A plan, a campus, a legacy

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A plan, a campus, a legacy
When a little-known French architect meets the young and ambitious president of a growing college, the result is an enduring vision for a campus and a model for American higher education. This year we celebrate the bicentennial of Joseph Ramée’s design of the Union campus.

Can fungi replace plastics?
Maybe, if Ecovative Design has its way
Fungi are an often overlooked group of organisms that could revolutionize the packing industry, making it so green every product would be 100-percent biodegradable. At least, if those products are made of fungi—by Ecovative Design—they will be. With the help of Union faculty and students, this company is determined to supplant plastic packing material.

A monumental achievement:
You are Union campaign completed
Union College reached its ambitious $250-million campaign goal in November, and surpassed it by the time the campaign officially closed at the end of December. This impressive accomplishment, made possible by so many generous alumni and friends, has propelled the College to even greater academic heights, and will ensure Union’s future continues to be bright.
A Celebration of Vision and Stewardship

STEPHEN C. AINLAY, Ph.D.

T

his year, we celebrate the 200th anniversary of our campus design. As the story in this issue on the anniversary makes clear, we also celebrate the vision of President Eliphalet Nott and architect Joseph Ramée. What a partnership!

I hope that we will also celebrate those other stewards of our campus who, over the years, attempted to preserve the qualities of the Nott/Ramée design while expanding campus facilities and engaging in a kind of architectural dialogue with the cultural influences of their day. I hope that we will celebrate, for example, the contributions of Edward Tuckerman Potter, who used the original Ramée drawings to design the President’s House that graces the southern edge of campus and who amended the original concept for the circular building at the center of campus to create the Nott Memorial—widely regarded as one of our campus treasures.

I hope that we will celebrate the architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White, which not only gave us Memorial Chapel but which served as our architectural consultants for over a half century. I hope we will celebrate the architectural firm of George B. Post and Sons, which gave us Alumni Gymnasium—a distinctive building to be sure, yet clearly in conversation with the historic campus center. And, I hope we celebrate the work of architect Charles Kirby and other talented designers from the firm Einhorn, Yafee and Prescott (EYP). They integrated the Ramée/Nott vision into their design for our remarkable Peter Irving Wold Center, while achieving LEED Gold status—the first building on our campus to do so.

These architectural stewards kept our campus current while retaining the qualities that make it so memorable and special.

Did Ramée and Nott know that in creating their comprehensive campus master plan they would capture the hearts and minds of those who come to work, live and study at Union? Let me offer three measures of its success in doing just this.

First, I recently established a public figure Facebook page (President Ainlay) that allows people to follow my comings and goings. I am struck by the fact that I get the most “likes” whenever I post a picture of campus buildings and especially the Nott Memorial. Second, our Vice President for Admissions and Financial Aid, Matt Malatesta, assures me that we most often yield a prospective student if he or she visits the Union campus—surely a telling sign of the way in which the Nott/Ramée design continues to inspire today. Third, I am struck by the fact that today’s students, and alumni who walked the campus years before them, agree that the campus has an emotional hold on them that defies explanation.

As President, I feel a special responsibility to steward this remarkable campus. We have taken administrative steps to ensure that the historic center of Union remains intact. We have established an effective deferred maintenance plan that restores and maintains our buildings and grounds. We have prioritized building and renovation projects that preserve what’s special about Union’s campus architecture, while creating new opportunities for our students. Importantly, we also have a dedicated staff working in Facilities and Grounds who understand the historic significance of Union College and who lovingly care for its remarkable campus.

Yes, this is a year to celebrate and I hope you will find reasons to return to campus to remind yourself of the genius of the Ramée/Nott campus design and of the remarkable work of those other stewards of their design, who added and improved while paying homage to the original vision for our academic village. Perhaps you’ll choose to attend the alumni symposium and learn more. Perhaps you’ll come to ReUnion in May, when we’ll dedicate the new Henle Dance Pavilion. Or perhaps you’ll just pick a free weekend to come back home. Whatever the occasion, I’d urge you to come back, bask in the architectural glory of Union College, and remember the special hold this campus has on you.
THANK YOU FOR TAPS

The article (fall 2012) about General Daniel Butterfield was a joy to read. As an avid genealogist and unofficial historian for the Hodges line, I’ve learned that five family ancestors served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Three contracted dysentery, which eventually cost them their lives. One, George Hodges, died of a gunshot to the head in the 2nd battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. So Civil War history and Taps have deep personal meaning.

I was also very proud to learn that a Union man was instrumental in the creation of Taps. And my pride in Union is enhanced by the knowledge that Daniel Butterfield was a member of the first national fraternity in the U.S., Sigma Phi Society, as was I.

As a chemistry major, I also attended classes in Butterfield Hall. Never did I know that the building was named for General Butterfield. The beautiful music he composed has always touched me deeply. Now, for the rest of my life, the captivating strains of Taps will take on a whole new significance. Thank you.

Robert J. Hodges Sr. ’56, Ph.D.
Forked River, N.J.

REMEMBERING PROF. AUBREY

I read with sadness the article on the passing of Prof. William C. Aubrey. My father, Prof. Ingo Maddaus Jr., was on Bill’s master’s degree review committee and they were lifelong friends.

I was a student in his thermodynamics and experimental methods classes, and his laboratory assistant. Bill was energetic, eager and enthusiastic. To students, he was empathetic, helpful and approachable, as well as a bit of a character.

In 1988, Bill asked me on short notice to teach a fluid mechanics course in the evening division. There were no course notes, and the textbook was unfamiliar. Tempted to decline, I accepted out of gratitude for his contributions to my education. His influence as a mentor served me well in my career as manager of gas and steam turbine test programs for General Electric. The ready availability of mentors like Bill to share interests and build a solid career is one positive aspect of a Union College education.

I am still active in my career, spanning 45 years of work in the energy field, have an interest in music as a student of classical guitar, and am looking forward to future challenges. I will never forget the role Bill played in my life.

Alan Maddaus ’67
Vischer Ferry, N.Y.

Correction:
A story about the Mohawk Watershed Symposium on p. 7 of the recent President’s Report should have included a photo of Assemblyman Peter Lopez of Schoharie, the keynote speaker. Pictured was Congressman Paul Tonko, who also participated.
O Canada! President returns to his roots

For one weekend in July, the tiny village of Brussels in Huron County, Ontario, felt like Ainlayville again.

Union President Stephen C. Ainlay and his wife, Judith, joined with residents to help celebrate the 140th anniversary of the village’s official incorporation. Ainlay served as grand marshal of the homecoming parade.

It was Ainlay’s great-great grandfather, William, who in 1854 purchased 200 acres of land near the Maitland River. An enterprising surveyor for the Canada Company, William Ainlay mapped out a plot that he called “Ainlayville.” By the time the railroad arrived in 1872, William Ainlay’s dream had been incorporated as a village and renamed Brussels.

Event organizers were thrilled to have a descendant of William Ainlay in their midst. Stephen’s father, Charles, served as grand marshal for the 125th anniversary.

All it took was a common bond of hockey—a sport big in Brussels and on Union’s campus.

During the men’s hockey team’s march to the Frozen Four in Tampa last April, Ainlay got to know the parents of Union’s star forward Jeremy Welsh (now with the NHL’s Carolina Hurricanes).

Welsh’s mother, Doreen, grew up in Brussels and she and the Ainlays shared stories of the village’s history. Her sister, Sharon, who still lives in Brussels, tipped event organizers to the Ainlay connection.

“It was very, very special for us to have Stephen and Judith accept our invitation to attend,” said Bob Richmond, co-chair of the homecoming committee. “We didn’t know if they would, because it’s not like we are just around the block. But we are so grateful they did. They were very well-received.”

While there, the Ainlays dined with the locals and spent time in Brussels Ballpark, which was built on land donated by William Ainlay.

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Periods of rain failed to dampen the spirits of the record 1,600 alumni, parents and friends who visited campus for Homecoming and Family Weekend in October. Festivity highlights included:

- The inaugural Tour of Historic Union, which showcases the importance of Union’s grounds as the first campus developed with a comprehensive plan. The tour visited each building on Joseph Ramee’s original plan, including the six that the French architect personally designed.
- The dedication of Lamont House, which recently underwent a $1.7 million renovation. Lamont is now the new home for the departments of Anthropology, Classics and Philosophy and the Religious Studies program.
- Groundbreaking for the Wicker Wellness Center, a two-story, 6,660-square-foot building that should be completed in time for the fall 2013 term.

The lead gift for the new facility, to be located adjacent to Alumni Gym, comes from longtime College benefactor William M. Wicker ’71 and his wife, Pamela.

The first floor of the $2.3 million building will be occupied by Health Services, offering treatment for illness and injury, gynecological and women’s health care, vision tests and physical exams. Health Services handles nearly 4,000 student visits in an academic year.

In addition, The Eppler-Wolff Center for Psychological Services—supported by Nancy Eppler-Wolff ’75 and her husband, John H. Wolff—will be housed on the building’s second floor. It will provide confidential individual counseling, couples counseling and roommate conflict mediation. Thirty-five percent of Union’s students use the counseling center by the time they are seniors, and the existing center in Silliman Hall accommodated more than 2,000 individual appointments last year.

Other wellness center donors include Norman A. Lasda ’69, Charles M. Wilson and Amy Bermingham (parents of Jack Wilson ’14), Mr. and Mrs. Ronald DePoalo (parents of Daniel DePoalo ’14) and Dr. and Mrs. Marlon S. Rosenbaum (parents of Elliott Rosenbaum ’15).

A number of alumni were recognized during Homecoming, including Nancy Eppler-Wolff ’75, Jeffrey Fransen ’03 and Michael Newell ’74.

A former trustee, Eppler-Wolff received the Distinguished Service Award for her steadfast commitment and strong leadership. A founder of the Fighting Dutchmen Gridiron Club who is finishing his term as an alumni trustee, Newell was honored with the Alumni Special Appreciation Award for his service and unwavering loyalty to the College. And Fransen, an active member of the New York City alumni club’s board, received the Alumni Rising Star Award for exemplary volunteerism and enthusiastic dedication to Union.

“On behalf of College Relations, I want to say thanks to our alumni, parents and friends who made this one of our most successful Homecoming and Family Weekends,” said Marna Redding, director of Alumni Affairs.

To read more about the Wellness Center or Homecoming, visit www.union.edu/news.
A call to embrace Union’s historic campus

In the early 19th century, not long into a college presidency that would stretch to 62 years, Eliphalet Nott wanted to expand Union’s campus to fulfill his vision of a family-like community. So he turned to a visiting French architect, Joseph Ramée, to create a community of scholars “separated from the great world.”

The result was a sweeping design that, at the time, was the most ambitious and innovative plan for an American college or university.

As Union prepares to celebrate the upcoming 200th anniversary of Ramée’s plan, President Stephen C. Ainlay focused on the architect’s vision and its continuing impact on the campus during his remarks at Convocation in September.

“The Ramée design for Union was a complex work and incorporated buildings, large green spaces, and gardens,” that drew national attention, he said. “Ramée, working in concert with Eliphalet Nott, saw an opportunity to do something that had never been done before and in the process transformed the landscape of American higher education.”

“I would urge you all to walk our historic campus and see it anew,” Ainlay continued. “Appreciate the way in which this campus embraces you. I recently walked the campus with two long-time friends who have seen many campuses over the course of their academic careers. They remarked, ‘This is what a college campus should look like.’ That observation is as true today as it was 200 years ago.”

Also at Convocation, Therese A. McCarty, the Stephen J. and Diane K. Ciesinski Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented the Stillman Prize for Excellence in Teaching to Eshragh (Eshi) Motahar, associate professor of economics. The annual prize was created by David I. Stillman ’72, Abbott Stillman ’69 and Allan Stillman in honor of Abraham Stillman, father and grandfather.

And Warren Thompson ’15 received the Hollander Prize in Music, established by Lawrence J. Hollander, dean of engineering emeritus. He performed on flute Mozart’s Andante C Major, K. 315, accompanied on piano by Palmyra Catravas, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering.

For more on Convocation, visit www.union.edu/news
Sunny L. Solomon II recently joined Union as director of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

“I’ve been very impressed by the amount of Union pride I’ve encountered, and the level of positive fraternity/sorority student involvement on campus is a great bonus,” he said. “The best part of my job so far has been the welcoming environment here.”

Solomon holds a B.S. in business administration and marketing from Cheyney University of Pennsylvania and an M.S. in college student affairs from Eastern Illinois University. He has also presented at national and regional conferences, including the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors Annual Meeting and the Northeast Greek Leadership Association conference, with a focus on appropriate advising techniques.

Previously, Solomon was a Greek assistant at Eastern Illinois University and coordinator of Student Involvement & Greek Life at the University of Alabama—Birmingham. Most recently, he served three years as assistant director of Greek Life at SUNY Binghamton, where he advised 56 fraternity and sorority chapters and managed a budget over $60,000.

In addition to working with students, Solomon enjoys music and visiting different parts of the world.

“I love music; it is very soothing for me after a long day, so I try to fit it into my daily relaxation activities,” he said. “I also love to travel, and in 2013 I’m looking to take a couple of weeks and venture outside of the U.S.”

Solomon is a 2001 initiate of the Gamma Omega chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., and served as a chapter advisor for his fraternity from 2006 to 2008. He is a member of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.
Gail C. Glover joined Union in October as senior director of communications and marketing. She succeeds Jill Hungsberg, who resigned to return to her native Indiana.

Glover will oversee the Office of Communications, whose responsibilities include media and public relations, publications, the magazine, the College’s website and the Chronicle, a weekly newsletter.

She has more than 20 years of experience as a public and media relations professional, including the last 13 years at the State University of New York at Binghamton. She held a number of public relations positions at Binghamton, most recently as the senior director of media and public relations.

“I am delighted to be part of the Union College community and work with a team of talented communications and marketing professionals,” Glover said. “For over 200 years, Union has defined and redefined liberal arts education, setting the standard for academic excellence in the 21st century. I am looking forward to helping the College build on that reputation and achieve the recognition it deserves.”

At Binghamton, Glover has overseen the university’s crisis management efforts, social media activities, video initiatives, community relations and advocacy communications.

She holds a bachelor’s in applied social sciences and a master’s in social sciences, both from Binghamton.

Eddie Daniels, a former South African freedom fighter and prisonmate of Nelson Mandela, delivered a talk, “There and Back: One Man’s Story of Apartheid,” in October as part of the Presidential Forum on Diversity series. Daniels was involved with the Liberal Party’s African Resistance Movement, which sabotaged government utilities in an attempt to destabilize the apartheid government. In 1964, he was caught and incarcerated for 15 years at Robben Island, notorious for its brutal living conditions. For more, visit www.union.edu/news
Journalist Kate Bolick speaks on gender roles

Union rallies for Hurricane Sandy victims, collecting donations and goods

Building Our Third Century

Trustees create scholarship to honor the Ainlays

In appreciation of their efforts in Union’s largest and most comprehensive fundraising campaign, the Board of Trustees at Union has endowed a $1 million scholarship in honor of President Stephen C. Ailay and his wife, Judith Gardner Ailay.

The announcement, made in October, came just as the historic $250-million You are Union campaign concluded.

Trustees decided to designate $1 million from the school’s endowment to create the scholarship in recognition of the Ainlay’s leadership and commitment in helping the College reach its fundraising goal. The Ainlays have been personally involved in securing many of the major gifts since Ailay took the helm at Union in 2006.

For more on the scholarship, visit www.union.edu/news. Additional campaign details are available on pages 15–19.

Union revives honor code

After almost 100 years, Union College has reinstated its honor code.

Initial conversations to revive the system began back in 2006. These culminated in 2011 when groups representing faculty, students and administrators decided an honor code would support the College’s mission and vision of developing students as engaged, innovative and ethical contributors to society.

Under the code, which establishes a student-led honor council to hear cases of possible academic dishonesty, all forms of duplicity—from plagiarism to falsifying data—are prohibited.

“Our is an honor code based on a student pledge and an honor court in which students hold peers accountable for following their pledge that, ‘as part of a community that values intellectual effort, curiosity and discovery, they are obligated to act with full academic honesty,’” said Robert Baker, the William D. Williams Professor of Philosophy; director of the Ethics Across the Curriculum Program; and chair of the honor code committee.

For more information on the code, visit http://muse.union.edu/honorcode/

PLANNED GIFTS

A bequest distribution was received from the estate of Raymond N. Collins ’47. This gift was unrestricted and will be used at the discretion of the trustees. An electrical engineer with General Electric, he most recently lived in Oklahoma City, Okla.

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

A bequest distribution was received from the estate of George W. Clark ’42. Added to earlier distributions, this gift will be added to the George W. Clark, Class of 1942, Endowed Scholarship. Dr. Clark practiced medicine in Chazy, N.Y. for more than five decades.

For the establishment of the Calvin G. Schmidt ’51 Endowed Student Employment Fund, a bequest distribution was received from the estate of Calvin G. Schmidt, registrar emeritus. Cal was registrar at Union for more than 25 years.

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 Florence Judkins. This gift will be added to the Ernest L. and Florence L. Judkins Annual Scholarship.

A bequest distribution was received from the estate of Ellis W. Trombley ’34. This gift, along with earlier distributions, will support The Peter Irving Wold Center.

An unrestricted bequest was received from the estate of Barbara Groundwater. Barbara was the widow of Robert E. Groundwater ’43.

