Colorfully Crafting Change
A Minerva Fellowship brings new autonomy to Bagru artisans

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The Countdown Begins...

This spring will mark the 200th anniversary of the master architectural plan that provided the vision for our historic campus. This comprehensive design, completed in 1813 by architect Joseph Jacques Ramée, was the first of its kind in the nation. It created an idyllic community for living and learning, one in which the physical landscape inspired and enhanced the intellectual and cultural landscapes in new and unique ways.

The Ramée Plan firmly established Union’s campus as the forerunner to modern-day college campuses everywhere. This November, we will kick off the 200 Days of Ramée to honor these beautiful grounds and all that has been accomplished here. We invite all our alumni and friends to join in the celebration.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ON:
• 200th anniversary events for alumni, hosted by President Stephen C. Ainlay
• A website and photo book celebrating 200 years of our historic campus
• A special alumni symposium in April 2013 that will examine the impact of the Ramée Plan on Union and on modern-day campus life
• Other special events and communications throughout the 200 days
4 Colorfully crafting change:
A Minerva Fellowship brings the hues of Bagru to the world, and new autonomy to its artisans
Jeremy Fritzhand ’10 went to Bagru, India in 2010 as a Minerva Fellow and established a business—Bagru Textiles—that’s helping local artisans gain economic independence. With the aid of subsequent Fellows, one sent each year to work with Fritzhand and the Bagru community, these artisans are thriving in new ways.

14 Heavy metals found in Gulf of Mexico oysters
Assistant Geology Professor David Gillikin participated in a study that indicates eastern oysters have more heavy metals in their shells and tissues than they did prior to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon catastrophe, which caused the largest off-shore oil spill in United States history.

SPECIAL INSERT:
Your Union Now—Celebrating the accomplishments of the You are Union Campaign.

» Visit us online at www.union.edu/magazine
Why Not U?

Union will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the design of Union’s campus by Joseph Jacques Ramée this year. We plan to mark the anniversary with many events and special publications. The anniversary is cause for celebration and it should remind us all of Union’s historic role in higher education.

We can take pride in the fact that Union was the first campus in America to be designed with a comprehensive master plan. We can be proud of the fact that many Union alumni went on to become college presidents during the 19th century, internalizing Ramée’s notion of what a college campus should be, his design inspiring their own work at the institutions they led. We can also be proud that the genius of Ramée’s design continues to provide a powerful architectural backdrop for the educational experience of today’s Union students.

What is it that makes the Union campus so special and the Ramée plan so enduring? Each person may have an answer for this question. For me, it is the manner in which the buildings, arcades, and colonnades of the historic center of campus envelop all who live, work, and study here. It is the way in which the Nott Memorial anchors this academic village. It is the way in which green space, even with a small overall campus footprint, seems to abound. And, it is the notion that Union’s beautiful campus serves as much more than a park; it continues to inspire and help prepare students to contribute in significant ways. Perched as it is on a hill overlooking the Mohawk Valley, Union’s campus has always been about forming people who will make a difference in the frontiers that await them.

You will read an article on this year’s Commencement ceremony in this issue of the magazine. At Commencement, I reminded the graduates (not that they needed reminding!) of our success in hockey. For the first time in our history, our men’s team won the ECAC championship and advanced to the NCAA Division I finals—the “Frozen Four.” I also recounted that the team’s coach, Rick Bennett, was asked by reporters why he thought Union had a chance, given the field of talented competitors we faced, and he replied with a question of his own: “Why not Union?”

As I told all those gathered under sunny skies in front of the Schaffer Library, I loved Coach Bennett’s reply. It demonstrated self-confidence and a refusal to be intimidated. I went on to suggest to the Class of 2012 that they should shorten his reply, in characteristic Union fashion, to “why not U?” and pose the question to themselves repeatedly as they live their lives. I noted: “As you enter your new communities, take responsibility for meeting the seemingly insurmountable challenges you will encounter with similar confidence. When you encounter injustice in your communities and wonder who will address it, imagine your alma mater asking: “Why not U?” When you encounter political inertia and wonder who will break the logjam and bring about change, again, imagine old Union asking: “Why not U?” When you confront failures of technology, organization and wonder who will develop new innovations, reform the organization, and create a will to persevere, ask yourself “Why not U?” I think you get the point. Don’t look to the next person or the next generation. Take responsibility.”

Like so many issues of Union College, the current one provides ample evidence that our graduates do indeed ask this question of themselves and take responsibility. Witness the work of Jeremy Fritzhand ’10 and Emily Lecroix ’11 with artisans in Bagru, India—work that improved people’s financial situation while strengthening their community. Witness the work of other Minerva fellows who have asked themselves “Why not U?” and overcome obstacles in South Africa, Cambodia, Uganda, Ecuador, and other places around the world, improving lives of others as they did so. And, witness the other instances of people making a difference, taking on challenges, taking responsibility on the pages that follow.

“Why not U?” should be a motto not just for the Class of 2012 but for all Union graduates. Indeed, I believe it’s a hallmark of Union and believe it’s an expectation “old Union” has for everyone who has been blessed enough to spend time on this historic campus. Let the 200th anniversary of the Ramée plan for the Union campus be a time of celebration and let it serve as a reminder of your alma mater’s expectation as well.
ART CONSERVATION, FULL CIRCLE

I am happy to find that the collaboration between the art history and physics departments is continuing, and apparently thriving. (“In Art Conservation Lab, there’s more than meets the eye,” Spring issue).

It is almost eerie how similar my story is to Kali Zirkle’s. I too was studying art history, and Prof. Cox introduced me to Prof. Maleki because she knew I had an interest in art restoration. That led me to Joyce Zucker and eventually to Olana, where we experimented with laser cleaning techniques on the decorative stenciled walls of painter Frederic Church’s home.

After graduation, I pursued restoration on a larger scale, switching my focus from art to architecture. I studied historic preservation at Columbia University, and now work for the architecture firm Jan Hird Pokorny Associates in Manhattan. Our focus is mainly on preservation work, and it just so happens that we are directing the roof restoration project at, you guessed it, Olana.

Recently, I was standing in the bell tower looking out over the picturesque Hudson River Valley. I thought about the last time I was there, in 2005, a few months before my own graduation. I could not help but feel that I had come full circle.

Christina Muir ’05

THANK YOU, PROFESSOR CURTIS

Thank you for the wonderful tribute to the late Edgar Curtis, professor of music emeritus, in the Spring 2012 issue. I graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering, and Professor Curtis was my most influential instructor. I played under his direction in the orchestra and studied advanced music composition with him. For me, this is a lot of what Union College is about— the ability to let a student go unconstrained in many directions. I received an excellent engineering education, which provided the foundation for my successful four-decade career as an engineer and program manager. However, thanks to Edgar Curtis, I’ve also had a successful parallel career in music. I am now the music director for La Forza Chamber Orchestra in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Frank T. Darmiento ’67

REMEMBERING KEN BAKER

I t was with great sadness that I read of the death of Ken Baker in Union College (Spring 2012). Ken was my modern physics professor in the 1962-63 academic year, teaching us from Elements of Modern Physics, which he wrote with Ted Goble. Ken knew of my interests in astronomy and encouraged this physics major to pursue that goal. In the summer of 1963, I purchased a 6-inch reflector telescope. Very soon, I asked Ken if he would like to come to my house in Rotterdam to see the stars. Ken jumped at the chance, and brought his young son with him. I was rather amazed that a college professor would be so glad to visit me and see the new telescope. The last time I saw Ken was at my graduation in 1965. He was a faculty marshal, and stood at the bottom of the stage in the Memorial Field House, where he shook the hand of each graduate. When I descended the stairs, he shook my hand and said, “Send us part of your first million, Joe.” I am still working on that. And, the telescope is still working fine.

Joseph A. Keane ’65

UNION IBM-ERS

Memories ignited by the spring issue’s excellent piece, “Garnet + Big Blue,” prompt this footnote on our rich symbiotic history. Varian Associates is a well-established Silicon Valley electronic equipment manufacturing firm. I remember when John Pavkovich ’55 (Varian’s R&D director) and I invited IBM’s West Coast guru and telecom authority to meet with us for a planning project. I introduced myself with a brief bio. John followed, and to my surprise, I learned we each owed much to the same alma mater. This coincidence turned to astonishment when IBM’s Poughkeepsie delegate began chuckling, and with upraised thumbs shouted, “Go Dutchmen!” Sadly, I don’t remember his name. Maybe he’ll read this, have a laugh remembering this unbelievable moment, and give you a call.

Larry Foley ’51
Colorfully Crafting Change

By Erin Demuth Judd

A Minerva Fellowship brings the hues of Bagru to the world, and new autonomy to its artisans.
Brilliant swaths of magenta, blue and light purple blanket the sandy ground, transforming the earth beneath Bagru, India into a rainbow as artisans dry their freshly dyed fabrics in the sun. But under this beauty, hardship lurks.

**Poverty (n): a lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go to; not having the land on which to grow one’s food or a job to earn one’s living, not having access to credit. (The United Nations)**

According to the World Bank, nearly half of humanity—2.8 billion people—survives on less than $2 a day. In India alone, 300 million people (42 percent of the population), fall below the international poverty line of $1.25 a day.

This isn’t an unfamiliar story to the citizens of Bagru, a Rajasthan city in northern India that’s renowned for its exquisite, handmade fabrics. The individual artisans, who craft these textiles in a process that’s remained virtually unchanged for 350 years, generally earn $2 to $3 a day. A new business, however, offers artisans more, much more—and not just money—because for this operation, profit isn’t the goal. It’s just a means to a substantially greater end.

“Bagru Textiles has changed the way we do business, we are now able to interact directly with the buyers and earn more money,” said artisan Vijendra Chhipa. “We now sell our products at a good price, and we will share the extra profits with all of the member artisans. With the extra profits we can improve artisan development, our community and education, and improve our lives.”

**Bagru background**

When Jeremy Fritzhand ’10 first visited Bagru during a Union mini-term in December 2009, he witnessed an economic and social discrepancy that disturbed him.

“These artisans deserve to get a fair price for their textiles and they really aren’t getting one, the profit margins they make are miniscule,” he said. “Cotton costs 50 rupees per meter, wholesale, so they buy that, print on it, and then only charge about 20 rupees for printing. That’s 40 cents.”

“Then they sell to a middleman, a wholesaler, who turns around and sells their textiles for $5 or $7,” he added. “So the wholesalers are making incredible profit off the work these artisans are doing. And the artisans are paid only $2 or $3 a day for their work.”

Fritzhand wanted to cut out the middleman and connect artisans directly with consumers. But to do this he needed capital, support, and a way back to India, all of which he found as a Minerva Fellow.

“For me, there was no better option than the Minerva Fellowship, than social entrepreneurship. Ever since I was 5 years old, my parents have taken myself and my two brothers to a different developing country every summer,” Fritzhand said. “I’ve been to over 50 nations and knew I wanted to work abroad and help
people. I’m so happy Union had this amazing opportunity for me.”

He returned to Bagru in July 2010 with $10,000 from the fellowship to establish Bagru Textiles and a corresponding website linking artisans to customers around the world.

“The great thing about traveling is that when you go to different countries you see they have things we don’t and vice versa. You can really mix and match things, and that’s what’s happened,” said Fritzhand, who majored in psychology. “We have these amazing online platforms that connect people, and they do have Internet in India, but nobody thought that would be an option for these printers—to start an online business.”

But developing this online presence would be—and still is—the hardest, most emotionally grueling and intellectually demanding thing Fritzhand has ever done.

“Jeremy has had to overcome a cumbersome government bureaucracy,” said Hal Fried, the David L. & Beverly B. Yunich Professor of Business Ethics. “He’s had to overcome an uneducated labor force, a rural village setting, people living on the edge with no financial cushion against failure, and an entrenched operational framework based on centuries of block printing tradition.”

And because he wasn’t sent to work with a known and established organization like The Global Child in Cambodia or Engeye in Uganda, as other Fellows were, Fritzhand had no entity to ground and guide him. He didn’t speak Hindi, he was without the companionship of another Fellow, and he knew no one.

“Two of the biggest challenges I had to overcome were the living conditions and the language,” he said. “In the home I was living in there was no air conditioning and the temperature during the summer was often above 110 degrees with 100 percent humidity. And, there was no toilet paper.”

“But if I could have changed anything, it wouldn’t be any of this, it would be to have one other person with me,” Fritzhand added. “That first year, I was there all alone. I was always questioning if what I was doing was right, and the only person I had to talk to was me.”

That’s not to say he was without support, though. Fried spoke by phone with Fritzhand once a month to offer encouragement and advice. The Bagru community, particularly Vijendra Chhipa, whose family he lived with at the time, was also open and welcoming.

“The people of Bagru wanted me to be a part of everything, they never excluded me and always asked me to come with them to temple or a wedding or a baby’s first birthday or a Bollywood movie,” Fritzhand said. “I never said no, unless I was working. I just did everything they did and so I learned their culture by doing.”

“I can also read and write Hindi now. I would write out the alphabet three times a day and go to temple every morning,” he added. “There’s also a 40-verse poem I learned that helped tremendously and once I started singing this at temple, people knew I was really trying hard.”
Jessica Sarrantonio ’12, the current Fellow in India, shows off textiles made in Bagru in Reamer Campus Center
That really got me a lot of respect and trust.  

Without this trust Bagru Textiles wouldn’t exist, quite simply because it’s a business that depends on the artisans and their expertise. It’s also a business owned by the artisans.

**Bagru Textiles**

**Social entrepreneurship (n): a combination of entrepreneurial ingenuity, business principles, sustainability, innovation and social impact.**

Social entrepreneurship stands in stark contrast to the charity that depends upon donations. The guiding principle is to invoke a business model that generates the revenue to sustain the initiative. This is often summarized with the phrase, the triple bottom line—people, profit and the planet. It is entrepreneurship with a heart.  

(Hal Fried, David L. & Beverly B. Yunich Professor of Business Ethics)

“Bagru Textiles was never really about me starting a business in India, it’s not for me; it’s for the artisans. The business is a way for them to use their skills and expertise to improve their lives and their community. I’m just a helper, a part of the foundation,” Fritzhand said. “Bagru Textiles is just an avenue they can use to change their own fortunes, and that’s what the Minerva Fellowship and social entrepreneurship are all about—empowering people.”

As a producers’ cooperative, Bagru Textiles members are equal partners in the business. Be they printers, washer men or women, or seamstresses, they are the company’s shareholders. They receive 35 percent of the net profits in an annual dividend, and have a voice—through a member committee—in how the business is run.

At press time, Bagru Textiles had 9 members representing 9 families, each comprised of several artisans.

“To become a member, they have to buy into the company, not monetarily but with an investment of printing services or product worth about $50,” Fritzhand explained. “We then take pictures of the textiles for the website, or use value-added methods like making fabric into shirts or skirts. All the profits from these materials go into the Bagru Textiles account, and they become an owner of that.”

“Before this system, printers were selling their fabric for approximately $1.25 a meter,” he added. “Now, through Bagru, they are selling fabric for about $8 a meter.”

Member-artisans aren’t the only ones who benefit from this model, however. Non-members can also participate on a consignment basis, earning a percentage of the profits from the sale of their products by Bagru.

In addition to member dividends, 30 percent of profits are reinvested in the company and 35 percent go into the 3E Bagru Fund, which supports environmental, educational or entrepreneurial efforts that benefit the larger Bagru community.

The website, bagrutextiles.com, has done wonders to support all three aspects of the company’s financial mission. But getting a handle on this dynamite business tool, which took off a little unexpectedly on a somewhat unprepared Fritzhand, was a challenge.

“I went through four versions of the site that first 10 months I was there and when the last one went live, I got incredible responses,” he recalled. “But I didn’t know yet how to deal with those orders. I didn’t know the logistics of processing, shipping orders all over the world and making orders.”

“So the site went offline in January 2011,” he continued, “and we weren’t going to re-launch it until it was 100-percent ready.”

Emily LaCroix ’11 was instrumental in perfecting the site. The Minerva Fellow arrived in India in July 2011, effectively making Bagru Textiles an established organization Union has proudly sent a Fellow to for the last three years.

“Emily was here for a month on her own before I came back,” said Fritzhand, who has lived in India roughly six months of every year since 2010. “She has been such a crucial part of the process, she’s extremely organized and she’s kept me focused. Without Emily, Bagru Textiles would not be where it is right now.”

Right now, the website having been re-launched in February, business is good for Bagru and its artisans. It’s a pleasant feeling for LaCroix.

“The launch of the Bagru Textiles website may have been the biggest triumph of my fellowship,” she wrote on her blog, “but I feel that my biggest personal triumph was in the connections that I made in Bagru.”

Fritzhand agrees because, after all, none of this would have been possible without the knowledge and skills of the artisans. Chhipa

“Bagru Textiles is just an avenue they can use to change their own fortunes, and that’s what the Minerva Fellowship and social entrepreneurship are all about—empowering people.”  

—Jeremy Fritzhand ’10
especially has been important, both personally and professionally.

“It was amazing staying with Vijendra and his family, getting home-cooked meals and living in such a happy house with him, his wife and two children, who are absolute sweethearts,” Fritzhand said. “Vijendra is also the secretary of the block printing society and he has since become director of Bagru Textiles. His is an extremely influential member of the community and he was able to introduce me to printers, dyers, washer men and other people involved in the block printing process.”

Chhipa, whose family has been printing for more than 150 years, is happy to help.

“My responsibility as director is lots of organizing. I get the fabrics ready for the website and distribute profits for consignment items,” he said. “My favorite part of the business is explaining to visitors the history of my craft.

“But I also really enjoy helping connect buyers directly with artisans so the artisans can make more money and improve their standard of living.”

This link, between entrepreneurship and welfare improvement, isn’t unique to the Bagru Textiles situation. The world over, it seems entrepreneurship has the potential to help alleviate privation.

An agent of change

In a 2010 paper for the Warrington College of Business, University of Florida, Ludovick Leon Shirima investigated the role of private sector initiatives in poverty reduction using data from 58 countries. In doing so, Shirima defined two proxies. One, innovation, was measured by worldwide patent applications submitted per country. The second, entrepreneurship, was depicted by enterprises per country identified in the global business registration database.

The study’s main thesis was that “entrepreneurs, by setting up enterprises, enhance economic growth by generating incomes, creating employment opportunities, paying state taxes and making available varieties of goods and services at competitive prices. Entrepreneurs facilitate innovations and therefore improve productivity.”

When poverty, innovation and entrepreneurship data were compared, this hypothesis was supported.

“Countries with higher poverty rates are associated with lower patent applications submitted,” Shirima wrote. "Similarly, countries with higher levels of business registration, our proxy for entrepreneurship, represent lower levels of poverty rates."

Meenakshi Rishi, Seattle University, also

For more information on Bagru Textiles, or to browse its online store, visit www.bagrutextiles.com
found evidence of the correlation in her paper, “Promoting Entrepreneurship to Alleviate Poverty in India,” published early this year in Thunderbird International Business Review. A plethora of literature, she wrote, supports the association between entrepreneurship and human development. But she cautioned too that entrepreneurship isn’t a "magic bullet" and great hurdles still exist in reducing poverty.

"Poverty alleviation is not a simple matter. It is not just about raising incomes of the poor by any means necessary," Rishi wrote. "Rather, it involves giving the poor voice and targeted programs that increase the capabilities and human and social capital of the poor."

Fritzhand hopes Bagru Textiles contributes to such efforts in a meaningful way—by providing a company of the artisans’ own, by investing in and creating community programs, by providing artisans with new tools.

"Jeremy has helped teach myself and the artisans how the middlemen are getting more profits than the artisans, and how we can fix this," Chhipa said. "He has also taught us about using the web as a tool to market, brand and better connect us and expose us to our buyers. And Emily has taught us how to send the products direct, use PayPal and accounting skills."

He and the artisans will continue to sharpen these new talents until the business is operated solely by them.

