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For virtually everyone on the planet, the most remote mountain peaks are just that—remote. Not for extreme skier/mountaineer Jamie Laidlaw ’02.
HAVE LIVED A PRIVILEGED LIFE. Though I have often felt that I was fortunate to grow up in a comfortably middle-class American family, I had never thought of my life as one of privilege. I had always associated that word with "wealthy," and while my father’s job as a tenured professor at a leading liberal arts school and my mother’s position as a clinical psychologist in private practice meant that my sister and I never went without, wealth was certainly not in our vocabulary. Comfortable, yes. Fortunate, sure. Privileged? I had never really thought that way, not until I read Kevin Redmon’s profile of Janet Mondlane Rodrigues ’12, “Who Am I?”

Janet is a remarkable young woman, not just because of her jaw-dropping personal story (which I won’t spoil here; Kevin tells it far better than I could, anyway), but also because of the way she sees the world—and the way she challenges others to examine the world, and themselves, as well.

Janet has a complex racial background, which has forced her to confront unsettling situations—embraced, loved by many, but never really accepted as one of any community, be it Hispanic, black, or white. This ambiguity compelled her to look both inward and outward, and she became fascinated, obsessed even, with the concept of identity. And she wants you—me—to think about who you are and what this means for you in today’s world. I think Janet would say that I’m privileged; I’d concur.

But what does this mean? Well, at its most basic, it means that I’ve never had to think about my race. I’m “normal,” “average,” or so I’ve been taught to think, according to Wellesley’s Peggy McIntosh. And that is how I’ve seen my life. But is it normal to grow up in a household with two parents with Ph.D.’s? Is it normal to take for granted that you’ll go to college, always assuming—knowing, really—that you’ll go to a “good” school, at that? Is it normal to live a life where discrimination is something that happens to others? Or is it privileged?

My maternal grandfather, an Italian American, officially changed his name from Vincenzo Adamo to Vincent Adams when he was applying to medical school. It was the 1930s, and discrimination against Italians (American hybrids or not) was all too common. My paternal grandfather grew up on a Tennessee dairy farm and was among the first in his family to go away to college. Yet just two generations later, Matthew Vincent Jennings hasn’t had to think about—or worry about—such things.

A couple of years ago, I sat in a very nice restaurant at the top of the Prudential Building in Boston, having dinner with Yohanne “Kido” Kidolezi ’05. During the course of several hours, Kido calmly related his inconceivable journey from Tanzania to Norway to rural Vermont to Boston (“The Education of Yohanne Kidolezi,” summer 2006). I remember thinking about how remarkable it was that we were there at all. Or should I say, how remarkable that Kido was there. The odds certainly had been stacked against him. And I remember thinking that I had had it so easy in my life compared to him.

There’s another word for it, as Janet would tell me. Privileged.—MJ
Hypocrisy Is Natural

Years ago, I was taking a course on the history of the Middle East. The professor had asked the class: "Do you think the Palestinian-Israeli conflict would be different if the two groups belonged to the same religion?" While I was left speechless by this difficult question, a classmate replied: "If there were no religions involved, we would be not taking sides." Our professor quickly disagreed. "Or maybe we would have found something else to fight about," she said. I still wonder today what it is that makes us take sides so quickly on political issues even when they are far removed from us. We seem to have—and espouse—opinions before we stop to inform ourselves.

I will give myself as an example: The cultural and political rights of the Uighur living in Xinjiang is as foreign and exotic to me as reproductive biochemistry of tulips. (I am not a biologist.) I have never knowingly met a Uighur person in my life. Yet, as I read "A Case of Identity" (fall 2009), I felt an urge to side with the Uighurs, feeling their pain, which went beyond what I would have felt for any oppressed group.

I am from Turkey. While Turkey is situated in or near the Middle East depending on your point of view, Turks, in contrast to a common American misconception, are not Arabs. "Our roots," as we are taught in schools, are in Central Asia. That we are racially and historically related to our "brothers" in Central Asia—the Uzbeks, the Kazaks, the Turkmens, the Azeri, and all other Turkic people—is a subtle yet strong message that one cannot escape growing up in Turkey. Our romantic desire to connect with the people who speak Turkic languages is intensified by the fact that we feel rejected by the West, despite our centuries-long efforts to Westernize. We are looking for "friends" who will accept us as we are. Similar feelings fuel the recent, sometimes extraordinary, moves by the current Turkish government to align itself closer with the Arab and the greater Muslim world. For an example, Google "the prime minister of Turkey at Davos 2009."

When the violence erupted in Xinjiang province last summer, Turkish media covered it extensively, including interviews with the leader of a Uighur group that the Chinese government outlawed. Our very opinionated prime minister, not exactly known for sparing his words, described the acts of the Chinese government as "almost genocide." This is coming from a government that asks the international community to be careful with the use of the term "genocide" with regards to the events that took place during the last 10 years of the Ottoman Empire. I can say confidently that most of Turkey knew very little about the history or the nature of the ongoing conflict. Suddenly, my country, or at least the most vocal part of it, was aggressively taking the Uighur side, or defending the Uighur rights.

About a week or so later, a Chinese colleague at the lab where I work asked me why the Turkish government supports a terrorist group. "The Uighurs use explosives to threaten people," my friend stated. "Why does your country support them?" I did not respond. I was just contemplating the familiarity in all of this to the Turkish-Kurdish relations. Nationalistic Turkish people feel that the biggest problem with regards to the Kurdish issue is the violence caused by the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK). They claim that the Kurds, instead of attacking their government, should be thankful to it for bringing education, health care, and other services to their less than well-off regions, an argument that I read some Chinese make with regards to the Uighurs. Some Turks also state that other countries should not be involved since the conflict with the PKK is Turkey's internal issue. Claims that the West is stirring up the Kurdish issue in Turkey in order to divide or weaken us fly around in the media and is a prevalent public opinion. Knowing nothing about China, I have a feeling in my gut that these opinions are also often stated in China with regards to the Uighurs.

It seems to me that when there is a minority that feels discriminated against in a country ruled by the majority, the opinions and feelings felt are similar. The sides that we take depend on who we are. The examples I can think of are numerous and are not limited to Uighurs and Kurds. It's almost as if you could write a mathematical equation to describe the dynamics of a tension between a minority and a majority and apply it to different contexts in time and space to describe reality just like Newton's second law.

In addition, you can predict the opinion of a group with regards to a political or societal conflict with equal ease based on whom they feel close to. The Turkish media or public opinion was on one side of the argument when the issue was the Kurds, and on the other...
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when the issue was the Uighurs. I am not saying that the political situations in Turkey and Xinjiang province in China are identical and that a country or a person has to be pro-minority or pro-majority in both issues consistently. It does seem to me, however, that we humans often do not make a needed deliberate effort to assess a situation from a variety of angles. We seem to have a built-in, maybe evolutionary, instinct to jump into a fight to defend the group we feel closer to by blood or faith or whatever is on our minds. This gets in the way of our using our brains and hearts to understand everybody and see the commonness we share. It also does not help us fulfill our moral obligation to defend the rights of everyone equally, regardless of who they might be.

Semihcan Dokeii '09
Palo Alto, California

Adverse Blunder
I always love getting the Middlebury Magazine in the mail. As I was looking at the striking photograph on the cover of the fall issue, my eyes moved over to read the text . . . exhil Erating??? My next move was to grab the dictionary off the shelf to make sure I was correct—ah yes, exhilarating.

I find it interesting that with the special solicitation for monies to support the magazine, there is a glaring typo on the front cover.

How could this happen?
Susan Taylor '81
Amherst, Massachusetts

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Krizan’s First Law

Middlebury Magazine is a great magazine, but watch for these mistakes in the fall 2009 issue:

- Cover deck: exhilarating, not exhilarating
- P. 22, McCandell’s first bullet: high-school “degree” (colleges bestow degrees, high schools give diplomas)

My managing editor, Bill Krizan, has “Krizan’s First Law”: Don’t make mistakes in large type. The deck is not very large, but it is prominent.

Tam Amistead ’66
Fleming Island, Florida

The writer is the senior editor of the Engineering News-Record.

Still a Reader

I’m sure I’m not the first or only one to notice the misspelling of exhilarating on the magazine’s cover. I’ll still enjoy reading the issue.

Peter Knobler ’68
New York, New York

Cosmic Cataclysm Imminent

INCREDIBLE! You misspelled exhilarating—on the front cover! This is clearly a sign of the apocalypse.

Vivian Rippy Ingersoll, MA German ’68
Atlanta, Georgia

Wat a Misteak

I look forward two reading the for-yeer adventure of an art historian. I’m sure the experiences of reading will bee exhilarating fer mee, two.

Marjorie Naughton
New York, New York

Spelling Tip

Must we see misspelled words on the cover of Middlebury Magazine? If you just remember that the root of “exhilarating” is the word “hilarity,” you’ll spell it correctly every time.

Grace Weber ’77
Weybridge, Vermont

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Editor's Note: Astute readers will recognize that this editor's note bears the singular possessive (editor's), instead of our usual notes from the entire editorial staff (editors'). That's because I didn't want to tarnish anyone else by association with such a cringe-worthy mistake. The error was mine.

And while I confess to having several nights of fitful sleep following my belated discovery of the misspelling, I must admit that I came to enjoy the conversations (both via e-mail and telephone) with those who took the time to point out the mistake. As you've read, we've printed several of the e-mails and letters, but not all of them. (It's not that I'm trying to hide anything, just trying to avoid redundancies.) So I'd like to acknowledge George Geckle '61; Susan Park Weissman '67; Julia Ogden '86 and Cliff Hauptman at the Pike School in Andover, Massachusetts; and several faculty and staff colleagues who reached out in good-natured admonition.

And I'd especially like to mention Cynthia Crumlish, MA French '88. After a couple of quick e-mails centered on the correct spelling of "exhilarating," Cynthia asked if I were the Matt Jennings who attended the school in New York City where she teaches. I told her no, that I am from Virginia; but through a series of back-and-forth e-mails that teased out our past, we discovered a most unlikely occurrence—Cynthia had been a student of my father's at the University of Texas nearly 40 years ago, vividly remembering both my mom and dad.

"John and Julie Jennings!! Weren't they married at the chapel in Stanford? A GREAT story I remember your mom telling me one day," Cynthia wrote. "Comme le monde est petit... SO glad for that error on the cover."

Of course, I can't say I'm glad that the error happened, but I do have to admit that I've found moments like this just a tad bit, well, exhilarating.—MJ

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Their Space

I applaud President Liebowitz’s recent column regarding space, the arts at Middlebury, and creativity in general (“A Matter of Space,” fall 2009).

I was at Middlebury in the 1970s. I came as a French major and graduated a music major in 1977. This was in no small part due to the many and wonderful opportunities I took part in at the College. I have been a professional musician now for 33 years, and my expertise is due in no small part to what Peter Hamlin mentions about space use after hours: I managed to sign up a few hours in the (then) Johnson Music Building during 9–5, but, for the most part, I practiced virtually every single evening at 10 p.m. in Mead Chapel. The night watchman knew me, and I was able to promise to make sure the lights were off and the door locked when I left. Many (most) nights I stayed until 1 or 2 a.m., practicing on a splendid church organ and a nine-foot concert grand.

When I went on to conservatory for graduate degrees, I realized that had I gone to one of those schools as an undergraduate, I would have been stuck in a tiny, claustrophobic practice room on a mediocre instrument—and likely kicked out at 11 p.m. How to compare playing a top-notch instrument in an acoustically grand space to ... feeling like a chicken on an egg-laying farm, in my cubicle. I have to say that without the experience that I had at Middlebury, I am quite sure I would not be doing what I do today; nor, would I be as good at it as I am, had I not trained my ears and brain for the realities of real concerts in real spaces. (That’s not to diminish the copious amounts of love and attention I had from my music professors, but still, the unfettered use of the chapel was very important.)