POOLED LIFE INCOME FUNDS

Distributions were received from the following estates:

• Lyall Dean ’43. Mr. Dean was a longtime mathematics teacher, a volunteer for the Union Admissions Office, and a former member of the Alumni Council. The proceeds from this gift are unrestricted.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A charitable gift annuity was established by Peter R. ’54 and Winifred L. Mund. Ultimately, the proceeds from this gift will be unrestricted.
When a little-known French architect meets a young and ambitious college president, the result is a vision for a campus and a model for American higher education.

A fortunate meeting
David Parish, if not realistic about his chances of building an empire in the hardscrabble frontier of northern New York, was honorable enough to ensure that a struggling young designer had work.

With a fortune made in European banking and shipping, the Belgian financier had acquired thousands of acres along the St. Lawrence River, including the town of Ogdensburg. Parish had grand plans, first for an estate and ultimately a city. He began building his mansion in 1809, and three years later sent for an avant-garde French architect, Joseph Ramée, to design his dream. With Ramée came the architect’s wife and young son.

But there were many obstacles—the War of 1812, a trade embargo with Canada, an economic collapse and a labor shortage—that would combine to thwart Parish’s dream.

So, in January of 1813, no doubt feeling guilty, Parish brought Ramée and his family to Philadelphia in search of work. The cold and snowy trip, largely by sleigh, included a stop in Schenectady. Here Parish introduced the architect to a young and energetic college president who was set to launch the ambitious expansion of a college not yet two decades old.

Since assuming the presidency of Union in 1804, Eliphalet Nott had sought more room for the College. Housed in a cramped stone building known as (old) West College at the eastern edge of town, it
was none other than John Howard Payne, Class of 1812, and author of “Home Sweet Home,” who likely captured the sentiments of his classmates when he wrote, “Union College is built on the worst swamp in America.”

In 1806, Nott and the trustees had begun to acquire land on Nistiquona Hill a half mile east of the edge of the settlement. When Ramée first visited, with only Terrace Wall and the foundations of North and South Colleges in place, there was little to suggest that the small rise overlooking Schenectady would become a college, much less one of the most innovative, recognized and influential campuses in college America.

Nott commissioned Ramée to do the campus design for a total of $1,500 paid in three installments between June 1813 and March 1815. Ramée worked mainly in Philadelphia, where he spent most of his four years in America, shipping drawings to Nott as they were produced. Ramée returned to campus in May of 1813 during the construction of North and South Colleges, and may have returned again in 1814.

Nott and Ramée apparently got along well, their lack of a common language notwithstanding; Ramée apparently spoke little or no English, but Parish—as evidenced by the letters he wrote to Nott on behalf of the designer—filled the roles of interpreter and promoter, said architectural historian Paul V. Turner ’62.

On March 17, 1813, just two months after introducing Nott to Ramée, a grateful Parish wrote to Nott: “... it gives me much pleasure to hear that the acquaintance you made with my friend, Mr. Ramée, has fully justified the opinion I expressed and entertain of his taste and talents.” Parish went on to report that Ramée was engaged with “plans for a Central Building and also a sketch of the whole Plan including a disposition of all the buildings and of the grounds.”

Together, a campus

“In American architecture, Ramée’s Union College plan is important for introducing a new type of planning, involving many buildings related in complex ways to each other and to the surrounding landscape,” wrote architectural historian Paul V. Turner ’62 in his book, Joseph Ramée. “It is also a milestone in the history of the American college campus. The most ambitious and comprehensive plan for a campus up to that time, the Union design became a model for collegiate planning.”

Nott had grand ideas for a family-like campus in which students would readily interact with the president, faculty and their families. But it was Ramée who helped make the campus a distinctly new college model for post-Revolutionary America.

Ramée’s plan shows a broad courtyard with facing mirror-like buildings north and south connected by arcades to a building at the east end and a
large round building at the center. Symbolically, the campus is open toward the expanding western frontier. On the periphery are informal landscaped grounds in the style of parks and gardens.

Ramée’s plan was unique at the time, in large part because he considered more than architecture, Turner said. With a background as a landscape designer, he considered all of Union’s grounds including lawns, plantings, gardens and parks.

Early American college campuses were more spacious than the cloistered, urban universities of Europe, Turner said. Harvard, William and Mary and Princeton all featured open quadrangles and spacious lawns.

Before he met Ramée, Nott had envisioned a long row of buildings, similar to the Yale row that was copied at a number of institutions. Turner points to evidence that the foundations of North and South College were in place by the time Ramée arrived. (The placement of North and South Colleges are the only constants in Ramée’s various preliminary sketches.)

Nott also had planned on a large Central Building that would connect North and South Colleges. So, Ramée made 13 drawings of a massive 70-foot tall structure that was to contain a chapel, library, offices, faculty housing, class-rooms and a president’s house. But Ramée convinced Nott to go in another direction, Turner suggests.

The result was a dramatic departure in campus design that considered the relationship of many buildings and involved the surrounding landscape. Where Nott saw regimented rows of trees and plantings, for example, Ramée suggested the use of informal gardens, a distinctly European influence.

The signature of the Ramée plan—a domed building labeled “chapel” at the center of campus—was not seen by either the architect or the president. Nott died in 1866 just as plans for the round building were under way. Edward Tuckerman Potter, Class of 1853, designed what would become the Nott Memorial in the popular style of the day, Victorian Gothic.

What makes the Union campus so remarkable today is that the central part of campus has been preserved as Ramée and Nott envisioned it.

Ramée’s drawing of a Central Building that was never built
Ramée called for an understated round building of light color, but Potter opted for a colorful, bold and angular 16-sided beacon. It is forgivable that the Nott’s style is at odds with the clean neoclassical lines of Ramée’s other campus buildings, Turner says. The Nott is of such great quality and so far removed from the original Ramée buildings that they function together, according to Turner, and the Nott also serves as a visual record of cultural change on campus.

Chasing Ramée
As a child, Schenectady native Paul Turner ’62 used a shortcut between his home on Baker Avenue and the Schenectady Library at Seward and Union. As he walked or biked through the Union campus, he wondered about the old buildings. “This place ... was one of the things that aroused my early interest in architecture and history,” he recalls.

Later, as a Union student, he learned that an obscure French architect named Joseph Ramée was credited for the 1813 design. Years went by before he considered Ramée again.

After graduate study at Harvard in art and architecture, Turner landed a job teaching the history of architecture at Stanford University. There, he began work that in 1984 would become a book, Campus, on American college planning. That research made it clear to Turner that Ramée had a major impact on American campuses, but that—except for material accumulated by Union Professors Harold Larrabee and Codman Hislop, mostly about his work at Union—little was known about the whole of Ramée’s career.

So began what Turner calls “an amazing detective story,” a decade-long quest over two continents to re-create the career of the mysterious French architect. “It became something of an obsession,” said Turner, the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Professor of Art Emeritus at Stanford.

Turner’s discoveries appear in his 1996 book, Joseph Ramée: International Architect of the Revolutionary Era. Among Turner’s discoveries, the architect should be called simply Joseph Ramée, not the oft-heard Joseph-Jacques Ramée. Early in his career, he used a number of names—which may have contributed to his obscurity—but for the last half of his life, including his time in America, he used Joseph Ramée.

War, economic collapse and bad timing made Ramée something of a nomad, and later left his work mostly unknown or attributed to other architects of the day, according to Turner.

THE UVA QUESTION
DID THE RAMÉE PLAN FOR UNION INFLUENCE THOMAS JEFFERSON’S 1817 PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA?

The similarities are striking. Both campuses have a large courtyard bound by buildings on three sides and a domed pantheon structure in the middle. Jefferson did not simply adapt Ramée’s design; Jefferson had the basic idea for the UVA plan before 1813. But Turner believes that Jefferson got from Ramée the idea for a domed pantheon as a central focal point, most likely transmitted through Benjamin Latrobe, a Philadelphia architect who consulted for Jefferson. Latrobe was an acquaintance of Parish, and was close with other architects who knew Ramée.

“In one way or another, Latrobe was surely aware of the Union College design, one of the major architectural projects in America at the time,” Turner wrote in Joseph Ramée. “When consulted by Jefferson, Latrobe naturally may have drawn, consciously or unconsciously, on Ramée’s model.”

Turner further suggests that Stanford University, designed in the 1880’s by Frederick Law Olmsted, was influenced by the Union campus. Leland Stanford, the founder, was a Schenectady native who, like Turner, grew up near the Union campus.

Similarly, a number of alumni went on to become presidents of other institutions and incorporated elements of the Ramée plan in their campuses.
The watercolor, a detailed aerial showing Union’s buildings grouped around a central “pantheon,” is perhaps the most recognized of the Ramée collection.

**Plans in the attic**

Owing to his itinerant career and to the turbulent conditions of his lifetime, the work of Joseph Ramée was mostly unknown for nearly a century after his death in 1842, according to architecture historian Paul V. Turner ’62.

Even at Union, the only known illustration of Ramée’s campus plan was a pen and ink drawing discovered by an alumnus in a Paris print shop around 1890.

It was Codman Hislop ’31, later a professor of English, who in 1932 discovered a portfolio of Ramée’s colorful plans and sketches stashed among papers and boxes in the attic of Geology Hall, now known as Old Chapel.

“After removing a strata of legal papers … we came upon a battered portfolio, its green cover granulated with age,” Hislop wrote in the December 1932 *Union Alumni Monthly*.

“We knew we had never seen it before, so we pulled it out of its hideaway and spread it open on an improvised desk of packing boxes under the skylight.”

Atop a large sheaf of plans, elevations, water colors and details, was a handwritten list of contents. The list was dated Aug. 8, 1856 and signed ‘J. Pearson.’ Jonathan Pearson, besides being professor and treasurer of the College, was the diarist from whom we know much of the College’s 19th century history.

Pearson listed 43 items among the plans, all but 10 of which were found in the

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**The Life of Ramée**

Born along the Belgian-French border in 1764, Ramée trained in Paris, where he developed a taste for the elegant and clean neoclassicism that would define his career. He did important work in Paris, designing a number of townhouses (one of which still stands), before he joined the revolutionary army. He got caught up in a plot against the government and had to flee in 1793.

He practiced briefly in Belgium but French military advances in 1794 forced him to Germany, where he designed estates for Saxon dukes from his base in Hamburg.

In 1805, he married Caroline Dreyer, and a year later they had their only child, Daniel. Turmoil in Germany and Denmark forced another move back to Paris in 1810.

In 1812, he accepted David Parish’s invitation to America, and the following year he drew the commission to design the Union campus. He spent most of the next four years in Philadelphia. Besides his work for Union, he designed homes and estates in Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York State. During his time in America, he lost in design competitions for both the Washington Monument in Baltimore and the Baltimore Exchange.

He returned to France in 1816 after the fall of Napoleon, and spent the rest of his career working in Belgium, Germany and France. In the last decades of his life, he produced publications of his designs that today are extremely rare. For example, there are only two known copies of *Parcs et jardins*, one of which is in Schaffer Library’s Special Collections.
Richard Harris ’14 is a natural for Union history. A tour guide for the admissions office since freshman year, he has always been fascinated with Union lore, often working interesting legends into his narrative for prospective students. Between tours, the economics major would brush up on his Union history by reading the Encyclopedia of Union College History, edited by Wayne Somers ’61.

“I love to tell people that students have been living on this campus for 200 years,” he said. “You could be sleeping in the same room as Chester Arthur or William Seward.”

This year, as we celebrate the bicentennial of the Union campus plan, he has another job: Ramée Guide. The program was the brainchild of James Underwood, the Chauncey H. Winters Professor of Political Science Emeritus, who has recruited students to give historical campus tours during events like Homecoming and ReUnion. The guides also work by arrangement with visiting groups.

Not surprisingly, many of those taking tours have something to contribute to the body of knowledge. Harris recalls an alumnus on a recent tour who, as a student, had run into Barbra Streisand and Robert Redford during the 1972 campus filming for The Way We Were. “When alumni tell me something like that, I’ll incorporate it into my tour.”

We are indebted to Paul V. Turner ’62, the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Professor of Art Emeritus at Stanford University, for his contributions to this article and more generally to our knowledge of Ramée and the Union College campus.

For further reading, try two books by Prof. Turner:


Mandeville Gallery will host an exhibit of the Ramée drawings with a companion gallery book with text by Prof. Turner. Learn more about Ramée at: www.union.edu/Ramée-anniversary. The site includes the Ramée drawings, campus photos (old and new) and video tours of favorite campus places with alumni and President Stephen Ainlay. Visitors can also sign a guest book and share their own favorite campus spots.

The Ramée portfolio discovered by Hislop. Most notable, according to Hislop, was item number 27, the “Plan of the Grounds Surrounding the Buildings.” The watercolor, a detailed aerial showing Union’s buildings grouped around a central “pantheon,” is perhaps the most recognized of the Ramée collection. Ironically, most of the missing drawings are of buildings that were constructed; likely, the drawings were used during the building process and then lost.

How the Ramée portfolio got into the attic is unknown, but Hislop posits that Pearson sent the originals to an Albany architect in charge of Geology Hall. Since Ramée’s drawings were found mixed with the Albany architect’s plans, Hislop assumes that they were returned to Union in a bundle and left forgotten in Pearson’s office.

“The beauty of the craftsmanship, the amazing care of the detail, and the thoroughly artistic rendering of the colored sheets, make this long hidden Ramée collection one of real importance,” Hislop wrote in the alumni monthly. “A student of architecture, particularly one interested in the history of American architecture, should be able to find a wealth of material in these old and lovely drawings.”

“We hope that our college architects of the future will look long at the Ramée collection before they begin adding new buildings to the Union campus. If they can discover some way to interpret their new work in the light of what our first architect tried to do, we will have buildings and grounds which will group themselves into what [prominent American architect] Fiske Kimball believed we already had, ‘a peaceful harmony of effect.’”

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Can fungi replace plastics?
Maybe, if Ecovative Design has its way

BY ERIN DEMUTH JUDD

Fungi, with the exception of shiitake and certain other mushrooms, tend to be something we’re disgusted by (think moldy bread or dank-smelling mildew). But they really deserve more respect, because some fungi have fantastic capabilities. They can be grown, under certain circumstances, in almost any shape—from flip-flops (no joke!) to candle holders—and be totally biodegradable at the same time. And, if this weren’t enough, they might have the potential to replace plastics one day.

The secret is in the mycelia.
Biology Professor Steve Horton likens this mostly underground portion of fungi (the mushrooms that pop up are the reproductive structures) to a tiny biological chain of tubular cells.

“It’s this linked chain of cells that’s able to communicate with the outside world, to sense what’s there in terms of food and light and moisture,” he said. “Mycelia take in nutrients from available materials like wood and use them as food, and the fungus is able to grow as a result.”

“When you think of fungi and their mycelia, their function—ecologically—is really vital in degrading and breaking things down,” Horton added. “Without fungi, and bacteria, we’d be I don’t know how many meters deep in waste, both plant matter and animal tissue.”

Looking something like extremely delicate, white dental floss, mycelia grow in, through and around just about any organic substrate. Whether it’s leaves or mulch, mycelia digest these natural materials and bind everything together in a cohesive mat. And these mats can be grown in molds, molds that might make a shoe sole or packing carton.

Ecovative Design, in Green Island, N.Y., is the only company harnessing this particular mycological power right now. And it has Horton, and another Union researcher, Ronald Bucinell, to help it do so.

Ecovative basics

Founded by Gavin McIntyre and Eben Bayer the same year they graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Ecovative has been in business since 2007. The company uses several species of fungi, which differ markedly from those sold in grocery stores, to manufacture environmentally-friendly products.

“Most of our partnerships are secret, but we just partnered with the Sealed Air Corporation (the inventors of bubble wrap) to expand distribution of our protective packaging products,” said McIntyre, who is chief scientist. “These are already used by the likes of Dell and Crate & Barrel, and we’re also in the early stages of designing a compostable shoe with one of the world’s leading sports apparel manufacturers. We have development projects in everything from floral foams (think flower arrangements) to automotive components too.”

Making these items is relatively straightforward, at least in some respects, because the fungi do most of the work. The process starts with farming byproducts, like cotton gin waste; seed hulls from rice, buckwheat and oats; hemp or other plant materials. These are sterilized, mixed with nutrients and chilled, Ecovative’s Director of First Impressions Kristen Renaud explained. Then the mycelia spawn are added and the whole amalgam is put in a large container. Dozens of such containers are held in vertical racks as the mycelia grow, quickly turning the entire package a milky white as the fungus permeates every available cranny of space and substrate.

The mycelia are so good at proliferating, in fact, McIntyre said, that every cubic inch of material contains eight miles of the tiny fungal fibers.

Next, this lengthy—but compact—matrix is removed from the container and placed in a mold the shape of whatever item Ecovative is making. Once the desired texture, rigidity and other characteristics of the product are achieved, it’s popped from its mold and heated and dried to kill the mycelia and stop its growth. Drying also eliminates any potential allergens that may be present.

“Our all-natural products, the creation of which takes less than five days, have no allergy concerns and are completely non-toxic. They could be eaten, though they’re obviously not meant for consumption,” Renaud said, laughing, “and they wouldn’t taste very good.”

More impressive is the fact that they’re also impervious to fire (to a point), and as water resistant as Styrofoam, but they won’t sit around taking up space in a landfill.

“Our materials are all Class I fire walls, because the fungal cell wall is very robust and water insoluble, and the rice hulls and...”

“Our all-natural products, the creation of which takes less than five days, have no allergy concerns and are completely non-toxic. They could be eaten, though they’re obviously not meant for consumption.” –Kristen Renaud

Ecovative’s wine shipper  
(Courtesy of Ecovative Design)
Since 2010, Ron has supported the development of some of our structural composites for the auto and construction industries. His laboratory tests many of our new materials, assisting in the development and improvement of our material blends. 

