



Class of '87 Newsletter

The UN Election Newsletter

Greetings, Fellow '87's-

This is probably the only piece of mail you've received recently from the College that is NOT about the Trustee election. Actually, I promise this newsletter won't be about either election. Christen and I aim to be non-partisan and all about connecting our classmates through sharing their stories. And of course, since it is I, Amy Baker, taking the lead on this one, this means sharing a few unauthorized stories too☺ (It's gotten to the point where a handful of my friends will preface their news with "and this is NOT for the newsletter." Hmph. As if I would...)

Okay, it's true. In addition to the Green Cards I always add a little of my own commentary. I try really hard not to cross the line, but there you have it. Thanks for the forbearance.

Now, on to our news...

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87th Day of the Year Reunions a Huge Success!!

Many Many Mini Reunions

This year we broke a new record in how many '87th night reunions were held. It appears that we have appointed a hugely persuasive mini reunion chair in **Laura Gasser**, who was assisted by many able bodied and enthusiastic volunteers in cities all around. Here's a letter and a recap from Laura:

Hi everyone -

Thanks to my volunteers, I'm proud to say that the Class of '87 had a banner year of '87th day (or thereabouts) mini-reunions in 2008, 17 mini-reunions in all! I also want to thank **Sara Dann**, in Miami, for making a valiant classmate rallying effort that unfortunately didn't work out this year.

What follows are all the attendees across the country and in London.

Laura Gasser
Class Mini-Reunion Chair

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Class News

Mini Reunion Recap:



Amherst, MA, March 28 -

L to R: Lisa Harvey '91 (David Arnold's wife), **David Arnold**, Scott Arnold, Spencer McDonald, Callum McDonald, **Allison Bleyler McDonald**, Alex Arnold, **Jock McDonald**

Allison Bleyler McDonald reports:

"We ordered pizza and played hide & seek!" In attendance were **Allison Bleyler McDonald & Jock McDonald**, **David Arnold** and his wife Lisa Harvey '91, Allison and Jock's sons Callum and Spencer, and David and Lisa's sons Scott and Alex.

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Atlanta, GA March 26

Maury Lawrence Stephan reports:

"We are the Atlanta contingency of the class of '87 mini-reunions: L to R: **Patricia Hutton Sharpe**, **Scott Rafshoon**, **Jennifer Lampl Wornat**, and **Maury (Lawrence) Stephan**

We all had fun figuring out the ways in which we may have actually known each other, or crossed paths with each other back on campus, oh so many years ago. We also all felt that, while we look at the kids going off to college these days and think, "My goodness, they are young!" None of us believe that we really are that much older than our college years, either. We had some great discussions about the challenges of parenthood, and some good insights about relationships. I am not sure we really figured out how best to make them work, but it was great to hear about the differing viewpoints, as well as to hear about what was working for each other.



We missed seeing **Hollie Manheimer**, who had something come up at work. Scott had worked with her for a few years on a project, but got so busy recently, that he missed the most recent update with her. Scott and Hollie are both lawyers. Scott has 2 boys, Michael, 14 and Joseph, 9, and is married to '86 Ellen Glaser.

Jen works for Scott Madden, a consulting firm, in Atlanta. She enjoys also enjoys being a mom to 6 year old Kael, who is good at keeping her and husband, Rick on their toes. She stays in touch with **Diana Wheeler**, and will get to see her at the end of the month when she and **Nancy Lomazzo** go visit her in Texas to see Diana's newborn son.

Patricia Hutton Sharpe is still consulting for IBM. Her current client is my children's school district. She has 3 kids, Jacquelyn, 10, Michael, 6 and Kimberly, 5, and lives in Marietta with her husband Marty.

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Atlanta, cont'd

I (**Maury Lawrence Stephan**) am still living in Suwanee, with my husband John. Apparently Suwanee is one of the top 10 small towns to live in, according to Money magazine. I would never have guessed that, when we moved here, 7 years ago. We have 3 kids: Oliver, 7, Carter, 5, and Angela, 2. They definitely keep me busy, and I often crash into bed at night after they have gone to sleep. I have recently started practicing massage again, and am starting to branch out to see where this healing path will take me.”

