Happy New Year!

Magazine

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Alfred University alumni

keeping good company

By Bryan P. Clark, Intern
AU alumni have a knack for getting together, and that includes choosing career paths that lead groups of them to selected companies. In this article we highlight just a sampling of those alums who have reconnected through the workplace.

During their college careers, Alfred University students work together to enrich their studies, create strong student organizations, and generate a positive campus environment. There’s evidence this collaborative tradition continues well after they leave campus. And sometimes, as alumni, they find themselves working side-by-side with fellow AU graduates in their professional careers.

Alfred Magazine reached out to alumni seeking those currently employed in the same workplace. Based on comments from those who responded, it seems being on the job with fellow alums is a good, and rewarding, experience.

“Alums seem to add that extra spark of enthusiasm in the workplace,” says Natalie Skwarek ’11, who works on campus as a Herrick Library secretary and archives assistant. “There is a sense of pride that is exuded, helping to maintain a positive work environment.”

“We had good experiences at AU and we want it to succeed,” says Stephen Crandall ’76, Herrick Library director and dean of libraries. “We want to ensure that current students have a good experience.”

“In an organization, the individual contributes to the group as a whole, or else finds himself out of a job,” says Linda Sootheran ’07, Herrick Library technical processes manager. “We have a great investment in the success of the University not only because it is our employer, but because it is our alma mater. We can see how our work contributes to the success of students as well.”

“It’s good for the institution since it can promote school pride and staying connected,” says Laurie McFadden ’91, an AU librarian and University archivist. “Employees should be able to bond over the similarity and make connections easier.”

“Our Alfred ties offer us camaraderie...We sometimes digress to memories and similar stories from our years at AU. Alfred gave me a natural common bond to many people in my industry and in my company.”

Cheryl Richards ’86

“Several of us who work together graduated from the College of Ceramics (engineering) often consult and confer with each other on the work we are doing,” says Art Mustico ’79, a manufacturing engineer at ITT Exelixis, Geospatial Systems, Rochester. “Graduates of a good institution will all have a high quality of education in common.”

“Here at Exelixis, most things that I work on are individual tasks inside a team environment,” adds Vicki Kuipers ’02, a manufacturing engineer. “I was able to work with Melissa Dorsey, an Alfred grad, for many years before she left the company. Having others in the workplace from the same college makes a positive difference.”

A desire to create a work environment attentive to the needs of families in the Buffalo region inspired Angie Kleeh ’70 to found The Synergy Group in 1990. The company has grown into two businesses that support the needs of working families and their employers. Today, two generations of the Kleeh family are involved in the company. Angie Kleeh is CEO and her son, Matthew, is network administrator. Matthew’s wife, Kristina (Capozzi) ’05, ’06, is vice president.

The Synergy Group manages the Just for Kids program, run under the Childcare Network of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. The Just for Kids program provides before Continued on page 4
and after school programs as well as summer camps for more than 1,200 children in Hamburg, Orchard Park, Cheektowaga, Williamsville, and Grand Island. TripleTrack HR Partners provides outsourced human resource management. Its market includes businesses, schools, colleges and universities. The Synergy Group employs 126 people. In September, the University presented the company with one of four 2013 Galanis Awards for Excellence in Family Business.

“Alfred provided a good next step for me both in formal education and in seeing the world through different perspectives,” says Angie Kleeh.

“Alfred was a tiny microcosm of the bigger world and I grew to broaden my thinking and learn from the diversity and viewpoints of others. Meeting Alfred grads in various professions and places in life always leads to interesting stories and more connections.

“As a business owner, I would not avoid hiring individuals from the same educational institution,” she continues. “I have intentionally hired for that commonality, knowing what a good team builder it can be. I find that alums love to connect with one another, creating an automatic and comfortable bond that evolves into a solid work relationship.”

“At The Synergy Group, we frequently use the phrase, ‘The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.’ We believe in the value of teamwork and group roles, and how the interactions between each staff member helps to benefit the team when they keep in mind the needs of the group, or the organization as a whole,” says Kristina Kleeh.

Eric Zuckerman ’03 not only works with a fellow alum in the workplace, but he owns the workplace! Eric is president of Pac Team America, Inc. In 2005, he partnered with a Swiss entrepreneur and opened Pac Team, focusing on display and packaging design for the luxury watch industry. Today, Pac Team has more than 400 employees across the globe, including a design and sales office in Paramus, NJ, a mass manufacturing facility in China, and a newly owned production site in Chicago. Clients include major brands from various industries including watch, jewelry, eyewear and luxury goods.

Using his connection with Mark McFadden, director of AU’s Career Development Center (see related article facing page), Zuckerman recently hired his first Alfred University alumnus, Holly Seidewand ’10.

“I really enjoy working with another AU alumnus,” says Seidewand. “It really is great to talk about the town, our experiences, and how amazing our time spent there was. It is also an honor to work with someone who is so successful and an industry leader,” she adds.

Alumni in the workplace offered current AU students advice as they prepare to enter the workforce.

“Network,” says Richards. “Join clubs at AU to learn about the industry and others at the University. Go to conferences to meet others from other universities and companies.”

“They should soak up all the experience that they can,” says Pat LaCourse, associate librarian emeritus, in Scholes Library on campus.

“When they present themselves to an employer they will be confident. The alum network has worked time and again for people who seek employment.”

“My advice is to talk to everyone,” says Seidewand.

“Introduce yourself and ask to learn more about what they do. People really don’t mind. This is especially true for alumni.”

Holly Seidewand ’10

“Use technology and social media to its maximum capacity coupled with good old fashioned social graces like written thank you notes and verbal communication,” emphasizes Angie Kleeh.

“Be flexible, especially in this difficult economic climate, while at the same time trying to find a good fit between their skills, aspirations and values,” says Crandall.

“I encourage AU students to use the services at our Career Development Center, to think widely about their possible jobs and the skills they can bring, to network with other AU alums for job possibilities,” says McFadden.

“LinkedIn is a good place as is the Alumni Council and the contacts at the CDC and through faculty.”
A U’s McComsey Career Development Center provides students, alumni, faculty, and staff with a variety of networking and career development services, but the focus is on those seeking a first-time entry into the workplace.

By using the center services and by working with the center’s staff, students have opportunities to learn and master professional skills by the time they graduate, says Mark McFadden ‘99, the center’s director, who notes 60 percent of AU graduates find work through a network.

“We usually average 1,500 to 1,700 student appointments a year and offer around 120 to 130 workshops or presentations, attended by almost 4,000 people. During the fall semester, the center hosted several events including a graduate school fair and a tour of Corning Inc. research facilities, which was followed by a networking reception.

McFadden praises the center’s staff and encourages AU alumni to help carry out the center’s activities and mission.

“This is a dedicated staff that works very hard. We’re always looking for opportunities for our students...”

Mark McFadden MS ‘99
Allen Term returns in online form
AU is re-introducing a former feature of the academic calendar for this year’s winter break. Students are signing up for online classes to be offered during “the Allen Term,” a “minimester” to be conducted online Dec. 16, 2013-Jan. 17, 2014. By participating in the Allen Term, students have the opportunity to complete a full semester course within a few weeks, make up a course they may have failed or received a low grade in during the fall semester, concentrate on one course without the burden of a heavy course load, lighten their spring semester course load, advance their academic standing, accelerate their degree, and/or be productive during the holiday break. Tuition for a course during the Allen Term is $960.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8615

Personnel organization selects AU as Lead Institution
The University was selected as a National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Lead Institution as part of the organization’s 2012-13 Lead Initiative. The initiative recognizes institutions of higher learning and student affairs professionals who are making contributions to democratic engagement and civic learning.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8480

Doctoral candidate awarded Department of Energy Fellowship
Braeden Clark, who is working on his Ph.D. degree in materials science at the Kazuo Inamori School of Engineering, is the recipient of a prestigious three-year fellowship from the U.S. Department of Energy. Clark, who earned a bachelor of science degree from AU in materials science, will receive $155,000 over three years through Nuclear University Education Program to complete his studies.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8566
AU campus designated bicycle friendly
AU received a Bronze designation by the League of American Bicyclists’ (LAB) Bicycle Friendly University, a program that recognizes institutions of higher education for promoting and providing a more “bikeable” campus for students, staff, and visitors. This award recognizes AU’s commitment to improving conditions for bicycling through investment in bicycling promotion, education programs, infrastructure and pro-bicycling policies. Only three other schools in New York currently have a Bike Friendly designation, all at the Bronze level: University of Buffalo, Rochester Institute of Technology, and Cornell University.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8639

Gift to upgrade McLane gymnasium
A gift from Terry S. Galanis Sr. ’40, his son, Terry S. Galanis, Jr., a member of the University’s Board of Trustees, and their families will allow AU to renovate the main gymnasium in the McLane Physical Education Center on campus. The gift to create the Terry S. Galanis Family Arena at the McLane Center is part of the ongoing Score One for Alfred campaign to improve athletic and recreational facilities on the AU campus.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8303

Five inducted into Athletics Hall of Fame
The University inducted five former student-athletes into its Athletics Hall of Fame at an on-campus banquet Oct. 5, during the annual Homecoming celebration. Members of the Class of 2013 are: former track star Joseph “Wes” Carr ’82; football standout Joe Haven ’91; Alpine skiing champion Conor Walsh ’02; women’s lacrosse and tennis all-star Lindsay deCsipkes ’02; and swimming All-American Pat Kerwin ’03.

www.alfred.edu/pressreleases/viewrelease.cfm?ID=8436
Prior to this past summer, the last time artist Chris Gustin MFA ’77 was in Alfred was the summer of 1980 when he taught ceramics at the School of Art and Design, College of Ceramics along with friends Graham Marks ’76 and Harriet Spleth ’68. Between then and now, he has enjoyed a rich career as a teacher and a renowned wood-fired kiln artist.

What finally brought him back to campus after 33 years was the opportunity to have a retrospective show at the Schein Joseph Museum of Ceramic Art. The show, “Chris Gustin: Masterworks in Clay” (Sept. 19-Nov. 22, 2013) was testimony to over three decades of remarkable creativity, with an extensive body of work that has many influences from his two important years as a grad student at Alfred University (AU).

Yet it was not simply a matter of the retrospective that drew him back. It was an opportunity to reconnect with the special place — and the people — he says changed the course of this life.

“So, how did I end up coming to Alfred?” he asked aloud. “I was attending the Kansas City Art Institute and considering going for my MFA. The thing is, I wasn’t certain about going into teaching, but wanted to set up a working studio. During my senior year of 1974-75 mentor (and fellow AU alumnus) the late Ken Ferguson ’58 said Alfred was the ‘place to be’ so I applied.”

