



NOVEMBER 2014 ► VOLUME VII

# RENOVATION BEGINS

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# RENOVATION BEGINS

by Sandy Gilbert '62

**T**he Capital Campaign Committee is very pleased to report that construction for the major renovation of the Chapter House is now underway. Work began this past summer with abatement procedures to remove hazardous materials. The demolition of the dining room to allow for the setting of pilings to support the new construction on the three floors above began in late October.



**Sandy Gilbert**

The beginning of construction was commemorated in the picture below with a ground breaking ceremony at the Reunion Reception at Edgemoor last June. Pictured from left to right, the participants are Jason Cho '98, John Steed '69, Wayne Mezitt '64, Chris Fateh '13, Stephen Ashley '62 and Elliot Sloan '74.



Thanks to good planning by resident historian, Jason Cho '98, the valuable onsite leadership from Alex Aidun '92 and Eric Schneider '91 and a great deal of heavy lifting from a number of our undergrads like Duncan McCausland '16, Ryan Pritchard '16, Kyle Coble '16, Reece Anderson '16 and others, we were able to catalogue and pack equipment, furniture, pictures, books, and historical artifacts for storage while Edgemoor is

closed during the renovation. Critical help in the closing of the Chapter House was also provided by alumni who were willing to store some of our historical artifacts in their own homes including Jim Delrosso '99, Ben Kuhn '00 Jim Quest '56, Mike Agostin '92 and Kevin O'Connor '98.

Omicron was very fortunate to acquire the services of Welliver, the builder of numerous excellent buildings on campus including the new Bill and Melinda Gates Computer Center as the contractor for this historic project. The main objective of the renovation is to complete the conversion of Edgemoor to the popular study room/sleeping room style living from its original dormitory sleeping design.

Despite the necessary upgrades and modernization of the House, the traditional Tudor exterior will be preserved on all four sides of the historic 114 year-old building. Similarly, the intent of the interior design of the building is to preserve the traditional look of the common areas that we all have become accustomed to over the years.

The renovation will include a total upgrade of the electrical, plumbing and heating infrastructure of the building and the renovation of the kitchen, dining room and bathrooms. In addition to the upgrading of existing living areas, the construction of new living spaces and improved bathroom facilities to accommodate the increased live-in capacity, there will be some attractive new additions to Edgemoor's common spaces. This includes the Electronic Learning Center that will open off the Hollengreen Room on the first floor over the new dining room. Designed as a twin in size and appearance of the original Chapter Room on the other side of the building, this exciting new space will house state of the art computers and audiovisual equipment that will allow our undergrads to link into university seminars and the growing number of classes that are available online.

Adjoining the new Electronic Learning Center through doors to the left end of the room is the new Reading Room. Lined with bookshelves and furnished with comfortable easy chairs, this attractive new common space will feature a two-story ceiling, window views of Cascadilla Gorge and a doorway to a new balcony overlooking the back patio. The Reading Room will

## RENOVATION BEGINS

also connect to the Chapter Room via French doors that can open up the entire first floor for large social gatherings.

Downstairs from the main floor, the redesigned dining room will be slightly larger with a higher ceiling with recessed lighting to maximize light in the area and the great view of the gorge. The Rathskeller bar area will be refurbished and preserved in its original traditional décor.

The third floor, in addition to housing new living quarters, renovated bathrooms and laundry facilities, will feature the showcase Exercise Center overlooking the gorge equipped with new exercise and weight training equipment.

Thanks to over 230 generous alumni, campaign pledges through mid-October were approaching \$2.0 million. That's 14.3% over our initial funding goal of \$1.75 million. To help cover our cash flow during the next twelve months of heavy construction costs, a number of our alumni have also agreed to sign on to our Brother Bond Program raising an additional \$440 thousand. In addition to agreeing to help pay off a new mortgage via increased future house bills, Omicron undergrads have also weighed in with a very impressive contribution of \$100 thousand from their operations budget.

As you might expect, the cost to complete a project of this magnitude has increased since the first estimates were received a few years ago. The main reason for this is that with the improved economy, building costs have risen substantially. For example, one builder told us that he had seven projects going in the Ithaca area two years ago and now he has seventeen. Multiplied through the entire local building industry, this has increased labor costs to service the expanding list of projects.

To meet this new cost dynamic, the Campaign Committee is recommending that we move forward with the construction in several phases. Phase One will include the construction of all the spaces described above, but with final finishing done only to the new lower dining area, the Rathskeller bar and all the first floor common areas. Second and third floor rooms will be prepared to move-in condition, but not a final finishing in terms of multiple coats of paints or molding varnishes. This will allow us to meet the move-in schedule for the undergrads for the 2015-16 school

year with the finishing work on the upper floors to be completed during Phase Two in the following summers as the campaign continues to raise the necessary funds to complete the renovation.

Completing the entire renovation project as envisioned including the revival of the original wooden center staircase will require more of our remaining unaccounted-for alumni to join in with their financial support. The goal is within reach, but we need your help to finish the entire project.

You can make a Campaign Pledge by contacting Sandy Gilbert '62 at [sandem133@aol.com](mailto:sandem133@aol.com) or (941) 807-8305 at his home in Florida. For those who would prefer to support the campaign effort by participating in the Brother Bond Program with a minimum loan of \$10,000, please contact Greg McElroy, our financial advisor, at [mcelroy174@aol.com](mailto:mcelroy174@aol.com) or by phone in Pearl River, New York at (914) 582-6466.

The Campaign for Omicron Zeta will continue to seek new funding and we encourage all alumni who have not yet made a pledge to join the Brothers listed on the current Campaign Honor Roll on the Back Cover of this issue of The Oracle. In doing so, you will ensure that Edgemoor rivals the successful renovations at Sigma Chi and Delta Chi and becomes the Cornell landmark that it deserves. ❖



# CORNELL TODAY: CELEBRATING 150 YEARS!

by Stephen Ashley '62

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his fall begins a year-long celebration of Cornell's founding 150 years ago. Events will take place on the Ithaca campus, in New York City, various locations in the United States and abroad. Much of the celebration will be available via the web for those that are unable to attend any of the events. For the most part, a Sesquicentennial celebration is a reflection on past events, significant successes and overall "feel good" moments. These are important things to do -- but equally important is to think about the challenges that lie ahead, not only for Cornell, but for higher education in the United States.



Stephen Ashley

Professors Glenn Altschuler and Isaac Kramnick have written a Cornell History 1940 to 2015. They begin their book with a preface titled, "The Cornell Idea". The Preface speaks to a Cornell soul, a Cornell character, a Cornell personality, a Cornell tradition. They summarize these facets as freedom. Most of us will recall that it was President Day and Historian, Carl Becker who characterized Cornell's soul as freedom with responsibility. The very idea of Cornell was radical as the University embraced Applied Studies (Agriculture and Engineering) as well as the Humanities and later --Social Sciences. The University was secular and resisted those that would put a "God label" on the campus. It admitted women and provided financial aid. Altschuler and Kramnick remind us of the Cornell mission that is etched in the Eddy Street Gate:

*So enter that daily thou mayest become more learned/And thoughtful/So depart that thou mayest become more useful/To thy country and to mankind.*

The tenets that Altschuler and Kramnick find at the

foundation of Cornell continue to be the bedrock on which many decisions -- both within the academic units and by the administration and the Board of Trustees -- are made. The future holds new challenges for our University. Perhaps, by the time you read this article a new President will have been named and much will await the articulation of his or her vision for the University going forward. However, there are a number of strategic questions that beg a response and the participation of Cornell. Let me identify a few.