“The goal I’m setting for this year’s Minerva Fellow—Jessica Sarrantonio ’12—is one of independence. By 2013, we want to be able to step back and have a local manager in position that is able to run Bagru Textiles on his or her own,” Fritzhand said. “This means getting products from printers, uploading pictures to the site, e-mailing back and forth with customers around the world, and distributing dividends and profits.”

He’s confident they can make this happen, and together, through their shared dedication and passion, improve the quality of life of people in Bagru.

“You see individuals all over in developing countries, even in the New York City subways, doing things like taking old plastic and weaving it into jewelry and selling it,” Fritzhand said. “There’s a creativity and independence and resilience in these dire life situations.”

“Imagine if these individuals had the opportunity to go to school and capitalize on their great ideas,” he continued. “They could have the answers for ending world poverty and hunger; they could be the people who are going to change the world. We can’t let these ideas disappear.”
Before she hopped a plane to Cambodia in July, she admitted she was nervous, that she wasn’t completely prepared. But Amanda Greenberg’s jitters were nothing compared to her eagerness, to the exhilaration of being a Minerva Fellow. “I feel extremely fortunate and humbled, and also excited, to have been given this incredible opportunity,” Greenberg ’12 said before she left. “The past Fellows have worked so hard and done so many wonderful things. I know I have very big shoes to fill, but I absolutely cannot wait to get out there, continue their great work, and start establishing projects of my own to help people.”

This is the fifth year Union has sent Minerva Fellows—new graduates—to developing countries to work hand-in-hand with local people to improve health care, education and financial enterprises through social entrepreneurship. After 9 months abroad, they return to campus to share stories of their accomplishments, challenges and lessons learned in places so culturally different from our own.

“Entrepreneurship combines creativity, sound business practices and often technology to start a new enterprise. The goal is profit,” said Hal Fried, the David L. and Beverly B. Yunich Professor of Business Ethics. “Social entrepreneurship adds social impact to the equation.”

“Social entrepreneurship is about people, profit and planet,” he continued. “It is entrepreneurship with a heart.”

And heart is certainly something Union’s Minerva Fellows have a lot of. It’s helped them make a big difference in the lives of others.

“We have over 30 young alumni who have completed this fellowship and they’ve touched many lives,” said Tom McEvoy, associate dean of students and director of Minerva Programs. “Ned Lincoln ’08 established a motor bike repair shop in Cambodia; Jeremy Fritzhand ’10 and Emily Lacroix ’11 created an outlet for textiles made in Bagru; Brendan Kinnane ’11 and Mark O’Shea ’11 created a water filtration system in Uganda; Amanda Wald ’11 worked with special-needs individuals in Ghana to make and market goods—and these are just the tip of the iceberg.”

Greenberg herself is increasing community involvement with The Global Child, the non-profit Cambodian school she’s working for, through two local businesses whose profits help support the organization. She’s also establishing new extracurricular activities for the school’s students, who are paid $1 a day for each class they attend. These and other programs provide the street-working children with an education that would otherwise be out of their reach.

Applications from students like Greenberg, wishing to be Fellows, have risen and held steady at approximately 40 per year since 2008. McEvoy believes the extremely challenging nature of living in poor and underdeveloped nations, combined with the tremendous commitment required, has kept interest level. Spending 9 months in rural India or Ecuador isn’t for everyone, after all. But those it does fit, it fits like a glove.

“The Minerva Fellows program is now entrenched in Union’s culture,” said Fried, who is heavily involved as an advisor and member of the selection committee. “All students—and even potential students—are familiar with it.”

“The program attracts our very best graduates, and we select Fellows who are so good
they will succeed and overcome the inevitable, unforeseen challenges,” he added. “It is the character and ability of the Fellows that underlies the program’s success.”

It also might have something to do with the unparalleled experience the Fellows get.

“This program is amazing, it has been something that has inspired me since my freshman year,” Greenberg said. “There are obviously many fellowships similar to this out there, but Union’s sticks out because it provides the opportunity to travel to and volunteer in a developing country while maintaining a connection to Union.”

“I love the idea of going out into the world, teaching and helping people, and then bringing back what I’ve learned to campus,” she continued.

“"The Minerva Fellowship’s impact does not stop in each Fellow’s developing country—it continues back to the U.S. and gives Union students a glimpse of the extraordinary social entrepreneurship alternatives across the globe.”

And that’s not all.

“"As a Fellow, I’m getting the chance to create something good that has a lasting impact,” said Aaron Glosser ’12, who is working with Estero de Platano in Ecuador on social and economic development projects. “Because the program stresses facilitation, we’re empowering people. Being a Minerva Fellow isn’t about giving people resources, it’s about helping people recognize and utilize their resources to realize their own goals.”

Minerva Fellow Ned Lincoln ’09 helped established this motorbike repair shop in Tramang Chrum, Cambodia.

**THE FELLOWS**

Union’s Minerva Fellows have made lasting impacts around the world with the following organizations for the last five years. For more information, visit www.union.edu.

### 2008-2009

- Robbie Flick ’08, Jon Hill ’08
  - The Global Child, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- David Shulman ’08
  - Partners in Health, Neno, Malawi
- Becky Broadwin ’08, Steve Po-Chedley ’08
  - Engeye, Ddgeye Viallage, Uganda
- Alex Butts ’08, Emily Laing ’08
  - St. Catherine’s Orphanage, Mumbai, India
- Lara Levine ’08
  - Working with Peter and Avril Cooke, Cape Town, South Africa

### 2009-2010

- Lyndsay Wehrum ’09, Nate Saslow ’09
  - The Global Child, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Monica Rowett ’09, Tom Perry ’09
  - Engeye, Ddgeye Viallage, Uganda
- Andrew Scaplen ’09
  - One Laptop Per Child, Flor De Ciebo, Montevideo, Uruguay
- Ned Lincoln ’09
  - Established moto repair shop, Tramang Chrum, Cambodia
- Jen Mao Jones ’09
  - Old Summer Palace, Beijing, China
- Michael Eisenman ’09
  - Working with Peter and Avril Cooke, Cape Town, South Africa

### 2010-2011

- Kate Murphy ’10, Elizabeth Osborne ’10
  - The Global Child, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Elliot Harmon ’10, Sarah Yergeau ’10
  - Engeye, Ddgeye Viallage, Uganda
- Nik Kothari ’10, Allie Cuozzo ’10
  - Yanapuma, Estero de Platano, Ecuador
- Jeremy Fritzhand ’10
  - Bagru Textiles, Bagru, India
- Rachael Carson ’10
  - Friends of Hue, Hue, Vietnam

### 2011-2012

- Carolyn Canetti ’11, Eliza Duquette ’11
  - The Global Child, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Mark O’Shea ’11, Brendan Kinnane ’11
  - Engeye, Ddgeye Viallage, Uganda
- Alex Brockwehl ’11, Shelby Cutter ’11
  - Yanapuma, Estero de Platano, Ecuador
- Emily LaCroix ’11
  - Bagru Textiles, Bagru, India
- Amanda Wald ’11
  - ProWorld, Ghana
- Malebogo Tlhajoane ’11
  - McCord Hospital, Durban, South Africa

### 2012-2013

- Alagra Bass ’12, Aaron Glosser ’12, Sarah Gagnon ’12
  - Yanapuma, Estero de Platano, Ecuador
- Ian Schwartz ’12, Amanda Greenberg ’12
  - The Global Child, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- Shalini Singaravelu ’12
  - McCord Hospital, Durban, South Africa
- Alexis Deeb ’12, Matthew Kelleher ’12
  - Engeye, Ddgeye Viallage, Uganda
- Jessica Sarrantonio ’12
  - Bagru Textiles, Bagru, India
Oysters, if you’re a fan, are delicious any which way—on the half-shell, steamed, stewed, slathered in cocktail sauce. But when David Gillikin (incidentally a big oyster fan) gets ahold of these mollusks, he’s not shucking them at the kitchen table.

The assistant professor of geology is part of a team that’s studying the bivalves in the Gulf of Mexico. Their findings indicate that eastern oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) have more heavy metals in their shells and tissues than they did before the 2010 Deepwater Horizon catastrophe, which caused the largest offshore oil spill in U.S. history.

Gillikin and Damon Byrne ’11 conducted all the geochemical analysis on the shells and tissues with a specialized machine, an inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer. And while the levels of vanadium, chromium, cobalt and lead they discovered are extremely low, their presence is noteworthy.

“One of the reasons we’re analyzing these materials is to see if the base of the food web—phytoplankton—is incorporating metals from the oil,” Gillikin said. This tiny, plant-like organism is a primary food of oysters, and if oysters contain heavy metals, it is probable phytoplankton does too.

“This has the potential to further biomagnify up the food web to potentially higher and possibly damaging concentrations in wildlife,” Gillikin explained.

While he and other scientists don’t currently know exactly how trace metals like these move through the food chain, or how long they persist, or how they might impact the health of higher-level predators—like large fish—the team’s work has already shown the oysters...
Mexico oysters

aren’t in prime shape. Eighty-nine percent of post-spill oysters in the study have irregular gill tissue, the cells of which have become flattened. And flattened cells, as opposed to normal columnar cells, have less surface area available for respiration and filtering phytoplankton from the sea.

“While not fatal, this impact will probably lead to reduced respiration and cause the animals to be stressed,” Gillikin said.

And stress could possibly reduce oyster reproduction, which might mean less food for crabs, starfish, mackerel, and other predators. At this point, however, the overall, long-term health of the oysters—small barometers of the overall, long-term health of their environment—remains unknown.

“Our data is still too preliminary to draw any conclusions about the general well-being of the Gulf of Mexico,” Gillikin said.

Eventually, though, the team does hope to clearly show how heavy metals are impacting this valuable natural resource. Gillikin himself wants to use his analyses of oysters, post- and pre-spill (sometimes going back as far as the 1800s using shells from museums), to create a sort of ecologic health record.

“A second reason for this work is to determine if we can use shells as archives of oil spills, which would allow us to develop a detailed history of oil pollution in the Gulf and elsewhere,” Gillikin said. “The Gulf has experienced natural oil seeps for millennia and many spills since drilling started, though the BP spill is clearly the largest.”

“If we can understand how natural seeps and the oil industry have impacted the region at different points in time,” he added, “we can tell if the industry is changing things environmentally.”

Such information would benefit both the Gulf and the people who depend on it.

“Oysters alone are highly important to the Gulf Coast fishing industry,” Gillikin said, “accounting for $60.1 million in revenue in 2008 alone.”

Gillikin’s collaborators on this study are lead researcher Peter Roopnarine, California Academy of Sciences; Deanne Roopnarine, Nova Southeastern University, Florida; Laurie Anderson, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology; and David Goodwin, Denison University, Ohio.
In the spring of 2011, Kevin Flike ’06, a member of the U.S. Army’s Special Forces, was in no position to respond to this magazine’s call for stories from those serving in the military. The Green Beret was on his second tour of Afghanistan, a sensitive mission to secure the northwest region and train Afghan soldiers. Last fall, a sniper’s bullet cut short his deployment. Today, he can share his story.

With get-well wishes for Flike, the football team celebrates a win over RPI

Kevin Flike ’06 remembers “the whole thing start to finish.” He was on a rooftop, providing fire support for fellow U.S. and Afghan soldiers when he felt a sledgehammer-like blow and searing pain in his abdomen and left leg. An Afghan soldier pulled him to cover and Flike, well aware that he’d been shot, began a self assessment and tried to stay conscious. Medics stabilized him and evacuated him to a field hospital. Days later, he awoke at a hospital in Germany.

The injury left him without 20 percent of his colon, a fractured hip and damage to his femoral nerve. He had a loss of feeling in his left leg, and was without the use of his left quadriceps muscles.

A months-long ordeal of hospital stays, surgeries and rehab has culminated with his sixth and, he hopes, final operation to restore his femoral nerve. Now that he can twitch his quads, he is hopeful about his prognosis. But he knows that nerve regeneration is a long and slow process.

Throughout his recovery, Flike has drawn inspiration from his wife, Kimberlee (Bulger ’06) Flike, and other injured soldiers. “It’s inspiring and motivating to meet other guys with more serious injuries who refuse to give up,” he said. He also thanks his family, including his brothers, Trevor ’09 and Nolan ’14.

Those who knew “Fliker” at Union could not have been surprised that he would go on to lead an elite Army team operating in a hostile environment where success would depend on courage, cultural understanding and leadership.

A Stillwater, N.Y. native and football standout at Troy’s LaSalle Institute, he graduated
Union with a political science major and minors in East Asian Studies and Mandarin Chinese. He was two-time captain of the Union football team and president of Theta Delta Chi fraternity.

“One of greatest things I learned at Union was to cater to the audience,” he said. “I realized in Afghanistan that it’s hard to do this when you don’t speak the language. But when you do things that show a cultural understanding and make an attempt to assimilate, that’s when you really get through to people.”

“Getting through” included learning the language and joining the locals for traditional Afghan dancing. And wrestling. Yes, the Afghans love professional wrestling. So, Flike asked his wife to ship him Hulk Hogan t-shirts and bandanas, and he challenged his new friends to “fake” wrestling matches.

At Union, Flike had what Head Football Coach John Audino calls “the intangibles.” The linebacker made 72 tackles and the league all-star roster his senior year. But what really distinguished him were his perseverance, discipline and extraordinary knack for leadership. He worked hard and battled through a torn meniscus and a separated shoulder. Audino said he played stronger at the end of games than at the start.

Audino recalls Flike as “one of the best captains we ever had” and “another coach off the field.” He answered the coaches with “yes sir, no sir.” He rigidly enforced curfew with his teammates. “With Kevin, there were no excuses,” Audino said. “He was just one of those guys who you knew would get it done.”

Flike, who has stayed in close contact with the football team and Coaches Peter Brown and Audino, has been on the minds of the team. Last fall, they posed with a banner (“Get Well Kevin”) after winning the Dutchmen’s shoes in the rivalry game with Rensselaer. Inspired by Flike’s example, Audino says the team is planning events that will benefit the Wounded Warriors Project, which provides assistance to the war wounded and their families.

Once healed, Flike will continue with his plans to get dual master’s degrees in business and foreign policy, and to continue his study of Chinese. He plans to do business for 10 to 15 years, and then consider a run for Congress or Senate. “My experience in the military and at Union has prepared me well and given me a unique perspective on our country, our foreign policy and life.”

Flike is apparently well along in recovery. Audino, who saw Flike at home in late spring, said he was delighted to see his former captain walking with hardly a limp. But the coach is not surprised. “There’s a little something about Kevin that makes him different from everybody else,” he said. ;

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At a hospital in Texas, Flike takes his first steps after he was shot in Afghanistan
The best thing about being president of eBay, for Devin Wenig ’88, is seeing other people succeed.

eBay is an end-to-end digital commerce business that helps consumers, small businesses and the biggest brands in fashion, electronics and automobiles reach markets around the world,” said Wenig, who became head of eBay Marketplaces in September 2011. “I have met so many people in the last year who have incredible stories of overcoming adversity by building their own ventures on eBay. This idea of creating economic democracy and providing opportunity started with our founder, Pierre Omidyar, on day one of this business.”

“I came to eBay because of its potential to be an enduring, great company that has a positive impact on millions of people’s lives,” he added. “Success for me is playing a small role in bringing about this future.”

As president of eBay Marketplaces, he oversees the global eBay, StubHub and Classifieds businesses. It’s a big job that keeps him enjoyably busy.

“I have worked in technology businesses my entire career, and it’s really exciting,” Wenig said. “I love the fact that technology has so significantly changed all of our lives in just the time since I graduated from Union. Incredibly fast-moving, technology markets are disrupted constantly, and digital commerce is no exception.”

Keeping up with this rapid change can be daunting, but a flexibility and fluidity keep both Wenig and eBay ahead of the curve.

“Responding can be a challenge when you are a large company. You need to keep the business you have delivering results, you need to keep your customers happy, but you also need to be willing to change what you’re doing when the competitive landscape shifts under you,” Wenig said. “We are pretty fortunate here to have innovative teams who are restless and constantly experimenting with new ideas. Our location in Silicon Valley is also helpful because we have proximity to a lot of start-up activity and technology thought-leadership.”

Prior to joining eBay, a top-50 global business and brand, the former Union political science major spent 18 years with Thomson Reuters.

Wenig started at Reuters in 1993 as a corporate lawyer and held a number of senior management positions before being appointed president of Reuters Information in 2001. Wenig then led the integration of Reuters and Thomson Corporation following the merger of the two in 2007, at which point he was named CEO of Thomson Reuters Markets.

It was another big job, but like his current position, it was one he was more than capable of doing. Because no job has been harder for Wenig than the one he had in 1991.

That year, just as he was graduating from Columbia Law School, Wenig’s father passed away unexpectedly. This left the young man in charge of his father’s business, Nastech Pharmaceutical. Despite a relative lack of experience and the punishing emotional and mental distress of the situation, Wenig doggedly raised millions in venture capital to ensure the company’s future.

“It’s not an experience I would wish on anyone, but being forced to do something way out of your comfort zone teaches you a lot very quickly,” Wenig said. “Getting the business my father founded to a good outcome was hugely important to me for reasons that had nothing to do with money.”

“It was an incredibly difficult time, but I did learn a lot about business courage and persistence,” he added. “It definitely puts my bad days at eBay in perspective.”

Not that he has that many bad days in sunny San Jose, Calif.

“I love the culture and energy at eBay,” Wenig said. “The majority of people here are young engineers full of ideas, or entrepreneurs striving to build new businesses inside our company. It’s a really exciting, innovative environment to be part of.”

And being innovative, it’s the perfect place for an alumnus of Union College.

“My Union education was foundational to a lot of things that I have done in my career. Union opened up my eyes to the opportunities and challenges that the world presents. It also instilled a spirit of curiosity that has served me well,” said Wenig, a Chi Psi brother who played lacrosse before an injury sidelined him.

“My biggest influence was the late professor Joe Board. He was a terrific combination of warm, intelligent, curious and worldly. His passion for expanding his horizons really resonated with me.”
Women under-represented in positions of power

Something unexpected happened when Jennifer Lawless ’97 watched Miss Representation, a 2011 documentary investigating the mainstream media’s contributions to the under-representation of women in positions of power in America.

She saw herself. She saw herself right up there on the big screen with some of the most prominent female politicians, journalists, activists and academics of our time—Condoleezza Rice, Nancy Pelosi, Katie Couric, Rachel Maddow, Margaret Cho, Rosario Dawson and Gloria Steinem.

“I’ve got to say, when I first saw the film, I was shocked that they chose to include me,” Lawless said, laughing. “It was taped several years ago and they interviewed us individually, so I only realized the true scope of the project after watching it. I was obviously very flattered and gratified to be included in a piece that’s playing such an important role in shedding more light on the overt and covert ways the media portray women.”

As an associate professor of government at American University and the director of the school’s Women & Politics Institute, Lawless explained that the film’s efforts are important to her. She is a nationally recognized speaker on women and electoral politics, and the author of numerous scholarly articles and three books.

“When I started at Union in 1993—right after 1992’s ‘Year of the Woman’ elections—I was struck by the fact that women comprised fewer than 10 percent of the U.S. Congress,” she said. “I couldn’t really wrap my arms around this when study after study found no bias against female candidates. My own research tries to explain this paradox by examining why women don’t run for office in the first place.”

Having done thousands of surveys and interviews with potential candidates—men and women who are lawyers, business leaders, educators, and political activists—Lawless and Richard Fox (a former Union political science professor) have identified three basic barriers women face.

First, women are less likely than men to think they’re qualified to run for office, even when they have the same or superior resumes. Second, women are less likely to receive the suggestion to run for office from anyone. And third, women are about 10 times more likely than men to be responsible for a majority of household tasks and childcare. This, Lawless posits, makes even thinking about running more complicated.

Even so, when women do run for office, studies show they do as well as men in terms of vote totals and fundraising receipts.