But it wasn’t as simple as that. At the time he was placed on a waiting list because the two available spots had already been filled, and as August 1975 wore on, time was running short as to what his options were going to be, since Alfred was the only place to which he had applied.
“Then, I got a phone call from AU in late August,” Gustin recalled. “It was really just a matter of luck. One of the other applicants had withdrawn at the last minute, and I had been accepted. In my excitement I packed my car that night and began my journey to Alfred.”

Gustin arrived at a time that he describes as being a paradigm shift in ceramics.

“Studio pottery was moving away from function and utility to abstraction and sculptural ideas,” he said. “It really was a golden age of ceramics because the transition was a unique balance of tradition and innovation. I was very, very fortunate to have known the ‘old guard’ of Bob Turner ’50, Val Cushing ’52, and Ted Randall. They were the kind of artists who were readily adapting to the changes and guiding the students through them. In addition, the newer members of the faculty at the time, Wayne Higby and Tony Hepburn, were bringing ideas that meshed perfectly with the Alfred vision.” he remembered fondly. “That is the brilliance of AU. It has never been afraid of voices that will rock things. It is a lovely chaos.”

Gustin’s two years of grad school were particularly intense.

“I began thinking of new ways to work, and was getting feedback and criticism that challenged everything I had done before. I saw new ways to work with the material, and ideas revolving around ceramic installation were becoming very big. What I found was that there were questions about ceramics out there that I didn’t know existed let alone know the answers to. “I have to say that what I experienced here in Alfred completely affected the course of my life. It clarified my voice as an artist,” Gustin reflected. “However, I have come to realize something much more important. Those years were very busy, and admittedly stressful. And to the student it’s all about the work and the goal: the final show. But in retrospect I realize it was the beginning. It was the seeds of the work for years to come.”

Coming back to Alfred after three decades has had an impact on Gustin as well.

“Alfred is incredibly peaceful, really. I just didn’t have time to notice that back in the ’70s, but I realize it was always there,” he said. “In some ways it has changed, but so much remains the same, and seeing old friends who are still in the area, especially faculty, made that very clear. As I drove into town for the first time, I had a little trouble navigating at first, but of course things come back pretty quickly.”

One thing in particular caught Gustin’s eye on his first visit back to Alfred in preparation for the retrospective.

“I was in the new Collegiate Restaurant, which has the same feel as the old ‘Jet,’ and spotted what looks like the same creamer pot that was there three decades ago. My friend Arnie Zimmerman (MFA ’79) based a series of pots on that very creamer. Naturally, I had to take a picture of it and send it to him. Fond memories.”

See more about Chris Gustin and his work at www.gustinceramics.com
For the Fasano family, Alfred University is much more than just an alma mater. With four generations of AU graduates, the university is an integral part of the family’s history.

The most recent Fasano alumna, Elyse Fasano ’11, chronicles the Fasano family’s four-generation legacy at AU in *Ever As Our Home*, a photo book she created as her University honors thesis project in 2011.

“Each of the experiences throughout the past 90 years has been distinctly different, but the apparent strings of similarity run throughout,” she writes. In the book, she compares various facets of each generation’s AU experience, including dorm life, athletics, Greek life, and the evolution of campus buildings.

Elyse’s great-grandparents, Revere Hamilton Saunders and Helen Brundige, were AU students from 1924-28 and were married after graduating. Their daughter Elizabeth Ann Saunders (Ann) enrolled in 1949. In her junior year math class, she met Joseph Fasano ’54, and they dated throughout college before marrying shortly after his graduation. They moved to Long Island but returned to Alfred in 1959, so Joe could serve as AU alumni director, a position he held until 1969. Ann took a job in Herrick Library, where she worked for 25 years before retiring in 1994. Joe was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame for football in 1985, and in 1999, he received the Lillian Nevins Outstanding Alumni Award for his continued service to the University.

Ann and Joe’s two children, Patrick and Kate, both attended AU – Kate spent three semesters on campus before finishing her degree at the State University of New York at Brockport; Patrick graduated from the University in 1980. A year later, Michelle (Shelley) McMillen moved to Western New York and met Patrick at a Delta Sigma Phi picnic. She ended up transferring to AU soon after, graduating with the class of 1984, and they were married that summer. For their daughter, Elyse, who had lived in Alfred as a child and spent summers there with her grandparents throughout her teenage years, enrolling in the University that had played such a large role in her family’s history was an obvious choice.

“I’m lucky to have a place in my life that holds so much rich family history but is also very much my own,” she writes in the closing to *Ever As Our Home*. “Alfred will always be around me, be a part of me, and continue to influence me for the rest of my life.”

After the sororities and fraternities at AU were closed, the former Delta Sigma Phi house, on the corner of Main Street near the traffic light, was renovated and re-dedicated as the Alfred University Welcome Center at the Fasano House in 2006 in recognition of the family’s continuing contributions to AU. The house also honors the memory of Patrick, who died in 1994, and Ann, who died in 2006. The Patrick A. Fasano Memorial Scholarship was also instituted through donations from Delta Sigma Nu alumni sisters.

*By Eileen Cody ’14*

Alumna’s photo book project celebrates 90-year AU family legacy

Far left: Joe Fasano ’54 and Elizabeth Ann Saunders (Ann) Fasano ’53 with children Kate and Patrick ‘80 in front of Rogers Campus Center, circa 1958. At left, a Fasano reunion in the early 1990s.
1930 Golden Saxons

Annette Fox Johnson died Aug. 7, 2013. Some remarks shared at her memorial service: "In her lifetime Annette saw 10 out of the University’s 13 presidents! … Having grown up in New York City, Annette chose Alfred … As she said ‘I didn’t want a flashy school with a big name, I wanted to get a good education.’ … While she was a student, Alfred University didn’t yet have a mascot, freshmen had to wear beanies, Physics Hall burned to the ground, and the Erie Railroad was the primary means of transportation … As much as Annette remembered AU’s past, she fully engaged in the present. She loved attending Reunion … where she chatted with current students and danced up a storm!"

1939 Golden Saxons

Life trustee Phillip W. Tefft ’39, ’75 (honorary) died May 6, 2013. Phillip was elected to the AU Board of Trustees in 1952, serving as chairman for six years. In 1963, he received the Knight of St. Patrick Award; in ’75, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree; and in 1976 he was named a Life Trustee. Tefft Hall, on campus, is named in honor of Phillip’s father, C. Forrest Tefft, an AU graduate.

Phillip attended AU for two years and played football, then attended Ohio State University, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in ceramic engineering. In recognition of his many contributions to the ceramic field he was named a Fellow of the American Ceramic Society in 1956.

Phillip especially loved being with family and friends and had a zest for life which included his love of fine woodworking, flying, sailing, tennis, and barbecuing. He was a legend of longevity on the golf course playing a round of 18 in his final days.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Phillip’s memory to Alfred University, Attn: University Relations, 1 Saxon Dr., Alfred, NY 14802.

1940 Golden Saxons

Charles (Charlie) Spiro, who turned 95 in October, writes that he’s lucky enough to have good health and keeps very busy tending to his three gardens from spring through fall at the Montgomery, AL community “farm.” He also drives for Meals On Wheels. Last holiday season he convinced 12 of his neighbors to join him in "The Matching Bell Ringers of the Salvation Army." They had two-hour shifts and matched up to $100 of whatever was donated to their kettles during the pre-Christmas season. He also bowls every week in a league and enjoys swimming in the community pool.

1943 Golden Saxons

Mrs. Evelyn Stevens Gorman
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warevego@esedona.net

Class Correspondent Evelyn Gorman reports in with some updates. "Your Correspondent begins with a personal vignette of sorts. I recently had a medical procedure with an excellent prognosis. During a preliminary written questionnaire I was asked, ‘Are you pregnant?’ My answer, ‘By what miracle?’ We (she and co-correspondent/spouse Warren) haven’t heard from any of you except two of our regular contributors. We realize it would be too difficult for many of you to respond, but pride in progeny would certainly be an acceptable and interesting feature. Would any of your progeny write of their accomplishments? Bet they would! Our one son and sole heir was a career officer in the U.S. Air Force and retired several years ago as full colonel. He now devotes much of his time as a volunteer for the Sedona Police Department and as local Post Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). My husband is also a member of the VFW. We are fortunate that son Dave and his family live only a couple miles away from our condo.

Gold class years indicate Golden Saxons and honored years at Reunion 2014
“We hadn’t heard from special friend Isabel Riggs Geibel in some time so we recently gave her a ring. She reassured us cheerfully that she is doing fine, enjoying the school activities of her young relatives who live nearby and partaking as best she can in seasonal social events. Isabel sends out more than 100 Christmas cards, but meets the challenge readily. Several weeks in advance of the holiday season, she starts writing a few cards every day. This means no last-minute rush job that most of us face.

“When Col. Larry March ’45, phones us, or conversely, we can be assured of a brighter day and a better well-being. His sharp intelligence, refreshing sense of humor, and fabulous memory all result in many delightful exchanges. Except for some vision problems for Larry, and medical ones for his wife Eddie, both seem to be very thankful for the blessings they have. Would that we could all age so gracefully!

“We’re repeating our plea to all ‘43 classmates to phone me if possible at 938.284.1139. If you have a computer, please email me at the address above. Remembrances and nostalgic tidbits are always a hit with not only 1943 classmates but other grads as well. Bye for now! ”

1946 Golden Saxons

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Frederickburg, VA  22407
albert4008@hotmail.com

1948 Golden Saxons

Dr. Donald B. Polan
206 1/2 South Ridgewood Avenue
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Ph: 386.736.0982
seabeedp@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
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Class Correspondent Herb MacDonell
reports: David Crump and his wife, Anne-Ly Crump-Garr live on the California coast. They purchased five acres of avocado and citrus orchards with a house in Ojai, CA, said to be “an hour and a half north of Los Angeles and a million miles away.” David says “We continue to travel, soon to Central America, adding three more countries to the 55 already visited. Our favorite is Italy, where we lived twice for six weeks.”

Dick Johnson writes: “I am answering you from the Greek Island of Mykonos where I have visited annually since 1969. Actually travel seems to be the one thing that keeps me active. In June, I spent about two weeks in Croatia on a boat visiting the islands around Dubrovnik and I will be in Europe until the end of September when I return to New York. This isn’t anything of major significance, but you did ask if any of us were keeping busy, so this is the best I can report. Regards to all.”

1951 Golden Saxons

Mr. George E. Crouchley, Jr.
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kevin.crouchley@navy.mil

Former University Trustee John Peretz died Sept. 28, 2013, just three weeks after his 90th birthday. John was a retired vice president of AXA Financial and was a resident of Garden City, NY. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and son Craig ’88. The family requests that memorial contributions in John’s name be made to Alfred University.

John earned his AU bachelor of arts degree in history and political science. His many undergraduate activities included membership in Klan Alpine, Blue Key, and Inter-Fraternity Council. While serving on the Board of Trustees, John was chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee and Campus Planning Sub-Committee. He also served on the Admissions, Buildings and Grounds, and Executive committees. John also was a member of the Alumni Council and worked as a member of the Corporate/Foundation Committee of the Heritage Fund Campaign to establish the J. Henry Smith Research Fellowship. John served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-46, earning several citations while in the South Pacific Theater.

