

# Alfred

M A G A Z I N E

SPRING · 2013



Putting finishing touches  
on a symbol of

# Saxon Pride

# A U students send messages from the heart



Dear Friend of Alfred,  
My name is Courtney Smith, from Yorktown, NY. I am a 3rd year biomedical engineering major. I am grateful for my opportunities here at Alfred University that will make possible my future aspirations. I am looking forward to a career in biomedical research. I am grateful for your support and I am sure you will be proud of me. Thank you.  
- Courtney Smith

We meet in Latin, Italian, and Spanish and you support us always in the pursuit of getting to degree in Industrial Engineering and more. At Alfred University, I especially wanted to go to Alfred because I wanted to be an industrial engineer while pursuing my degree in International Engineering. I can't thank you enough for making it possible for me to get this wonderful education. I will always remember your generosity.  
- [Name]

My name is Mike Kowalski, Class of 2013, and your support and belief in me gave me the courage to pursue my degree in Health Policy and Management at Alfred University. I think I had a great experience here in four years here. My professors had been great and I think I had a great time here. I will be thinking of you for years to come. Thank you for your support.  
- Mike Kowalski

My name is Kevin Kiehl, Class of 2013, and I just wanted to thank you for helping me attend Alfred and pursue my goals. I was grateful for the excellent leadership and support that I received here. I am also grateful for the attention I was getting at All Common Core night. I hope you continue your generosity in the future. Thank you for helping people like me.  
- Kevin Kiehl '13

Dear Friend of Alfred,  
My name is Brittany Scarsdale, from Rochester, NY. Your leadership is inspiring me to pursue my dreams of getting a psychology degree at Alfred University. This is not just for me but for my dream. I have had some amazing professors and met so many great people. I just want to thank you for your gift, without it I wouldn't be here.  
- Brittany Scarsdale

Dear Friend of Alfred,  
My name is Mary Kline and I am a 3rd year Biology and Health major with a minor in Health Policy and Management. I am grateful for the support and belief in me that I received here. I am looking forward to a career in biomedical research. I am grateful for your support and I am sure you will be proud of me. Thank you.  
- Mary Kline

My name is Tonya Sisson, All class of 2013 and I just wanted to thank you for your support and belief in me. I am looking forward to a career in biomedical research and playing basketball at Alfred University. Thank you for your support and belief in me.  
- Tonya Sisson

Dear Donor,  
My name is Leah Pender, All class of 2013, and your support and belief in me has given me the courage to attend Alfred University. I am looking forward to a career in biomedical research. I just want to thank you for your gift, without it I wouldn't be here.  
- Leah Pender

Thank you so much for your generosity in helping me and my friends. I am a 3rd year graduate student in the medical research program and I am grateful for your support and belief in me. Thank you for your gift, without it I wouldn't be here.  
- Brittany Scarsdale '13

## Alfred

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# Alfred

M A G A Z I N E



Early spring is a time for prospective student campus visits. The AU Admissions Office's unique tour bike seats up to seven people and is a popular means of transport for guests.

## What's inside...

### 2 The ultimate in off-campus education

AU students find Study Abroad experiences bring new meaning to the overall academic journey. The number of students pursuing global education continues to grow.

### 6 At the head of the class

2013 Outstanding Seniors embody the ideal AU student: well-rounded, positive, successful.

### 8 News Digest

Tops in ceramic art; pioneering research in chemistry; new Provost/Academic Vice President; time to play ball on new softball field – learn about these top newsmakers on campus, and more.

### 10 Class Notes

Find out what classmates and friends have been pursuing, accomplishing, and enjoying during the past few months.

### 29 Two alumni awarded honorary doctorates

They both have a reputation for turning struggling businesses into successful enterprises. Robert H. Benmosche '66, chief executive officer of American International Group Inc. (AIG), delivered the 2013 Commencement address and received an honorary Doctor of Business degree during the annual spring exercises. Peter Cuneo '67 was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters during the same ceremony, marking the completion of his second, three-year term as chairman of the AU Board of Trustees.

SPRING · 2013



**Cover photo:** Hopefully you haven't been waiting on pins and needles since 1984, but this fall will see the return of the "Saxon Warrior" at selected athletics events. The newly created, historically authentic costume was designed by Debbie MacCrea, costume shop manager/costumer of the AU Division of Performing Arts.

On the cover, students Amanda L. Mangerpan '15, left, and Maggie Baska '15 are shown in the Miller Performing Arts Center Costume Shop completing their portion of the project: the leather pieces of the distinctive Saxon "scaled hauberk." Each scale has been individually hand-painted and sewn to the shirt. At right in the photo is the new Saxon helmet.

**Photo above:** A closer look at the scaled hauberk and the sketches of the costume.

## Stay connected!

**Keep your Alfred University Family in your life.**

Make sure to let us know of all your family **activities**, professional **moves** and **achievements**, personal **accomplishments**, and entertaining **photos!**

You can reach us in numerous ways:



Facebook



Twitter



Email – news and photos to [clarkd@alfred.edu](mailto:clarkd@alfred.edu)



Snail Mail – mail news and photos to Debbie Clark, Acting Director of Communications, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802

**Class Correspondent** – name, address and email may be found by looking under your class year in the Class Notes section



# The **AU** international experience

By Jericho Shackelford '13

Biology major Kevin O'Connor '14 is furthering his studies in biology at University of Nordland, Bodø, Norway.

## B O D Ø , N O R W A Y

Majoring in biology at AU, Kevin O'Connor '14 is furthering his understanding of the science with marine biology courses at Norway's University of Nordland. The institution is nestled in Bodø on the northern third of the country's coast.

Above Norway's glacially formed inlets of narrow sea, between long iced-over cliffs called fjords, the sun rarely shines on Bodø winters.

"In the course of the first month here I saw the sun five times. When I first arrived, sunrise was at 11 a.m. and sunset was at 1:15 p.m.," said O'Connor, whose Jan. 4 arrival was muted due to Bodø's location within the Arctic Circle.

At University of Nordland, O'Connor is taking marine biology, marine mammals, and Norwegian aquaculture courses.

O'Connor says he was academically

well prepared for his trans-Atlantic journey. However, rifle training never made it into an AU syllabus. Rifle training is a necessary precaution against polar bears for site-specific labs done in Svalbard, Norway, the world's most northern archipelago.

The prospect of an Indiana Jones-type expedition has O'Connor anxiously awaiting the trip's finalization, as research is contingent upon the fjords' temperatures. He and his team of classmates will be cutting holes out of ice to retrieve samples.

"One student has to be on guard with a rifle while we dig through the ice

**Above Norway's glacially formed inlets of narrow sea, between long iced-over cliffs called fjords, the sun rarely shines on Bodø winters.**

over a fjord and get samples. How cool is that? Though I hope I'm the one holding the rifle," said O'Connor.

During the average week, O'Connor has between two and four days of class. A little homesick for the American rigor of study, O'Connor noted, "School is hard in America. We're constantly dealing with assignments, quizzes, tests, labs, presentations, and class participation. Here my grade for all of my courses is based 100 percent on one final exam."

In his spare time O'Connor has found a position leading English-based conversations as an English language assistant with the University of Nordland. The classes are held once a week and are comprised of students primarily from Russia and the Ukraine.

Now sunrise is early, at about 5:40 a.m. and sunset is 8:30 p.m. Eight minutes of sunlight are gained per day, until, between April and June, the summer sun can be seen in place of the moon over Norway's horizon at midnight.



Kevin O'Connor, right, enjoys some recreational fishing with one of his classmates.

## ARUSHA, TANZANIA

**In Arusha, Tanzania, Sarah Deitsch '13, a junior global studies and political science major, never attended a formal class as the School for International Training (SIT) fosters independent learning programs.**

The first place Deitsch stayed in Tanzania was a campsite on the savannah between mountains Kilimanjaro and Meru.

"The shower was a heated bucket of water," said Deitsch describing her hygiene situation as she first knew it in Tanzania.

Arusha, a metropolitan city of over 1.25 million, is the diplomatic and services industry capital of eastern Africa. Located in northern Tanzania and surrounded by some of Africa's greatest natural beauty, ranging from Mount Kilimanjaro to Olduvai Gorge, this is an archeological site to hundreds of thousands of years in human history including homo habilis (the first human ancestor to use tools discovered by Mary and Luis Leakey), as well as the Serengeti desert; much of Arusha's economy is anchored in tourism.

Despite significant growth to per capita gross domestic product (GDP)

Continued on page 4

## THE GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Kevin O'Connor and Sarah Deitsch, Alfred University undergraduate students, earned cultural exchanges as Gilman scholars, the federally endowed fund for students seeking international experience.

Deitsch studied through the fall 2012 semester in Arusha, Tanzania, an African nation located just below the horn of Africa's east coast. O'Connor is currently studying abroad in Bodø, Norway, a coastal city of 50,000.

The Gilman Scholarship, endowed by the Department of State, grants up to \$5,000 per student to 2,300 nationally recognized scholars.



Students capture a special wildlife moment from their Land Rover during an International Studies excursion in Tanzania. Photograph by Sarah Deitsch '14.

there remain high levels of economic inequity.

The first portion of Deitsch's stay was spent living with a Tanzanian family known as a homestay. Deitsch spent just under a month here learning the Tanzanian cultural practices and national language of Kiswahili.

At the homestead, Deitsch grudgingly learned to hand wash clothes, get sweaty, significantly dirty, bathe in a nearby stream, and eventually settled to taking tea three times a day.

Deitsch spent just under a month at learning the Tanzanian cultural practices and national language of Kiswahili.

The hands-on experience did not come free of hazard. A motorcyclist in the cramped streets of Arusha snatched Deitsch's purse, Thanksgiving Day.

"It wasn't that bad. I was upset for a day," said Deitsch as she spoke of losing \$50, a purse, and her iPod. Not to be dispirited, Deitsch went on as the only student of her group to conduct her anthropological studies alone. Due to the prominence of tourism in Tanzania, Deitsch chose to investigate some of the social and economic attributes of Tanzanian national parks by living with a native tribe in the Usambara Mountains.

Here in northeast Tanzania, Deitsch was fortunate enough to meet a local

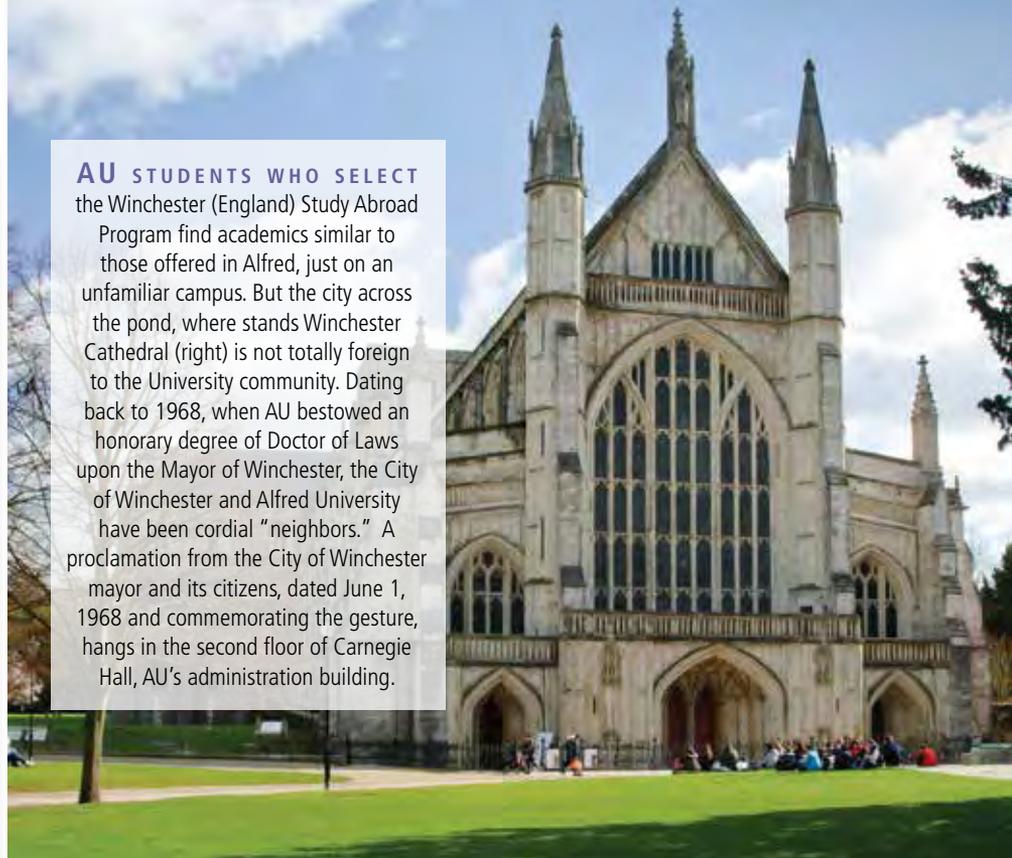


While transporting water, Sarah Deitsch is shown wearing traditional garb, but the vessel is distinctly contemporary.

anthropologist who introduced her to the tribe's people.