So how wonderful to read Ron’s analysis of the effect of unscheduled space on creativity at Middlebury. I must admit, every issue I read of the magazine highlights the “Middlebury is green” theme and the marvelous advances in science, sports, and other achievements. And to be sure, Ron mentions many wonderful arts achievements by students.
and student groups. However, as now the parent of two college-aged daughters (and a son, 12, waiting in the wings), I had the experience of taking my children on tours of the College and seeing it fresh from their eyes.

My eldest visited two years ago. Eagerly I showed her all my old haunts. She is a visual artist, interested also in drama, cognitive science, languages, and literature. I thought, what a great fit for Middlebury. But after a tour around campus and wandering around Johnson, she said, “Mom, I can't apply here. I wouldn't feel creative. I can't do art here.” We had seen many schools already. They (Bennington/Sarah Lawrence/Skidmore/Bard/Connecticut/Vassar) had vibrant art departments; students wandered in and out of studios. In most, she was able to wander in, too, and talk to the students about their art. There was a “buzz” that was palpable to me. Middlebury, by contrast, felt dead and lifeless as we visited. The studios were mostly locked; way too clean and uncluttered. There weren't any students hanging out, playing raucous music as they worked. Why was that? I talked a bit to faculty who mentioned various frustrations. And I noticed especially that the new arts center was so far “in left field” that one had to make a real commitment to being there and using it, rather than dropping in with any frequency.

Two years ago, I attended an alumni gathering at Chelsea Piers in New York. President Liebowitz might recall: I was the woman who stood up and said, “We've heard all about a lot of great things, but what about the arts?”—to a certain significant amount of applause from my compatriots. I have to say, the president's column is the first sense I have that perhaps he really is committed to regaining that “buzz” of creativity that was palpable, exciting, and ever present when I was a student at Middlebury. Please, continue to grow the school in this direction!

Guendolyn Toth '77
New York, New York

The writer is the artistic director of Artek, an early music ensemble in New York City.
Protect the Theatre Department

I read President Liebowitz’s “Old Chapel” column with great interest. As a very proud graduate (Class of 1994) of Middlebury’s theatre department, I am all too aware of the problem of space for creative endeavors. Indeed, I was a student when the new arts center was opened; I not only performed in the inaugural festivities, I participated in many discussions about the use of space in that building (e.g., why was there only one, bizarrely shaped, classroom for acting classes when so much space was left open in the multiple lobbies?) and beyond it (why was the department losing its rehearsal and classroom spaces elsewhere on campus, as this meant that the new arts center did not add any more room for classes?). I am currently writing my dissertation at Northwestern University, where I also teach in their theatre department. Fittingly enough, the course I am teaching this fall is called, Site-Responsive Theatre, and as one can imagine, the control, use, and availability of space are regular topics of discussion and reflection.

Early in the course, I required students to stage scenes from plays somewhere on campus or in our university town, and the first part of the assignment involved presenting me with proof that they have the right to perform in their chosen site. They are free to reject this step, but they must also face the consequences if they do so. One group gained permission to perform a play in a local pub right before it opened for lunch. As the students were performing their scene, some of the pub’s actual workers made their way into the scene in order to complete their pre-opening tasks. This was a great opportunity for the class, and we talked afterwards about how places mean little without the people whose movements make them into living spaces. The management of the restaurant had graciously allowed the students to perform, but the restaurant still had to continue functioning, nonetheless. In other words, they allowed our play, but it did not get in the way of their work.

I enthusiastically endorse the College’s efforts to expand the opportunities for students to be creative outside of class. This is a good thing. It will have consequences however, and President Liebowitz’s letter is, understandably, very reticent about what those might be.

As I have already indicated, theatre students, an ambitious, hard-working, and very creative lot, already find themselves very strapped for space. While the arts center is a great facility, it is almost difficult to believe that one of the leading BA theatre programs in the country has so little room for its students to rehearse and make work in. My senior year, after the arts center was open, I rehearsed my senior directing thesis in a poli sci classroom in Munroe Hall and could only rehearse another piece after 11:30 at night; for one faculty-directed play we were short on rehearsal time, so I snuck into Wright one night to rehearse a speech on our sand-covered set. I don’t

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LETTERS

mind sounding like an old fogey when I write that part of the thrill of achieving these projects was precisely the difficulty of finding the room to make them. I'm sure it's harder to cut through red tape lately, but your letter comes dangerously close to claiming that it's just too darn hard to arrange for space on campus these days. Is it too much to ask that students who are interested in creative projects break a sweat finding the place to make them? Perhaps. After all, breaking a sweat is what I'm used to, and the students these proposals affect are not.

And just who is to benefit and who is to pay for them is another important question. Recall those workers in the pub. Given the number of projects underway at any given moment, the theatre staff is also greatly taxed to meet the heavy demands for their time and expertise. My concern is that, in the worthy effort to provide everyone the chance to play, the College will take resources, time, and people from the theatre department itself. There is no reason that the College cannot undertake an expansion of creative opportunities and creative spaces for the general population without further burdening the theatre department itself. There is no reason that the College cannot undertake an expansion of creative opportunities and creative spaces for the general population without further burdening theatre department staff or resources. If, however, the College seeks to increase extra-curricular activities while diminishing the capacities of one of its most celebrated departments, more than theatre students will have reason to question your priorities.

I look forward to following the College's efforts to provide more space for its student's extracurricular activities and participating in a debate about how best to do so.

Jon Sherman '94
Evanston, Illinois

Spring's Gold

Thank you for the beautiful photograph in the contents spread of the fall issue. I was surprised to find the caption from Frost's "Nothing Gold Can Stay" that reads, "Nature's first green . . . is gold." As a Maine resident who endures those same long gray winters I did at Middlebury, I watch the leaves bud outside my window in April with
a kind of obsessive anticipation. When the leaves finally begin to unfold enough to first color those bare branches, they are a beautiful golden green. I’ve always believed that this was a springtime poem!

Jennifer Ryan Onken ’95, MA English ’05
Eliot, Maine

Kudos

When my summer issue of Middlebury Magazine arrived, I was so interested in “The Most Improbable Story Ever Told” that I urged my tablemate to read it. (I live in a retirement facility and sit with the same three residents for each meal.)

When my friend Doug returned the copy a few days later, he told me that he was most favorably impressed. He had read several stories and was especially interested in the extensive Class Notes. He had received his university’s magazine about the same time and said their alumni section paled by comparison.

Kudos to our editors, the alumni association, and all the class correspondents.

Nancy Hall Whitehouse ’42
Portland, Maine

Eyewitness Account

I am writing regarding a brief quip in the spring 2009 issue that stated that Middlebury’s Winter Carnival was the oldest student-run winter carnival in the country. I’m not convinced of this! Having co-chaired the 1937 carnival, it was my understanding that Dartmouth was the original and that Middlebury’s was only about 10 years old at that time!

Elbert MacFadden ’37
Kingston, New York

Small World

Belatedly reading “The Caretaker” (summer 2008), I came across a reference to W. H. Upson, a local author, in the inscription in the basement of Earthworm Manor at Bread Loaf. That would be William Hazlett Upson, who wrote a series of humorous stories about Earthworm Tractor Co., a takeoff on Caterpillar Tractors, for the Saturday Evening Post.

As his wife was a college friend of my father’s, I spent some vacations with them during my Middlebury years. One day, when Mr. Upson and I were downtown, we ran into a friend of his, stopped to chat, and he introduced us. I was bracing myself to be properly polite to friends of the older generation when I suddenly realized that right there on that snowy Middlebury sidewalk, I was being introduced to Robert Frost.

Laura Chapman Rico ’53
Los Banos, California

Letters Policy

Letters addressing topics discussed in the magazine are given priority, though they may be edited for brevity or clarity. On any given subject we will print letters that address that subject, and then in the next issue, letters that respond to the first. After that, we will move on to new subjects. Send letters to: Middlebury Magazine, 5 Court Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or middmag@middlebury.edu.
Kristoffer Erickson ("Peak Conditions," p. 42) is a ski-mountaineer and photographer based in Livingston, Montana.

Megan Gambino '06 ("Long Live the Great White Yak," p. 88) is an editorial assistant at Smithsonian magazine.

Max S. Gerber ("Under Pressure?" p. 48) is a photographer in Los Angeles.

Catherine O’Neill Grace ’72 ("Under Pressure?" p. 48) is the co-author of Best Friends, Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children.

Nigel Holmes ("Culture Club," p. 19) is principal of Explanation Graphics, a graphics-design firm located outside New York City.

Sally West Johnson ’72 ("The Return of Ari Fleischer ’82," p. 18) is a writer in Middlebury.

Stephen Kiernan ’82 ("Street Brawl," p. 50) is a writer and author. His most recent book is Last Rites: Rescuing the End of Life From The Medical System.

Tad Merrick ("Street Brawl," p. 50) is a photographer in Middlebury.

Chris Silas Neal ("How To..." p. 34) is an illustrator in New York. His work has appeared in National Geographic Adventure, The New Yorker, and Rolling Stone.

Devon O’Neil ’01 ("Peak Conditions," p. 42) is a writer in Breckenridge, Colorado. He is a frequent contributor to Skiing Magazine.

Emiliano Ponzi ("Long Live the Great White Yak," p. 88) is an illustrator based in Italy.

Kevin Charles Redmon ’10 ("Who Am I?" p. 28) is an editorial intern at The Atlantic in Washington, D.C.

Brett Simison (Contents; Northern Exposure, p. 26) is a photographer in Middlebury.

Katherine Streeter ("Who Am I?" p. 28) is an illustrator in New York City. She has contributed to The Chronicle of Higher Education, GQ, and The New York Times Book Review, among other publications.

Zach Trenholm ("The Return of Ari Fleischer ’82," p. 18) is an illustrator in San Francisco, California. He has contributed to a number of publications, including Fortune, The New Republic, and Time.

Green Living

At Wake Robin, residents designed and built 3 miles of walking trails. Each Spring they produce maple syrup in the community sugar house. And they compost, plant gardens, and work with staff to follow earth-friendly practices, conserve energy and use locally grown foods.

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SHEL BURNE, VERMONT
"SUNSET PUJA"
A scene from the state of Karnataka in southern India, as featured in the 2009 Study Abroad Photo Contest. For more, see p. 21. Photograph by James Conkling '11
The Return of Ari Fleischer '82

Ari Fleischer, the man who once earned his living as President George W. Bush’s spokesman, took the stage at Dana Auditorium in October to offer his clear-eyed but distinctly Republican perspective on Barack Obama’s remarkable ascent to power and subsequent struggles in office, evidenced by his plummeting approval rating.

In front of a packed house, Fleischer spent 90 minutes dissecting the “massive shift in voter behavior” that sent a relatively obscure U.S. senator from Illinois to the Oval Office, crediting African American voters, young voters, and wealthy graduate-degree-holding voters, who often vote Republican, for Obama’s historic win in November 2008. On the other hand, he refuted the myth that first-time voters had turned the tide, noting that all the noise about “the new voter turned out to be nothing but hype.”

Fleischer opined that reality has thrown a bucket of ice water over Democratic dreams of changing the world since the heady days of January 20, when Obama’s job approval registered 70 percent and his job disapproval stood at 10 percent. Now, after a politically brutal summer and fall, the president’s job approval rating has dropped by 20 points to 50 percent, and his job disapproval has risen to 43 percent. “That’s the third fastest drop since World War II,” he noted, adding that Bill Clinton and Gerald Ford were the only chief executives whose ratings had nosedived more precipitously.

The drop, he said, “is not because the Republicans are doing things right” but because of a phenomenon he called “spending fatigue,” occasioned first by George Bush’s financial relief package and then by the $787 billion stimulus legislation pushed through by the Obama administration. “The dissatisfaction has spread to independents,” Fleischer said.

The land mines directly in the president’s path, said Fleischer, are health-care reform and Afghanistan, predicting that if Obama fails to reform the health-care system and if he sends more troops to Afghanistan, his liberal, Democratic base may abandon him. “If the Democrats feel Obama has let them down, that won’t bode well for the party,” he said, speculating that it might mean a boon for the GOP in the 2010 elections.