Robert A. Hultquist of Centre Hall, PA writes: “When I was 14 years old, a career interest test supported what I already knew. Reunion 2014

Mark your calendars for June 6-8, 2014!


Check www.alfred.edu/alumni for updates or contact the Alumni Relations Office at 607-871-2144 or email: alumni@alfred.edu
My interests were farming (#1) followed by math and baseball. After four summers of semi-pro baseball, I spent two years in the Army, then married and started a career in mathematical statistics. After I 'retired' in 1996, my wife and I taught for two years at Missionary School in The German Black Forest. Now, I’m doing my #1 interest (farming)."

1952 Golden Saxons

Mr. Frank F. Bredell
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fbredell@sbcglobal.net

Designer Marketplace recently profiled Wayne Husted and his glasswork. Val Murat Cushing, emeritus professor of ceramics in the College of Ceramics, husband, father, artist, alumnus, colleague, friend, gentleman, died Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Elsie; a daughter, Karen ’80; two sons, Mark and Eric ’97; and seven grandchildren.

Val earned both his bachelor of fine arts and master of fine arts degrees from the School of Art and Design at AU, in 1952 and 1956, respectively. He joined the faculty in the School in September 1957 and stayed for 40 years, retiring at the end of the 1996-97 academic year.

Val, considered one of the foremost contemporary ceramic artists in the United States, created functional pottery and sculptural ceramic vessels using forms, colors, and textures inspired by nature. He was known for his glazes and used clean, simple lines and simplicity to explore the richness of surface in pottery. Val’s elegant pieces, including casseroles and storage jars, reflect the early history of ceramic art in Alfred. He said his earthy, subdued colors were inspired by the autumn scenes in the Alfred landscapes.

According to his own website, Val "found his profession to be challenging, always stimulating, and one filled with memories of friendships and wonderful students." In 1990, Val was honored as an outstanding alumnus during Alumni Reunion activities for his achievements as an artist and his dedication and devotion to AU students as a teacher. Val continued to be active in his teaching and in his work. This past September he lectured our students on campus.

He was a founding member and former president of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, as well as a Fellow of the American Craft Council. The American Ceramic Society named him Ceramic Artist of the Year in 1977. He was also the recipient of a State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 1981, he was the first recipient of AU’s Distinguished Service Award. He also was the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship and a Fulbright grant for teaching and research.

1953 Golden Saxons

Mrs. Carol Dunham Sheets
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Marc Nerenstone reports "I left Alfred in 1953 with bachelor of science and master of science degrees, was employed in materials development for several years and spent two years in the U.S. Army. When the Cuban Missile Crisis broke out in October 1962, I was a civilian operations research analyst working with the U.S. Navy in Key West, FL and developed the tactics which were employed to defend the town and naval installation against the Soviet Komars; these boats were outfitted with nuclear capable missiles and stationed in Cuba’s Mariel harbor. During the Vietnam War, my analysis of Navy operations off the coast of South Vietnam dissuaded Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara from launching a bombing campaign along the east coast of South Vietnam. A paper that I presented of this analysis was awarded First Prize at the Military Operations Research Society Symposium in April 1976. When I retired from the U.S. Department of Justice at age 65, my wife Alice and I moved to Fort Myers, FL, where I was active in politics, as a candidate and as a vote-count monitor during the notorious Bush vs. Gore hanging chad election. Now Alice and I, age 84, live in Chantilly, VA, close to children and grandchildren. I am a news junkie, blue grass fan, and amateur videographer."

1954 Golden Saxons

Mrs. Dee Michaels Levine
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Inge Hess writes: "Sixty years ago – June 1953, to be exact – a group of Sigma sisters were preparing to return to our homes. Some had graduated and others would be returning in the fall. As we packed, we talked about ‘staying in touch.’ We decided we would start writing a ‘Round Robin’ letter. So it started in the fall of 1953. What we didn’t anticipate was where our futures would take us. At first the ‘RR’ started arriving at our family homes. Then, some married; others found jobs in new locations. Soon ‘the Robin’ was traveling to Japan, Spain, Africa, South American, and across the United States. ‘Now it is 60 years later, and YES, ‘the Robin’ is still making her rounds. Sadly we lost Ann Saunders Fasano but we have commemorated her with a Red Bud tree planted on the grounds of the alumni building (The Welcome Center at the Fasano House) on Main Street in Alfred."
“We are now in our 80s but the bond of friendship has been sustained with several reunions over the years from Oregon to Cape Cod and in between. We don’t seem to run out of news to share with this wonderful group of Sigma sisters.

“Some of us plan to attend Reunion 2014 in Alfred. We hope to see many other alumni there.” Signed: Joyce Holden-Crean ’53, Nancy Lobaugh Double ’53, Inge Moeller Hess’54, Martha Shelton LePrell ’53, Pam Davis Mervin ’53, Beverly Spaulding Rawlings ’53, Dorothy Bellusci Virtuoso

Robert Kalfin directed the world premiere staging of “Chance – A Musical Play about Love, Risk & Getting it Right” in July 2013 at The Alcove Theatre, San Francisco. Robert is founder of the Tony Award-winning Chelsea Theatre Center.

1955

Golden Saxons

Mr. Richard “Dick” A. Phillips
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Manning, SC  29102
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rphill291022@gmail.com

David Lawrence Mahoney married Helen Jeannette Fox on May 30, 2013 in Dublin, Ireland.

1956

Golden Saxons

Mr. Douglas E. Wilson
671 Walnut Drive
Manheim, PA  17545
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1957

Golden Saxons

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


The NYS Office of the Aging recognized Almond, NY residents Chuck and Ellen (’58) Shultz’s volunteer efforts on Senior Citizens’ Day in Albany in May 2013. Chuck has

By Alan Littell ’53

For the 19th-century founders of Alfred University, the family names would have had a familiar ring: Kenyon, Maxson, Saunders.

These and others like them belonged to the nine male members of the University’s senior class of 1861. And in the spring of that year, with the American republic sundered over the issue of slavery, and with the secessionist South united in an independent confederacy, the nine Alfredians heeded President Abraham Lincoln’s call for volunteers to fight for restoration of the Union. Moved by patriotism and religious fervor, they enlisted in two of the many infantry regiments then forming throughout New York State.

“They are as fine fellows as the world can boast,” declared a local newspaper, “and [they] enlist for victory or death.”

Read the full story at alfredmagazine.alfred.edu

Civil War veterans assemble on Main Street in the village of Alfred for the 1884 Memorial Day parade. (credit: Alfred University archives)
volunteered for the Allegany County Office for the Aging for 18 years. He delivers Meals-on-Wheels one day a week, drives older adults to their doctors’ appointments, and is a volunteer handyman. He is on the board of the Allegany Senior Foundation. He also volunteers for the Alfred Area Food Pantry once a month, is head usher at the Union University Church, and is on the board of the AU Alumni Golf Tournament. Ellen volunteers at the Alfred Box of Books Library once a week. She co-founded Alfred’s Community Theater and directs many of the productions. She has served on the board of directors for the Allegany Area Foundation which provides scholarships for county students and funding for agencies to improve the quality of life in the county.

Howard R. Slonim writes that when he attended the class 50th Reunion he "was in awe of the beauty of the new buildings, the campus, and the surrounding village. As Wadsworth said 'Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive; but to be young was very heavy.'"

The Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame’s Delaware County Chapter inducted Warren Sutton at its annual awards dinner in June. Sutton played college basketball at AU, where he ranked among the top 10 nationally in rebounding (18.7 per game) in 1958 and was fourth in 1959 (21.7). The St. Louis Hawks selected him in the 1964 NBA Draft.

Darwin (Deac) Dorr closed his psychotherapy practice three years ago when he turned 70. He is still a full-time professor of psychology and director of clinical training for the Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at Wichita State University. During the last academic year he chaired three Ph.D. dissertations. He continues to lead a group of five graduate students studying dimensions of psychopathology.

Peter Buttress, University Trustee emeritus, recently published his second children’s book, “Chase Gets a Pen Pal.” The story is about a young girl who is in hospital. She is not feeling well, she is bored, and she misses her friends at school. In walks Chase, the therapy dog, who immediately lifts her spirits. She smiles as she pets him and after he leaves to go to another room, she decides to write him a thank-you letter. To her surprise, he writes back and they begin a year-long pen pal relationship during which he explains what he does to lift the spirits of those who are ill, lonely, or just in need of a friend. Peter’s first book, “Chase Gets a Medal,” published by AuthorHouse in 2011, also teaches children what a therapy dog does. He has taken it to numerous elementary schools and summer camps to read to students. Both books are available at www.amazon.com.


**URGENT! Alumni award nominations needed for Reunion 2014!**

Dear Alumni, Faculty, Staff, Administration – If you know of Alfred University alumni whose achievements or dedication to Alfred University have distinguished themselves in some significant way, PLEASE SUBMIT NOMINATIONS NOW for Alumni Awards to be conferred during Reunion Weekend!

The Alumni Association presents awards annually at Reunion to alumni of the University who have distinguished themselves in some way. There are up to four awards that may be granted for distinguished achievement, lifetime service to Alfred University, or distinguished service. Also included is a new award that recognizes the unique achievements of a young alum who is a graduate of the last decade (GOLD). Please help us recognize those individuals for their efforts and achievements by nominating them for one of Alfred University’s prestigious awards.

Nomination forms are available online at www.alfred.edu/alumni/awards.cfm.

Please submit all nominations by Jan. 15, 2014.

Nominations may be forwarded to the Alumni Relations Office, Welcome Center, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802. You may also Email nominations or fax your information to 607.871.2391. Please contact us with any questions at 607.871.2144.

Thank you for your support and assistance – Fiat Lux !!
Mrs. Ruth Reeve Gau
29 Fair Way
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603-5033
nisky1960@yahoo.com

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

Class Correspondent Ruth Gau writes:
“Greetings from Poughkeepsie, NY. Come visit our Walkway Over the Hudson. You can walk, ride your bike, roller blade, walk your dog, stroll with a baby carriage, or just sit and enjoy the view. Perhaps, the Walk Way was the best birthday gift I ever received, as on Oct. 3, 2009 it opened to the public. Please come and see this wonderful creation and when you are here visit us at 29 Fair Way, as we are on the first hole of the Casperkill Golf Course.