## ACCESS

This issue incorporates not only affordability and levels of financial aid but also recruitment of underserved minorities and those coming from below median income households and are frequently the first of their family to pursue a post-secondary education. Data clearly demonstrates that a college degree is the best ticket for upward mobility and higher levels of income. Frequently, students that would fall into the categories identified are unaware of financial aid possibilities, poorly counseled in their home school districts, sometimes feel isolated when they do matriculate -- "there aren't many people like me" -- and sometimes feel overwhelmed by the academic requirements. The University puts significant effort into addressing these challenges -- both with support systems, summer programs, recruitment and financial aid. This will be a continuing problem especially since the demographic data shows continuing and widening income gaps in America. This question will be central to how the University allocates its resources in the years ahead.

## BUSINESS MODEL

Cornell came through the Great Recession in reasonably good shape -- having made some tough decisions regarding staffing, capital budgets and wage disciplines. Salaries account for approximately 80% of the University's budget, and its revenue sources are tuition, philanthropy, endowment earnings and research grants. Universities are inherently inefficient operations, and that is not necessarily a bad thing. Number of faculty, class size, number of academic units (Cornell offers Ph.ds in 100 different disciplines), new initiatives and financial aid all have to be factored into a five-year planning cycle. This is a very delicate balance and will raise strategic questions. What is the

right size for the undergraduate student population? Should Cornell have seven undergraduate colleges? How large should the graduate school be and what degree offerings should be made available? Are there administrative efficiencies still to be gained?

### ONLINE EDUCATION

Increasingly, the popular press is picking up on the subject of MOOCs – Massive Online Open Courses. For the last decade, Cornell – operating through e-Cornell – has offered online courses for a fee. Some of these were general interest courses, (i.e., Bird Study offered by the Lab of Ornithology) and some were certificate courses aimed at furthering professional advancement (i.e., ILR courses in Supervision). What is different today in the online world is courses being granted by various universities or consortiums of universities for credit to anyone anywhere. This movement is in the early stages, and the overall results to date are somewhat mixed. Only about 10% of those who enroll in a course eventually complete it. Cornell has begun to engage in MOOCs and continues to wrestle with the right Cornell way. Currently, MOOCs are not seen by Cornell as being a substitute for the residential campus experience. However, they could be used to enhance the residential experience – summer courses. Cornell will be thinking about how it can build on its e-Cornell framework, put a Cornell brand on the product and not be left behind in engaging this challenge. Not all subject matter and not all faculty lend themselves easily to online instruction. How Cornell and other American universities choose to address online education will play a central role in academic decision making in the coming years.

### INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Undoubtedly, as much as any American university, Cornell has had an international presence going back close to 100 years. This presence was brought about through agricultural extension and research that reached into other parts of the world – particularly Asia. Also, through our education at the graduate level – individuals in government and academia in foreign countries that have leadership positions were often educated at Cornell. It is hard to spot any part of the globe that does not have a Cornell presence in one way or another. Today, Cornell has a division of its Medical School located in Doha, Qatar, has academic programs with prestigious Chinese universities, has a significant presence in India, and so on. Indeed, the Cornell Tech Campus in New York City has a partner-

ship arrangement with Technion University in Israel. President Skorton has indicated that Cornell needs to increase its international engagement through the recruitment of international students as well as domestic students spending time abroad. How and to what ends this international engagement takes place is a subject of a White Paper authored by Vice Provost for International Affairs, Fredrik Logevall. Increasingly, business and government is looking for students prepared to engage internationally and to be global citizens. This initiative is getting emphasis just at the time when American instincts are tending to be more isolationist and tensions on a global level seem to be reaching new highs (i.e., Middle East, Ukraine, South China Sea – to name a few). Just as Altschuler and Kramnick point out, Cornell resisted isolationism and despotism in the 1940's and 1950's and so should Cornell push forward preparing students for the world in which they will live and work in the decades ahead.

The foregoing are by no means a complete itemization of the issues and challenges that will face Cornell and other American universities in the decades ahead. However, much of what Cornell will need to deal with at the strategic and policy level will be subsets of one of the subjects mentioned.

Derek Bok, President of Harvard University for 20 years has recently authored a book simply titled, Higher Education in America. He addresses myriad issues and challenges affecting all higher education. In his closing paragraphs, he writes with optimism about the ability of American higher education to adapt and lean forward to ultimately make the right decisions that enhance the creation and dissemination of new knowledge and learning. Cornell's historic roots, culture and traditions of freedom with responsibility and shared governance together with its Ivy-League land grant mission, bodes well for Cornell's future and being a part of the optimism that Bok articulates. The true capital of Cornell is its faculty, and the Charter Day Sesquicentennial celebrations in April will highlight faculty and the academic mission. Cornell students today are engaged in service, research projects with faculty, and learning with enthusiasm and energy that at times can leave an observer breathless. Ultimately, one must be optimistic about Cornell's future and that of our democratic society when one witnesses the more than 6,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees that are granted annually by Cornell presently and into the future. ❖

# GREEK LIFE: ONE STEP AT A TIME

by **Ralph Wilhelm '67**

We

continue to make progress on campus. Greek Life will always have some challenges but the various pieces and parts of the puzzle are continuing to become clearer,

display more maturity, and enable a good share of the Greek alumni base and the undergraduates to count themselves on the positive side of the ledger more often than not.

I have been involved now for seven years in the Fraternity Sorority Advisory Council (see web site in footer). Seen through those longer term optics, the campus, and the Greek community as a whole are definitely making progress towards stability and maturity for both undergraduates and for alumni. What issues or events cause me to say that?

More Alumni are getting more involved with their chapters on a significant level of engagement.

Undergraduate leaders and officers are more focused on making rational progress instead of fostering confrontation.

The last two freshman classes have a much more consistent set of expectations as they look to associate with young men and women in Greek Chapters on campus. Among other things, they look for mature groups of men and women who will not haze nor make bad choices but will bond, live by common values, have fun, and form a life-long relationship.

This point above on the incoming freshman transformation is now showing up best during the new member education period ("pledging" in the old days) and during initiation. When some of these freshman are caught up in a bad scene in their chapters, asked to do unpleasant things or tolerate hazing, more and more of

them will now call their friends and the administration for help. This is a huge change as you can imagine.

So, are we close to the "max" of our expectations? No, not yet. But the progress is real and it continues and that is a very good thing.

As for what leadership is doing to help with this transition, it is totally a team sport. The Alumni, undergraduates, Administrators and the Ithaca and Cornell Police are getting much better at cooperating, communicating more clearly, and laying out clear and transparent expectations. Some ways to measure that teamwork can be found in examples like:

The Administration and Judicial Board (populated with Greek leaders) have begun instituting interim suspension periods within a few days of a serious event occurring at a chapter. This in effect "freezes" the chapter from rush, initiation, any social events, and gives the police and Administrators the weeks necessary to find out the facts and make decisions through the Judicial Board.

The number of IFC chapters who have elected/volunteered to have a resident alumni advisor on their premises, living with the young men in their Chapter House, was at about five to seven NEW live-in's last fall. This happened without any ruling or regulations, just clear communication about the positive aspects of live-in advisors and the alumni alone elected to choose this option moving forward.

About 17 months ago, two Chapters on the Hill were closed – by their National and local alumni Boards. Reasons were different in each case, but it was the alumni and National that stepped in first before the Judicial Board or Administration.

The number of freshman and transfers rushing continues to grow each year, a very healthy sign. In parallel, the Panhellenic has supported a new chapter two years ago (Phi Sigma Sigma), a new chapter starting this Fall (Phi Mu), and there is solid support for more sororities in the next few years.