Boston, MA March 27

Anne Schnader Jones reports:

“Thanks to **Deb Rowe Marchiony** we actually had a mini reunion! Attached is a photo (thanks to a bartender with a camera who offered to take and email the picture to us.)” Deb adds that a great time was had by all and that she “hopes to get these folks (and others) together in Q2.” Pictured in the photo are **Greg Jones, Anne Schnader Jones, Colleen Sullivan Mikkelson, Deb Rowe Marchiony, John Gannon** (“in town from Texas!”), and John Marchiony ’86.



Chicago, IL April 22:

L to R: **Stephanie Mullins, Paul Christiansen, Sharon Flanagan, and Ernie Torain**

Ernie Torain reports:

“A nice time had by all. Attendees were **Paul Christensen, Stephanie Mullins, Sharon Flanagan and Ernie Torain**. On our front, we’ve got two boys (Trey is 8, Ethan is 5) and live in Evanston on a street called Hinman Avenue, no less! We make it back to Hanover for homecoming almost every fall. Last night our group thankfully didn’t spend much time on the usual chit chat of who works where. Lots of reminiscing about Hanover. I happen to still own a Freshman Book (doubt the College even makes them anymore) and we had some fun comparing pictures

of ourselves from half a lifetime ago. Paul and his wife brought their daughter along and Sharon and her husband brought their two daughters along. Lots of pizza and brownies were consumed.”

Fairfield County, CT, March 27

Melissa Wallshein Smith hosted a true “mini” reunion: she and **John Steele** met up in South Norwalk.

Hanover, NH, March 27

Christen Fitzpatrick O’Connor reports:

“**Holly Taylor, Ward Watson**, and I had a nice gathering in Hanover for lunch at Murphy’s (formerly Bentley’s). Also heard back from **Suzanne Cote, Pete DeLong, and Eric Bivona**, who were all out of town and unable to attend.

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Hanover, *cont'd*

I (**Christen Fitzpatrick O'Connor**) don't think I had ever met **Ward Watson** before, but he's a good person to know because he's the new Innkeeper at the Norwich Inn! He has been in the Hanover area since graduation, working primarily in the restaurant industry, and last fall moved up to Innkeeper in Norwich. He and his family live on the premises in the "Innkeeper's Cottage" which sounds awfully quaint, but it does mean he's pretty much on call 24 hours a day! When a guest calls for assistance in the middle of the night, it's the phone next to Ward's bed that rings! He and his wife have a 2 1/2-year-old daughter and are expecting their second child this fall.

Holly Taylor and I tend to bump into each other a lot, as we make the same circuit between campus, the school, and the daycare. She is still teaching at Tufts at the beginning of each week and spending the rest of the week up here, while her husband teaches here at the end of each week. With three kids aged 7 and under, she's a master of logistics!"

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Hartford, CT, March 27 Liz Spear Deakin reports:

"The first Hartford, CT was a great success as we had six '87's in attendance. Participating were (from left to right) **Nicole Penfield Kodak, Skip Kodak, Coe Bancroft, Jonathan Bigelow, Mark Chavey, and Liz Spear Deakin.**

As it turns out, it was sort of an Alpha Chi/Tri-Delt reunion and we all had a great time catching up on life since graduation. We hope the group will expand next year!"



Ketchum/Sun Valley, ID, Feb. 28 Shannon Finnegan reports:

"We had 100% attendance at our first Sun Valley '87 gathering. Pictured are **Phil Hebert, Mark Elsbree, Laura Kennedy, Shannon Finnegan, Lisa Sweeney Caputo, and Werner Morawitz.**

We had a great time and tentatively made a plan to have another Dartmouth gathering over the summer, including spouses, kids and other classes."



