

Alma Matters



The Class of 1999 Newsletter

Fall 2004

Class of the Year!

Compiled by Michelle Sweetser

I am pleased to report that at the Class Officers Weekend in Hanover in September, our class was recognized as runner-up for Class of the Year amongst those classes under 25 years since graduation. We were cited for our interactive reunion website, our class newsletter, our numerous mini-reunions, and our high reunion attendance and giving record. On hand to receive the award on behalf of the class were **Jeffrey Fine**, **Michelle Sweetser**, **Kevin Findlan**, and **Melissa Maggio** (see photo at right). We feel honored to have received this award and recognize that many others who volunteered their time to the class and the College were unable to be in Hanover to receive this award, although their contributions contributed to its winning.

While we were in Hanover for the training weekend, I picked up a copy of the then-current issue of the *Vox of Dartmouth*. Inside was a story about **Andrew Cernota**, who, along with Scott Asmus, discovered records of 14 historic patents in the Rauner Special Collections Library. The pair was conducting historical patent research at the time, and the discovery is significant because early patent records were destroyed in a fire at the Patent Office.

In early November, Ben and I flew to Houston to spend a few days with Tim Redl '97 and to attend the International Quilt Festival. The trip resulted in an impromptu Dartmouth gathering, as **Cynthia Anderson** and Patrick Hansen '97 came into Houston and stayed with Tim as well. Cynthia



and Patrick live in Austin, where Cynthia continues to pursue her doctorate in linguistics. They are engaged and planning a May wedding in Wisconsin. Unbelievably, Cynthia and I managed to convince three ca. 30-year old guys to attend this amazing quilt show (we even have photos as proof!).

While most of us have moved out of New Hampshire since graduation, **Tami Anderson** has recently moved back to New Hampshire to open a bed and breakfast in the White Mountains. It's called the Sunny Grange Bed and Breakfast (www.sunnygrange.com), and is situated on a beautiful

spot on three acres with five guest bedrooms and her home bakery (she specializes in custom wedding cakes). Tami spent last year in culinary school in New York City, so this is her new endeavor. Before moving to New Hampshire, Tami spent a couple of months back home in California and attended several weddings, including those of Ben Arnold '00 and Ellis Ford '00 and **Ken Kriwanek** and Megan Lovelace's wedding in Calistoga. Tami also spent some time with **Angie** and **Maggie Kim** in San Francisco, where they attend fashion school.

News continues on page 6

Class of 1999 Executive Committee

President
Melissa Maggio

Vice President
Kevin Findlan

Secretary
Tony Perry

Treasurer
Jeffrey Fine

Newsletter Editor
Michelle Sweetser

Webmaster
Evan Walsh

Mini-Reunion Chairs
Danielle Downing
Jonathan Hummel
Meg Cashion Lysy
Rex Morey
Damali Rhett

Head Agents
Juan Bell
Karen Mangold
Jonah Sonnenborn

Alumni Councilor
Adrienne Wilson Wagner

Dave Dookeeram
Liz French
James Gallo
Caroline Kaufmann
Jessica Kelley
Seth Kelly
Ann Sharfstein Mielcarz
Emily Mulvoy
Melissa Rikard
Willy Wong

Gains and Losses

This fall and early winter has been very schizophrenic for me. We in the North East have had as may 55 degree days as 25 degree days and as much snow as rain. Snoop Dogg is back and better than ever, yet I have been inescapably drawn back to my 80s roots. What could be better than a little Toto on the drive home? I have campaigned against fast food, the primary culprit being High Fructose Corn Syrup, and decided to eat only naturally raised, free-range, organically fed meat. Maybe the time I lived in Maine affected me more than I thought. The local park has been my friend and my enemy as I walk laps around the baseball diamond and push myself up the steep hill behind. I have to admit, on the days the sidewalks are snow-covered I am not disappointed.

I guess I have been very focused on my own health. I have made New Year's resolutions to make sure to floss and go for a walk *every* day the sidewalks are clear. I'm going to really try to drink plenty of water. I want to be good to me and to the environment. Is this what it means to get closer to 30? If so, that's ok with me.