“I think most people would be surprised to know that only 17 percent of the members of the U.S. Congress are women. And I think people would be shocked to learn that 90 nations now surpass us in the percentages of women serving in the national legislature,” Lawless said. “In fact, 2010 actually represented a setback. For the first time since 1978, we saw a net decrease in the percentage of women in Congress.

“So calling attention to these facts is important, as is encouraging people to recruit female candidates. Only then can we really begin to increase the number of women in politics.”

Lawless ran for office in 2006, seeking the Democratic nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives in Rhode Island’s second congressional district. She lost the race but gained experience that’s made her a regular source for journalists and an informative speaker for high school, college, corporate and other events.

“I conduct research about the impediments women face and I have firsthand experience running as a female candidate. I think this appeals to the media,” explained Lawless, who said she was treated fairly during her race. “I also think it’s my responsibility to speak at high schools or colleges. I’m thrilled to receive these invitations because that’s the only way we’ll see improvement.”

Improvement is something she works toward in other capacities as well, serving on the boards of a number of civic organizations. She was honored for her efforts in 2009, when the cities of Providence and Cranston, R.I. celebrated “Jennifer Lawless Day.”

“I had recently moved to Washington, D.C. from Rhode Island, where I had been on the board of the Women’s Fund of Rhode Island. Their annual event, which I keynoted, was a celebration of women and it was sort of a farewell to me,” she said, laughing. “It was incredibly ridiculous, but also very, very nice.”

Lawless credits Union with sparking her interest in her field.

“I was a political science major and Union was where I really got hooked on campaigns, elections, and women in politics. My first publication actually came out of my senior thesis,” she said. “And it was at Union that I met Richard Fox, who advised my undergraduate thesis. Since then, we’ve written two books together and published many articles. None of that would have happened without Union.”
Talk show host Dylan Ratigan ’94 returned to campus June 10 with an upbeat message for the 530 members of the Class of 2012, and some words about the character-building upstate New York weather.

“I know it’s looking a little scary right now from where you’re sitting,” he said. “Despite what you may have heard on the news, it’s all going to be fine. In fact, a cultural renais- sance of creativity, quality, adaptability, sustainability and tolerance is just beyond our reach. And I’m sure we are going to get there.”

Ratigan was until recently the host of his own talk show on MSNBC, and is the author of the recent New York Times bestseller, Greedy Bastards: How We Can Stop Corporate Communists, Banksters, and Other Vampires from Sucking America Dry. A native of Saranac Lake, N.Y., he received an honorary doctor of humane letters.

In closing, he said, “From one Union College grad to another, let’s be honest—if you can make it through four winters in Schenectady, you can change the world.”

The College also awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree to G. Bingham Powell, Jr., president of the American Political Science Association, and the Marie C. and Joseph C. Wilson Professor of Political Science at the University of Rochester.

In his charge to the graduates, President Stephen C. Ainlay cited a number of academic, athletic and community accomplishments achieved by the class, from the first group of student interns sent to IBM global research centers to the top honors for all colleges and universities in per capita recycling, to the men’s hockey team’s first-ever ECAC championship and appearance in the NCAA’s Frozen Four.

He urged the class to adopt as its motto the response from Hockey Coach Rick Bennett when asked by reporters if he thought the College had a chance to win the national championship: “Why not Union?”

“I loved his response; it showed a certain confidence but it also said something about not being intimidated by the scale of the undertaking,” Ainlay told the graduates.

“As you enter your new communities, take responsibility for meeting the seemingly insurmountable challenges you will encounter with similar confidence,” he said.

“When you encounter injustice in your communities and wonder who will address it, imagine your alma mater asking: ‘Why not U?’ When you encounter political inertia and wonder who will break the logjam and bring about change, again, imagine old Union asking: ‘Why not U?’”

Student speaker Tri Trang of Worcester, Mass., urged his classmates to harness what they have learned at Union as they move on. “The world is riddled with unpredictable obstacles but we enter it with the skills necessary to face the surprises brought on by change and more importantly, the skills to surprise the world with what we’re able to change,” said the biology and economics major. “Change cannot be predicted but I can guarantee you this: we are ready for change and change had better be ready for us.”

Class valedictorian was Mark Chaskes, a biology and economics major in the Leadership in Medicine program from Williamsville, N.Y. The salutatorian was Erin Delman, a geology and Latin American studies major from Rolling Hills, Calif.

For a list of the Class of 2012, speaker remarks, and more on Commencement, visit www.union.edu/news.
More than 1,000 visitors attended ReUnion 2012, the annual celebration of Union’s graduates in May. Together, they enjoyed favorites like the Alumni Parade, a grand fireworks display, Gala Dinner, presentations from notable graduates, and many other special events.

Among the highlights:

- A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Henle Dance Pavilion, a home for classes, rehearsals, workshops and performances. The $3 million, 7,000-square-foot facility, to be built adjacent to Yulman Theater, is named in honor of longtime College benefactor David L. Henle ’75 and his wife, Joan.
- Office space in the Sadock Women’s and Gender Studies Lounge was renovated and named the Valerie J. Hoffman Women’s and Gender Studies Suite as a tribute to its donor, a member of the Class of 1975.
- The Center for Neuroscience, in Butterfield Hall, was dedicated. The center, made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation and the Frank Bailey Fund, includes five research laboratories, support and research training areas, and a space for faculty.
- Two stainless steel time capsules filled with memorabilia, letters, articles, air samples and other artifacts to document the addition of the Peter Irving Wold Center were unveiled. Designed by Walter Chin ’12 and built by Roland Pierson, one will be opened in 2062, the other in 2112.
- To help mark the 150th anniversary of Taps, Jari Villanueva, a retired Air Force veteran, gave a talk on Daniel Butterfield, a member of Union’s Class of 1849 credited with conceiving Taps during the Civil War. To read more about Taps, see page 56.
- Alumni Gold Medals were presented by the Alumni Council to Armand V. Feigenbaum ’42, president of General Systems of Pittsfield, Mass.; Susan Mullaney Maycock ’72, President’s Council member; and Calvin Welch ’62, retired vice president of First National Bank of Scotia. Mary Carroll ’86, professor of chemistry, received the Faculty Meritorious Service Award.
- Outstanding Engineering Alumni Awards were presented to Sherri Buchardt ’02, Peter Chapman Hayden ’82, David A. Pacyna ’93, Victoria A. Rockwell ’78, Glenn P. Sanders ’04 and Andrew P. Stone ’02.

As a graduate student in philosophy at Temple University in 1960, Robert Smith had the audacity to tell two icons of psychology and philosophy that they were missing the point.

Carl Jung, the Swiss psychologist who founded analytical psychology, and Martin Buber, the Austrian-born Israeli philosopher, were at odds over the construct of religion.

Smith, who would go on to a noted career as a scholar of both thinkers, found what he thought were misunderstandings in their discussion and posed several pointed questions to each man.

The exchange generated nine letters from Jung and Buber that have been a source of scholarly interest. Smith donated them to the College in May in honor of his 60th ReUnion. One letter, from Jung, has not been examined by scholars.

Smith, professor emeritus of philosophy and religion, has written extensively on Jung and Buber. He is author of The Wounded Jung, named an outstanding book by CHOICE in 1996. He lives in New Hampshire and Florida.

< Robert Smith ’52
across campus

Book highlights Union’s Cajun commitment

The College’s relief efforts in Louisiana—widely featured in the media—are part of a new book, Hell or High Water: How Cajun Fortitude Withstood Hurricanes Rita and Ike. Written by Ron Thibodeaux, a reporter at the New Orleans Times-Picayune, the book devotes nearly a full chapter to Union’s involvement. The 212-page book also features several photographs of Union students in action.

“Thibodeaux at first intended to simply include a sentence or a paragraph about Union. ‘That changed, though, once I interviewed Dr. Grigsby,’ he wrote in an e-mail. ‘The more she told me about the mini-term and its impact on her students, the more I sensed that this program was unique in its approach, its outreach and its impact—and deserving of broader consideration.’”

Union hosts Mighty Waters Conference

Congressman Paul Tonko hosted his third annual Mighty Waters Conference at the College in June.

The day-long forum was attended by over 250 participants, who discussed establishing a more effective regional vision for waterfront development, job creation and historic preservation throughout the Capital Region.

Tonko also unveiled his new legislation, H.R. 5927, the Hudson-Mohawk River Basin Commission, to carry out projects and conduct research on water resources in the basin, which stretches across five states and includes five sub-basins.

President Stephen C. Ainlay opened the conference with remarks in Memorial Chapel, sharing how Union’s history has been shaped by the river. He currently serves on the Mighty Waters Task Force, and is a member of the Task Force’s Executive Committee and chairs the Research and Education Committee.

“The Mohawk is a vital body of water to this region,” he said. “The Commission has given the Mohawk greater visibility and has urged colleges and universities to help increase our understanding of the river and the watershed through research, teaching and learning. A better understanding of the Mohawk will greatly aid our work to revitalize waterfronts in many towns and cities.”

This is the first time that the highly-regarded conference was held at Union.
The vital nature of integrating liberal arts and engineering

Union is a leader in the integration of engineering and the liberal arts that is essential to compete in a technology-based global economy, one of the nation’s top engineers told a group of educators in June.

Charles M. Vest, president of the National Academy of Engineering and president emeritus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also said the liberal arts must take charge of the online learning revolution sweeping across campuses today.

“As populations grow, migrate, and urbanize, and as challenges of climate change and human and natural threats to society increase, we will need to achieve security and resilience through the engineering of very large systems,” said Vest, the keynote at Union’s fifth annual symposium on integrating liberal arts with engineering.

“Such systems cannot be wisely envisioned, designed or deployed without an understanding of society, culture, politics, economics and communications—in other words, the very stuff of the liberal arts and also of the social sciences.”

The three-day symposium kicked off with dinner and opening remarks by President Stephen C. Ainlay, who helped launch the symposium series in 2008. Vest was introduced by Trustee John E. Kelly III ’76, senior vice president and director of research at IBM.

A number of Union faculty presented at the symposium, which was chaired by Andrew Rapoff, director of engineering and associate professor of mechanical engineering. Other committee members included Brad Bruno (Mechanical Engineering), Helen Hanson (Electrical Engineering) Hans-Friedrich Mueller (Classics), Mark Walker (History) and Lilian Wu of IBM’s Global University Programs.

This year’s symposium was funded in part by the Rudnick-Falk Endowed Fund and the Laurence W. Levine ’52 and Barry Traub ’53 Endowed Lecture Fund. Previous supporters have included the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Alumunus gifts Union with special book

Trustee Stephen Ritterbush ’68, center, donates a copy of A Key to Uncle Tom’s Cabin as he is joined by Ellen Fladger, head of Special Collections, left; and Gretchel Hathaway, senior director of Campus Diversity. In 1853, abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote the book, subtitled “Facts for the People,” as a defense of her Uncle Tom’s Cabin, which was criticized by pro-slavery interests for what they considered inaccurate depictions of slavery. In Key, Stowe takes each character from her 1852 novel and provides real-life examples with sources.
UNION'S NEWEST PROFESSORSHIPS

James M. Kenney Professor of Environmental Engineering

Donald Milder ’76 majored in economics, developed an intricate understanding of complex medical technologies, became a medical device company entrepreneur, and is now a healthcare venture capitalist in California. So where did he start building the foundation for his success?

Where else but Union?

Here, Milder was greatly inspired by economics professor James Kenney, now in his 40th year at Union.

“Jim cared about his students as individuals; he motivated and advised us to maximize our opportunities,” Milder said. “His counsel was critical as I contemplated life after college.”

To honor Jim, several of his former students are leading the effort to endow the James M. Kenney Professor of Environmental Engineering position.

“Jim has developed an expertise in environmental engineering and values interdisciplinary learning,” Milder said. “Creating an interdisciplinary professorship in Jim’s name is an excellent way to recognize him and advance the goals of the College, to which he has committed his life.”

The professorship will:

• Enhance cross-disciplinary instruction

• Allow for the addition of a new faculty member in the Environmental Science, Policy and Engineering program

• Ensure the continuation of the New Zealand mini-term Kenney started, which focuses on technical, economic, environmental and cultural issues related to electric power development

• Be endowed in perpetuity with $2 million, of which $1.25 million has been pledged to date by generous alumni

“As we think about giving back, we should honor the institutions, and more importantly the people, who made a difference in our lives,” Milder said. “I can think of no person more deserving than Jim Kenney.”

This sentiment means much to Kenney.

“I thoroughly enjoyed mentoring Don,” he said. “He was part of a stellar group in the Class of 1976 that also includes David Viniar, Bob Morette and Ray Marcinowski.

“It is deeply gratifying that students wish to recognize so generously the contributions I made to their educations. It is the ultimate compliment for an educator.”

Dona and Marshall Robinson Professor of Science, Philosophy

It means so much to David Breazzano ’78, endowing the new Dona and Marshall Robinson Professor of Science, Philosophy and Religion.

“This position is named in honor of my mother and stepfather. Religion is significant to my mother, so supporting a professorship that associates it with other important disciplines appeals to me,” Breazzano said. “This position will also benefit the College, creating a chair that has more permanency for this field. A field that’s so important today on a global level.

“With all the political turmoil occurring across nations, it’s important for people to have the opportunity to learn about the interplay of religion, philosophy and science—and how they all truly do affect our world.”

The Dona and Marshall Robinson Professor of Science, Philosophy and Religion will be hired into Union’s Philosophy Department, where he or she will work closely with Religious Studies in instruction and course development. This individual will teach at the intersection of the three fields.

“A faculty appointment in science, philosophy and religion will put Union on the cutting edge of teaching and research in an interdisciplinary area that everyone agrees is key for the future of our society,” said Peter Bedford, director of the Religious Studies Program and John and Jane Wold Professor of Religious Studies. “Union will produce leaders at the interface of science and religion, skilled in the issues, mature in perspective, and able to articulate relevant answers for the betterment of society.”

Breazzano credits his own interdisciplinary experiences at Union, where he majored in political science and economics, with building the foundation for his success as president of his own investment firm, DDJ Capital Management. He “learned how to think independently” here and is grateful for that, which is why he continues to give back to his alma mater.

Breazzano, a Union trustee, is a scholarship donor and Trustee Annual Giving Chair. His leadership giving over the years has also facilitated the expansion of Schaffer Library and the renovation of the fitness center,
which bears his name. And in 2007, Union dedicated Breazzano House—one of seven Minerva Houses—in honor of a $2 million gift he made that year.

"Union was wonderful for me, and I’ve been fortunate that two of my sons also attended the College," Breazzano said. "Union continues to be an important part of my life and my family’s life—it’s just been invaluable in all it’s given us."

"I like to joke that I think so highly of Union, I sent my first born," he added, laughing. "What more can be said?"

The College has created an endowed professorship in statistics that will support the school’s approach to interdisciplinary learning.

The "Donald C. Brate ’45-Stanley G. Peschel ’52 Professorship in Statistics" is funded through the estates of two longtime Union benefactors.

Brate studied electrical engineering at Union. He retired in 1981 as a system analyst with General Electric in Syracuse. He joined GE’s Test Program in Schenectady after graduation and spent most of the following 33 years designing and developing underwater acoustic equipment for the U.S. Navy. He funded a number of initiatives at the College, including the Donald C. Brate Scholarship for engineering students. He died in 2005.

Peschel, who also studied electrical engineering, was founder and CEO of High Voltage Inc. and Hipotronics, designers and manufacturers of high voltage test equipment. An earlier gift from Peschel helped establish the Stanley G. Peschel Computer Center, which was dedicated in 1975. Peschel died in 2002.

"We greatly appreciate both of these gifts," said Union President Stephen C. Ainlay. "The revolution in computational power has prompted the production of enormous amounts of data."

With the increasing quantification in a wide range of fields including biology, economics, geology, sociology, ecology, psychology, history, political science and computer science, the reliance on statistics is burgeoning, Ainlay noted. "Union must add a full-time statistician to its faculty if we are to prepare our students effectively to take part in this revolution and to remain competitive among our peer institutions."

Therese A. McCarty, the Stephen J. and Diane K. Ciesinski Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, said the new professor will have access to Union’s recently acquired IBM cluster computer, currently the largest computer of its kind at any liberal arts college in the country. The computational power of this computer will expand opportunities for complex statistical analysis across disciplines, enabling more extensive student and faculty research projects that, in turn, will enhance classroom instruction.

"Filling this position will expand and improve student and faculty scholarship, bolster interdisciplinary collaboration and ensure that our students acquire the requisite breadth and depth of knowledge and practice that the 21st century demands of them," said McCarty.

Alan Taylor, chair of the Department of Mathematics and the Marie Louise Bailey Professor of Mathematics, described the new position as "an extremely important addition to the department, and one that has the potential to enhance faculty and student efforts in virtually every department and program at the College."

A national search for this new scholar will begin shortly and the person is expected to begin at Union next fall.

The naming of this professorship comes during the College’s $250 million You are Union campaign, which has raised more than $225 million to date and will be completed in 2012.

For more about professorships, contact Scott Rava, director, Leadership Gifts, at (518) 388-6601 or ravas@union.edu.
With Recyclemania honors and new sustainability coordinator, Union just keeps getting greener

Union’s green success landed it in the May issue of College Planning and Management, which reported that the College excelled in Recyclemania 2012, a collegiate recycling competition to promote campus involvement in green initiatives.

Union clinched two first place awards, one in the Per Capita category and another in the Cardboard category. Students collected 61.79 pounds of recyclables per student on campus, the most of any college in the country. About 30 pounds per person of corrugated cardboard was gathered, garnering Union top honors in that category as well.

Contest organizers estimated that Union’s recycling efforts saved 161 metric tons of carbon dioxide output; the equivalent of taking 86 cars off the road or the energy consumption of 42 households.

“We are all very excited to come out on top again in this national competition,” said Jeff Corbin, assistant professor of biology and faculty co-chair for the U-Sustain committee. “It is a testament to the environmental community that we have created here on campus.”

And this community is likely only to grow stronger with the addition of Meghan Haley-Quigley ’11. The new sustainability coordinator was hired in May to replace the retired Terry Miltner as the guru of all things green.

As co-president of U-Sustain and the Environmental Club, Haley-Quigley worked tirelessly to promote sustainability and green initiatives on campus when she was a student. The environmental policy major plans to bring that same passion and commitment to her new job at Union.

“This is such a wonderful opportunity to work in an environment I am familiar with, build upon the working relationships I had already established and take things a step farther than I was able to as a student,” she said. “I’m very excited and looking forward to collaborating with most every department on campus as well as the community. There are opportunities to enhance sustainability across all disciplines.”

A gift of signatures

Aron Feingold ’72 recently presented President Stephen C. Ainlay with an autograph book he donated to the College. The piece contains signatures of President Chester Arthur, Class of 1848, and each of his cabinet members. Arthur’s signature is on a small card with a lovely engraving of the White House. The material dates from 1883 and includes the signature of Robert Todd Lincoln, who was Secretary of War in Arthur’s cabinet.
Lessons on faith

Eboo Patel, one of the leading voices for cultivating greater understanding and acceptance of diverse faith backgrounds on college campuses, spoke during spring term. He discussed "Acts of Faith: Interfaith Leadership in a Time of Global Religious Crisis."

An American Muslim who was raised in Chicago, Patel is founder and executive director of Interfaith Youth Core. He is also a member of President Obama’s Advisory Council of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

He is the author of Sacred Ground: Pluralism, Prejudice, and the Promise of America, which examines the anti-Islam fervor that surfaced after 9-11 and how we can best promote interfaith understanding and cooperation. He is a regular contributor to the Washington Post, USA Today, and The Huffington Post, and holds a doctorate in the sociology of religion from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

"Eboo’s visit was a wonderful opportunity to meet a nationally recognized leader passionate about interfaith cooperation," said Viki Brooks, director of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life and campus Protestant minister. "Eboo’s commitment to serving the common good from both religious and non-religious perspectives encourages students to see their faith as a resource in cooperation rather than a source of conflict."