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Los Angeles, CA, March 20

Pam Haering and **Sharon Holland** report:



“We had a nice turn out! Pictured are (back row) **Gordon Cook, Jeff Moore, Pam Haering, Anne-Marie LaMarche Valencia, Brian Venerable, Star Bailey**; (front row) **Sharon Holland** and Anne-Marie’s date. Missing from the picture is Jeff’s wife Tania.

Gordon is working in finance downtown and living in Manhattan Beach with his wife and three daughters. **Jeff** is an account manager at Polystyrene, and he and his wife

Tania have two sons who are currently playing baseball. Sharon is living in Santa Monica and working at the Hollywood Reporter while pursuing her acting career. Anne-Marie is as fun and high energy as ever! She is running a tutoring business out of Beverly Hills and has an 8 year old son. Brian is living in Pasadena and just started his own chiropractic practice. Star gets the award for traveling the furthest: she is living just north of San Diego and also has her own thriving chiropractic practice.”

(Shown at right: **Star Bailey, Pam Haering, Sharon Holland**)



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London, UK, March 18

Wendy Becker reports:

“It was fun! **Chris Marquardt, Scott Sandford, Quimby Pierce**, Catherine Rainey ('88) and I met up for a couple drinks in Central London. Conversation centered around typical Dartmouth (remember Freshman trips etc), typical London (how long were you here before you realized there are no British people in Central London) and typical early 40s chat (how do you get through the school application maze without going crazy). Everyone enjoyed getting together and hopefully next year we will attract even more people to our gathering!”

NYC, March 20

Tim Bixby reports:

“We had a very energetic showing at the Royalton 44 Bar in midtown Manhattan. No cocktail was too expensive or too vibrantly colored for this group. The male/female ratio was just like back in Hanover at about 75/25. Baby pictures were shared, and the unmarrieds bragged about their continuing late night social life, while the breeders lamented school acceptance rates. All were very supportive of either Barack Obama, John McCain or Hillary Clinton (clearly hedging bets) and waiting for the recession to hit NYC. A great time and spirited group.”

In attendance were 11 '87s: **Tim Bixby, Robert Martin, Brendan Connell, Jeff Lazarus, David Huang, Drew Desky, Alison Mason, Evan Azriliant, Heather Myers, Jon Zonis, and Sean Abbott.**

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Park City, UT, March 27
Stephanie Mullins reports:

“We all met out in Park City for a girls’ ski trip. This is our second annual ski trip together and we are thinking this may be the beginning of a great tradition. **Dan Keane** happened to be in town with his family, so he was given a hall pass to hang out with us a couple of times over the weekend. We had a blast skiing and catching up. It was great to see everyone.

Pictured are (top) **Stephanie Mullins, Mary Smyers Kaufman, Shannon Finnegan, Debbi Jayne Seaver**; (bottom) **Laura Kennedy, Liza Rebetz MacKinnon, Dan Keane**.

Stephanie runs a dog-walking/pet-sitting business in Chicago, where she shares an apartment with her loyal dog, Mercury and boyfriend, Jonah. Mary is a city mom living it up in Boston with her husband, Seth, and little ones, Sam and Anna.

Shannon recently became the executive director of the Wood River Arts Alliance in Sun Valley, Idaho, where she and her husband, Mike, are living with their daughters, Tara and Tess, and son Aiden. Debbi was a great hostess to us in Park City where she lives with her husband, Jim and two sons, Luke and Grant. She teaches skiing at Deer Valley part time. Liza enjoys keeping up with all her kids’ activities in Duxbury, Mass where she and her husband, Dan, live with daughters, Megan and Emma, as well as son, Connor. Laura is making her mark in beautiful Sun Valley, as well, living just a few miles from Shannon. She loves her position as a Principal at The Community School there, where she occasionally gets a “snow day” (everyone gets a day off school to go skiing). She also has helped raise money for the School by doing charity ski events. Sounds like a FUN JOB Laura!

Dan runs a booming business in Buffalo, NY, and spends his spare time with his beautiful wife, Leslie and his lovely daughters, Stephanie and Victoria!”