So, yes, I am biased. But my volunteer Greek position with the FSAC on campus has given me some superb access....to the Greek Leaders and decision makers, both undergraduate and alumni, who are pushing forward to stabilize their individual chapters. These five to seven



**Ralph Wilhelm**

visits per year that I am on campus have been invaluable, for understanding, communication, clear discussions on goals and struggles and solutions, all focused on the Cornell Greek community. It has been very uplifting for me, hopefully for the other Greek leaders, and it has convinced me that we collectively have made real and sustained progress in behavior and decision-making.

One last comment that is less quantifiable but certainly very tangible and significant in my mind: the level of maturity and sound decision making in both the Greek undergraduate leaders and also in the alumni leaders. Of course, they don't all walk on water, but given the tenor of the conversations we are involved with, the options that are discussed, the decisions that are made, these Fraternity Men have all shown real progress. On all three Greek Councils this year (IFC, Panhellenic, and MGLC- Multicultural Greek Letter organizations), we are blessed with a sound and stable set of leaders. Certainly makes my job and the Student Affairs professionals much easier by providing truly mature and positively motivated leaders to work with.

As for the Omicron Leadership, we are equally blessed. Dan DeFlumeri and his Executive Committee, the officers and the members are a truly fine group of young men. Dan did enable me to talk to them all a few weeks ago when I was on campus, just days after they moved into Edgecliff, our rental facility. Yes, boisterous, sometimes irreverent and quite exhausted from moving into the rental facility, but a fine and solid group of men figuring out the new puzzle before them: to live in another house for two semesters while we push ahead on renovations and rehab of Edgemoor. They are certainly making the best of their temporary quarters.

I look forward to any feedback or questions that you might have. Either email or an old-fashioned phone call might go a long way to helping you and me understand issues on campus if you are so inclined.

One more thing: Omicron is moving forward with our fine young men and our stunning rehabilitation. I sure hope that all of you consider stopping by the House after August 2015 to take a look at the transformation. Further, our expanded and updated House will be open for our traditional Homecoming, Reunion and other events in the future. I am confident that you'll love it!

Many thanks for reading! (Ralph Wilhelm, 317-508-6866; [rvw5@cornell.edu](mailto:rvw5@cornell.edu)) ❖

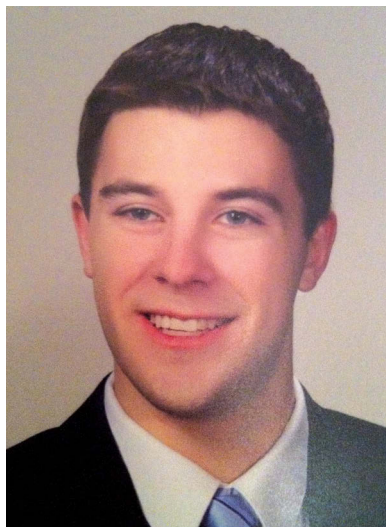


# PRESIDENT'S REPORT: OMICRON'S TEMPORARY HOME

by Dan DeFlumeri '15

We

are very fortunate to be able to use Edgecliff, the vacant ZBT Chapter House, as our temporary home during the renovation period until the fall of 2015. It allows us to keep the 34 live-in brothers together in one living unit and sustain the great momentum the Chapter has achieved in recent years as a leading fraternity on campus. In the process, we have acquired a pleasant living environment with an attractive, long driveway entrance, lots of available parking and a great backyard for social events.



**Daniel DeFlumeri**

Like any move, there have been some unforeseen disruptions like some temporary plumbing problems, the need for additional furniture and a bit longer walk to campus, but the brothers seem to be adjusting well to the situation.

With sixty six Chapter members, Lambda Chi continues to be one of the largest houses on campus. While we do have a lot of seniors in the mix, we are very pleased to report that thanks to Rush Chair, Duncan McCausland '16, we had a very successful fall rush program with the six new Associate Members pictured above joining Omicron's ranks.



Omicron's New Associate Members are:

- Gerrard Boucaud '17- Human Ecology from Ft Lauderdale, Florida
- Alexander Chee '17- Arts & Sciences from Manhasset, New York
- James Gallagher '17- CALS from Port Washington, New York
- Jarrett Goodness '17- CALS from Westport, Connecticut
- Michael Nester '16- ILR from Center Valley, Pennsylvania
- Patrick Spoth '17- CALS from Clarence, New York

Our goals for the fall semester are to continue to improve our 3.325 GPA from last spring and to strive to maintain our leadership role in the Greek community by our participation in campus activities and our ongoing social, community and intramural sports programs.

On the social front, we have mixers planned with just about all the sororities on campus, but we'll be mixing the most this semester with Tri Delt, Kappa Delta and Pi Phi.



## OMICRON'S TEMPORARY HOME

We will also continue our major involvement in community service activities following last summer's successful Gorge Cleanup with Chi Phi to beautify the new trail opening up behind Edgemoor with another major involvement in LXA's National Food Drive and active participation in some local charity events like Alpha Phifa, Alpha Phi's soccer tournament, and the sorority/fraternity flag football benefit we did last year with Tri Delt.

Since my last President's Report in the Spring edition, Omicron's intramural sports program continued to produce outstanding results making the semi-finals in softball and the quarter-finals in basketball. This semester we hope to defend last year's soccer championship and to build upon our semi-final finish in flag football.

The Omicron Officers who will work with me to achieve these goals are listed in the adjacent Fact Box. ❖

## OMICRON FACT BOX: FALL 2014

High Alpha.....	Dan DeFlumeri '15
High Beta.....	Richie Ibsen '16
High Theta.....	Kenny Wronka '16
High Gamma.....	Alex Valenti '16
High Tau.....	Alex Gatto '15
Standards Chair.....	Rob Suriani '16
High Iota.....	Jason Weinberg '17
High Kappas.....	Peter Caldwell '15
.....	Chris Merrill '15
High Delta.....	Duncan McCausland '16
High Phi.....	Jamie Winebrake '15
High Sigma.....	Zack Stricklin '17
High Epsilons.....	Max Murray '17
.....	Mike Reed '17
High Rho.....	Nomathade Chris Jenkins '15
High Mu.....	Ryan Pritchard '16
Steward.....	Fred Callaway '16
Athletic Chair.....	Patty Russell '16
High Pi.....	Ben Figoten '10

## THE RECIPE BOX: Shallots Fontainebleau



by **Sandy Gilbert '62**

Years ago when I was in the ad business, I often stayed at the Fontainebleau Hotel on Miami Beach to attend various business conventions. One of the best places to get a great burger for lunch was the Snack Bar out by the pool area. The burgers were good and the view of the ocean and the bikini clad ladies was a sight to behold. However,

### INGREDIENTS

Several shallots chopped  
One to two tablespoons of butter  
Dash of Worchester sauce  
Sprinkle of red wine (Merlot or Port depending on your preference)

### PREPARATION

Melt one tablespoon of butter in a small sauté pan under low to medium heat  
Raise heat to medium to high and add shallots  
Cook to caramelize shallots until they are golden brown (five to eight minutes)  
After three minutes, pour dash of Worchester Sauce over shallots and stir to mix well  
Add more butter if necessary to enhance browning of shallots  
After five minutes, add red wine and mix well so shallots are well coated  
Remove from heat when Worchester Sauce and red wine thicken to a sauce (eight minutes or so)  
Serve hot over hamburger or sliced steak.

it was the grill master's fried onions that were the highlight of the meal. After much prodding, he finally agreed to tell us what the brown colored secret potion was that he poured over the onions that gave them their distinct flavor. It turned out it was just plain old Worchester Sauce.