But he also cautioned fellow Republicans against what Alan Greenspan once called “irrational exuberance.” “If he can get a bill passed and claim some sort of victory in health care, it will help his party tremendously,” Fleischer predicted. “If the economy comes back strong, that will make all the difference. There’s a long year to go before the next election.”

Fleischer opened the talk by tracing his conversion from his childhood in a family of “very liberal Democrats” in Westchester County, New York, to a conservative Democrat during college to a full-blown Republican once he had seen the light of Ronald Reagan. “I responded to Reagan’s vision of peace through strength,” he said, adding that his own votes are determined more by foreign policy, defense, and economic issues than by social issues, an area in which he says his views have not changed.

He demonstrated his skill as a media consultant—he now runs Ari Fleischer Sports Communication—by deftly punting questions from the audience that might bite. Fleischer came to the College on the eve of fall break at the behest of political science professor Matt Dickinson, who booked Dana instead of a larger venue in anticipation of a lower turnout. “It was my fault, I blew it,” admitted Dickinson in an apology to those who were shut out, “My students never come to class the day before vacation. How was I to know they would turn out [tonight]?”

—Sally West Johnson ’72
For nearly a century, Middlebury’s Performing Arts Series has brought the world’s most talented and inspiring artists to the Champlain Valley of Vermont. Louis Armstrong, Yo-Yo Ma, Emerson String Quartet, the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater, Ladysmith Black Mambazo. These are but a handful of performers who have enriched Middlebury’s cultural scene.

Since 1922, there have been 110 solo piano concerts. They include:
- '22 Harold Bauer
- '28 Madame Elly Ney
- '30 Myra Hess
- '47 Claudio Arrau
- '64 Emanuel Ax
- '80 Murray Perahia
- '96 Ivan Moravec
- '03 Paul Lewis
- '05 Richard Goode
- '08 Dubravka Tomsic

Jazz comes a distant second to classical music, but among the great names are:
- '21 Boston Symphony
- '37 Vermont Symphony
- '91 New Orchestra of Boston
- '94 The Klezmatics
- '99 Canadian Brass
- '99 Music from China
- '00 Steve Reich & Musicians

Large ensembles have included:
- '23 Boston Symphony
- '37 Vermont Symphony
- '91 New Orchestra of Boston
- '94 The Klezmatics
- '99 Canadian Brass
- '99 Music from China
- '00 Steve Reich & Musicians

Many small groups have performed, among them:
- '20 Berkshire String Quartet
- '22 Pablo Casals
- '29 Andrés Segovia
- '58 Julian Bream
- '60 Ravi Shankar
- '69 Guarneri String Quartet
- '85 Meliora String Quartet
- '88 Kronos Quartet
- '92 Consort of Musicians
- '94 Takacs Quartet
- '99 Music from China

Our archives detail almost 1,000 events. We’d like to be exact, but the listings for some years are incomplete.

Vocalists include:
- '30 Russian Cossack Chorus
- '35 Hall-Johnson Negro Choir
- '38 Vienna Mozart Boys Choir
- '39 Tappo Family Choir
- '46 Paul Robeson
- '58 Richard Dyer-Bennet
- '87 Odetta
- '89 Trinity College Choir
- '95 Acappellaellius
- '98 Ian Bostridge
- '00 Steve Reich & Musicians

Here’s a selection of the movies shown:
- '61 Million Dollar Legs
- '62 Greed
- '65 Shoot the Piano Player
- '66 Repulsion
- '69 The Seventh Seal
- '72 In Cold Blood
- '80 The Kite Runner

Theatrical events have included:
- '27 Jean Buzz Marignettes
- '71 The Cherry Orchard
- '72 Hamlet
- '72 Piotro
- '96 Paul Taylor Dance Company

Speakers have included:
- '30 Thornton Wilder
- '53 Charles Laughton
- '80 John Cage
- '82 Robbins Lendon on Beethoven
- '97 Oliver Ford Davies on Shakespeare

Middlebury President Ronald D. Liebowitz was named one of the 10 Best College Presidents by Time magazine. Time cited Liebowitz’s advocacy for environmental initiatives—specifically the College’s pledge to become carbon-neutral by 2016 and the construction of a biomass-gasification plant—in touting his leadership. A pair of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists will deliver Middlebury’s 2010 commencement address next spring. New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof and his wife, writer Sheryl WuDunn, have coauthored three books and shared a 1990 Pulitzer for their coverage of China’s Tiananmen Square democracy movement. Writer in Residence Julia Alvarez became the 14th recipient of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Literature, joining such luminaries as John Updike, Joyce Carol Oates, Norman Mailer, and Grace Paley as Fitzgerald winners. Collegiate Quidditch players from across the country descended on campus in late October for the third annual Quidditch World Cup. More than 20 teams—from states as far-flung as Texas and Louisiana—competed for the title. Middlebury won it all—for the third consecutive year.
Midd on Twitter

More and more people are using the social networking platform Twitter to broadcast their thoughts, interests, and happenings into the world in 140-character bursts. Who at Midd is Twittering? Plenty of folks. We offer a sampling. For a comprehensive list, check out: go.middlebury.edu/twitter?users.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Twitter Name</th>
<th>Sample Tweet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Ellen Bertolini,</td>
<td>@mebertolini</td>
<td>Have completed three letters of rec this a.m. Will shovel snow off car &amp; drive in to conference with 4 students writing last minute papers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Fung ’10</td>
<td>@b_fung</td>
<td>Looking through audience feedback re: my PSCI seminar presentation on Mexican drug gangs. Very helpful for my outline. Thx, all!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Isham, Economics</td>
<td>@jisham</td>
<td>State Dept.'s Maria Ortero reiterates Obama's goal of 80% by 2050. Thanks@billmckibben mayboeve@agent350 and all, still steppin' up.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Larrow ’11</td>
<td>@alexandralarrow</td>
<td>Saturday. I just need to make it to Saturday morning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlebury Magazine</td>
<td>@middleburymag</td>
<td>They love us in Uzbekistan. Web site called Midd one of U.S.'s “best colleges” and a “supercollege.” <a href="http://bit.ly/4VltC9">http://bit.ly/4VltC9</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middblog</td>
<td>@middblog</td>
<td>Midnight breakfast tonight 11PM-1AM, Ross Dining. Tomorrow, Proctor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlebury College</td>
<td>@middlebury</td>
<td>President Ron Liebowitz makes Time magazine's “10 Best College Presidents” list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuck in the Middle</td>
<td>@simvt</td>
<td>Pre-order our new CD for $10 cash. Tonight only at S1Mdog Millionaire, 9pm bunker. Be there.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past Tense

The day after the September News Letter went to press, the President’s Office received the resignation of Instructor Hinton as instructor in Aeronautics. Without ceremony, the new department was dropped.

—The Middlebury College News Letter, December 1936
Touch the Sky
Adrienne Chuck’s photograph, “Tall,” captured the top prize in Middlebury’s 2009 Study Abroad Photo Contest. Chuck, a senior, studied in Nairobi, Kenya, last year. Now the question we’re all asking is, How did she get so close to her subject?!

The College, in Six Words

A few years ago, a gentleman named Larry Smith created an online magazine dedicated to his obsession with personal stories. One of the pillars of his site was a project called the Six-Word Memoir, in which he challenged people to write their life story in just six words. Smith’s project opened a creative spigot, unleashing a torrent of six-word stories that have now morphed into multiple categories (Love & Heartbreak, America) and spawned several books.

At Middlebury Magazine, we thought it’d be interesting to follow Smith’s lead and ask students to tell the College’s story—or their story at the College—using just six words. Enjoy.

Running out of woods, into books.
—H. Kay Memman ’10

Came hungry for answers. Leaving hungrier.
—Ryan Kellet ’10

Leaves change, snow comes, students shiver.
—Thomas Brant ’10

Senioritis—postponing homework for second panini.
—Vinita Mody ’10

Baby, you’re a rich man, too.
—Andrey Tolstoy ’10

People, intriguing. Classes, stimulating. Sleep, optional.
—Emily Gallickson ’10

Arrived by accident; can’t imagine leaving.
—Brian Fung ’10

Tasty midnight snackies in Bi Hall.
—Ruby Ward ’11

Snow paths slither to naked mountains.
—Andrew Forsthoefel ’11

Friendly people, great classes, flying Bludgers.
—Robert LaMay ’12

2,400 kids, one snow globe. Shaken.
—Beth Connolly ’10

Sleeplessness and concepts accumulate; we learn.
—George Altshuler ’10

Middlebury’s language program for high school students has added a new site for next summer. The Middlebury-Monterey Language Academy will offer courses in French, Spanish, Arabic, and Chinese at Oberlin College. The Ohio school joins Green Mountain College in hosting MMLA in 2010. The aforementioned languages, as well as German, will be offered at Green Mountain College.

At its December meeting, the Middlebury Board of Trustees approved the promotion of two faculty members to the rank of associate professor. Kateri Carmola (political science) and Michael Sheridan (sociology & anthropology) received the promotion without limit of tenure.

Admissions season is in full swing and the Early Decision window for acceptance to Middlebury has come and gone. The College saw an increase in applications this year compared with last, though the number of admitted students was lower this year.

The first snowfall of the season didn’t come to the Champlain Valley until December 6, just missing—by a day—the record for the latest day on the calendar for snow accumulation in the Middlebury area. Mid-December brought brutal cold, but not much in the way of snowy landscapes. That “snowpocalypse” that blanketed the East Coast? It didn’t bring a flake to the Green Mountain State.
Grant
A National Science Foundation grant awarded to the geology department will fund three summer research assistants and the acquisition of key instruments for use in lake and paleoclimate studies, the study of climate throughout Earth’s history.

What are the instruments and how are they used?
- A freeze dryer, which helps prepare sediment samples
- A carbon-nitrogen-sulfur analyzer, which measures elements in sediments and soils
- A pycnometer, which measures the bulk density of sediment samples

Cinema
The Last Station, the film based on the Jay Parini novel of the same name, is receiving critical acclaim and reaping a bounty of award nominations.

Celebrating the final days of Leo Tolstoy, The Last Station stars Christopher Plummer as Tolstoy and Helen Mirren as his wife, the Countess Sofya. Writing in the New Yorker, film critic David Denby says the production is “like a great night at the theater—the two performing demons go at each other full tilt and produce scenes of Shakespearean affection, chagrin, and rage.”

Parini, the D.E. Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing, drew heavily on the Tolstoys’ diaries in crafting the 1990 novel and has received wide praise for capturing the couple’s passion and intellectual fury. Mirren has been nominated for a Golden Globe, and the film has received more Spirit Award nominations than any other independent picture—which has a lot of folks whispering, “Oscar.”

By The Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td></td>
<td>The year John Emerson, Charles A. Dana Professor of Mathematics, first coauthored the article “Use of Statistical Analysis in the New England Journal of Medicine”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td></td>
<td>The year it was most recently cited</td>
</tr>
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<td>1984</td>
<td></td>
<td>The year Emerson’s article was first cited in another article</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td></td>
<td>The year Emerson’s article was included as a chapter in the book Medical Uses of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
<td>The year the third edition was published. Emerson’s “Use of Statistical Analysis in the New England Journal of Medicine” is the third chapter in the book</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of times the article has been cited in other scholarly articles</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>The number of editions of Medical Uses of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
<td>Price, in dollars, of Medical Uses of Statistics, third edition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
On the Air

“You wouldn’t go out and design a landscape for ecological services and put roads or transmission lines there. But this is looking for ecological value in something that is benefiting humans.”

—Marc Lapin, associate in science instruction in environmental studies, as quoted in a Boston Globe “Ideas” story about the ecological value of power lines.

Excerpt

“Dorothy Parker (1893—1967) was the most famous female drinker of her day, famous first because her celebrated sense of humor so perfectly reflected the values of her time, but also famous because she drank alongside—and drink for drink with—the best-known male writers/drinkers of the day. With her near-contemporary Edna St. Vincent Millay, Parker was a female icon of the twenties in America; an icon, however, of the era’s darker side. Millay’s gaiety and perpetual flirtatious girlhood became in Parker’s life and work a stagnant despair, barely disguised beneath the writer’s razor wit.”