"Twenty percent of Tanzanian GDP relies on tourism, so we focused on how the national parks are affecting native people," said Deitsch.

*Recipients of the Gilman Scholarship are required to complete a service project that relays the benefits of international experience to young students across the United States. Upon returning home, Deitsch talked to second graders at her hometown elementary school in Rockford, Ohio. Talking to an estimated 80 students she set up the tent she lived out of in Tanzania, talked about her interactions with its people and culture, and eventually the students were allowed to check out the tent hands-on. O'Connor is completing his service project while abroad. He is currently working to enhance global ideas as studied by third graders in New York, NY, through Skype and constant maintenance of his Reach the World blog.*



**AU STUDENTS WHO SELECT** the Winchester (England) Study Abroad Program find academics similar to those offered in Alfred, just on an unfamiliar campus. But the city across the pond, where stands Winchester Cathedral (right) is not totally foreign to the University community. Dating back to 1968, when AU bestowed an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon the Mayor of Winchester, the City of Winchester and Alfred University have been cordial "neighbors." A proclamation from the City of Winchester mayor and its citizens, dated June 1, 1968 and commemorating the gesture, hangs in the second floor of Carnegie Hall, AU's administration building.

## Partnering with global agencies expands study abroad opportunities

**By expanding study abroad opportunities, the Alfred University Office of International Programs has generated the greatest student involvement in global study in a decade. Dr. Vicky Westacott, director of International Programs, says this jump can be attributed, in large part, to the University's participation in the Winchester and International Student Exchange (ISEP) programs.**

**T**he International Programs Office has seen a 32 percent increase in students studying abroad since 2009, and from academic year 2011-12 to 2012-13, there was a 23 percent rise in the number of AU students studying abroad, reports Westacott.

The addition of the Winchester University Study Abroad Program has opened a learning opportunity similar to AU's but in the unfamiliar surroundings of Winchester, England, said Westacott.

AU senior Hannah Ponte studied her last undergraduate semester on the Winchester campus. Ponte said the leading factors in her decision were affordability and course selection. At Winchester, Ponte took courses in Romanticism, creative writing, Theodore Dreiser and the American city, and masculinity in the media.

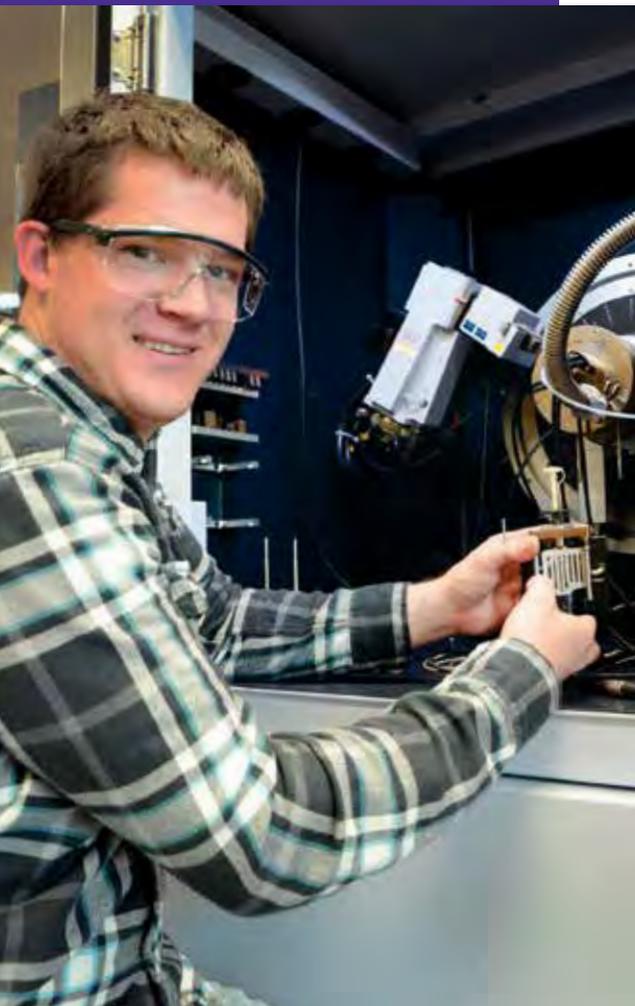
Westacott explained that the ISEP is

an exchange consortium of over 330 international universities. U.S. universities that participate can nominate applicants for any of the member institutions. International students swap places with each other, continuing to pay tuition and fees at their home colleges or universities. This arrangement makes the cost of studying abroad equal to airfare, associated travel costs, and an ISEP placement fee. ISEP provides exchange programs to Africa, Asia, Canada, Central and South America, Europe, Oceania, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.

In addition to semester study programs, an average of four to six short-term programs are chaperoned by faculty each year, noted Westacott. Some of the best-attended, recent short-term trips were to hot spots including Italy, Ireland, Germany, and the Caribbean Islands.

# Outstanding seniors

Serving as role models,



Sam Miller '13

By Sue Goetschius

Samuel Miller, a materials science and engineering major in the Inamori School of Engineering, and Jordyn Larkins, a communication studies and Spanish major in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, are this year's recipients of the Marlin Miller Outstanding Senior Awards at Alfred University.

Outstanding seniors – one man and one woman – are chosen each year by a campus-wide committee on the basis of scholarship, extracurricular leadership and personal character. Faculty, staff and students may nominate candidates for the award.

“Jordyn and Sam are truly well-rounded, positive and successful students that the Marlin Miller award was established to honor,” said Kathy Woughter, vice president for Student Affairs. “Both have

been captains of varsity athletics teams, graduates of our leadership programs (the Women's Leadership Academy for Jordyn and the Gary Horowitz Leadership Development Program for Sam), leaders in community service and exceptional scholars. More than that, though, is the solid commitment both Jordyn and Sam have to mentoring younger students, and sharing their love for AU with others. I am proud and pleased to call them our 2013 Outstanding Seniors.”

Her four years at Alfred University taught her to be a leader, said Larkins. When she arrived on campus as a freshman, “I tried to be very active and involved in extracurricular activities,” and that allowed her to hone her leadership skills. She was the student representative for the Class of 2013 Opportunity Program students. Being elected by her peers to represent them “meant a lot to me. It showed me that students from my class trust me and my judgment ...and were willing to allow me to be their voice.”

Larkins was captain of the women sprinters on the track team and helped to build the cadre of women sprinters who belong to the team. In her freshman year, Larkins was one of the only women sprinters, but each year, she recruited more. She tried to be a role model for the others in practice and in the classroom.

Larkins is a member of Phi Sigma Iota, the modern languages honor society, and of Phi Beta Kappa, a national honor society for liberal arts majors. She served on the advising committee for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and is a member of the AU Gospel group.

# AU ambassadors

Larkins has been a summer public relations intern with the Rochester (NY) Rhinos professional soccer team; an operations assistant with the Children’s Youth and Learning Initiative at Alfred University; a guest relations host at the Strong National Museum of Play in Rochester, NY; a camp counselor for the Community Place of Rochester, NY, and an entrepreneur at Art Peace in Rochester, NY.

“Alfred University is as much a part of me as I am of it, considering the mark that AU’s faculty, staff, and students have made on me,” said Miller, who is also the recipient of a State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence.

“When I host students overnight, take them on tours, or talk at fall or spring visit days, I always use the same word to describe Alfred: Community,” Miller added. “We make sure you are not just an athlete, bookworm or artist. The Alfred community takes you in and helps mold you into the person you want to be. Alfred gives you things you can’t measure – friends and a support system, a home away from home, career opportunities. I hope I’ve been able to give back to the Alfred community as much as it has given to me.”

Miller received the Scholes Award for the highest grade point average among

freshmen engineers and the 2012 Faculty Award for Outstanding ceramic engineering and materials science senior. He participated in Drawn to Diversity as a sophomore, creating a game that taught the pros and cons of hydrofracking. His project earned him a nomination for the Richard V. Bergren Student Innovation Award.

Involved with a number of campus organizations, Miller is a member of Tau Beta Pi, the national engineering honor society; an officer of Keramos, the ceramic engineering honor society; and president of Material Advantage, the materials science club. He has been a research assistant to Scott Misture, professor of materials science at Alfred University, and to John Olesik, director of the Trace Element Research Laboratory at Ohio State. He has been a summer research assistant at Corning Incorporated and at Owens Corning, and worked with the Alfred University Career Development Center as an engineering research assistant.

Captain of the men’s varsity soccer team, Miller is a member of the Newman Club and has participated in several community service events,



Jordyn Larkins '13

including a monthly soup kitchen. Through the AU Honors Program, he also did community service projects, including assistance to senior citizens on home maintenance tasks and a clean-up at Foster Lake. He has been an Honors Program “Big Brother” and a member of the Saxon Sidekicks peer mentoring program.

Along with a hand-crafted tile made by Wayne Higby, internationally acclaimed artist and professor of ceramic art in the School of Art & Design at AU, Larkins and Miller received \$5,000 in cash, thanks to an endowment created by Robert L. MacNeil Jr. of Wyndmoor, PA, a friend and business colleague of Marlin Miller, who is a 1954 alumnus of Alfred University as well as a member and former chairman of the Board of Trustees.

*“Jordyn and Sam are truly well-rounded, positive and successful students that the Marlin Miller award was established to honor.”*

**Kathy Woughter, AU vice president for Student Affairs**



An artist makes final adjustments to his sculpture in preparation for the MFA show in Fosdick Nelson Gallery.

Photo by David Lemmo '13

# AU News

**D I G E S T**

▶ This symbol indicates more to the story online.



## AU's MFA in ceramic art tops in nation

U.S. News and World Report has again ranked the Master of Fine Arts program in ceramic art at Alfred University tops in the nation as it has every time it has ranked graduate programs in fine arts. In its 2014 edition of "Best Graduate Schools," U.S. News says the Alfred program is number one in ceramic art, followed by Cranbrook Academy of Art and Rhode Island School of Design.

▶ [www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8052](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8052)



## Professor, collaborators earn \$750,000 for pioneering research in chemistry

Dr. Geoffrey Bowers, left, Alfred University assistant professor of chemistry, and his collaborators were awarded a \$750,000 grant from the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES), funding that will enable continuation of their research on molecular interactions for three more years.

▶ [www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8114](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8114)

## Pitching in for new softball field

Doris Harrington, former chairperson of the Alfred University Physical Education Department and an AU Athletics Hall of Fame inductee, threw out the first pitch at the University's new softball field April 19 for an AU-Houghton College doubleheader.

The facility, located adjacent to Merrill Field, has a two-story press box, home and visitor bullpens, spacious dugouts, and bleacher seating and meets requirements for hosting championship tournaments.

Harrington was instrumental in providing increased opportunities for women to participate in intercollegiate athletics at AU. Appointed a physical education instructor in 1961, eight years later she was named department chairperson. At that time, the University had very few opportunities for women students to compete in sports. Over the next decade, thanks to the efforts of Harrington and former athletics directors Paul Powers and Gene Castrovillo, that changed.

▶ [www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8189](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8189)



### Metals group finds winner of national scholarship at Alfred University

When it came time to present its top national scholarship – a \$15,000 award – the Ellwood Group, Incorporated, and (EGI) found itself in an unlikely location – the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering at Alfred University, a place internationally renowned for its work in ceramics and glass. But Stephen Rooney, (at left) a junior who is majoring in both materials science and art at Alfred University was clearly their top choice for their metallurgy scholarship and an internship at Ellwood Quality Steel this summer

[www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8012](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8012)

### Rick Stephens is new AU Provost

W. Richard Stephens Jr., who is currently provost at Catawba College in Salisbury, NC, will join the administrative team at Alfred University as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, effective July 1.

Stephens will succeed William F. Hall, who is retiring after 33 years at Alfred University, where he has been provost and academic vice president for the past three years.

As a sociologist, Stephens said he's accustomed to listening to people, to learning their stories, and that's what his Day 1 agenda will be at AU.

[www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8270](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8270)



Photo by Leo Nealon

### Courage Bowl date at St. John Fisher highlights 2013 AU football schedule

Alfred University announces its 2013 schedule, which includes six home games and is highlighted by a regular season-ending matchup at St. John Fisher in the ninth annual Courage Bowl.

The Courage Bowl benefits Rochester-based Camp Good Days and Special Times. It has been contested eight times prior to this season, and had always pitted St. John Fisher and the University of Rochester.

Last year's Courage Bowl was the last between those two teams. Fisher will host Alfred, its Empire 8 Conference rival, in Courage Bowl IX on Nov. 16 at 1 p.m. Future Courage Bowl games will feature Fisher against Brockport State, which joins the Empire 8 Conference in 2014.



[www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8046](http://www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8046)

# AU Class Notes

S P R I N G 2 0 1 3

## 1942 Golden Saxons

**Alan Williams** writes, "I am still active and of my eight 'grands,' three are presently in Georgia and South Carolina colleges. None would consider a Yankee school like Alfred! My sons were all in KA (Kappa Alpha) frat and I guess that is as near to my KA (Klan Alpine) they could aspire to. Hail to thee Alfred."