My version replaces onions with the more subtle, sweeter shallots and adds a drizzle of red wine to the Worchester Sauce to finish the dish. Try this quick and easy topping and you'll take a hamburger, London Broil or any steak to a whole new level. Enjoy. ❖

# ALUMNI MILESTONES

by Sandy Gilbert '62

At

a recent dinner ceremony in Bennington, Vermont, Omicron alumnus, Doctor Bob Pezzulich '61, was awarded the Health Care Leadership Award by Southwestern Vermont Health Care.



**Bob Pezzulich**

The following is a summary of the remarks made about Bob at the award presentation.

Back in 1973, OPEC announced a crude oil embargo that sent oil prices soaring 200 percent sparking a recession. That year, Honda introduced a new, fuel efficient small car called the "Civic". A Ford Galaxie 500 only cost \$3,900 and an average home sold for \$32,000. That year, Dr Robert Pezzulich, a surgeon just out of the US Air Force, joined Putnam Memorial Hospital which later became the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC).

Pezzulich was lured by the small hospital's reputation and by the presence of a former Cornell classmate, Dr. Richard Guerrero. Since that day 41 years ago, Bob Pezzulich has been a medical leader in the Bennington community, saving hundreds of lives, championing safety and introducing rural Vermont to new technology and surgical techniques.

From an early age, Bob knew he wanted to be a surgeon. A local physician near his New Jersey home removed a benign tumor from a boy's cheek. The surgeon avoided leaving a facial scar by removing the tumor from inside the boy's mouth. Young Bob was so inspired that he wrote in his eighth grade yearbook that he was going to be a surgeon. He spent the rest of his life making that desire a reality.

After graduating from Cornell University, he studied at Weill Cornell Medical College and trained at the

New York Presbyterian Hospital. He went on to become a surgeon in the US Air Force during the Vietnam War which allowed him to work in a smaller hospital setting. Bob said "I realized that six surgeons in a small hospital get to do as much surgery as forty surgeons in a big hospital". He explained "I felt my work would be more engaging and I could do the most good at a smaller hospital."

When Dr. Pezzulich joined SVMC, he was immediately thrust into the role of emergency surgeon. Along with his expertise in emergency surgery, he introduced endoscopy and colonoscopy to the area. After a few years at Putnam Hospital, Bob took on the role of Chief of Staff, a position designed to represent the needs of medical staff to the hospital's Board of Trustees. He was re-elected to the position countless times, serving for twenty two straight years. During that time, he remade the Chief of Staff's role into a paid position and a champion for quality throughout the organization.

At age 65, when most people look to retire, Bob moved forward to launch the patient safety department at SVMC. Although he scaled back his clinical work, he and a group of dedicated safety experts landed a grant to study the effects of electronic healthcare records on patient safety. As the lead investigator, he and his team led SVMC forward into rigorous patient safety work that characterizes healthcare today. Bob remarked "Being at the forefront of a new way of thinking about clinical safety and process was exciting because I knew that our work could make care better for thousands of patients, even after I was no longer practicing."

Since fully retired, Bob has continued his work with local healthcare organizations. He sits on the Board for the Battenkill Valley Health Center in Arlington, Vermont where he serves as Chairman of the building committee. He also serves as the community representative to the SVMC Cancer Committee and stays busy traveling as much as he can an activity he shared with his late wife, Helen. Bob resides at [pezz88@mac.com](mailto:pezz88@mac.com). ❖

# HORT SENSE: BUT, ISN'T IT JUST DIRT???

By R. Wayne Mezitt '64

**P**roper soil preparation is fundamental for developing and maintaining healthy landscape plantings. Everyone who understands horticulture has great appreciation that the soil in which our plants and lawns grow is a lot more than simply



**Wayne Mezitt**

“dirt.” Soil is the storehouse for the nutrients plants need and the medium that anchors their roots. Lacking healthy root systems, plants cannot thrive. Autumn is the ideal time to evaluate and improve soils; nothing you can do in your yard will be so critical for the success of your plantings.

For the purposes of this article, let’s assume you have already removed weeds, large stones and other refuse, and you don’t have erosion problems or other physical limitations for planting the garden. It’s al-

ways prudent to resolve these issues before continuing with soil preparation.

Determining and adjusting the structure and nutrient level of your soil is critical, particularly if you have a recently-constructed home: contractors are notorious for rarely providing sufficient topsoil for healthy plantings. Even for older home landscapes, proper soil evaluation will pay dividends for more rewarding results.

The proportions of inorganic and organic components determines soil structure. Inorganic soil components are minerals like clay, sand, gravel, stone and other non-living matter. A simple test to see if your soil structure will sufficiently retain moisture and nutrients for your plantings is to squeeze a handful: well-structured soil should hold together by itself and break apart when dropped on the ground.

All soil contains “pore space”—this is the porosity and friability which allows air and water to pass through to reach root systems. Excessively-sandy soils are too well-drained and will require repeated irrigation to prevent dehydration for most plants; soils too heavy hold excessive moisture and can rot or drown roots. Whether it’s too sandy (doesn’t hold a ball), or too clayey (too firm), addition of organic matter will help to improve structure. Soils are biologically alive, complex, con-

stantly changing systems, ideally comprised of about 45% inorganic matter, 5-10% organic components, and containing about 45-50% pore space.

Organics are comprised of decomposed plant or animal matter that is “alive” with bacteria and biological activity, all of which helps make nutrients available to plant roots. Organics can be supplied using compost, peat, aged manure, decomposed leaves, sawdust and other materials. Spread a one-to-three-inch layer on the ground and incorporate it into the top 8-12” with a rototiller, spade or shovel, making sure it mixes evenly. Even if your soil satisfies the squeeze-drop test, adding organic matter is generally a good idea for healthy root growth; just use a bit less.

But organic materials alone are usually insufficient to provide all the balanced nutrients plants need to perform best. The addition of inorganic/chemical fertilizers, pH adjustments and micronutrients may be necessary. Ask at your local garden center for recommendations about evaluating your soil. Some tests like soil acidity are easy to perform, while others like nutrient analysis usually require sending it to a laboratory. If you ask for soil analysis, make sure you specify how the area being tested will be used—soil for a lawn, a vegetable garden, rhododendron, shade tree or shrub hedge will differ in what nutrients are needed.

Once your soil is properly prepared, you’re ready to plant. With few exceptions, planting in the fall is a good idea—soil temperatures are still warm, and without the need to support top growth, plants can devote their energy to developing robust root systems. Be sure to follow proper planting guidelines about depth of root crown and watering-in; experts at your local garden center can provide this information. And it’s always a smart idea to finish with a layer of mulch that helps retain moisture, discourages weed growth, stabilizes soil temperature fluctuations and looks attractive.

Be aware that soil management is a process—organic components naturally decompose and should be periodically renewed to maintain good health. Even soils that are producing good results will benefit from timely addition of compost, mulch, natural or chemical nutrient supplements. While it is always wise to determine deficiencies before treatments, removing weeds from around the plants and annually refreshing the mulch is generally a good idea.

And, as a final thought, make sure the soil around your plants is sufficiently moist in late fall as the ground begins to freeze. Especially for newly transplanted plants, maintaining adequate root-zone moisture for the winter helps assure your plantings will thrive next spring and in the years to come. ❖

# TRAVEL NUGGETS: GOING HALF-NATIVE

By Alan Fridkin '65

It

began with a call to a strange area code found in a tiny ad in a now deceased magazine. Before there was an internet, people who owned houses overseas and wanted to rent them for short periods had few choices. An ad in a newspaper, travel or college magazine (many were academics) might reach beyond friends and relatives.