—from Flawed Light: American Women Poets and Alcohol, written by Brett Millier, the Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature at Middlebury. Scholars have called Flawed Light an “extraordinarily important, groundbreaking book” that “moves the study of women’s poetry forward by great leaps.”

Review

“The novelist’s ear for the way smart people thrust, parry, and evade through talk is remarkable; and his prose, at once voluptuous and equivocating, registers the middle-aged ambivalence of people unable to enjoy an unqualified moment.”

—An excerpt from the review of English professor Robert Cohen’s latest novel, Amateur Barbarians, in the New York Times. Amateur Barbarians was tabbed by pop culture watchdog, Flavorwire, as one of “10 Awesome Books for the Readers in Your Life,” and was included in the New York Times list of “100 Notable Books of 2009.”

Confluence As an intercollegiate squash coach, John Illig has amassed more than 450 wins and last year led Middlebury’s women’s team to a 19-8 record (the most wins in the program’s history) and a national ranking, culminating in his being named the 2009 NESCAC Coach of the Year. (The men’s team posted a 15-10 mark, also a program record for wins in a season.) As a hiker, Illig has logged more than 8,000 miles on trails around the United States, through-hiking the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail, and the Continental Divide Trail. He has written three books about the experience—Pacific Dream, Man in the Middle, and Trail Ways, Path Wise—which are available at www.johnillig.net

Photographs, far left & above, by Tad Merrick
The "Middlebury Model"

Why Middlebury will never become a university.

By President Ronald D. Liebowitz

At September’s Alumni Leadership Conference, the final question I received following my address and lengthy Q&A session with about 200 of our leading volunteers was “when will Middlebury become a university?” “NEVER!” I answered, emphatically. You could almost feel the relief among those present. Despite providing what I had thought were numerous explanations of what “becoming the first truly global liberal arts college” means—and what it doesn’t—during the past three years, I realized that, despite the good intentions, I had been less effective than I had hoped.

This was confirmed when several volunteers came up to the podium after my address and told me to transcribe what I had just said and “send it out to everyone” because “this is not well understood; yet, when one gets it, it makes great sense.” The main question for many was, “How can we go global and still have the liberal arts college in the Champlain Valley we love so much and wish to support?” Of course, this kind of misunderstanding has repercussions on a number of levels, including the ability of those very volunteers to explain today’s Middlebury as they engage classmates and others on behalf of the College. With this in mind, I’d like to explain the “Middlebury Model”—along with the exciting opportunities it presents to our students and the entire institution.

Middlebury is and always will be a residential liberal arts college, forever aspiring to do even better what it has been doing so well for 209 years. This was affirmed in the College’s latest strategic plan and is central to our thinking as we contemplate any new programs or changes to existing ones. Throughout much of our history, Middlebury has been more than a residential liberal arts college. For almost a century, the College has developed a number of graduate and nondegree programs that serve distinct cohorts of students, and many of those programs also serve our undergraduates in significant ways. None of these programs operate on our campus during the regular academic year, and therefore none of them takes away from our mission and the experience of our 2,400 undergraduates. Rather, these programs enhance our undergraduates’ education and serve to position the College in a unique and enviable standing among its peers and within higher education at a most opportune time. It is this unique combination that we are now calling the Middlebury Model.

So, what is the Middlebury Model, and what are those things that build upon and around our undergraduate liberal arts core? There are our 10 world-renowned, intensive summer Language Schools; our 8 Schools Abroad, which now operate through partnerships with universities in 34 cities on four continents; the Bread Loaf School of English, which is the largest graduate program in English literature in the country; the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, the first (founded in 1926) and most prestigious conference of its kind; and now the Monterey Institute of International Studies, a graduate school of 750 students that offers professional MA degree programs in international policy and management, nonproliferation studies, translation and interpretation, linguistics, and language education.

The combination of these programs, with the undergraduate college at the core, represents a unique institutional model that should not be mistaken for a university. The size, nature, and feel of the College remains small, intimate, and caring, focused on the undergraduate student with a definitive spirit that runs through our 209-year history. At universities, undergraduate students compete with graduate students for the faculty’s time and attention—and usually lose. This is not surprising: graduate students provide important professional support to university faculty in both the time they spend with undergraduates and the work they do as research assistants.

Though the College has developed a number of graduate and nondegree special programs since 1915, it has done so in a way that preserves the centrality of undergraduate education and ensures that our undergraduate students remain at the center of attention. That is, none of the nonundergraduate programs alters the special environment we have created for our students over two centuries: the Language Schools, the Schools Abroad, and the Bread Loaf School of English, all of which award graduate degrees, operate either during the summer months, or far away from campus, either in Monterey, California, or at 34 sites around the world. There is no time when our undergraduate students are in session and must compete with graduate students for our faculty’s attention or campus facilities.

The Middlebury Model is also unique in the way in which our undergraduates can enrich their education by taking advantage of the College’s graduate and special programs. Our 10 intensive summer Language Schools enroll approximately 1,450 students each summer;
Middlebury undergraduates, most of them rising juniors who are preparing to study abroad during their junior year. The intensive immersion summer program covers a full year of college course work in seven or nine weeks, and prepares our students well for learning a new language and culture.

Our Schools Abroad enroll about 550 students each summer. Approximately 450 of those students are undergraduates. (The rest are graduate students pursuing MA degrees in French, German, Italian, Russian, or Spanish.) Among the undergraduates, 58 percent are from Middlebury and 42 percent are from other leading American colleges and universities. The non-Middlebury students say they choose Middlebury programs because of their rigor, the intensive immersion approach to learning, and their proven effectiveness.

Our Bread Loaf School of English (BLSE) enrolls nearly 500 students each summer. Currently, no undergraduates study at BLSE, though there are routinely 25–30 recent Middlebury (BA) graduates enrolled at the School of English each year. In addition, many of the 2,100 MA degree holders teach in secondary schools across the country. Many are doing groundbreaking work in inner-city and poor, rural high schools, and often send their very best students to Middlebury, serving as incredibly valuable, unofficial admissions officers. The Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference awards approximately 20 fellowships each summer to Middlebury rising seniors who have shown great promise in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction writing so they can attend the 11-day conference.

And finally, there is Monterey, which will become a legal part of the College on June 30, 2010. Come next year, Monterey will, first and foremost, serve a population of approximately 750 graduate students from around the world, but, because it operates 2,600 miles away, it will not interfere with our undergraduate program in Vermont. It will, however, offer our undergraduates a range of opportunities that will enhance their undergraduate academic experiences at Middlebury, something no other liberal arts college can offer its students.

Within the next two to three years, we expect to offer several “4+1” dual-degree programs that will allow Middlebury undergraduates to complete their BA and MA degrees in five years in a number of international policy related areas. In addition, a number of Middlebury juniors will be able to spend a semester in Monterey to take graduate-level courses in areas that complement their undergraduate studies—for example, students who major in international politics and economics, international studies, and environmental studies will be able to take courses in the School of International Policy and Management.

Similarly, students who are majoring in a foreign language, or those who are interested in linguistics, might very well spend a semester at Monterey and take courses in linguistics, language education, and, for the truly advanced students, translation and interpretation. And students from a wide range of majors who are interested in the scientific or policy aspects of biological, chemical, and nuclear nonproliferation will be able to study at the Institute’s renowned James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies.

What we will not see following the integration of Monterey into Middlebury is a change in our focus on undergraduate education. Our model is designed to encourage the development of outstanding graduate and nondegree programs that can serve their respective student populations without sacrificing the focus of our core enterprise—the undergraduate, liberal arts college in Vermont. In fact, the model allows us to reinforce that focus while creating new opportunities for our undergraduate students’ four-year experience.

In addition to the increased curricular opportunities for our students, we will also see the benefits of a larger and more interconnected global alumni network. If we view our alumni network as the graduates of all our programs, it would grow from the 28,000 who currently make up our living alumni of the undergraduate college, to more than 45,000. This larger number includes the 8,500 advanced degree holders from the Language Schools; the nearly 2,100 MA degree recipients from the Bread Loaf School of English; and Monterey’s 8,400 alumni. In addition, more than 25,000 individuals have attended the Language Schools as non-degree students, and many, including myself—I attended the School of Russian two summers before joining the Middlebury faculty in 1984—feel great loyalty to the College for the opportunities the Language School experience made possible.

The expanded alumni network is another example of how Middlebury differs from all of its peers: The College remains committed to providing the personalized, undergraduate experience one expects at the very best liberal arts colleges in the country, while, at the same time, providing some of the benefits one usually sees only at a much larger institution—benefits that redound significantly to our students academically, professionally, and socially.

The Middlebury Model, then, is very different from the traditional university model. It allows the College to become the global liberal arts college for the 21st century—to prepare our students for the century’s big challenges—while, at the same time, preserving and strengthening its core, the undergraduate liberal arts program, in ways that no other liberal arts college can match.
WHITE OUT
A quiet winter morning
on the campus below
Old Chapel.
Photograph by Brett
Simison
As Janet Mondlane Rodrigues '12 grapples with her own complex racial identity, she implores others to take a look in the mirror, as well, and ask themselves this loaded question.

By Kevin Charles Redmon ’10
Illustration by Katherine Streeter

Early in Barack Obama's presidential campaign, before clips of the Reverend Jeremiah Wright's more polemical sermons looped endlessly on cable television and Obama was forced to publicly denounce his pastor, the neologism "postracial" was on a lot of lips. A hopeful word with an elusive definition, it seemed to have as much to do with Obama's fair skin and poise as it did with any message he espoused. Indeed, postracial was more about what the junior senator didn't say than what he did—here was a man of color who appeared to transcend his mother's whiteness and father's African heritage, an editor of the Harvard Law Review who could acknowledge the tribulations of being a black man in America without letting it consume him. In short, a man who had moved beyond race. The implication being, so should we.

Janet Mondlane Rodrigues '12 hasn't moved beyond race, and she's determined not to let others move beyond it, either. Mozambican born and Brooklyn raised, she shoulders a complicated identity: Her maternal grandfather was a black African revolutionary, her maternal grandmother a tenacious, white Indiana girl. Her mother is a multiracial world musician; her father is white Portuguese. From this vantage point, Rodrigues sees an America and a campus still struggling to address racism and privilege. To her, talk of a post-racial era is a way of silencing an argument mid-sentence.

Much has changed since 1965, when James Baldwin told Time magazine, "To be black and conscious in America is to be in a constant state of rage." But much has not. Rodrigues doesn't mind being an angry, black woman—what concerns her is being called "an angry, black woman." She says that speaking out about your most intimate frustrations often earns you a pejorative label. "I don't want to be the face of racial harmony at Middlebury. People have gotten tired of listening to me talk about race." She pauses. "But if I walk away from it, it only perpetuates the idea that race is something you get tired of." And that's the paradox of being Janet Mondlane Rodrigues. How do you talk about race—and engage others—in what was supposed to be a postracial America?

For a young woman with so unquiet a conscience, Rodrigues wears a disarming smile. Her gregariousness is charming. She dresses like a New Yorker who realized too late what "Vermont winter" means. And with a fair complexion and raven hair, she says that people often assume she's Hispanic.

As the Facebook generation understands: It's complicated. In pure semantics, she's an African American. Which makes her . . . black? "I feel like my color, my speech, my backgrounds, my roots are not definite; it becomes difficult for me to explain to others how I feel—and for me to understand how I feel. I've never been black enough for the black community, but I've never been white enough for the white community." Rodrigues alternately describes the privilege and pain of straddling so many racial identities. "I feel like I've been spread too thin."

When she engages the Middlebury campus about issues of race, Rodrigues is plumbing the depths of her own identity. She asks provocative, uncomfortable questions—without claiming to know the answers. But then, she's not the first in her family to look at the way we live now and ask, Why?