To be honest, I think much of my reflection has also been fueled by the recent passing of my grandmother. This was my mother's mother, and someone who had always been a big part of my life. When my sister and I were being born, my grandmother was at home waiting for us to arrive. My grandmother and grandfather took us to all sorts of places, including the local pond where my sister had a minor drowning scare. They spent each Christmas with us. And when my grandfather died, twenty years ago, my grandmother continued to show us how very special we were. She still spent Christmases and Thanksgivings with us, invested in our educations, and always invited us out to visit her on the beautiful beaches of Cape Cod.

When she passed away in November it may have been sooner than expected, but I had about two months time to prepare myself. While she was sick and in the hospital I was there as often as I could be – some nights during the week and every weekend. My sister came down from Vermont. My parents were there everyday. My aunt and uncle came up from Florida. We all stood by her bedside together. She asked for guidance and then told us stories. I held her hand and listened to every word. We cried together and, on the days my grandmother felt good, we laughed together. I couldn't have asked for anything more.

I think of her every day. I know she is at peace, both because she is no longer so very sick and also because she is finally with my grandfather. The months she was ill and the months that have followed her death have been incredibly difficult but also rewarding. My family and I became closer through her loss, the only positive thing you can hope for when someone you love dies. And now I get to remember all the fun times. I get to look back and see how strong she was.

So I've been thinking a lot about her and about myself and how I want to spend my own life. It's been a good journey. ♦

Meet Brian Edmonson '05, Class of 1999 Dartmouth College Fund Scholar

Last year, the classes of 1995 through 2000 each set a goal to raise over \$20,000 in the year ending July 30, 2004. Because we successfully reached our goal, we have a current student designated as our own class scholar.

Our Class of 1999 Dartmouth College Fund Scholar is Brian Edmonson '05, from Crystal Lake, Illinois. Brian is an economics major with a 3.28 grade point average. Last year he spent the winter term in Puebla, Mexico on a LSA.

Brian volunteers with Big Brother/Big Sister as well as DREAM, a mentoring program for Upper Valley children. He is a member of Chi Gam.

Brian's other activities include a focus on developing philanthropy and alumni involvement. He serves as a captain for the Senior Class Giving Program. His two student jobs are co-student director of the Green Corps (yes, the program that calls alumni and asks them for money – the same money that benefited him through this scholarship!), and intern for the Alumni Continuing Education and Travel Program in Alumni Relations.

When asked what has most influenced his life and education at Dartmouth, Brian says, "Big Brother/Big Sister has shown me how lucky everyone is to be attending Dartmouth. It has kept me in line with the real world while providing a great opportunity to share quality time with great kids."

Brian enjoys intramural basketball, softball, whiffleball, and football as well as baseball and fly fishing. Last summer, he worked as an Orvis-endorsed professional fly fishing guide in Creede, Colorado. Fly



fishing, along with classic film and Chicago White Sox baseball, are his passions.

After graduation, Brian plans to join the Peace Corps or hopes to find himself working abroad, perhaps in the educational travel field.

Congratulations to Brian on his achievements while at Dartmouth, and a special thanks to all of our classmates who made this scholarship possible.



"Looking to hire a legal assistant in DC!" "Roommated wanted in NYC!"

Sorry - if you wanted that legal assistant job, you'll have to look elsewhere. But if you've ever wanted a way to reach classmates on matters such as these, we now have a way for you to do so.

We've created a new class e-mail list-serv for informal announcements or requests. Think of it as a grown-up "Weekend Update" (albeit without Party Bob!) for the Class of 1999. You can use it to post job announcements; post Dartmouth, class, or other events; inquire about roommates, real estate, or travel; or just about anything else.

If you are interested in joining the list, send an e-mail to class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org and ask to be added. You will NOT be added to this list without your express request. The list will debut by the end of March.

Initially, the 1999 list will be distributed in digest form on a weekly basis, but may change based on the need and interest of those who sign up.

Questions?

Email class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org.

Spotlight: A Look at Classmates Working in the

Rather than a longer profile focusing on one classmate, in this issue, we take a look at a number of classmates who are making their careers as teachers and educators. An e-mail was distributed to classmates believed to be in the education field asking them to write in about their jobs. Following is information from those who replied.