Park City, UT, March 28
Shana Hopperstead reports:

“In attendance at an evening of tubing and great Mexican food were **Shana Hopperstead** ’87 and her kids Jessica and Ross DiCaprio; **Jeff Lee** ’87, wife Gretchen, and kids Madelyn, Cole and Tucker; **Colleen Reid Rush** ’87 and daughter Erin; Lynn Van Ummersen ’86 and her daughters Katie, Sarah and Lauren Chin; and Ed and Debbie Pack (friends of Shana) and their son Jeffrey.

L to R: **Colleen Reid Rush, Lynn Van Ummersen** ’86, **Shana Hopperstead**, and **Jeff Lee**



The evening started out with a fun-filled tubing event. Lynn and her kids moved to Orlando, FL, from Madison, WI two years ago so they were definitely snow-deprived! We all enjoyed the sunshine and

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Park City, UT, March 28, *cont'd*

great hills and bumps on our tubes. We figured out that we went much faster as a group - that is until Shana's son, Ross, fell off when the attendant spun us around at launch! Luckily, he borrowed an extra tube and joined us at the bottom of the run.

Lynn, Shana and their children met up with Jeff Lee's family, Colleen & Erin, and the Packs for a fabulous dinner! Lynn and Shana had delicious margaritas, which reminded them of those they indulged in at Molly's Balloon! The food and conversation were great as everyone got to know each other better. Then weekend continued with Lynn, Shana and their kids enjoying swimming at the Kamas pool with indoor slide and skiing at Deer Valley. A great time was had by all!"

Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill, NC, April 7 - Betsy Booth Scalco reports:

"In attendance were **Steve Lough, Dawn Kleinmann, Betsy Booth**, Andy Cohen '86 (Dawn's husband), and Dawn and Andy's two children. We planned it at a restaurant in Chapel Hill on the night of the NCAA basketball final, not thinking in advance that Carolina might be playing and the whole town would be crazy. Unfortunately, Carolina lost in the semis on Saturday and we had a quiet dinner on Monday night. Maybe we are the ones who jinxed the team!"

San Francisco, CA March 27 Laura Gasser reports:

"In attendance out here in SF we had (back row) **Clare Killeen, Amy Baker, Laura Gasser**, (front row) **Diane DeLuca Gabianelli** and **Dave Gabianelli**.

Before the rest of the group arrived, Amy and Laura compared notes on toddler/preschooler antics: Amy and husband Skip's daughter Molly is 18 months, and Laura and husband Marc have a 3 ½ year old son Max (with another boy on the way, due in September).

But Diane and Dave (below, right) could beat all that: they shared pictures of their three handsome boys, the oldest 11. Dave, a litigation attorney at a law firm in town, and Laura, an attorney at California's utility regulatory agency, also swapped legal war stories (possibly only interesting to them!).

Working hard at an East Bay pharmaceutical company, Clare loves being back in SF after living in NYC for over 10 years and told great tales of living in a neighborhood full of partying 20-something year olds.

Everyone missed the lively presence of **Ellen Procter Wilson**, who had to cancel last minute but sent her greetings."

Seattle, WA April 25 Betsy Park Johnson reports:

"The group included **Betsy Park Johnson** and her husband Jeff Johnson '85, **Jennifer Tisdal Schorsch** and her husband Keith, **Eve Stacey** and her husband Jon Van New Kirk, **Michael McGinn** and his wife Debbie Scott (T '92), and Bob Mighell '85 and his wife.



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We all had a good time catching up; we got out the old yearbooks and looked at how young we all used to be. Eve and I had connected previously at the National Chess Championships in Denver in 2006, when we were both yelling at our children as they were running down a hallway together: Augustus (Augie) Johnson and August (Gus) Van New Kirk. We now connect regularly at Chess tournaments in Seattle and around the nation.