“Spoke with John Turner and he and his wife Liz speak highly of returning for our 50th. John retired five years ago from the refractory ceramic industry and spends his time between Naples, FL and Columbus, Ohio. Caught him on the way to tee time so our conversation was short, but hope that we hear more from him at our upcoming Reunion. Also spoke with Phil Stillman’s wife, Joan, who hopes to see us in June. Phil is retired and living in Boca Raton, FL. When asked if he is still a stand-up comedian, Joan said he is still ‘acting at home.’ They have a daughter, Liz, who lives in Manhattan and a son, Nathan who lives in Chicago with twin 7-year-old girls. Phil and Joan get together with Joe and Alice Smith who live in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

“John MacFadden, who lives in Saratoga Springs, NY, winters in southern California at Huntington Beach and Newport Beach. He is planning on returning to our 50th Reunion. Harriet Fain Berger sends her best and may return for our 50th Reunion. Harriet runs a day care center in Germantown, MD.

“Managed to catch Dart Everett of Brattleboro, VT who is still working in real estate as he writes apartment appraisals. He enjoys traveling and frequently visits Mexico. Dart has two grandchildren near his home and is thinking of returning for the 50th. Spoke with Ted Eighmie’s wife, Dora, who said they hope to return to Alfred for the 50th. After Ted was ‘laid off’ at KAPL, Niskayuna, NY, he became an investment adviser from which he retired two years ago. Ted and Dora have three married children: Kim, who lives in Clifton Park, works as an accountant; Pam, a math teacher in Schenectady; and Bill, who lives in Castleton-on-the-Hudson, a computer systems analyst.

“Had the pleasure of speaking with Lynda Harrison Whitney who is vice president of The Palette and Brush Club. She organizes the membership directory and helps with monthly reception meetings. Lynda has shown her framed, 16”x20” watercolor paintings and won awards. She is working on a canvas featuring her daughter, Heather (Internet designer for John Lyle), and her dog. Lynda’s husband, Bob, with three lady friends, does karaoke shows (music of the ’40s) at nursing homes. He croons Frank Sinatra melodies while the three ladies portray The Andrew Sisters.

“Had an interesting conversation with Cindy Nead Nevins who takes her sketch book to church and draws during the sermons. She is enjoying retirement and has produced 3D sculpture and paintings. She babysits her 7-year-old grandson, Liam, whom she says is talented like his father, who creates body art, and in the winter is a ski instructor at Jimmy Peak. Cindy said she would think about returning to AU as did Audra Grant Kinner and Cordelia Jong Hwang. Cordelia attended Alfred and graduated from Barnard College (Columbia University), worked 25 years as a chemist with the Metropolitan Water District in Southern California, and is enjoying retirement via travel by cruising Eastern Europe.

“Roger Underhill grows vegetables in his backyard but finds it difficult to keep gophers out in San Francisco. He has a dwarf, Machtosh apple tree which produced 40 sweet macs, only because he hung clam shells to keep the birds from eating his crop. Roger officiates girls volleyball at Burton High School. For the last two years Roger has played volleyball in the Senior Olympics in Stanford and recently Olympic Volleyball in San Diego. His position is outside hitter and setter and his number is 10. Roger is the founder of the San Francisco Volleyball Association. He is hoping to return to his 50th.

“Spoke with Joan Ranker Abrey and she is looking forward to our 50th, as I hear Linda Nowak Haight is, too.

“Lesley Mace Knoll and Tom Knoll no longer have a rock shop where Lesley created some of her artistic, silver jewelry but they still own Waters Edge, Long Lake, NY. As they open their rental property the first week in June, Lesley is not sure if she can return to AU, although she would like to be at The Omicron 70th Reunion. Lesley and Tom own an RV motor home. They were to travel in November to Quartzsite, AZ to attend rock shows and visit friends, as well as stay in RV Parks. After Christmas they head south to visit Central Florida where phosphate is mined and where they find shark’s teeth in Bone Valley. Lesley and Tom have two married children, Andrea and Michelle. Andrea and Anthony Dawson-Ellis have The Haus, a lodging place in Lake Placid that was featured...
Eric Bershad ’69, chairman and founder of Phillip Jeffries, Fairfield, NJ, a manufacturer and distributor of natural, textured and specialty wall coverings, traveled to campus in early fall to share his years of experience in the art and business fields with current AU students. The company works hand-in-hand with skilled artisans to produce and sell to more than 10,000 architects and both residential and contract interior designers throughout the world.


“Priscilla Humphrey Popp enjoys retirement and visiting with her son Stephen and wife Lori and family of four - kindergarten, second, third, fifth grades - who live in Grand Rapids, MI. Pris’ other son, Mark, also works in the salt mine and enjoys working the family 50-acre farm. Pris enjoys running their log splitter. In the afternoon, Pris visits friends, does art work, and reads. She hopes to return to our 50th Reunion.

"Jay Williams, who lives in Dryden, NY, has visited the Alfred campus with her sister, Kay Williams ’63 and Jay expressed an interest in the Equestrian Studies Program at AU; she has participated in competitive trail riding on a thoroughbred with an English saddle. Jay worked 33 years at Cornell University, 20 of which were in the equine research department at the Vet College and she worked for a large animal orthopedic surgeon in the research lab. Jay has raised an Irish thoroughbred with an English saddle. He has been involved with the new Natural State History Museum.

"Williams’ mother, Janet, is a Labrador cross. Jay had a farm until an accident caused her to relocate to a smaller home. We hope Jay will return to Alfred to see the Equestrian Studies Program.

"Just received a phone call from Janet ‘Peachie’ Bidwell. She and John ’63 recently visited their son, Andy, wife Sarah, and grandsons Sam and Danny (10, 6) who live in Portland, OR. Andy is a wildlife biologist for the Portland Electric General. Their other son, Tim, who is in sales and marketing, and his wife, Dale, and their adult son live near Peachie and John. Peachie has over 100 species of flowers and herbs in her wildlife garden. John is still involved with his competitive archery. They both row and canoe as they live on a pond.

"Just heard from Ronnie Suchman Klein who will be celebrating her 50th wedding anniversary. Ronnie and Rich, with Ronnie’s brother and sister-in-law, are taking a barge trip to the Burgundy region in France. We are sorry they shall miss our 50th Reunion.

"Spoke with Betsy Conover Leipold and she and Paul are kept very busy with their grandchildren. Betsy mentioned she would be contacting as many nurses as she can in between taking care of her daughter’s children, a 5-year-old and toddler. Paul is planning on contacting Kappa Psi brothers.

"We – Class Correspondent Elaine T. Jermansen and I - would like to hear from more classmates and encourage you to consider attending our 50th Reunion June 6-8, 2014. Please call 845.462.5647 if you have any questions.”

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

1967

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

For the second straight year, 2 ½-year-old Ranch & Reata magazine has won the General Excellence Award for its circulation category at the annual American Horse Publications (AHP) Awards, considered the “Oscars of the Industry,” in Colorado Springs, CO. Ranch & Reata’s publishing company is co-owned University Trustee Peter Cuneo.

In addition, Ranch & Reata received honors for best Cover Page in its category - for issue #2.5 - a remarkable achievement for a publication that premiered in April of 2011.” Ranch & Reata is designed to provide a smart and authentic view of the ways and people that make the American West such a special place. A cross between a soft-cover book and a magazine each bi-monthly, 144 page issue of Ranch & Reata delivers 110 pages of editorial content. www.ranchandreata.com

Merrick (Rick) Rossein writes “I am a professor of Law at the City University of New York School of Law, litigated numerous employment discrimination cases, including landmark sexual harassment cases, published a three-volume treatise, “Employment Discrimination Law and Litigation,” and recently, was selected and served as the Independent EEO consultant in the wake of a U.S. District Court decision and remedial order in U.S. and the Vulcan Society v. the City of New York. I was responsible for developing a compliance program to ensure that the Fire Department of New York address and
eliminate discriminatory hiring practices based on race and build a diverse and inclusive firefighting workforce.”

1968
Mr. Peter L. Williams
24 Woburn Abbey Drive
Bedford, NH 03110
cpmm24@comcast.net

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

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

The University of Saint Joseph promoted Judith Durham to full professor of counseling in the School of Graduate and Professional Studies.

The spouse of Karen (Duncan) Green, William H. Green, died June 22, 2013, following a short illness. A native of Hornell, NY, he was drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps and served during the Vietnam War Era. Following service, Bill worked on the railroad and for the NYS Department of Transportation Rail Safety Division until his retirement in 2009. Throughout his life, he was an avid volunteer in youth sports. Bill loved spending time with his grandchildren and the entire family and will cherish summers spent at Lake Otsego in Cooperstown. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and three grandchildren.

1969 Reunion Year!

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

St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus, Ohio, displayed an exhibit of more than 40 paintings of homeless people by Joe Anatasi called “Art & Soul: An Intimate Portrait.” All proceeds from the opening reception and at least 25 percent of artwork proceeds benefited the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Community Shelter Board.

Beth Hurlburt Hensley was promoted to director of remediation and retention at Southside Regional Medical Center Professional Schools in Petersburg, VA. She was also named Educator of the Year at SRMC Professional Schools.

Wes Martens performed stand-up comedy in Southern California for 37 years. He has lived in Washington, D.C. since 2012.

1970
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(From left) Ken Campbell, Gil Roessner, Alan Kiki Stern, Mike Moran, and Ron Zapletal, all Phi Epsilon brothers from the class of 1970, annually gather at Ken’s second home in Rhode Island to do “jobs around the house.” This year they met in September to repair a mailbox and a light, but took a break to memorialize the visit in a photo.
Ross Pakula writes "I am now embarking on a second career as a voice-over artist... by all means if there are any people who know who might have connections, feel free to pass along... I have my own website at: www.rosspakula.icancvoice.com. After 34 years selling videogames and consumer electronics I thought I'd go back to my passion - I was a dj on WALF in its charter year (1971-72) and had an oldies radio show - so I've been wanting to get back in front of a microphone ever since, ..and now I’m on my way."

The Bath (NY) Rotary Club inducted James Arthur into the organization in a May 2013 ceremony.

Phillip Tennant received the President’s Medal for Excellence from Indiana University (IU). Tennant retired in June from IU’s Herron School of Art and Design. The highest honor an IU president can bestow, the President’s Medal for Excellence recognizes, among other criteria, distinction in public service, service to IU and extraordinary merit and achievement in the arts, humanities, sciences, education, and industry.

Warren Alan Wolf received the 2013 “Lawyer of the Year” Award from the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA) and the San Antonio Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. On May 28, 2013, the United States Supreme Court ruled in his client’s - Carlos Trevino - favor in a case challenging Trevino’s death-row conviction, which Warren argued did not receive fair representation by the attorney in his original case. Warren also received the Percy Foreman Lawyer of the Year Award from the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (TCDLA), a Presidential Award from TCDLA, was elected secretary of the San Antonio Crime Defense Lawyers Association, voted by his peers as one of San Antonio’s best criminal defense lawyers by San Antonio Scene Magazine, and received his 50-Year Veterans Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

Upon hearing of the death of Ronald R. Souser June 4, 2013, J.D. Barton, Jr., professor of biology, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at AU from 1968-76, wrote: “My wife, (Grace), daughter (Diana) and I would like to extend our sincere condolences to Ron Souser’s family. Since the late 1970s, Ron and my family have kept in touch, mostly by phone, lately email and the occasional card. I was always pleased that some of me rubbed off on Ron, but more important some of Ron’s exuberance for life rubbed off on me.”