Patel’s visit is part of the College’s participation in the President’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge. Last summer, Brooks and Gretchen Hathaway, senior director of Campus Diversity and Affirmative Action, traveled to Washington, D.C., where Union was among more than 200 schools selected to commit to a year of interfaith and community service programming.

Union’s involvement focuses on economic need in Schenectady. Volunteers who commit to a work site such as a food pantry or homeless shelter meet with people with diverse backgrounds to explore the ways their religion or other ethical views inform their volunteer experiences.

Patel’s talk was part of the Presidential Forum on Diversity Series, established in 2006 by President Stephen C. Ainlay to bring in notable speakers on a wide range of topics that promote diversity and inclusiveness.

100th anniversary of alumnus’ graduation honored

A group of distinguished alumni joined President Stephen C. Ainlay in New York City recently to recognize the 100th anniversary of the graduation of Robert Porter Patterson from the College.

During the event, remarks were given by Robert Morris Morgenthau, who served for 35 years as the district attorney for New York County, and prosecuted many high-profile cases. He previously was appointed by President John F. Kennedy to U.S. Attorney for New York’s Southern District. Morgenthau had several notable assistant district attorneys work with him, including Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Governor Andrew Cuomo and John F. Kennedy, Jr.

"It is an evening of remembrance and celebration of a life that was clearly well lived," Ainlay said that evening. He later awarded Patterson with the John Bigelow Medal, in recognition of friends of the College who have contributed to the advancement of humanity.

Other notable speakers were Clifford Brown, the Robert Porter Patterson Professor of Government, and Lawrence B. Pedowicz ‘69, a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen and Katz.

Patterson played a critical role in helping to shape the allied victory in World War II. Under Secretary of War from 1940 to 1945, he was the person most responsible for mobilizing America’s industrial resources to produce the weapons and equipment needed. When he returned to civilian life, he worked for a decade as a Manhattan attorney until being appointed judge of the U.S. District Court in Manhattan by President Herbert Hoover in 1930. In 1939, he was appointed to the Federal Court of Appeals in New York by Franklin Roosevelt. He was also one of the principal architects of the new Department of Defense.

He died in a plane crash in New Jersey in 1952.

To watch a highlight video of the event, visit http://vimeo.com/42298446
Bookshelf features new books written or edited by or about alumni and other members of the Union community. To be included in Bookshelf, send the book and the publisher’s press release to:

Office of Communications
Union College
Schenectady, NY 12308
or send publisher’s press release and a high-resolution book cover image to magazine@union.edu.

BOB DORSE ’53
Bob’s Tales
Excelsior Editions/State Classic Day Publishing

Recounting his memories, the author discusses his pre-college life, his experiences in France, England and Sweden, his military service, his career as founder and president of his own business, and his volunteer, political, educational and athletic involvement.

THOMAS R. ZENTALL ’62
The Oxford Handbook of Comparative Cognition
Oxford University Press

This updated edition, co-edited by Thomas Zentall, presents expertly authored sections on topics of comparative cognition ranging from perception and illusion to problem solving and behavioral flexibility. New findings and theoretical approaches reflecting the current state of the field; provocative topics such as tool use and number discrimination; and insight into how various non-human species learn, remember and communicate are also included. Zentall is the DiSilvestro Professor of Arts and Sciences and professor of psychology at the University of Kentucky.

GARY PREVOST ’69
Social Movements and Leftist Governments in Latin America
Zed Books

In recent years, the simultaneous development of prominent social movements and the election of left and centre-left governments have radically altered the political landscape in Latin America. This book, co-edited by Gary Prevost, moves beyond simple discussion of these social movements and analyzes the position of the social movements after progressive governments take power. Prevost is a professor of political science at St. John’s University and College of St. Benedict.

DEBORAH DAVIS ’73
Guest of Honor: Booker T. Washington, Theodore Roosevelt, and the White House Dinner that Shocked a Nation
Atria Books

In Guest of Honor, a single dinner in 1901 serves as a unique lens into the historical issues of race, politics, and social history at a pivotal moment in time. That year, President Theodore Roosevelt invited Booker T. Washington, former slave, distinguished educator, and renowned African American spokesman, to have dinner with the first family at the White House. The next morning, the news that a black man had dinner with the president at the White House sent shockwaves through the nation. The scandal escalated to the point where this one dinner divided the country, ignited a racial storm, and threatened to topple two of America’s greatest men.

LISA (RYAN) BERNARD ’83
Lisa Bernard’s NOTES from the PODIUM: A Workbook to Accompany Courses and Seminars for Public Speakers
Cue Card Communications

This text distills the anxiety-inducing activity called public speaking into brief and easy-to-follow lessons to guide beginners and veterans alike. Methods for researching, creating, and delivering informative, persuasive and motivational talks are succinctly explored, and accompanied by simple skill-building exercises, drills, and worksheets that move speakers to their personal best. Clear cue cards on speech subtleties like humor, transitions, titles, and Q & A offer insights and advice from speakers and audiences across the world as well.
YOUR UNION now

A college transformed
The You Are Union campaign, which concludes this year, has created a multitude of opportunities for this generation of students and others to come.

This is the third and final installment of Your UNION Now, a special insert celebrating the impact of the You Are Union campaign. In previous installments, we chronicled the campaign’s transformation of academic life and its role in the emergence of a strong and unique endeavor to unite living and learning.

This issue focuses on students and on the opportunities they have enjoyed at Union, thanks to those who have come before them.

President Stephen C. Ainlay, speaking at a recent luncheon of scholarship donors and recipients, said, “People often ask me, ‘What is the business model for higher education?’

This is all about opportunity, about paying it forward. The opportunity given to one generation creates an obligation to give back. This is how it goes…we pay it forward.”

In the pages that follow, we hear from students and donors about opportunity and obligation—and the difference both can make in one’s life.
EVE RICHARDS '12

Hometown: Schenectady
Major: History
Activities: Volleyball

THE EDWARD D. CAMMAROTA '37
AND KENNETH J. MEANEY '44
SCHOLARSHIPS

“Receiving the Cammarota and Meaney Scholarships has not only helped my family breathe a little easier financially, but has also helped me to flourish. Union’s writing requirements, especially the senior thesis for writing majors, have given me skills in research, writing and time management that will serve me well in years to come. During my four years on the volleyball team, I learned so much about dedication and what it means to be a good teammate, and especially a leader. I don’t yet know what my future holds, but I am certain that Union College has prepared me for all my future endeavors.”
EVAN STATES ’14

Hometown: Syracuse, N.Y.
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Activities: Lacrosse

THE LAWRENCE J. HOLLANDER BICENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP

“The Hollander Scholarship goes beyond helping my financial situation. It serves as motivation to take advantage of every opportunity Union can give. My freshman year, I began to feel myself evolving. I got the same feeling acing a math test or finishing an engineering project that I got from scoring a goal or winning a big game. I look forward to the day when I will be able to help a student with his or her own academic journey, just as Dean Hollander has helped me with my own.”
JERAMEY NORMAND ’13

Major: Computer Science
Minor: Russian
Activities: Crew, WRUC

THE ESTHER C. & OSWALD E. DRESCHER JR. SCHOLARSHIP

“I am especially grateful to the Drescher family during these hard times. It says a lot about Union that alumni and friends are willing to help students financially. I have been around computers my whole life, thanks to my father. As for my Russian minor, there is something about the language and works of famous Russian writers that I find attractive. The generosity of the Dreschers means a lot to me, and I hope that someday I, too, will be able to make a similar gesture to help a young scholar in need.”
SEAMUS FEIDER-SULLIVAN ’13

Hometown: Brownfield, Maine
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Minor: Studio Fine Arts
Activities: Term in Vietnam, photography, skiing

THE CLASS OF 1956 SCHOLARSHIP

“My first venture outside of North America—to Hanoi, Vietnam—has given me a great new perspective on my understanding of the world. In addition to classes in Vietnamese history, language and culture, and photography, I took an internship at a local motorbike shop where the proprietor spoke no English. It was a great learning experience. I am considering a career in product design, which combines my passion for engineering and visual arts. I can’t emphasize enough the importance of the Class of 1956 Scholarship. I could not be here without this support.”
PRISCILLA J. HARRIS ’13

**Hometown:** Chicago  
**Major:** History  
**Minors:** Africana Studies and Spanish  
**Activities:** Black Law Student Association, internship with New York State AFL-CIO

**THE JANINE DONIKIAN SCHOLARSHIP**

"Attending Union College has been an absolute joy, and thanks to the Donikian Scholarship, I can enjoy all Union has to offer without worrying about the state of my finances. My recent classes—Race and the Constitution, Intro to Africana Studies and Swahili—have been fascinating. My internship with the AFL-CIO has exposed me to politics, community development and campaigns. It has prepared me for the real world by giving me tasks that push me out of my comfort zone, but that are essential to becoming a better businesswoman."
BECCA ROBINSON ’12

Hometown: Lebanon, N.H.
Majors: Mathematics and French
Activities: Culinary Theme House

THE NANCY A. GORDON SCHOLARSHIP

“My double major in math and French may seem like a strange combination, but I managed to combine them for my senior thesis to translate primary source documents from French to English. As it turns out, there are quite a few very prolific French mathematicians, so there was no shortage of material. I also adored my experience in Culinary House. I lived with seven of my closest friends, and we held three events each term, all based around cooking. I plan to go to graduate school for biostatistics to combine my interests in math and conservation. The past four years have been the best of my life, and none of it would have been possible without the Nancy Gordon Scholarship.”
DONALD OSEI-OWUSU ’12

Hometown: Accra, Ghana
Major: Managerial Economics
Minor: Mathematics
Activities: Chess Club, African Student Association, Gatekeeper, Annual Fund Affiliate
Family: Includes two brothers who are Union alumni—David ’07 and Daniel ’03

THE HAROLD S. MacGOWAN ’33 SCHOLARSHIP

“Without the MacGowan Scholarship, it would have been impossible for me to experience world-class education at Union College. During my time here, I have tried my best to make as much of an impact as possible. I have made it a personal goal to coordinate programs that educate the campus community about current events in Africa. With a Union College education, I should be able to pursue a successful career in business. With the support of this scholarship, I will have a chance to support my family back home in Ghana.”
SERGIO AZCONA ‘12

Hometown: Danbury, Conn.
Major: History
Activities: Admissions intern, term in Washington, summer research

THE THOMAS E. HANIGAN JR. ’44 SCHOLARSHIP

“When prospective students and their families ask how I have enjoyed my time at Union, I talk about my personal growth. It stems from opportunities including the D.C. term, where being ‘inside the Beltway’ gave me a practical understanding of politics, and my senior thesis on slave freedom lawsuits and related research with Prof. Aslakson for his upcoming book. Thanks to the Hanigan Scholarship, my time at Union has been a life-changing experience. I am confident that I am prepared for the challenges ahead.”
VISHNU
DOSAKAYALA ’14

Hometown: Queens, N.Y.
Major: Computer Engineering
Activities: Beuth House Council, Bhangra Union dance group

THE WILLIAM M. WHEELER SCHOLARSHIP

“My father, the first member of his family to graduate college and emigrate to America, always emphasized the importance of education and how it opens doors to many opportunities. My opportunity to receive a great education at Union was made possible by the Wheeler Scholarship. The nurturing environment at Union challenged me to do things I would not have done before, like performing in front of a live audience with the Bhangra Union, an Indian cultural dance group. The small class size means that I’ve really gotten to know my professors—like the one who challenged me to a push-up contest!”
A. RICHARD HARRIS ’14

Hometown: Little Falls, N.Y.
Major: Biology
Minor: French
Activities: RA in Fox Hall, EMT with Union EMS, Tour Guide, Student Affairs Council

THE NICHOLAS SAVIANO ’51 SCHOLARSHIP

“The Saviano Scholarship has allowed me to concentrate on my academics and to participate in a lot of exciting things on campus. I am looking forward to a term in France this fall. I’m making excellent progress in my courses and plan on attending medical school after Union.”
Among the important things Antonio J. Gutierrez ’10 learned at Union: volunteerism is great training for leadership, and one-on-one tutoring is a powerful educational tool that is also rewarding for the tutor.

At Union, he was a fixture at the Kenney Community Center, where he established two highly successful mentorships: one focused on afterschool reading, the other on tutoring youth in a local boxing program.

“Volunteerism gives you a chance to connect with the community, and being involved with the Kenney Community Center gave me a chance to see what issues the community faced and learn strategies to overcome adversity,” Gutierrez said.

Today, Gutierrez is the co-founder and vice president of Match Tutors, a non-profit that focuses on transforming failing schools by providing full-time professional tutors to all students. Gutierrez, a native of the Boston area, established a partnership with the Lawrence Public School District to help turn around two chronically failing schools. Match is overseeing 50 full-time fellows who tutor math (in 1:2 ratios) to over 600 9th and 10th graders. The model is unique because it is integrated into the school day as its own class period. This has been effective in Houston, where standardized math test scores increased by an average of 20 percent in nine schools.

For Gutierrez, it all started with Union and Posse. A member of Union’s first group of Posse Scholars, Gutierrez arrived in the fall of 2006 with nine of his classmates. Together they tackled the challenges of college while also taking leadership roles in the Union and local communities.

Since 1989, the Posse Foundation has identified, recruited and trained more than 4,000 public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential to become Posse Scholars. These students—many of whom might have been overlooked by traditional college selection processes—receive four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships. Posse Scholars graduate at a rate of 90 percent and make a visible difference on campus and throughout their professional careers.

Posse at Union is supported by a gift from the Karp family, including Trustee Doug Karp ’97 and Jana Karp ’99.

Gutierrez knows first-hand the benefits Posse brings to scholars, colleges, and local communities. “You go in as a group of Posse scholars but you are committed to the community as well,” he said. “Posse trains great leaders, but we don’t go in just to support each other. We are here to help the greater community.”
Howard Blank ’70 is at the point in his life where he can indulge his passion for things that go fast: race cars, airplanes, even spacecraft. But more on that later.

The semi-retired commodities trader is also at a place where he recalls those who mentored him toward a career that allows him to indulge those passions. Which is why he established a scholarship at Union.

“In my travels in the business world, I’ve been befriended by strangers with no vested interest,” he said. “I’m looking for the satisfaction and the honor of making a difference in someone’s life the way people made a difference in mine, which has led me to where I am today.”

Blank, who has spent his career in Europe and now lives in Switzerland, recently established the Shelly Carol Blank Scholarship in memory of his sister, whose opportunities were cut short when she lost her life to cystic fibrosis in 1960.

The scholarship, which has no preferences, is intended to “go to someone deserving, and who would look at it as something that changed their life,” he said, adding that he looks forward to meeting the first recipient.

He also hopes to inspire others. “I want to do something good and I want it to rub off,” he said. “I would like this to be contagious.”

A racer fascinated by fast cars—especially the mythical Ferrari—Blank finds himself, at age 64, finishing with the leaders at races including the Ferrari Challenge Europe (with one race at the incomparable Le Mans circuit), the Morocco Classic Rally and endurance races including the 24 Hours of Spa. And as if earthbound speed was not enough, he has reserved a spot as one of the first 100 Founder Astronauts on Sir Richard Branson’s Virgin Galactic suborbital space program.
Throughout his career as a corporate executive and professor of management, Ray Gilmartin has found success by remembering a lesson from Union Electrical Engineering Professor Ed Craig: understand the conceptual framework of a problem, and you can solve all problems of that type.

“That still stands out for me,” said Gilmartin, who joined Harvard Business School as a professor of management upon his retirement from Merck. “When I teach a course in general management, where we’re trying to marry theory and practice, I tell the students about Professor Craig.”

“And throughout my business career, I would step back and say, ‘What is the conceptual framework that will help me solve the problem?’”

As a student, Gilmartin did much more than solve problems for his EE classes. A standout athlete in football, wrestling and lacrosse, he was also active in his fraternity, Chi Psi. An accomplished student, he earned the Daggett Prize, the William Pike Award, the Warner King Prize and the ECAC award.

“I benefited greatly from Union,” he said. “It was a key factor in what I’ve been able to do.”

That’s why Ray and his wife, Gladys, created the Gilmartin Family Scholarship for future generations.

A native of Sayville, N.Y., Gilmartin landed at Union thanks to Charlie Carpenter ’52, his teacher and assistant football coach. Carpenter told Gilmartin, the first child in his family to go to college, that Union could support his passions for math and science and sports.
To be part of the legacy of this historic campaign or to track progress as it nears completion, visit www.union.edu/giving or contact the Office of College Relations, (518) 388-6180.
**Building Our Third Century**

**PLANNED GIFTS**
A bequest was received from the estate of Frank Z. Pollara, Class of 1952; the proceeds restricted to Sigma Xi.

A bequest was received from the estate of Ellis W. Trombley, Class of 1934; the proceeds restricted to the Peter I. Wold Center for Science and Engineering.

A trust distribution was received from John H. & Winifred S. Smith to establish the John H. & Winifred S. Smith Endowed Fund in support of literary activities at Union and to support services for Union students with learning disabilities.

In support of the Union College Annual Fund, a trust distribution was received from the estate of Robert L. Slobod ’35.

A trust distribution was received from the estate of Naomi Chambers to be added to the Walter R.G. Baker 1916 Endowed Scholarship in support of students studying electrical engineering. Mrs. Chambers was the widow of Walter R.G. Baker, Class of 1916.

A distribution was received from the estate of Muriel Dean. Along with two previous distributions, this gift will be used at the discretion of the trustees. Mrs. Dean was the widow of Willard W. Dean, Class of 1938.

Pooled life income fund distributions were received from the following estates:
- **Thomas E. Hanigan,** Class of 1944 and former trustee; the proceeds added to the Thomas E. Hanigan Scholarship.
- **Robert E. Groundwater,** Class of 1943; 50% of the proceeds were added to the Schaffer Library Endowed Technology Fund and 50% to the Nott Memorial Restoration Endowment Fund.
- **Muriel C. Lee,** widow of Robert B. Lee, Class of 1943; the proceeds will be used at the discretion of the trustees.

An anonymous bequest was received; the proceeds established the Dr. William Stone Memorial Scholarship in his memory. Dr. Stone, a member of the Union College Class of 1942, was a professor in the Mathematics Department until his retirement in 1992. At that time, he held the Marie Louise Bailey Professorship of Mathematics.

A bequest was received from the estate of Richard M. Baird, Class of 1930; 50% restricted to the Richard M. Baird (1930) Scholarship and 50% to be used at the discretion of the trustees.

**CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES**
Charitable gift annuities distributions were received from:
- **Charlotte Pitt,** widow of DeForest Pitt, Class of 1929; proceeds will be used at the discretion of the trustees.
- **Winston A. Sanders,** Class of 1941; proceeds will be used at the discretion of the trustees.
- **Warren H. Moles,** Class of 1950; proceeds added to the Kresge Foundation Challenge Endowment.

A charitable gift annuity was established by Ronald Q. Jennett, Class of 1952. Ron, who is retired from General Dynamics, just celebrated his 60th ReUnion.

**William S. Parry,** Class of 1965, established a charitable gift annuity, the proceeds of which will ultimately be added to the Jonathan Stanley Parry Scholarship.
Ever wonder what Union professors are up to when they aren’t teaching? Just about everything, as it turns out. Nothing is beyond their collective reach or curious minds. Here’s just a glimpse of the diverse and intriguing work they do.

From landscapes and music comes poetry

Jordan Smith, English professor


In “A Chinese Landscape,” Smith describes “a gathering of those camel’s-hump hills/where a monk might live a lifetime on rice, meditation” and—because the landscape is rural Herkimer County—“once in a while a Genny Twelve Horse Ale and a slab of rat cheese.” After several such twists in geography and tone, he arrives at last at a familiar upstate scene, a half-painted barn and rusted-out pickup speaking volumes about impermanence.