Eve and Jon have 3 kids, 2 boys and a girl. **Jennifer Tisdell**, who has 2 boys, also has a chess connection as her kids go to school with Eve's children. At a recent Chess tournament, her oldest son ended up across a chess board from one of my twin daughters. Jennifer was also thrilled to catch up with **Michael McGinn** to ensure that he was still pronouncing Oregon correctly. Apparently in Jennifer's freshman year, many people were mangling the state's name and as a native daughter, she felt compelled to reeducate them, Michael included. He was thrilled as now he lives in the neighboring state, and is really in the know. We see the McGinn's quite regularly as Michael is putting his Dartmouth Lacrosse expertise to use as the lacrosse coach for a team of 5th and 6th graders. Our son and his son play on the same team. Mike is a fabulous coach. He also recently set up his pong table and so we are looking forward to having our first mixed couples Pong event in Bellevue. Michael and Debbie have 2 sons. Jeff and I have 4 kids: 12, 10, and twin 7 year olds. We spend most of our days carpooling, coaching and watching kids sporting events."

Washington, DC, April 2

Front Row (left to right): Lynn and **H Morgan**, **Devon Davis**, **Kirsten Dwyer Huber**

Back Row (left to right): Bill Huber, **Karen Epps**, Sarah Donahue Greiner holding Seamus Greiner, **Jeremy Greiner**, Lt. Col. **Tayrn Gude**, **Tom Ramsey**, **Amy Ramsey** holding baby Linnea Ramsey, **Charlie Dewitt**, **David Wachen**, and **Kristina Kohler** with guest Wolfgang.



"H" Randy Morgan reports:

"A splendid turnout!

What a difference a year makes. Last year, **Kristina Kohler** and I enjoyed a lovely private evening with her parents for the reunion.

This year, people came in droves to join our party at Chef Geoff's. We had a great time!

Two guests (**Devon Davis** and Bill Huber) even left on crutches! (OK, truth is they had come on crutches.)

Sarah (Donahue) Greiner joined us with her husband Jeremy Greiner (married three years ago) and their son Seamus Sebastian, born November 2006. Sarah left the Upper Valley in '95 and is in a Ph.D. program in philosophy at Catholic University of America here in D.C. She spent two years in Paris taking courses and doing research. Sarah loves being a student (especially the cost of the health plan, which now covers her entire family), but has to finish writing the dissertation (on Aristotle) at some point soon.

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We were thrilled to have **Tom** and **Amy Ramsey** as part of our party. They brought along their fifth child, Linnea! She joins Grace (15), Peter (13), Benjamin (11) and Sarah (11) as the newest Ramsey. Amy said "It's been a great year!"

Amy's freshman year roommate **Kirsten (Dwyer) Huber** was also there with husband Bill. They live in McLean, VA with son Jake (12) and daughter Bryce (10). Kirsten works as an independent human resources consultant. She said the rest of her life "seems to be consumed (as is probably the case with many of us) by school-related volunteer activities and her children's very busy schedules." The entire family is looking forward to "getting away from it all" this summer by returning to Northern California (where Bill & Kirsten met) for two weeks of camping and hiking along the coast and in Yosemite.

For a good portion of the evening, several of us sat amazed listening to Lt. Col. **Tayrn Gude** share with us what she could about her career. She now coordinates the U.S. Government's evidence for the Combatant Status Review Tribunals for detainees held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. At the time of the reunion, she was anxiously awaiting the Supreme Court's decision on whether all Tribunals done in the past would have to be repeated, and surmised that if that happened, she might just fall into a big, black hole down in Cuba!

James Kwabena Addo almost made it, but on the day of the reunion, he reported that he was stranded in Abuja Nigeria. He did send a picture so he could be there in spirit.

A Few Green Cards

(I'll bet the alums born while we were in college don't even send these - it's so retro.)

Dr. Holly Silvestri writes:

"I battled a rattlesnake at year's start and yesterday I had to fight off a pack of wild coyotes. That's the real Wild West-but I still love it here in AZ!"

Kassy (Flood) Fritz writes:

"My husband, Tom, and our children John (&) & Caroline (5) moved to Middletown, DE. My husband and I are both teaching at St Andrews School. We live on the school campus and our whole family loves it. Despite our new State, we were thrilled with the Red Sox and Giants seasons!!"