Mr. Steven A. Reichman
35 Jay’s Corner
Somerset, NJ 08873
sarcic@comcast.net
Pennsylvania State University named Gary Messing a co-director of the Center for Innovative Materials Processing through Direct Digital Deposition. Gary will provide research expertise in materials and coordination for the design, manufacturing, and materials communities across Penn State.

Kathleen Mulcahy and Ron Desmert won the Artist of the Year Award at the 2013 (PA) Governor’s Awards for the Arts. Kathleen and Ron live and work in Oakdale, PA and have won many awards including grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation and the Fulbright Foundation. Spouses and partners, who work both collaboratively and individually, they were also the driving force behind the development of the Pittsburgh Glass Center, one of the top public access glass studios in the nation. They are permanent artists-in-residence and a vital part of the Artistic Leadership Team.

Randi Blumenson in October 2012, left her position as managing attorney with the Virginia Legal Aid Society after 32 years as a legal aid lawyer. Randi and her husband Dan moved to Salem, OR where they get to enjoy their five grandchildren. Randi is currently an operation and policy analyst with the Oregon Department of Human Services Presumptive Medicaid Unit. Her address: P.O. Box 5225, Salem, OR 97304.

Lance Shaner’s hotel business, Shaner Hotels, will manage a Marriott International hotel on Buffalo’s Canalside. The hotel is scheduled to open in May 2015. Shaner owns and manages more than 40 hotels in 17 states, as well as in the Bahamas and Italy.
William “Bill” Gibson, retired farm service agency director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is a part-time, private contractor for the Schoharie-Otsego (County, NY) Cornell Cooperative Extension Service. His current mission is to map the locations of all of the farms in the area and get a handle on the specific types of agricultural products they produce.

1976

Ms. Sara Wall-Bollinger
105 Thompson Street
Fayetteville, NY 13066
sarabollinger@gmail.com

Dr. Helen Matusow-Ayers, vice president for Student Affairs at Pratt Institute, New York City, was honored as a “Pillar of the Profession” by NASPA (national Student Affairs organization) Foundation. “Pillars” display sustained professional distinction in the higher education field, have served in NASPA leadership roles either regionally or nationally, are recognized for extraordinary service, and have made lifetime contributions to higher education.

George Mason showed new work at the Maine Jewish Museum in Portland, Maine late spring/early summer 2013. George is a ceramic and multimedia artist who helped found the Watershed Center of the Ceramic Arts in Edgecomb, Maine.

1977

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

John Duston writes “After a total of three major back surgeries over the past years, I finally began making some small creative efforts. Among those was a humorous folk art t-shirt depicting iconic cartoon character Homer Simpson sampling a local farmers market delicacy; Ruby’s Donuts. Entitled ‘Homer’s Seal of Approval,’ the t-shirt was accepted and acquired by unanimous vote for the permanent collection of the Hopkinson Historical Society of Hopkinson, NH. My home phone number is 603.746.5144.”

Wende Essrow published a children’s book, “The Paintbrush Dreamer,” which contains several references to AU on the back cover. It is a story of an artist’s lifelong dream of having an art studio in the forest coming true. The book invites young children to learn to see the world from a wildlife artist’s sensitive and passionate point of view. The Charles E. Burchfield Nature & Arts Center of West Seneca, NY hosted a launch open house for the book on June 30, 2013.

1978

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

Eileen (Selender) Anderson writes she has spent most of the years since graduation at Yale New Haven Hospital working in Critical Care, mostly the Heart Center. “I am also working at Choate Rosemary Hall (Wallingford, CN) in their Health Center transitioning to a retirement job in another two years. I also became a hospital-based Reiki practitioner level 2 which I practice on patients, families, and staff. I plan to join my husband Peter (retired state worker) in retirement.” Her daughter, Heather, graduated from Gettysburg College this spring, magna cum laude, with a bachelor of arts degree in music and Japanese; she plans to further her education to become a music librarian. She also has a son, Steve, working in landscaping.

Amy Seissler has married and is now called Amy Keith; she lives in Stamford, CT.

Dr. Ronald R. Sofo was appointed CEO/principal of City Charter High School, Pittsburgh, PA, in August 2012.

The Santa Cruz Sentinel interviewed Stan Welsh about his ceramic artwork and his teaching career at San Jose State University, where he’s worked since 1981. This summer, he worked on a collaborative body of work with his wife, Margitta Dietrick-Welsh, for a museum in Mazatlán, Mexico.

Red Star Studios at the Belger Crane Yard in Kansas City, Mo. showcased Akio Takamori’s ceramic art exhibit titled “Lust.”

1979

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

1980

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

Ed Bradley published his first book, “Cycling Through Depression,” which chronicles his cross-country bicycle journey to raise awareness of depression, which he has struggled with for years. He cycled more than 7,000 miles from Fort Kent, Maine to Key West, FL to prove that he and others battling depression did not have to be limited by the illness. The book can be purchased on createspace.com. Bradley spoke about his book on campus and locally in October. Following her Featured Artist Show at the
David A. Howe in Wellsville, NY, Betty W. Sweet donated a painting of the historic York's Corner Store, one of the earliest buildings constructed in the town of Willing in Allegany County, NY, to the Allegany County Historical Society. Betty began the painting on scene when she lived in the area during the '70s and finished it recently. She has a gallery on Hunter Mountain in the Catskills and works as a muralist each winter in Florida.

Mitchell Lampert has joined Robinson & Cole LLP, Stamford, CT as a partner in the Business Transactions Group. Mitchell has been representing private and public companies and FINRA member broker/dealers in corporate- and securities-related matters for more than 25 years. Mitchell represents clients in technology, social media, life sciences, manufacturing, finance, food and beverage, retail, financial services, sports, entertainment, oil and gas, e-commerce, and event-related industries.

Joseph Fucigna exhibited “Ebb and Flow” May/June at the Giampietro Gallery, New Haven, CT. Joseph, a sculptor and ink painter living and working in Connecticut, has received several prestigious awards for his work, including the Molly and Albert Jacobson Award for Sculpture and the Individual Artist Grant from the Connecticut Commission on the Arts.

In the Matthews Gallery’s October 2013 “NEW HORIZONS: Focus on Landscapes” show, Tesuque, NM artist Frank Morbillo’s landscape-inspired sculpture was described as engaging with contemporary and historic landscape art from the Southwest and beyond.

1982

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

Calympo Communications, a full-service public relations, marketing and graphic design firm in Northern New England, welcomed Becky Holt as the agency’s newest public relations account executive. Holt provides media relations, marketing, and social media expertise to Calypso’s growing roster of clients in the renewable energy, utility, and clean technology sectors. An artist, Becky is a volunteer at the Portsmouth Museum of Art where she also serves as curator and sustainability supporter.

1983

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

Tom Whelan served as an assistant coach for the New England Little League World Series team from Westport, CN. The team reached the United States Championship, where they lost to Chula Vista, CA 12-1 on Aug. 24. The team then lost 15-14 to Tijuana, Mexico in a consolation game on Aug. 25.

1984

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

Calypso Communications, a full-service public relations, marketing and graphic design firm in Northern New England, welcomed Becky Holt as the agency’s newest public relations account executive. Holt provides media relations, marketing, and social media expertise to Calypso’s growing roster of clients in the renewable energy, utility, and clean technology sectors. An artist, Becky is a volunteer at the Portsmouth Museum of Art where she also serves as curator and sustainability supporter.

1985

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

Mary Holden is a visiting lecturer in physics at California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks, CA.

1981

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

Tom Whelan ’83, far right, stands amidst some of his 2013 New England Little League World Series team members.
Greg Leshé collaborated with noted artist, educator, and editions expert Judith Brodsky and designer Isabella Palowitch on a large catalog project for artist Basil Alkazzi. Scala Arts Publishers, Inc. published the monograph accompanying Alkazzi’s traveling exhibit. Greg photographed and interpreted his works into high resolution digital files for print reproduction using the Hasselblad Multishot camera, one of the finest imaging capture systems available. Also, Robin Lauda, noted educator and author of numerous books on creativity and visual communications, invited Greg to contribute to her upcoming book project, “DRAW! The guided sketchbook that teaches you how to draw,” published this fall by New Riders/Pearson. Several of Greg’s drawings, quotes, and promos appear in the publication.

Spencer Hughes published “No Reflection,” available through Amazon.com. He is contracted to write two additional novels based on the same story arc. A confrontation with the concepts of vanity, dependence, media, and culture, “No Reflection” is a story about the horrors of our contemporary world and the sanctuaries we can find within it.

Michael McKinley is general manager of the Wellsville Daily Reporter, Wellsville, NY.


Don Scholla retired from Olean (NY) High School in June 2013 as athletics director. He has served as the Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County Soccer League official’s assinger, on the City of Olean Division of Youth and Recreation Services Advisory Board, and has been the president of the Cattaraugus County Athletic Association. Since 1995, he has served as the chairman for Division I in the Chautauqua County Athletic Association, and for the past 10 years, has been the Section VI boys representative on the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee.

Clemente J. Parente joined the Albany office of Jackson Lewis LLP.

Col. Daniel R. Hirsch took over as commander-director of the Integrated Test and Evaluation Directorate at Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas on May 30. Hirsch’s role is to work closely with Brigade Modernization Command, also headquartered at Fort Bliss, and help plan the semiannual Network Integration Evaluations. These exercises use soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, to test new equipment in the field. Hirsch oversees a staff of 50 soldiers, civilians, and contractors.

Vickie (Amidon) Weyand retired from teaching high school biology and chemistry and married Dr. James Weyand, an optometrist, on June 11, 2013 in Duck, NC.

Lakeland Bancorp Inc., New Jersey, promoted Bruce Bready to vice president. A resident of Byram, NJ, Bruce is actively involved as a coach for town and travel baseball programs.

Kimberly Marie Conroy received the doctor of nursing practice degree on May 18, 2013 at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA. She was one of 14 members of the program’s inaugural class. As part of the requirements, Kimberly completed a scholarly project, “Mental Well-Being and Self Efficacy in Severe Mental Illness.” She is a Board Certified Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and is in private practice in Olean, NY.

Herkimer County Community College Associate Dean of Continuing Education Linda Contino Lamb received the 2013 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service at Herkimer County Community College (HCCC). Lamb has more than 20 years’ experience in continuing education and online learning. After 12 years in various roles in Herkimer’s Office of Continuing Education, she became the first director of the Internet Academy, where she worked closely with faculty and returning adult students as they entered the online classroom. Through Linda’s efforts, a Teaching and Learning Collaborative (TLC) was developed to promote excellence in teaching and support the HCCC faculty. She currently oversees the Internet Academy, TLC, Office of Community Education, College Now Concurrent Enrollment Program, and the Office of Adjunct Instruction.