Before he was assassinated by book bomb in 1969, Eduardo Mondlane, Janet's grandfather, was trying to force the colonial Portuguese government out of Portuguese East Africa. (Today, we call it Mozambique.) After seven years at the head of Frente de Libertação Mozambique (better known by the acronym FRELIMO), Mondlane controlled a formidable guerrilla army and was courting aid from both the capitalist West and
In high school, Rodrigues was already probing what it meant to have a multiracial identity, particularly in a borough so heavily segregated.
documentary. “We tried to interview white students about race relations and identity, but hey, if you’re not analyzing it every day, it’s very hard to talk about. You can ask them to be aware, but they don’t assess their day based on race. Especially last year, race took a toll on me every day.” Rodrigues also interviewed William Hart, associate professor of history. One of four tenured, black professors on campus, Hart told Rodrigues this: When he visits the Middlebury farmers’ market on fall weekends, the first question he often hears is, “Where are you visiting from?” In a later conversation, Hart told me about grocery shopping at Hannaford for the first time. The young, white woman bagging his food asked when he was returning to Jamaica—the only men of color she’d ever seen in town were foreign migrant workers.

Then, last summer, Rodrigues found a new forum: a blog. After Henry Louis Gates, Jr., a prominent black academic at Harvard, was arrested in his home, an infuriated Roger Rodrigues logged onto Blogger and signed up. “It’s so powerful. With a blog, I can pull from everything I’ve experienced and tell them how I feel.” She isn’t bothered by a lack of readers or by having to lob her opinions in from the outfield of cyberspace. The point is to participate. And to be provocative.

“I wanted it to be called IAmRacist.blogspot.com, because I wanted the subconscious act of writing, ‘I am racist.’ You know? I, Janet Rodrigues, am racist. I am sexist. I am all of the above.” But her mother killed the idea, pointing out that it might attract the wrong readers.

She finally settled on “The Privilegists.” She explains, in her lilting, benign way, “I’m basically equating the two, but it’s nicer to be called a privilegist than a racist.”

CHUDE MONDLANE, Janet’s mother, left Tanzania not long after her father’s assassination. She received a scholarship to study at the Bolshoi Ballet School in Moscow, and then in Almaty, Kazakhstan. But when she was 17, she returned to the newly independent Mozambique. After more than a decade of conflict, the young nation was hungry for culture. “It was a country,” she says, “with a place for ballet.”

Rodrigues knows this. “Being a black student at Oberlin is one of the worst things a person of color can say to a white person. It’s one of the biggest accusations you could make.” Part of what Rodrigues does best, whether in passing conversation or class discussion, is unload the term of its stigma. She recognizes that discussion isn’t possible when white students feel defensive or accused of sins of the past.

Today, racism can be just as pedestrian and subtle as it can be systematic and overt. Rodrigues breaks it down this way, based on a book by Spelman College president Beverly Daniel Tatum, Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: “Racism is derived from race and power. The two act in concert.”

What does it mean to have multiple racial identities in a country that talks about race in terms of blacks and whites?

IT’S PAINFUL TO HEAR SOMEONE SUGGEST YOU’RE RACIST. Rodrigues knows this. “Being called a racist is one of the worst things a person of color can say to a white person. It’s one of the biggest accusations you could make.”

Chude’s part-time job at the library to scrape by, and Janet was forever happy to tag along to her mother’s night classes, contributing to the discussion when called upon.

Oberlin is a mostly white town, and Janet was quickly emerging into the awareness of late adolescence. “When we first arrived,” Chude says, “the elementary school heard there was this girl coming from Africa. So they brought out all the black kids at the school to greet her.” She gives a sad laugh as she recounts the story. “That question of ‘What are you?’ followed her. She began to notice segregation on television, on all the sitcoms. Black characters were always acting the fool. And she really couldn’t figure it out. It marked her.”

The difficult questions that Janet continues to ask today are refined versions of the ones she grappled with then: What does it mean to be an American with African heritage? And what does it mean to have multiple racial identities in a country that talks about race in terms of blacks and whites?
exhausted. “Passive racists are standing still,” happy to maintain the status quo. “And active antiracists are walking as fast as they can toward the end.” To say that most of us are passive racists, then, is to say that we’re doing little to realize a more just society. We’re not actively seeking out inequity and combating prejudice. “It sometimes becomes too provocative,” Rodrigues says. “Some people perceive me as militant.” Yet all she’s asking her peers to do is recognize privilege, their own and others’.

Rodrigues realized, in making her documentary, that “white privilege” meant never having to think about race at Middlebury. It meant thinking that whiteness was the absence of race; that to “have a race” was to be black or Hispanic. It meant that, for white students, race rarely entered into their daily calculus of who to eat with, what to say in class, or how to party.

Rodrigues gave me an essay by Peggy McIntosh, director of the Wellesley Centers for Women, called “Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack.” In it, McIntosh, who is white, writes, “Whites are taught to think of their lives as morally neutral, normative and average.” She then details some salient examples of white privilege: “I can talk with my mouth full and not have people put this down to my color. I can swear, dress in secondhand clothes, or not answer letters, without having people attribute these choices to bad morals, the poverty or illiteracy of my race. I can do well in a challenging situation without being called a credit to my race.”

When we discussed it later, Rodrigues could barely stay seated in her chair. She told me about a game, Pushed to the Limit, she’d first played with her white friends at Middlebury. “Someone does an action, and the next person in the circle has to do it bigger, and it keeps going around and around, and becomes total chaos. One day, I told my black friends we should play. They said, ‘Absolutely not. Everyone’s going to think it’s a bunch of black students, race rarely entered into their daily calculus of who to eat with, what to say in class, or how to party. And that’s how we feel. In the dining hall, sitting together, if the volume increases too much, we feel like, Oh my gosh, they’re judging us by our race.” We’re being these delinquent students from the inner city who didn’t get a proper education or etiquette.”

Now a sophomore, Rodrigues is more at ease at Middlebury—both with herself and her classmates. She’s quick to note that this year is easier than last. “Now that my white friends know my angers about race, they listen. And I listen to them. It works.”

Fortunately, preternatural perseverance appears to be in the Mondlane genotype. “Every time one of my black friends wants to drop out, I tell them, ‘Middlebury is only a microcosm of this country.’ You’re always going to have a majority with power and privilege, and its painful for the ones that don’t feel like they’re being heard.”

This sentiment echoes one heard last year from the erstwhile community organizer and law professor Barack Obama, in his Philadelphia address. Meditating on his church in Chicago, he observed “the struggles and successes, the love and yes, the bitterness and bias that make up the black experience in America.” Later, he continued, “That anger is not always productive. But the anger is real; it is powerful; and to simply wish it away, to condemn it without understanding its roots, only serves to widen the chasm of misunderstanding that exists between the races.”

Like Rodrigues, Obama was asking us to consider our own unexamined relationship with race and identity; to acknowledge that privilege allows white Americans to blithely ignore race, as if it were not our concern; to affirm that race can be, at once, both privileged and its painful for the ones that don’t feel like they’re being heard. A native daughter still in search of her roots. “I need to go back and experience it all again. I need to find myself before I’m empow ering and painful; and to recognize this moment not as a postracial one, but one in which race is still terribly important.”

Rodrigues plans to return to Mozambique when she graduates, a native daughter still in search of her roots. “I need to go back and experience it all again. I need to find myself before I’m teaching people things. If I’m going to create change in Mozambique, I need to feel like the people are going to identify with me.” She plans to pursue community organizing and development, she says adamantly, not politics—though her intonation suggests that she is trying to convince herself as much as her listener. As Mozambique emerges from a quarter-century of neo-colonialism and single-party rule, there will be those who’d like to see a young Mondlane realize Eduardo’s original vision. Until then, though, the revolution will have to come in stages—one conversation, one blog post, one minor victory at a time.

Kevin Redmon ’10 is an editorial intern at The Atlantic in Washington, D.C. This is his fourth story for Middlebury Magazine.
FOR INQUIRING MINDS, TO KNOW
Middlebury Experts Want You
**HOW TO ARGUE**

By Jay Heinrichs '77

The rhetorical question I like isn’t “How can I win arguments?” but “How can I win agreement without anger?” Some hors d’oeuvres to stimulate your argumentative appetite:

**Set your goal.** Your biggest mistake is to try to win for the sake of winning. Unless you’re debating for the fun of it, the argument itself is no goal.

What do you really want? To talk your audience into making a particular choice? To get them to do something you want? Or to strengthen the ties that bind? (You know I’d do anything for you, even if it means spending vacation with your mother.)

**Switch to the future tense.** Aristotle’s favorite form of rhetoric, deliberative argument, deals with choices, which are all about the future. The past is the realm of forensics—crime and punishment. (It’s the Republicans who got us into Iraq in the first place.) And the present? Values. (A good husband would pick up after himself.) You see what happens when our nation’s “blowharderati” favor blame and values over choices. The same holds for households and school boards.

**Use your audience’s beliefs and expectations.** To persuade a political independent to vote for gay marriage, don’t lecture her on homophobia. Play on most independents’ dislike of Big Brother in our private lives.

**Most important, to gain agreement, be agreeable.** Be someone your audience likes and trusts. Aristotle noted that trust carries more persuasive power than the most airtight logic. And Aristotle was a man to be trusted.

Jay Heinrichs ’77 is the author of Thank You for Arguing: What Aristotle, Lincoln, and Homer Simpson Can Teach Us about the Art of Persuasion.

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**HOW TO MAKE A CELL PHONE CALL AT BREAD LOAF**

By Sandy LeGault, MA English ’87

Stand in the parking lot in front of the Bread Loaf Barn, closer to the Barn than to the row of pine trees.

**Check for a signal.** If there are no bars, put on your walking shoes and cross Rte. 125 in front of the Bread Loaf Inn, holding your cell phone aloft. With the Inn to your back, walk around the left end of the stone wall and head for the field. At any moment you might get a signal. Or, you might not.

In pleasant weather there will be a mowed path that bisects the field and will take you to the top of the hill.

In the winter it might be a little trickier. Check your phone as you proceed up the path (you might get lucky). When you’re at the top of the hill, make a sharp left and walk about 10 feet, heading east.

**Right about . . . THERE.** If you have the right cell phone company and if the winds are blowing your way and if the sun and moon and stars are in alignment, you should have enough of a signal, probably only one bar, to make your call or check your messages. Good luck!

Sandy LeGault, MA English ’87, is the director of admissions for the Bread Loaf School of English. She lived on the Bread Loaf campus for 25 years, during three of which she owned a cell phone.

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**HOW TO BRING HAPPINESS TO YOURSELF— AND TO THOSE AROUND YOU**

By François Clemmons, Alexander Twilight Artist in Residence

When you wake up in the morning, smile.

Exercise.

Eat modestly.

Sing. Loudly!

Though he achieved fame as Officer Clemmons on the Emmy Award-winning public television program Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood, François Clemmons is best known in Middlebury for his rich tenor voice and his booming laugh. How does he stay so happy? He says: “I sing to the coaches and lifeguards at the Natatorium, my peers, my friends, and I sing to myself. At night, I even sing to my little doggie! She seems to like it, and it calms my day.”

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Illustrations by Christopher Silas Neal
HOW TO TAKE A NAP
By Judith Dry '09

First, scope out your spot. Naps can happen anywhere! At the library, push two comfy chairs together so you can stretch out. Mix it up by napping in a friend’s bed. Adventurous earthy types: try sleeping in the grass!

If in private, take your pants off. Waking up with jeans on is hot and really confusing.

Silence your phone. You’ll sound groggy if you answer, and the person who wakes you up will be too polite and will insist on calling back later.

Clear your mind. If you’re this exhausted, you’re probably pretty stressed out. Fuhgeddaboutit. You’re napping now. That’s all that matters.

Judith Dry’s favorite napping spots at Middlebury were the brown leather couches in the Mahoney Center for the Arts.