And my personal favorite:

"I am Jenny. I am 7. My mom is **Nancy Davis Lyness**. We moved from Connecticut to Pleasanton, California last summer. We drove here with our two dogs and 3 cats and my older sister Katie and my Dad. My mom still has her same lawyer job in New York City so she travels back and forth. She is good and we all love Northern California."

And a few unauthorized Green cards, ala Amy Baker:

Did you know that our own **Rusty Barber** is just finishing a 15 month stint as "Chief of Mission" for the United States Institute of Peace?

His postings were called a "lively and sobering insider's view" and you can check them out at http://www.usip.org/in_the_field/iraq/. The postings also mysteriously stopped after November, 2007, which I am guessing is when things went from lively and sobering to really sobering.

He recently wrote to all his friends to say he was returning not just to the States, but to DC:

"As the date of my departure from Iraq looms - June 20 - I just wanted to pass on word of where I'm headed to next. After some deliberation, I've decided to accept USIP's offer to head up its Iraq program based in DC. So, it seems, I'll just be switching conflict zones: Baghdad for DC :)"

Suffice it to say, these 15 months spent building up USIP's presence in Iraq have been an enormous challenge. I will miss our Iraqi staff and the sense of immediacy working in the field brings to the foreign policy challenges we confront here. A lot to reflect on, possibly write about, so I'll be taking the month of July off before heading to DC."

Welcome home, Rusty!

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And a few unauthorized Green cards, ala Amy Baker:

Coming Across Clare Killeen

Recently I was trundling along the path out to the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, pushing a stroller in the typical working-mom Saturday am disarray. (Actually, all moms work, and in my personal experience working outside the home as well has meant some pretty spectacularly discombobulated Saturdays). Anyway, there I was-unshowered, maybe not unkempt but certainly not pulled together, bleary eyed, trudging along and telling Miss Molly about the boats we could see on the Bay (never too early to indoctrinate the future sailors of America).

And who should come along in the opposite direction, recognizing me and calling out my name? Looking fit, gorgeous, totally pulled together, wearing sunglasses and managing to come across as sporty and a little glam as well- **Clare Killeen**. It may have been the way the sun was shining on her, but I seem to remember Clare looking like that in college too. I told her she got huge points for recognizing me and she said "Oh, Amy, you look the same. And I don't mean just from 5 years ago, I mean you really haven't changed a bit." I took this to be a compliment, and Clare went on to endear herself to me forever by indicating that she had read (and even retained) news from my newsletters.

When I said that I hadn't even realized she lived in San Francisco, Clare told me that was because she had moved (back) to SF from New York for a job with Abbot Diabetes Care and hadn't raised her head above water to get in contact with anyone yet. I of course assumed this meant Clare was a Big Cheese, but she demurred. According to her, she is not really a Big Cheese, but she sure is finding the job a rewarding one. Something along the lines of "I'm finally doing something meaningful with my life- after all these years."

Anyway, that's how Clare came to be at our San Francisco mini-reunion, where we got to catch up a little more and talk about the trade offs in life, and how we might have ended up somewhere slightly different than we set out to but we sure were pleased with the results. Except of course, for Clare, the young twenty something neighbors that live on her floor shrieking as they drunkenly fumble for their keys in the wee hours of the morn. Maybe not that part.

Sara Dann: Dann-cing down the Aisle

My former roommate **Sara Dann** recently wrote with fabulous news, saying she had met the greatest guy and that they're getting married. Personally, I think nobody deserves happiness more.

I can remember right after we graduated, sitting with a circle of friends on the floor when Sara had her leg in a massive brace (knee surgery was a bigger deal then). I watched her get up from a sitting position, and despite the fact that the leg couldn't bend, she rose gracefully and made it look like a dance move. I was really impressed (I had the use of both legs and couldn't come close to graceful) but she only shrugged and laughed when I mentioned it.