## 1943 Golden Saxons

**Mrs. Evelyn Stevens Gorman**  
165 Verde Valley School Road #35  
Sedona, AZ 86351-9026  
warevego@sedona.net

**Class Correspondent Evelyn Gorman** writes: "Good friend, **Isabel Riggs Geibel**, phones us frequently from Del Norte, CO, where she lives solo in a small home close to her relatives. She keeps quite well, and enjoys TV and a quietly active social life. Following her service in the U.S. Marine Corps, Isabel has maintained a lifelong association with the Marine Corps league, the V.F.W. auxiliary and the American Legion.

"**J. David Broudo**, our distinguished, perpetual painter and inspired ceramist classmate, was a participant in a special exhibition (from October to December 2012) at the International Museum of Ceramic Art at AU. David's contribution was a 1987 stoneware bowl, which is part of a permanent collection at the Museum. His talent and versatility have won him many top awards, and international recognition. Congratulations from all of us, David!

"**George Jones** has been a loyal correspondent for many years. He and his wife Claire, keep remarkably well and active. Last year they discovered the Great Courses college level lectures on DVD. He uses his knowledge of French, German, and Flemish to write friends and family in Europe.

"**Col. Larry March '45** and his wife Eddie remain two of our dearest friends, although they live almost a continent away, and I never knew Larry when we were students at AU. A bond has developed between Larry and my husband Warren as they are both WWII vets with B-24 Liberator bomber experience. Currently, both Larry and Eddie are maintaining quite well, and live in Seminole, FL.

"At 91, ye olde class of '43 correspondent asks that all of you 1943 graduates who can do so, please call me at 928.284.1139, email me, or drop me a few lines. Hearing from you would really gladden my heart, and be appreciated by our outstanding class. Reminiscences, amusing anecdotes, special memories, etc., all make a good read. We look forward to hearing from you."

## 1946 Golden Saxons

**Mrs. Wilma White Albert**  
12100 Chancellors Village Lane  
Apt. 1211  
Fredericksburg, VA 22407  
albert4008@hotmail.com

## 1947 Golden Saxons

**Yutaka Kobayashi** gave a presentation at Boston College Feb. 12, 2013 as part of the Japan Club of Boston College's Day of Remembrance, an event commemorating and spreading awareness of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Yutaka spoke to students about his own experiences being interned in camps in Utah and California at the age of 17 until he was given an opportunity through the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council to attend Alfred University on a scholarship.

## Reunion 2014

**Mark your calendars for  
June 6-8, 2014!**

with a special invitation  
extended to – Alfred's  
Golden Saxons (anyone  
who graduated in 1963 or  
earlier) and the classes of:  
1964, 1969, 1974, 1979,  
1984, 1989, 1994, 1999,  
2004, and 2009.

Check  
[www.alfred.edu/alumni](http://www.alfred.edu/alumni)  
for updates or contact the  
Alumni Relations Office at  
607-871-2144 or email:  
alumni@alfred.edu

## 1948 Golden Saxons

**Dr. Donald B. Polan**  
 206 1/2 South Ridgewood Avenue  
 Deland, FL 32720  
 Ph: 386.736.0982  
 seabeedbp@cfl.rr.com

## 1949 Golden Saxons

**Ms. Willa Wright**  
 2313 County Highway 22  
 Richfield Springs, NY 13439-2717  
 Ph: 315.292.1129

## 1950 Golden Saxons

**Dr. Herbert L. MacDonell**  
 PO Box 1111  
 Corning, NY 14830  
 forensiclab@stny.rr.com

**David Crump** writes: "I finally retired at 80. We still travel. Just returned from Indonesia - saw a few of its 15,000 islands. We've been in 55 countries. Our favorite is Italy, where we lived for six weeks. Twice! I do oil painting, enjoy it, and have many canvasses. Was told by a gallery guy recently that he would list a number of them at \$1,000 (boy was I surprised). A year ago, we bought a 5.5-acre orchard in Ojai, CA having a good house on it. Our son manages the avocado and citrus crops. We drive down once a month."

## 1951 Golden Saxons

**Mr. George E. Crouchley, Jr.**  
 PO Box 113  
 390 Hunner Road  
 Pasadena, MD 21123-0113  
 kevin.crouchley@navy.mil

## 1952 Golden Saxons

**Mr. Frank F. Bredell**  
 1617 Mayflower Avenue  
 Lincoln Park, MI 48146  
 fbredell@sbcglobal.net

**William B. McClurg** of Venice, FL died Feb. 6, 2013. William was a dedicated brother of the Delta Sigma fraternity and graduated cum laude from the University.

**Yung Tao**, age 85, died Feb. 16, 2013. While at Alfred, he met his wife Grace and they married on Sept. 5, 1953. After jobs at North American Refractories, Sylvania Electric, and Westinghouse Electric, Yung went to Texas Instruments, Dallas, TX. As manager and chief product engineer of hermetic seals and header development, he was instrumental in developing technologies needed to produce the first circuit assemblies. In 1971, the family moved to San Diego, where he became vice president of Dielectric Systems and subsequently, a founding partner of Ceramic Systems, where he served as vice president and later president. At these companies, Yung developed important new technologies for the rapidly advancing semiconductor industry. He spent the final few years of his career at Amdahl Corp., doing design and development of mainframe computers.

Yung was the patriarch of the family and worked ceaselessly to bring the family together and provide for

everyone's futures, including sponsoring his nieces and their families, plus four other Chinese students into the United States. In his later years he lived a quiet life tending his koi pond at his home in University City. Yung is survived by his wife Grace; daughter Janet (Mike Rapozo); sons Andy (Jeanne Beesley) and Peter (Jenny Chen); and granddaughter Aimee.

Yung's son Andy writes: "My dad was in the class of '52 and a proud alum. He started a scholarship fund at Alfred (which has awarded approximately \$100,000 to date) and worked with Amy (Jacobson) to help the University. He wore his class ring 'til the day he died."

**Allen Baxter** writes, "I've found that college never hurt anyone, as long as you learned something useful afterwards."

## 1953 Golden Saxons

**Mrs. Carol Dunham Sheets**  
 Four Quail Roost Road  
 Lake Placid, FL 33852-6731  
 caroldsheets@gmail.com

**Charles and Nancy Williams** write, "We continue our February birding

## Keep us posted

Keep your Alfred University Family in your life. Make sure to let us know of all your family **activities**, professional **moves** and **achievements**, personal **accomplishments**, and entertaining **photos!**

You can reach us in numerous ways:

 **Facebook**

 **Twitter**

 **Email** – news and photos to clarkd@alfred.edu

 **Snail Mail** – mail news and photos to Debbie Clark, Acting Director of Communications, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802

**Class Correspondent** – name, address and email may be found by looking under your class year here in the Class Notes section



Actor and AU trustee Bill Pullman AU H'11, center, welcomed alums to his California home in April 2013. Among the guests were AU trustees Joel Moskowitz '69, left, and Peter Cuneo '66, right.

trips to Central and/or South America. Charles has just published a book 'Glass Cutters with a Brief History of Flat Glass.' It is a compilation of 1,400 different glass cutters collected over the past 35 years."

### 1954 Golden Saxons

**Mrs. Dee Michaels Levine**  
 21 Hewitt Boulevard  
 Center Moriches, NY 11934  
 dionne12933@optonline.net

### 1955 Golden Saxons

**Mr. Richard "Dick" A. Phillips**  
 Eight Ridge Lake Drive  
 Manning, SC 29102  
 Ph: 803.478.7873  
 rphill291022@gmail.com

**George Graine** writes, "It is I, George Graine from Falls Church, VA. Gwen and I thoroughly enjoyed looking at your Christmas card. The snowy hill leading up to Alumni Hall really brought back fond wintry memories. (Thank goodness for heated sidewalks.) As an alum ('55BA/'56MA and Gwen's '58BFA) the photo looks just like we remember it so very long ago. Gwen is still working and experimenting with collage at the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Old Town Alexandria. I'm still Master Gardening

(MG) big-time and represent Fairfax County (250 certified MGs) to the state association. I celebrated my silver anniversary as a MG this year. I also keep busy writing a (9x/yr) column for a gardening magazine and always contribute a piece to the state MG newsletter. Gwen recently launched a new website, [www.graineart.com](http://www.graineart.com), where she shares her mixed media and painted paper art. She was also recently featured on the website for the Torpedo Factory Art Center at [www.torpedofactory.org](http://www.torpedofactory.org).

### 1956 Golden Saxons

**Mr. Douglas E. Wilson**  
 671 Walnut Drive  
 Manheim, PA 17545  
 dewcaw@dejazzd.com

**Robert Littell** has published a new spy novel titled "Young Philby." The story is based on the career of real-life Soviet spy Harold Adrian Russell "Kim" Philby, chronicled through accounts of Philby by friends and colleagues, and suggests that the spy may have been loyal to Britain all along. The book was published by Thomas Dunne Books, a division of St. Martin's Press, and is available for sale online and from selected book retailers.

### 1957 Golden Saxons

**Mr. Robert H. Tompkins**  
 3124 Parkside Lane  
 Williamsburg, VA 23185

#### Class Correspondent Bob Tompkins

notes he is the contact for the classes of 1957 and 1958. He welcomes and encourages alumni to submit any kind of Class Note.

**Janice King** died Jan. 26, 2013. She was a member of the Sigma Chi Nu Sorority during her years at AU and was tapped for the Phi Sigma Gamma national honorary fraternity for outstanding women on campus.

### 1958 Golden Saxons

**Mr. Elliott Lasky**  
 Six Mele Avenue  
 Colmar, PA 18915

### 1959 Golden Saxons

**Ms. Elissa Finelli-Cerone**  
 15003 Valley Heart Drive  
 Sherman Oaks, CA 91403  
 xors1@sbcglobal.net

**Grace Bentley-Scheck** was a featured artist on the printmaking blog "The Old Print Gallery" for her work in collograph. She lives and works as a studio artist in Narragansett, RI. Grace is also a member of the Society of American Graphic Artists, Florida Printmakers, and the Wickford Art Association. She has been featured in publications such as "American Artist Magazine."

**Barbara Korman** presented a solo exhibition, "Revisionist Landscapes," at the Madelyn Jordan Fine Art Gallery in Scarsdale, NY. The exhibition combined landscape photographs with salvaged branches, experimenting with space and issues of illusion and reality. Barbara is a sculptor and designer living and working in New York City,

where she operates a studio focusing on three-dimensional constructions and installations. She has been named a "StyleMaker" by the *New York Times* and included in both Foremost Women of the 20th Century and Who's Who in America lists.

*1960 Golden Saxons*

**Ms. Hilda Frischman Schulkind**  
 Six Barnett Place  
 East Northport, NY 11731  
 bigaich@aol.com

*1961 Golden Saxons*

**Dr. Richard H. Gross**  
 612 Oak Marsh Drive  
 Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464  
 grossr@musc.edu

The American Ceramic Society (ACerS) announced three new Distinguished Life Members for 2012, among them **Joel P. Moskowitz**, University trustee. The Distinguished Life Member Award is the highest honor accorded members of the scientific and technical organization. The award is given in recognition of an individual's eminent contribution to the ceramic and glass profession.

Ceramic engineer-turned artist **Bette Blank** gave a talk, "Domesticity in the Art of Women Then and Now," along with the curators of "Mary Cassatt Prints: In the Company of Women," (at the Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University) Like Cassatt, Bette draws inspiration from the everyday life of middle class women. Her paintings depict the world of the home, consumer culture, and include the most visible women of our era. Bette's paintings are in the permanent collection of The Jewish Museum, New York, as well in numerous other museums and private collections. She shows through the Adam Baumgold Gallery, New York.

*1962 Golden Saxons*

**Mrs. Maxine Neustadt Lurie**  
 Six Rye Street  
 Piscataway, NJ 08854  
 maxine.lurie@shu.edu

*1963 Golden Saxons*

**Mr. Richard P. Widdicombe**  
 1711 Sherman Drive  
 Utica, NY 13501-5839  
 Ph: (315) 749-8528  
 richard@widdicombe.com

Seventeen AU alumni participated in the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) 2013 Conference, March 20-23 in Houston, TX. Presenters and demonstrating artists included **Don Reitz '63**, nationally recognized artist who has his work featured in the Smithsonian Institute and American Museum of Ceramic Art; **Cynthia Bringle '64**, a North Carolina-based studio potter and workshop leader; **Doug Casebeer '82**, artistic director for ceramics, wood, and sculpture, Anderson Ranch Arts Center; **Steven Heinemann '83**, Canadian studio artist and 1996 recipient of the Saidye Bronfman Award, Canada's highest honor in contemporary art; **Bobby Silverman '83**, New York City-based artist and designer and founder of Alsio Design; **Steve Loucks '85**, studio potter and professor, Jacksonville State University and three-time host of the Alabama Clay Conference; **Walter McConnell '86**, professor of ceramic art at AU; **Peter Beasecker '87**, professor at Syracuse University's College of Visual and Performing Arts; **Jim Gubernick '89**, ceramic artist and lab services coordinator and research safety officer, University of Minnesota; **Mary Louise Carter '93**; **Kristen Kieffer '95**, Massachusetts-based studio potter, workshop leader, and ceramics instructor; **Brian R. Jones '01**, studio artist living and working in Portland, OR; **Gerit Grimm '04**,

assistant professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison; **Linda Swanson '05**, professor at Concordia University, Montreal, Canada; **Shawn Spangler '06**, visiting assistant professor, Western Illinois University; **Lauren Gallaspy '07**, assistant professor of ceramics, University of Utah; and **Paul Donnelly '08**, Kansas City-based studio potter who teaches in the ceramics department at the Kansas City Art Institute.