“I’m sort of surprised at how abstract the poems sometimes are,” Smith said, noting they often are inspired by concrete images collected in his travels. “I spend a lot of time driving around on back roads. Certain landscapes and certain music put me in the mood to write.”

In a recent essay in *Numero Cinq*, Smith described traveling the Thruway between his native Rochester and the Capital Region, listening to the old-time fiddle-and-banjo music whose rhythms and “ancient tones” color his poetry as vividly as New York’s landscapes.

“Some types of music open up the past as more available to you,” said Smith, who plays fiddle in weekly Green House jams with colleagues, students and the occasional alumnus.

Smith is writing a novel, returning to fiction after a hiatus of 10 years. But he still devotes time to poetry, driving his work forward from the moment of inspiration—from behind the wheel or fiddling a reel—to the moment of publication.

— Bill Ackerbauer ’96

A better way to store green energy?

Samuel Amanuel, assistant professor of physics (with Will Linthicum ’14)

Renewable energy is key to meeting the ever-increasing global demand for power. Renewable power, though, has drawbacks. It can be unreliable and difficult to dispatch on demand.

But storing energy, particularly concentrated solar power, in molten salts—in the form of sensible heat—could change this.

“Basically, you heat molten salts to temperatures that are much higher than those of steam and store the salts in tanks until power is needed,” Samuel Amanuel said. “Heat from the salts can then be used to generate steam, which can then generate electricity.”

Amanuel is investigating the possibility of enhancing the storage potential of these molten salts by increasing their specific heat capacity—the amount of energy required to raise the temperature of a material by one degree Celsius per unit mass.

“We’re trying to understand why and how nano particles alter the physical behavior of molten salts,” Amanuel said. “It’s plausible that incorporating nano particles or confining them into nano pores can increase their specific heat.”

So he’s studying the behavior of molten salt inside nano pores that are smaller than the diameter of a human hair. The work may help increase energy storage efficiency.

“Our energy consumption is not sustainable without improving storage technology,” said Amanuel, whose research is supported by the Cornell University–NASA N.Y. Space Grant Consortium. “It’s essential to making clean power a viable option.”
Robert Olberg, visiting assistant professor of mathematics

Robert Olberg can actually hear dragonfly neurons firing in his lab. What’s more, he understands the language these little electric pulses—transferred from an inserted probe to a computer—are speaking.

They’re telling the dragonfly to bank left, bank right, shoot out its legs.

“We know which neurons control a dragonfly’s ability to capture prey mid-flight with 97-percent accuracy,” Olberg said. “So we can study these neurons repeatedly to figure out how they work.”

This involves fixing tiny electrodes to the neurons of an immobilized dragonfly and measuring its response to pseudo prey. He and Sarah Dean have discovered that when these aerial predators nab their dinner—typically in about 150 milliseconds from takeoff to meal time—their neurons are reacting to a complex bevy of factors.

“Responses to prey motion are different at different distances from the dragonfly’s eye, and maximum responses seem to depend on prey being viewed by both eyes,” Olberg said. “This suggests dragonflies use binocular vision to triangulate distance, which means neurons are coding information in three dimensions, not just two.”

So mechanical engineering majors Adam Zinman ’12 and Max Balter ’12 built a special apparatus. It allows a small bead (a.k.a. the prey), mounted on a taut nylon monofilament invisible to the dragonfly, to move in three dimensions in front of the stationary insect. The setup will produce a more realistic picture of the way these neurons provide dragonflies with the prey-location and velocity information they need to be such lethal hunters.

Kim Plofker, visiting assistant professor of mathematics

When most people think math, they think fractions, formulas, variables, graphs—the antithesis, some might say, of lyrical or poetic expression. But words in verse were once integral to mathematical thinking, learning and communication.

“The medieval Sanskrit textbooks developed quite an elaborate system of mathematical notation,” Kim Plofker said. “These texts described mathematical results and methods verbally, rather than in symbolic notation, though users carrying out computations had an intricate toolkit of numerals and symbols.

“The norm in Sanskrit was to compose treatises and textbooks in strictly structured metrical (but non-rhyming) verse. This was helpful in memorizing rules and formulas, as you know if you’ve ever learned to sing the quadratic formula to ‘Pop Goes the Weasel.’”

Plofker studies this ancient Indian mathematical tradition to understand where, when and how various mathematical ideas and methods originated, and how these methods have influenced modern practices.

“It’s still very much an open question how much Sanskrit mathematics directly influenced early European math,” she said. “But we do know of several crucial features that came to us from Indian mathematics via the Arabic scholarly tradition, such as our decimal place-value numerals.”

“And there are also our basic trigonometric functions of sine and cosine,” Plofker added. “The very name sine comes to us from Sanskrit, though in a roundabout way.”
October 18-21
2012

Online registration opens Sept. 1, 2012 at www.union.edu/hfw
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012
1 – 2 p.m.
Connections: Exploring the Ties between Poet Jim McCord and Painter Bruce McColl
Mandeville Gallery

6:30 – 8 p.m.
Dance Residency Lecture, Demonstration*
Dance Studio/Arts Building

Friday, Oct. 19, 2012
Visit-A-Class:
See Union’s professors in action!

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Admissions Open House, Campus Walking Tours
Grant Hall

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Garnet Guard Luncheon*
College Park Hall

1 – 4 p.m.
Becker Career Center Open House
Becker Career Center

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
50th ReUnion Planning Meeting
College Park Hall

4 – 5 p.m.
The LGBTQ Network Reception
Reamer Campus Center

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012
8:15 – 9 a.m.
Alumni Council New Member Orientation
Reamer Campus Center

9 – 11:30 a.m.
Alumni Council Meeting*
Reamer Campus Center

4 – 5 p.m.
President’s Welcome Reception
Nott Memorial

4 - 6 p.m.
President’s Council Career Panel
Olin Building

5 – 6:30 p.m.
Summer Research Poster Session
Peter Irving Wold Center

5:30 p.m.
Student-Led Shabbat Services, Dinner
Hillel (West College)

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Volunteer Appreciation Reception*
Nott Memorial

7 p.m.
A cappella Concert
Memorial Chapel

8 – 10 p.m.
Reception, Dance Performance: Prophets of Funk*
The Egg, Albany

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Family Portraits
Abbe Hall

10 – 11 a.m.
ReUnion 2013 Planning Meeting*
Abbe Hall

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Study Abroad Discussion
Reamer Campus Center

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Campus Hay Rides
Reamer Campus Center

11:30 am – 2:30 p.m.
Pre-Game Tailgate Picnic*
Alexander Field

11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Sigma Delta Tau Gala, Silent Auction, Luncheon
College Park Hall

1 p.m.
Union vs. Univ. of Rochester Football
Frank Bailey Field
For tickets, visit: www.unionathletics.com

2 p.m.
Women’s Soccer vs. William Smith College
College Park Hall Field

4 p.m.
Women’s Ice Hockey vs. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
At RPI

4:30 – 6 p.m.
Greek Open Houses
Various locations

4:30 p.m.
Dean’s List Reception (by invitation only)
Nott Memorial

5 – 6:30 p.m.
Legacy Reception* (by invitation only)
Abbe Hall

5:30 p.m.
UNITAS 15th Anniversary Dinner, Awards*
College Park Hall

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Harvest Dinner*
Reamer Campus Center

8:30 – 10 p.m.
UProgram’s Tribute Band Concert
Memorial Chapel

Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012
9 – 10 a.m.
Hillel Brunch*
Reamer Campus Center

10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Autumn Brunch*
Reamer Campus Center

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Hillel Lecture
Nott Memorial

* Pre-registration is encouraged | This schedule is subject to change. For the most current information, visit www.union.edu/hfw.
On May 7, Union College students, faculty, trustees and alumni celebrated the 35th anniversary of the spring term in Washington, D.C. Events included an alumni panel discussion and a reception hosted at the home of Union trustee Dr. Estelle Cooke Sampson, Class of 1974. From left to right: Shelby Cuomo ’13, David Masterson ’14, Brian Goldberg ’99, Alice A. Mahan Departmental Executive Officer for Radiation Oncology, Radiology & the Cancer Center; Howard University Hospital; Estelle Cooke Sampson ’74, Congressman Paul D. Tonko (NY-21), Karlee Bergendorff ’15, Edgar Duhart ’77 and Maxwell Prime ’14.

At the celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Washington, D.C. term abroad are trustee Stanley O’Brien ’74, Congressman Paul D. Tonko (NY-21), trustee Estelle Cooke-Sampson ’74, trustee David Breazzano ’78, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees Mark Walsh ’76.

Kelly Hurley Ucen ’08, founder of New England Country Rentals, discusses her path to entrepreneurship and catches up with Vikram Ravikumar ’08 at the Union College Club of NYC Entrepreneur Event.

Hal Fried, the David L. & Beverly B. Yunich Professor of Business Ethics; Vince Mattone ’06, Union College Club of NYC member; Jeremy Fritzhand ’10 and Mark Walsh ’76, chairman of Union’s Board of Trustees, attend an event focused on entrepreneurship in New York City June 14.
Garnet Guard

Alumni who have celebrated their 50th Reunion.

GARNET GUARD CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Bob Howe ’58
135 Chevy Chase Dr.
Wayzata, Minn. 55391
howex001@umn.edu

1939

Mike Cappiello and Dominick Mele ’37 were recently featured in a story on http://www.tcpalm.com/. The pair lost touch after graduating from Union, but were reunited at an event for Alpha Phi Delta. Cappiello and Mele are the surviving members of the Iota Chapter of the fraternity, which was established at Union.

1943

R. Ted Vinick writes that his grandniece, Shelby Cutter ’11, and Alex Brockwehl ’11, grandson of Donald Brockwehl ’42, enjoyed their time together as Minerva Fellows in Ecuador. Says Ted, "Union’s global reach not only improves humanity, but enhances the careers of the Minerva Fellows whose nine months overseas provide a tremendous impetus and background for their futures." Ted is chairman of his class’s 70th ReUnion, coming up in 2013. Donald just celebrated his 70th ReUnion this year.

1945

During the town of New Castle, N.Y.’s Memorial Day celebration, Lt. Joseph D. Goldreich, an area Naval veteran of World War II and a grand marshal emeritus, talked about the day’s history, tracing it back to its post-Civil War roots and its evolution over time. Joseph was also honored by state Assemblyman Robert Castelli, a Vietnam veteran whose district includes New Castle, with a certificate of appreciation. Prominent area residents Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, former President Bill Clinton and New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo participated in the day’s events as well.

1947

Frank Warren Swacker was featured on www.bizwire-express.com in late April. The story focused on his busy life, which includes providing professional opinions on foreign trade and investment to major corporations or law firms, and writing full-length stage plays. Free Marketing Inc. is scheduled to release an e-book, Murder Trilogy, which will contain three of his works.

1949

Leonard Humphrey writes, "Now a widower retired from GE, I am volunteering at Poli Hospital and Chester County Library, and am active at Great Valley Presbyterian Church and in the Military Officers Association."

1950

Eugene Setel writes, “After 57 years, I have finally retired from the practice of law. I am continuing to be available as a professional arbitrator and mediator. I am a member of the boards of the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies, Weinberg Campus, Park School Foundation, and president of the Holocaust Resource Center of Buffalo. I am also serving on a 21st Century Fund Committee and local committee of the Metropolitan Opera Council National Auditions. I am also a member of the New York State Bar Association and a past chairman of its Committee on Legal Education and Admission to the Bar, and a member of the Erie County Bar Association.”

Graduated from U.S. Army Command & General Staff School 1965. Had four boys born 1956-1960. Finished basketball team and got a cheerleader for a bonus in March 1966. Total six children. Attended law school 1969-1973, passed Texas Bar that year. Retired from Ma Bell in May 1979 and from Army Reserve in 1986. Current activities: Tuesday mornings I repair ‘Talking Books for the Blind.’ Friday afternoons I chat on the phone with Pat Fugazatto, who says he has retired, but like me, is still working. Mary and I get together with Margaret and Paul Castrucci ’56 for lunch or dinner now and then. Paul also was Sigma Chi at Union. He ran the IBM plant here in Vermont before retiring. I’m still teaching social sciences part-time, writing an article now and then, and just received a small research grant from Boston University’s Retired Faculty Association. Looking forward to our 60th Union Reunion next year!”

Garrett Murphy writes, ‘John Moses tells me that Hugo Clearwater and El Harp have discovered that they are cousins and have arranged to meet. Bill Holzapfel is still hard at work as city attorney for Elizabeth, N.J., and Ken Pratt goes all the way from Florida to Plattsburgh every summer where he and Howie Miller get together for lunch.”

Del Wemple has completed his memoirs. They include his years at Union, his service to his first church, his year at Cambridge University in England studying theology, and his hitchhiking throughout Europe in 1960—bringing him to Berlin just before the wall was constructed. The memoirs also describe his involvement in the Civil Rights movement, walking with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Del is still active in ministry, serving a small congregation in Chenango Forks, N.Y. He is willing to make his memoirs available to those who might wish to have them. He can be reached at 2828 Cincinnatus Road, Cincinnatus, N.Y., 13040.

Avrom Gold writes, “I’ve just completed a training course to become an English language tutor for people for whom English is a second language and those who need literacy help. Coincidentally, the instructor was Susan Lax, wife of Howard ’77, who I got to meet. I’ll be living for a while with my brother, Chaim ’67, in Trenton, N.J.”

Sam Milham M.D. has published a memoir called Dirty Electricity, which documents how electrification is responsible for most of the diseases of civilization. His website, www.sammilham.com, has information about the book and copies of papers that support his thesis.
five-year environmental compliance plan for a large private cement producing company. We also try to visit England and Scotland at least once every two years, as we enjoy exploring the environs and homesteads of our ancestors, as both of our families immigrated to America during the political turmoil of the early 1600s. I would especially like to thank fellow class members for electing me president during our 55th Reunion meeting last year. Bob Hodges will be a very difficult act to follow, but thankfully he is available for advice and counsel. You will be hearing more from me and other officers as we develop our plan for the ‘Big Sixty.”

Alfred (A.J.) Nadel continues to pursue his second career, that of a professional artist. Last year, he had a solo show at the gallery representing him in Chelsea. So far this year, he has held an open studio in Long Island City and a group show in Boston.

Robert Scott writes, “Living the good life in Palm Springs, Calif., playing golf and tennis every day! Married my wife, Barbara, in 2010 in Las Vegas at the Flamingo Casino. We are both active real estate agents.”

In tribute to Lothrop Smith, his classmates write, “An EE graduate, Lo was a loyal Chi Psi member and active in our class for the past 56 years, serving as class vice president, chair of the Nominating Committee and member of the ReUnion Planning Committee. He and his wife Janice attended every ReUnion since graduation. Lo was genuinely liked and admired by everyone; he had a pleasant grin and a twinkle in his eye even when he was completely serious. Some observations from his classmates include: an engaging gentleman; a positive person who was ready, willing and able to take on any task; a man who loved his family and enjoyed traveling; a consummate host; a man of dependable integrity; a friend and reliable confidant. Lo and Jan, who retired on Cape Cod, Mass. in 1991, have one son, four daughters and 10 grandchildren. Jan wrote, ‘He was a wonderful friend, husband, father, and grandfather, and he adored our four beautiful great-grandchildren.’ Lo Smith, who died in March, will be sorely missed.”

1957
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
James R. Fisher
172 Patriot’s Crook
Martinsville, Va. 24112
fisherstwo@gmail.com

Robert Yunick writes, “I have been retired 13 years and have continued my longtime interest in birds. In October 2010 I banded my 200,000th bird since obtaining my federal banding permit in 1962. Since retiring I have increased my interest in winter raptor banding, and especially hummingbird banding. I have banded well over 3,000 of the latter, mostly in the Adirondacks at my camp and in Maine. One of my Adirondack female ruby-throated hummingbirds ties the U.S age record of nine years, quite remarkable for a bird weighing a little over a tenth of an ounce.”

John I. Van Voris is one of 78 GrayRobinson attorneys included on the Florida Super Lawyers list for 2012. Only five percent of Florida attorneys are inducted into this group representing professionals in more than 70 areas of practice. John works in the firm’s Tampa office.

1958
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Richard T. Steinbrenner
9 Hunters Trail
Warren, N.J. 07059-7105
rsteinbrenner@att.net

Dr. Daniel S. Papernik received the William A. Console, M.D. Master Teacher Award in Psychiatry from the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, in recognition of outstanding teaching in psychiatry.

1959
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
William D. “Dal” Trader
5361 Santa Catalina Avenue
Garden Grove, Calif. 92845
daltrader@earthlink.net
dalt@wbct.us

Stephen Cooper (cooper@umich.edu) has begun a successful second career as a playwright after leaving the University of Michigan Medical School (after 40 years in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology). He recently won first prize in the Theatre Odyssey (Sarasota) Short Play Competition 2012, and was also a first prize winner in the Brevard Little Theatre (N.C.) competition. His full-length play, Spiritual Bliss, is being considered by a number of theaters around the country. Stephen has had plays produced in New York, Australia and Sarasota.

Francis (Frank) X. Guistra, Jr., from Waldoboro, Maine, writes, “All is well with me and my family, which now includes nine grandchildren (seven boys and two girls). Last March, I competed in the New England Short Course (Yards) Championships. Maine Masters Swim Club, of which I am a member, took first place. I set a State of Maine record for my age group (75-79) in the 50-yard freestyle. I also swam on the 800-yard freestyle relay (75+) which set a New England record. I look to compete for many more years to come, despite a recent shoulder injury, which is keeping me from the butterfly events.”

William “Dal” Trader writes, referring to Francis Guistra’s note above, “This is a great letter from an alumnus. I wish that more of my classmates would report on their activities. I am still working 12 hours a day, four days a week and intend to continue to work for three more years.”

1960
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
John H. Nickles
1303 River Road
West Coxsackie, N.Y. 12192

Jonathan MacKenzie is a retired Episcopal priest living in Chelmsford, Mass. He writes, “Took up road racing and just competed in the Hynes 5 Mile Road Race in Lowell, placing third.”
1961
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Bill Condon
1365 Van Antwerp Road, Apt. 1-91
Niskayuna, N.Y. 12309
bcond041@nycap.rr.com
(518) 382-1096

1962
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Ollie R. Bunch
441 Stub Hollow Road
New Hartford, Conn. 06057-2513

1963
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
George Ball
6929 Country Line Road
Wayland, N.Y. 14572-9553
gball@frontiernet.net

Jim Strosberg, Tom Akerman, Neil Kleinman, Cliff Mastrangelo and Dave Davidson write, “Save the dates of May 30–June 2, 2013 for the Class of 1963 50th ReUnion. Yes, it’s our 50th, and we have actually started planning. We have a tentative theme—‘Blast from the Past’—that resonates at several levels and is appropriate for a four-year experience that included the Cuban Missile Crisis and a Bo Diddley concert. We’ve started research in the College’s archives. Hotel arrangements have been made and contact lists compiled. Mailings started coming to you in July. We’re asking for bio information, Union donations and your time as a volunteer. It would help a lot of if you’d respond as though it were a term paper deadline, or more promptly. We don’t have the luxury of incompletes. If you’d like to volunteer, contact any of us (strosberg@aol.com, t Vaccut inkman13@verizon.net, NKleinman@aol.com, cliffmastrangelo@gmail.com, sabbaticalDave@earthlink.net). What we’d like most, is to see you on campus for our ReUnion.”

David Friedman writes, “I was promoted to retirement in 1998. I’m busier than ever now, volunteering at three hospitals and with my national board work for Unitarian Universalism. I finally had to bag the skiing.”

Cliff Mastrangelo lost his wife Barbara in 2009 after a 44-year marriage. In March of this year, he married Dolly Greenwood and they continue to reside in McLean, Va. He writes, “Hope to see many of my classmates at our 50th in 2013. As co-head agent for our class, I am really looking for a great turnout next spring and an even greater participation in the Annual Fund as we celebrate this milestone in our lives.”