HOW TO TELL A STORY IN 140 CHARACTERS
By Sarah McGowen Franco ‘08

| Hemingway once told a story in six words: “For Sale: Baby shoes. Never worn.” In the Twitterverse, tweets and twits get 140 characters. |
| Coleridge might say that a tweet is a lot like an epigram: “A dwarfish whole, its body, brevity, and wit its soul.” |
| It doesn’t seem like much, but one should never underestimate the power of a short, declarative sentence or a pointed question. |

Sarah Franco ’08 tweets under the moniker@sanfrancisco

HOW TO READ A POEM
By Brett Millier, Reginald L. Cook Professor of American Literature

Reading poetry is different from reading prose. A poem is a concentrated experience, and so is reading one. Because of this strict economy, poetry must use multiple strategies to convey meaning. If prose makes meaning primarily from words, poetry makes it through the shape of the poem itself, the length of the lines, rhyme, meter, rhythm, and sound, as well as the words themselves and the images and ideas they express.

William Carlos Williams said that a poem is “a machine made of words.” Reading poetry involves recognizing the working parts of the machine.

First, remember that most poems are written in complete sentences. Find the sentences (subject, verb, object) that make up the poem. Remember that a single sentence may stretch over several lines or even stanzas. Then try to paraphrase the general meaning, paying attention to verb tenses and word choices. Ask yourself: What moved the poet to write? What is the problem being described? What kind of poem is it? (A plea? A prayer? An apology? A description?) Try to describe its tone.

Consider the poem’s form, its architecture of rhyme and meter. What patterns emerge? Is it a sonnet? An ode? A villanelle or sestina? How does the poet use these strategies of form to add meaning?

Now read the poem again. Let it resonate. Poet A. R. Ammons suggested that meaning in poetry works like “a bell rung in a gold surround.” Or you can think of a pebble dropped in a pond, with expanding rings of meaning—always a mix of your own experience and the poet’s—moving out toward the edge of consciousness.

Brett Millier is the author of Flawed Light: American Women Poets and Alcohol.
The most important thing to consider as you reach for the camera is, what exactly are you trying to capture? In other words, you want to visualize what you want the image to look like within the four corners of your frame.

It’s important for you to know what your subject is because you want to fill the frame with that subject. If you are taking a picture of your kids, get in close and make the picture about the children, rather than their chaotic or distracting surroundings. There are many ways to isolate your subject from the background—such as focus, lighting, color, contrast, and depth of field—but your images will only benefit from clarity of purpose. Keep it simple.

Taking pictures is a physical activity, and it is important for you to move around and experiment with different perspectives. Suppose you are in Tuscany. If you want to highlight the plump lemons hanging from tree limbs, then get right up under those lemons and capture them beaming against the clean blue sky. If you want to get a shot of your travel partner walking along the trail beside you, then try shooting right over your shoulder as you walk. Or perhaps you want to capture the totality of the scene: the silver olive trees, the hills tumbling to the turquoise sea, the distant islands. Pull back, climb high, get low, zoom in, zoom out. Think about the various layers that make up the scene and make that your subject.

Without light, we have no photography. Lighting conditions should work to emphasize your subject. Let existing light do most of the work. If you use a flash, it should be as balanced as—or similar to—ambient light.

New York-based photographer Casey Kelbaugh’s work can be seen at www.caseykelbaugh.com.
HOW TO FEED 2,400

By Middlebury’s Dining Services

OK, you have the perfect meal for six: chicken with a cider glaze, roasted fingerling potatoes, green bean sauté with mushrooms and red pepper, and mixed green salad. Great. Now adapt it to feed 2,400.

Menu Design

Our recipe may be perfect, but can we access enough of the ingredients to feed more than 2,000? “When we use Misty Knoll poultry, we have to include a five-week lead time to grow chickens and eight weeks for turkey, to acquire the volume that we need,” says Middlebury’s executive chef Bo Cleveland. “Produce has availability issues, too. Changes in weather patterns are crucial when trying to predict when to purchase fresh products for them to arrive at the peak of their flavor.”

The Execution

“It takes the staff of our three kitchens to turn the raw ingredients into items ready for service,” Cleveland says. “We do as much as we can in advance and then calculate the remaining time sequences for what has to be finished the day of the event. Salad greens are washed, tossed, and dried; desserts are finished; bread is baked; sauces and soups are prepared.

“Items that hold well are cooked earlier, allowing us to wait closer to service for more delicate items to come out. Volume also comes to bear, as you have to calculate the rotation of cooked food in the oven with the time it takes to cook and serve.”

Bon appétit!

What You’ll Need

4,800 chicken breasts
75 gallons of cider, reduced
500 pounds fingerling potatoes
400 pounds green beans, trimmed
75 pounds mushrooms, sliced
90 pounds red peppers, chopped
108 pounds butter
240 pounds mesclun lettuce
15 flats cherry tomatoes
100 pounds carrots, grated
15 gallons balsamic vinaigrette

HOW TO DANCE THE TANGO

By Ana Maria Jansen Wiseman, DML Spanish ’96

A must: good posture.

Never look down, but if you must, try not to be too obvious about it.

Hold on tight, but know when to let go.

Keep in mind that slowing things down is always more difficult than speeding them up.

It’s always harder without a good pair of shoes.

Never force anyone to jump unless you plan on being there to catch them.

Maybe my feelings for the tango are like Lunfardo (Argentine slang):

I can’t describe them; I just have to show you.

One last universal thought I learned from this experience: When in doubt, improvise.

Exit, and start again.

Ana Maria Wiseman is the dean of international programs at Wofford College. She teaches the tango each summer as a faculty member in Middlebury’s Spanish School.
HOW TO SPOT AN ART FAKE
By Richard Saunders, W. Cerf Distinguished College Professor

What is a fake?
- An art fake may be a work that is recently made, but advertised as being old.
- An art fake may be an object that is old, but has been intentionally modified (such as adding a fraudulent signature).
- An art fake may be an object that is recently made to simulate a legitimate work of great value (a mass-production print made to look like a rare, limited edition).

Keep in mind
- Fakes have existed almost as long as there has been commerce.
- If lots of money can be made by virtue of selling something rare and desirable, then you can be assured fakes of it exist.
- When buying at auction: read the fine print so you understand your legal recourse if a disagreement develops later regarding the object's authenticity.
- When buying from a dealer, ask for a written explanation of the return policy. And, remember, art dealers can go out of business, too.

Ways to avoid being taken
- Read and look (a lot).
- Seek advice before taking action.
- Consider hiring an art consultant to help guide you.

Caveats: the buyer's mantras.
- If it is too good to be true, it probably is.
- "If a little knowledge is dangerous, where is the man who has so much as to be out of danger?" — Thomas Huxley (In other words, anyone can make a mistake, even knowledgeable collectors, dealers, and others in the art trade.)

- Beware hubris: there is always someone out there smarter than you are.

Richard Saunders is the W. Cerf Distinguished Professor and director of the Middlebury Museum of Art. He says that the museum would be glad to consult with readers about works of art they own. Though the museum is prohibited by law from giving monetary appraisals, the staff can provide names of people who offer this service.

HOW TO MAKE A PERFECT SHEET OF ICE
By Butch Atkins

Acquire a Zamboni. Start by shaving off the exact amount of old ice. Add the precise amount of hot and cold water to the surface, making sure your blade is sharp. Mix everything while maintaining the correct speed.

Add a wave and a wink to an excited crowd.

HOW TO ROLL A KAYAK
By Christian Woodard '11

So, you're underwater, upside down, and strapped in a kayak. Don't panic.

You're probably blowing bubbles. Stop. Now count to three.

Tuck forward to keep your face away from any rocks and reach the paddle out to the side until you feel air on your hands.

Sweep your paddle down, and use that brace to snap your hips in one movement.

Your obliques will contract, rotating your butt from pointing at the sky to pointing back toward the bottom of the river. You should be sitting upright, breathing air.

Blow water from your nose and check to make sure no one saw you. If they did, call out, "I was just getting a little warm!" and throw a big fist pump to the sky.

Christian Woodard '11 is a veteran kayaker, who counts Otter Creek as one of his favorite places to paddle and roll.

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON YOUR HEATING BILL
By Jamie Hand '08 and Thomas Hand '05

Attics There are often many leaks from the living space into unconditioned attics. These can be sealed with materials like caulk or spray foam. Also, it is often cost-effective to add insulation. We generally recommend cellulose for open attics.

Doors Add weather stripping to exterior doors. Don't forget basement doors.

Programmable thermostats These allow you to set back the temperature automatically for when you are not home, not using certain rooms, or asleep.

Regular maintenance Having your heating system serviced annually will improve its efficiency and decrease potential safety issues.

The chimney Try to avoid using open fireplaces on the coldest days. When smoke goes up the chimney, the same amount of outside air is sucked into the house, resulting in a net loss of heat.

Jamie and Thomas are the owners of Hand Energy Services, an energy-efficiency company located in Dorset, Vermont.
HOW TO KEEP STRESS OUT OF THE WORKPLACE

By Hanni Guinn ’99

Start your day right
Relaxation begins before you get to work. Give yourself time in the morning to sit down and eat breakfast. Before eating, take 10 deep breaths and set your pace for the day.

Meditate
Meditation can be done anywhere and is proven to relax your body and mind. Breathing techniques can be done throughout the day to help relieve you from the building stress of the workday.

Breathe deeply
Breathing isn’t just for meditation. Every breath you take should be full and deep.

Create a clutter-free environment
Clutter is distracting and adds to your stress. Tidy up your desk and see how this changes your mood.

Wear headphones
In work environments where you are sharing space, use headphones to mute out distractions and let people know not to bother you. Play music that boosts your concentration and has a calming beat.

Use your lunch hour to relax
Take a lunch break. Don’t eat and work at the same time. Think about your food and chew it completely. When you are done, go for a walk or take a mini-nap.

Avoid distractions
Turn off your IM and avoid checking e-mail when not necessary. By eliminating distractions, you are able to concentrate and create a flow. Increased concentration is not only productive, but calming.

Laugh
Pretty self-explanatory, isn’t it?

Hanni Guinn ’99 is a licensed massage therapist and owner of Green Mountain Body Works.

HOW TO FIND A JOB—WHEN YOU’RE IN MID CAREER

By Jaye Roseborough, Executive Director of Career Services at Middlebury

Follow the “80/20 Rule.” Spend 80 percent of your available job-hunting time (40 hours a week?) in outreach and networking activities and only 20 percent—at most—searching the Web and applying for advertised positions. (Should be easy to stick to below 20 percent for this!)

Avoid spending too much time going to gatherings set up for job hunters. These groups are full of other job hunters, not people who can get you to the people who hire.

Avoid “ain’t it awful” negative types of people. You need to surround yourself with people who are upbeat. Make discussion of your job search off-limits to those who aren’t.

It is a JOB getting a job. Pretend that you are a sales rep and that everyone you meet is a potential customer down the line. Focus on developing good relationships, not getting the sale.

You are not your former job title or field. Stay open-minded. ID some possibilities. Remember to focus on your problem-solving skills and not just on your last job title or field.

Treat yourself to some “time off.” Evenings and weekends are for recharging your battery. Exercise is important for keeping your spirits up. Laughing is mandatory.

Jaye Roseborough has been offering career advice for more than 30 years. She encourages all job seekers to make use of Midd resources at middlebury.edu/administration/co/alumni.

HOW TO MAKE HISTORY

By Jane Chaplin, Professor of Classics

The phrase “making history” is most obviously taken to mean “doing something that is certain to be remembered.” In practice, however, a great deal of history is made after the fact, by the rememberers rather than by the actors. The German title Kaiser and the Russian title Tsar (most recently echoed in the appointment by American presidents of various administrative “czars”) are versions of Caesar, but this name was immortalized not so much by Julius Caesar himself as by his posthumously adopted son, who for the first 17 years of his public life (up until the Roman senate bestowed on him the honorific name Augustus) styled himself Julius Caesar. This act of preservation and perpetuation led to the inclusion of “Caesar” in the imperial nomenclature and hence to its availability as a designation for executive authority in the modern world.

This spring, Jane Chaplin will teach a first-year seminar titled “Making History.” In the course, students will look at the ways everyone, from the Greeks and Romans to Oliver Stone, has made Alexander truly “Great.”
HOW TO CRY ON CUE
By Mathew Nakitare ’10

■ Develop an awareness of your body and your breath and be able to free yourself of muscular and vocal tension.