– Gavin Myntyre

They are also more UV-stable than foam since they are not petrochemical-based, and won’t emit volatile organic compounds,” he added. “When exposed to the right microbes, they will break down in 180 days in any landfill or backyard.”

Mycelium is comparatively inexpensive too.

Using farm garbage that can’t be fed to animals or burned for fuel, Ecovative gets a good deal on the plant matter its mycelia grow on. Better yet, the fungi the company use can be propagated without sunlight or much human oversight in simple trays at room temperature—no immense greenhouses with costly temperature-control systems needed.

And that, of course, helps with the utility bills. It also means a smaller carbon footprint.

“Today, our products require a tenth of the energy and emit an eight of the carbon dioxide of traditional foams like expanded polypropylene,” McIntyre said.

He and Bayer, the company’s CEO, hope to get their business to the point where they can displace all plastics and foams in the market.

“Ten percent of all our petroleum is allocated to the production of plastics and foams. It’s a valuable resource not well-spent on cups that are discarded after one use,” McIntyre said. “We want to grow a sustainable business not dependent on a resource that will be gone in less than a century.”

Union professors and researchers Steve Horton and Ronald Bucinell are aiding them in this effort.

Union R&D

Horton got involved with Ecovative about a year ago when Computer Science Instructor Lance Spallholz ’69—who Horton describes as an “uber hockey fan”—sent him a link to a local company that works with fungi.

“I looked at their website and saw this little bit that said, ‘Contact us,’” Horton said. “Normally I wouldn’t have, but I did and that very night at 11:30 I got a response from Gavin. He said they’d been looking for a partnership like this.”

“So all this really started with hockey,” he added, laughing. “Lance is a big fan, so are Gavin and Ron, we all are.”

In Horton’s lab, he and his students are tinkering with a species of fungus Ecovative uses in its manufacturing.

“We manipulate one strain in various ways to see if we can make versions of the fungus to suit certain applications the company has in mind,” Horton said. “For example, it might be helpful if Ecovative has certain versions that grow faster.”

“We’re also trying to learn more about the fundamental biology of the organism,” he added. “All sorts of things are possible, and those possibilities will only increase as our knowledge increases.”

McIntyre agrees.

“As a geneticist, Steve has unique experience working with higher-level fungi,” he said. “His ability to help us understand some of the genetic pathways that allow our fungal species to behave the way they do is extremely important.”

Collaborating with RPI’s Daniel Walczyk, Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering Ronald Bucinell and his students also offer critical support to Ecovative’s research and development pipeline. Bucinell’s particular expertise is in experimental mechanics and the mechanics of reinforced materials.

“Different industries have different requirements for things they use,” said Mickey Allan ’14, a mechanical engineering major who conducted summer research on Ecovative’s products. “So we test sample material from the company to see how strong it is under different parameters. Do mycelia bind...
"Union has professors with close ties to area businesses, and that’s incredibly important. Professor Bucinell was able to look at me and say, ‘You’d be a good fit for this company, why don’t you check it out? So I did, and I am a good fit. I love it here.’ —Kyle Bucklin ’12

better to this plant material or that one? Does the way it’s treated—with heat or something else—make it stronger or weaker?"

As Allan was talking, he and Bucinell were working with a sample Ecovative hopes to use in cars to insulate and absorb sound.

"Since 2010, Ron has supported the development of some of our structural composites for the auto and construction industries," McIntyre said. "His laboratory tests many of our new materials, assisting in the development and improvement of our material blends."

"Some of our applications also include biodegradable flip-flops," Bucinell said. "Tourists leaving flip-flops behind at Caribbean resorts is a major problem, the landfills down there are filled with them."

Whether its footwear or fundamental genetics, the Ecovative founders are grateful for their higher ed partners.

"Steve is unique because his research over the last 28 years has focused on the effect of genetic pathways on fungal physiology, which factors greatly into what we can do with mycelia," McIntyre said. "And Ron is one of the foremost experts in composites design. To have these two scientists so close to our facilities in Green Island is highly valuable."

"This is a brand new field in materials, and collaboration allows us to learn a lot, and quickly," he continued. “That’s really important when you’re trying to replace plastics."

"It’s also really important to Union, its students and the larger community.

**Union and beyond**

Integral players in Ecovative’s innovative business model, collegiate partners have contributed to the company’s achievements and impressive growth.

In just the last two years, Renaud said, the company has doubled in size, both in terms of physical space and payroll. It employs 50 people, from engineers and biologists to sales staff.

"Our relationship with Ecovative is an excellent example of how Union supports the economic development efforts in the greater Capital District," Bucinell said. "We have also successfully collaborated with Ecovative and RPI on grants from NSF and NYSERDA, enhancing college–company partnerships across the region."

It’s also heightened interest in Horton’s lab.

"I’ve generally been able to get students engaged with our projects, but this is a whole new dimension," he said. "The applied aspect—that their work actually gets utilized in industry—really appeals to them. So does the nature of this business, which is very eco-friendly as opposed to exploiting the environment in a non-renewable way."

In a similar vein, Bucinell credits the Ecovative-Union partnership with providing summer research, internship and employment opportunities for students.

Kyle Bucklin ’12 was hired by the Green Island company last June. A mechanical engineering major, he worked in the machine shop during his days at Union. Having learned to custom-make machine parts, like those for the College’s competition-grade Baja car, Bucklin carries out his responsibilities at Ecovative with confidence.

"I work in the shop to help produce raw material, streamline the company’s waste stream or design parts for our machines,” he said. “Everything’s very specific to what we do; we can’t really go out and buy it. We make it ourselves."

Bucklin enjoys his job immensely, and is particularly proud of his Union degree.

"Many of the engineers I work with have great degrees [from other colleges],” Bucklin said. "But I can keep pace with them, and I think my background, which also has a good deal of liberal arts, is especially valuable. It helps me interact with people outside the company to get materials I need. It helps me communicate."

He also values his relationship with Bucinell, and in turn, Bucinell’s relationship with McIntyre and Bayer.

"Union has professors with close ties to area businesses, and that’s incredibly important. Professor Bucinell was able to look at me and say, ‘You’d be a good fit for this company, why don’t you check it out?’” Bucklin said. “So I did, and I am a good fit. I love it here."

"It’s totally worth it to come to work every day and do things no one else in the world is doing—and to help the world,” he continued. “This is the perfect place for me.”
Alumni and friends packed a Boston ballroom in early November to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Joseph Ramée campus plan, but were privy to a surprise announcement from President Stephen C. Ainlay.

He proudly relayed that the “You are Union” campaign had reached its $250 million goal, but expressed his resolve to move forward, raising more funds to support the College’s mission.

“You are Union” campaign had reached its $250 million goal, but expressed his resolve to move forward, raising more funds to support the College’s mission.

“For all of the money raised in this campaign has gone to improve the College,” added Frank Messa ’73, co-chair of the campaign. “Scholarships, facilities, endowed chairs, residence halls, all aspects of life at Union have been positively affected, which benefits all of us.”

For more on the campaign, see pages 22–25.
A monumental achievement: You

Last fall, Union made history and left an impression on the future. In raising more than $250 million to complete its largest-ever fundraising initiative—the You are Union campaign—the College simultaneously strengthened the bedrock on which the school and its graduates will continue to redefine liberal arts education.

Under the leadership of President Stephen C. Ainlay, fundraising has focused on four major areas: faculty support, campus revitalization, scholarship support and the Annual Fund. The impact of this approach is tangible; it can literally be grasped by fingers and utilized by minds on campus.

In state-of-the-art facilities like the Peter Irving Wold Center, students are actively learning, creating and experiencing new things as a result of the campaign. The same is true outside the classroom, where they enjoy not only the scholarly, but the cultural and social too, in places like Minerva Houses. And the impact of growing scholarship support is keenly felt as well. More than $40 million has been raised to ensure a Union education remains accessible to an increasingly diverse student body.

“When Union began the You Are Union campaign, consultants advised that we should set a much lower goal. I am proud of our alumni and friends who proved them wrong. This is a historic moment for this historic college,” Ainlay said. “The generous support we’ve received, even in the face of a remarkably challenging economic environment, has given us great institutional momentum and created remarkable opportunities for our students.”

“The You Are Union campaign has added important areas of study, created state-of-the-art learning...
spaces, provided tools that advance student and faculty research, and made access to a Union education possible for many who otherwise would not have had the opportunities that come with it,” he added. “I am overwhelmed by and grateful for the generosity of so many.”

Union College is indeed fortunate that it could call on alumni, parents, trustees and friends to meet this ambitious $250-million goal. During the campaign, these 34,000 donors gave record-setting amounts to the Annual Fund, providing critical resources for everything from research equipment to hockey pucks to terms abroad.

“Some might look back on this extended journey of a campaign and say, ‘If I knew then what I know now, I wouldn’t have signed up.’ But not me, no way,” said Mark Walsh ’76, chairman of the Board of Trustees and campaign co-chair. “Even though we faced some of the most dramatic headwinds a campaign could encounter—a presidential transition, a College Relations vice president transition, oh, and by the way, the worst recession since the 1930s—I wouldn’t trade a moment.”

“Sure, co-chair Frank Messa ’73 and I had our enthusiasm tested from time to time, but all the meetings and travel and conversations made me realize how much the Union community loves this place,” he continued. “I treasure the experience this campaign has been, and offer congratulations to all who were part of this amazing effort.”

Publically launched in 2004, the effort will stand proudly in the top half of capital campaigns completed by the nation’s finest 50 liberal arts colleges. For additional information, read pages 24-25 or archived issues of the annual President’s Report at www.union.edu/president.

FACULTY SUPPORT through contributions to the You are Union campaign have enabled Union to attract exemplary professors. Endowed gifts are enhancing the breadth and depth of the curriculum by supporting current faculty positions and establishing new positions in areas like religious studies, statistics, mathematics, philosophy, biology and classics.

CAMPUS REVITALIZATION efforts are transforming living and learning at Union. Generous contributions have made possible facilities like Lippman Hall, the Minerva Houses, Taylor Music Center, Vinmar Athletic Center, Butterfield Hall, Messa Rink, Breazzano Fitness Center and the Peter Irving Wold Center. Within the next year, the Henle Dance Pavilion and the Wicker Wellness Center will be completed.
President Stephen C. Ainlay is dedicated to Union College, his commitment to guiding the school to even greater heights evident in the achievements of the last seven years. Leading the You are Union campaign since 2006, for instance, he has advanced vital Strategic Plan initiatives, securing generous support from alumni, trustees, parents and friends to promote diversity at Union; enhance the historic campus; foster sustainability; leverage the College’s location; and partner with businesses and other institutions to strengthen Union’s future. Additional details are available in archived issues of the annual President’s Report at www.union.edu/president.

**TOTAL IMPACT:** Campaign enhances

- Breazzano Fitness Center dedicated
- First Engineering and Liberal Education symposium held
- Ainlay signs American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment
- Ainlay creates positions dedicated to diversity: senior director of Campus Diversity and Affirmative Action and director of Multicultural Affairs
- You are Union campaign goal raised from $200 million to $250 million
- New York Six consortium (Colgate, Hamilton, Hobart & William Smith, St. Lawrence, Skidmore, Union) formed to facilitate academic, operational collaborations

### Campaign Contributions:

- $145,695,724
- $129,589,064
- $145,695,724
- $167,723,868
- $113,123,832
- $129,589,064

### 2006–2007

- Taylor Music Center, Breazzano House, Sorum House, and the Center for Bioengineering and Computational Biology dedicated
- Minerva Fellows program launched
- $1.13 million in grants for faculty research support, including a $600,000 National Science Foundation award for a campus-wide computation initiative

### 2007–2008

- Stephen C. Ainlay inaugurated as 18th president
- Strategic Plan developed, adopted
- Ainlay appointed to Governor’s Commission on Higher Education for New York

### 2008–2009

- First annual Presidential Green Grants given for campus projects enhancing sustainability
- Union named to President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the first time
all aspects of Union

- Messa House dedicated
- Ainlay invited to serve on Mighty Waters Task Force formed by U.S. Congressman Paul Tonko of New York’s 21st congressional district
- Peter Irving Wold Center dedicated
- IBM Intelligent Cluster donated
- Wind turbines installed at College Park Hall, generate 40 percent of its athletic complex power
- Annual Fund unrestricted giving exceeded $4 million, breaking prior records
- First class of bioengineering students graduates
- Men’s ice hockey team in NCAA Frozen Four tournament for first time
- Lippman Hall, Lamont House, Center for Neuroscience, and Hoffman Women’s and Gender Studies Suite dedicated
- Kelly Adirondack Center and former home of Adirondack conservationist Paul Schaefer acquired
- Henle Dance Pavilion, Wicker Wellness Center groundbreakings
- Wold Center earns LEED Gold status
- Awarded top honors in national recycling competition—Recycle-mania—for the third consecutive year
- Applications for the Class of 2016 reached all-time high of 5,565; 25% of Class of 2016 from under-represented backgrounds, including a record-breaking 7% who are international students
Alumna tells stories in her own unique way | Julianna Spallholz ’98

It’s different and a little offbeat, but somehow universal too, speaking to an experience everyone has had—or could have had—in one way or another.

She is trying to learn his language. She makes T sounds. They are awkward on her tongue. She makes T sounds. They are awkward.

She approaches his language from a different angle. She makes vowels. You’re giving it too much air, he tells her. Fine, she says.

She studies textbooks and manuals. She gets tapes. Guh, she tells him. Goo.

He checks his watch. There’s someplace I need to be, he says.

She does not reply. She will keep trying to learn his language. She will force her mouth around the shape of it, by God.

Yes, this piece called “Language” and all the others from Julianna Spallholz’s new book, The State of Kansas, are different. They’re short (the longest just one-and-a-half pages) and they’re not structured in the tradition of any single genre. Her fans and critics alike have struggled to categorize her work, but that doesn’t trouble Spallholz.

“There has been a lot of good-natured debate regarding the definition of its form,” said Spallholz, a 1998 graduate. “Some people have called it prose poetry and others have called it micro-fiction or flash fiction.”

“Ultimately, I don’t bother myself too much with the question of genre. The iconic American writer Jack Kerouac wrote, ‘What you feel will find its own form,’ and this is the idea I return to,” she continued. “I believe that each tale has its own personality, and that a writer must listen to it in order to understand how it must be told in the moment of its telling.”

And what she mostly tells in her book, released last year by GenPop Books, are stories of her own experiences.

“Most of my work is based in memory, in my real life. This is not to say that I remain factually exact to my memories,” Spallholz said. “I use them as a starting point. I try to understand what they indicate in a way that is bigger than the details of the memory, and then write about that.”

As an author, she has been very much influenced by her time at Union. During her student days, she was involved with the Coffeehouse, a former Theme House.

“It functioned as a regular venue for musical and literary entertainment, intellectual conversation and general good times,” said Spallholz, who was Coffeehouse president. “Thirty strong-willed college students living together and developing, promoting and caring for what was essentially a business—though no money was exchanged—was no small feat.

“I learned a lot about event planning and about identifying a goal and seeing it through,” she added. “These are skills I’ve used again and again in the coordination of literary projects and art events.”

She also repeatedly calls on what she learned from Professor of English and poet Jordan Smith.

“As an 18-year-old English major and aspiring creative writer, I don’t know that I knew, before I met Jordan, that this kind of life was actually possible,” Spallholz recalled. “Any young writer needs this—evidence that there are people out there actually doing what you want to do.”

Smith’s teaching style also affected her, and has made her the professor she is today.

“The professors with whom I connected most at Union—Jordan Smith, Harry Marten, Jim McCord—were some whose great love for stories and teaching was apparent and infectious,” said Spallholz, an adjunct English instructor at Siena College and Hudson Valley Community College. “I wish to offer my students the same kind of encouragement they offered me.

“I wish for my students to be unafraid to love what they love—even if it is impractical—to express what they think—even if it is embarrassing—and to become the people they believe they are meant to become.”
As national deputy communications director for Obama for America, Rachel Racusen ’04 had a hand in making the top news story of fall 2012 as big as it was.

“Each week I helped plan our communications strategies for presidential or vice presidential campaign events, or for publicly responding to Mitt Romney or Paul Ryan,” said Racusen, who was based at campaign headquarters in Chicago. “I helped make sure our whole team was coordinated in all efforts, from the press assistant writing the news release to the staffer booking campaign surrogates on TV and radio.”

It’s a position that demanded refined skill and unwavering reliability in an intense environment with incredible stakes. “It certainly could be nerve-wracking. There was a lot of pressure and in our increasingly social-media driven, 24-hour news cycle, even a little mistake could become a big one that impacted the race,” said Racusen, who studied political science at Union. “But it was a huge honor and it was always exciting, even if it was never easy.”

“I worked for a candidate I truly believe in, alongside people I really liked and respected,” she added. “If you’re working 18 hours a day in a city you don’t live in, it helps if you really like the team you’re in the trenches with.”

For two years before the Obama campaign, Racusen was FEMA’s director of public affairs. As the agency’s spokesperson, she ran the national press office in Washington D.C. and oversaw national FEMA communications and responses. “Political crises are one thing, but there’s really nothing that can prepare you for how to deal with a tornado that hits a town without warning, killing hundreds of people,” said Racusen, who headed FEMA’s response to Hurricane Irene and the twisters that devastated Joplin, Missouri in 2011. “It was an incredible experience. I learned both how to feed the media in a crisis and how to best communicate with disaster survivors who need potentially life-saving information at a moment’s notice.”