1964
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Anton Warde
36 Two Lights Rd.
Cape Elizabeth, Maine 04107
warde@union.edu

Alan Horn was recently named chairman of the Walt Disney Studios. He will oversee production, distribution and marketing of films from Disney, Pixar and Marvel, as well as marketing and distribution for DreamWorks Studios films released under the Touchstone Pictures banner. Alan previously was president and chief operating officer of Warner Bros. Entertainment. Before that, he co-founded Castle Rock Entertainment and served as its chairman and chief executive officer.

1965
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jon Lechevet, Ph.D.
206 Cross Road
Edmeston, N.Y. 13335-2610
jntlechevet@verizon.net

On May 6, 2012, Lawrence Baldassaro received the Leonardo da Vinci Award for Excellence in Literature from the Illinois/Wisconsin Grand Chapter of the Sons of Italy for his book, Beyond DiMaggio: Italian Americans in Baseball, published by the University of Nebraska Press.


1966
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Antonio F. Vianna
7152 Tanager Drive
Calsbad, Calif. 92011-5033
simpatico1@jun.com

Stephen Cooper recently accepted a position at Western Technology Inc., located in Helena, Mont. as an ecologist. Stephen was previously employed at University of Montana as a plant ecologist. He writes, “I have had both knees replaced and with a dedicated rehabilitation program now again feel up to the challenge of field work (just completed a double century on my road bike, so walking 5-6 miles per day should be within my power). I feel privileged to have worked on vegetation maps for two of our premier national parks, Glacier and Yellowstone. Regrettfully I will miss our ReUnion, but those of you who may have worked for a nonprofit entity will understand the need to keep working.”

David G. Brock, a partner in the litigation practice group of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel, was a panelist at Ethics 2012: Being Good When Times Are Bad. The June event was a half-day seminar presented by the New York State Bar Association. David also presented a one-hour seminar at Ethics.
Update for the Civil Litigator, for the Erie Institute of Law at the Bar Association of Erie County headquarters.

1968
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
John Dresser
Etna, N.H.
dresserdmd@myfairpoint.net

Dr. Robert McClellan Kisabeth Jr. was honored by the Cocke County Education Foundation in March, at the annual Celebrate Our Successes banquet at Carson Springs Conference Center. The yearly banquet serves as both a fundraiser for the foundation and as a way to bring attention to the many alumni of Cocke County’s schools who have achieved outstanding successes in their fields. Robert graduated from Cocke County (Tenn.) High School in 1964 as salutatorian of his class.

Dave Hourigan retired two years ago as a principal in the Milford, Conn. school system, and now lives fulltime in North Port, Fla. Dave reports that he plays a lot of golf and has also started dabbling in bridge and pinochle. Dave is a five-time grandpa. He gets back to most ReUnions, and keeps in touch with John Astrib and Bill Priscott on a fairly regular basis.

1969
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Ray Pike
Salisbury, Mass.
rnwpike@comcast.net

George Cushing
Delanson, N.Y.
gcushing@nycap.rr.com

Wayne Ugoik writes, “After 33 years with the New York State Department of Transportation, I retired in September 2010. Following graduate school and a stint in the U.S. Army, I began my career at NYSDOT in 1977 as a senior mathematician in the Albany main office. I transferred to the Long Island regional office in 1991 to serve as its first travel demand manager, and was responsible for developing and implementing programs to advance New York State’s first and only suburban high-occupancy-vehicle lanes. These now operate along 40 miles of the Long Island Expressway within Nassau and Suffolk counties. I also led numerous innovative efforts to engage the general public in NYSDOT’s planning efforts on Long Island, including live television and online surveys. In 2003, I was promoted to director of regional planning and program management for Long Island. I was fortunate to be able to publish several papers with the Transportation Research Board of the National Research Council and to mentor others to do likewise. Currently, I enjoy retirement and volunteer at an emergency food pantry that helps people in need.”

Dr. Daniel Z. Aronzon writes, “I recently retired as president and CEO of Vassar Brothers Medical Center and will be enjoying time with Nancy, daughters and grandchildren, working with local not-for-profits, golf, travel and all the benefits of the beautiful Hudson Valley. Recently, the medical center’s board honored me by naming the new $66 million dollar addition, the Daniel Z. Aronzon M.D. Center for Ambulatory Surgery.”

1970
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Frank Donnini
239 Rushlake Ct.
Newport News, Va. 23602-6348
fpdonnini@aol.com

John Duffy writes, “We continue to split our time between Manhattan, the Smithfield Valley in Dutchess County, and Hutchinson Island, Fla. I am working part-time as a risk consultant, but spending at least as much time examining systemic risks, such as rogue finance, resource depletion, environmental degradation and sovereign collapse. My wife, Maxine, just completed another thriller with Jim Patterson, which went to number one on the New York Times bestseller list. My son, Brendan ’15, will start his sophomore year at Union in September. He is majoring in psychology and working this summer as an intern in the neurology department at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.”

1971
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Henry Fein, M.D.
1106 Cedrus Way
Rockville, Md. 20854
hfein@aol.com

Dr. Lawrence S. Schek was recently named chief medical officer and senior vice president of St. Vincent’s Medical Center in Bridgeport. He also remains chairperson of the hospital’s Department of Cardiovascular Medicine and medical director of the Elizabeth Pfriem Regional Heart and Vascular Center at St. Vincent’s.

1972
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Frederick A. Levy LCSW
732 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 702
Newport News, Va. 23606-4256
glida1@verizon.net

Kate White, editor-in-chief at Cosmopolitan magazine, was featured in a March edition of the New York Post. The story focused on her Upper East Side townhouse, which she and her husband bought in 1996, and its history. Visit www.nypost.com for more.

1973
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
George C. Schwab
1710 Broadway, Apt. B
Schenectady, N.Y. 12306
(518) 372-6507

Michael Sachs writes, “The newly formed Union College Exercise and Sport Psychology Alumni Association (UCESPAA) is looking for graduates who are working in the field of exercise and sport psychology and/or have related interests in our area. We also welcome interest from current students and graduates who wish to learn more about exercise and sport psychology. Please e-mail me at msachs@temple.edu or James Schwabach ’09 at jschwabach@apexperform.com if interested.”

Mark McKinlay is the director for the Center for Vaccine Equity (CVE), a newly defined sector of the Task Force for Global Health in Atlanta. The CVE sector is focused on reducing the burden of vaccine-preventable diseases and has a goal of assuring equitable access to vaccines in all parts of the world.
1974

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gerald A. Dwyer
geraldadwyer@gmail.com

The Connecticut Economic Resource Center in Rocky Hill recently elected new board member William Vallée. William, an attorney since 1985, specializes in telecommunications with the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel, where he manages and conducts policy positions and litigation in telecommunications and public rights-of-way cases.

Don Krone writes, "I was able to attend the marriage of the daughter of Wayne and Judy Keseberg ‘76 recently. Wayne and I went to high school together in Rotterdam (Mohonasen) and shared accommodations for a couple of years at Union. I have been traveling for work again, but it has been all domestic of late. I have been working on TV productions for NBC Sports and the new NBC Sports Channel (formerly called Versus) that was established when Comcast bought controlling interest in NBC Universal. In the last month, I’ve been a production manager at USA-Hungary men’s water polo (a rematch of the 2008 Olympic gold medal match), professional boxing, and the Adidas Diamond League track and field from New York. In June, I was back to live professional boxing from the Prudential Center in Newark. It’s nice to be doing a variety of sports covering the same sports (Bobsled and Skeleton)."

Sally Squires writes, "In 2008, I took a buyout from The Washington Post after working there for 24 years and joined the Lean Plate Club—to beat the hell out of it and I am at the end of May. We were out for our son Quentin’s med school graduation in Boston and couldn’t pass up a chance to stop by for a visit. The campus was looking great and the students looked very engaged in end-of-year studies."

1975

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Fred G. Pressley Jr. ’75

Powell Tate (the Washington, D.C. division of Weber Shandwick) as a senior vice president and head of the food, nutrition and wellness communications practice. I’m working on the same issues that I covered as a journalist. It’s been a great fit. I’ve also moved my long-time column—the Lean Plate Club—to www.sallysquires.com. Our three sons are doing well. Two are married with children of their own. The third is working on Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant and is getting a firsthand look at history in the making. I often think of our political science department when I hear some of the behind-the-scenes stories. Professors Board, Tidmarch and others would have enjoyed hearing them as well, I think."

1976

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Leslie Steinecker-McHugh
17 Virginia Place
Patchogue, N.Y. 11772
lesmch2@aol.com

Harry Hayes writes, "Currently serving as vice president of Human Resources for Northern Berkshire Healthcare in North Adams, Mass. My two sons are in the midst of their college careers at the University of Michigan and Bentley College. They are working on the same issues as I was here to talk about it."

Helena Binder joined Opera Saratoga this past summer to direct William Schuman’s baseball opera, The Mighty Casey, at the Spa Little Theater in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

In early June, 2012, the third annual Beta Theta Pi of Union College Open was held in Saratoga this past summer to direct William Schuman’s baseball opera, The Mighty Casey, at the Spa Little Theater in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. in Waltham, Mass."

1977

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Tony Romanazzi
73 Bay St.
Glens Falls, N.Y. 12801
romanquatro@gmail.com

John Eklund writes, "I am serving as Ohio State Senator for the 18th District (Lake, Geauga and part of Cuyahoga County). I was appointed to fill an unexpired term last November. Now I am running for the seat this November. I’ve never served or run before. It is quite an experience—very exciting. I have to say. I continue to practice as well, so the weeks are very full. Many times already I have reflected on the difference between the ‘delegate’ and ‘representative’ models of a legislator that I first learned from Prof. Tidmarch. I wish he was here to talk about it."

1978

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jeff Laniewski
Jlaniew1@maine.rr.com

Raymond Stecker writes, "I have kept in touch with a few alums: Rob Sherman, huge success in business, family and fun. Delahunty, still crazy, sends out some good emails and the rest make your skin crawl. That’s why we love him. Had a quick connect with John Breault ’77. I had a longer connect with brain cancer (not a lot of fun). It beat the hell out of me, so I beat the hell out of it and I am back in action. I play golf with..."
George Garivaltis '79 (2 hdcp). He is still an amazing athlete. Best to all.

1979
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Christine Cameron
cameronc@guilderlandschools.org

Bloomfield aerospace-industrial parts maker Kaman recently promoted Gregory L. Steiner, president of Kaman Aerospace Group, to executive vice president. He joined Kaman as aerospace group chief in 2008 after a 17-year career with Rockwell Collins Inc. The former Air Force pilot has an executive MBA from the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

1980
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Richard Budd
Stefan Zavadnika 25
971 01 Prievidza, Slovak Republic
buddwick@hotmail.com

Linda A. Klein, a graduate of the Washington and Lee School of Law and chair of the American Bar Association House of Delegates, delivered this year’s commencement address during the 2012 graduation exercises at her alma mater in May. Linda is managing shareholder of the Georgia offices of Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz.

John Ottaviano writes, “On Saturday, April 21, 2012, more than 60 graduates and undergraduates from the classes of 1964 through 2014 celebrated the return of the Chi Chapter of Phi Gamma Delta to Union College. The weekend included an evening at Clinton’s Ditch in Schenectady, meetings at Abbe Hall and in Reamer Campus Center, and ended with our annual Frank Norris Pig Dinner at the River Stone Manor in Glenville. The weekend renewed old friendships and strengthened our ties to Union and our recommitment to support the new ‘Delta Colony.’ Thanks to Nick Famulare and the Office of Development, and Tim Dunn in Greek Affairs, for helping facilitate this reunion. Hopefully, this will become an annual event that will bring FIJI/Union grads back for years to come.”

1981
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Alan Saler
17040 Magnolia Boulevard
Encino, Calif. 91316
alan@alansaler.com

Barry Rosenberg writes, “In June, I graduated from the Young Presidents Organization after 15 years as a member, having held every major position in the Long Island Chapter. YPO has been an amazing experience for me and my family, making me a better business leader and a well-rounded individual. I would like to know what other Union graduates are members of either YPO or WPO. Please contact me at br@econoco.com. Also, congratulations to David Schwartz ’80 on the birth of his new baby. In attendance at the bris were Jay Gilburne, Dan and Helene Lacoff, Marty Magida, Rich Roth and Doug Spector. Finally, congratulations to the Dutchman hockey team for making the Frozen Four.”

1982
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Thomas Reynolds
3440 Powells Crossing Ct.
Woodbridge, Va. 22193

1983
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Cory Lewkowicz
74 Taylor St.
Needham, Mass. 02494
lewkowicz@aol.com

Jones Lang LaSalle recently named John Wheeler, managing director, to oversee its Lower Manhattan office. He also continues to provide brokerage and advisory services to some of the firm’s clients. John has more than 28 years of experience in all aspects of commercial real estate, including brokerage, asset management, acquisitions and property management.

1984
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kathleen Kozera Rowe
33 Fairway Ave.
Delmar, N.Y. 12054-3332

Gov. Rick Perry recently appointed Thomas Quirk to the Texas Institute of Health Care Quality and Efficiency Board of Directors. Thomas, of Dallas, is CEO of United Healthcare for Texas and Oklahoma. He is a board member of the Texas Association of Business and a member of the Texas Association of Health Underwriters. He is appointed for a term to expire Jan. 31, 2015.
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• Realize significant tax breaks, including an immediate federal deduction
• Receive the satisfaction that comes from financially supporting Union College

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Based on a $25,000 cash gift using the IRS discount rate of 1.2% for July 2012.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CONTACT:
Jacqueline Cavalier, Director of Gift Planning (518) 388-6156, or toll free (888) 843-4365 ext. 6156 cavaliej@union.edu www.union.plannedgifts.org

1985
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jon Mathewson
PO Box 1262
Middletown Springs, Vt. 05757-1262

The Weather Channel Companies recently appointed George Callard general counsel. He has been with the company since 2011, serving as senior vice president, legal and business affairs. George will lead the company’s legal team.

1986
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Phil Bean
pbean@haverford.edu

Lisa A. Freed is the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) outreach coordinator for iRobot (NASDAQ IRBT) in Bedford, Mass. iRobot has an extensive outreach program for young students interested in STEM careers and robotics, including their SPARK website. iRobot builds and designs robots that make a difference. The company’s home robots, like iRobot Roomba, help people find smarter ways to clean. Its government and industrial robots protect those in harm’s way.

1987
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Paul Malatesta
148 Washington Avenue
Chatham, N.J. 07928
paul.malatesta@gmail.com

Willis Group Holdings, the global insurance broker, recently named Adam Rosman group general counsel, overseeing worldwide legal, compliance, risk, corporate secretary, and audit functions. Adam has served as group deputy general counsel and general counsel for Willis North America for the past three years, supervising the activities of Willis’ attorneys worldwide and serving the legal needs of the North American business.

Mark Leyton recently joined Barclays in New York as a managing director. Previously, he was with Deutsche Bank’s private wealth management division, where he focused on creating customized solutions for ultra-high net worth individuals, corporate executives and professional investors.

1988
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dana Rosen Isbitts
480 Alexandra Circle
Weston, Fla. 33326
danaisbitts@myacc.net (954) 385-9827

State Education Department Commissioner John B. King Jr. recently appointed Tina Sciocchetti executive director of Test Security and Educator Integrity. She previously served as assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York. In her new role, Tina will be responsible for overseeing teacher and administrator discipline, including the department’s enforcement of...
moral character regulatory provisions that are applied when certified educators are found to have engaged in misconduct.

1989
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Stephanie Spencer Wiggs
72 Shelterwood Drive
Danville, Calif. 94506
swfcor@aol.com

Jonathan Artz writes, “On April 16, 2012 I completed my third Boston Marathon (and raised money for the Dana Farber Cancer Center for Basic Science Research). I continue to help with Union admissions by interviewing select high school students in the San Francisco Bay Area. I strongly encourage more alumni needing tourism representation for Union. For any alumni in other regions outside the Northeast to do the same to create a more diversified geographical representation for Union. For any alumni needing tourism advice who are planning to visit San Francisco or Napa Valley (wine country), you may email me at jonathan.artz@comcast.net.”

1990
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Mary Jo Burke
532 Whitcover Circle
Charlottesville, Va. 22901
mjcburke@earthlink.net

The Weather Channel Companies recently appointed Andy Miller to its board of directors.

1991
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Karen Valyou Zador
513 Stonehurst Parkway
St. Augustine, Fla. 32092
karenzador@gmail.com

Vinny Dotoli writes, “Harlem Academy, the school I helped open in 2004, graduated its first eighth grade in June, with the class earning more than $300,000 in secondary school scholarships.”

Brett R. Pasquarella writes, “Currently working on the Circuit of the Americas Formula 1 Racetrack. It is comprised of 1,000 acres and is a 3.5 mile Formula 1 Racetrack budgeted at $265 million dollars. I act as the project manager, overseeing the design of all the drainage, storm water ponds, grading, utilities and erosion controls.”

1992
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Stephanie Fray
Apartment 7 D
10 West End Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10023-7828
sfray1@gmail.com

Andrew Rosen writes, “Living with my wife, Tracy and our 2 daughters (Eliana, 7.5, and Gillian, 4) and working in Londonerry, N.H. (approximately 45 minutes north of Boston), I practice internal medicine and pediatrics for the Elliot Health System in Londonderry.”

1993
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jill Bernstein
170 E. 83rd St., #3K
New York, N.Y. 10028
jilldbernstein@yahoo.com

Meredith (Melzer) Changeux teaches high school social studies and leadership at an alternative school north of Denver, and also runs a nonprofit organization in Haiti with her husband, Rico. They house 11 children impacted by the 2010 earthquake. The kids live at the home, attend school and learn a trade in the afternoons. Check them out at thevertilehouse.org. Meredith also spends time dancing at her husband’s dance studio outside Boulder, cooking for Xavien, her son, and traveling on school breaks.

277danceproject, a contemporary dance company, recently presented Run, Run, As Fast As You Can, a new work by writer-director Stacey Cervellino. Stacey is the education director for Brave New World Studio, and has taught in various graduate and undergraduate programs in the U.S. and in the New York City School system. She received her M.F.A. in acting from Brandeis University. She writes, “I completely credit Union with my ability to produce, direct and write. When I was at Union, Barry Smith gave the student theater company a budget and treated us as if we were a small professional theater company. He encouraged us to direct, to write. It’s the reason I was able to start a successful theater company.”
Facebook/Twitter at division1specs.”

**Matthew Baumgartner** was recognized in April when Advocate.com named him to its Forty Under 40 list of “architects of the next decade.” To read the story, visit http://news.advocate.com/post/21701470227/forty-under-40

**Elissa D. Hecker** has been named chair of the Board of Directors of Dance/NYC. Dance/NYC’s mission is to bolster the support structure for dance in New York City, serving as a voice, guide, and infrastructure architect for all local dance artists and managers. More information about Elissa, her practice, and professional endeavors can be found at eheckeresq.com.

**Michael Lopushinsky** writes, “I recently started a new business, www.cigarink.com. Cigar Ink has two patents that allow us to laser engrave detailed text, logos and designs directly onto cigars and other foliage. Our customized products are perfect gifts for any cigar connoisseur or occasion—weddings, birthdays, sports tournaments, promotional marketing and fund-raising events. Check it out and get your signature smokin’!”

**1994**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Kristi Campbell & Kurt Venator
7322 Cornell Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63130
kvenator@purina.com
Kristi cell (314) 304-2323
Kurt cell (314) 982-2671

**Larry P. Cote** has joined Quarles & Brady LLP in the firm’s Washington, D.C. office as a partner in the Health Law Group. Prior to joining Quarles & Brady, he served as the associate chief counsel for the Drug Enforcement Administration’s Diversion and Regulatory Litigation Section.