*1964 Reunion Year!*

**Mrs. Elaine Torkildsen Jermansen**  
 25 Pheasant Hill Drive  
 Far Hills, NJ 07931  
 Ph: 908.766.7618  
 elaine\_jermansen@yahoo.com

**Mrs. Ruth Reeve Gau**  
 29 Fair Way  
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5033  
 nisky1960@yahoo.com

**Michael A. Kaplan** was listed as a top personal injury attorney in San Diego County in San Diego Magazine's annual March 2013 listing. He has been practicing law in San Diego for more than 30 years, with offices in University City and Del Mar. Michael is also an ardent tennis player, placing second in San Diego's Senior Olympics in tennis, and musician, having been a drummer for five local bands throughout the years.



Michael Kaplan '64

*1965*

**Mrs. Janet Seamon Pitt**  
 4164 Capistrano Avenue  
 Las Cruces, NM 88011  
 jpittchacha@comcast.net

## 1966

**Ms. Joan Diamond Silver**  
 905 Palmer Avenue C-1  
 Mamaroneck, NY 10543  
 Ph: 914.381.5831  
 joan\_silver@fujifilm.com

**Bob Benmosche**, CEO of AIG, was featured in an article in *New York Magazine* for his work with the company. Bob came out of retirement to take over as CEO of the company after its financial crisis and subsequent government bailout. (See page 29)

**David Perlstein**, author of *SLICK!*, won acclaim when Kirkus Review placed his work on its list, 2012's Top 25 Indy Books. Following retirement from life as a freelance advertisement copywriter David is finding success in his avocation – writing serious circumstances into enjoyably eye-opening fiction. *SLICK!*, written and independently published by Perlstein makes satire out of a serious subject, volatility in the Middle East. David is working on his latest book, "SAN CAFÉ," another geopolitical satire, this one based in Central America.

## 1967

**Mr. Gary E. Shapiro**  
 Six Livengood Court  
 Woodbury, NY 11797  
 shapgary@optonline.net

**James Egler** of Stonington, CT died Feb. 5, 2013. A former AU football player who was named to the 1966 Division III All American Football Team, he was a member of the Saxon Athletic Club Sports Hall of Fame. After

graduation, Jim was employed with Pfizer, Inc. in Groton, CT as a research scientist for more than 30 years.

**Lester Friedman** was quoted in an article in *The New Jersey Jewish Standard* on Spielberg's film "Lincoln" about how the movie reflects the director's Jewish upbringing. Lester is a professor of media and society at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, and a scholar in the field of Jewish representation in the American film industry, having published several books on the subject.

**Richard Kellogg** recently published a children's book titled "Barry Baskerville Solves a Case," a story about a young boy who wants to be just like his hero, detective Sherlock Holmes. The book was published through Airship 27 Productions. Kellogg, professor emeritus of psychology at Alfred State College, is the author of three books about Sherlock Holmes and has received grants from the SUNY Research Foundation to develop teaching materials on the Sherlockian methods of problem solving.

## 1968

**Mr. Peter L. Williams**  
 24 Woburn Abbey Drive  
 Bedford, NH 03110  
 cpmm24@comcast.net

**Judy Olson Gregory** has earned a unique reputation for her "tea bag art," three-dimensional constructions and installations that she creates using empty tea bags. She owns and operates studios in New York and North Carolina, creating cast-paper and found-object art

including her tea bag projects. She lives in Davidson, NC with husband, Fred, also a member of the AU Class of 1968.

**Michelle Murphy** presented her poetry at The Wild Side, a poetry reading and performance held at Ashawagh Hall in East Hampton, NY.

## 1969 Reunion Year!

**Dr. William E. Snowden**  
 7120 Laketree Drive  
 Fairfax Station, VA 22039  
 wsnowden@sysplan.com

**Mr. James L. Higerd**  
 30529 Cobb Road  
 Evergreen, CO 80439-7108  
 jhigerd@mkainc.com

**Bob Friend** received the 2013 Photo Marketing Association Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to the photo imaging industry. Bob is the executive vice president and general manager for District Photo Inc. in Beltsville, MD, where he has worked for 35 years, helping to develop the company into one of the largest fulfillers of image-related products in the world.

## 1970

**Mr. Peter L. Immordino**  
 2040 South Fitch Mountain Road  
 Healdsburg, CA 95448  
 Ph: 707.433.9380  
 Fx: 707.433.4471  
 peter@sonomatilemakers.com

**Jim Nelson** and **Bill Rice '78** returned to the University campus April 4, 2013 to share their knowledge - first during an engineering undergraduate seminar, and then with students in Prof. Frank Duserick's Family Business Management course (see photo facing page). They also joined a group of engineering students for a luncheon roundtable.

.....• You can look up friends, update your contact information and connect with friends at [alumni.alfred.edu](http://alumni.alfred.edu)

A U C O N N E C T I O N S **online**

## 1971

**Mrs. Cathy Clarke Baumgarten**  
 114 Kathleen Drive West  
 Syosset, NY 11791  
 musicklover@gmail.com

**Stan Schneider** was named the "Go-To" Criminal Defense Lawyer in Texas by Texas Lawyer Magazine. The award is presented every five years. Stan is currently a partner at Schneider & McKinney P.C. in Houston, TX, where he works in criminal and criminal appellate law.

**Donald Barber** was a presenter for "Our Energy Future," a public forum on conservation and renewable energy. Don operates a 65-acre farm in Van Etten, NY and is serving his eighth term as supervisor of the Town of Caroline, which was the second New York State municipality to purchase 100 percent of its electricity from renewable resources.

**Brigadier General and AU trustee Robert Stephens** gave a talk at the Ben Hill United Methodist Church, Atlanta, GA service as part of the Veterans Ministry program. Robert retired from the U.S. Army in 1993 and most recently served as the vice president of external relations and executive assistant to the president at Clayton State University.

## 1972

**Mrs. Audrey Camann Pfohl**  
 10070 South Kingston Court  
 Highlands Ranch, CO 80130  
 doradoajp@comcast.net

**Joe Pellicciotti** is vice chancellor for administration and professor of public and environmental affairs at Indiana University Northwest in Gary, IN.

**Ross Pakula** and wife Karen became the proud grandparents of twin girls, Addison and Charlotte on May 15, 2012 (parents are Adam and Lauren



In March 2013, alums Jim Nelson '70 (at right) and Bill Rice '78 (center) visited professor Frank Duserick's Family Business Management class and conducted a lively discussion of leadership and business ethics.

Pakula). They are "almost 1 year old and ready for their first blowout birthday bash.. just beginning to walk., cute as buttons!"

**Warren Wolf** will receive the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association Lawyer of the Year Award in San Antonio, TX in June. Warren recently argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court, and that result is also due in June. The case challenges the conviction of Texas death row inmate Carlos Trevino, whom Warren argues did not receive fair representation by the attorney in his original case.

## 1973

**Mr. Steven A. Reichman**  
 35 Jay's Corner  
 Somerset, NJ 08873  
 sarcic@comcast.net

**Benjamin Ostrer** was installed as the 26th president of The NYS Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, New York's largest Bar Association. Benjamin is a partner in the Chester firm of Ostrer & Hoover P.C.

**Todd Flaherty** was honored as a Syracuse University 2012 Letterwinner of Distinction at a banquet last October. He is president and CEO of the College Crusade of Rhode Island, a college readiness-access program serving the state's poorest urban communities.

## 1974 Reunion Year!

**Pam Cabanas** curated the first invitational art exhibit at Bartlett Woods in Rockland, ME. She also gave a talk titled "Life as Image," the first in a series of artist talks in conjunction with the exhibit.

**Eileen Goldberg** has been displaying her art at craft shows and fairs across the country. She attended Dogfest, a

dog show and festival at Duboce Park in San Francisco, CA, as well as the American Crafts Council Show in St. Paul, MN. She was at the Saratoga Rotary Show in Saratoga, NY and the Live Oak Park Fair in Berkeley, CA. Goldberg was also featured in the April issue of American Craft Magazine.

## 1975

**Mrs. Janice Brewer Smith**  
778 Klem Road  
Webster, NY 14580  
jsmith78@rochester.rr.com

**Dave Blakeslee** presented "The Potter's Talk," a talk on God's character enacted through the metaphor of a potter, at Calvary Chapel in Silver City, NM. Dave is a professional studio potter living and working in Salida, CO and recently retired after 20 years of service as pastor of the Salida Vineyard in Colorado.

**Bruce Ferguson** is president of Underwriters Safety and Claims Inc., a company providing claims administration, risk management, and insurance-brokerage services in the Louisville, KY area.

**Wayne Rosenfeld** is a psychologist in the Emergency Department and in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, CT. He is also in his third year as a member of the Norwich Ethics Commission in Norwich, CT and is treasurer for the Radio Amateur Society of Norwich.

**David Lamb** died in Spokane, WA March 14, 2013 after battling cancer. Lamb, nicknamed "Chops" during his time at AU for his sideburns and mustache, earned a bachelor's degree in biology from AU and a master's in environmental science and limnology from Washington State University. He married Michele Fevrier from Cherbourg, France on Aug. 24, 1985 in Spokane.

He went on to have a successful career as an ecologist serving as Lakewater Ecologist for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe in Plummer, ID and the consultant on weed control for the Sacheen Lake Residents' Association. David was a member of the Folklore Society in Spokane, where he met his wife, played the fiddle and drums, and was an active scuba diver. He is survived by Michele; son, Christopher; brother, William; sister, Elizabeth; mother, Barbara; and niece and nephew, Alison and Robert. In making a gift to The Alfred Fund in Lamb's memory, classmate Roger Sandwick wrote, "I give my donation in the name of David "Chops" Lamb, Class of '75, a remarkable individual and someone who epitomizes the Alfred student. Outwardly, he was the consummate 'fun' individual, constantly smiling and always craving to face new adventures. For those who knew him, he was a deep thinking, dedicated friend who was always there to comfort you in those times of need. I will miss him greatly."

## 1977

**Mr. Gerard J. Nealon**  
1762 Rosemont Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808-1351  
entropy234@aol.com

**Joseph Hughes** writes, "Cindy and I became grandparents in October 2012."

**John Margeson** stepped down this spring from his post as Allegany County (NY) administrator, which he held for 21 years. John worked for county government since his graduation from AU, serving as a probation officer and administrative assistant to the chairman of the board before his first appointment as administrator in 1992.

**William Pulos** earned the AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the organization's highest possible rating for ethical standards and legal ability, for the second year

running. As a result of this honor, American Registry LLC has named him to The Registry of Business and Professional Excellence.

## 1978

**Mrs. Mary Liebel Shaddock**  
34 Golf Avenue  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
maryshaddock@aol.com

**Victoria Ackley Larson** died Feb. 8, 2013. She was the beloved wife of Reed Larson, AU Class of 1977, mother of 14-year-old son Andrew, and sister of AU alumni Gwendolyn Kolomick and Ellen Richman. She grew up in Bethpage, Long Island, and lived



The late Vicki Larson

in Pittsburgh, San Diego, and Erie, PA before returning to Long Island. Vicki was founder and president of Ackley Home Health Services of San Diego, and upon returning to Long Island, she continued her nursing career as a nursing supervisor at Eastern Long Island Hospital in Greenport.

She maintained a close relationship with Alfred University, hosting multiple alumni parties in San Diego as well as serving as a trustee from 1995-98. Most recently, she was in attendance at an impromptu Class of '78 reunion in August 2012 at Mackenzie Child in Aurora, NY along with **Johanna Byrne Elliot**, Kate Shroeder Bruce, and **Mary Liebel Shaddock**.

Vicki had a lifelong love of the beach and sailing, and she was a 27-year member of the Southwestern Yacht Club in San Diego. She was also active in her community in the East End of Long Island as a member of the Southold Yacht Club and as a Boy Scout Leader of Southold Troop 6. Vicki will always be

remembered by her friends and family for her endless smile and laughter, her generosity, and as being one of the original "Brick Chicks."

**Annabeth Rosen** had a solo exhibition, "Nature-Morphic," featured at Humboldt State University's First Street Gallery in Eureka, CA. Annabeth, who has had her work featured in galleries all over the world, is a professor at the University of California-Davis, where she holds the Robert Arneson Endowed Chair in Ceramic Sculpture.

**Ron Sofu** is CEO/Principal of City Charter High School in Pittsburgh, PA,.

**Sylvia LaMar** was appointed a judge for New Mexico's 1st Judicial District, covering Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Los Alamos counties. Sylvia has been practicing law in New Mexico since 1983 and is a personal injury and family law attorney operating a private practice in Santa Fe.