Ann Sharfstein Mielcarz and **Dan Mielcarz** have returned to life in the Upper Valley, where Dan is busy as a first year student in Dartmouth's Molecular and Cell Biology Ph.D. program. He's currently rotating through immunology labs and looking forward to settling into a research project this summer.

Ann is currently working as a Clinical Instructor at the Stern Center for Language and Learning in the White River Junction, Vermont branch facility. The Stern Center is a non-profit center devoted to learning disabilities and based in Williston, Vermont. The Center does learning disability assessments, professional development for teachers and individualized, one-on-one instruction for students with learning disabilities. Ann provides one-on-one instruction to 14 students, ranging in age from six to 60. Her specialty area is reading and literacy. While Ann says it is a change from being an elementary reading specialist, she really enjoys it, particularly being able to work one-on-one and target instruction directly to the needs of each student.

Anthony Accurso is a teacher and administrator at a new public high school in Brooklyn. He is happy to report that **Carrie Kaplan** and **Jessica Jacob** are also teaching at New York City public high schools.

Anna Tsouhlarakis is in her second and final year of teaching sculpture, photography, video art, and foundation in arts at Albuquerque Academy in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her students are in grades 8 through 12. This summer she plans to move to New York City with her boyfriend, Daron Carreiro '02, who is a first-year law student at Columbia. At that time, she hopes to get back to teaching at the college level.

Anna says that while teaching high school students has been fun, it has also been difficult when they aren't focused or motivated. When she began teaching high school she didn't realize, or forgot, how

much the students at that age are in the middle of their teen years — discovering themselves, others, and their sense of identity. Crushes, teen angst and puberty don't make for an ideal situation when you're trying to critique a sculpture, Anna notes.

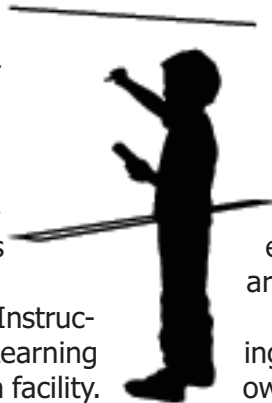
She taught college a couple of years ago at Prince George's Community College (PGCC) in Maryland, in a Washington D.C. suburb. At the time she taught "Introduction to Art" in the evenings at PGCC, and during the day she taught second grade in D.C. She particularly enjoyed the independence among students and the dialogue that took place in class, which not only benefited the students but also helped her in her own artistic endeavors.

While teaching high school has been draining, Anna has found a bit of time to work on her own art. This coming April she'll have her first solo exhibition at the Downtown Contemporary Art Center in Albuquerque.

Sara Zrike works for the Boston Public Schools, teaching second grade for her fourth year at the Mather School in Dorchester, the oldest public school in the country. While her life is not as scandalous as FOX's Boston Public, Sara admits that teaching in an urban district is both exciting and challenging. While her first year was all about keeping her head above water, taking all her strength to get through a day without feeling like she had done the kids more harm than good, now, in her fourth year, she has been able to take on some more responsibility. She sits on the Instructional Leadership Team that advises the principal, serves as a soccer coach for the New England SCORES after-school program, and teaches professional development for the math department.

Sara was the recipient of a grant this past summer to travel to the Cape Verdean Islands to learn more about the culture, as sixty percent of her school is Cape Verdean. She and two other teachers (one of them being Kara Lysy, **Dave Lysy's** twin sister) felt that they needed to learn more about the culture and language to better educate the students. Sara says it was an amazing experience, and has already bridged some of the home-school gap with parents.

Although she is looking to move into an educational leadership position, for Sara there is nothing more



Field of Education

rewarding and more challenging than classroom teaching, where the “true heart of teaching” lies. “With a majority of students coming from broken homes, there are days spent counseling and disciplining alone. There are days I wonder if this is teaching at all,” Sara says. “However, then there are the days where a child’s face lights up when he/she has an ‘AHA’ moment, or achieves a little success, like following the morning routine, and it becomes clear why I am a teacher.”