**1995**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Caroline Paine Pannhorst
32 Nottingham Way North
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065
cpannhorst@msn.com

**Michael Rothstein** writes, “I started a new business venture, Miro Optix LLC. We launched our first product line last year, aptly named Division1 (Go Dutchmen Hockey!). Division1 is a sports safety eyewear line. This has been a rewarding project and we look forward to sharing it nationally and internationally. Please check us out at division1specs.com or on

**1996**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Betsy Phelps Seplowitz
104 Tompion Way
Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020
bseplowitz@yahoo.com

**David E. Fusco** writes, “After a wonderful honeymoon in Oahu and Maui with my new wife Jennifer, I decided to do something radically different. On the plane ride home I reflected my need for a lifestyle change, for 16-and-a-half years I traveled nonstop. So I returned to Boston and started Dante’s Frozen Yogurt Bar (named after my black cat). I have two stores; the first is located at 1236 Commonwealth Avenue in downtown Boston. The second is at 274 River Street, right in the heart of the Troy, New York’s historic district. My shop is completely self-serve. I use an all-natural liquid dairy product straight from a family-owned creamery and dairy farm in the Midwest. We use only fresh fruit purees and all-natural ingredients. Our product is even Kosher! If you are ever in the downtown Boston area or near Troy please come by. Or, you can visit us www.dantesfroyo.com. Just as a side note, I was working in the Boston store and walked two recent grads in their Union sweatshirts, Class of 2010. Needless to say we had a lot to talk about!”

**1997**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Sara Amann Garrand
367 Schauer Road
Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019
sgarrand1@nycap.rr.com

**Marlin & Associates**, a boutique investment banking and strategic advisory firm, recently announced that **Jonathan Kaufman** joined the firm as a partner and will open a new office in San Francisco. Jonathan has more than a decade of international experience advising firms in the technology and financial services sectors, including eight years in investment banking at UBS and Deutsche Bank.

**1998**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**

Ryan T. Smith, MBA ’00
284 Sussex Circle
Jupiter, Fla. 33458
rssmith@thebenjaminschool.org

**Amy (Rilling) Grant** recently accepted a position as a talent agent at DPN Talent located in Beverly Hills, Calif. Amy recently was employed at Aspect Ratio as an executive assistant/junior producer. She writes, “After four years of learning the ropes at Aspect Ratio, I made the jump to representing the industry’s premiere voiceover talent for movie trailer and promos at DPN Talent. I represent some of the top names, such as Ashton Smith, Howard Parker, Phil Terrence, Miguel Ferrer and John Gary, to mention a few. I have been working at DPN since October 2010 and I love it! I get to work with all of the major studios, all of the trailer houses, and the best talent. DPN has a great team and I feel like I’ve found my niche here.”
Christopher La Porta, senior client relationship manager and firm principal at Fenimore Asset Management, has earned CFP certification. As a certified financial planner, he will continue to oversee equity and fixed income portfolios for individuals and institutional investors.

1999

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kellie Forrestall
360 First St.
Lowell, Mass. 01850
forrestkj@hotmail.com

In March, Rob Senska, esquire of Martinsville, vice president of regulatory affairs and chief compliance officer at Somerset Medical Center, was named a finalist in the non-profit organization category in the 2012 “General Counsel of the Year” Awards program by NJBIZ. The award honors New Jersey’s standout general counsels, chief legal officers and corporate compliance professionals for the critical role they play in making their companies successful.

Erik España writes, ‘In June, Phi Iota Alpha fraternity brothers, family and friends gathered for a barbecue at Randall’s Island, during which a moment of silence was observed for Al Kanshaw. Al, a Phi Iota Alpha brother, passed away in May.’ Pictured above, from left to right are Jose Zayas, Izzy Garcia ’98, David Torres ’00, Carlos Caminero ’93, Danny Aguire ’95, Alfredo Guevara ’08, Julio Cedeno ’96, Erik España, Daniel Hernandez ’12, Cristian Mejia ’95, Angel Caraballo ’95, Wilson Martinez ’93, Edgar Aler ’08, Jose Hernandez ’09, Juan Jimenez ’03, Jonathan Lebron ’13, Santos Avila ’08, Frank Munoz ’96, Chris Vargas ’10, Cisco Ferrer ’06 and Junior Rivas ’14. Not pictured are Terry Scotland-Caraballo ’96, Roberto Rodriguez ’98 and Yurkis Mercedes ’01.”

2000

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Erika Newell
546 Pacific St. #2
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217
erika_newell@hotmail.com

2001

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Erin (Alon) Grogan
143 Streeter Hill Road
West Chesterfield, N.H. 03466
erinlgrogan@gmail.com

Reuel Daniels writes, ‘I relocated from Brooklyn, N.Y. to Oakland, Calif. back in October 2011 and just started a new job as program manager for the Fisherman’s Wharf Community Benefit District. I am loving my new California lifestyle and am always happy to reconnect with old friends in the Bay Area: reueldaniels@gmail.com.”

Stephen Flaherty writes, ‘It’s been a big year for me. I was married in May of 2011 and moved from Columbus, Ohio back to Boston to take a new job as the senior quality improvement analyst for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Although rugby and volunteer work still play a large role in my life, my most exciting news is that my wife Jessica and I are expecting our first child in October.”

Lee Stevens writes, ‘I moved to Boston, Mass. in September, where I obtained my license as a psychologist and taught as a visiting assistant professor of psychology at Emmanuel College. This summer, I spent the month of May in Tanzania volunteering.”

David Alperin writes, ‘I left Citibank in 2009 to start my own art gallery and retail clothing shop in Brooklyn Heights called Goose Barnacle. www.goosebarnacle.com.”

2002

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gina L. Campanella
Campanella.gina@gmail.com

Jamie Cecilia was recently named chief financial officer of Dannemora Federal Credit Union. He spent the last four years in manufacturing as the manager of financial planning and reporting at Richardson Brands Co. Prior to that, Jamie was responsible for the asset and liability management of a $1 billion credit union in Central New York.

Meghan Wood writes, ‘I have finally taken my passion for video blogging to the next level. I’ve teamed up with the guys from Think Big Work Small and my friend, Shannon Hoff, and I have started a new show called Raz Room. Raz Room is a look at real estate and mortgage industry topics. The show is hosted by Frank Garay, Brian Stevens, Shannon Hoff, and me. It’s fast-paced and typically focuses on one or two topics in a round-table fashion. We believe that having a short, healthy discussion on topics that impact our lives as real estate and lending professionals is helpful to our business and our sanity. We are here to have fun, yet be relevant, at RazRoom.com.”

Daniel Flint writes, ‘My fellow alumni, I am taking a moment to ask for your help. I am teaching in a high-poverty school in Jacksonville, Fla. My students have very little resources to use for my classes in advanced placement United States history and I have signed up with donorschoose.org. If you could help me out by donating to one of my projects that would be great, my students truly need the help. The web link is www.donorschoose.org/mr.flint.”

2003

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Katrina (Tentor) Lallier
50A Locust Street
Danvers, Mass. 01923
katrina@alumni.union.edu

Kyrie York writes, ‘I started my own consulting company, Kristopher Riley Consulting, LLC, in March 2012. The purpose is to assist aspiring and future law enforcement officers and corporate general counsels, chief legal professionals is helpful to our business and our sanity. We are here to have fun, yet be relevant, at RazRoom.com.”
officers with the hiring process, to ensure they are hired by their prospective agency. This is achieved by providing the client with written exam preparation, fitness/physical agility preparation, mock panel interviewing and various other training techniques. The secondary goal is to provide counseling to current law enforcement officials, to assist them with the mental aspects of a job that can be very hard to deal with.”

Michelle Arcuri writes, “My husband, Francis Blanchard, and I celebrated our son, Sebastian Blanchard’s, first birthday on April 15, 2012. Sebastian’s Uncle Frank Arcuri ’05 and Aunt Alicia Arcuri ’06 were there to cheer him on as he dug into his cake. I’m looking forward seeing all of my Union friends at ReUnion 2013 (if not sooner).”

2004
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Rachel Marin
rachel.marin@gmail.com
(973) 670-7692
Cassie Evans Decker and Dorothy Gamber met up in New York City on June 8, 2012. Cassie is a practicing attorney in Dallas, Texas and Dorothy is a senior associate at Vermilion Asset Management in New York City. Cassie also recently became the youngest Board of Directors member for the SPCA of Texas.

Benjamin R. Howe is on another tour in Afghanistan.

Jill Goldberg writes, “I’m loving life and living in Brooklyn, N.Y., teaching third grade at a charter school.”

Julie Cyriac writes, “I finished my residency in psychiatry at Albany Medical Center in June 2012 and I’m starting a fellowship in child psychiatry at Long Island Jewish in July. After living in Grenada, West Indies for over two years, Lindsay Haffner Eagleton and her husband, Chris, now live in Brooklyn, N.Y. Lindsay is the program director for the Manhattan based non-profit organization REACH Grenada, which is dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of vulnerable youth in Grenada. Lindsay is dedicated to spreading mindfulness and enhancing child outcomes around the world.

Kaity Elias and Dan Mehleisen got engaged in March. After living and working on Long Island for the past two years, Dan got a coaching job at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. and Kaity got a teaching job at a private high school in Avon, Conn. They moved to Avon in September and will be getting married next June in Massachusetts.

2005
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Andrea Doenges
andrea.doenges@gmail.com
Victoria Meghan Morgan Hurley, who graduated from the College of Veterinary Medicine of Michigan State University and is a veterinarian in Brockton, Mass., is engaged to Nicholas Joseph Salvatoriello ’07. Nicholas, a Sigma Chi brother while at Union, is an inbound marketing consultant at Hubspot Inc. in Cambridge. Their wedding will be held at St. Anthony’s Church in Cohasset, Mass. in June 2013.

2006
Mike Pieciak, a lawyer with the Burlington, Vt. office of Downs Rachlin Martin PLLC, is serving as campaign manager for Attorney General Bill Sorrell, who is seeking his eighth term as Vermont’s attorney general. During the 2008 election, Mike served as a Vermont delegate to the 2008 Democratic Convention and Florida Voting Rights Coordinator for the National Democratic Law Students Council.

Dr. Ronald Drusin ’62, vice dean for education at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons, was proud to see Tom Hickernell graduate from the school in May. Just before Tom earned his degree, he was diagnosed with acute promyelocytic leukemia. Tom, his family and friends have come together to raise money to benefit those affected by the disease, which has an 80-90 percent cure rate with appropriate treatment. Visit http://pages.lightthenight.org/nyc/Manhattan12/THickernell to learn more.

2007
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Nick Salvatoriello
njs@garnetriver.com

2008
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dana Cohen
480 Second Avenue, Apt. 25D
New York, NY 10016
dana.lynn.cohen@gmail.com

2009
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Gabe Kramer
123 North Arden Blvd.
Los Angeles, Cali. 90004
kramerg3@gmail.com
Carl Winkler
2232 S. Gayoso St.
New Orleans, La. 70125
carl.s.winkler@gmail.com

Reed Olsen writes, “I’m starting a farm with two close friends in Barton, Vt. This will be our first experience running our very own...”
operation and we are super-excited. If you are in the area, make a visit for some fresh tomatoes and blueberries. Check out our Kickstarter page at http://www.kickstarter.com."

Marisa Kaufman has become the deputy regional director of Senator Chuck Schumer’s Long Island Office.

Mary Roberts participated in the Planet Connections Theater Festivity this summer in New York City. The actress performed in Acts of Love, which ran at the Beeker Street Theatre House. Other projects have included her own YouTube series of cooking videos featuring easy vegetarian recipes, and public readings of original plays at the Westchester Collaborative Theater in Ossining. She also performs occasionally at Lucy’s Open Mic in Pleasantville. Mary hopes to book her first television role by the end of the year.

2010

CLASS CORRESPONDENT

Ewo Harrell
Orlando, Fla. (407) 506-3713
ewo.harrell@gmail.com

Ewo Harrell writes, “Greetings from your new correspondent for the Class of 2010. I’m looking forward to sharing your stories of how you are changing the world!”

2011

Samuel Barstow writes, “Jake Anderson and I graduated from Union last June and are now working fulltime on a startup footwear company called Forsake. Check out our project on Kickstarter.com and pre-order a pair at wholesale price!”

1968

Alain Desboudard is living in a small township about 180 miles south of Paris, France. He is retired from Pôle emploi, the French employment agency, but has remained involved in consultant activity as an international expert on job matters. Alain also notes that he enjoys growing filberts and producing an organoleptic product very much appreciated by top French cooks.

1971

Samuel Cohn, a professor of medieval history at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, is currently finishing a monograph for Cambridge University Press entitled Popular Protest in Late Medieval Towns. The author of The Black Death Transformed: Disease and Culture in Early Renaissance Europe, Sam is a dedicated runner and speaks very good Italian.

1991

Kimberly Keller Vlasseman and Patrick Vlasseman just completed their 13th year at American School of The Hague (ASH) in Wassenaar, The Netherlands. Kim teaches high school mathematics and Patrick teaches elementary school PE. Their sons, Kevin and Thomas, are entering 6th grade and 5th grade at ASH. Kim chaperoned a service trip to Tanzania in February with 24 students—fantastic! Patrick went to Tunisia for a PE conference in April. The family has travelled to Egypt, Belgium, U.S.A., Canada and The Netherlands in the past year.

2000

Sarah Robin Wright is a psychometrician at the School of Medical Sciences Education Development, Newcastle University, in the U.K. She writes, “I credit Union’s term abroad program for the reason I live here now.”

2007

Katie Matho is pursuing her Ph.D. in neuroscience at Livet Lab, part of Institut de la Vision, Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris. Institut de la Vision is one of the most important European research centers for vision maladies.

LIVE OR WORK ABROAD?

Please share your news with us for inclusion in Notes from Afar. E-mail classnotes@union.edu, we look forward to hearing from you!
1963

Clifford M. Mastrangelo married Dolly Greenwood on March 11, 2012 in Washington, D.C.

1996

David E. Fusco and Jennifer (Orban) Fusco were married at St. George's Greek Orthodox Church in Hyannis, Mass. on Cape Cod. David writes, “The ceremony consisted of a traditional Greek service (my wife’s family is from Greece) with a little bit of Italian sprinkled in for the benefit of my family and friends. The service took place on Aug. 26, 2011. My good friend Dr. Anthony Cercuone, who holds a doctor of divinity, assisted in the ceremony, making it extra special. Jennifer’s two maids of honor were her childhood best friends Jana and Lucia, and my two best men were my closest friend Demetris Papadapoulos from Cyprus and my cousin Raffaele Fusco, who lives right near Union College. Our reception was at the Willowbend Country Club in Mashpee. While we live in downtown Boston, we chose the Cape for our wedding because of the wonderful times we continue to spend there at my second home in Falmouth. Jennifer and I met at Novartis. I was an executive in human resources and Jennifer, who continues to work there, is a finance manager in Novartis’s Vaccines and Diagnostics Divisional Headquarters in Cambridge.”

1998

Amy (Rilling) Grant and Tyler Grant are happy to announce their marriage on Oct. 10, 2009 in the Barker Block, downtown Los Angeles, Calif. Amy writes, “We currently reside in Los Angeles. Kirsten (Kohn) Strickland led a beautiful meditation to kick off our ceremony and David Strickland was also in attendance. Rupert Sandes, a classmate of Tyler’s from St. Paul’s Academy, and a friend of mine from when he attended Union, was also there to share our special moment. It was a beautiful day and I wish that more Union friends had been able to make it!”

1999

James Tyner married Ashley Boland on July 16, 2011. James, a partner in the Schenectady Law Office of Mark Sacco, PLLC, a criminal defense firm, recently got an acquittal on a felony trial in Schenectady County, N.Y.

2001

Anna Sherwood married Bryan Stephan on Sept. 23, 2011 in Santa Barbara, Calif. Included in the bridal party was Reuel Daniels. The couple resides in Huntington Beach, Calif. and both work at footwear company, Vans, where Anna manages music and entertainment marketing for the brand.
2002

Joanna (Kelsey) Hennessy writes, “On May 5, 2012, I married my best friend, Stefan Hennessy, in a beautiful ceremony in Rye, N.Y. Alumni in attendance included Marisa (Marks) and Jake Gady, Alissa Schaps, Loranah (Dimant) Sklaroff and Jenn Stolzenberg. After the wedding we traveled to Bora Bora for a wonderful and relaxing honeymoon. Stefan and I reside in Greenwich, Conn. I am a group manager at Lippe Taylor, a PR firm in Manhattan, representing consumer and beauty brands. Stefan is a senior analyst at NERA Economic Consulting.”

2007


2009

Christina Dempsey and Bill Chronister were married Dec. 15, 2011 in Staatsburg, N.Y. Alumni in attendance were matron of honor Stephanie (Berlind) Zanotta, Mike Zanotta, John Costello ’08 and Jen Long.
1993

Caroline (Savage) Hampton and Karl Hampton are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Tyler. He was born on Dec. 20, 2011. They write, “We were blessed with an amazing surprise this year of another baby boy. Big brothers Corbin, 10, and Andrew, 8, are so excited and want to know when he can start playing baseball with them.”

1995

Jennifer Dominelli writes, “David and I welcomed Colette Marie Whitbeck on April 2, 2012. She weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 19 inches long. She is a bundle of joy!”

1997

David Riggi and Cindy Riggi are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Amelia Christina. She was born on Nov. 1, 2011 and weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces.

2000

Saif Madar and Miranda Madar are proud to announce the birth of their baby girl, Milena Madar. She was born on May 22, 2012 in Atlanta, Ga. and weighed 5 pounds, 6 ounces.

2002

Sara (Dietrich) McGowan and her husband Paul are thrilled to announce their new baby girl, Caroline Adams McGowan, born Aug. 22, 2011 in Boston, Mass.

Michelle (Kagan) Kagan-Sandler and Joel Sandler are proud to announce the birth of twins—two boys. They were born on Feb. 23, 2012 in New York City. August Reid weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and Jude Isaac weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces. Juliet is 3 years old and loves being a big sister!

2003

Chris Preston and Laura (DeFranco) Preston welcomed their daughter, Avery Charlotte Rogue Preston, on May 28, 2011. Avery made a speedy entrance at Prentice Women’s Hospital in Chicago. The newly expanded family resides in Kenilworth, Ill.

2004

Matthew Kronick and Mary Beth (Keiter) Kronick announce the birth of their son. Matt writes, “The baby’s name is Mason Matthew Kronick, he is named after his great-grandfather, Mason Kronick (deceased), Class of 1942. He was born on March 14, 2012 in Philadelphia and was 8 pounds, 14 ounces.”

Sarre (Gellar) Boglioli and Steve Boglioli ’03 are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Rose Boglioli, born on May 8, 2012.
1930s

Angelo J. Marotta ’37, of Whitesboro, N.Y., Oct. 31, 2011. He was 96.

Dr. Gerald C. Matura ’37, of Schenectady, N.Y., an Army veteran stationed with the 146th General Hospital in Normandy who had private practices in general medicine and cardiology before retiring in 1987, and who worked at Ellis and St. Clare’s Hospitals, April 29, 2012. He was 94.


1940s

Henry R. Grosso ’40, of Niskayuna, N.Y., a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II who earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart, and owned and operated Boulevard Rug Co. in Schenectady for more than 30 years, Feb. 26, 2012. He was 94.

Norman Diederich ’41, of St. Peters burg, Fla., an Army veteran who fought during the Battle of the Bulge and helped develop baseball leagues to occupy the troops in Germany awaiting redeployment or transport home, April 29, 2012. Norman also worked for his father’s Diederich Painting Company before retiring from Daelyte Service Company.

William E. Moore ’42, of Amsterdam, N.Y., a U.S. Air Force veteran and officer in the U.S. Military Reserves who served in the New York Guard and practiced law with the firm McKee and Moore for 47 years, Feb. 1, 2012. William, who was also the attorney for the Amsterdam Housing Authority for 25 years, was 91.

