’ Affairs. He has been married for three years in July and has a 1-year-old daughter, Isabelle. Plus two dogs! Carey is currently working on a project called Backspace, an online comic series, with fellow classmates Jeremy Stephens ’06 and Kyle Wengren ’04.

Michael McGuire ‘02, second from left, has been working with the Peace Corps in Peru since 2006. See story page 37.

Remember to visit www.alfred.edu/alumni
2006

Keith DeCarlo is working as both a research assistant and teaching assistant at Alfred University. Most recently, Keith attended the International Conference of Sintering in San Diego, CA, and is now being published in Ceramic Transactions. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in ceramic science.

David Hicks recently had a solo exhibition at the Cross Mackenzie Gallery, Washington, DC. You can access the gallery Web site at www.crossmackenzie.com. David currently lives in California.

Todd Dersham helped lead the Ratchfords Well Drillers claim to their third Top Men's division championship at the 7th Annual Avoca (NY) Summer Classic held in August 2008.

Andreina Simet married Miguel Perez on April 19, 2008. Two of the bridesmaids, Aris Rodriguez and Irma Cleto, are '06 alumni of AU's College of Business.

Steven B. Ventura recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, IL.

2007

Abby Tripp
178 Gazette Ave. No. 1
Lexington, KY 40508
Abigail.Tripp@gmail.com

Bonnie Ye
119 Augusta Plantation Dr., Apt D
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
bonnie.ye@gmail.com

Abby reports: “There’s nothing like NCAA March Madness to bring members of the 2007 crew out of the woodwork. I still have great memories of watching the tourney with friends in Alfred – taking over the ground floor living room in Joel’s House sophomore year, hunkering down in 8 Park for four straight days as we watched the first- and second-round games in 2006, and loudly lamenting Syracuse’s exclusion from the Big Dance with anyone who would listen senior year. This year, I still feel like I’ve gotten to watch the tournament with some of my classmates; the difference is that all of our conversation is unfolding via Facebook and Instant Messenger.

“I caught up with Ryan Westerdahl during halftime of the SU-UConn game that later went into six overtimes. He’s still working at Welch Allyn and living in Liverpool, NY, with Nicole Dittrich. Nicole and I have a standing lunch-and-shopping date whenever I’m in upstate New York; during a typical visit, much pasta is consumed and much money spent. We’re also plotting a trip to the Carrier Dome next winter to cheer on SU from the student section – Nicole will start her grad work in library and information science there in August.

“Dave Fitzgerald is a hospital corpsman in the U.S. Navy, currently stationed in Guam. Despite the substantial time difference, we manage to catch up online every once in awhile. Most recently, Dave informed me (somewhat bitterly), that his NCAA bracket was busted halfway through the first round.

Tia Prather ’05 married Tomas Medina ’04, ’05 on Sept. 7, 2008. Gathered for the festivities were (from right) Stephanie Duclair ’06, Jessica Cabrera ’08, Kathleen Kiely ’06, Stephanie Twomey ’05, Mrs. Meghan Stayer, the bride, the groom, Jon Pfaff ’05, Michael Sargent ’02, Javier Yepes ’03, Jonas Alcantara ’07, Ian Phillips ’06, Urbano Soto Jr. ’07, and Matthew Washington ’04. See story page 38.
program here; I had a section of first-year writing in the fall, and I have two sections of business writing this semester. Even though teaching and research occupy most of my time, I’ve been indulging my love of cooking whenever possible. A colleague and I have catered a few departmental events to great reviews, and we’ll be doing our first paid gig – my officemate’s wedding – this summer. We don’t know yet if it’ll turn into a full-fledged business, but we look forward to seeing what develops.”

Jana Palant graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

Levi Bridges is participating in a bike trek for 10-12 months. More information can be found at www.paneurasianbiketrip.com

Carin Sankus has returned to her high school alma mater, Watchung Hills Regional High School, Warren, NJ, in a full time teaching position in the art department, specializing in ceramic arts.

Brian Norby passed the final section of the CPA exam and is currently working for Mengel Metzger Barr & Co. in Rochester, NY.