McGuire Development Co. promoted Judy Robertson to property accounting analyst. Robertson had served as a general accountant for the company since 2011.

The Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University presented an art showcase titled “Western New York Collects: Josh Iguchi” by alumnus Josh Iguchi.

Jordana M.Y. Shane joined the faculty of King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, PA, as an instruction/reference librarian with the rank of assistant technical professor. She is working on a master’s degree at Nova Southeastern University.

Kimberly Marie Conroy ’86

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

Mrs. Catherine Riscili Staszewski

Kimberly Marie Conroy received the doctor of nursing practice degree on May 18, 2013 at Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA. She was one of 14 members of the program’s inaugural class. As part of the requirements, Kimberly completed a scholarly project, “Mental Well-Being and Self Efficacy in Severe Mental Illness.” She is a Board Certified Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and is in private practice in Olean, NY.

Herkimer County Community College

Associate Dean of Continuing Education Linda Contino Lamb received the 2013 SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service at Herkimer County Community College (HCCC). Lamb has more than 20 years’ experience in continuing education and online learning. After 12 years in various roles in Herkimer’s Office of Continuing Education, she became the first director of the Internet Academy, where she worked closely with faculty and returning adult students as they entered the online classroom. Through Linda’s efforts, a Teaching and Learning Collaborative (TLC) was developed to promote excellence in teaching and support the HCCC faculty. She currently oversees the Internet Academy, TLC, Office of Community Education, College Now Concurrent Enrollment Program, and the Office of Adjunct Instruction.

McGuire Development Co. promoted Judy Robertson to property accounting analyst. Robertson had served as a general accountant for the company since 2011.

1987

Mrs. Susan McDonald Gould

35 Carriage Court

Pittsford, NY 14534-4031

gouldroc@gmail.com

Yale-New Haven Hospital nominated Elizabeth O’Mara for the American Organization of Nurse Executives fellows.

The Castellani Art Museum at Niagara University presented an art showcase titled “Western New York Collects: Josh Iguchi” by alumnus Josh Iguchi.

Jordana M.Y. Shane joined the faculty of King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, PA, as an instruction/reference librarian with the rank of assistant technical professor. She is working on a master’s degree at Nova Southeastern University.

1988

Mrs. Kara Mackey-Dopman

11 Briar Lane

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

kmdopman@aol.com

Kara Mackey Dopman is starting a new business, the Saratoga Stillhouse, Inc. It will take about a year to get things up and running. She is waiting for the corporation and tax papers to come back from the state, then she can move on a business plan, funding, location, etc.

Julia Galloway spoke about ceramic art at Kent/Blossom Art at Kent State University as part of the 2013 Public Lecture Series. Julia creates porcelain ceramics with both aesthetic and utilitarian purposes. She currently serves as the director of the School of Art at the University of Montana-Missoula. Julia’s solo exhibitions have included shows at The Clay Gallery, Philadelphia, Lill Street, Chicago, and the Clay Arts Center, New York City.
The Archie Bray Foundation Residence Center (Helena, MT) presented a talk by Tony Marsh on his ceramic artwork and influences. His art has been exhibited across the United States, Asia and Europe. Examples of his work may be found in many private and public permanent collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Museum of Art & Design, New York; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Museum of Contemporary International Ceramic Art, Inchon, South Korea; and the Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto. He lives and works in Long Beach, CA, where he teaches and is chairman of the ceramic arts program at California State University-Long Beach.

PenBay Pilot of Camden, Maine profiled Tom Higbee’s woodworking business.

1989 Reunion Year!
Mr. R. Geoffrey Byrne, Jr.
1239 Wylie Street NE
Washington, DC 20002
gbyrne@gds.org

1990
Dr. Andrew T. Weller
10731 Rosewood Lane
Clarence, NY 14031-2325

Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance appointed Leo J. Carroll as senior vice president, Healthcare Professional Liability.

Frank Pisciotta says he is living his dream job as the president of Business Protection Specialists, Inc., specializing in helping companies prevent crime and reduce threats through risk assessments, security surveys, and security system design and implementation. He is International Association of Professional Security Consultants (IAPSC) president and serves on the ASIS International Risk Assessment Technical Standards Committee. He works from his Victor, NY and Raleigh, NC offices but travels throughout the United States to assist clients.

Dow Chemical Co. appointed A.N. Sreeram as corporate vice president of Research & Development.

Rebecca Cohen showcased her acrylic artwork at the RatCity ArtCity April Art Walk in White Center, WA.

Matthew McElligott received the South Dakota Library Association’s 2012-13 Prairie Bud Award for best children’s book for grades K-2 for “Even Monsters Need Haircuts,” published in 2010 by Walker and Co. The award is presented annually for the book receiving the most votes from children throughout the state. McElligott has written and illustrated 13 children’s books. He lives in Selkirk, NY with his wife, Christy, also a member of the AU class of 1990.

1991
Mrs. Karen Schrader Greabell
Ten Elm Road
Kings Park, NY 11754
klgreabell@me.com

The Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, Great Falls, MT showcased Josh DeWeese’s ceramic work titled “A Point in Time”
featuring a range of pottery forms including covered jars, platters, baskets, various pouring vessels, and cups, late spring through summer 2013. ” He is an assistant art professor at Montana State University.

Torsten Zenas Burns developed a DVD of his video and performance artwork to foster donations for Signal Culture, a new media arts organization called Signal Culture in Central New York.

1992
Mrs. Michelle Patterson Peck
12001 South Anna Drive
Rockville, VA 23146
michelle_peck@pediatrix.com

Susan Bloch, a mixed-media sculptor, shows her work locally and internationally. Susan created her recent work, “Zephyr,” with a stipend from Playhouse Arts, through the Creamery District’s Creative Placemaking arts initiative, Arcata, CA. The mobile was inspired by light, wind, and motion. It is composed of colorful glass cylinders and glass crystals interconnected with narrow black tubing hung from a 3-foot-wide metal shell; the piece is 6 feet tall. The crystals sparkle, casting light and shadows on the building in the noon sun, while the tendrils sway in the wind suspended on the corner of the North Coast Children’s Services building at Ninth and L streets in Arcata. Susan also had a carved glass and light piece in the Redwood Art Association exhibit in Eureka. For more information, email sbw@blochstudio.com.

1993
Mrs. Tracy Lazarony-Rudd
204 Steed Lane
Bel Air, MD 21014-2373
tracylazarony@hotmail.com

The Fuller Craft Museum, Tarlow Gallery, Brockton, MA showed ceramic plant figures designed by Linda Huey.

Michael O’Malley teaches sculpture at Pomona College, Claremont, CA as an associate professor of art.

1994 Reunion Year!
Mrs. Ellen Debiase Kolonoski
18 Crestview Lane
Hamburg, NY 14075
mekolonoski@netzero.net

For the second year in a row Nannette Stangle-Castor, founder and president of InnoVector Tech, was selected as the winner of the LEAD Award by the Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association (HBA) Research Triangle Park chapter. She was recognized at the national conference in Boston Nov. 13, 2013. The award recognizes one outstanding chapter member who has demonstrated excellence at a regional level, positively contributed to the chapter and its ongoing success, exemplified leadership excellence overall and demonstrated dedication to
the HBA mission of furthering the advancement of women in healthcare worldwide. This past year Nannette spearheaded a social media initiative for the organization, providing training to HBA programming directors at the local and national levels. She also continued her work to encourage, inspire, and train volunteers.

In 2014, Nannette will serve as president of the Triangle Park chapter. InnoVector is a Raleigh (NC)-based firm that specialized in management consulting and strategic communications for healthcare organizations, foundations, and non-profits. Earlier this year the company launched social media training classes for business professionals. Nannette teaches the classes, titled "Use Social Media for Your Personal Brand" and "Twitter Basics and Social Media Management with HootSuite."

Mark A. Ferm ‘94

was appointed this fall to the NYS Board for Public Accountancy. He is an accounting and auditing partner with Tronconi Segarra & Associates LLP, Williamsville, NY. In July 2013, Mark was presented with the De Moss Leadership Award from Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Erie (NY) County where he recently completed service on that organization’s board of directors. He is a past member of the AU Alumni Association Board and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.


The Santa Fe Art Institute appointed Sanjit Sethi executive director, effective Aug. 1, 2013.

Mark Ferm ‘94

1995

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

Yasmine Awais writes "I recently have been appointed assistant clinical professor in the Art Therapy program at Drexel University. Here is the link to my department: http://drexel.edu/artsTherapies/ I have a publication (co-authored with Ann Marie Yali) in the
latest Journal of the American Art Therapy Association. The title is “A Call for Diversity: The Need to Recruit and Retain Ethnic Minority Students in Art Therapy,” Here is the link to the article: http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07421656.2013.819284#.UjxpBbLxQ0hs

And I have two chapters in a book titled “Using Art Therapy with Diverse Populations: Crossing Cultures and Abilities.” One chapter is called “Reframing Identity: Art Therapy in Saudi Arabia” and the other (co-authored with Daniel Blausey) “HIV/AIDS: Reflecting on 15 Years in New York City.”

Joseph W. Budahazy died at age 39 July 19, 2013. His parents seek to establish the Joseph W. Budahazy Scholarship Fund to be awarded each year to a student graduating from Shelton (CT) High School who plans to pursue a career in engineering. They feel that this will enable to keep Joe’s memory alive and will do what he so enjoyed, which is helping other people. One of the criteria they have made is that if a student is planning on attending Alfred University that he or she be given a priority in determining who is awarded the scholarship. Joseph was an engineer for 15 years with AT&T. He was an honors graduate of Shelton High School Class of 1992.

Silverman and Hamilton Square Condominium Association presented Ann LePore’s “Upward Mobility” in ArtBloc, a mobile art gallery and performance space built from two repurposed shipping containers, July 10-Aug. 31, 2013.

1998
Mrs. Natalie Krauser-McCarty
1211 Prospect Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07060
natalie@1211prospect.com

Maj. Matthew Kessler was awarded the Bronze Star while serving as a military adviser to the 215 Army Corps from January 2012 to December 2012. As part of a 20-man adviser team with the First Marine Expeditionary Force, Matthew served side-by-side with his Afghan counterparts as they transitioned to independent operations. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps following graduation from AU. He currently lives in Camp Lejeune, NC with his wife, Rebecca (Schneider ’98) and their two children, Edward and Rose.

Adrienne Metzinger, managing director of New York City’s One World Symphony, performed as the legendary temptress Dalila in Saint-Saëns’ Samson et Dalila, when her husband, Sung Jin Hong, artistic director and conductor of One World Symphony, presented the adventurous and interactive show performing Saariaho, Hindemith, Puccini with a cast of vocal artists and critically acclaimed burlesque artist Bettina May, Oct. 27-28, 2013.