Alan Fridkin

If you enjoy traveling, do you grow tired of the tourist routine? Whether on an organized tour, cruise or even as an independent traveler, you are just passing through. At the hotel breakfast buffet, taking photos of a cathedral or walking in a pretty town a half an hour here or there produces,

at best, a post card picture of a place. Travelers and natives risk being seen as stereotypes.

When a place or country resonates, whether it is your family's heritage or you just admire a particular venue, you may want to know and experience more. A long, or even short term, rental puts you a lot closer to experiencing local life.

There are plusses and minuses in this mode of travel, but having experienced it for several decades, I believe the positives prevail. On the negative side, much of this commerce is unregulated and you have to use due diligence as to whom you are dealing with and whether the place you are renting is fairly presented. Are the premises safe and well cared for and who is liable if something goes wrong? Is there someone local you can turn to if there are any problems? What, if any, "domestic items" (towels, dishes, cookware) are included in the rental? Are there washing machines, dryers, Wifi on the premises or nearby?

The benefits are abundant. Usually, you have a kitch-



La Balcon, Patmos, Greece

en and the opportunity to shop and use local markets and "traiteurs", already prepared gourmet or quality food, at a fraction of the cost of most restaurants. You needn't pack and unpack multiple times. Use your apartment/house as a base of operations for day trips in all directions. You will probably get to know people, your neighbors, shop keepers in a way not possible as an itinerant. You may adopt a local pub, sports bar, café or bakery. You will find a much deeper sense of place and time. The owners of the property take "a risk" on you as well. Will you be a responsible tenant?

## HOW TO GET STARTED

Classified ads in college magazines. (We found one good rental in the Harvard magazine;) the International New York Times, the Christian Science Monitor, travel magazines are still a useful resource.

Find a reputable middle man broker on the internet, with specialty experience in the area you are interested in. Examples includes Cuendet, Italrentals.com (the Muoio family whom we have favorably dealt with); parisforrent.com. There are so many out there now, but who are you dealing with? Anyone can put up a pretty internet site. Ask for references! Many sites cater to the large luxury villa market; ideal if you are vacationing with family and friends. Places suitable for two or three are a challenge.

Clearing houses like vrbo.com, airbnb.com, home-away.com are less expensive-but use with caution!

Consider a “pensione” or “residence”, an apartment hotel geared to short and medium term rentals. Look to the tourist office and/or city office websites for the town/city or region you are interested in. Most properties have websites now and are government regulated.

The Canadians from whom we rented that first house in rural France have become good friends. We rented

an apartment in the heart of Paris for a month from a friend of a friend and it was wonderful; and five other apartments in France and Italy over the years. We have been staying at the same “residence” in Alassio, Italy now for over 20 years. It has become our second home without the burdens of ownership.

Take the plunge, and you will learn a lot more about a certain place and yourself. ❖

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## THE WINE RACK: Affordable Tuscan Wines



By Sandy Gilbert '62

In the October 2013 edition of *Wine Spectator*, Bruce Sanderson gave his recommended list of top wine values from Tuscany based on an extensive sample of nearly a thousand reviewed entries. Below is a choice

selection of five of Bruce’s highly rated wines that sell for \$20.00 or less.

**Dei Rosso di Montepulciano 2010:** Described as “packed with cherry and plum fruit” and “a subtle generous red,” this wine has an impressive 90 Wine rating and is priced at \$20.00.

**Marchesi De’Frescobaldi Chianti Rufina Nipozzano 2009:** Also highly rated at 90 and only costing \$20.00, this mature Chianti is described as having “dried fruit

and sweet spice flavors.”

**San Felice Chianti Classico 2010:** An excellent value at \$18.00 with a 90 rating, this Chianti Classico is “smooth with focused flavors of cherry.”

**Capezzana Barco Reale di Carmignano Conte Contini Bonacossi 2010:** This is a medium bodied red with black cherry and blackberry flavors that is priced at only \$15.00 with an 89 rating.

**Teruzzi & Puthod Toscana White Terre di Tufi 2011:** This selection also only costs \$15.00, has an 88 rating and carries “grapefruit accents with fresh apple and peach notes.” ❖

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## OBITUARIES

*The Omicron Oracle notes with sadness the passing of the following brothers:*

Jonathan D. Stoddart '46  
July 12, 2013

Peter M. Fast '64  
September 4, 2013

Louis L. Hepburn '49  
July 19, 2013

Henri V. Jova '40  
January 13, 2014

Robert W. McGrath '50  
August 5, 2013

Edwin D. Fessenden '54  
January 24, 2014

Webster David '53  
November 16, 2013

James G. Plunkett '56  
February 20, 2014

William Q. Dowdle '46  
January 7, 2014

Herbert D. Luxon '49  
April 2, 2014

James Timothy Embser '56  
October 25, 2013

Werner S. Ramminger '55  
June 7, 2014



# NEWS FROM ALUMNI

## ► 1948

Bob McKinless is pleased to report that he was able to join his son, Rich, and grandson, Chris, for part of an exciting cycling trip last summer from Astoria, Oregon to the east coast to benefit biking-for-books.org, a charity that puts books in the hands of children who might never have a book on their own. Bob joined them after they crossed the steep terrain in the Rockies for a good part of the trip. He says he wishes he were fifteen years younger and he thinks he would have been able to handle the entire trip.

The McKinless' saga has deservedly attracted a lot of attention for both the extent of the journey and the worthy cause it supports. Rich's and Chris' biking venture was covered in the Washington Post in September and will be featured in an upcoming edition of Lambda Chi's National online magazine, the Cross And Crescent. You can donate to the cause by going to Rich's website, [biking-for-books.org](http://biking-for-books.org). You'll find Bob at his usual handle [bikerbob8@mac.com](mailto:bikerbob8@mac.com).

## ► 1949

George Christensen tells us that he is now 90 years old and still active in community affairs in Ames, Iowa. He worked as the Vice President of Iowa State University and then moved on to become Vice President of the University of Alaska system. He is currently the Chair of the Cornell Veterinary College Class of '49 and is proud to say that both his son and grandson are Cornell grads. George's home phone is (515) 292-8058.

## ► 1960



Curt and Pam Curtice, pictured above, have been living in the Atlanta area since 1995 and are fortunate

to have their son, Christopher, a senior producer for CNN, living nearby. They enjoy spending time with Chris and his 14-year old daughter whenever they can. Curt says he is busy being retired though it may sound like an oxymoron to younger alumni. Having spent a lifetime career in sales, it's been interesting having the shoe on the other foot dealing with contractors and service people in his role as head of strategic planning for his community homeowners association. He says it's like having Bruce Veghte '60 and John Comstock '61 as roommates all over again.

Curt has kept up over the years with Bruce, John, Carl Igelbrink '59 and Charlie Way '55 and they try to get together whenever they can. Curt and Pam also plan regular trips to England to visit Pam's family and to see other friends in New York, Connecticut and around the southeast. Curt can be found at [wcurtice@aol.com](mailto:wcurtice@aol.com).

## ► 1961



Nick Carter, pictured at left with one of his animal friends, has become well known in his region of Maryland for his informative nature walks where he helps educate the public about the importance of preserving the environment. You'll reach Nick at [nmcarter1@verizon.net](mailto:nmcarter1@verizon.net).

Bob Pezzulich writes to say that he recently visited the 9/11 Museum in New York with some Cornell '61 alumni and was very impressed with the site. He felt it was moving, but not depressing and very inspiring. He recommends that you visit the museum when you get a chance. Bob can be found at [pezz88@mac.com](mailto:pezz88@mac.com).