## 1979 Reunion Year!

**Mrs. Kate Hamlin-Wehrle**  
**12558 Campbell's Point Drive**  
**Sackets Harbor, NY 13685**  
**katewehrle@gmail.com**

Class Correspondent **Kate Hamlin Wehrle** writes: "Hi everyone, I haven't heard from anyone in a while. Please let the rest of the class know what you are up to. Very sorry to report the passing of my dear friend and fellow classmate - **Steven Louis Gressani**, of Saratoga Springs, NY, died Dec. 12, 2012. A native of Syracuse, NY, Steve also lived and worked in Poughkeepsie, NY; Burlington, VT; San Jose, CA; Portland, ME; and Dresden, Germany. Steve was an expert photolithography engineer with more than 33 years' experience. His long tenure in this industry included assignments at IBM in East Fishkill, NY, where he was a development engineer, and at IBM in Essex Junction, VT, where

he was a technical program manager. In addition, he was principal engineer at National Semiconductor at Santa Clara, CA; equipment engineering manager in South Portland, ME; and a member of the technical staff at Global Foundries in Dresden, Germany, and Malta, NY. Most recently, he was a G450C equipment engineer at the University at Albany, NY, College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering.

"Steve, a Six Sigma Green Belt, completed graduate studies in material science at Rutgers University and held a bachelor's of science degree in ceramic engineering from AU.

"Steve was the most wonderful father, loving son, thoughtful brother, fun uncle and genuine friend. He was exuberant about life, loved to dance, listen to music and take long walks on the beach or in the woods, especially with his daughter Kelsey and his dog Jewel. He enjoyed riding motorcycles, scuba diving, 'deer hunting' (falling asleep against a big rock waiting for the sunrise in the freezing cold), and traveling. Steve touched the lives of so many people who not only became his good friends but his family as well.

"Steve is survived by his daughter, Kelsey Gressani; his mother, Patricia Gebhardt; his father, Humbert Gressani; his stepfather, Wesley Gebhardt; his stepmother, Anne Marie Gressani; his sister, Cheryl Gressani (Randall Korman); brothers, James Gebhardt (Beth Gebhardt) and Scott Gebhardt (Patty Gebhardt); nephews and nieces, Alexander Korman, and Emily, Grace, Jack, Grant and Christian Gebhardt; and many cousins."

Kate did hear from **Carl S. Dziekan**, who says he has just retired from teaching accounting for 30 years at Utica College of Syracuse University (SU) and continues to practice law as a partner of Steates Rimmell Steates &

Dziekan in Utica. He ran into classmate **Dean Thomas** at an SU basketball game and enjoyed catching up on where all the Klan Alpine and Delta Sig brothers are these days.

## 1980

**Mr. Mark J. Brostoff**  
**7009 Stanford Avenue**  
**University City, MO 63130**  
**brostoff@wustl.edu**

**Chris Staley** is a professor of the ceramic arts at Penn State University and is the Penn State Laureate. In addition to teaching, Chris is an active ceramic artist. He has received several grants from the National Endowment of the Arts and the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, and his work has been included in the Smithsonian Institution's Renwick Gallery of the National Museum of Art and the Victoria & Albert Museum, London.

**Joe Mooney** completed a permanent sculpture installation at the Phillip Berman Museum at Ursinus College, Colledgeville, PA.

## 1981

**Mr. William G. Leverence**  
**Four Secor Road**  
**Brookfield, CT 06804**  
**hevylevy2@yahoo.com**

**Lora Lefebvre** was appointed SUNY associate vice chancellor for health affairs. She is responsible for the Office of Academic Health and Hospital Affairs at SUNY System Administration.

**Gary Kuch** is director of the Clark Foundation Scholarship Program. The foundation provides scholarship funding for Otsego, NY-area students to attend post-secondary educational institutions nationwide.

## 1982

**Mrs. Linda Unrath Anderson**  
**3651 Ruskin Avenue**  
**Freemont, CA 94536**  
**lluande1@aol.com**

**Tim DeJong** owns and operates his own glassblowing studio and gallery, Wimberley Glassworks, in the heart of Texas Hill Country. He opened the studio in 1991 and has developed it from a small shop into a premier art glass and custom lighting studio in the Southwest, offering visitors the opportunity to observe and learn about the craftsmanship of glassblowing in addition to viewing and shopping for pieces on display in the gallery.

**Jeff Alexander** was the 2012 inductee to the Label Printing Industries of America Hall of Fame. He has 27 years in the printing industry working for the Flint Group, one of the world's largest printing and packaging suppliers, holding various key sales and management positions across North America.

## 1983

**Mrs. Jodi Innocent Hirsch**  
**118 Pentire Circle**  
**Iowa City, IA**  
**jodikhirsch@gmail.com**

## 1984 *Reunion Year!*

**Mrs. Judi Lewandowski Brayer**  
**1249 West Clinton Street**  
**Elmira, NY 14905**  
**jbrayer@mansfield.edu**

**Richard Dolan** spoke this spring at The Citizens Hearing on Disclosure at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. Richard is a historian, author and television personality studying the destruction of political liberties as a result of the extraterrestrial truth embargo. He teaches an online course on UFOlogy for the International

Metaphysical University. Richard lives in Rochester, NY with his wife, Karyn, and their two children.



Dan Bates '84

secondary school that competes in Section V and the Rochester City Athletic Conference. Dan is entering his 30th year of teaching, coaching, and serves on the faculty as a health, physical education, and U.S. History teacher. Dan can be reached at [dbates@mcquaid.org](mailto:dbates@mcquaid.org)

**Amanda Parry-Oglesbee** opened a solo show, "Foliage," this spring at the Damiani Wine Cellars in Burdett, NY. The show features a series of limited-edition prints.

## 1985

**Mrs. Margot Ferrari Fry**  
**413 Grenham Road**  
**Greensboro, NC 27455**  
**nchomefrys@aol.com**

**Gary Erickson** was a visiting artist at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks Department of Art and Design, giving presentations and demonstrations. Gary is a ceramics teacher at Macalester College, St. Paul, MN.

**Lucy Fagella** is a full-time studio potter crafting handmade functional pottery and cremation urns, including

a unique line of biodegradable urns for "Green Burial." She also offers pottery classes out of her Greenfield, MA studio. Her work is on display in galleries across the country, and she has been featured in a number of trade publications. Lucy is also the mother of two teenage sons.

**Virginia Scotchie**, professor of art and head of ceramics at the University of South Carolina, was guest curator for "Denature Nature" at the Scripps College (Claremont, CA) Ceramics Annual, Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery. She also gave the opening day lecture. Virginia's work is exhibited widely throughout the United States and internationally, including at Alfred University; the Asheville Museum of Art, North Carolina; Kruithuis Museums' Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands; and the Yingee Ceramic Museum, Taipei, Taiwan. She has also lectured internationally on her work and been an artist in residence in Taiwan, Italy, Australia, and the Netherlands, and she is a recipient of awards including the Sydney Meyer Fund International Ceramics Premiere Award from the Shepparton Museum in Victoria, Australia.

## 1986

**Mrs. Catherine Riscili Staszewski**  
**2238 West County Route 850**  
**North**  
**West Lafayette, IN 47906-9646**  
**jcstasz@gmail.com**

## 1987

**Mrs. Susan McDonald Gould**  
**35 Carriage Court**  
**Pittsford, NY 14534-4031**  
**sgouldroc@gmail.com**

• You can access and view Bergren Forums, seminars and lectures at [our.alfred.edu/index.cfm/fuseaction/video.home.cfm](http://our.alfred.edu/index.cfm/fuseaction/video.home.cfm)

A U C O N N E C T I O N S **online**

**Peter Beasecker** demonstrated at the 26th annual North Carolina Potters' Conference in March in Asheboro, NC. Peter works as a studio potter, concentrating on "carriers," dark stoneware vessels that contain numerous porcelain cups or bowls.

**Kevin Orr**, Board of Adjustment chairman for Bernards Township, NJ, has joined the race for Township Committeeman. Kevin has lived in the township since 2002, serving on both the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board since 2006 and serving as chairman for five consecutive years. He also coaches and manages Little League teams and runs his own law practice as a litigator and trial attorney.

**Christopher Suozzi** was inducted into the Genesee (Batavia, NY) Community College (GCC) Hall of Fame. A 1984 alumnus of the college, Christopher works as vice president of business development for the Genesee County Economic Development Center.

## 1988

**Mrs. Kara Mackey-Dopman**  
11 Briar Lane  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
kmdopman@aol.com

**Kara Mackey Dopman** is an environmental engineer for the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering at the SUNY Albany, NY.

**Matthew Paul** won Best in Show for his graphite drawing "Incogneato #1 (The Lady)" at the Lake Placid Center for the Arts' February 2013 juried show "Black and White Juried Art Show: A Showcase of Regional Artists." Matthew lives and works in Saranac Lake, NY, where he is the production coordinator for Adirondack Life magazine in addition to his studio work in graphite and digital drawing.

**Joseph Sapienza** died Sept. 3, 2011. His wife, Cynthia Herendeen, also of the Class of '88, writes, "Joe and I met and fell in love in Alfred, marrying in 1991. We celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary just days before his death. Alfred holds so many memories for me. Our Alfred experience was great. It gave us so much more than our degrees. It gave us lifelong friendships, memories, and love. Alfred remains cherished to me."

## 1989 Reunion Year!

**Mr. R. Geoffrey Byrne, Jr.**  
1239 Wylie Street NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
gbyrne@gds.org

**Mrs. Stephanie Niles Conroy**  
1265 Lake Summerset Road  
Davis, IL 61019-9653  
johnstef70@peoplepc.com

**Dan Marvin** published his third book, "Dan Marvin's Change of Briefs," a compilation of 108 short works of fiction. It is a follow-up to his 2008 book "Briefs for the Reading Room." Dan is a well-known writer of "flash fiction," short fictional stories of less than 1,000 words, and his work has been featured in a number of e-zines and Internet publications. Both are available for sale on Amazon.com and on his own website, danmarvin.net.

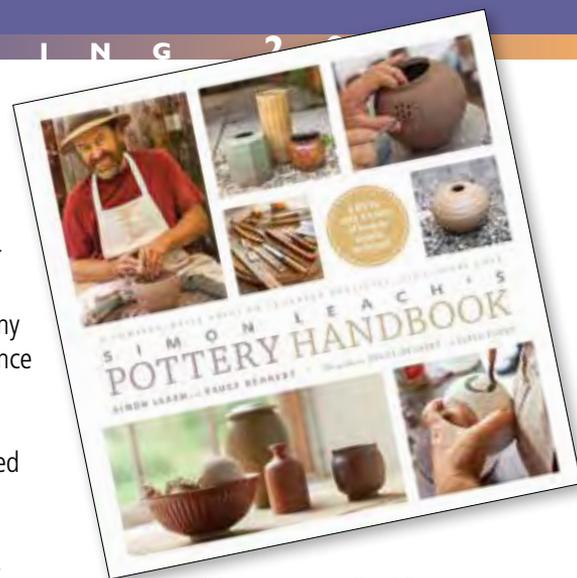
## 1990

**Dr. Andrew T. Weller**  
10731 Rosewood Lane  
Clarence, NY 14031-2325

## 1991

**Mrs. Karen Schrader Greabell**  
Ten Elm Road  
Kings Park, NY 11754  
klgreabell@me.com

**Bruce Dehnert** published "Simon Leach's Pottery Handbook," on Simon



"The Pottery Handbook" was published by Bruce Dehnert '91.

Leach, grandson of noted 20th century British potter Bernard Leach. The book, published through Abrams Publishers, is available from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other bookstores. Several of Bruce's Alfred University professors are mentioned in the acknowledgements, including Wayne Higby, Tony Hepburn, Anne Currier, Val Cushing, Andrea and John Gill, and Bill Carty, who advised Bruce on some particulars of the manuscript.

**Josh DeWeese** had a solo exhibition, "Josh DeWeese: A Point in Time," at the Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, MT. He is a ceramic artist and assistant professor of art at Montana State University, Bozeman, where he and his wife Rosalie have a home and studio. Josh has exhibited and taught workshops internationally, and his work is included in numerous public and private collections.

**Henry Tanaka** was appointed to the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, which works to advance the full and equal participation of Asian Pacific Americans in Michigan. Henry is dean of academic and student services at Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills, MI campus, where he has worked since 1993.

**Melissa Vernacotola** gave a presentation on ceramic engineering at

the Canisteo-Greenwood (NY) Middle School Career Day this spring. She showed video and demonstrations of her work in robotics, and she emphasized the importance of a strong education as a foundation for any career.

## 1992

**Mrs. Michelle Patterson Peck**  
**12001 South Anna Drive**  
**Rockville, VA 23146**  
**michelle\_peck@pediatrix.com**

**Margaret Boozer** owns and operates the Red Dirt Studio in the Gateway Art District, Mount Ranier, MD, a converted warehouse space opened in 1996 where she teaches advanced workshops in ceramics and sculpture to help her students become professional studio artists. She was recognized for her commitment to the local arts district with the Prince George's Arts and Humanities Council Arts Excellence award for 2012 and was also featured in the International Glass + Clay 2013 Exhibition in Washington, DC.