She also honed many of her skills on Capitol Hill. In 2006, she was press assistant to the House Education and Labor Committee. Over the next few years, she worked her way up to communications director.

“The committee I worked for helped pass and enact some of President Obama’s greatest accomplishments, from the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to the education reforms passed as part of the Recovery Act,” Racusen said. “I have amazing memories from this time—like standing on the floor of the House when we passed the President’s health care law, and seeing members of Congress hug each other. ‘It’s a moment I’ll never forget.’ Nor has she forgotten Union’s role in preparing her for professional success.

“Union is where I realized I was fascinated with politics and the role media plays within it. It was Professor Zoe Oxley’s media and politics class that really sparked my interest,” Racusen recalled. “I was lucky to have teachers like her, and Professor Byron Nichols, who were great mentors and really cared about their students.”

“I was also very involved on campus and juggled many different commitments, so I think I can probably attribute any ability I have to multi-task to Union,” she added. “The support and experiences I had really started me down this path.”

And it’s a path she’s happy to be on. “It’s gratifying to know you’ve played a very small role in helping improve our country or in changing people’s lives,” Racusen said. “I’ve helped tell the story, through the media, of what a candidate or policy will mean for Americans and why they should help shape it or get involved.

“The best part is learning when something I worked on benefited someone. These issues are real, they affect us all, and it’s an honor to get to play a small role in hopefully making a difference.”
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.

Could less O₂ mean smaller bugs?

Scott Kirkton, associate professor of biology (With Lauren Hennessey ’11)

As a kid, Scott Kirkton never played with bugs (his mother did his insect collection in elementary school). But times change—Kirkton now plays with grasshoppers a lot. A recent study he conducted, in part at Argonne National Laboratory, offers insight into the relationship between respiratory function and molting.

“With each molt, grasshoppers shed their exoskeletons and emerge into new ones that provide room for growth,” Kirkton explained. “During the six stages of their lifecycle, they get progressively larger.”

This means that grasshoppers’ insides are essentially too big for their outsides near the end of each stage, and organs for breathing (air sacs and tracheae) might get compressed.

“These grasshoppers, Schistocerca americana, emerge as 10-milligram juveniles and become 2.5-gram adults in about six weeks. That’s a 250-fold weight increase,” Kirkton said. “It’s equivalent to an 8-pound baby being 2,000 pounds after six weeks.

“We propose that if late-stage grasshoppers have trouble breathing and oxygen delivery is reduced, molting might occur to increase exoskeleton size and alleviate respiratory system compression.”

And if oxygen availability does trigger molting, farmers could benefit.

“If crops were stored at lower oxygen levels, we might be able to reduce the effect of pests. Less oxygen would decrease body size by forcing pests to complete life-stages faster, giving them less time to reach maximum adult size,” Kirkton said. “Also, low oxygen may reduce metabolism, and therefore, insect appetite.”

A supercomputer makes the difference

Janet Anderson, chemistry professor (with David LeMaster, New York State Department of Health)

The IBM intelligent cluster, gifted to Union by the company in 2011, is advancing research on campus in notable ways.

The first paper published using the machine, by Janet Anderson in the journal Biophysical Chemistry, analyzed the way protein G rotates in aqueous solution, by predicting properties measured in nuclear magnetic resonance experiments from molecular dynamics simulations.

During each of five simulations, the positions and velocities of 10,000 protein and water atoms were calculated using the NAMD program on the supercomputer. Each simulation consisted of 20,000,000 iterations, each iteration representing a femtosecond of time (there are 10¹⁵ femtoseconds in one second).

“Computer simulations are helpful in understanding molecular behavior that is invisible to the eye, and to interpret the results of experiments,” Anderson said. “These 20,000,000 steps of protein motion, equivalent to 200 nanoseconds of molecule time, would normally have taken months on a desktop computer. They took only 13 days on the cluster.

“This speed-up is impressive. The method used in our paper would not have worked with shorter simulations because the molecule would not have had enough time to tumble.”
Ashraf Ghaly, engineering professor

That annoying foam “popcorn” that’s a staple of the shipping business could save lives.

Ashraf Ghaly, professor of engineering, is using it in a new product he calls Popcrete.

Ghaly has been experimenting with concrete mixes that use “popcorn” as part of the aggregate. His goal is a concrete that “hugs” (absorbs energy from) an impacting object. The material could be used for barriers at highway exit ramps, for example, as a way to safely absorb the energy of a crash, Ghaly says.

The first step in the project was getting the material. Ghaly put out a campus-wide email and quickly heard from dozens of recycling-minded colleagues. Next, he and his student researcher, Keefe Askin ’13, formed the blocks in large plastic storage bins.

Then came the testing, which is where Ghaly’s friends in the College’s Facilities department came in.

On a warm August afternoon, an equipment operator positioned a tractor and a one-ton lawn roller at the top of a hill above Alexander Field. His target: a cooler-sized chunk of Ghaly’s Popcrete.

With a small group watching, Ghaly signaled the release of the roller. It smashed the block with a satisfying thud, sending a spray of concrete dust in the air before bouncing to a stop.

“I get some of my best ideas from watching Tom and Jerry cartoons,” Ghaly quipped. —By Charlie Casey
immigrants, tells of his adventures at the Hotel Balmoral. He and his parents work at the resort for three seasons, during which Patrick learns about the historical legacy of the region and meets many people who influence his path in life. Fiction intersects with reality when the likes of Mark Twain, Ulysses S. Grant and Seneca Ray Stoddard—all of whom were at the hotel—enter the young boy’s life.

HELEN MAXSON AND DANIEL MORRIS
Reading Texts, Reading Lives: Essays in the Tradition of Humanistic Cultural Criticism in Honor of Daniel R. Schwarz
University of Delaware Press
Former graduate students of Daniel R. Schwarz ’63, the Frederic J. Whiton Professor of English Literature and Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow at Cornell University, have put together this festschrift. The book includes examinations of works ranging from fiction by Joyce to poetry by Yeats, all in the style of Schwarz’s cultural criticism and principles as a scholar of modernist literature.

CARL H. HOBBS ’68
The Beach Book: Science of the Shore
Columbia University Press
The Beach Book is informative for all beach lovers, helping anglers and boaters understand the migration of tidal inlets; giving home-buyers insight into erosion rates; providing natural-resource managers with information about coastal-zone development and habitat decline. It outlines the latest scientific data in easily accessible formats for anyone who wants to learn more about beaches. Learning more, author Carl Hobbs argues, is the best way to cultivate, preserve and appreciate these special places. Hobbs is a professor of marine science at Virginia Institute of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary.

KATE WHITE ’72
I Shouldn’t Be Telling You This: Success Secrets Every Gutsy Girl Should Know
Harper Business
In today’s tough job market, every career woman could use some guidance, and Kate White—who has run five major magazines—is offering it up. I Shouldn’t Be Telling You This offers the techniques for success: how to get it, go big with it, and yes, savor it. Combining candid advice, reality checks, and proven principles with behind-the-scenes anecdotes, the book provides the steps to creating success, including valuable insights on how to land a job you’re passionate about; always ask for what you want and get it; tackle a project that no one else will and nail it; and more.

MARGARET ROSE GREEN ’72
Whip-Poor-Will and Fireflies
Xlibris Corporation
This poignant collection of poems is divided into four sections: Early Musings, Sonnets from the Heart, the Adirondack Seasons Song Cycle, and the Later Poems. All are the reflections of Margaret Rose Green, who grew up in Greig, N.Y. in the foothills of the Adirondack Mountains. Green teaches high school science in Sarasota County, Fla.

JANET SASSON EDGETTE ’78
The Last Boys Picked: Helping Boys Who Don’t Play Sports Survive Bullies and Boyhood Berkeley
Some boys just don’t enjoy sports, rough housing or being aggressive, and no matter how talented they are in other areas, they’re often ridiculed by peers and relegated to the bottom of the social totem pole. These boys suffer from
In the last chapter, Lauren’s self-esteem and a belief that they are letting their parents and themselves down. In *The Last Boys Picked*, Janet Edgette and co-author Beth Margolis Rupp integrate practical and prescriptive elements to guide parents, teachers, and counselors in helping these boys recognize their own worth. Edgette, the author of five books, is a well-regarded child and family psychologist.

**JULIE GERSTENBLATT ’92**

Lauren Takes Leave
Self-published

Wife, mother, and middle school teacher Lauren Worthing needs some time off from her busy, suburban life. So when a jury duty summons arrives, it creates the perfect alibi for ditching her career, children, husband and babysitter. With uninhibited friends like Jodi Moncrieff and Kat O’Connell by her side, Lauren takes leave of her senses and embarks on a weeklong pleasure bender. Before it’s over, she and her friends have moved far away from the chick-lit stereotypes they’ve become and closer to the lying, cheating, stealing bad-asses they didn’t know they’d ever want to be.

**ROHINI MANIK ’03**

*Utopian Eternity*  
Publish America

Follow Prince Nikko, Prince Migalon, Raulis, and their families as they attempt to achieve immortality. While striving to reach the Immortal Galaxy, the land of perfection and eternity, they face excruciating circumstances and many obstacles. Set in a universe with three solar systems, the characters undergo tremendous transformations on their journey to attain Utopia forever.

**DANIEL KIRSH ’05**

*Hybrid Cloud for Dummies*  
John Wiley & Sons Inc.

Cloud Computing is transforming the way organizations manage their software assets. To effectively use cloud computing, however, you have to understand what it is and the various types of cloud that are available. *Hybrid Cloud for Dummies* puts all the pieces into context and provides a perspective on both the technical and the business issues at the heart of this important evolution in computing. Architectural considerations, service management, and security and governance are just a few of the subjects discussed. Co-author Daniel Kirsch is an analyst at Hurwitz & Associates, focusing on cloud compliance, governance, security, and privacy.

**KAREN BRISON,** anthropology professor

*Super Girls, Gangstas, Freeters, & Xenomaniacs: Gender & Modernity In Global Youth Cultures*  
Syracuse University Press

Based on ethnographic research in Africa, Asia and Oceania, this volume explores the gendered cultural diversity of how young people experience modernity. Co-edited by Karen Brison, *Super Girls, Gangstas, Freeters, & Xenomaniacs* features analyses that range from mobile phones as agents transforming gender norms for young Mozambicans to the ways Tongan male adolescents in the United States construct gang identities. Brison is also author of *Just Talk and Our Wealth Is Loving Each Other.*

**PETER TOBIESSEN,** professor of biological sciences emeritus

*The Secret Life of a Lake: The Ecology of Northern Lakes and their Stewardship*  
Graphite Press

Canoeing over the placid surface of a favorite lake, have you ever wondered what lies beneath? What kinds of creatures lurk there? What do they do, what they look like and how they interact? Letting readers in on the lake’s secret life, Peter Tobiessen provides a deeper understanding of these complex and dynamic ecosystems, and their preservation.

**WALTER STAHR**

Seward: Lincoln’s Indispensable Man  
Simon & Schuster

William Henry Seward, Class of 1820, was one of the most important Americans of the 19th century: progressive governor of New York, outspoken federal senator, secretary of state during the Civil War and its aftermath, Lincoln’s closest friend and adviser. Yet most Americans only know he bought Alaska. Drawing on hundreds of sources, Walter Stahr sheds new light on the complex and central figure of Seward, offering particular insight into his years before and after the Civil War.
Alumni attend a discussion on art and design at the home of Guy Lescault ’67 and Pamola Powell in Atlanta Sept. 20, 2012.

Alumni at a New York Mets game in September

For more, visit www.union.edu/alumni
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

1941

Members of the Class of 1941 extend their deepest sympathy to the family of our classmate and friend, Paul Mara. Larry Schwartz, class head agent, writes that he will miss Paul’s guidance and assistance in reaching out to others on behalf of Union College.

1947

Daniel Andersen, professor of physics emeritus at Grand Valley State University, writes, “My engineering program (Navy V-12) at Union eventually led to a career as a physics professor at GV SU in Allendale, Mich.” He wrote narrative and descriptive summaries for a sequence of 42 pictures in a 1982 book, The Powers of Ten, which begins at the level of quark interaction and progresses to the universe of galactic clusters containing billions of stars. The sequence is on display in GVSU’s Hall of Science.

1950

Leon Borden writes, “Retired from IBM for 27 years, celebrated 67th wedding anniversary last June. We have seven children, 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Most fortunate indeed!”

1951

Sally and Bob Horn visited Barb and Bill Weaver in St. Simons, Ga. on their way to winter in Florida. Both couples celebrated their 60th wedding anniversaries this summer.

Charles Stewart writes, “Still enjoy life and am in excellent health internally. Have some neuropathy, muscular, and balance problems though. Have given up fishing, am selling my flats boat, but continue to enjoy cooking and eating. I volunteer at Guardian ad Litem (court appointed child advocacy), and recommend it to others. I also teach some courses on interpersonal relations and communication to the Guardian group.”

1952

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Dr. Arthur Stockman
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Bradenton, Fla. 34202-4177
(941) 907-8064
astockman@jcaho.org

1954

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Avrom J. Gold
P.O. Box 559
Whitehouse Station, N.J. 08889

Tom Weil published his 250th professional paper, this one on the privatization of hospitals in Germany, the U.K., and the U.S. in the Journal of Healthcare Finance. He spent his career in the health field after graduating the Yale University program in hospital administration and receiving his Ph.D. in health management and policy from the University of Michigan. Retired after 30 years of full-time consulting, Tom lives with his wife, Janet, and a couple of horses that he rides in Asheville, N.C.

1955

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Ken Haefner
1346 Waverly Pl.
Schenectady, N.Y. 12308
haefnerkb@juno.com

Following the closure of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, where he had

Col. Arne Ellermets writes, “Wilhelmina and I have completed 30 years of service in the U.S. Air Force. That was followed by 28 years as missionaries with Awana Clubs International, both overseas and in the U.S. We are involved in writing a family biography and public speaking. Our family consists of six children, 16 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. As one of our grand-daughters wrote in a college essay, ‘They are never bored!'”

Dr. Robert M. Richter writes, “I am retired now, over a dozen years from the practice of surgery and surgical endoscopy, but still actively teaching at two university-affiliated hospitals. Happily, Gladys and I have two great-granddaughters who occupy a large part of our time. I spend spare time in a modestly successful second career in creative wood art, with several pieces now in museums, and enough new ideas to keep me busy for years.”

Haefner's picture is of a couple with their great-grandchildren.

1953

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Garrett Murphy
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(518) 438-7319

From the correspondent, “Our 60th ReUnion is coming up. Please send us anecdotes, accomplishments, photographs or any other items that you would like to share with our classmates in the coming months.”

Dick Nemeth tells us (via John Moses) that he celebrated his 80th birthday (May 16) with another SKYDIVE! Dick had done one before for his 70th birthday. This one was done at the Outer Banks of North Carolina, where they had a beach house for a “Family Week” celebrating Dick’s wife Helen’s 80th, and several other birthdays. Of special note—the jump occurred on Friday the 13th.

Dr. Robert M. Richter writes, “I am retired now, over a dozen years from the practice of surgery and surgical endoscopy, but still actively teaching at two university-affiliated hospitals. Happily, Gladys and I have two great-granddaughters who occupy a large part of our time. I spend spare time in a modestly successful second career in creative wood art, with several pieces now in museums, and enough new ideas to keep me busy for years.”

The classes
been for over 25 years, Leslie Sobin, M.D. is director of pathology, Cancer Human Biobank, National Institutes of Health. He also serves as gastrointestinal pathology consultant at the INOVA Fairfax Hospital in Virginia and at the Joint Pathology Center, Department of Defense in Maryland. He continues his association with the World Health Organization as a member of the team preparing the 11th edition of the International Classification of Diseases.”

Ian MacDonald writes, “As a former city judge, I officiated at the wedding of my son, Ian Scott MacDonald, to Renee Giordano, Oct. 7, 2012, in Pawling, N.Y.”

1956

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Dr. Alan Greene
241 Perkins St. H401
Boston, Mass. 02130

Martin Stein
1107 Pipestern Place
Potomac, Md. 20854
judithstein@verizon.net

In tribute to Ernie Gardow, his classmates write, “Ernest Bernhard Gardow, Ph.D., P.E., passed away on June 30, 2012. He is gone but not forgotten. Ernie was devoted to his family, loved to travel and he enjoyed music. His classmates write, ‘Ernie Gardow ’56’

fundraising for the class, and served as class president and member of the Alumni Council. Ernie was a man of reliable integrity, loyalty and dedication. He was a genius, a stalwart of our Class of 1956; always there, always participating fully. Margery was, and always will be, an adopted daughter of Union.”

Richard Propp writes, “In addition to the Albany Symphony Orchestra, politics, education, parks and museums, Albany has a fine public library system, with five new neighborhood branches. I help coordinate the Tuesday noonday book reviews. We recently heard Union Professor Peter Heinegg discuss his interesting new book, Crazy Culture: The Sins of Civilization. It is a good read.”

1957

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

Dr. Howard E. Voss was recently inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society in recognition of his lifelong dedication to mentoring medical students and his nationally acclaimed work as director of the Volunteers in Medicine Clinic. The clinic serves Martin County, Florida residents without access to traditional care. He writes, ‘I have taught medicine during all my years of practice. To be affirmed that you’ve done it well by an honor student nomination and a vote of the Florida State University College of Medicine graduating class was most gratifying.’ Howard is a clinical associate professor at the university.

1958 ReUnion ‘13 May 31–June 2

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

Hugh Lehman writes, “My email is hughlehman@hotmail.com. I am happy to correspond with classmates.”