# NEWS FROM ALUMNI

► 1962



Lee and Leslie Manning had an enjoyable summer trip to British Columbia where they visited and hiked in Jasper and Kootenay National Parks. This was a memorable trip as they had also hiked in the area years ago back in 1976. That's Lee and Leslie pictured above on a cruise on Lake Maligne with the much photographed Spirit Island in the background. The haze in the picture is from the many forest fires that were active in the area during their entire stay.



Chris Napjus announced his retirement in December 2013 on his 73rd birthday and promptly flew out the next morning to Costa Rica for a cruise along its Pacific Coast. That's Chris relaxing above on the deck of the Sea Dream I during the cruise.

During January and February, he was back at his home along the Severn River in Maryland to help Barb rehabilitate from her hip surgery. Following her successful recovery, they took an extended trip to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji where they had a great time, but just missed being hit by a cyclone near Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Chris can be reached at [cnapjus@verizon.net](mailto:cnapjus@verizon.net).

Bob Miller reports that he and Katarina are headed to Istanbul to take part in the 150th anniversary of Bogazici University, the oldest American University outside the United States. Bob also is excited about his son's, Tor, burgeoning music career. He's been touring in England all summer and working on the completion of his first EP that he hopes will be in distribution on radio early this month when he appears on TV on Austin City Limits. Bob is located at [rcmiller@davidsondawson.com](mailto:rcmiller@davidsondawson.com).

► 1963

Bob and Connie Elliott enjoyed a history themed vacation in Williamsburg, Virginia with their daughter's family. The Jamestown Settlement's period presentation was an enjoyable highlight where they ran into Norm Fuss '60 who they hadn't seen since their days back on The Hill.

The Elliotts also had an enjoyable and relaxing summer at their place down on the Jersey Shore although it was disappointing to see that there is still so much cleanup work to be done from super storm Sandy. You'll find bob at [bobell89@aol.com](mailto:bobell89@aol.com).

Bob Ferguson weighs in to say that he has just retired from his law practice and living on a farm in the Hudson valley to relocate in Poughkeepsie. He enjoys working on some local non-profit organizations and would welcome hearing from some LXA friends at [robferg63@gmail.com](mailto:robferg63@gmail.com).

Lee Leonard reports that he is excited about his upcoming book, "James Rhodes Ohio Colossus" about the legendary Ohio Governor in the '60s and '70s. The book is in final editing and Lee looks forward to a book signing tour later this fall. In the meantime, he and Ruth are headed to Lancaster, Pennsylvania for a tour of the Amish Country with some friends. You'll find Lee at [rlleonard@mycidco.com](mailto:rlleonard@mycidco.com).

Tom Miller was pleased to have his son, Tim, finish his three-year stint with the military in Germany and settle nearby in Reston, Virginia. Their daughter and her family also live close-by so they are looking forward to some quality time with the grandkids.

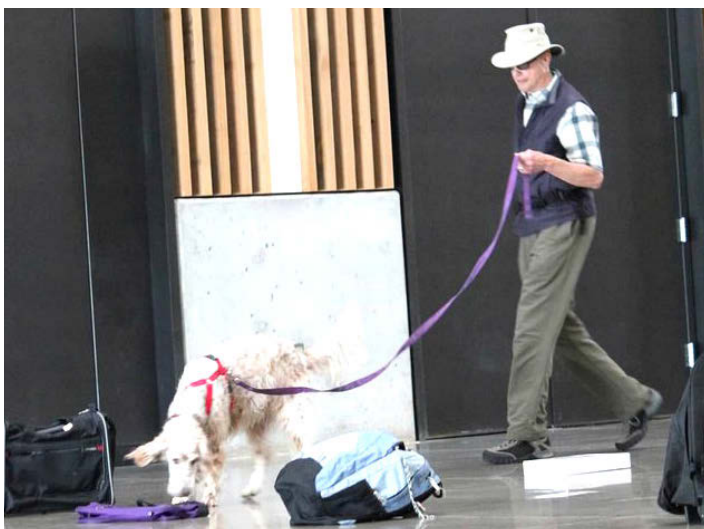
After looking back on his days on The Hill, Tom says he has to admit that all the hard work really paid off. He also wants to thank all the alumni who have helped to keep Edgemoor alive and improving over the years and says his investment in the renovation has made a big impression on some of his local Cornell friends. Tom lives at [tdurhammiller@yahoo.com](mailto:tdurhammiller@yahoo.com).

# NEWS FROM ALUMNI

## ► 1964

Wayne Mezitt tells us that he has reduced his work schedule at Weston Nursery as his son, Peter, takes over the reins as the fourth generation president of the enterprise. He has begun a new consulting business where you can access his gardening advice at [hortsense.com](http://hortsense.com). Wayne and Beth returned to Cornell for reunion in June and enjoyed catching up with fellow Omicrons Steve Ashley '62, John Steed '69 and Elliot Sloan '74. After visiting the Chapter House just before it closed, he says he is very excited about the potential for the House with the completion of the renovation. Wayne is located at [waynem@westonnurseries.com](mailto:waynem@westonnurseries.com).

## ► 1965



Pat Huston reports that he continues his interesting work with his two dogs Honor, the English Setter shown above and a Border terrier in developing their level of skill in Nosework, a sport based on the training and accomplishment required for professional detection dogs used in bomb and drug searches. Pat got involved with the sport because his dogs really enjoy using their noses and it's one of the few sports, unlike obedience or agility tests, where the dog is the lead partner on the team. The human has to learn to read and respond to the dog's body language. Pat is working with Honor to reach the Nosework 2 title under the auspices of the National Association of Canine Scentwork (NACSW) which requires that the dog and handler successfully find concealed odor sources that the dog has been trained to recognize and locate in a limited amount of time in both indoor and outdoor environments. You can track Pat down at [Huston.p@gmail.com](mailto:Huston.p@gmail.com).

Ed Lortz writes from the Bay Area that after 22 years he and his partner got married in August of 2013 and took an enjoyable delayed 10-day honeymoon in December 2013 on a river cruise on the Danube to the Christmas markets in Germany, Austria and Hungary. With Ed's ongoing commitment to green living, he says he is still pouring money into his 1888 Victorian house in San Francisco. You'll find Ed at [eddieksf@gmail.com](mailto:eddieksf@gmail.com).

Another of Omicron's west coast based alumni, Dave Wilson, tells us that he moved in July and his new contact information is [wilson99@packbell.net](mailto:wilson99@packbell.net).

## ► 1966

Ken Kanagaki tells us that after a major medical scare, he has totally shifted his lifestyle to more nutritional and healthy eating built around a plant-based diet. He has achieved outstanding results in both weight control and his energy level and his blood chemistry is excellent. A real expert on nutrition, Ken recommends the movie "Forks over Knives" on Netflix as a good primer on the subject.

Ken said he is pleased with the great progress on the renovation project and was glad to make a contribution to the effort. He also is impressed with the new house website at [www.iswza.org](http://www.iswza.org) and enjoys reading the electronic Oracle. Ken resides at [kw2405@yahoo.com](mailto:kw2405@yahoo.com).

## ► 1969



Warren Lem relates a quick summary of his and Lee's incredible plan to journey around the world in 40 days. He writes "We started in New York and flew to Vilnius, Lithuania. The old town of Vilnius is a UNESCO World Heritage site with many Russian Orthodox and Catholic churches over 500 years old. We then flew to Singapore and visited some long lost relatives before heading to Thailand, Viet-



# NEWS FROM ALUMNI



nam, Bali (where we took the elephant ride shown on previous page), Australia's Great Barrier Reef, Sydney and finally ended up at Dave '69 and Terri Shannon's house in New Zealand. That's Dave shown at left next to a native New Zealand Kauri tree. In short, Singapore is over the top, Thailand is beautiful, Vietnam is frenetic and bustling, Bali is Hindu, Sydney is cosmopolitan and New Zealand is just the greenest place I have ever seen." Warren can be found at [warrenlem@aol.com](mailto:warrenlem@aol.com).