**Paul Pustulka** was promoted to general manager at CerMedia, a Buffalo, NY-based technology developer and manufacturer of high surface area ceramic media that facilitates the bio-filtration of certain liquids and vapors in industrial and residential applications.

**Wade Spicer** is CEO and founder of Strong Industries Inc. (a plastics manufacturer), Strong Spas Inc. (manufacturer of hot tubs), Power Yards LP (real estate holding company), Yards 11 LLC (rail yard and transfer facilities), No Boundaries LLC (holding company), and BuyHotTubsDirect.com (e-commerce company). In 1994, Strong Industries was a start-up with one employee. Today it is one of the largest spa manufacturers in the world and employs more than 300 employees. The company is growing significantly due to its extensive and patented technologies. Wade's Strong Pools and



An alumni event for Philadelphia-area alums was held at the house of Brad '00 and Mandy (Nourse) '01 Berwald. Amongst the attendees were, from left, Laurie McFadden '91 AU archivist; Mahogany May, wife of Cameron May '70; Elizabeth Mistler, and Dr. Richard Mistler '59.

Spa was honored for entrepreneurial achievement by the Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Northeastern Pennsylvania for best exemplifying the entrepreneurial spirit: a combination of ingenuity, hard work, and innovation.

## 1993

**Mrs. Tracy Lazarony-Rudd**  
**204 Steed Lane**  
**Bel Air, MD 21014-2373**  
**tracylazarony@hotmail.com**

**Monika Kaden** launched a website, monikakaden.com. The site serves as a comprehensive online portfolio of her art, achievements, and current work.

**Ruth Auslander** is director for Corporate Relations for the Free Library of Philadelphia Foundation. She works to raise corporate support of critical library services and programs, such as children's enrichment and college preparatory programs.

**Jennifer Saunders** was appointed to the Board of Directors of The Mental Health Association in Fulton & Montgomery Counties in New York. She is chief financial officer of Liberty, New York State ARC's Montgomery County chapter.

## 1994 Reunion Year!

**Mrs. Ellen Debiasa Kolonoski**  
**18 Crestview Lane**  
**Hamburg, NJ 07419**  
**mekolonoski@netzero.net**

**Sean Healy** opened a collaborative exhibition with the Aspen Writers Institute this spring in the Patton-Mallot Gallery at Anderson Ranch Art Center in Snowmass Village, CO. The exhibit "Beautiful X" featured narrative short fictions based on Healy's works as an attempt to address devices associated with storytelling and one's own personal truth. Healy is a visual artist based in Portland, OR. He is the youngest artist to have been awarded a General Services Administration Public Art Commission, and has created several pieces for government and public service buildings.

**Michael Joyce** published a book of reimagined vintage Swiss rock posters titled *Swisted*. Michael, who owns and operates the graphic design company Stereotype Design in New York City, combined his love of punk and underground rock with his training in graphic design to create these 200 posters featuring bands such as the Ramones, the Dead Kennedys, Weezer, and Black Flag.

**Nannette Stangle-Castor** moderated a panel titled "Leveraging Trade Associates in Technology Transfer Marketing" at the Association of University Technology Managers 2013 Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX. Nannette is a senior technology transfer consultant for Fuentek, LLC, a consulting firm providing intellectual property and technology transfer services for university, government, and corporate clients. Nannette was also presented the 2012 Leadership Excellence and Dedication Award by the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association's Research Triangle Park Chapter. She is active in several business and leadership organizations and is the founder and president of InnoVector Tech Inc., a consulting firm specializing in technology transfer, partnerships, and business process development.

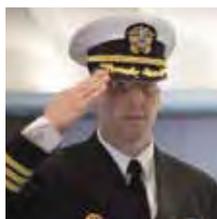
Last fall, Sierra College (Rocklin, CA) professor and ceramics artist **Casey O'Connor** presented an exhibition in the Rocklin Ridley Gallery exploring the wide array of manufacturing and application of both art and high-tech ceramics. In Casey's show "Sabbatical Research Lab", he displayed a collection of ceramic pieces gathered from his travels across the country during a recent sabbatical, along with personal studio work.

## 1995

**Mrs. Randi Jermansen Albiston**  
**16 Winding Way**  
**Morristown, NJ 07960-6956**  
**Ph: (973) 998-5915**  
**randialbi@yahoo.com**

**John Lloyd** gave presentations at Cochise College's main campuses this past winter. John, a former professor of furniture design at Montana State University, is the sculpture studio coordinator for Anderson Ranch Arts Center in Colorado.

**Bennett McKnight** owns and operates Second Century Glassworks, a glass studio in West Seattle, WA. He has been showcasing his work regularly at the city's West Seattle Art Walk, which takes place on the second Thursday of every month.



Louis Springer '95

**Commander Louis Springer** took command of the USS Rhode Island SSBN 740 in Kings Bay, GA on March 1, 2013. Rhode Island is an Ohio class ballistic missile submarine with a crew of 15 officers and 140 enlisted. Louis lives in north Florida with his wife and four daughters.

**Wendy Wescott** is co-owner of Keen's Floral, a family-run flower shop in Scranton, PA. Wendy manages the daily operations of the store, buys for the shop, and designs custom floral arrangements and holiday décor.

**Bridget DiCello** released her second book, "How, not If, to Navigate Difficult Conversations." The book is a professional resource guide on successful communication and handling difficult conversations. DiCello hosted a book signing and breakfast reception at The Crescent Club in Memphis, TN.

**Norwood Viviano's** blown-glass exhibit finished in the top 25 of ArtPrize 2012, the world's largest open art competition. The piece, "Cities: Departure and Deviation," is a series of 24 blown-glass forms representing the population changes in American urban centers.

## 1996

**Ms. Suzanne Alesso**  
**229 Barnes Court**  
**Rochester, MI 48307**  
**Ph: 248.608.9650**  
**suzanne.alesso@gm.com**

**Bonnie Smith** is a ceramic sculpture artist living and working in Kingston, NY. She works primarily in the field of decorative painting in addition to exploring various other media, including ceramics, collage, drawing, and painting.

**Wendy Wolf** is a printmaker, painter, and jewelry designer living and working in Philadelphia, PA. Her jewelry collection, Inline Designs, features wood-framed miniature paintings and semiprecious stones.

## 1997

**Mrs. Kari Jermansen Martin**  
**34 Hedge Drive**  
**Oceanport, NJ 07757-1001**  
**kljermansen@yahoo.com**

**Bruce Gholson** was co-chairman of the 26th annual North Carolina Potters' Conference, March 1-3, 2013 in Asheboro, NC. Potters from across the globe attended the event to learn, share, and discuss all aspects of clay and ceramics. Bruce lives in Seagrove, NC, where he owns and works at Bulldog Pottery.

**Jen Ward** began a master's degree program at Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in Portland to study acupuncture, herbs, Shiatsu and Qi Gong. Jen is also an integrative health coach working for FloLiving.com. She says, "This is a big change from media!" Jen would love to connect with Alfred graduates in the area - her email address is wardjenna@yahoo.com.

**Mark Yacavone** is assistant vice president for enrollment management at SUNY Cortland. Mark oversees Admissions and Financial Aid and serves in the Provost's Cabinet.

**Joe Streno** is a Macintosh consultant and an Independent Health Coach in addition to his independent work as a ceramic artist, sculptor, musician, and photographer. He lives in Asbury Park, NJ.

## 1998

**Mrs. Natalie Krauser-McCarthy**  
**1211 Prospect Avenue**  
**Plainfield, NJ 07060**  
**natalie@1211prospect.com**

### Class Correspondent Natalie Rae Krauser-McCarthy

reports: "I joined Homefirst Interfaith Housing & Family Services, Inc. in September (2012) as director of Giving & External Affairs. Homefirst is in its 26th year of providing comprehensive solutions to homelessness, homelessness prevention aid and a continuum of family support services. It is a very humbling job and reminds me daily of how much harder life can be for so many!

"It's also a thrilling opportunity in that I am part of a team that is executing a five-year strategic development and communications plan which has included launching a new website, adding social media components to the marketing mix, and revitalizing our partnerships with the corporate and faith communities throughout Central New Jersey.

"Bonus - I work only two and a half blocks from my home and less than a mile from Madelyn's pre-school! She has already participated in several activities (handed out presents at our family holiday party) and is learning (at only 3!) that some people have more and some people have less and everyone can grow and succeed!

"After two back-to-back terms as Greater New York Mensa's president,

I am now the programs coordinator where I arrange bi-monthly speakers for our 2K+ membership and monthly activities for Young Mensas (ages 5-17). Also introduce them to email marketing and social media and we recently won an award for Best Overall Publication at our Annual Gathering!"

Natalie also reports: "**Lauren Borchard** had a baby girl last June, Violet Sophia Walker, and is loving her not-as-new home in Bethesda they moved into two years ago. She and her husband, ably assisted by her parents, gutted and updated the kitchen and dining areas!"

Works by **Patrick Brennan**, along with pieces by Jean-Baptiste Bernadet, appeared in "dirty windows" earlier this year at toomer labzda, East Village/Lower East Side, New York. Viewing "Windows," a series of recent paintings on canvas, was described as like trying to see the sun through a dirty window – they distort and warp your gaze. Patrick has studio space in Syracuse and Brooklyn. He has been awarded residencies at Atlanta College of Art, Burren College of Art (Ireland), and The Experimental Television Center, Owego.

**Steven Zelin** presented a tax talk for artists at The Productive in Manhattan, where he discussed various aspects of financial planning and tax issues for artists. He also gave a seminar at Long Island University in Brooklyn on starting a small business and the fundamentals of federal taxation for small businesses.

**Adrienne Metzinger** is managing director of New York City's One World

Symphony, which performed to a sold-out crowd Nov. 11, 2012 at the French Institute Alliance Francaise. Adrienne performed Sun Jin Hong's arrangement of Clara Schumann's "Liebst du um Schoenheit for Mezzo Soprano and Full Orchestra."

The performance was given a glowing review by blogger Tuxedo Revolt, who described Adrienne's piece as "beautiful" and wrote of the concert, "Make no mistake, One World Symphony is one of New York City's most liquid, adaptive, and creative orchestras." Adrienne's husband Sung Jin Hong is also the artistic director and conductor of One World Symphony.

## 1999 Reunion Year!

**Dr. Michael N. Christakis**  
**105 Springhurst Drive North**  
**East Greenbush, NY 12061**  
**Ph: 518.956.8140**  
**Fx: 517.956.8141**  
**mchristakis@gmail.com**

**Mr. Andrew P. Alesso**  
**3001 Dutch Road**  
**Fairview, PA 16415-1948**  
**andrewalesso@aol.com**

**Nicki Wood**, a ceramic artist, is curator of collections, advanced programming, and social media for the Greater Southwest Historical Museum in Ardmore, OK.

## 2000

**Mrs. Chandra Leister Guyot**  
**113 Vaughan Street, Apt. 6**  
**Portland, ME 04102-3518**  
**chandra.guyot@gmail.com**

**Mrs. Katie Isaac Franklin**  
**2120 Clark Lane**  
**Redondo Beach, CA 92078-4302**  
**katie\_franklin@suth.com**

.....• Career services such as career counseling, resume review, help with job search strategies and networking, interview preparation, and career change assistance are some services the Career Development Center provides. Learn more at [www.alfred.edu/cdc/](http://www.alfred.edu/cdc/)

**A U C O N N E C T I O N S online**

**Mrs. Jasmine (Jacy) Lellock**  
 23 The Horseshoe  
 Newark, DE 19711  
 lellocjs@yahoo.com

**Janice Jakielski** had her work on display at the DeLuce Gallery at Northwest Missouri State University. She also gave a lecture at the opening reception. Janice is a professor at the Alberta College of Art and Design in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

## 2001

**Dr. Kizzy M. Parks**  
 110 Washington Avenue  
 Apt 1415  
 Miami Beach, FL 33139-7223

**Mrs. Chrissy Nyman Christakis**  
 105 Springhurst Drive North  
 East Greenbush, NY 12061  
 christa.christakis@gmail.com

**Ms. Lauren Pidcoe Dobbins**  
 Eight First Street SW  
 Leesburg, VA 20175  
 rennie7879@hotmail.com

**Matt Thompson** was the project coordinator and developer for the award-winning film "Beasts of the Southern Wild," which debuted at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2012 to critical acclaim and was nominated for an Academy Award.

**Sinisa Kucec** had a multimedia solo show, "LOVELIKETHEUNIVERSE," at Spinello Projects Gallery, Wynwood, FL. The exhibit was inspired by the collected social media writings of Croatian author Isha Rose Servitus.

**Todd Striker**, coach of the Adirondack LSC swim club, was profiled in USASwimming.org's weekly "Coaches You Should Know" column featuring top age group and grassroots swim coaches in the United States. Striker, inducted into the AU Sports Hall of Fame in 2011, was an All-American each of his four



In March 2013, NYC area alums and AU current students gathered for an event at the Brooklyn Bowl.

seasons at AU and for his career earned All-American certification 10 times. In his "day" job, Todd is an engineer with General Electric.