Art by Colleen McCall of Elmira was featured in the 2013 Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition in the Grand Gallery at Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester. Every two years, Rochester’s longest-running juried exhibition showcases work by artists from Western and Central New York. Eighty-one artists were selected from 230 entries.

Adam Sorensen served on a panel of judges that named finalists for the “Neddy at Cornish,” an annual award program supported by Behnke Foundation and housed at Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA.


1999 Reunion Year!
Mr. Andrew P. Alesso
3001 Dutch Road
Fairview, PA 16415-1948
andrewalesso@aol.com

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

Timothy Gorbold joined Hydro Flask, a Bend, OR-based company known as an award-winning leader in high-performance, insulated stainless steel flasks, as a product design engineer.

The Jefferson County Mental Health Association named Korin A. Scheible executive director.

2000
Mrs. Katie Isaac Franklin
2120 Clark Lane
Redondo Beach, CA 92078-4302
katie_franklin@suth.com

Attention Omicron Delta Kappa Circle alumni!
The Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) Circle at Alfred University is updating inductee contact information, including snail mail and phone numbers, but PARTICULARLY email addresses. If you are an ODK alumnus, please send your updates to odk@alfred.edu. Thank you!

The Jefferson County Mental Health Association named Korin A. Scheible executive director.

1997
Mrs. Kari Jermansen Martin
34 Hedge Drive
Oceanport, NJ 07757-1001
kljermansen@yahoo.com

Evelyn (Trzecki) Leduc and Michael Leduc of Paris, France welcomed their second son, Auguste, on Nov. 29, 2011.

Matthew Flowers is principal of the Genesee Valley Educational Partnership’s Charles G. May Center, Leroy, NY.
The Jamestown (NY) Rotary Club installed Sharon Hamilton as its president for 2013-14.

Tyler Lotz, an associate professor in ceramics at Illinois State University, writes “This is my 12th year teaching here …. I design my own line of tableware, called Tenet. It is basic tableware – cups, bowls, tumblers, tea pots, etc. I also create sculptures, which are mainly abstract, mixed-media. They address ideas regarding Simulacra – a simulation, or a stand-in for something. The other layer of that are things regarding our environment and our ecological world. I did a residency at the Red Lodge (MT) Clay Center. It was an ‘artists invite artists’ residency, so I was invited. Then, I got to invite artists I had a kinship with and artists I admired to go there with and to work with.”

2001

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

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

Mike LaFountaine received the 2013 New Investigator Award for the American College of Sports Medicine. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at the Seton Hall University School of Health and Medical Sciences.

Allison McGowan designed an outdoor atmospheric kiln with a $2,000 Regional Artist Project Grant she received in 2012. With the new kiln, she is able to get more depth in the glazes on her pottery and has the ability to also make bigger pieces. She has taught at Rowan and Immaculata universities and the Penland School of Crafts and presented lectures and workshops nationally and internationally.

Kizzy M. Parks is president of K. Parks Consulting Inc. (KPC), a rapidly growing SBA 8 (a) certified, minority-woman owned small business, headquartered in Melbourne, FL with satellite offices in Orlando and Washington D.C. Founded in 2005 and incorporated in 2008, KPC specializes in analytics and metrics services, coaching, front-end analysis, on-boarding; organization developmental consulting services, recruiting, research, training, development, and workforce consulting to aid agencies to reach higher results. KPC has experience providing high-impact human resource management consulting services, information technology services, and training programs support to federal, state, and private sector elements throughout and outside the continental United States.

Chamber Singers, alumni, faculty sing and tour on Italian holiday

In June 2013, 13 AU students and eight alumni arrived on campus for three days of intensive choral rehearsals. They were joined by six faculty members as they prepared for a 10-day tour of Italy and concerts in Rome, Florence, and Venice.

The trip was in response to an invitation from conductor Larry Wyatt (University of South Carolina) for Chamber Singers director Luanne Crosby, professor of voice and chorus, to perform as soloist in the Mozart “Coronation Mass.” When Crosby was asked if she could also bring choral singers, she immediately replied “Yes!”

The AU singers joined approximately 40 alumni of Loyola University-New Orleans to perform the “Mass” with orchestra in the Basilica di Santa Maria Sopra Miverva, Rome and Crosby as soprano soloist.

Chamber Singers also joined the Loyola choir to sing “Mass” in St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican. There were three other solo performances including an exchange concert with Italian choirs, Coro Iride and Coro Femminile Eos, also in Rome, and concerts at Chiesa Santa Maria dei Ricci in Florence and Chiesa de San Moise in Venice. Between rehearsing and performing the group was able to visit the highlights of Rome, Florence, and Venice, with short side trips to Assisi and Pisa.

This was the first Chamber Singers tour to include alumni and faculty as a part of the performing ensemble. Joining the students were Dustin Weiderman ’01, Theresa Honti ’06, John Kalish ’07, Trevor Larcheveque ’10, Adam Fiegl ’10, Ryan Link ’10 and Carolyn Falcone ’11.

Faculty included Tom McDowell, professor emeritus of computer science; Alix Clare, professor of glass science; Cecilia Beach, professor of French; Susan Mayberry, professor of English; and Nancy Furlong, professor of psychology.
Melissa Pritchard is on sabbatical from her teaching position at The Benjamin Franklin International School in Barcelona, Spain, where she has been living since 2002. Her sabbatical project – “The Loong Way Home” – includes traveling, by bicycle, to her home in Eugene, OR. The trip began Aug. 23, 2013 and will take her through four continents, more than 15 countries, and over 24,000 kilometers. She hopes to arrive in Eugene in time for her birthday in October 2014. Learn more about Melissa’s travels, check in with her, offer encouragement at: www.theloongwayhome.com or www.facebook.com/theloongwayhome

Dr. John Mauro received the Stookey Award, one of the top innovation awards at Corning (NY) Inc. The award is named for Dr. Don Stookey, the 98-year-old inventor who set the bar for exploratory research at Corning and who was at the Sullivan Park presentation. Mauro’s research interests include glass transition and relaxation phenomena, high strength glasses and chemical strengthening of glass, glass composition design and optimization. His work has been published in more than 110 peer-reviewed scientific journals. He has worked as a research associate in glass fundamentals since August 2010, where he’s invented or co-invented several highly successful commercial products, including Corning® Gorilla® Glass compositions. He also earned include the Outstanding Service to Corning Specialty Materials Award in July 2013.

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

Class Correspondent Judy Tsang writes “I would like to announce the birth of my son, Justin Jeffrey Chow, who was born Sept. 10, 2013 at 1:19 a.m. at 7 lbs. 8 oz., 21 inches. Mom and Dad, Jeffrey Chow (Skidmore College ‘00) are thrilled with our new addition. We currently reside in New York City, where Justin was born at New York University Langone Medical Center.”

Kaya Donaj-Keys helped design the button, merchandise image and theme of the 2013 Ithaca (NY) Festival.

The Twin Cities Daily Planet profiled Matt Sturgis and his work designing bronze sculptures.

2003

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

Alumnus takes creativity ‘Str8’ into card game, with help of AU friends

By Bryan P. Clark, Intern

Alfred University (AU) promotes creativity and innovation among its students anticipating those characteristics will remain following graduation. Peter McClain ’00 has most recently used his imagination and talent to develop a card game, “Str8 Eight,” influenced by his AU experiences and developed with the help of fellow AU graduates.

McClain says inspiration to create the game came in a dream he had in December 2010.

“In my dream, it was a board game that consisted of all the numbers on a 12” x 12” multiplication table,” explains McLain. “I named the game “A Dozen Ways to Win” and emailed Nick Keeney ’02 with whom I’ve confided business ideas since our days at AU.”

In early 2011, McClain, with the help of his wife, Janet (Sootheran) McClain ’00, realized that the pastime would work more effectively as a card game and decided to scale it back to an 8” x 8” deck and named it “Str8 Eight.” He bought a box of blank cards from eBay and created a prototype deck. After he began testing the game, he found it to be enjoyable.

“We worked out the rules and the scoring,” explains McClain. “I brought the game on visits with friends and family for the next year.”

McClain says he found a firm to produce the game and his wife designed the cards, including the game’s logo, an “S” overlaid on an “8.”

“Before going to print, she encouraged me to seek the advice of Nick Kuder who taught graphic design at AU,” says McClain. “Over lunch, he agreed to work on several designs. Upon seeing his work, I immediately loved his adaptation of the logo, his design for the common side, and the way he incorporated the elements of the game on the card front.”

To learn more about the game, visit McClain’s website: str8-eight.com
Rachel Blaze Bullard has released her second book, “You Are A Star,” a children’s reading, coloring, and learning book. The book includes factual and empowering poetic stories to read and creative and cultural pictures for those of any age to color. “You Are A Star” allows the reader to connect with him/herself, the environment, and the world to unlock their inner power. The book, issued by Blaze Publishing, can be viewed and/or purchased online at www.youareastar.net or other online stores. For more information contact Rachel Blaze Bullard at rachelbullard@yahoo.com.

Baker Newman Noyes, a New England accounting firm, promoted Matthew Pore to senior management in its Portland, Maine tax department.
is actually how I met Kristin. The next year she ended up enrolling at Alfred and no surprise we ended up bumping into each other since Alfred is a smaller campus. A few months later we started dating and have been together ever since. I graduated with a bachelor of science degree in materials science and engineering and Kristin with a bachelor of arts degree in biology. Since graduation, I’ve worked for Owens-Illinois (OI) at a few different locations: mainly Williamsburg, VA as a combustion engineer. Currently I work for OI in Auburn, NY as the finished products manager. Kristin worked as an animal trainer at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, VA and now works as a veterinary assistant department head at the Fairmount Animal Hospital. We live in Camillus, NY, which is about 15 minutes outside of downtown Syracuse.”

North Charleston (SC) High School appointed Chris Reger head football coach.

Jenniferjean Robinson Pownall married C. Cody Guepet on Dec. 29, 2012 at St. Joseph Church in Downingtown, PA.

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

Patrick Baynes co-founded PeopleLNX, a social business networking company.

Elizabeth Muise, professional bellydancer, certified yoga teacher, Reiki master, married Shane Chikeles on June 24, 2012. She is a professional bellydance artist currently performing with Boom Boom Shake as well as touring extensively with the drum and bagpipe band Cu Dubh. She has been featured on the Mid East Catalog as well as the Gypsy Nomads Concert DVD.

David Ashley taught an 11-week pottery class for people of all ability levels at Somerset Berkley Regional High School in Somerset, MA.

Kathryn Wilkins joined the Kaminski Auctions of Beverly, MA staff as head appraiser for the company’s growing Twentieth Century decorative arts and modern design department.