John Steed writes to say that he is pleased with the progress on the renovation program and he is currently working with Welliver, the Omicron builder, on a large project in the Binghamton area.

John and JoAnn are planning a trip to the Bahamas in February and he is pleased to announce that their two oldest sons have both just gotten engaged during the summer. The oldest is a Cornell grad (ILR and Johnson School) and his wedding will be on campus. John is at [jdsteed1@aol.com](mailto:jdsteed1@aol.com).

Ron Wood relays an intriguing story from his days on The Hill when he, Steve Newpol '68, and a few other brothers were casually tossing some "lady finger" firecrackers into the gorge for fun. Unfortunately, a neighbor (Chi Phi was reputedly the culprit) reported the incident to the police as "gunfire" coming from Lambda Chi. The Ithaca police duly responded to the emergency call and happened to find late arriving, John Elliott '66, coming up the steps from the Summer House. John and a few others were accused as the offenders and charged by the police. A local DA was running for reelection and decided to make a federal case out of the incident. Despite the lack of any gun or bullets found at the scene, the LXA brothers were charged with a felony for the incident. This was particularly unfair to John Elliott who just happened to wander into the group at the last minute, but was caught as one of the last ones leaving the Summer House. As it turned out, it was fortunate that John was caught in the dragnet as the Judge assigned to the case was the very same judge that John, as the president of the Young Republican Club, had worked with on a number of community

events for the area. The judge quickly saw through the situation and reduced the charges to a misdemeanor sparing the brothers a serious blemish on their record. Ron lives at [wood1946@hotmail.com](mailto:wood1946@hotmail.com).

## ► 1976



Jim Sollecito writes to tell us what he did on his summer vacation. Knowing Jim, naturally it involved fishing. As shown above with his IGFA Royal Salmon Slam entry, it took Jim 25 years and travel to three continents to finally land all six species of wild salmon. In fact, only thirty two people in the world have done it. The hardest to catch is the Atlantic Salmon, especially on a fly. He believes he is the first in the world to do it. Fishermen contend that it takes 1,000 casts to catch a single Atlantic Salmon. Jim says they are like mini-tarpons, simply peeling off line and going ballistic jumping once they are hooked. Jim uses barbless hooks with no weight of any kind and a catch and release technique. When he's not out on the water, you'll find Jim at [jim@sollecito.com](mailto:jim@sollecito.com).

## ► 1979



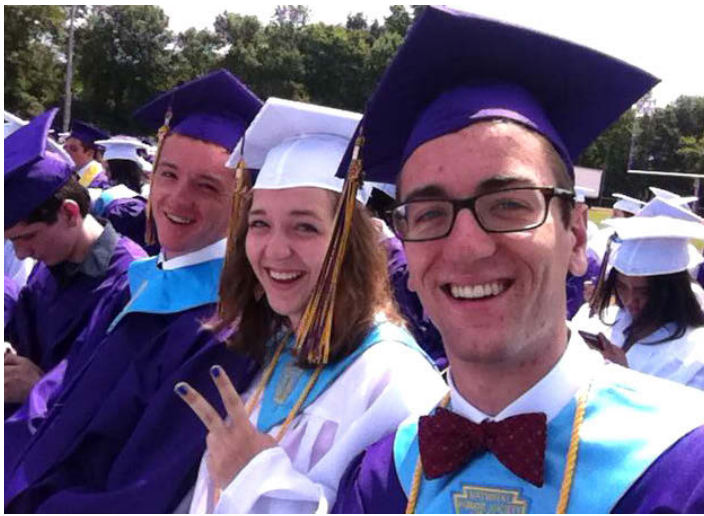
Mark Hallock, shown above from left to right with Bill Stasiuk '80, Cliff Manko '80, and Dennis Barone '79 at McGann's Irish Pub in Boston, called the group together to toast the success of the Omicron Capital Campaign. Mark lives at [mark@m2ollc.com](mailto:mark@m2ollc.com).

# NEWS FROM ALUMNI

## ► 1980

Cliff Manko tells us he has been reconnecting with Cornell as his youngest daughter, Melanie, is a sophomore in the Arts College studying computer science and math. She is a member of SDT sorority. Cliff had dinner in early January with Eric Nielsen '80 who was traveling from California to care for his ailing father. He also joined the crew for Mark Fernau's '82 annual Cornell-Harvard hockey game dinner event and had a great time catching up with everyone. Cliff resides at [cliff.manko@gmail.com](mailto:cliff.manko@gmail.com).

## ► 1981



Scot Brown and wife Roberta report that they are now experiencing an empty nest as their triplets, Liam, Ceilli and Andrew shown above, have graduated high school and have headed off to college. Andrew is studying engineering and computer science at Cornell and the other two are at the University of Vermont. It's a big adjustment as the parents enjoy their new found freedom, but miss having the kids around. They live in Warwick, New York where Scot has been at Stryker Corporation for fifteen years. You can reach him at [sbrown@warwick.net](mailto:sbrown@warwick.net).

## ► 1982

Mark "Mef" Fernau says that he was joined at his tailgate birthday party by Steve "Keegs Buddy" Keegan '80 for the New England Revolution MLS soccer game at Gillette Stadium. Mark says that "Keegs" presence helped the Revs to snap a long losing streak and get into the playoff hunt. Also at the tailgate party were Melissa Fernau, Mef's daughter, Gwen, and Keegs' son, Sam. Sam is at Syracuse University and his other son, Willie, attends Lehigh. Keegs and Anna hope to

see Willie at Homecoming at Lehigh. You'll find Mark at [mfernau@ametsoc.org](mailto:mfernau@ametsoc.org) and Steve at [keegansj@yahoo.com](mailto:keegansj@yahoo.com).

Paul Komor tells us he is at the University of Colorado Boulder where he is Energy Education Director at the Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute and a lecturer in the Environmental Studies Program. Paul does research in renewable electricity policy and teaches courses in energy technology and policy. He has a seven year old son and relates that along with Al Gore and many others, he was awarded a small piece of the 2007 Nobel Prize that was given to the intergovernmental panel on Climate Change. Paul lives at [komor@colorado.edu](mailto:komor@colorado.edu).

Mark Morrow weighs in from the west coast in the Seattle area where he teaches school in Bellevue. He has a twenty year old daughter and he is currently taking two years off from the classroom to be a teachers' union rep for twenty eight buildings and over 1300 union members. Mark is looking forward to the challenge and you can reach him at [mbm25@cornell.edu](mailto:mbm25@cornell.edu).

## ► 1992



Brett Ainsworth, The Oracle's Editor, reports that he, his wife, Susan, his son, Patrick, and his parents, Pat and Sharon, had a great trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland over the summer. That's Brett in the Cornell t-shirt with Patrick and their Irish instructor in the above picture at an Irish Hurling Club learning the basics of the game along with some pointers on Gaelic football and Irish handball. Brett says that the Emerald Isle lived up to its reputation for beauty, great

# NEWS FROM ALUMNI

craic and numerous fine pubs. The Ainsworths also hosted, Miguel, a student from Spain during the summer and promptly converted him to America's pastime as a Phillies fan when the group witnessed a rare game-ending grand slam by Ryan Howard. Brett was also elected as second vice-president on the board for the New Jersey Press Association via his role as the owner-publisher of *The Retrospect*, an independent weekly newspaper in Collingswood, New Jersey.