**Kyle Torok**, projects and communications manager, Office of Legal Affairs, University System of Georgia Board of Regents, became an uncle for the fourth time after the birth of **Lauren Torok Murray's** (AU Class of 2003) second child in August 2012. Kyle currently resides in Atlanta. He is an avid runner and bicyclist.

Work by **Alexandra Hibbitt** was included in "Denaturing Nature," an exhibition by guest curator **Virginia Scotchie '85**, at the Scripps College (Claremont, CA) Ceramics Annual. The Ceramic Annual highlights work from emerging artists as well as celebrated masters in the field of ceramics.

## 2002

**Mrs. Alexis Piekarsky Stone**  
 7413 Coventry Court  
 Riverdale, NJ 07457  
 piekaras@gmail.com

**Ms. Jennifer A. Baltrush**  
 84 Menands Road  
 Albany, NY 12204-1403

**Ms. Judy Tsang**  
 2165 East 23 Street  
 Brooklyn, NY 11229  
 judytsang@gmail.com

**Amanda Smith** was promoted to senior member within the Commercial Department of the Rochester, NY office of The Bonadio Group.

**Matthew Shlian** and **Thea Augustina Eck** married June 16, 2012, 11 years after they met at Alfred University. As a paper engineer, Matthew has been featured in numerous books and websites, and recently was awarded a National Science Foundation grant with his team of scientists and researchers from the University of Michigan. He was also featured on dwell.com for "Apophenia," a series of geometric paper works he created for the record label Ghostly International. Thea recently left her job at Maker Works, where she taught classes on CNC machines, and founded an artist residency and

other programming opportunities for engineers and artists. This fall, they launched Eight Emperors, an online art and design collection as well as a design consulting firm. They are expecting a baby in spring 2013.

## 2003

**Mr. Sebastian White**  
**247 West 15th Street, Apt. 2E**  
**New York, NY 10011**  
**seb@sebastianwhite.com**

**Mrs. Danielle Johnson-Kutch**  
**9713 51st Place**  
**College Park, MD 20740**  
**dmjkutch@gmail.com**

**Mrs. Jill Culeton Harder**  
**PO Box 461**  
**Seal Harbor, ME 04675-0461**

**Terry Conrad** is a lecturer in the Art Department at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, and a lecturer in Creative Arts at Siena College, Loudonville, NY. He also works as a studio artist out of his home studio in Round Lake, NY, working primarily in letterpress. His most recent letterpress collection, "Manipulatives," is a series of printed woodblocks and silkscreens incorporating a variety of scrap and recycled materials.

**Jeremy Hatch** was a featured artist in a ceramics exhibition celebrating the 40th anniversary of Vancouver's Circle Craft Cooperative Exhibition. He has won numerous awards for his work and has exhibited around the world, including galleries in Canada, the United States, China, Japan, and Korea. His piece in the anniversary exhibition featured hand-knit coat hangers saturated in porcelain and fired, burning away the yarn and becoming a fossilized trace of the original.

**David Murello** has been named head football coach at Ballston Spa High School in Ballston Spa, NY. He has been working with the team for six years, beginning as the freshman team coach in 2007 before assisting the varsity team in 2009. David played football for four years at AU.

**John Dunphy** has been writing professionally since 2004. He currently is a freelance writer covering a wide range of topics for several area publications, including the Middletown Patch in his hometown of Middletown, NJ.

**Yoshinaga Kawamura** was featured in a joint ceramics exhibit with artist Kris Marubayashi in November 2012 at the KOBO Gallery in Seattle, WA. Kawamura is a resident artist at Pottery Northwest in Seattle.

**Charlotte Potter's** glass art was on display at the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk. Her work, titled "Charlotte's Web," is a contemporary glass piece featuring small cameo glass portraits of Charlotte's 864 Facebook friends connected by a chain web. The piece was originally crafted for an exhibition called "Fusion: A New Century of Glass," which featured emerging glass artists at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

**Istikram Qaderi** is chief quality officer for Rideout Health of Yuba City, CA. Istikram is a noted speaker and publicist in the areas of performance improvement, patient engagement, and quality improvement, with several years of experience in quality performance.

Nicolaus Rock and **Stephanie L Bliss Rock** welcomed their second daughter, Devin Renee, on June 29, 2012. Their first daughter, Jordan Riley, is now 4 and a very proud big sister.

After Jack, an acoustic Americana trio based in southwest Virginia includes **Emily Blankenship-Tucker**. The group played at the Wellsville (NY) Creative Arts Center in January. After Jack is described as a new band with an old soul and a sound that is simultaneously innocent and irreverent. First-Prize winners of the Hayloft Gang National Video Contest, the band members currently have a self-produced EP available, and they are working on a fresh batch of songs they hope to record in the coming months. Take a look: <http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=3GdmdBn4J40>

## 2004 Reunion Year!

**Ms. LaDona Lanphere Fazio**  
**65 Redstone Place**  
**Sterling, MA 01564-1536**  
**lfazio@clarku.edu**

**Ms. Kerry E. White**  
**5940 10th Road North**  
**Arlington, VA 22205**  
**white\_kerry\_e@hotmail.com**

**Brenda Bowling** recently completed the EXHIBITOR Certified Trade Show Marketing accreditation program, the only university-affiliated certification program in the trade show and event marketing industry. Brenda began the certification process in 2007, completing a 28-course core curriculum, comprehensive examination, and candidate portfolio. She has been employed at Meeting Management Associates since 2005, where she is director of conventions.

**Jax Deluca** is a practicing artist and executive director at Squeaky Wheel, a gallery and educational facility for electronic media artists in Buffalo, NY. As director of Squeaky Wheel, Jax organizes workshops, exhibitions, and other activities in video and sound production, animation, website creation, and various aspects of electronic media.

## 2005

**Mr. Tim Inthirakoth**  
6401 West Henrietta Road  
West Henrietta, NY 14586-9746

**Ms. Emma Buckthal**  
21 Drybrook Road  
Barton, NY 13734  
emmabuckthal@gmail.com

**Kara Dunne** presented a solo exhibition, "A Trailer is a Castle on its Side," at Millsaps College in Jackson, MS this spring.

**Erin Zellefrow** was a recipient of a 40 Leaders Under 40 award in Peoria, IL. She works as director of galleries, exhibitions, and collections at Bradley University, overseeing the university's art collection and its placement around campus. She is also the assistant director of the Inland Visual Studies Center, a consortium on Middle American art programs. Erin was married Nov. 3, 2012 to Matthew Buczynski of Peoria, IL.

## 2006

**Mrs. Andreina Simet**  
353 South 3rd Street, Apt. 12  
Brooklyn, NY 11211  
andreina.simet@aol.com

**Christopher Gordon** married Holly Barrett Nash Aug. 4, 2012 at the Cliff House Resort in Cape Neddick, ME. The couple traveled to Italy for their honeymoon and is now living in Portland, ME, where Christopher works as a loss prevention coordinator at Hannaford Bros.

**Chris Lemasters** was hired in spring 2012 as men's basketball coach for the Pennsylvania College of Technology.

## 2007

**Mrs. Bonnie Ye Sick**  
10413 Cardon Place SW  
Port Orchard, WA 98367-8728  
bonnie.ye@gmail.com

**Ms. Abigail I. Tripp**  
2090 Garden Springs Drive, Apt. B  
Lexington, KY 40504  
abigail.tripp@gmail.com

**Matthew Butts** is a manager in digital ad sales research at Nickelodeon's New York City office.

**Julia Calabrese** and **Layla Marcelle Mrozowski '08** collaborated on a performance art piece titled "A House to Call Our House," which they premiered at Publication Studio in Portland, OR as part of the Fertile Ground Festival, Jan. 25-Feb. 2, 2013. In addition to her dance training and performance work, Julia is also a multimedia studio artist working in sculpture, watercolor painting, and textile and pattern design.

**Kate Callahan** offered her "Origami Luminaria," hand-constructed lamps exploring geometry, space, and light, for sale at the American Fabric Arts building's Spring Open Studios in Bridgeport, CT. The historic building was open to the public, offering one-of-a-kind arts and crafts for sale. Callahan has shown her work at the Silmo in Paris and has been published in international design magazines such as ICON. Her work can be viewed at [www.katecallahandesign.com](http://www.katecallahandesign.com).

**Jessica Dupuis** opened "Miniature" at Gallery 1724 in Houston, TX in conjunction with the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. Jessica lives and works in Chapel Hill, NC.

**Lauren Gallaspy** was honored with a Joan Mitchell Painters and Sculptors Grant, an unrestricted financial award presented annually to acknowledge the work of exceptional painters and sculptors. Lauren is an assistant

professor of ceramics at the University of Utah College of Fine Arts as well as an active studio artist in sculptural and functional ceramics.

**Ben Fino-Radin** gave a presentation on "Digital Forensics, Emulation, and the Art of Restoration" this spring at Duke University. He discussed the process of digital forensics, investigation, and anthropology in the context of restoring the remains of The Thing, an electronic Bulletin Board System used in the early 1990s as a networking tool for artists across the globe until the advent of the World Wide Web. Ben is a New York-based media archaeologist and conservator working to complete a master of fine arts degree in digital arts and a master of science degree in library and information science at the Pratt Institute. He works at Rhizome at the New Museum, leading the preservation and curation of their born-digital art collection, and in the Conservation Department of the Museum of Modern Art, where he manages the Museum's repository for digital assets in the collection.

**Levi Bridges** received a Fulbright scholarship grant in creative writing, which he is using to finance a one-year immersion study in Mexico City documenting the lives of Central American migrant workers looking for better-paying jobs across the U.S. border.

**Matthew Corson-Finnerty** was featured on the Internet video channel "Peak Moment: Locally Reliant Living" for his efforts to improve human-powered sustainable technology. He has spent the past several years researching and developing pedal-powered domestic and agricultural equipment from salvaged bicycle parts.

**Allison DeDominick** is marketing manager for Damiani Wine Cellars, Burdett, NY.

.....• You can look up friends, update your contact information and connect with friends at [alumni.alfred.edu](http://alumni.alfred.edu)

A U C O N N E C T I O N S **online**

**Bland Hoke** was named a winner of the Fast Company's 2012 Innovation by Design Awards, an award given annually to 11 innovative products, ideas, and interfaces. Bland and his business partner, Howard Chambers, were honored for their New York City-based company Softwalks, which creates and distributes kits of parts that turn the sidewalk sheds under scaffolding into miniature parks and useful public spaces.

**Elisabeth Nickles** had a multimedia sculptural collage on display in the Philadelphia International Airport. She has been commissioned for several public art pieces in the Philadelphia area and has also exhibited her work in a number of local and national galleries.

## 2008

**Peter Duncan** owns and operates his own woodworking shop, The Wood Studio, in Wilmington, NC, where he designs, builds, and sells wood furniture.

**Becky Holt** is a master's in business administration degree candidate in sustainability at Antioch University New England, Keene, NH. She is assistant director of the university's Green Alliance and a sustainability consultant and curator for the Portsmouth Museum of Art, Portsmouth, NH. She also continues to paint regularly, creating oil paintings of New Hampshire's sea coasts.

**Jessy Santana** is an ESL (English as a second language) teacher for U-Learn Language School in China. She teaches more than 700 students ranging from

third-six grade, offering over 25 lessons a week in addition to private tutoring in English.

**Layla Marcelle Mrozowski** and **Julia Calabrese '07** collaborated on a performance art piece titled "A House to Call Our House," which they premiered at Publication Studio in Portland, OR as part of the Fertile Ground Festival, Jan. 25-Feb. 2, 2013. Layla is a choreographer whose work has been presented at festivals, galleries, and performance venues across the United States and Europe. In 2010, she founded BAAD (Bicycle Awesome Adventure Dance) Kinetics and produced an all-female, 2,000-kilometer bicycle tour that performed her piece "HOT MESS" throughout the northeastern United States.

**Katherine Wright** and her band, Kat Wright and the Indomitable Soul Band, performed at the Saranac Lake (NY) Winter Carnival. Kat's band can also be seen every Thursday at Radio Bean, a jazz club in Burlington, VT. The group is currently working on a yet-to-be-named EP, and the recently released music video for their original song "All About You," directed by Wondermind Pictures's Matt Day, has generated considerable interest in the band, including two features on the music blog "Next to Shine."

**Rebecca Chappell** gave a visiting artist lecture in November 2012 in the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas. She is a resident artist and teacher at The Clay Studio in Philadelphia.

## 2009 Reunion Year!

**Jamie Crosley** was promoted to manager in her position in the Small Business Administration Department of the Rochester, NY office of The Bonadio Group.

**Renee LoPresti** is pursuing a master's degree in art therapy, fulfilling several prerequisites with courses in psychology and painting at Warren County Community College in New Jersey. She expects to attend either Naropa University in Colorado or New Mexico Southwestern College in the fall.