Dick McLane writes, “I’m still residing in Springfield, Ill., where I retired 12 years ago from the Federal Highway Administration. I continue volunteering, mostly at our local public library and the Illinois State Museum. I’m also active in our local Academy of Lifelong Learning, Breakfast Optimist Club and Springfield Camera Club.”

Bob Howe writes, “Homecoming this year was particularly special since my grandson, Alex Regan ’16, and his family attended, as well as close friend, David Horton and his wife Miriam. I had the honor of following Dick Kileen ’51 as chair of the Garnet Guard. Fireworks were provided by mother nature during the second quarter of the Homecoming game, which Union won, as usual. Plans are under way for our 55th ReUnion in 2013.”

Heiki Ellermets writes, “Enjoying second retirement after 30 years in the Air Force (retired as a colonel in 1989) and then 30 years as a Realtor.”

Tom Allen writes, “I’m still working and have started the Extra Dimension, a non-profit corporation for high-achieving minority high school students. My wife, Doyle, has just been ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church. These are very busy times for both of us here in Dallas.”

1959

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
William D. “Dal” Trader
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daltrader@earthlink.net
dalt@wbct.us

Geoff Pietsch writes, “In 1981, at age 44, I ran the New York City marathon in 2:32:30. I’m curious if any Union alumnus—or faculty or staff—has run faster at New York at any age?”
Bernard Kazmierczak writes, “I may be a unique Union graduate in that I was born in August 1935, delivered by midwife at home that had been a Union property. It was a former dormitory at 3 Cottage Row, Schenectady. Does anyone know of other alumni born on College property, or on former College property, who went on to graduate from Union?”

George Scott writes, “My wife and I live in Fort Washington, Md., right off I-95 near National Harbor/Gaylord Convention Ctr. Would like to hear from alumni I knew at Convention Ctr. Would like to National Harbor/Gaylord Md., right off I-95 near and I live in Fort Washington, Md.”

John Burk writes, “I am trying to write book on Govt. (human resources) and Union. I am retired from U.S. hear from alumni I knew at Convention Ctr. Would like to National Harbor/Gaylord Md., right off I-95 near and I live in Fort Washington, Md.”

Judy and John Salzman ’60 stand in front of Half-Dome, Yosemite

Anne and John Salzman wrote, “Spent a marvelous September visiting six National Parks in northern Calif. From Redwood NP to Sequoia NP, the Wine Country & Lake Tahoe...every location outdid the last. Could not find a favorite since each park had its own personality. Yosemite is fantastic but uber-crowded! Can’t wait for the next trip!”

1960

CLASS CORRESPONDENT

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

Stu Denenberg writes, “I am fully retired, except for teaching one course — “Ethics in the Information Age” — at SUNY Plattsburgh, and writing a monthly column for the local Press Republican (tec-soc.blogspot.com). The column explores the effects of technology on society and vice-versa.”

1961

CLASS CORRESPONDENT

Bill Condon
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Niskayuna, N.Y. 12309
bcondon01@nycap.rr.com
(518) 382-1096

Dr. Peter J. Adasek, of Little Falls, N.Y. and Colorado Springs, Colo., has been promoted to clinical professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He also lectures on child abuse issues nationally and internationally.

1962

CLASS CORRESPONDENT

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

Arnold Mindell writes, “After Union, I got my M.S. from M.I.T., studied physics in Zurich at the E.T.H. got a Ph.D. in psych and became a Jungian analyst. I developed process oriented psychology, am married to Amy Mindell, and live in Portland, Ore.”

Andy Larson writes, “My wife Diane and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary this year. We have five sons and I retired 15 years ago, after 30 years in engineering work at Monsanto. Recently our youngest son, Luke, and I hiked the Comundrum Hot Spring near Aspen, Colo. at 11,200 feet elevation.”

Vern Penner writes, “I returned last November to the Cape Verde Islands, where I served as U.S. Ambassador from 1986-1990. I made a 10-day sail through the islands and climbed the still active volcano on Fogo Island, so I can cross that off my bucket list.

Dr. Salvatore J. Esposito is past chairman of the Department of Dentistry, Oral Surgery and Maxillofacial Prosthetics at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, a position he held for 25 years. He is president of the Maxillofacial Foundation and the American Prosthodontic Society Foundation, and serves on the executive council of the International Society of Maxillofacial Rehabilitation. Salvatore is an adjunct associate professor, Case School of Medicine and Dental Medicine, and holds visiting professorships at the UCLA and SUNY at Buffalo Colleges of Dentistry, and the University of Turin in Torino, Italy. In 2007, he received the Andrew J. Ackerman Award for outstanding service to the specialty of maxillofacial prosthetics. He practices privately in Beachwood, Ohio.

Jerry Mayer writes, “I have been retired from IBM Glendale Lab since 1991 and still live in Endwell, N.Y. My wife and I spend the summers in Romulus, N.Y. on Cayuga Lake and the winters playing golf in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Our three sons are married and

1962
have a total of 9 kids, ranging in age from 6 to 16 and located in Penn., Texas and N.Y. Had all 17 of us together for a family reunion on the lake last summer and had a great time. If anyone gets to either Myrtle Beach or the Finger Lakes, we would like to see you.”

1963 ReUnion 13 May 31–June 2
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
George Ball
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gball@frontiernet.net

Daniel R. Schwarz is the Frederic J. Whiton Professor of English Literature and Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow at Cornell University. He has written and edited numerous books, directed 9 NEH seminars and lectured widely across the U.S. and abroad. His former graduate students and NEH participants have put together a festschrift to recognize him. Reading Texts, Reading Lives: Essays in the Tradition of Humanistic Cultural Criticism in Honor of Daniel R. Schwarz will be released this year.

Jim Strosberg writes, “Class of ’63, does September 1959 seem long ago when we received our freshman beanies? Or when President Carter Davidson taught us our alma mater? Our ReUnion committee (Tom Ackerman, Dave Davidson, Neil Kleinman, Cliff Mastrangelo and I) has been meeting to plan for our 50th year gathering May 31 – June 2. There are rooms reserved at the Holiday Inn on Nott Terrace. Please mail in your biographies for our Golden Yearbook. If you need a form, contact our alumni office at (518) 388-6168. We are looking forward to renewing old friendships and sharing our personal reflections on the past half century. Hope to see you on campus May 31!”

1964
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Anton Warde
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wardea@union.edu

Matt Intrieri writes, “Last year we visited our 49th and 50th states (Alaska and North Dakota). This year we’ve slowed down, enjoying our grandkids (two in Rhode Island and three in Minnesota). I am on sabbatical from Binghamton University (computer science, software engineering) and retired from IBM and Lockheed Martin. Now a member of the sandwich generation, closing houses of two relatives and a mom. A sign of times to come…”

Lew Gedansky writes, “I retired, effective September 15, to a new lifetime chore—getting my golf and tennis games up to beginner levels. My wife and I have also relocated to Boynton Beach, Fl. All the best to everyone.”

Kirby Oak, already retired for several years after his career as an OSI officer in the Air Force, will shortly cut back on his seasonal work as the chief officer of his own tax service in suburban Washington, D. C. Kirby (a.k.a. “K. Oak”) plans to attend the 50th ReUnion in 2014. He expects the rest of the class to be there too. “This time, no excuses,” he writes.

1965
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jon Lechevet, Ph.D.
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Edmeston, N.Y. 13335-2610
jnlechevet@verizon.net
Douglas LaBier Ph.D. is a business psychologist and psychoanalytic psychotherapist in Washington, D.C., where he is director of the Center for Progressive Development. He’s a featured contributor to *The Huffington Post*, writing about psychological health in this era of global interconnection, social and economic upheaval, and new technology, and how they impact personal relationships, organizational leadership and public policy. He’s reachable at dlabier@CenterProgressive.org.

1966
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Antonio F. Vianna
7152 Tanager Drive
Carlsbad, Calif. 92011–5033
simpatico1@juno.com

Antonio F. Vianna writes, “I am a published author of 17 novels and two non-fiction books since 2003. I have adapted four of my novels to screenplays, all of which are under consideration for film.”

1967
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Joseph Smaldino
720 Cameron St.
Sycamore, Ill. 60178
Frank Darmiento writes, “I have transitioned out of my engineering career into music. I now conduct my own 55-piece group, La Forza Chamber Orchestra (www.LaForzaOrchestra.org). I managed to sneak in one of my compositions on our concert last September—Symphony No. 2: Life in a Place Unknown. I also teach music privately and conduct a senior citizens concert band.”

Kenneth R. Kellner writes, “I recently retired from clinical practice after 35 years as a maternal-fetal medicine specialist at the University of Florida. I will continue as an emeritus professor at UF. My wife, Irene, and I will now be able to make spontaneous visits to our five grandchildren in Atlanta and Chicago.”


Steve Roehm writes, “Living in New York City, keeping busy and appreciating the vitality of NYC. Teaching in entrepreneurship programs at the Levin Institute at State University of NY (SUNY), and in other not-for-profit entrepreneurship programs in NYC. I am also consulting with executives from a small Middle Eastern petrochemical company on strategy and innovation.”

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

Neil Lewis writes, “I have recently been in touch with Tad Knight and Bernard Cohen. Since taking a buyout from the *New York Times* after a 24-year-career as a correspondent, I have taught at Duke Law School and been a fellow at the Kennedy School at Harvard, where I wrote an article that appeared in the *Columbia Journalism Review* about the history of the *New York Times*, Israel and American Jews. I am the executive director of a non-partisan, non-governmental task force investigating and doing a report on U.S. treatment of detainees since 9/11. I have traveled to Iraq, Libya and Cyprus for the project, and am going to Afghanistan. I will be out of work in February 2013.”

Kenneth A. Merchant, holder of the Deloitte & Touche LLP Chair of Accountancy at the University of Southern California, was named the 2013 winner of the American Accounting Association award for lifetime contributions to management accounting. Among his recent publications are *Management Accounting: Performance Measurement, Evaluation and Incentives* (2012) and *Blind Spots, Biases and Other Pathologies in the Boardroom* (2010). His daughter, Abbi, is a senior at Union.

1969
CLASS CORRESPONDENTS
Ray Pike
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rwpik@comcast.net

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

Dr. Don Bentrovato writes, “I retired as senior partner in a urology practice in January 2012. I am now semi-retired, working two days a week as a clinical associate professor, Department of Surgery, Division of Urology, Albany Medical College. I have had both my hands operated on for carpal tunnel disease, an unfortunate result of almost 40 years of doing surgery. I’m doing much better now, but my golf is not. My wife, Stacey, is a retired hospice nurse. We both enjoy taking courses at Union, through the UCALL Program. We have three granddaughters from our daughter, Daniella Warrell and her husband, Dr. Brendan Warrell, DVM. We have Lily, 7; Audrey, 5; and Georgia, 21 months. Our son, Chris, is a golf pro in the PGA Program, awaiting his Class A certification, and PGA Card, and working as an assistant pro in Sarasota, Fla. He is not yet married, but may now be ready! Also, a reminder to the Class of 1969 that our 45th ReUnion is coming up in 2014, and we should all make plans to be at Union...while most of us can still ambulate! Drop a line to donbentrov@yahoo.com if anyone has an idea for our parade theme, dinner plan, etc.”

Pete Tierney writes, “I climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in September. It may have been more sensible to have done it at age 25 rather than 65, but better late than never.”
the classes

1970

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

Mark Smooke reports he and his wife Diane have relocated to the Vail Valley in Colorado.

Peter Ericson writes, “I retired from my position as general counsel of PHICO Insurance Company (in Liquidation) in June 2011. My wife and I moved to Richmond, Va. to be closer to our son and grandchildren. I recently went to our annual gathering of Union friends in the Adirondacks with Ross Frasen, Rich Heiden and John Hammerstrom, and our wives.”

Mark Bornfield had his musical, MissSpelled, performed at the Cherry Lane Theater in NYC this past summer. He resides in Hollywood, Fla. and Cape Cod, Mass., and continues to entertain as singer/pianist/trumpeter and composer. His partner, D’Jamin Bartlett, performs with him and co-wrote the book to the musical. She originated the role of Petra in Sondheim’s A Little Night Music, singing “The Miller’s Son” on the original cast recording. She is a well-known actress as well. Visit www.markbornfieldmusic.com or mbbornfield@aol.com.

Bill Fink ’71 after installation as junior grand warden, Garden Lodge of the State of New York, Free and Accepted Masons

1971

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

Mark Kellett retired from his job as business administrator at Schalmont Central School District in Rotterdam, N.Y. Aug. 31, 2012. With a classics major from Union, he started

1972

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Frederick A. Levy LCSW
732 Thimble Shoals Blvd.
Suite 702
Newport News, Va. 23606-4256
glda1@verizon.net

W. Allen Schade writes, “Have gotten more involved in the sport of outrigger canoe racing. This year our crew took 2nd place at Kona in the Queen Liliuokalani Race. 153 boats raced in all. The Australian boys from Noosa town, up Queensland way beat us out for first. Also completed the Catalina to Newport race for the fifth time—got third place in our division. I’m sitting in seat four.”

Fred Levy writes, “I have been working in solo private practice as a clinical social worker since 1994, specializing in the needs of adult survivors of trauma. This past October, my wife, Cindy, and I celebrated 33 years married. We have two children: Josh, 31, who is studying in a doctoral program in history at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and Elana, 29, who is preparing for the ministry in Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. We have been living in Newport News, Va. since 1984.”

1973

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

Lew Kinter is on the board of trustees for the Delaware Valley Science Fairs, a vehicle for stimulating interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics among students in middle and high schools. Lew is senior director of Regulatory Toxicology, and head of Toxicological Operations, Safety Assessment (U.S.) at AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals in Wilmington, Pa. He manages preclinical safety programs conducted in support of AstraZeneca’s pharmaceutical clinical development activities in the U.S. Lew has been engaged in pharmaceutical research and development and comparative physiology/medicine for 30 years. He is an internationally recognized expert in cardiovascular-renal physiology, pharmacology and toxicology.

Becker & Poliakoff PA, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., hired Richard C. Litman for its intellectual property and emerging technologies practice group. Richard, founding shareholder of the Litman Law firm of Manassas, Va., brought five additional patent lawyers, one trademark lawyer and six patent agents with him to his new firm. He does patent-related licensing and commercialization work, in addition to university and research-institute technology transfer work.
1974

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gerald A. Dwyer
geraldadwyer@gmail.com

Abby Schutzer Crisses and Andrew Crisses ’71 write, “Our daughter, Amanda Crisses, was married to Michael Schlappig on June 2, 2012 at the Metropolitan Club in Manhattan. They met as undergraduates at Cornell University.”

Charles Rothman writes, “I will be having four short stories coming out in anthologies this year: ‘Her Old Man’ in Not Just Rockets and Robots: Daily Science Fiction Year 1; ‘The Last Dragon Slayer’ in Unidentified Funny Objects; ‘Spirk Station’ in Futuresdaze; and ‘The Art of Dancing Naked’ in Mortis Operandi.”

1976

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

John Corey writes, “Last April, I sold our small cryogenics company (Qdrive) to Chart Industries. I am serving as VP for innovation and engineering in a diverse, global operation. It’s like going from high school to college all over again. I love it. Family is well, farm is good, vintage cars are fun.”

Lynne A. Birdsall writes, “I am very happily married to Ryk Loske and live in the beautiful Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. It’s pretty cool to be 58 years old and have finally found my home. My 30+ year career in college admission has brought me to Sterling College, a small, environmentally-focused college where community, stewardship and work are valued and practiced on a daily basis. I am inspired by our students and those we recruit, who are gaining the knowledge and experience they need to work as practitioners and advocates for sustainability. Check out the website at www.sterlingcollege.edu and feel free to let me know about interested students.”

David Gordon writes, “I recently ran the Hartford marathon, meeting my goal of finishing in less than four hours. My friend and former roommate, Robert Johnson, was on hand to cheer me on. He surprised me by coming up from New Jersey. I even beat his best marathon time by one minute, so now I claim the unofficial 410 South marathon record. Any other former 410 South residents who have run a marathon?”

Joseph R. Bedell writes, “Lost my job and moved back to N.Y. to be near the granddaughters. Looking for work in the Rochester area.”

Gerald Speitel, associate dean for Academic Affairs in the Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, was the recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Terry Hathaway writes, “Retired from 30 years of civil service with the USAF as a librarian, and ‘other duties as assigned.’ I’m enjoying life—working a little, playing a lot. Just got back from my first Road Scholar trip; hiking the Bold Coast of Maine.”

1977

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

Trauma surgeon Dr. John Fildes earned several awards for his work at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. This summer he was named a 2012 University of Nevada, Reno Foundation Professor, in recognition of his outstanding research and teaching achievements. John also received Nevada Business magazine’s distinction as a 2012 Healthcare Hero for Southern Nevada in the research/technology category. John joined the University of Nevada School of Medicine in 1996, where he is professor and vice-chair of the Department of Surgery, and program director of general surgery and surgical critical care. He is also the medical director and chair of the Department of Trauma and Surgical Critical Care at University Medical Center of Southern Nevada.

1978

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jeff Laniewski
Jlaniew1@maine.rr.com

Andy Denison writes, “Appointed by the mayor to the Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Commission. The nine citizen commission members, along with city department heads, advise and guide operations of the Parks and Recreation Department, including one of the largest urban parks in the U.S.”