Joanne (Fixman) Loring received her Masters in Cognitive Studies in Education from Columbia University Teachers College, where her research focused on working memory limitations as an explanation for systematic mathematics errors. She has been employed by the Oyster Bay-East Norwich Central School District since 1999. While she went back and forth a couple of times between teaching 5th and 6th grade, this year she started at a different position within the same school, teaching gifted and talented in a pull-out program for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders. Besides her regular groups she also has one period every day when she meets with rotating groups of 3rd graders for enrichment.

While she loved being a regular classroom teacher, gifted education has always been an interest of hers and she is enjoying the change. Among her reasons for loving teaching, Joanne cites the challenges of each day and the variety each day brings, as well as the opportunity to learn alongside the children and have a tremendous impact on their lives. Unfortunately, teaching, Joanne notes, has a downside as well, namely politics.

Chris Warren has just made the leap to full-time graduate study in English at Oxford after having taught English at various levels over the last five years. For three years, he taught junior American literature at Gonzaga College High School, a Jesuit school in Washington, D.C. Some of his favorite work has been at Georgetown University, where he taught critical reading and writing skills to incoming first-year students each of the past two years. His current research at Oxford — a continuation of what he did for his masters at Georgetown — is on the 17th century, primarily Milton in the history of political thought. ♦

*Do you work as a teacher and weren't included here? Don't worry - write up your story and we'll include your news in the next issue. If you're currently working in the **legal** or **medical** professions, your fields will be featured in upcoming issues. Drop a line with your news - whether in these fields or not - to class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org*

Baby Corner: New Additions to the Dartmouth Family



Samuel Young, son of **Meggan (Ditzler) Young** and Rusty Young '97, born September 3, 2004.



Connor Laurence Nybo, son of Faye and **Chris Nybo**, born August 5, 2004.



Caleb Papsdorf, son of **Jill (Perring) Papsdorf**, and Josh Papsdorf '98, born December 11, 2003.

News - Continued from page 1

In other wedding news, **Emily Neuman** married Isak Goodwin '00 on July 31 in Eaton, New Hampshire. Dartmouth graduates in attendance included David Weissberger '00, **Sarah McCoy**, **Greg Miller**, Rich Harvell '01, **Arielle Davis**, **Adam Haugo**, **Marisa Kolodny**, Kim Iwamoto '03, Dave Hastings '00, and **Filip Troicki**. Emily and Isak live in Philadelphia with Filip and his wife, Juliane, where the men are in their second year of medical school at Drexel. In May Emily graduated with a masters degree in sustainable agriculture from Iowa State University. She is currently looking for work and making plans for next year's garden.

Kathryn Jones married Andrew Hertzmark (University of Pennsylvania '98) on August 21st. **Tara Pennington** and **Jeana Chung** served as the co-maids of honor, and **Jennifer Fulton**, Adam Gorra '98, Charlotte Zukowski '00 and Caroline (Hribar) Hossenlopp '00 were part of the festivities. Alums from Katie's family were her uncle, Albert Jones '66, her brother, Greg Jones '87, and her sister-in-law, Anne Jones '87. The lovely ceremony and reception were held at the New Haven Lawn Club. The couple lived in Philadelphia while Andy attended Wharton, but has recently moved to the Upper West Side in New York where they live with their dog, Ted.

Julia Henneberry continues teaching science (mostly physics), with a few new classes this year - freshmen as well as seniors. As teaching a course for the first time is always so time- and energy-consuming, she quit coaching cheerleading, freeing up additional time to plan her wedding. In June, she accepted the marriage proposal of Neal Sharma (Michigan '98), and the wedding is planned for July.

Carolyn Wang, **Leah Campbell**, **Scotty McConaughy** and Julia served in **Mo McAleer's** August wedding to Dave Costello (Northeastern '01), her high school sweetheart. A big Dartmouth/Sigma Delt/Rugby/Boston crew attended, including **Elizabeth Davis**, **Liz Castellani**, **Kristin Sadlon**, **Claire Riley**, **Amy Mikolajczyk**, **Scott Whiting**, and **Mark Oldham**.



Some of those in attendance at an October mini-reunion at Mixed Greens in New York City took a break from admiring the art for long enough to pose for this photo.