## 2010

**Zoe C. Boucher**, an emerging artist from Cambridge, MA, presented a solo show, "Souvenir Remix," in late winter at the Kahn Barn Gallery at the Vermont Studio Center, Johnson, VT. It was a multimedia installation, including sculpture, photographs, and works on paper. Zoe completed residencies at Anderson Ranch and Vermont Studio Center in 2011 and 2012. She is a staff artist at Vermont Studio Center, as well as a faculty member at the Helen Day Art Center in Stowe, VT. Her work can be seen online at: [zoeboucher.com](http://zoeboucher.com). She also has an online jewelry store located at: [diasporadesigns@etsy.com](mailto:diasporadesigns@etsy.com).

**Hannah Meier** writes, "I continue to look back fondly at my four years at Alfred and value the benefits of my education and experiences. Thank you!"

**Mikki Senkow Yesesky** is an account executive for SKM Group, a full-service marketing



Mikki Yesesky '10

communications agency in Buffalo, NY. Mikki lives in Buffalo with her husband.

**Aeryn Dougan** published her first novel, "Benajah's Keeper," adding a unique twist to the traditional paranormal and vampire genre. The novel is available for sale online at Amazon.com.

The latest photography of **Amelia Patsy** is on display at the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown, PA, through July 6, 2013. "An Industrial Revolution: The Photography of Amelia Patsy" is a collection of 55 gelatin silver prints and cyanotypes. The locally inspired resident of Pittsburgh, PA, with hometown of Erie, PA, has developed her photography to chronicle the effects of industrialization on western Pennsylvania.

## 2011

**Ms. Jessica Marble**  
marble.jessica@gmail.com

**Shamus Crean** works for the Pilbrico Co. LLC Refractory Materials Division sales team in Chicago as an area sales manager.

**Zach Grosser** is a food and beverage experience assistant at Square in the San Francisco Bay Area. He is also working to complete his teacher training certification in Kripalu Yoga at the Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health.

**Morgan Higby-Flowers** was featured in an exhibition titled "Terminal: Physical Space" at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN, where he is a visiting assistant professor of new media art.

**Nichole Thebert** is an intern for the tax team at the Pittsford, NY office of The Bonadio Group. Nichole resides in Sodus, NY.



Nichole Thebert '11

**Jenny Hillenbrand** and two other alumni, **Kristen Tordella-Williams '12** and **Jonas Lindberg '12**, had a video, print, and photography exhibit, "There and Back Again," on display last fall at the Hinkle Memorial Library on the Alfred State College campus.

## 2012

**Robert Moore** had a solo exhibition, "Light and Dark," at the Creative Arts Center Gallery in Burbank, CA this past winter. His utilitarian ceramic works explore the notion of 'containership' and the relationship between the indie and outside of a vessel.

**Dave Douglas** and **Molly Finnerty** had their work featured in an exhibition of SUNY students' art at the SUNY Global Center in New York City. The collection will be open for public viewing through June 2013. **Joseph Scheer '84**, professor of print media at AU, was a member of the panel that selected works to be included in this exhibit.

**Rosemarie Fraioli** had her work featured in the Fall (2012) Art Opening at the transFORM Showroom and Gallery in New Rochelle, NY. The exhibit, "Female Contact: Art from Feminine Perspectives," is a collection of ceramic sculpture, digital print media and video installation, mosaic sculpture, and fiber and found object pieces exploring the way women interact with their environments and their art.

**Emily Smith** completed a national tour with her dance collective, Seven and Four Articulations, and is now living and working as a dancer in New York City. Most recently, she performed in the Museum of Modern Art for Steve Paxton, a notable choreographer in post-modern dance history. She was able to share her experiences working with Steve with AU's dance history class via Skype.

## Marriages

**Matthew Shlian '02** and **Thea Augustina Eck '02** married June 16, 2012  
**Erin Zellefrow '05** married Matthew Buczynski Nov. 3, 2012  
**Christopher Gordon '06** married Holly Barrett Nash Aug. 4, 2012  
**Danielle Sandy '08** married Andrew Choate, Nov. 3, 2012

## Births

**Lauren Borchard '98** and Donnie Walker, a daughter, Violet Sophia Walker, June 2012  
**Nicolaus Rock '03** and **Stephanie Bliss Rock '03**, a daughter, Devin Renee Rock, June 29, 2012

## Deaths

**Claudia Wheeler Saylor '41**, Sept. 26, 2012  
**Donald Dennerlein '41**, Nov. 7, 2012  
**Doris E. Simpson '41**  
**Harold Newton Barr '42**, Dec. 22, 2012  
**Jack M. Wall '42**, Dec. 1, 2012  
**Isabel Hungerford '45**, Oct. 14, 2012  
**Frank Cornish '45**, Jan. 10, 2013  
**Blanche Frary Barnes '45**, Jan. 11, 2013  
**Corinne Gallman '47**, Oct. 26, 2012  
**Allen Frederick Cordts '47**, Nov. 7, 2012  
**Eugene C. Drozdowski '48**, died Dec. 29, 2011.  
**Carl E. Hagberg '48**, Feb. 8, 2013  
**Joseph T. Limeri '48**, Feb. 18, 2013  
**Raymond C. Scholts '48**, March 20, 2013  
**Richard W. Johnson '49**, Nov. 13, 2012  
**Jack M. Wall '49**, Dec. 1, 2012  
**Barbara Arnold Nelson '49**, Feb. 17, 2013  
**George W. Reuning '49**, April 19, 2013  
**Robert Cleveland Harris '50**, Dec. 30, 2012

## Hall of Fame 2013

Alfred University will induct five former student-athletes into its Athletics Hall of Fame during an on-campus banquet Saturday, Oct. 5, during the University's annual Homecoming celebration.

Members of the Hall of Fame Class of 2013 are: former track star **Wes Carr '82**; football standout **Joe Haven '91**; Alpine skier **Conor Walsh '02**; women's lacrosse and tennis all-star **Lindsay deCsiptes '02**; and swimming All-American **Pat Kerwin '03**.

**Carr** was a member of the AU indoor and outdoor track and field teams from 1978-82, twice qualifying to compete in the NCAA championships. He holds AU outdoor track and field records in the 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash.

**Haven** was a receiver on the Saxon football team for four years (1986-89), at one time holding the school record for TD catches in a game (three). During his senior year, he helped lead the Saxons to an ECAC North Bowl championship.

**Walsh** was a four-year member of men's Alpine ski team (1999-2002), leading the Saxons to four Empire Conference titles. In each of his final three seasons, he won the individual conference crown and led the Saxons to national championship appearances.

**deCsiptes** played four seasons on the women's lacrosse team (1999-2002) and women's tennis team (1998-2001). She was an Empire 8 Conference all-star in both sports and a state all-star and regional All-American in lacrosse.

**Kerwin** was a four-year member of the men's swimming and diving team (1998-02), earning All-American honors in 2000 and 2002. The former school record-holder in the 50 freestyle, he was state champion in the 100 backstroke in 2002.

**Anyone wishing to attend the Hall of Fame Banquet is asked to call the AU Athletics Department at 607-871-2193.**

**Gordon Walker II '50**, March 17, 2013  
**Roger A. Peterson '50**, Jan. 30, 2013  
**Richard H. Gosch '51**, March 12, 2013  
**Milton Wheeler '51**, March 27, 2013  
**William B. McClurg '52**, Feb. 6, 2013  
**Yung Tao '52**, Feb. 16, 2013  
**Joan Jockwig Watkins '52**, April 1, 2013  
**Robert F. Jones '53**, March 3, 2013  
**Abram "Al" Lass '54**, Feb. 4, 2013  
**Leo E. Sharpe '55**, March 5, 2013  
**Kathleen Nickerson '56**, Jan. 26, 2013  
**Orrin S. Thompson Jr. '56**, March 18, 2013  
**Janice A. King '57**, Jan. 26, 2013  
**Dorothy Ormsby Argentieri '58**, Nov. 19, 2012  
**Donald A. Dennerlein '61**, Nov. 7, 2012  
**Frederick Yehl '62**, Jan. 28, 2012  
**Eric Loytty '62**, Sept. 26, 2012  
**David M. Martin '62**, Oct. 14, 2012  
**Bertram Katz '62**, Oct. 28, 2012

**Buddy E. Keith '62**, Feb. 22, 2013  
**David M. Martin '62**, Oct. 14, 2012  
**John L. Jamison '63**, March 4, 2013  
**Doyle E. Shields '63**, March 12, 2013  
**Gerard B. Pollock '64**, Jan. 16, 2013  
**James F. Egglar '67**, Feb. 5, 2013  
**Jay Schwartz '67**, March 15, 2013  
**Richard I. Slippen '68**, March 13, 2013

**John R. Coburn '69**, March 3, 2013  
**Margaret H. Katz '70**, Oct. 25, 2012  
**Ella "Ellie" Hyslip Walker '73**, Nov. 3, 2012

**James E. Field '73**, Feb. 11, 2013  
**David Lamb '75**, March 14, 2013  
**Victoria Ackley Larson '78**, Feb. 8, 2013

**Mary Bazar '83**, May 11, 2012  
**Jeffrey H. Peterson '83**, Feb. 11, 2013

**Joseph P. Sapienza '88**, Sept. 3, 2011  
**Gabriela A. Bartley '90**, Dec. 27, 2012

**Christine A. Hook '93**, Feb. 8, 2013  
**Matthew P. Rowan '95**, March 7, 2013

**Dottie Helms Moran '96**, Nov. 29, 2012

## Friends

**Doris S. Mates**, Dec. 6, 2012  
**Elizabeth J. Hanks**, Dec. 17, 2012, retired administrative assistant to director of dining services  
**Edith Rose Johannes**, March 19, 2013, former professor of nursing at AU

**Nina B. Patrick**, April 2, 2013, retired custodian.

**James T. Henderson '75**, March 24, 2013, AU Life Trustee

## Keep us posted

Keep your Alfred University Family in your life. Make sure to let us know of all your family **activities**, professional **moves** and **achievements**, personal **accomplishments**, and entertaining **photos**!

You can reach us in numerous ways:

 Facebook

 Twitter

 Email – news and photos to [clarkd@alfred.edu](mailto:clarkd@alfred.edu)

 **Snail Mail** – mail news and photos to Debbie Clark, Acting Director of Communications, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802

**Class Correspondent** – name, address and email may be found by looking under your class year here in the Class Notes section

# Two alumni awarded honorary doctorates

Alfred University Commencement 2013 was a significant occasion for two alumni - a class year apart - whose career paths have taken similar turns. Each of them was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from their alma mater May 18.

Robert H. Benmosche, a 1966 graduate who is currently CEO of American International Group Incorporated (AIG), was awarded an honorary Doctor of Business degree, *honoris causa*. A Doctor of Humane Letters degree, *honoris causa*, was bestowed upon Peter Cuneo, a 1967 alumnus who is completing a six-year tenure as chairman of the AU Board of Trustees.

Both men are known for their acumen in turning struggling companies into thriving enterprises. Benmosche is credited with rescuing MetLife, and taking it public, then several years later was called out of retirement to lead AIG back to solvency after the national financial crisis of 2008. Cuneo is best known for leading the turnaround of Marvel Comics from a bankrupt comic book publisher to an entertainment industry giant.

Before joining MetLife, Benmosche spent more than 13 years at PaineWebber Group Incorporated, where he served in several capacities, including senior vice president of marketing; chief financial officer of the Retail Brokerage Division; and as executive vice president from 1989-1995, serving as the head of operations and technology and director and sales manager for over 1,500 retail investment advisors. He also directed the merger of Kidder Peabody into PaineWebber in 1994. Earlier in his career, Benmosche was a Chase Manhattan Bank vice president and a staff consultant with Arthur D. Little.



Robert H. Benmosche '66, center, CEO of American International Group Incorporated (AIG), keynote speaker for Alfred University's Commencement exercises May 18, is flanked by Peter Cuneo, left, a 1967 alumnus completing his second three-year term as chairman of the AU Board of Trustees, and Alfred University president Dr. Charles M. Edmondson, right.

*"...the economy is stronger than you think. Go forward with a sense of optimism."*

**2013 Commencement speaker  
Robert Benmosche '66, CEO of AIG**

Cuneo tallied seven turnarounds of distressed businesses in the global media and consumer products sectors prior to his Marvel maneuvers. Currently, Cuneo is managing principal of Cuneo & Company, a private investment and management company he owns in partnership with his sons Gavin and Colin. They focus on making investments in private companies within the consumer, retail and entertainment-oriented industries.

Benmosche was also the keynote Commencement speaker. He urged the new graduates to begin with a vision but "deal with the hand that's been dealt you." And though that "may be a tough hand, it's adjustable." He noted "the economy is stronger than you think" and urged the graduates to go forward with a "sense of optimism."

More than 350 undergraduate, master's, advanced studies certificate, and doctoral candidates (including those who earned degrees in August and December 2012) were awarded Alfred University degrees during exercises in the McLane Center on campus. Presiding over the festivities was Dr. Charles M. Edmondson, Alfred University president.



# Alfred University

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Alfred, NY 14802

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Hot Dog Day 2013 was a huge success. Having endured the Alfred rains during the event in 2011 and 2012, students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff enjoyed much celebration and dancing in the streets. A gallery of Hot Dog Day 2013 photos can be found in the online version of this issue of *Alfred Magazine*.