I have come to see this as a metaphor for all the transitions Sara goes through- she can study for (and pass!) the board exams as a new mom and still manage to nurse her baby- she can move to three different cities after Med School and create a community in each place- she can balance her work and her parenting and not be wistful (or worse) about the choices she has. And each time, she makes it look as seamless as she did standing up that day.

As it happened, right after our "20th" reunion Sara and her children moved to Miami where Sara had grown up, and she made another one of her signature graceful transitions. Not long after, she met her soon-to-be husband. And now, the greatest news of all- she and John Galt will be getting married this July 5th.

Congratulations, Sara!



Clare Killeen and Amy Baker at the San Francisco mini reunion

Class News

Notes from Jessica Slosberg Benjamin & Ricki Stern on our Class Project:

I (**Jessica Slosberg Benjamin**) have some good news to report about our class project, Dartmouth Partners in Community Service (DPCS). There are a record number of DPCS interns for this summer term.

News from campus is that “This year has been a high water mark for the DPCS program! Our leaders did a wonderful job of marketing the DPCS program on campus this spring and the process of talking to all of these students, making sure that all applications were complete and submitted on time, and then conducting all of these interviews took a tremendous amount of time and effort. Finding up to 27 mentors will be a real challenge.”

If you would like to mentor one of these undergrads please contact me or **Ricki Stern**. Also, if you know of a classmate who lives in or near one of these geographic areas and would be an excellent mentor please let us know.

The list is here:

Connie Hu- Operation Breakthrough; **Kansas City, MO**
Clare Fortune-Agan- St. Elizabeth Shelter; **Santa Fe, NM**
Tyrell Jim- Ft. Defiance Indian Health Services, **Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ**
Diana Jih- Slow Food Chicago, **Chicago, IL**
Marisa Taney- Center for Family Representation- **New York, NY**
Susanna Kurnick- Breakthrough Philly, **Philadelphia, PA**
Alina Politzer- The Non Violence Project, **Coral Gables/ Miami FL**
Mark Wilson- Bensalem EMS- **Bensalem, MA**
Majorie Chelius- The Defender Association, **Seattle, WA**
Kimberly Kruge- Families in Transition, **Manchester, NH**
Joe Pearl- Rutland Dismus House, **Rutland, VT**
Trevor King- Children’s Museum, **Pittsburgh, PA**
Cynthia Morales- Buckeye Union High School, **Buckeye, AZ**
Kolleen Burbank- Breakthrough Collaborative, **Cambridge, MA**
Ahra Cho- Children’s Advocacy, **Lubbock, TX**
Lannie Santo- Center for Women & Enterprise, **Boston, MA**
Jiles Pourier- Cheyenne River Youth Project, **Eagle Butte, SD**
Sam Tanyos- Immigrant & Refugee Community, **Portland, OR**
Kareem Halim- Coalition for Debtor Education, **New York, NY**
Pete Sabori- Klamath Tribe, **Klamath, OR**
Paige Anderson- Klamath Tribe, **Klamath, OR**
Alexandra Ortego- Bellevue Hospital, **New York, NY**
Graciela Pichardo- YES Internship, **New York, NY**
Katie Carey- Children’s Aid Society, **Bronx, NY**
Karen Ellis- Harlem RBI, **New York, NY**
Tiffany Wang- St. Anthony’s Foundation, **San Francisco, CA**
Bill Gerath- Hands On, **New Orleans, LA**

Thanks so much,

Jessica Slosberg Benjamin

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That Dartmouth Family thing can surprise you: my own personal musings

I had an aunt named Meg, short for Marguerite. She and my mother were never close, and she remained this somewhat aloof figure for all of us. I always assumed this was because they had chosen such different paths (my mom- gifted kindergarten teacher, Catholic, mother of 7; my aunt- gifted English professor, lapsed Catholic, separated, mother of two), but I never really had the temerity to ask. It seemed a little cheeky, somehow.

Anyway, my aunt had once been married to a Dartmouth man and when I got in, she sent me a compact leather-bound address book that had a little matching pencil, with a short note:

Amy-
Congratulations on Dartmouth. Happy days.
Meg

I was utterly thrilled that I had been noticed by this beautiful, brilliant but remote aunt that I admired from afar. And she was right, there were happy days ahead.