Keith Dropkin has been named 2012 USA Curling Development Coach of the Year. His son Korey, age 17, was awarded 2012 USA Male Curling Athlete of the Year after winning a bronze medal while representing the U.S. at the inaugural Winter Youth Olympics in Innsbruck, Austria. His son Stephen, age 21, led his team, including brother Korey, to the 2012 U.S. Junior National Curling Championship, where he was voted All-Star Skip. The team also secured 5th place at the 2012 World Junior Curling Championships, held in Ostersund, Sweden. Keith, the CFO at Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology, a small college in Boston, and his wife Shelley, are celebrating their 29th anniversary.

Edward Jones writes, “After retiring from BPMI, opened eajones.com LLC for technical documentation editing.”
the classes

Beth Hellmers Christian just finished a year-long term as state chair of the Health Law Section of the New Jersey Bar Association. She is a partner in the law firm of Giordano, Halleran and Ciesla, PC in Red Bank, N.J.

1979
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Christine Cameron
cameronjc@guilderland schools.org

David T. Robinson writes, "My daughter Becca is the third generation to attend Union. Her graduation in June was a proud day for all of us. Becca is now living and working in Ann Arbor, Michigan with two of her Union friends. My dad, David H. Robinson '50, is retired and living near us in Lebanon, N.H. I am working from home as an independent consultant in electromagnetic sensors and systems for domestic and international clients."

Jim Mastracco writes, "I'm enjoying rehearsals on Wednesday nights, as I did at Union this time of year, singing for Frank Albinder and the Washington Men's Camerata (http://www.camerata.com). This is the eighth year that I've been celebrating the wonderful singing tradition of Union, and the good fortune of meeting Hugh Allen Wilson in the fall of 1979. If you're in Washington this December for the holidays, come listen and say hello. And if you're missing the sound of TTBB at Union and live in the Washington Metro area, drop a line to Frank."

Lee Wasserman writes, "I was honored to be inducted into Schenectady High School's Hall of Fame in June for my work over the years to protect the environment, advance women's economic interests, and enable greater citizen participation in our democratic institutions. My son wasn't impressed until he learned that the great basketball coach Pat Riley is also an inductee. In my remarks to Schenectady High's 2012 graduating class, I thanked Union for making my career possible."

Andrew L. Sandler writes, "Life is good and professional challenges abound. After 22 years as litigator at Skadden law firm, I'm now over three years into leading new ventures—the law firm BuckleySandler and consulting firm Treliant Risk Advisors. Both are focused on helping financial services firms address regulatory and enforcement challenges following financial crisis. Karen and I are traveling more and enjoying our adult children. Karna (26) in law school, Michael (25) working with me at Treliant and on way to B School, and Jake (22) finishing up work on campaign and headed to Colorado to teach snowboarding."

Ben Dibble and his wife, Beth, enjoyed the company of Dave Robinson and his wife, Bonnie, at their New Hampshire home in October. All are Downton Abbey fans and they had a black tie dinner and watched some of the recent episodes. Ben continues working at Dell in Nashua, N.H., where he is a lead performance technical support engineer in the iSCSI group.

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

Dr. Dave Schwartz (a.k.a. "The Schwa") threw his annual July 4 Union College summer bash at his home in Kings Point. This year's theme was Texas BBQ with a Grateful Dead tribute band to bring back the Union memories of BBQ, beer and the Dead in Schenectady in the great days of yore. In attendance were The Fish, The Slvs, Darky, Symbol, BR, Aquaman, Dicky and The Schwa! Also known as Mike Fishbin, Jeff Silverman, Darcy Hammerman, Larry Fallek, Barry Rosenberg, Jay Gilburne, Rich Roth and David Schwartz. They will all be on diets for next year's event (except Darcy)! David writes, "If you are a lost member of our ‘gaggle’ we would love to find you for next year's event. Email sschwa8433@aol.com and we will include you in our 5th annual gathering on Long Island...what a long strange trip it’s been."

Rich Tomaszewski recently retired from Ford Motor Company after more than 30 years. During his career he worked as market representa- tion manager for the Charlotte and Atlanta regions. His wife of 32 years, Joann, is a Spanish teacher at Peachtree Charter Middle School and his daughter Elizabeth is pursuing a doctorate in environmental chemistry at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. His daughter Anna-Maria is studying international affairs and modern languages at Georgia Tech. Both his children are recipients of the Zell Miller...
Robert Q. Pollard Jr. ‘80

Scholarships. He writes, “A father could not be prouder of his daughters.”

David Dunham recently released “King of Dragon Pass” on the iPhone. The game was first released out in 1999 for Mac and Windows, but game-play and user interface were updated for touch devices. The game can be found either at the App Store or on http://a-sharp.com/kodp/. An update has been completed to allow blind players to enjoy the game.

Rochester School for the Deaf has honored Rochester School for the Blind players to enjoy the game. Also been completed to allow blind players to enjoy the game.

Steven Attermann ’79, in private practice internal medicine, and Rita Cohen Attermann, a licensed clinical social worker, celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary this Thanksgiving.

1982

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

Northwest Mississippi Community College instructor Larry Shaffer, who teaches at the Lafayette-Yalobusha Technical Center in Oxford, was selected to attend the annual Lampighters Conference, which honors excellence in teaching. Larry, who teaches courses in human anatomy and physiology and microbiology, is in his 11th year at Northwest. He holds a doctorate in quantitative biology from the University of Texas in Arlington.

1983

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

Dr. Jay Dewell is a board certified general surgeon. He most recently served 18 years as attending general surgeon in private practice at Alice Hyde Medical Center in Malone. He performs surgeries at Canton-Potsdam Hospital and recently transitioned his main practice location from Malone to Potsdam, N.Y.

1984

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

Geoffrey Tyre writes, “I was promoted to lead systems engineer working for Raytheon on the USNS Observation Island, a ship that is out on the open ocean 11 months a year. The port calls in Japan are fantastic. The ship collects data all over the world.”

James “Jim” C. Carl is dean of Sacred Heart University’s Isabelle Farrington College of Education. He holds a teacher certification from Plymouth State University in New Hampshire and a master’s degree and Ph.D. in educational policy studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Previously, Jim served as department chair of Curriculum and Foundations at Cleveland State University.

1985

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

James Heinegg was featured in an August article in The CaldwellsPatch, which focused on his new job as superintendent of Caldwell-West Caldwell Schools. Previously, he taught fifth grade in the district at Washington Elementary School.

Lee K. Aaron writes, “Our family is fantastic with my daughter in her senior year of high school, my son in his junior year at Brandeis, and my loving wife Rina ’84 still putting up with me. 2012 was time for a change for me. After 16 years at Alpha Industries, I have taken on the new position of president of International Operations and Retail Branding for Rivers End Trading Co. I look forward to the new challenge and exciting opportunities with some of the most authentic U.S. apparel brands available anywhere in the world.”
Cardiothoracic surgeon Dr. Kathy Magliato recently received the Jane Golub Leadership in Women’s Health Award for her work in women’s health. She is one of only a few female cardiothoracic surgeons in the country, and has developed several cardiac programs to benefit women.

1986
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Phil Bean
pbean@haverford.edu

Paul P. Jesep recently founded Corporate Chaplaincy in New York’s Capital District to address the growing spiritual health and wellness needs of executives and professionals throughout New York and Western New England. Paul is an attorney who also graduated from a Christian seminary.

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

Dr. Joseph Damore Jr. attended the Kent State vs. Army football game at West Point’s Michie Stadium on Oct. 13 with four other Zeta Beta Tau brothers: Ken Lesnik, West Rapoport ’85, Jeff Rosen ’88 and Geoff Schenkel ’88. Joe is a psychiatrist in private practice in Bedford Hills, N.Y., and an adjunct professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. West is an attorney in private practice in Bedford Hills, where he resides with family. Ken, vice president of Scorebig; Jeff, managing director at Societe Generale; and Geoff, vice president of HRS IT Infrastructure Operations for Xerox HR Solutions, all live in New Jersey with their families.

Meserve Platt writes, “Enjoying life in San Francisco; working on a new diagnostic for rheumatoid arthritis at Crescendo Bioscience, Inc.; and visiting Yosemite as often as possible with my family.

Jeffrey Nudi writes, “I became a runner two years ago. In October 2010, I ran a 5K race. In December 2011, I ran a half marathon in Las Vegas. On Oct. 14, 2012, I ran my first and last marathon in San Francisco. I will continue with shorter races, and a couple of halves a year, but the training schedule for the marathon takes up too much time. I enjoy running and have become a healthier person for it.”

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

Lynn Chabot writes, “I am working for the Schenectady County DA’s Office as child abuse multidisciplinary team coordinator, and I run the Child Advocacy Center. I will also be working as Adirondack regional director for the resurrected Empire State Games in 2013. I maintain close ties with Union, having two aunts who work there and having had an intern from Union this year, as well as several co-workers from the DA’s Office who also attended Union. I also follow Union sports with Dutchwoman pride!”

David Novick recently accepted a position at Mass. College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Worcester, Mass. as faculty associate, sciences. David recently was employed at Brockton High School as a biology teacher. He writes, “I am charged with developing and teaching online science courses, working with faculty to develop online or hybrid courses, and hiring/supervising adjunct online science faculty.”

Keith Young writes, I married Anna-Catherine Fowler on July 16, 2011. We are living in Charlotte, N.C. and expecting our first child in mid-April. In addition to being an associate of the Society of Actuaries, I became an enrolled actuary in 2011. Thankfully, no more actuarial exams! I’m now in my 18th year working for Towers Watson (formerly Watson Wyatt), a benefits consulting firm.”

Diane Rose-Solomon writes, “I recently self-published my first children’s book, JJ The American Street Dog and How He Came to Live in Our House. The book teaches kids ages 4 to 9 about animal rescue and pet homelessness, and empowers them to make a difference. A percentage of sales go to animal rescue organizations. For information, check out www.sop3publishing.com or e-mail diane@sop3.com.”
1989

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Stephanie Spencer Wiggs
1722 Pine Street
Livermore, Calif. 94551
swfcorg@aol.com

Douglas E. Gregory, of Rochester, N.Y., has been an assistant United States attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice since 1999, handling a variety of organized crime, narcotics and street gang prosecutions. He recently returned from Zagreb, Croatia, where he advised Croatian prosecutors in general trial tactics, including cross examination techniques, consistent with the ongoing implementation of reforms to the Croatian Criminal Procedure Act and Criminal Code. The government of Croatia concluded accession negotiations with the European Union in June 2011, and Croatia is scheduled to become an EU member in July 2013.

1990

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

Dr. David Markenson has been appointed deputy editor of the journal Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness, the official publication of the American Medical Association. David is medical director, Disaster Medicine and Regional Emergency Services, at Westchester Medical Center. Miami-based private equity firm Trivest Partners promoted David Gershman to partner and general counsel. David joined Trivest in 2002 and leads the legal function for the firm, including deal structuring and transactional services. He has served as director of several Trivest portfolio companies such as ATX Networks, Hazmasters and Herbal Magic.

1991

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

ProEx Physical Therapy recently named Rob Kaulbach clinic manager of its new Middleton, Mass. location. Rob has a master’s of physical therapy from Simmons College in Boston, and earned his doctor of physical therapy from MGH Institute of Health Professionals.

Scott Daniels was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce on Aug. 27, 2012 as a federal patent judge, to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in Alexandria, Va. Scott’s appointment follows 15 years of private practice focused on patent, trademark prosecution and litigation.

1992

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

Market Strategies International recently hired Gregory Mishkin as a vice president of research and consulting. He will work across all company divisions and serve as its primary subject matter expert for the wireless communications industry. Previously, Gregory worked at comScore Inc., where he served as vice president of telecom and wireless.

1993

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Jill Bernstein
New York, N.Y. 10023-7828
jilbernstein@yahoo.com

Jed M. Nosal has joined Brown Rudnick LLP in the firm’s Boston office as counsel in the Government Law & Strategies and Energy Utilities and Environmental Groups. He was formerly chief of the Business and Labor Bureau in the office of Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley. Jed also served as chief of the Energy and Telecommunications Division in the Attorney General’s Office, advising Coakley on energy and telecommunications matters, including general policy, litigation and legislative strategy.

1994

CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kristi Campbell & Kurt Venator
7322 Cornell Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63130
kvenator@purina.com

In June, The New England Direct Marketing Association hosted its annual award ceremony honoring creative excellence in print, direct mail, broadcast and interactive by New England-based direct marketing professionals. Ty Velde, co-founder and director of client services at Overdrive Interactive, accepted six gold awards on behalf of Overdrive Interactive, including the award for Best Web Design.
the classes

1995
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Caroline Paine Pannhorst
32 Nottingham Way North
Clifton Park, N.Y. 12065
cpannhorst@msn.com

Matt Baumgartner was recently featured in Metroland newspaper. The story focused on his success as a restaurateur and on his new menswear company, Howes and Baum. For more, visit http://metroland.net/.

Gregg Slow was named senior vice president of sales and national accounts, and a member of the senior executive team of XOJET Inc., a leader in private aviation. Previously, he was senior vice president at NetJets, responsible for developing and managing sales for the New York City region.

Jon Miller lives in Arlington, Va. with his wife and two daughters, 4 and 1. Jon is working as a patent attorney for a medium-sized boutique intellectual property firm in Northern Virginia. He recently released a self-produced debut album, “Patent Pending.” The album showcases a distinctive jam-inspired, harmonica-infused acoustic/electric guitar style in a collection of upbeat and complex songs. Check it out at jonmillerband.com

1996
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Betsy Phelps Seplowitz
104 Tompion Way
Ballston Spa, N.Y. 12020
bseplowitz@yahoo.com

Richard Fuerst was recently elected president of the Living Resources Foundation, Inc. The foundation was formed in 1993 to assist Living Resources to accept, solicit, collect and raise money for charitable purposes, particularly for the promotion of the care, facilities and equipment for individuals with disabilities and their families.

1997
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Sara Amann Garrand
367 Schauber Road
Ballston Lake, N.Y. 12019
sgarrand1@nycap.rr.com

Dave Riggi writes, “I recently accepted a new job as a systems analyst for the Finance Department at Union College (also, I’m still the head track and field coach at Union). My wife, Cindy, and I welcomed our first child, Amelia Christina on 11/1/11. She is at the fast crawling stage and we are doing our best to keep up with her!”

1998
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Ryan T. Smith, MBA ’00
284 Sussex Circle
Jupiter, Fla. 33458
rsmith@thebenjaminschool.org

Peter Mody recently accepted a position at Queensbury High School in Queensbury, N.Y. as an assistant principal. Peter recently was employed at Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake CSD as a teacher. He writes, “After finishing my C.A.S. in educational leadership theory from SUNY Plattsburgh in May, I passed certification exams for school building leader and school district leader for NYS. I was offered a position as an assistant principal in August and accepted. It has been a fun challenge so far and while I do miss teaching, I am looking forward to the rigors of being in another high-quality district and working with more students than I ever have before.”

1999
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Kellie Forrestall
360 First St.
Lowell, Mass. 01850
forrestkj@hotmail.com

Roger Noyes '00 is a member of the Arch Stanton Quartet in 2005 and they now have two beautiful children, Emma and Jackson, ages 1 and 2 months. They live in Philadelphia, where Nate is an elementary school teacher and Jessica is a grants manager in cancer research.

2000
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Erika Newell
546 Pacific St. #2
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217
erika_newell@hotmail.com

Mika Street was recently featured in Bloomberg Businessweek. The story focused on her chain of Uptown Pilates studios and the success she’s had filling a niche in the Manhattan area and beyond.

2002
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Gina L. Campanella
campanella.gina@gmail.com

Kaplan Construction of Boston, a firm offering a complete range of building programs for institutional,
commercial, healthcare, industrial, and multi-family housing clients, recently hired Nathan Peck, LEED AP, as a senior project manager. Previously, Nate served as a senior project manager for Turner Construction, where he oversaw projects including Microsoft’s Iconic Entry at One Cambridge Center; the Massachusetts General Hospital Paul S. Russell M.D. Museum of Medical History and Innovation; and the Genzyme Allston Landing Facility Expansion (Phase II).

2003 ReUnion ’13 May 31–June 2
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Katrina (TenTor) Laller
50A Locust Street
Danvers, Mass. 01923
kats@alumni.union.edu

Ashley (Rinear) Sanders has been happily married for seven years to her husband Doug and has a three-year-old daughter, Riley. She is employed by NYCDEP and working in Shokan, N.Y. This year, Ashley achieved her license as a professional engineer in NYS.

Ned Clark writes, “I am the vice president and program director for Travel For Teens, LLC. My wife and I had our first baby on Aug. 17, 2012—Cooper Pray Clark.”

2004
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Rachel Marin
rachel.marin@gmail.com
(973) 670-7692

Ben Strauss-Malcolm writes, “Happy to report a very successful and adventurous career in the arts directing a private art gallery in La Jolla, Calif. I have been enjoying the SoCal sun and outdoor living, and with numerous trips back east. It’s always great catching up with Union alums in NYC.”

Jack Cole has celebrated a couple of milestones lately. After seven years of producing at MTV, including five years as a show producer on the Emmy Award–winning show Made, he has accepted a role as senior producer on an upcoming Discovery Channel show. In addition, Jack just celebrated two years of marriage to his wife, Victoria. Follow Jack’s alter ego at his absurd, satirical blog: www.exaggerating-enthusiast.com.

Chris Berk started graduate school at the University of Michigan in 2006 and is writing his doctoral dissertation for a Ph.D. in sociocultural anthropology. For his research he works with Tasmanian Aboriginal peoples in Australia. His first time to that part of the world was a 2004 Union term abroad with Sharon and George Gmelch. Chris can be reached at cberk@umich.edu.