John E. MacDonald ’42, of Glenville, N.Y., who earned a Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame and worked as a nuclear physicist at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory until his retirement in 1982, May 6, 2012. John, a bagpipe enthusiast and communicant of the Church of Immaculate Conception, was 92.

Sidney J. Horton ’42, of Canandaigua, N.Y., who spent 30 years with Eastman Kodak Co. and was a member of the Free & Accepted Masons, Craftsman Robertson Lodge #0969 of Rochester, and St. John’s Episcopal Church, Dec. 22, 2011. He was 91.

Dr. Robert Merton Kohn ’43, of Tonawanda, N.Y., who served with the U.S. Army in Korea and went on to found the Cardiac Research Center at Buffalo General Medical Center, and who was lead researcher on a 1970s study that determined aspirin and persantine can help prevent heart attacks, Feb. 29, 2012. Also a founder of the health maintenance organization Independent Health, he was 90.

John Huthsteiner ’43, of Boonville, Ind., who worked at General Electric on projects that included jet engine fuel control, Navy gun directors and fire control, and Vulcan hydraulic drive before retiring in 1981, April 16, 2012. John, a member of the Empire State Aerosciences Museum and Ilion Fish and Game Club, was 91.

Everett H. McCarty ’43, of Slingerlands, N.Y. and formerly of Catskill, a World War II Army veteran who was a teacher, guidance counselor and assistant principal during his 33-year tenure with the Catskill Junior and Senior High Schools, and was a member of the New York State National Guard from 1946 until 1951, April 15, 2012. He was 88.

Robert S. White ’44, of Pittsfield, Mass., who served in the U.S. Army as a T4 instructor with Armed Forces Western Pacific and worked for General Electric, retiring from the Pittsfield Ordnance Plant as a material repair and disposition planner, Feb. 25, 2012. He was 90.

Robert G. Rolfe ’44, of Olney, Md., a watchmaker who served with the U.S. Marines during World War II and worked for more than 30 years at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory in White Oak, April 30, 2012. Robert, who helped design and test sonar defense systems for the Navy, was 90.

Charles S. Collesano ’44, of Boca Raton, Fla., a U.S. Army veteran of World War II who was captured during the Battle of Monte Cassino and was a prisoner of war for 15 months, and who survived eight German Stalags while telling prisoners about their rights under the Geneva Convention, June 11, 2012. Charles, who practiced law in Fredonia, N.Y. for 35 years and was involved with numerous civic and community organizations, was 91.

Denton H. Robinson ’45, of Bartown, Fla., who served in the U.S. Army and was an electrical engineer at General Railway Signal for 37 years, Aug. 29, 2011. He was 89.

Alfred Lewis ’45, of Saginaw, Mich., who served in World War II with the 9th Air Force in the South Pacific and was employed by Dow Corning Corp., June 2, 2011. He was 87.

William C. Holstein ’46, of Topton, Penn., an associate professor of engineering at Lafayette College who also worked for DHUy Engineering, Wiesenberger Assoc., and West and Wells Engineers designing many bridges and highway ramps in the Lehigh Valley, March 6, 2012. He was 87.

Daniel Lundquist ’46, of Annapolis, Md., who graduated from Union with a degree in electrical engineering as part of the Navy’s V-12 program, and then enjoyed a 39-year career with the Marlin Rockwell Company, March 25, 2012. He was 87.

Roger C. Van Tassel ’46, of Worcester, Mass., a professor emeritus of economics at Clark University who served in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a B-25 bomber pilot and taught cadets to fly the aircraft during World War II, March 23, 2012. Roger, who taught at Clark for 42 years and chaired its Economics Department for 21, was 87.

Charles F. MacGill ’46, of Cold Spring, N.Y., Feb. 16, 2012. He was 88.

Ross H. Spicer ’47, of Temple, Texas, a U.S. Navy veteran who spent 43 years with Southwestern Bell, and who was founder and president of the company’s subsidiary, SBC Technology Resources Inc. (now AT&T Labs), Feb. 3, 2012. He was 86.
Irving Raifman ’47, of Baltimore, Md. and Boca Raton, Fla., who earned his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from New York University and was a diplomat in clinical psychology, March 21, 2012. He was 87.

Reverend Rodney P. Scoville ’47, of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., a U.S. Army veteran of World War II who received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star and earned a master of divinity from Union Theological Seminary before becoming an elder of the Methodist Church, April 21, 2012. Rodney, who also held a master’s in social work and worked for Albany County Department of Social Services and the Family and Children’s Service of Albany, was 94.

Irving D. Karpas Jr. ’47, of Manhattan and Ridgefield, Conn., a Navy veteran of World War II who was a senior partner of the securities brokerage firm Herzfeld & Stern, and who founded The Karpas Health Information Center with his wife, Suzanne, May 12, 2012. He was 87.

Howard D. Beardmore ’48, of Key Biscayne, Fla., Jan. 20, 2012. He was 85.

Dr. Thomas S. Lynch ’48, of Little Egg Harbor, N.J. and Barnegat, N.J., who served in the U.S. Navy as a skipper of a crash boat and was a family practice physician in Decatur, Ill. and New Jersey, and who was a pioneer in the field of emergency medicine, Feb. 20, 2012. He was 87.

Hubert E. Stubbs ’49, of Mt. Prospect, Ill., who worked for Moore Business Forms in Niagara Falls before being transferred to the Chicago area, Feb. 26, 2012. He was 84.

1950s

William S. Abbott ’50, of Marcellus, N.Y., a World War II veteran and member of the Ralph Share Post 297 American Legion who worked for General Electric, Welch’s Grape Juice and Syracuse University, and was an active community volunteer, Jan. 25, 2012.

Constantine V. DiCocco ’50, of Schenectady, N.Y., a World War II veteran and recipient of the Purple Heart for his service in the Normandy Campaign who worked for the Department of Defense for nearly 30 years, Jan. 25, 2012. He was 86.

Howard Allen Hirsch ’50, of Boca Raton, Fla., a licensed New York State real estate broker, and CEO/COO of Padar Realty Company and Andros Realty Company, who was known for his philanthropic endeavors, March 22, 2012. He was 83.

Warren Hugh “Skip” Moles ’50, of Flemington, N.J., an active member of Calvary Baptist Church and the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen who worked for NBC Television in New York before retiring from RCA Labs in Princeton, Jan. 9, 2012. He was 85.

John C. Printon ’50, of Ancram, N.Y., who served in the U.S. Navy, worked as a bond trader on Wall Street and co-founded Printon, Kane and Company, a bond trading firm, May 15, 2012. John, who served on the board of governors of the NASD and was chairman of its New York district, was 84.

Dr. John C. Maisel ’53, of Durango, Colo., who served in the U.S. Navy as a medical doctor and was a pathologist
Richard J. “Dick” Killeen ’51, a tireless champion of Union College and a fixture at alumni events, died May 23, 2012 at his home in Saratoga Springs. He was 84.

A Schenectady native, he enrolled at Union after serving with the U.S. Army in the Pacific and Japan. While a student, he played basketball and worked as a draftsman for General Electric. He earned a degree in economics.

He had a 40-year career with New York Telephone and NYNEX, rising through the management ranks until he retired as corporate executive director of administration and personnel in 1990. He was active in a number of service organizations including United Way, Boy Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, YMCA, Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

He was the New York City chairman for the Treasury Department’s savings bond campaign.

As an alumnus, he rarely missed a ReUnion or Homecoming. He organized events both on- and off-campus, and with his late wife, Patricia, hosted a number of them. He was a diligent organizer and fundraiser whose infectious enthusiasm helped set records for attendance and dollars raised. He was chair of the Garnet Guard, an association of alumni who have celebrated their 50th ReUnion, and served this magazine as the group’s correspondent.

Survivors include three children, Jeffrey, Richard and Susan. His wife, Patricia, died on Jan. 18, 2012. They had been married 64 years.

Memorial donations may be made to the Richard J. Killeen ’51 Endowed Scholarship at Union College, Schenectady, N.Y. 12308; or Community Hospice of Saratoga, 179 Lawrence St., Saratoga Springs, N.Y. 12866.

at Porter Hospital in Denver, Phoenix Baptist Hospital in Phoenix, and Mercy Regional Medical Center in Durango, March 10, 2012. He was 80.

Saul A. Babbin ’55, of Westerly, R.I., April 4, 2012. He was 77.

William J. Browne ’56, of Hanover, Penn., who retired from the Social Security Administration after 34 years and was an avid sports fan, Feb. 8, 2012. He was 78.

Lothrop Smith ’56, of Dennis, Mass., an Eagle Scout who served in the U.S. Air Force, worked for more than 30 years at NET & T, was a volunteer naturalist at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History and volunteered in many other capacities, March 31, 2012. He was 77.

Howard L. Goldstock ’57, of Niskayuna, N.Y. and Boca Raton, Fla., who flew jets for the U.S. Marine Corps, owned Goldstock’s Sporting Goods for 30 years, was a 32nd degree Mason, and helped found the Freihofer’s Run for Women, March 13, 2012. Howard, who also served as project development director for the Albany Airport Authority and was a member of the Ellis Hospital board of directors, was 77.

Gary W. LaVigne ’59, of Wimberley, Texas, who served in the Air Force Reserves; taught speech and drama at all levels; had a successful acting career, from musicals to commercials; and who founded The Naples Players Children’s Dramatic Academy (now Kidz Act), Feb. 24, 2012. Gary, whose performances took him from the Dallas Theatre Center to Off Broadway and Lincoln Center, was 75.

Dr. Peter Frosch ’59, of Niskayuna, N.Y., who earned a physical chemistry doctorate from California Institute of Technology, was professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley, and also Union College, and retired from Vorhees Computing Center, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, as a consultant, died May 15, 2011. Peter’s father Carl ’29, daughter Maria ’04 and son-in-law Grant Lanterman ’03 are also alumni. He was a superb gardener and had 48 different vegetables and many flowers in his garden, and was an American Chemical Society member.

1960s

Thorne Scott Foster ’60, of La Quinta, Calif. and Bend, Ore., who was an executive recruiter and operated his own firm in San Francisco, Jan. 12, 2012. He was 73.

Joseph R. Buckley ’60, of Kingston, N.Y., a member of Saint Joseph’s Catholic Church who spent 32 years with IBM’s Kingston Development Laboratory, retiring in 1991 as a senior engineer, April 9, 2012. He was 74.

G. John Potter Jr. ’61, of Warrensburg, N.Y., a certified insurance counselor and partner in Potter Insurance Agency; Potter, Robinson & Boothby Agency, which merged into Community Insurance, Feb. 11, 2012. He was 72.


Thad P. Zaleskiewicz ’61, of Greensburg, Pa., a professor at the University of Pittsburgh...
at Greenburg who earned degrees from Dartmouth College, Brown University and the University of Pittsburgh, and was a member of many organizations, including the Blessed Sacrament Cathedral and American Association of Physics Teachers, April 23, 2012. He was 73.

Charles M. Welden ’63, of Little Falls, N.Y., who taught science in the Greenville Central School District for 28 years and was serving as Danube town supervisor, May 9, 2012. Charles, who was 71, was also a member of St. John’s Reformed Church, where he served as treasurer.

Carl L. Shepard ’64, of Johnstown, N.Y., who worked with GTE for many years as an engineer, and was a member of the Adirondack Velo Club and a ham radio operator, March 29, 2012. He was 70.

James B. Stillman Jr. ’69, of Shelburne, Vt., a CPA and former radio personality who was past president of the board of directors at Howard Mental Health, and was an active volunteer, March 14, 2012. He was 64.

1970s


Michael J. Orteleva ’71, of Saratoga Springs, N.Y., who served three campaigns with the Army in the European Theatre during World War II, achieving the rank of master sergeant, and who owned the Ballston Spa Food Market with his brothers from 1938 until 1972, Feb. 28, 2012. A member of American Legion Post 234, he was 95.

RICHARD M. HAMIL 73

Richard M. Hamill ’73, an adjunct professor in Union’s Psychology Department for the last three years, died May 20, 2012. He was 59.

A resident of Guilderland, N.Y., Richard taught a popular course in forensic psychology and was dedicated to his students inside the classroom and outside it, mentoring several through research projects and internships.

During his own education, Richard earned a degree in psychology at Union before securing a master’s degree from Harvard University and a Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Albany in 1984.

He went on to found the Forensic Mental Health Associates, which he directed for 30 years. He was also a consultant to St. Anne Institute and was a leader in the creation and management of numerous community task forces and service programs, including the START Children’s Center and the NYS Alliance for Sex Offender Service Providers.

Richard, a gardener, Red Sox fan, jazz devotee and connoisseur of Scotch whiskey, was also an adjunct professor at Sage College.

He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Bianca Schaefer Ph.D., and his daughters Lillian ’13 and Audra Hamill.

Thomas L. Hesnor ’76, of Loudonville, N.Y., who served with the Navy aboard the USS New Jersey, BB62 during the Vietnam War and worked for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation before founding the Hesnor Engineering Company, May 29, 2012. He was 65.

Franco Ariemma ’77, of Schenectady, N.Y., a civil engineer who spent 30 years designing bridge facilities and retired in 2000 from the Geotechnical Bureau of the New York State Department of Transportation, Feb. 19, 2012. He was 69.

Jonathan Margolis ’78, of Carmel Valley, Calif., who was a member of Low, Ball & Lynch law firm before founding his own practice in 2005 as a special master, mediator and arbitrator, April 22, 2011. He was 54.

1990s

Suzanne Donahue ’94, of Charlestown and Scituate, Mass., who had a successful career in the financial services industry and was active with the Big Sister organization and the Melanoma Foundation of New England, May 21, 2012. She was 40.

Capt. Aslan H. “Al” Kanshaw ’99, of Norwalk, Conn., a U.S. Marine from 1998-2006 who served during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and received many medals and honors for his service, May 19, 2012. Al, a member of Phi Iota Alpha during his Union days who was working as a project manager for Affinion Group, was 34.
John Sciortino ’81, an alumni trustee and attorney in the Rochester, N.Y. area, died March 12, 2012.

Born in Buffalo, he was raised in Schenectady, graduating from Mohonasen High School in 1977. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Union, and a J.D. from Albany Law School.

He was a founding partner of Segar & Sciortino, a law firm specializing in representing injured workers and their families. He was president of the New York State Injured Workers’ Bar Association, a founding member of the Board of Governors of the New York Injured Workers’ Alliance, and founding member and former State Co-Chair of the New York Workers’ Compensation Alliance. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire Memorial, a not-for-profit that awards scholarships to children of injured workers.

As an alumnus, he was active as an admissions volunteer, class head agent for the Annual Fund, Alumni Council representative, Alumni Council president and alumni member of Phi Delta Theta.

Active in his community, he served a number of non-profits, including the St. Joseph’s Catholic Church of Penfield, Seniorsfirst Communities & Services, and Wakan-Hubbard Lodge No. 154 F. & A.M.

Survivors include his wife, Michele (Hudson ’84) Sciortino, and daughter, Andrea. Memorial contributions may be made to the College.

Members of the Union community mourned the loss of Professor Emeritus William C. Aubrey, who helped establish the College’s Mechanical Engineering Department. He died May 3, 2012 at the age of 87.

Prof. Aubrey, who lived in Mayfield, N.Y. and Punta Gorda, Fla. was with the College from 1955 until his retirement in 1989.

A native of Hudson Falls, he served as a pilot in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He held a bachelor’s degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a master’s in engineering from Union.

He joined the College’s fledging Mechanical Engineering department after a position at General Electric.

Described at his retirement by colleague Gardner Ketchum as “energetic, eager and enthusiastic,” Aubrey arrived as the new department had begun to expand its laboratories. “Bill’s spirit and ability rapidly filled that need admirably,” Ketchum said. “He brought the same kind of enthusiasm and ability to the classroom.”

He played the viola and sang in church choirs in New York and Florida. He was an honorary member of the Mayfield Yacht Club. Bill enjoyed sailing, kayaking, Union sports, golf and time with his grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of nearly 47 years, Margaret Ellis Aubrey; a son, William C. Aubrey II ’68; and three daughters, Jennifer Peterson, Amy Wnuk and Beth (Aubrey ’90) Stephan.
t may be the most recognizable 24 notes in music. Played at funerals, and wreath-laying and memorial services, the military bugle call known simply as Taps was first sounded in July 1862.

Yet the tale of who gave life to Taps and how it became embedded in American culture has not always been harmonious. Over the years, various stories have circulated about the bugle call’s origins. But there’s little doubt the credit for Taps rests largely with Daniel Butterfield, a member of Union’s Class of 1849.

While serving as a general during the Civil War, Butterfield didn’t like the traditional bugle call that marked the day’s end. So with the help of his brigade’s bugler, Butterfield tweaked another call no longer in use. The eloquent and haunting sound quickly spread to other units and became the new standard.

Butterfield was not one to toot his own horn, however, so it would be decades before his role was revealed. And this happened only by chance after a magazine article about bugle calls a few years before Butterfield’s death failed to acknowledge his contribution.

In August 1898, Century Magazine published an article, “The Trumpet in Camp and Battle.” The author made note of Taps, but admitted he wasn’t sure who was responsible for the now-accepted call to close a soldier’s day.

A former bugler during the war, Oliver Willcox Norton, saw the article and wrote to the magazine. Norton described Butterfield, a general for the Union Army who led his brigade in the Peninsular Campaign at Harrison’s Landing in Virginia.

Unhappy with Extinguish Lights, the traditional French call sounded at the end of the day, Butterfield tapped Norton, the brigade’s bugler, to help him play something different. Together, the two men created a new call, adapted from an older one familiar to Butterfield, Tattoo. Butterfield directed Norton to sound the new call that July night in 1862.

“The music was beautiful on that still summer night, and was heard far beyond the limits of our brigade,” Norton recalled. “The next day I was visited by several buglers from neighboring brigades, asking for copies of the music, which I gladly furnished.”

The magazine tracked down Butterfield in Cold Spring, N.Y. He confirmed the gist of Norton’s account.

The old call “did not seem to be as smooth, melodious and musical as it should be,” Butterfield said.

Although Taps was in heavy rotation since its debut in 1862, the U.S. Army continued to refer to the call as Extinguish Lights in its manuals until 1891, when it was officially changed. And why was it changed to Taps? It refers to the three distinct drum taps at four-count intervals at the end of the call.

Despite the magazine story, Butterfield continued to suffer slights, intentional or not. Stories shared about the origin of Taps failed to mention him. The most popular telling involved a young man from the North who was killed fighting for the South during the Civil War. When his father, a captain in the Union Army, came across his son’s body on the battlefield, he found the notes to Taps in the boy’s pocket. A general ordered the call be played at the funeral.

And two monuments to Butterfield contain no reference to Taps. One is Butterfield’s ornate tomb at West Point. Butterfield never attended the academy but was buried there because of his heroics during the Civil War. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his military service. The other monument is a bronze statue of Butterfield that stands in Sakura Park in Manhattan, near Grant’s Tomb.

At Union, Butterfield was a member of the Sigma Phi fraternity. He stayed connected with the College for the remainder of his life, establishing a course of 30 lectures given by many prominent figures of the day, including Andrew Carnegie, General P.S. Michie and Butterfield’s classmate, Frederick Seward (son of William Henry Seward). Butterfield Hall opened to the Chemistry Department in 1918.

More recently, the College honored him with a series of events marking the 150th anniversary of Taps.

On Saturday, May 19 (Armed Forces Day)—during ReUnion—the College hosted a brass band concert. The 15-piece band, comprised of faculty, students and members of the local Signature Brass Quintet, was led by Jari Villanueva, a retired Air Force veteran and author of Twenty-Four Notes That Tap Deep Emotions: The History of America’s Most Famous Bugle Call. Villanueva, president of Taps 150, also gave a talk on Butterfield May 18.

Butterfield was 69 when he died in 1901. Taps was sounded at his funeral.
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