You'll find Brett at [publisher@theretrospect.com](mailto:publisher@theretrospect.com).



Doug Levens says: "I can't believe how this year has blown by. Now that I have quit my "day job," I am running around more than ever. Last spring, a friend and I started the Nutmeg Youth Triathlon Team. That's me pictured above with the kids in the back row, third from the left. We are now one of only thirty USA Triathlon Junior Development Teams in the entire country. We have over forty kids ages 7 to 14 who I train with several times a week. Some of the kids are just there for fun while others have aspirations of being professional triathletes. I am having a great time doing what I love which is keeping kids healthy and happy. The highlight of the year was taking six of the kids on a road trip to Ohio for the Youth and Junior National Championships."

"I went out to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado this spring for a coaching seminar and had a chance to catch up with Trevor Connor '95, who as many of you know, is an amazing cyclist. I have been seeking his training advice for years and decided to make

him officially my coach. Due in large part to Trevor's knowledge and support, I had a great race season this year doing Aquabike races. This is the swim and bike portions of a triathlon designed for "old people" like me who can no longer handle the run, but still want to compete. I just returned from the Aquabike National Championships where I came in 13th overall and 2nd in the 40 to 44 age group." You'll catch Doug at [levens@cox.net](mailto:levens@cox.net).

## ► 1995

Adam Borah writes that he completed his third Ironman at the 2013 Ironman Canada in Whistler with brother Eric Helmy '96. Unfortunately, soon thereafter, he tore up his knee with a severe ACL injury playing soccer (a sport he loves and was introduced to by brothers Ben Wood '93, Josh Faust '94, Mike Buckler '96, Greg Knight '96 and Scott Allesandro '96). Recovery has been slow though he can now do some swimming and biking.

Adam's also reports that after working for thirteen years as a psychiatrist for the Army, he has left the service to begin private practice as the Medical Director of a brand new seventy two bed freestanding psychiatric hospital in Georgetown, Texas. Adam can be found at [amb18@cornell.edu](mailto:amb18@cornell.edu).

## ► 2005

Andrew Haber tells us: " Christopher Corona and I continue our weekly Backgammon matches that we began ten years ago at Cornell. Ever the calm center of the storms that swirl around him, Chris normally opts for a holding game, maintaining an anchor of control on my side of the board, waiting for the moment when the opponent is most vulnerable. Some say I tend to avoid conflict and thus resort to building walls of checkers in consecutive points in an attempt to block my opponents' movements. The current record for these matches is unknown although, as of this writing, Chris Chan has yet to win even a single match." Andrew plays at [Andrew.haber@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.haber@gmail.com).

## ► 2007

Kevin Page reports that he is still with the same Reston, Virginia software company, but asked to be transferred to a new country for the chance to live and work in Asia. He now lives in Cambodia where he is developing Android applications and learning the local language. You'll reach Kevin at [pagekb@gmail.com](mailto:pagekb@gmail.com).

## Introducing Our Campaign Honor Roll (Through October 2014) (Donors of \$1,000-plus; Campaign Committee Members are bold-faced)

# CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

AS OF OCTOBER 15, 2014

### 1940s & 1950s: \$228,300

**Robert F. McKinless '48**  
Raymond H. Schumacher '48  
Paul W. Brass '50  
Harry W. Daniell '50  
Roderick Carlson '52  
Bob Milkey '52  
Tom R. Brass '53  
William D. Adams '55  
Alfred T. Blomquist '55  
**James H. Quest '56**  
Richard P. Terhune '56  
Robert Hurlbut (dec'd) '57  
Henry G. Kammerer '57  
George O. Nagle '57  
Raymond Sears '57  
Carl J. Igelbrink '59  
Robert K. Lee '59  
Charles Y.B. Way '59  
Anonymous (dec'd.)

### 1960s: \$1,054,800

William T. Curtice '60  
Frederick "Bill" Fuller '60  
Bruce B. Veghte '60  
James M. Blomquist '61  
John A. Comstock '61  
Robert A. Pezzulich '61  
**Stephen B. Ashley '62**  
Robert W. Cutler, Jr. '62  
**Hamlin "Sandy" Gilbert '62**  
John E. "Jack" Kempster '62  
Lee J. Manning '62  
Robert C. Miller '62  
Chris N. Napjus '62  
Lawrence E. O'Brien '62  
Peter D. Saderholm '62  
Robert M. Elliott '63  
William G. Imig '63  
Jay "Lee" Leonard '63  
John R. Lutz '63  
Thomas D. Miller '63  
Richard E. Bertelson '64  
Donald P. Coleman '64  
John Hastings '64  
James W. Hirsch '64  
R. Wayne Mezitt '64  
John A. DeWitt '65  
Alan R. Fridkin '65  
Patrick J. Huston '65  
James E. Loomis '65  
Harold S. "Bud" Mitchell '65  
Edward "Tom" Shineman '65  
Richard Fleming '66  
Kenneth Kanagaki '66  
David R. Landrey '66

### Edward K. Lortz '66

W. Thomas Willis III '66  
Frank L. Sullivan, Jr. '67  
**Ralph V. Wilhelm, Jr. '67**  
James A. Bowman '69  
Gary A. Gould '69  
**Warren C. Lem '69**  
Henry B. McNulty '69  
Cecil L. Murphy III '69  
Phillip B. Prigmore '69

### 1970s: \$227,300

Paul G. Funch '70  
Gary C. Furbish '70  
John R. Lombardi '70  
William L. Meli '70  
Alan B. Shineman '70  
John Steed '70  
Richard A. Albright '71

**Gary W. Hedge '72**  
Joseph P. Willis, III '72  
Gary A. Dufel '74  
Randy L. Rosenberg '74  
**Elliot B. Sloane '74**  
John S. Czelusniak '75  
Allen W. Nicholson '75  
Frederick F. Fakharzadeh '76  
Richard J. Fanelli '76  
Ronald A. Samascott '76  
Frank X. Sherman '76  
James R. Sollecito '76  
Andre P. Martecchini '78  
Robert W. Shaw '78  
Mark O. Todd '78  
Dennis M. Barone '79  
Mark V. Hallock '79  
**Scott B. Jacobs '79**

### 1980s: \$100,200

Brian Joondeph '80  
Clifford M. Manko '80  
**Richard A. Meigs '80**  
Glenn H. Pease '80  
Brian M. Rooney '80  
William Stasiuk '80  
Thomas Scot Brown Jr. '81  
Dwight Dietrich '81  
Jonathan B. Turell '81  
**Mark E. "Mef" Fernau '82**  
John P. Servis '82  
Douglas S. Skalka '82  
Brad N. Friedman '83  
James C. Farrell '84  
**James A. Morrill '84**  
John Tansey '84  
Tracy "TJ" Flemings '85  
Jonathan H. Grunzweig '85  
Christopher DiNapoli '86  
Leonard Bardfeld '87  
Glenn M. DeCesare '88  
William H. Casswell '89

### 1990s: \$167,200

Thomas J. Bruno '90  
Dominic J. Delmolino '90  
Kristian L. Billiar '91  
Steven W. DelRosso '91  
James M. Dumas '91  
Michael A. Karet '91  
Eric R. Schneider '91  
Michael L. Agostin '92  
Brett A. Ainsworth '92  
Thomas A. Boorady '92  
Aubrey E. Bout '92  
**Douglas E. Levens '92**  
Sambhav N. Sankar '92  
Samir Shah '92  
Douglas J. Piper '93  
Andrew I. Rosenberg '93  
Sanford C. Gordon '94  
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