The past year and a half has been quite busy for Amy Payeur. She defended her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in December of 2010 and moved to Midland, Mich. to work at Impact Analytical. In October 2011, on the beach at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lake Shore, she was engaged to William Porter. They married in September and couldn’t be happier.

Nicole (Carluccio) Burns writes, “I completed my masters of business administration at Baruch College in Manhattan in May 2010. I then worked in Manhattan as a healthcare consultant. Last year, I began working with my mother to help grow and manage her small business, the Aurora DeJuliiis, MD European Medical Spa, in Northern New Jersey.” In May, Nicole attended the March of Dimes Walk for Babies with Jaclyn Bloom and Steve Burns ’01.

Rachel Marin writes, “I am practicing law in New York and in New Jersey with a focus on consumer finance litigation, and won a federal court of appeals decision last year. I recently met up with Michelle Latzoni at the Bowery Hotel in Manhattan for a fundraiser for the city’s first underground park. We had a great time.”

2005
CLASS CORRESPONDENT
Andrea Doenges
andrea.doenges@gmail.com

Kit Goldstein’s play, It’s Raining Tamales, recently received a third place prize at the 2012 Jackie White Memorial National Children’s Play Writing Contest. The contest, presented by Columbia Entertainment Company in Columbia, Missouri, is designed to promote the development of new scripts that will be enjoyed by family audiences. It’s Raining Tamales tells the story of a clever woman who must help her foolish husband outwit a bandit. The judges declared it “a light and humorous play with a bit of moral” that would be “delightful to see on stage.” Kit is a native of Niskayuna, N.Y. and has been active in writing for local theater since 1998. Many of her plays and musicals have been produced in the area.

2006

Emily Charlap recently started a new job as the public policy associate at Women’s Action for New Direction in

A new way to connect

Union College will roll out EverTrue, the latest technology for alumni, this January. You’ll be able to find EverTrue in the App and Google stores. Check it out today—EverTrue will change the way U stay connected with the College and all your classmates.
**Attention BOA card holders**

Do you have a Union College Bank of America credit card? Please call the Alumni Office at (518) 388-6168 to check the status of the loyalty program, as BOA has informed the College it is cancelling the program.

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**2007**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**
Nick Salvatoriello  
nick.salvatoriello@gmail.com

A photo by Nancy Borowick graced the cover of the December issue of the journal, Radical History Review. She also had a photo essay included in the publication.

**Joseph Mackey** recently accepted a position at Meadwestvaco in Richmond, Va. as HR data generalist. He was at Virginia Department of Health as office service supervisor. He writes, “After a great two years of working with VDH, I have decided to look at a career in HR. I am very blessed that I have been given the opportunity to pursue my career goal and work with a great company while doing so.”

Patricia Lynch Associates recently announced that Danna DeBlasio will manage the firm’s new Latino Affairs department, which will assist Latino small business owners in the U.S. in navigating changing government and political landscapes. Danna previously served as manager of PLA’s Panama operations, overseeing client relations and special projects.

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**2008**

**CLASS CORRESPONDENT**  
Dana Cohen  
250 E. 63rd Street, Apt. 1001  
New York, N.Y. 10065  
dana.lynn.cohen@gmail.com

**Eden Neary** recently accepted a position as trooper with the Vermont State Police in New Haven. He was previously employed at Northwestern Mutual as a financial representative. Eden writes, “On 08/03/2012 I graduated from the Vermont State Police Pre-Basic Academy and started my career as a trooper. I look forward to a long career with the State Police and enjoy serving the citizens of Vermont. It is also an honor and a tribute to my father, Peter, who wanted to see me become a trooper, and unfortunately was unable to prior to his passing. I know he is proud even though he is not here to tell me.”

Elizabeth Monti ’11 and Michael Eisenman ’09 became engaged Sept. 30, 2012. Elizabeth is in graduate school at Boston College, studying to be a nurse practitioner. Michael is working for athenahealth in Watertown, Mass.

Beth Solomon received a M.Ed. in higher education in student affairs from Salem State University on May 17, 2012. She writes, “I graduated with honors and as the first recipient of the Dr. Leila V. Moore Award. I am excited to start my new job as a resident director at Merrimack College.”

Marisa A. Kaufman is deputy press secretary for New York Senator Charles E. Schumer. Previously, she was his Long Island deputy regional director.

Daniel J. Spero recently completed his certification as a Bikram Yoga Instructor. He lives in Hoboken, N.J., works in corporate office leasing at Jones Lang LaSalle, and teaches at the Surya Yoga Academy in Hoboken.

Douglas Weller recently accepted a position at Downtown Custom Printwear as head of sales and marketing. He writes, “This past summer, I moved back to Schenectady to accept a position with fellow Union grad and Theta Delta Chi brother Ben Sadler. Ben runs and owns Down-
Notes from Afar

1956

Arthur Fabricant writes, “In mid-September I was in Bilbao for the David Hockney exhibit at the Guggenheim Museum. I then drove to Biarritz to visit my son and new grandson. I also took a French language course for a week. As it was off season there were not sufficient students to form the advertised 50+ group. My classmates’ ages ranged from 19-25 years; the professeur was less than half my age. C’est la vie.”

1956

Arthur Fabricant ’56 visited the David Hockney exhibit at the Guggenheim Museum recently.

1977

Nicole Menage writes, “I am the representative of the United Nations World Food Programme in Nepal. This is my first post in Asia, after having served many years in Africa and several in our headquarters in Rome, Italy.”

1977

Nicole Menage ’77 in Nepal

1985

Jonathan Heimer writes, “I recently arrived at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq for a one-year assignment as commercial attaché. No families allowed here, so my wife and two daughters (ages 9 and 6) are living in Shanghai to be near my wife’s parents. Upon assignment’s end we’ll all meet up in Tokyo, where I’ll begin a four-year assignment—almost 30 years to the day since I first went to Japan at the recommendation of Professor Donald Thurston, and 15 years since my wife and I left Tokyo to join the Foreign Service life.”

1985

Jonathan Heimer in Baghdad, Iraq

2009

Sean Mulkerne writes, “After graduating from Union, I attended the London School of Economics and Political Science, graduating in 2010 with a master’s degree in global politics. I now work as a qualitative researcher at an education consultancy, managing projects for clients including BP, the Royal Bank of Scotland, the British Library, and local government officials in London. I also recently co-authored two reports concerning the Afghan National Police and the U.K. labor market for language graduates. Outside the office, I ran my first half-marathon earlier this year, and managed to see three Olympic events, despite the utter chaos that was the London 2012 ticketing system!”

2009

Sean Mulkerne ’09

2010

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

Lizzy LaBonte and Alec Rosen recently became engaged. She is a project manager at Brightcove and he is a regional sales specialist at Pioneer Investments. A June 2013 wedding is planned at the Corinthian Yacht Club in Marblehead. The couple lives in Charlestown, Mass.

2012

Albany Medical College first-year students Ajay Major and Aleena Paul founded in-Training, an online newspaper for medical students, in June 2012. in-Training features reflection, commentary, and policy articles from medical students in the United States and Canada. It seeks to capture the unique experiences of the medical student body and to serve as an educational opportunity for budding physician-journalists. Please visit the publication at in-training.org.

DCP is an area leader in screen-printing, embroidery, vinyl graphics, signs, banners and uniforms. Feel free to visit us at the shop and see what we’re all about.”

2012

Albany Medical College first-year students Ajay Major and Aleena Paul founded in-Training, an online newspaper for medical students, in June 2012. in-Training features reflection, commentary, and policy articles from medical students in the United States and Canada. It seeks to capture the unique experiences of the medical student body and to serve as an educational opportunity for budding physician-journalists. Please visit the publication at in-training.org.

Lizzy LaBonte in Nepal
EMERGING FROM THE ABBEY COMMUNITY
The students of Monday’s Chapel, August 26, enjoyed a
outdoor service in honor of the 150th anniversary of the
1863 chapel.

Alumni attending the wedding of Deana Grattan ‘00 and Kevin Bonno.

Emily and Mike Elmendorf ’96.

Nicholas Crawford ’01 and Christine Mancuso wedding. Left to right: Jason Lederer ’01, Ross Guida ’01, Nicholas Crawford, Reuben Kabel ’01 and Scott (Dicks) Friedman ’01.

Alumni attending the wedding of David Bradshaw (Brad) Akin ’06 and Courtney Rueter.

Evan Wilhelm Jahn ’02 and Julie Smith Jahn.

Joanna Tai ’00 and Jim Chisholm.

Unions
1996

Emily and Mike Elmendorf were married June 1, 2012 in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Michael Winter '97 was a member of the wedding party, and John '97 and Sarah Vero '02 were among other alumni in attendance.

2000

Deana Grattan was married to Kevin Bonno at Glenora Winery on Seneca Lake in Dundee, N.Y. on May 12, 2012. In attendance were Stephanie Sienkiewicz Greenhut, Lisa Pasch, Tara McManus, Lindsay Hathaway, Colin Wells '99, Jacqueline Eatz, Christa Cook, Ellen Taylor Jones and Jonathan Jones '01. They are living in Rochester, N.Y., where Deana is finishing her residency in neurology at the University of Rochester.

Joanna Tai married Jim Chisholm on Sept. 30, 2012 in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Her best friends Amanda (Jackson) Zeltser and Michelle (Tham) Metz attended as bridesmaids. The couple resides in Los Angeles, Calif. They are enjoying a life together filled with their shared passions for good eats, shredding mountains and west coast swing dancing.

2001

Nicholas Crawford '01 and Christine Mancuso are happy to announce their marriage on Aug. 25, 2012 in Burlington, Vt. They reside in Boston, Mass.

2002

Evan Wilhelm Jahn married Julie Smith Jahn on Saturday, June 2, 2012 in Chicago, Ill. Alumni in attendance included Seth Wolfman '01, James Slocum '01, Katherine Beebe '01 and Andrew Beebe '01.

2004

Lisa Ginsburg and Jonathan Battisti were married in December 2012. Lisa, who earned a master’s degree in applied nutrition from Sage Graduate School, is a registered dietitian at Community Care Physicians, Latham, N.Y. Jonathan, who received a degree in electrical engineering from Union, is employed in the Wind Energy Division of General Electric, Schenectady.

2006

Kate Boe and Brian Cannella '05 were married on May 19, 2012. Alumni in attendance were Andrew Brett, Tyler Lewis '05, Tyson McCabe '05, Matt Leonardo '05, Jordan Schur '05, Neal Herman '05, Hadley Planting '07, Dan Goldberg '05, Ellen Spicer, Emily de Vismes, Evan Duffy '08, Elliott Luchansky '05, Doug Sonnenshein '05, Amy Seusing, Chris Curcio, Sarah Bills, Margaret Southwell '05, Pete Gross '05, Hannah Israelow and Chris Stoner '05.

Jessica Simmon Hower and Joseph Hower are happy to announce their marriage on Sept. 4, 2010 at the Stroudsmoor Country Inn in Stroudsburg, Pa. After six years in Arlington Va., they have recently moved to Philadelphia.

Sean Tuthill and Christine Drigne were married in August 2012 in Vermont. Alumni in attendance were Matt Torpey, Kenny Bodgen, Adrian Christie, Jon Hammond, Becca Winnick Hammond '07, Brendan Schaaf, Brian Selchick, Jamie Cairns, Anna Salvia, Dhimriti Nikolla '11, Anique Lebel, Greg Conklin, Jackie Tuthill '10 and Billy Goldstein.

Brad Akin married Courtney Rueter on Aug. 11, 2012 at the bride’s home in Portland, Ore. Many alumni came to celebrate with dancing, singing and bounce house-ing. In an unsurprising move, Rob Katuska led the pack of groomsmen that included Nat Brown and Tom Reilly. Other alums in attendance were Emily Charlap, Sarah Bills, Evan Gouzie, Jess Ritchie, Lauren Canepari, Sarah Surbun, Kalen Sargent, Ro Singh, Carol Shotzbarger '07, Derick Mayer '07, Alex Dichne and Corey Hayes '07.

In July 2012, William Holiday '06 and Brianne Sosa '08 celebrated their first wedding anniversary. They were married at a vineyard in Temecula, Calif. July 8, 2011.

2009

Erin Plasse '09 married Jeff Doane on Sept. 1, 2012, in Oswego, N.Y.

2008

Eden Neary and Justine Neary are happy to announce their marriage on Aug. 24, 2012 at Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia, N.Y. They reside in Vergennes, Vt. Justine is a registered nurse at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury and Eden is a trooper with the Vermont State Police, stationed in the New Haven Barracks. Alumni in attendance included the groomsmen Benjamin Bristow and Sami Habayeb, and bridesmaid Mara Neary. The couple honeymooned at Excellence Resort, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.
Justine and Eden Neary ’08 at their wedding

Alumni at the wedding of William Holiday ’06 and Brianne Sosa ’08 include Danna DeBlasio ’08, Andrew Dikan ’06, Alyssa Holmes ’08, Carly Aimi ’08, Josh Coyle ’08, Lauren Hutchinson ’08 and Elizabeth Martinez ’08.
1999

Heather (Germann) Mosall and Michael Mosall ’00 proudly welcomed a baby boy, Henry Michael on Dec. 20, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and is such a happy little guy. Big sisters, Audrey and Emerson (twins, age 5), completely adore their baby brother and have warmed up to his name, after insisting he be called “Prince Charming.”

Emily (Gewehr) Monagle is proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Ella Emily Monagle. She was born on Aug. 22, 2011 in Boston, Mass. and weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces. She writes, “Mike, Ella and I are doing great and having so much fun.”

Kristen (Slawinski) Das and Sachin Das are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Karina Kathryn Das. She was born on Nov. 30, 2010 in Phoenixville, Pa. and weighed six pounds, 14 ounces. We’re already getting ready to celebrate her second birthday! Time is flying.”

2000


2001

Alina (Samuels) Carter ’03 and Kevin Carter are proud to announce the birth of a baby girl, Maia Agnes Carter. She was born on Feb. 12, 2012 in Concord, Mass. at Emerson Hospital, and weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces.

2003

Andrea (Alderman) Bixler is happy to announce the birth of her son, Liam Everett, born on June 10, 2012. Andrea writes, “My husband and I live in Stowe, Vt. We love being new parents.”

Dr. Lisa Visentin Haushalter writes, “My husband Jason and I welcomed with joy our first daughter, Sarah Antoinette Haushalter, on May 31, 2012. She was 7 pounds, 8 ounces and 20 inches long. We live on Long Island where I joined a private pediatric practice.”

2004

Kristen (Lueckel) Buckler and Michael Buckler are proud to announce the birth of a baby boy, Chase Jacob. He was born on Sept. 30, 2012 in Chester County Hospital, West Chester, Pa. and weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces. Mom and dad couldn’t be more thrilled with Chase. The family is doing very well and still overcome with pure joy.

2006

Emily (Clark) Williams writes, “I’m pleased to announce that Craig Williams and I welcomed a baby boy, Gavin John Williams, on June 25, 2012. He is a happy, healthy baby and we’re so very excited to enter this new world of parenthood.”
1940s

Paul Campbell Jr. ’37, of Chattanooga, Tenn., who served with the U.S. Navy and the Federal Bureau of Investigation during World War II, and practiced law with the Finlay & Campbell firm (later Campbell & Campbell), Oct. 5, 2012. Paul, who was also active in many legal and community organizations, was 96.

Robert H. Simmons ’39, formerly of Radnor, Pa., July 18, 2011. He was 93.

Melvin D. Lavender ’39, of Niskayuna, N.Y., who ran Lavender’s Book Store in Troy for over 30 years and was a United Methodist pastor who served in Valley Falls, Rotterdam Junction and Cohoes, Sept. 25, 2012. Melvin, who also taught junior high school English in Schenectady, was 95.

Robert S. Herman ’41, of Slingerlands, N.Y., who served in the U.S. Army in World War II and had a career with the New York State budget division, Aug. 24, 2012. He was 92. Snippets of his philosophy of life, known as “Bobisms,” were immensely popular among Chinese teens, and he published a collection of columns titled Adventures of the Mind: With Wisdom with Bob.

John J. Kalin ’41, of Amsterdam, N.Y., who served in the U.S. Army during World War II and had a career with the New York State Department of Labor, managing the unemployment insurance benefits offices in Amsterdam and Gloversville, Sept. 1, 2012. John, who was also a member of the John J. Wyszomirski American Legion Post 701, was 94.

Paul V. Mara ’41, of Willow Street, Pa., who served as a Civil Engineer Corps officer in the Navy Seabees in the Pacific Theater during World War II, and who worked in the aluminum industry, retiring as senior vice president for technology at Aluminum Association Inc., Aug. 21, 2012. Paul, who was 95, was also an active Union College supporter, having served as Annual Fund agent for his class and as class president.

Edward P. Fliegel ’42, of Gloversville, N.Y., who taught French at Mayfield High School and Broadalbin-Perth, worked at General Electric, was comptroller at Fowler’s in St. Johnsville and was a partner in KennEd’s Antiques, July 7, 2012. Edward, who also donated much to the Salvation Army and was a member of several historical societies, was 93.

Lyall Dean ’43, of North Branford, Conn., who served with the First Marine Corps Division in Guadalcanal and the taking of Henderson Field before teaching mathematics at University School in Cleveland, Ohio; St. George’s School in Newport, R.I. and at the Horace Mann School in New York City for 36 years. A recipient of a Fulbright International Exchange Fellowship, he was 92.