■ Notice what your body naturally does when you cry. The greater awareness you have about this, the easier it will be to cry amid the pressure of performance.

■ Find the stimuli in the play that cause your character to shed tears.

■ Determine what kind of crying it is and see if you can have the same physicality and energy without the tears. This can help take your focus off the tears as the end product and allow you to develop a better sense of your body in “cry mode.”

■ Exterior stimuli—a certain light, a light change, a music cue—can help you to trigger the tears.

■ Rather than trying to cry, try not to cry. Seeing a character struggling not to cry is often more believable to an audience.

■ If, at the end of the day, you still find that you cannot summon tears, just do what a director once told me, “Cover your eyes with your hand so the audience can’t see, screw up your face, quiver your bottom lip, and pretend.”

Mathew Nakitare ’10 recently appeared in a theatrical reading of the play After Darwin.

HOW TO BAKE A CAKE—USING ELECTRICAL CURRENTS
By Noah Graham, Associate Professor of Physics

Disclaimer: We know that we’re telling you how to do this, but please Do Not Try This At Home!

1) Preheat oven. Connect electrodes to 120 volt Variac power supply.

2) In a bowl, combine 2 boxes of cake mix, 2 eggs, and 2 cups of warm water. Mix well.

3) Place electrodes into ungreased 13” x 8” Pyrex pan and pour in mixture.

4) Set power supply to 100 volts.

5) Cook for 50 minutes; current should be approximately 5 amperes.

6) Disconnect power supply, remove electrodes, and enjoy!

This cake is cooked with 100 percent organic electrons and is energy-efficient cooking at its finest: 100 percent of the electrical power goes into the cake. Noah Graham would like to credit Bob Prigo for bringing this demonstration to Middlebury.
There are reasons—plenty of them—why the world’s most remote mountain peaks remain unexplored, much less skied. For Jamie Laidlaw ’02, though, they’re just obstacles meant to be cleared.

By Devon O’Neil ’01  Photographs by Kristoffer Erickson
He whole thing is, I am not a ski mountaineer. I'm a person who goes ski mountaineering.”

Jamie Laidlaw ’02 was sitting on his bed in a hotel room in Kathmandu, Nepal. There was a point of emphasis in his tone: Of all the topics we’d covered, he wanted to make sure this one was not misinterpreted—“person” comes first, “ski mountaineer” second.

How Laidlaw defines himself is a crucial element to his persona. And an honest one. Among the first things you learn about him is that he has no room in his life for exaggeration or hyperbole, be it yours or his. Not that there aren’t opportunities—Laidlaw, 29, is one of the world’s foremost ski mountaineers, known for notching ambitious climbs and ski descents from the Nepalese Himalayas to the Peruvian Cordillera Blanca—arguably the two nastiest ranges in the world. But while some mountaineers take much pleasure in talking about themselves and what they’ve done, Laidlaw would rather talk about other things.

It’s not only that Laidlaw himself doesn’t exaggerate. He holds the same expectation of others, which can be maddening when people skiing only a fraction of a peak—namely Everest and K2, the two tallest mountains on Earth—and claiming to have skied the peak for the purposes of media exposure.

“I don’t understand why people can’t come clean,” Laidlaw said. “Just be honest with what you either achieved or didn’t achieve. I think you have to be proud of what you do, no matter what it is. When you claim to do something that you actually haven’t, all you end up doing is demeaning what you actually did.”

His stance is particularly salient when considering the expedition that had brought us to Kathmandu. For the past year, Laidlaw had studied a group of mountains in far western Nepal that is one of the most unexplored sections of the Himalaya Range—a place where 20,000-foot peaks remain nameless, and villagers may not have seen a Caucasian in decades, if ever. Alpinists have long speculated about the region, but its reputation as a lair for Maoist rebels, as well as its dangerous terrain, has made it terra incognita for all but a scant few. Together with ski mountaineers Kris Erickson and Kip Garre, Laidlaw hoped to change that, skiing as many as three large, virgin peaks during a 40-day expedition that would take them through some of the most remote villages in all of Nepal.

The North Face, the outdoor apparel and gear company, put up some cash (the company typically sponsors a handful of major expeditions per year), all two months later we all landed in Kathmandu. Our trip started auspiciously. Two days into our journey, we had made our way west to a small Nepalese village where the sleeping accommodation was a sweltering concrete hovel, sparsely furnished with wooden cots in doorless rooms. Tiny brown insects gnawed us by the thousands that night, but nobody got it worse than Laidlaw. He fled to the dirt ground in front of the building, only to wake up with a stray dog asleep on his head.

The next morning, Laidlaw shrugged off the hell. Covered in red welts that would last for 10 days, he said: “If you want the adventure, if you really want to drop off the face of the Earth, you better be ready to deal with stuff like this.”

It can take decades for an elite ski mountaineer to show what he’s truly capable of. For Laidlaw, it took the month of May.

In 2005, Laidlaw and an old friend from Middlebury, all-American ski racer Dana Drummond ’02, flew to Peru to attempt to ski some precipitous peaks in the Cordillera Blanca. But when Drummond was stricken with a debilitating case of altitude sickness, Laidlaw had a decision to make: either wait for his partner to improve or continue on his own, a move that would up the ante considerably. He decided on the latter, and on May 11, climbed alone up the west face of 19,796-foot Tocllaraju—one of the most coveted unskied faces in the Andes. He summited, which alone was a noble feat. But then he skied down what he had climbed, a historic descent. He skied through a choke of ice that was steeper than 60 degrees, virtually the steepest angle at which a metal ski edge can hold a human body upright. (At one terrifying moment, his ski flexed too much and his heel ripped free of his binding, nearly sending him into a slide down the 2,400-foot face. He regained control and reached down to fix his binding, as if he were oblivious to the fact that he could die if he fell.) Drummond recalls when Laidlaw hiked back into their base camp after that experience: “He wasn’t shaking and wasn’t a wreck, but there were some wide eyes. He didn’t try to downplay it at all. I remember talking to him after that, and I think it opened his eyes to what might be possible.”

Laidlaw added a solo first descent of 20,217-foot Ranrapalca’s heavily cliffed north face—which, like Tocllaraju’s west face, had been coveted for years—but no media coverage followed. Curious about the Cordillera Blanca’s history, he typed out an e-mail to Kris Erickson, who had done his share of skiing in the range, and whom he had never met. “Here’s what I did,” Laidlaw wrote. “What do you know about it?” Erickson couldn’t believe what Laidlaw had achieved, especially alone. He began to spread the word about a bold new face in ski mountaineering.

Laidlaw was raised in McCall, Idaho, a small town two hours north of Boise, where he learned to ski in leather boots and had an understanding of backcountry snow by the time he entered middle school.

He has blond sideburns, bulging muscles, and a voice that evokes Johnny Cash, and despite his jones for adventure, he maintains a rather stoic demeanor. There’s a hardness to him, something he probably inherited from his parents, a pair of self-described “good hippies,” who met in upstate New York and lived in Vermont and Oregon before settling in Idaho. (They
were masters of existing on the fringe, Laidlaw says, living without running water and electricity; trapping and eating beaver and rattlesnake; raising pigs, chickens, and geese, whose feathers were used to insulate young Jamie’s hand-sewn snowsuits.) He grew up kayaking, mountain biking, and skiing, and showed considerable promise as a junior ski racer, but he never met his expectations at Middlebury. He failed to make the alpine team’s carnival roster and quit after his sophomore year.

After he graduated, Laidlaw took a ski patrol job at Snowbird in Utah to help qualify for a position as a helicopter ski guide in Nevada’s Ruby Mountains. While in Utah, Laidlaw formed a unique ski mountaineering partnership with Drummond and BJ Brewer, a former telemark national champion. Together they put in giant days in the craggy Wasatch Range outside Salt Lake City, learning to handle intense situations for many hours at a time.

In the spring of 2004, the three young skiers embarked on their first real expedition. They hired a small plane to drop them off on a glacier in the middle of Alaska’s Fairweather Range—among the most isolated places on the continent. Their plan was to spend a few weeks traversing the range and skiing some technically stout, virgin mountains. As it turned out, they notched four significant first descents and then added a 120-mile traverse back to town for good measure. During that week, Laidlaw pulled more gear on his sled than anyone and moved faster in spite of it. Each man lost at least 10 pounds due to Laidlaw’s conservative food rationing.

“That guy can suffer,” says Fred Coriell ’02, a friend from college and a fellow guide at the Rubies. “He doesn’t complain, ever.”

Laidlaw’s feats in Alaska and Peru were impressive, but there is only one place for a mountaineer to elevate himself into the most rarefied company: the Himalayas, which stretch across six countries and contain the 100 highest mountains on Earth.

On a cold night in May 2007, he began climbing from Camp IV on Mount Everest, alone. He was in Nepal to guide commercial clients to an elevation far below the summit, but he wasn’t working for money. He was working in exchange for a permit to climb and ski Lhotse, the world’s fourth tallest mountain at 27,890 feet. Lhotse is just south of Everest (their climbing routes are the same until Camp IV), and the 2,000-foot couloir off its summit is one of the most aesthetic alpine features on any of the world’s big peaks. Nobody had ever attempted to ski it.

It was 10 P.M. when Laidlaw set out, intending to summit and ski at sunrise. He stared across at more than 100 headlamps plodding up the southeast ridge of Everest, but he was the only person on Lhotse. (Halfway up the couloir, he came across an ice axe and mitten, remnants from a famous Sherpa climber’s deadly fall two days earlier. Laidlaw had helped package her corpse to be taken down the mountain.)

With the summit just 800 feet above him, Laidlaw stopped to switch oxygen bottles. But his system malfunctioned, and there was nothing he could do but listen as the rest of his oxygen hissed into the black night. Alone and in the so-called “death zone” without extra air, Laidlaw had no choice but to begin the descent at 3 A.M. He skied by headlamp, plunging his axe into the snow and wrapping his arms around it when he needed to rest. The
conditions—breakable crust on a 50-degree slope—made the ski-
ing some of the most difficult and draining he has ever done.

Difficult and draining, though, is not a deterrent for Laidlaw. In Nepal, every time we came to a place where it wasn't clear which way to go—which happened multiple times per day—Laidlaw broke it down like a homing pigeon. The hairier and more unpredictable the route, the more at home he was.

On our second day of hiking into high alpine terrain, we found a trail that traced the contour of a severely steep mountain, which plunged into a river gorge hundreds of feet below. The trail eventually became a ledge of snow and ice, so narrow that we had to turn and face the slope and then shimmy along with 50 pounds of ski gear and food on our backs. Any screwup could easily have ended our lives.

Suddenly we encountered a section of trail that had washed out entirely, leaving a six-inch shelf of rock to “Spiderman” across. We were at least five days from the nearest medical care and were traveling without a satellite phone, since ours malfunctioned in Kathmandu. Laidlaw talked me through my handholds with typical calm. Even where the intensity sometimes felt like a hurricane, I never once saw him stressed.

Shortly before he left McCall for Nepal, Laidlaw ran into a man he’d known since he was young. “The guy said, ‘You be safe over there. You come back. We don’t want anything happening to you,’” Laidlaw recalled. “And I’m like, did you just tell me not to kill myself?”

On some level, it’s apt. Ski mountaineering can be a different kind of hard. You put yourself into very serious situations with very serious consequences. You climb with ropes and axes and crampons on totally unpredictable surfaces of rock, snow, and ice, at staggering altitudes—and then you put your skis on, and drop in. You ski over giant cliffs, on snow that could break off the mountain at any time and avalanche for thousands of feet. Sometimes you rappel over crevasses on sheets of ice. Once, in New Zealand, Laidlaw airdropped over a 100-foot serac, or ice tower, onto a 40-degree slope so he wouldn’t have to take his skis off and climb down.

And yet the closest Laidlaw has come to dying in the mountains occurred on a January morning in 2006 when he was on the clock at Snowbird. He and some fellow ski patrolmen dropped into a series of steep, tight chutes that had been tested with nine explosive shots two hours earlier. Laidlaw’s friends made it down fine, but when he entered his chute, the snow cut loose and began to slide. Laidlaw had shredded a ligament in his knee, but that wasn’t his main problem. He was in an avalanche that was about to drag him over a 90-foot cliff. He frantically swam for the side, barely avoiding the cliff.