As an English major, when one of my English professors said "If you really want to know about Keats' Odes, you have to read this book by Helen Vendler" I was thrilled to discover that it was dedicated to my aunt (who was really more of a Tennysonian, but she and Helen had been close friends since college).

When her son applied to Dartmouth, I was a junior and the shanties were built on the green. He arrived for his tour to this striking tableau of the shanties standing in stark symbolic contrast to the massive Christmas tree getting erected by a crane.

I made some sheepish joke about our new Freshman housing and my cousin said "Oh, don't worry, every Ivy league has shanties. It's become a point of comparison on how they handle them". Naturally, Brown supported theirs and Dartmouth's caused deep rifts that lasted for years. But that's a separate story. He chose Dartmouth.

My cousin was a freshman when I was a senior, and we became fast friends. It cracked us up to no end, introducing ourselves as first cousins, because we had spent so little time together growing up.

His mom was already ill when he arrived, and died just as his senior year started. This was long before I ever had the curiosity or the prescience to ask many questions about her life. But as my own life unfolded over the last 20 years, I started to think more about her and what a pioneer she must have been, and started to wish I knew more about her.

So last Christmas I asked her closest friend Helen Vendler (also an aunt figure to me), if she would tell me stories about Meg.

I was thinking of something like an oral interview, but instead Helen wrote the most amazing memoir. It starts with the two of them becoming firm and fast friends freshman week in college, and progresses through their respective careers.

Getting their Fulbrights, how full of hope they felt as they started their respective PhD's. What it was like to be told after earning their degrees that women only taught high school English. How hard they worked to become the English professors they became (Helen is pretty distinguished at this point, one of Harvard's best). How little support there was for women professors, particularly those raising children.

The tone of the memoir was reminiscent but not asking for any particular sympathy or credit. It filled in huge missing pieces about my grandparents and the context of the times: what it was like to be from an Irish section of Boston, and how disapproving the nuns were of Helen and Meg and their brilliant and questioning minds. Sentences often started with the words "back then..."

It amazes me what they went through, and it delighted me to understand more, not just about my mother's sister but a whole generation of "sisters". These are the ones who went ahead of us so that our female classmates could become English professors without beating the same doors down (of course they had different doors to beat down).

Anyway, the point of all this is to say- if you get a chance, ask someone a generation ahead of you who they were when they were young- what life looked like. I can guarantee you'll find something interesting and illuminating in their answers.

Class News

Letter from the Prez

Dear Class Friends,

Thank you all for your active participation in recent class activities!

Because of your impressive responsiveness and support, in the past three (3) months alone, we successfully achieved all 3 of the goals that I had communicated to you as “Time Critical” back in March:

- 1. We endowed our Class of 1987 Scholarship!**
(Congratulations, Treasurer Anne Jones, and thank you to all of our generous classmates!)
- 2. We elected a class representative to the reformed Alumni Council!**
(Congratulations, Bob Charles, and thank you to the other candidates for their example of leadership!)
- 3. We had a record turnout and a great time at our Mini Reunions!**
(Congratulations, Chair Laura Gasser and your posse of volunteers!).

You all are helping our class officers to do the fantastic job that you can see they are doing. And more great things are in the works!

Stay tuned by checking out our class website as often as possible (I even have it set as my home page!):
<http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/87/index.html>

I wish you all a wonderful summer.

H (Randy) Morgan

President

Class of 1987

Class News

A closing note from Christen & Amy, your humble co-newsletter editors:

The first newsletter after our mini reunions is easy to fill- but in order to avoid a feast or famine cycle, we'd love to hear from you. Email, snail mail, it's all good to us. Photos are a lot easier to include now that everything's electronic, so don't be shy. It's more fun to read this when it's chock full of pictures (or I guess I could always resort to cartoons like the New Yorker).

We look forward to hearing your news! You'll be hearing from us again in September.

All the best,

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