George F. Hanson ’43, of Acworth, N.H., an officer with the Merchant Marines during World War II who served as a bursar and medic, taught geology at Union between 1946 and 1950, and greatly...
enhanced the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as its director, May 18, 2012. He was 95.

Irving Abraham Goodman ‘43, of Cleveland, Ohio, a U.S. Army Air Corps veteran who worked for Wheeler Manufacturing and was a research chemist for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics at Lewis Research Center before retiring from A. Louis Supply Co. in 1988 as treasurer and chief financial officer, Sept. 14, 2012. Irving, a member of many civic organizations who served as past president of Tifereth Israel Congregation, was 90.


Col. George H. Normand ‘44 (USAF Ret.), who served in the Canadian Royal Air Force before joining the U.S. Air Force and becoming a command pilot psychologist and attaché to Bucharest, Romania from 1968 to 1970, Feb. 29, 2012. George, who held doctorates in psychology from Syracuse and New York City Universities, and who received numerous medals including the Air Force Commendation Medal and the WWII Victory Medal, was 89.

Selleck Eugene Mintline ’45, of Latham, N.Y., a U.S. Army veteran of World War II who was a real estate agent with Towne Properties in Colonie for 20 years and was also a tax preparer with H&R Block for 27 years, Sept. 28, 2012. Gene, a 54-year member of the Joseph E. Zaloaga American Legion Post 1520, was 89.

Fletcher A. Blanchard ’46, of Northville, N.Y., Jan. 24, 2012. He was 87.

Sigmond C. Giambruno ’51, of Lima, Ohio, a U.S. Air Force veteran, active Union College supporter and labor relations expert, died July 7, 2012. He was 81.

Following his military service, Sig earned a master’s degree from Cornell University School of Labor Relations, spending his professional career in the field with companies like Xerox, Union Carbide, Hollister, Brach’s, Marion Power Shovel and JT Baker. He left corporate life at 54, buying the Country Store in Lake Placid.

Very involved in the northern New York community, Sig also worked as a fact finder for the National Board of Labor Relations and for Country Business Service. He belonged to the Curling Club, Rotary, and regularly rang the bell for the Salvation Army. He later moved to Saratoga after selling the store. Sig enjoyed attending the horse races and sporting events at Union. He was a season ticket holder for hockey and football, and was elated to see the Dutchmen make it to the Frozen Four last year.

Sig supported his alma mater in many other ways. Awarded the Alumni Council Gold Medal for his long time service to Union in 2006, he served on the Alumni Council, as class vice president, as member of the local alumni chapter, as an Annual Fund and ReUnion volunteer, and as a member of Friends of Union Athletics.

A vigorous defender of personal freedoms, he never missed a vote. He spent nearly 60 years married to Elizabeth (Betty) Gehringer. They had five children, Mary (Patrick) Giambruno-Fuge of Gomer, Ohio; Sue (Jim) Drumgoold of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Steve Giambruno of the Adirondacks; Andy (Melody) Giambruno of Austin, Texas; and Peter (Carol) Giambruno of Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Edward D. Treanor III ’49, of Clayton, Ga., a Navy pilot during World War II who worked in electrical sales and was active in Clayton First United Methodist Church, Stephen Ministries, and Wesley-Seekers Sunday School, Aug. 21, 2012. He was 90.

1950s

Richard “Dick” Van Dyck ’50, of Schenectady, N.Y., formerly of Niskayuna, who served in the Pacific Rim with the Navy during World War II before becoming a manager of corporate information technology at General Electric Co., June 21, 2012. An avid golfer, he was 86.

Edward F. Crupi ’50, of Loudonville, N.Y., a chemist and engineer for Sterling Drug from 1950 until 1990 who retired as the director responsible for plant and community safety, and health and environmental affairs, Aug. 5, 2012. A volunteer with Disabled American Veterans for more than 25 years, he was 84.

Charles Cunningham Canoll Jr. ’50, of Kingston, N.Y., who trained as a bomber pilot during World War II and received his doctorate in dental surgery before practicing dentistry in Schenectady for 35 years, Aug. 16, 2012. A past president of the American Dental Society and attending dentist at both Ellis Hospital and St. Clare’s Hospital, he was 86.

Fredrick H. Kuitems ’50, of Pineville, N.C., a surgeon both overseas and in the U.S. who spent the last 27 years with Wycliffe Bible Translators in
T
he Union community mourns the loss of Calvin G. Schmidt '51, whose career as a Union administrator spanned three decades. Schmidt, who retired as registrar in 1984, died July 9, 2012 after a battle with cancer. He was 82.

A native of Valley Stream, Long Island, he earned a bachelor's degree from Union in economics. While a student, he was a member of the baseball team and helped build and manage the Rathskellar. He lived on campus with the Whitaker and Ketz families.

After serving two years in the U.S. Army, he returned to the College in 1954 as an administrative assistant. In 1955, he became assistant director of admissions, and in 1958 added the duties of director of student aid. In 1964, he was named registrar, a position he held until he retired in 1984. He also served as recorder to the Board of Trustees from 1960 to 1984, and as faculty advisor to the Rathskellar.

He earned a master's degree from Teachers College of Columbia University in 1958. A member of the National Education Association and the Association for Higher Education, he was active in Schenectady as director and coach of Schenectady Babe Ruth Baseball. A 35-year member of the West Glenville Volunteer Fire Co., he served the organization as president and chief.

An active alumnus, he earned the Alumni Gold Medal in 1979. An outdoor enthusiast, he was an avid canoeist and hiker. A passionate gardener, he often brought vegetables to campus friends from his farm in West Glenville. In his retirement, he enjoyed chronicling the flora and fauna on his farm for a growing internet audience.

Survivors include his brother, Herbert Schmidt of Scotia; and a sister, Joyce Pearson of Hopewell Junction.

Services were private.

Waxhaw at the JARRS health clinic, June 20, 2012. He was 84.

James E. McGrath Jr. ’52, of Palm Beach, Fla., formerly of Stamford, Conn. and Albany, N.Y., a graduate of Albany Law School who served in the U.S. Air Force and was a member of the New York, Connecticut and Virginia bar associations, July 4, 2012. He was 81.

Robert Walter Morgan ’52, of San Diego, Calif., Oct. 10, 2011. He was 82.

Edward A. Whitmarsh ’53, of Schenectady, N.Y., who served in the Coast Guard Reserves and worked as a teacher and assistant principal in the Schenectady School District, and also helped set up the Niskayuna Babe Ruth Baseball Field, July 16, 2012. He was 81.

Rev. Dr. James A. Farrell ’54, of Esperance, N.Y., pastor emeritus of First United Methodist Church of Schenectady and a graduate for Iliff School of Theology and Drew University who served churches in Colorado, Vermont and New York, July 1, 2012.

Joseph A. Canale Jr. ’54, of Kent, Wash., was employed at Boeing and worked on the first Minute-man project before establishing Acoustic Imports in Seattle, retiring 28 years later in 1998, July 15, 2012. He was 80.


Ernest B. Gadow ’56, Ph.D., P.E., of Simsbury, Conn., professor emeritus of mechanical engineering at the University of Hartford, where he was department chair for some years, June 30, 2012. He held positions of responsibility in many professional and civic organizations—NCEES, ASME, CSPE, Simsbury

Community Band, Simsbury's Planning Commission, Alpenland Taenzer, Union Class of 1956, and the Alumni Council—and received Union's gold medal for distinguished service. Ernest led the NCEES Uniform Exam Committee in the development and establishment of the National Professional Engineers Exam. He was 77.

Robert O. Boardman ’56, of New Bedford, Mass., a U.S. Air Force and Massachusetts National Guard veteran who flew B52s, the F84 and F100, and was on active duty in Europe during the Berlin Crisis, Aug. 12, 2012. Robert, who also served as trust officer at Bank of Boston and vice president in its International Division, was a member and leader of many local organizations.

Stanley D. Andersen ’57, of New Bern, N.C., formerly of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., who was a programmer at IBM for many years before retiring in 1993, and who served as assistant town clerk for Bridgeton, N.C., was past president of the Kevin Barry Irish Club in Poughkeepsie, and was a 3rd degree member of Knights of Columbus Council No. 3303 in New Bern, July 16, 2012.

Douglas P. Seholm Sr. ’57, of Huntsville, Texas, who served in the U.S. Army as a medic and worked at U.S. Catheter and Instrument Company in Glens Falls, N.Y., and was chairman and CEO of Universal Medical Instrument Corporation in Ballston Spa, N.Y., Sept. 4, 2012. Also a member of many community organizations, he was 77.
on the Gemini and Apollo space missions, and spent much of his career developing electronics for the F-15 and F-18 fighter aircraft, June 23, 2012. He was 75.

Charles “Chuck” Edward Jones Jr. ’58, of St. James City, Fla., who served in the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command Division at Randolph Air Force Base and spent his career working on electronic control systems and their application to energy management and conservation, Sept. 15, 2012. Chuck, who also operated Advanced Control Corporation in Ft. Lauderdale with his two sons, was 76.

1960s

Craig L. Lyons ’62, of East Falmouth, Mass. and formerly of New Canaan, a sales executive in the paper industry for more than 30 years who was a board member of the Exchange Club and New Canaan Boys Baseball, and president of the Town Players, Oct. 1, 2012. Also an active community volunteer, he was 71.

Roger D. Semerad ’62, of Washington, D.C., a former senior vice president of RJR Nabisco Inc. and senior vice president of policy and development at the American Express Company who dedicated his life to improving public education, Oct. 13, 2012. The founding chairman of 70001 Ltd., Roger was assistant secretary of Labor for Employment and Training under Ronald Reagan. He was also an aide to Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, with Domestic Council responsibility for education, labor and veterans affairs. He was 72.

Ronald P. Geguzys Sr. ’63, of Danville, Ill., a past president and COO for General Electric, June 14, 2012. He was 73.

John Terence “Terry” Burns ’65, of Manchester, Maine, who served in the U.S. Navy before spending 35 years with Key Bank of Maine, retiring from Key Corp. a senior vice president in 2000, Aug. 30, 2012. Terry, a founding board member of Maine Children’s Trust, was 69.

Malcolm “Skip” Pirnie ’68, of Boston, Mass., who was a chartered financial analyst and co-founder of the Boston-based investment firm Harbor Capital Management, Sept. 15, 2012. He was 66.

William D. Kennedy ’69, of Plainsboro, N.J., who spent his life working for Parsons Brinkerhoff, where he was vice president and principal professional associate, and became a renowned tunnel ventilation engineer, June 23, 2012. Bill, who was a major participant in the design of the Subway Environment Simulation program and held leadership positions in many professional organizations, was 69.

1970s

Dr. Alan S. Brown ’73, of Charlton, N.Y., a retired doctor of radiology who practiced in Massachusetts for many years and held patents for medical devices he invented, May 16, 2012. Alan, who was passionate about master gardening, helping people and humane treatment of animals, was 60.

1980s

Douglas A. Catharine ’84, of Scotia, N.Y., a veteran of the Vietnam War and mechanical engineer who spent 36 years with GE and authored several patents, July 24, 2012. A member and leader of many community organizations, including the Patriot Guard, Boy Scouts of American Troop #62 and Rotterdam Elks Lodge, he was 62.

Steven Rasmussen ’88, of Troy, N.Y., who spent nine years as a project engineer for Bruce B. Clark P.E. before becoming an assistant engineer with the New York State Office of General Services and earning his professional engineering license, Aug. 12, 2012. A member of Round Mountain Fish and Game, he was 47.

1990s

Carla L. Stenzel ’94, of Worthington, Minn., Feb. 2, 2012. She was 40.

Friends of Union College

Paul Kurtz, who fought with the U.S. Army at the Battle of the Bulge and was involved with the liberation of the Dachau concentration camp, and was a professor of philosophy at the University of Buffalo who published many works—the best-known being Decision and the Condition of Man, Oct. 21, 2012. Paul, who was also president of Prometheus Books, CEO of the Center for Inquiry and editor of The Humanist, was a philosophy professor at Union between 1961 and 1965. He was 86.
Kilihote: A spiritual, political and educational leader

Allen Wright, Class of 1852

Oklahoma. It’s a Southwestern state with a memorable shape, home of the Sooners and part of the iconic Great Plains. It’s even a musical.

It was also named by a Union alumnus, in honor of his people.

Born into the Choctaw Nation in what is now Mississippi in 1826, Kilihote and his family moved to present-day Oklahoma in the early 1830s. Not long after, he was orphaned and taken in by Christian missionary Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, who helped guide his education. While he went by Allen Wright after starting school, he embodied his given name the length of his life.

Kilihote means “let’s kindle a fire,” and its bearer became one of the greatest beacons of spiritual, political and educational leadership the Choctaw Nation has known.

After finishing his secondary schooling in Oklahoma, Wright was sent to Delaware College. When the institution closed, he transferred to Union. Here, the young man excelled scholastically, earning straight A’s and joining Delta Phi fraternity. He took at least two philosophy courses taught by then-President Eliphalet Nott, and according to the Oklahoma Historical Society, Nott “left an inspiring impression upon” Wright’s life.

Though details of that impression are vague in historical documents, it was great enough that he named a son Eliphalet Nott Wright. The young Eliphalet, together with his two brothers, Frank and Allen Jr., also attended Union College.

After Commencement in 1852, Wright went on to Union Theological Seminary in New York City, from which he graduated in 1855. That same year, Union College awarded him a master of arts degree, making him the first Native American to achieve the distinction. His M.A. certificate was signed by Nott.

Education complete, Wright returned to Choctaw territory in Oklahoma as an ordained Presbyterian minister. Dedicated to his faith and the spiritual wellbeing of his friends and neighbors, he ministered to his people until his death. He also made the book of Psalms available to the Choctaws in their own language, having translated it from Hebrew himself.

A consummate linguistic scholar recognized for his mastery of Latin and Greek, in addition to Hebrew, Wright was an avid believer in the power of education. He translated laws, treaties and constitutions from English to Choctaw and Choctaw to English—so that his people could learn and understand more easily, and also be better understood by others. Wright also authored a Choctaw-English dictionary for use in schools, and helped organize the Indian Territory Educational Association.

The legacy he left for his people doesn’t end here, however. Wright was a leader at the highest level of Choctaw government.

A member of the Choctaw General Council and treasurer of the Choctaw Nation, he helped compose the treaty between his people and the Confederate states. And during the Civil War, Wright was chaplain of the Choctaw Regiment of the Confederate Army. Following the conflict’s end, he went to Washington as a Choctaw delegate and helped negotiate a treaty between the Choctaw, Chickasaws and the newly re-unified United States.

It was during the drafting of this pact that Wright first applied the word Oklahoma to Choctaw territory, which was ceded to the U.S. in the Treaty of 1866. Okla is the Choctaw word for red; homma, the word for people.

While in Washington, Wright was elected chief of the Choctaw Nation, a position he held until 1870.

He died Dec. 2, 1885 and is buried at Boggy Depot in Atoka County, Oklahoma.
GIFT IN HONOR OF FRIEND LEADS TO DEEPER UNION CONNECTION

Susan Mullaney Maycock ’72, one of the first women to receive a Union degree, and her husband Alan Maycock, a former Union chemistry professor, wanted to help the College and honor a dear friend. For tax purposes, they also chose to make a gift through their estate that would provide them with income for life.

The Maycocks, who live in Santa Fe, N.M., used a charitable remainder trust as the lead gift in establishing the Byron A. Nichols Fellowship for Faculty Development in honor of Nichols’s retirement in 2008. They also helped raise more than $815,000 (of $1 million) from Nichols’ former students, colleagues and friends to endow the fellowship fund in perpetuity.

For 40 years, Nichols, professor of political science emeritus, enabled students to recognize and realize their potential. And because of a decades-long friendship with Susan and Alan, Nichols also impacted their own growth and development, as well as their children’s.

“Byron has challenged us to think about what we believe and why we believe it,” Susan said. “He’s a very caring, loving man with a generous spirit, and he lives a value-centered life. We wanted to honor how he brought all those qualities to his teaching.”

The two-year fellowship supports faculty in becoming more rigorous in teaching, more compassionate with students, and better advisors and mentors. To ensure the fellowship stays true to these goals, the Maycocks serve on the advisory committee that reviews applications and makes recommendations to the dean of the faculty, who makes the final selection.

“It’s been exhilarating for Alan and me to see this fellowship in action—how the Nichols Fellows have fostered deeper relationships with students and brought them along as thinkers,” Susan said. “It’s incredibly fulfilling for us and wonderful for Union.”

The Maycocks’ engagement with the fellowship has led to a richer connection with Union. Susan is a committed volunteer on the President’s Council, and she and Alan are seeking to build internship possibilities for Union students at the Los Alamos National Laboratories in N.M.

But their first love is the Nichols Fellowship. “We would like to see the fellowship fund become even more substantial to help teaching at Union continue to evolve and flourish,” Susan said.

TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CONTACT:
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www.union.plannedgifts.org
## REUNION

### Save the Date for

**Commemorative events celebrating the accomplishments of the You are Union campaign occur throughout the weekend.**

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<th><strong>FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2013</strong></th>
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<td>Faculty &amp; Alumni Presentations</td>
<td>Class Photos</td>
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<td>50th Class Medallion Ceremony</td>
<td>Alumni Parade</td>
<td>Service of Gratitude and Remembrance</td>
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<td>Lobster Clambake</td>
<td>Convocation &amp; Awards</td>
<td><strong>Commemorative events celebrating the accomplishments of the You are Union campaign occur throughout the weekend.</strong></td>
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<td>Class Receptions</td>
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<td>Tours of Historic Union</td>
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