2008

The Fenêtre Gallery at Harrisburg (PA) Area Community College showcased Amy LeFever’s artwork “The Sear and the Yellow Leaf” May 17-June 12, 2013.

2009

Reunion Year!

Justin Catron moved from Seattle in June for a job at Wimberley Glassworks, a gallery and studio focused on artistic interior lighting and home decor, in San Marcos, Texas.

Eliza Au collaborated with Ying-Yueh Chuang in a ceramic art exhibit at the Nova Scotia Centre for Craft and Design, Halifax. Precision, pattern, and systems are keys to both artists. Au is inspired by architecture and nature. Both artists refer to Eastern and Western culture. Both express ideas about the sacred, though Eliza’s work is more specific in its focus on sacred space.

Julie (Gordon) Ohliger works as a marketing coordinator at Colonie (near Albany, NY) Management LLC.

Spencer Hughes published a book, “No Reflection,” available through Amazon.com and has been contracted to write two additional novels based on the story arc.

2010

Ashleigh Hardes works as an executive office manager and public relations director at Blair House Inn, Wimberley, Texas where she is responsible for the organization and coordination of office and operations, procedures, resources, brand development, website traffic growth, website management, SEO, and social media marketing.

Giselle Hicks participated in an artist talk at the Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT in June 2013. “Textiles have long been the skin of beds, pillows, windows, tables and so many other surfaces around a house,” she says. “Beyond their decorative function, we have come to associate them with comfort, warmth, support, rest and privacy. Using floral designs, as well as motifs from quilting, textile and wallpaper survey books, I carve patterns into each component of the ceramic objects. With a palette that reflects the winter landscape of the Northeast, I apply muted glazes, whose blurred-in distinctions and irregulars convey a sense of faded memory through the passage of time.

Alanna DeRocchi participated in a resident artist talk at the Archie Bray Resident Center, Helena, MT in July 2013. Alanna has been a visiting artist at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, and recently completed a residency at the ClayArch Gimhae Museum in Jillye, South Korea. In 2010, she was a summer resident at the Bray, the first recipient of the Speyer Fellowship in 2011; she also was awarded the 2012 Windgate Fellow.

Noah Naples earned his master’s degree in mechanical engineering at Syracuse University. He is an engineer for the New York City Fire Department.

Jason Bernagozzi co-founded a new media arts organization called Signal Culture in Central New York.

Krysten Paulino ‘11 and Scott Sarkissian ’09 were engaged at the edge of the Haleakala Crater, Maui, Hawaii.
Army National Guard Spec. Travis A. Cox graduated from basic infantry training at Fort Benning, Columbus, GA.

2011

Ms. Jessica Marble marble.jessica@gmail.com

Class Correspondent Jessica Marble writes she has joined DWA Media working in New Business Development. DWA is the leading global media agency for the technology sector. Jessica’s responsibilities include growing revenue for the Boston office through acquisition of new clients.

Jessica has news from classmates:

After traveling the United States for a bit, Katie Barlow decided to return to her hometown, Binghamton, NY and make a difference in her community. She choreographed, produced, and directed a large-scale flash mob-inspired piece that was performed in April at the local hockey arena! AU students and alumna were also involved.

Derek Loughlin-Pope has relocated to Providence, RI where he accepted a position as associate district manager at ADP.

After graduating from Alfred, Zach Grosser had a gallery showing in New York City and then promptly moved to San Francisco. He taught pro-software for Apple up through November 2012. Now Zach is working for Square in Culinary Experience, crafting food and beverage spaces, customer flow, and experiences for Squares (Square employees).

Krysten Paulino and Scott Sarkissian ’09 are celebrating their engagement. Scott asked Krysten at the edge of the Haleakula Crater, 10,023 feet above sea level in Maui, Hawaii on Aug. 15, 2011.

Abigail Calafiore earned a master’s degree from Elmira College and is a fourth grade teacher in North Carolina.

Morgan Higby-Flowers joined the faculty of Watkins College of Art, Design & Film in Nashville, TN, participated in an experimental art show at Noa Noa, and is exhibiting a single-channel video titled “Diamonds are [not] Forever.”

Kaitlyn L. Bentley and Eric M. Rockwood recently joined the firm, Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro, P.C. as staff accounts in their Jamestown and Olean, NY office locations. They are involved in preparing financial statements related to compilations, reviews, and audits. In addition, they are responsible for preparing tax returns for a variety of individual and business clients.

2012


Kaitlyn Bentley ’12

2013

Art by Jonathan Merritt of Rochester was featured in the 2013 Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition this past summer in the Grand Gallery at Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester. Every two years, Rochester’s longest-running juried exhibition showcases work by artists from Western and Central New York. Eighty-one artists were selected from 230 entries.

Marriages

David Lawrence Mahoney ’55 and Helen Jeannette Fox married May 30, 2013

Erica-Lyn Robinson ’03 and Jeremy Plante married Aug. 23, 2008

Births

Evelyn Trzeciak Leduc '87 and Michael Leduc, a son, Auguste, Nov. 29, 2011
Michael Ramirez '07 and Jennifer Steffey, a daughter, June 20, 2013

Deaths

Annette Fox Johnson '30, Aug. 7, 2013
Doris Coats Pfeiffer '34, July 18, 2013
Benjamin M. Racusin '37, Aug. 11, 2013
Phillip W. Tefft '39, '75 (honorary), May 6, 2013
Alfred L. Ploetz '41, May 21, 2013
Lydia Menges Butts '42, May 2, 2013
Ella R. Kunes '43, Aug. 7, 2013
Betty Jean (VanGorder) Lacy '45, April 29, 2011
Jane E. Pack '45, Sept. 11, 2013
Doris Hill Gere '45, Oct. 16, 2013
Charles Russell Crawford '46, July 18, 2013
Alfred L. Ploetz '41, Oct. 30, 2013
Betty Jean (VanGorder) Lacy '45, April 29, 2011

Friends

Savo Jevremovic, professor emeritus of economics, died Aug. 10, 2013, surrounded by family in his Alfred Station home of 52 years. For many AU alumni, Savo was not just a professor, but also a mentor and a friend. The Alumni Association presented Savo the Faculty Friend Award in 1983. In 1956, Savo moved to Alfred to teach economics and remained a member of the University faculty for the next 40 years until his retirement on Dec. 31, 1995. Savo taught a variety of economics courses, which his students dubbed “Savonomics.” He was also adviser to Students in Free Enterprise. The Jevremovic’s annual Pond Party, for which he prepared most of the food, was a long-standing summertime tradition in Alfred. The family is asking memorial gifts be made to Alfred University, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802. Please note on the donation that the gift is in memory of Savo Jevremovic. Gifts may also be made online at http://www.alfred.edu/alumni

The University family was saddened to learn that Joella Rand E.D.D., professor emeritus of the Nursing School and Counseling Center, died Oct. 15, 2013. Joella served the AU community for nearly 40 years and was beloved by her many students and respected by her colleagues. In 1989, the Alumni Association honored Rand as a Faculty Friend. The citation for her award read, in part: “Jo maintains close ties with the graduates of her college, many of whom she knew as students during her teaching years at Alfred. Jo and her husband Martin acted as surrogate parents to nursing students who spent two years away from campus. The Rand home was the place for students to come for conversation and dinner. Alumni relate stories of the wonderful hospitality with a sense of appreciation and warmth. Jo is always present at Alumni functions on campus out of a sense of obligation but, perhaps even more importantly, because she genuinely likes the Alumni. Jo has an encyclopedic memory of every nursing graduate. She can recite career accomplishments, children’s names and other family information of her Alumni.” In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent to the Alfred University Fund, 1 Saxon Drive, Alfred 14802.

Barbara G. Towner, College of Ceramics employee, May 11, 2013
Mervin L. Babcock, custodian, College of Ceramics, May 27, 2013
Duane A. Green, who worked for some 35 years as a technical specialist in the College of Ceramics, died July 4, 2013.
Shirley A. Silver, instructor of nursing from 1969-90, died July 15, 2013.
John Spencer Kenny, worked in Admissions, died Nov. 4, 2013.
Wayne’s world of ceramics open to national audiences through ‘Infinite Place’ exhibition

“ Infinite Place: The Ceramic Art of Wayne Higby” began a national journey this summer which originated in Arizona, moved on to Washington, D.C. this fall, and will continue to make stops throughout the next year and a half at sites including the Reading (PA) Public Museum; the Philadelphia (PA) Art Alliance; the Racine (WI) Art Museum; and the Memorial Art Museum, Rochester, NY.

This retrospective of contemporary ceramic work includes some 60 pieces by Higby, Alfred University professor of ceramic art and Robert C. Turner Chair of Ceramic Art, College of Ceramics. Works in the traveling exhibition range from vessel forms and tiles to sculpture and architectural installations, spanning this master artist’s 40-plus-year career.

“Infinite Place” opened last April at the Arizona State University (ASU) Art Museum’s Ceramics Research Center, Tempe, and ran through July. In early October, the exhibition moved to the Smithsonian American Art Museum’s Renwick Gallery, Washington, D.C. and was on view through Dec. 8.

Peter Held, curator of ceramics at the ASU Art Museum, organized the retrospective. He is also editor of the 216-page color book of the same name as the exhibit – “Infinite Place: The Ceramic Art of Wayne Higby” - published and distributed by Arnoldsche Art Publishers, Stuttgart, Germany. The volume is available in the AU Book Store, Powell Campus Center. It contains a series of essays chronicling Higby’s work by well-known scholars in the field, including the London-based, preeminent design historian Tanya Harrod; Mary D. McInnes, professor of art history at AU; Ezra J. Shales, associate professor of art history at the Massachusetts College of Art; and Helen W. Durtt English, gallerist, educator, curator, and leading authority on contemporary crafts.

In preparation for three years, “Infinite Place” gathers together ceramic objects and drawings from the ASU Museum’s collection, private and public collections, and Higby’s own possessions.

Art authorities consider Higby, who has been teaching at AU since 1973, to be one of the most innovative second-generation artists to emerge from the post-World War II American ceramic studio movement. For Higby, this “Infinite Place” tour offers a time to contemplate just what he has wrought throughout a very full career as artist/educator. The exhibition is designed to provide an in-depth critical analysis of Higby’s body of work and to explore the forms, techniques, and firing processes used throughout a career which has brought national and international recognition.

Higby offers this insight into his exhibition: “A retrospective by definition is a look back, but the ideas, materials, and processes that are tracked continually live in the present and inform each new day in the studio.”

Higby’s work is described by his own artist statement as “Earth, sky, time, light, space: my work is a meditation on the relationship between mind and matter. It is not about landscape.” Rich color and flowing lines take the observer to places reminiscent of the Colorado landscapes of his youth as well as other panoramic tableaus.

Read more about “Infinite Place” at alfredmagazine.alfred.edu
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