Landis Fryer, **Meg Cashion Lysy**, **David Lysy**, **Caroline Kaufmann**, **Jeffrey Fine**, and **Renai Rodney** take time to pose at the October class mini-reunion at Second City in Chicago.

Wedding bells will soon ring for **Nicole Eftychiou**, who sent in a green card announcing her engagement to Robert Post II, a classmate of hers at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Jersey. Both Nicole and Robert are in their fourth year of medical school, applying to residency programs. Robert will be a pediatrician, and Nicole a psychiatrist.

Alexis Bunten has advanced to candidacy at UCL for a PhD in cultural anthropology. She is the recipient of the Choates Award and a National Science Scholarship, and is currently writing her thesis, expect-

ing to receive her doctorate in Spring 2006. While all that work might sound tiring, she's "loving California and a cottage with a pool, friends, and nightlife!"

Curtis Wilgosh is now attending the Olin School of Business at Washington University in St. Louis, where he is pursuing a Masters in Business Administration. If any classmates are in the St. Louis area, drop Curtis a line.

Damali Rhett, who's currently enrolled at Tuck in Hanover, organized a mini-reunion for classmates in early November. She was joined by **Femi Allen** and **Leslie Kinsey**. Unfortunately, other classmates in the area, including **Jamie** and **Courtney (Vanyo) Peschel** and **Ann Sharfstein** were unable to attend on the appointed evening.

Ann and husband Dan welcomed Sadie Eleanor Mielcarz on December 2. Sadie weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was born after a drug-free labor at the Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Sadie is healthy and beautiful and of course the parents think she is just perfect.

Also in the ranks of new parents are **Lisie (Antkowiak) Adamson** and husband Chris Adamson '97. Their son, Luke, was born last March 5. All are happy and healthy and the family has recently moved to Connecticut to work at the Salisbury School.

Jill (Perring) Papsdorf wrote to share news of the birth of her son, Caleb Joshua Papsdorf, who was born December 11, 2003 (see photo on page 5). Jill waited to report the news here, as she figured her husband, Josh, could report it to the 98s first. But as he still hasn't gotten around to it, her goal is to



Perhaps we should start a new Dartmouth Alumni Club in Baghdad. Pictured in this image taken in Baghdad in September are Jim Schaefer '84, **Muhammad Hutasuhut**, and Paul Tyson '72.

get his name printed before he starts walking. I have a feeling that didn't happen, as this won't reach the rest of you until after his first birthday. But take heart, Jill – at least it's in before he's off to kindergarten! And he's already got his own website – www.papsdorf.us.

Caleb joined Jill and Josh at the reunion in June, and they got some fantastic pictures of the whole family with Baker Tower in the background. While some days with a child are difficult, Jill says that "every day we have Caleb is a blessing. It's inspiring to watch his personality and character develop, and each month is honestly even better than the last."

Jill also let me know that **Meggan (Ditzler) Young** and Rusty Young '97 welcomed Samuel Robert Young on September 3 (see photo on page 5). All are reportedly doing well, in spite of the usual lack of sleep

associated with newborns. ♦

If you have news about a job, wedding, engagement, birth, job promotion, or anything else, please drop a line to class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR CLASS DUES?

WONDERING WHY YOU SHOULD?

♦ Class dues pay for the printing and mailing of your class newsletter, *Alma Matters*.



If you enjoy what you're reading here, make your contribution today to ensure your continued receipt of this award-winning publication.

To learn more about how your dues are allocated, or to pay your dues for fiscal year 2005, point your browser to:

<http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/dues.shtml>

We can't guarantee a strike, but we'll give you a chance...



Join us in Chicago for a class mini-reunion on Friday, February 18th, 7-10 p.m. Drinks, food and BOWLING at Lucky Strike, 2747 N. Lincoln Ave. The Lucky Strike features eight lanes of bowling, seven pool tables, a dining room, two bars and a full kitchen. Come show your fellow Dartmouth alums what you've got on the lanes! Please RSVP to Meg Cashion at meg.cashion@alum.dartmouth.org.

Not in Chicago? Look for information about class events in your area on the class website at: <http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/99/>