## 2008

**Engagements**

David W. Harts horn ’01 to Dr. Rocio C. Pasion

Caroline “Carrie” Reiter ’01 to Jason Estabrooks

**Marriages**

Paul H. Sachs ’74 and Dana McBride, June 2008

Casey John Crandall ’75 and Jahaira Elena Villaverde Audelo, Feb. 28, 2009

Mary Serafin ’99 and Christopher Gober, June 27, 2008

Lindsay Calkins ’00 and Brian Pilko ’00, Oct. 4, 2008

Desiree Lombardo ’01 and Christopher Caruso, Jan. 17, 2009

Anne M. Ebert ’02 and Kurt Kimball, June 28, 2008

Timothy Brauner ’02 and Genevieve Coyne, Aug. 16, 2008

Jessica Sick ’02 and Matt Rossi ’01, Aug. 16, 2008

Jaime Hatch ’02 and Peter Sniegowski, Aug. 23, 2008

Chad Lewis ’03 and Laurie Bendavine, May 31, 2008

Miranda Vagg ’04 and Ron Pennock II ’05, June 21, 2008

Joanne L. Hodges ’04 and Ryan Kennedy ’03, Aug. 30, 2008

Kristina Beaulac ’04 and Samuel Sly, November 2008

Tia Prather ’05 and Tomas Medina ’04, ’05, Sept. 7, 2008

Andreina Simet ’06 and Miguel Perez, April 19, 2008

Allison Lipani ’01, ’06 and John Feenaughty ’06, July 17, 2008

Melissa Berman ’06 and John Belisle ’05, Oct. 28, 2008

**Deaths**

**Alumni**

Doris K. Gould ’35, April 18, 2008

Mitchel Corbman ’40, Nov. 27, 2008

Daniel Freed ’40, May 7, 2008

Guy Hartman ’43, Aug. 22, 2008


Robert L. Williams ’44, Nov. 19, 2008

Charles Eble ’46, November 2008

Hayden Merritt Setchel ’48, Nov. 5, 2008

James Mitchell Wood ’49, ’50, Jan. 25, 2009

Donald E. Knowlton ’49, March 15, 2009

Richard E. Smith ’49

Dave Petry ’51, May 2007

Ray Swoish ’52, Aug. 20, 2008

Paul Anthony “Flash” Gignac ’53, Nov. 4, 2008


Jack “Herb” Peterson ’55, Nov. 4, 2007

Barbara Cartes ’59, Nov. 9, 2008

Ruth (Zimmerman) Stolfer ’59, March 1, 2009

Walter Sprague ’60, April 30, 2008

Edward A. Black ’61, FEB. 9, 2008

Charlene Harris Buchmier ’66, July 29, 2008

John P. Zentner ’73, Dec. 12, 2008

Karyn Cannon ’74, Dec. 16, 2008

Andrea J. McConnell ’77, Nov. 20, 2008

Michael Steven Schreiber ’80, Oct. 25, 2008

**Bir ths**

Robin M. Norwood ’91 and Peter, twin daughters, Emma and Carolyn, Oct. 5, 2007

Jodi (Ives) McAneny ’92 and Matthew McAneny ’92, twin sons, Aidan Campbell and Declan Carson, March 24, 2008

Jason Maring ’94 and Melissa, a daughter, Lucy Lourdes, Aug. 3, 2008

Faith Klemick ’96 and Philip, a daughter, Audrey Clare, September 2008

Jennifer (Eichstadt) DiMarzio ’95 and Marco DiMarzio ’96, a daughter, Liana Grace, Dec. 25, 2008

Bethany (Carpenter) Ranquist ’00 and Micah Ranquist, a daughter, Caroline Alice, Oct. 5, 2007

Josh Wexler ’00 and Amy (Laurence) Wexler, a son, Carl E. Wexler, Sept. 20, 2008

Kendra (Stratton) ’02 and Bradly Albertson, a son, Peyton Michael, Mar. 30, 2009

**Friends**


Clinton L. Palminter, Nov. 10, 2008, retired from AU after 30 years’ service

Robert S. Sherwood, Dec. 8, 2008, AU life trustee

Walter DeWitt Franklin, Jan. 29, 2009, former director of Herrick Library

Robert W. “Soox” Sloan died March 28, 2009. He was 84. He was a member of the U.S. Naval Academy, class of 1947. A resident of Alfred for most of his life, he was a professor of mathematics at AU, at one time serving as chairman of the department. He also served as mayor of the Village of Alfred.

He was pre-deceased by his wife of 55 years, the former Marilyn Margaret Pfingsten. He was also pre-deceased by a daughter, Abigail Elizabeth Cole.

He is survived by a daughter, Penny M. Bee of Green Bay, WI.
Through the generations, Alfred University has made a commitment to offering students challenges, helping them to earn a degree, teaching them how to live their lives to the fullest, and to become the leaders we need for the future. “The Alfred Experience” is one that is shared across the years, across the generations by our alumni.

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Remember those wonderful early summer days in Alfred?

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You can still go back there... the place where the carillon bells echo through the valley, where the campus is never more green or more calm.

It’s the place where you can see the friends that are a part of all those memories.

Friday, June 12 – Sunday, June 14, 2009