Still, he says he doesn’t think much about his mortality. “Risk isn’t something that’s tangible; it’s a perceived thing,” he says. “It sounds kind of stupid to say, but I’m not a risk taker by any means. If I do something, I’m 100 percent sure it’s within my abilities. I also recognize there’s a lot of factors out of your control. I think at some point, you have to come to terms with the fact that you could get killed, and if you don’t do that, you’re always going to be in denial. This is by no means worth dying for.”

Laidlaw says he wants to settle down with his girlfriend, Megan FitzMaurice, and buy a 10-acre plot of land that’s for sale just outside downtown McCall. He wants kids. Every time a possible trip arises, the first thing he thinks about is how it will affect their relationship. The way mountaineering works, you spend years getting your name into the upper echelon. Then once it’s there, you spend years maintaining it. That means lots of time away from home, often putting your neck on the line.

Megan supports his ambitions, but she also knows the reality: that mountaineering kills its devotees, sometimes in ways that are impossible to prevent.

“I trust in Jamie’s intuition,” she says. “We all have it, but I’ve watched him listen to it time after time. He respects it. He knows what he’s capable of and what he’s not.” She pauses to collect herself.

“But you’ll hear me choke up, like I am now. It’s something that’s in the back of my head. My friends ask me about this all the time. If anything did happen, I don’t think it’s going to be any wrong decision on Jamie’s part. It’s going to be something that’s out of his control. If you’re out there long enough . . .

“I’ve always told him, I don’t care what you do. Just come home.”

A t the end of our month in western Nepal, the results were mixed. We had successfully navigated some of the most difficult-to-access terrain in Nepal, but due to logistical constraints on the way in—a four-day rainstorm, having base camp set much too low due to tepid porters—the skiing was pared down to three days. On one of them, Laidlaw, Erickson, and Garre completed a 5,000-foot climb and ski descent of a frighteningly steep couloir at 18,000 feet. Laidlaw later lamented that it wasn’t a true Himalayan objective. Not radical enough.

We spent our last night camped in an airport that had been blown apart by Maoist rebels four years earlier, when the civil war was still raging across Nepal. Each of us nursed a warm beer.

Seeking an objective evaluation of the trip, I asked Laidlaw if he felt as if he’d won or lost. He paused for a few seconds, as he tends to do while considering a question. How a mountain-
care elects to represent his achievement often dictates the achieve-
ment’s significance in the eyes of sponsors and other climbers.

Eventually he said, “I feel like I was getting beaten up and beaten up, then threw one big punch at the end to pull even.”

Already he and Erickson and Garre were plotting their next expedition, thinking as much as two years ahead. But when I asked where he thinks that will be, Laidlaw had shifted into a different mindset, thinking about home and the life forever waiting for him to return.

“It’s funny,” he said. “I talk about all these trips I want to do, but what I really want more than anything is to buy that property with Megan.”

Devon O’Neil ’01 is a freelance journalist based in Breckenridge, Colorado.
Class Action

COUNTING HER BLESSINGS
Wendy Mogel '73—psychologist turned bestselling author—has become a treasured resource for anxious parents. Photograph by Max S. Gerber
Under Pressure?

A psychologist and author turns to the Talmud to help children and parents, alike.

By Catherine O’Neill Grace ’72

These days, no one’s too surprised to hear about parents who write a high school daughter’s college entrance essay, or even call a young adult son’s prospective boss to discuss the terms of a job offer. That’s parenting, 21st-century style. But as Wendy Mogel ’73—author of the perennial bestseller, The Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teachings to Raise Self-Reliant Children—was gathering material for her forthcoming book, The Blessing of a B-, she heard a tale that pushed the limits even further. It was about parents who got a divorce but didn’t tell their kids, worrying that it might upset them. The explanation for Dad’s absence? He was on an extended business trip.

Such stories distress, but no longer surprise, Mogel. The clinical psychologist and author has spent much of the last decade traveling around the country talking to worried parents from all walks of life. Her primary objective is to help parents understand how important it is to let their children make—and learn from—their mistakes and to understand that shielding them from life’s lessons can be counterproductive.

Mogel lives in Hollywood and is married to the successful producer, screenwriter, and novelist Michael Tolkin ’74. She has found that parental anguish is particularly intense in the perfection-obsessed private schools and palatial homes of Los Angeles. These are the kind of parents she saw in her clinical practice and the kind she feared she was becoming when her children were little.

“I was a regular old clinical psychologist—and then I had little children and I found Judaism,” Mogel says, of the faith that changed her view of parenting. With a friend, she began attending services and found herself moved, and supported as a parent, by what she found there. Suspending her practice, she spent a year studying Judaism full time; her young family began celebrating the Sabbath at home. (Today, she and Tolkin belong to Temple Israel of Hollywood and have supported the Jewish community at Middlebury College for many years.)

“When I began studying Judaism, one of the first things that struck me was how directly it spoke to the issue of parental pressure,” Mogel writes in Skinned Knee. “According to Jewish thought, parents should not expect their children to be anyone other than who they are. A Hasidic teaching says, ‘If your child has a talent to be a baker, don’t tell him to be a doctor.’”

Skinned Knee, which grew out of the lectures Mogel developed for a Jewish parenting class, started out small. “They printed 5,000 copies of what they thought was a nice Jewish parenting book,” Mogel says. In spite of a rave review in Publishers Weekly, news of the

The Bully Pulpit

“My true calling was not being a therapist or even being a writer, but being a public speaker. I am a circuit preacher.”

Photograph by Max S. Gerber
book traveled mainly through word of mouth, from parent to parent, teacher to teacher, school to school. “Some independent schools give a copy to every new parent, others to every teacher. I’ve heard of acting classes using it, and it’s used in seminars. So sales do remain brisk!”

Ten years after that first modest press run, there are some 300,000 copies of a parenting book that used religious thought as its foundation. They were willing to embrace traditional Jewish thought, and see it as universal, as something that is old and true—and that’s how I felt when I stumbled upon the Talmud.”

In Skinned Knee, Mogel writes that modern parents tend to be like “cruise ship directors who must get [our] children] to their destination—adulthood—smoothly, without their feeling even the slightest bump or wave.” That overprotective approach means parents deprive children of essential experience: “Those bumps are part of God’s plan.”

Mogel’s bestseller counsels parents to let their children take risks and make their own mistakes. It also turns to traditional Jewish teaching to explore a series of “blessings” that enrich family life and create stability—including honoring parents, valuing work, embracing tradition, and experiencing gratitude.

Jewish tradition was not part of Mogel’s childhood in Manhattan. “I was not from a religious family at all,” she says. “Michael had a bar mitzvah and was confirmed, but neither of us had anything to do with religion until our first daughter, Susanna, was three.”

As interest in Skinned Knee grew, Mogel was asked to speak all over the country, at schools, synagogues, and gatherings of professional organizations. “I was surprised and very gratified—and I found out that my true calling was not being a therapist or even being a writer, but being a public speaker,” she says. “It’s my favorite thing to do. I am a circuit preacher.”

Mogel’s dance card for speaking engagements is sure to be even fuller when The Blessing of a B- is published in September. “The working subtitle is something like ‘raising resilient teenagers in a nervous world,’” she says. “I started this book five years ago, and my kids are now 18 and 22.” Older daughter Susanna is a Haverford graduate and teaches nursery school; younger daughter Emma, who enjoys playing bluegrass music and songwriting, is at the University of Chicago.

Stories about the girls abound in Skinned Knee, but for B- Mogel has drawn instead on the stories that administrators, teachers, and parents have told her as she travels the country. She is well aware of parents’ anxiety—indeed their terror—about their children’s futures.

This was a much, much harder book to write because it’s a harder topic,” says Mogel. She sees teenagers today as “teacups” and “crispies” because they’re so fragile, dependent on their parents and burned out from APs and worries about burnishing their transcripts,” says Mogel. “But I want kids to be able to range free a bit and to be around knives, matches, divorce, cancer, death. I want teenagers to have to make choices about alcohol, drugs, and sex.”

Parents have to make tough choices, too—including ethical ones. “When someone calls from school and asks, ‘Is this late slip forged?’ you have to say yes, even if it gets your child in trouble,” Mogel says. “There are qualities in this generation of teenagers that give Mogel hope. “They’re so passionate. There is exuberant, tender, relaxed, collegial mutual support between the genders. They are worldly, and they’re not as prejudiced as we were. And when they’re not too stressed, their entitlement shows itself as energetic idealism and can lead to creative solutions to social problems.”

Mogel says that she again drew on Talmudic wisdom for the new book, but in a less prescriptive way. Rather, the religious framework of the book gives parents something to lean on themselves—the potential for pleasure in watching the circus of adolescence, a sense of the sturdiness of reality, and the power of human resilience. Says Mogel, “Jewish teachings are really about having faith in the future.”

*She is well aware of parents’ anxiety—indeed their terror—about their children’s futures.*
Street Brawl
Tackling one of New York City's giants—on his own turf.

BY STEPHEN KIERNAN '82

Often the most illuminating books of social history serve two purposes: They dissect past events with clear understanding, and they reveal how those events inform the present day.

So it is with Wrestling with Moses: How Jane Jacobs Took On New York's Master Builder and Transformed the American City (Random House, 2009), an engaging and instructive work by Anthony Flint '84. While focused on a compelling conflict over the fate of a few blocks of Manhattan in the late 1950s, this book also establishes a context for today's battles over how—and especially where—the U.S. economy grows. Flint, a longtime reporter at the Boston Globe now working for the Boston-based Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, reveals how preserving communities enables both strong local economies and a flourishing local spirit.

The Moses of the book's title is not the leader from Scripture. But in the realms of urban development following World War II, Robert Moses was something of a minor deity. His city of the future was all streamlined modernism, sleek towers and efficient highways. Moses dominated the field of city planning and provided structures that stand to this day, especially in New York City: the Henry Hudson Bridge, the Triborough Bridge, the Cross Bronx Expressway, and more.

This medicine for urban congestion, however, had side effects. Neighborhoods were butchered, communities broken, and thousands of families driven from their homes. As head of an independent transportation agency, Moses had the power to designate properties as fit for condemnation, build projects, and levy tolls without government oversight or public accountability. As Flint convincingly argues, Moses answered to no one.

He therefore found an unexpected nemesis in Jane Jacobs, a writer on architecture who with her husband had purchased and restored a simple home in Greenwich Village. Moses proposed building a highway through nearby Washington Square Park, with the demolition of 130 buildings, elimination of local streets, and forced relocation of 150 families and countless businesses. Jacobs went to work, organizing neighbors, printing pamphlets, and winning friends in the city's political organization (including a young Ed Koch, the future mayor, who sometimes played his guitar in Washington Square Park).

When Jacobs thwarted the highway, Moses returned with a grander scheme—an urban renewal for the Village that would drive 600 families from their homes for what he called "the larger good" of new housing towers. Having seen identical displacement when Moses built Lincoln Center, Jacobs redoubled her efforts to ignite community opposition.

With that framework, Flint's story becomes about more than two development adversaries; it reveals a unique moment in history. America was used to following the lead of powerful white men like Moses, who scoffed that the
opposition was only a bunch of, well, mothers. The nation was unaccustomed to reckoning with smart, determined women like Jacobs. In fact, her resistance led, predictably, to investigation for possible communist sympathies. And yet, by invigorating a community on its own behalf, she defeated the urban renewal plan—a success that presaged the outspokenness that soon swept America. Only five years later, those same streets Jacobs had rescued birthed a blend of creativity and protest that redefined the individual’s relationship to institutional authority, rewrote the rules of public discourse, and led a young troubadour to conclude that the answers to life’s uncertainties were blowing in the wind.

Flint’s narrative is convincing in part because his reporting is thorough. His characterization of Moses’s ego, for example, is supported by quotations from his unpublished poems (so horrible they’re guaranteed to make a reader cringe and grin). Likewise Flint captures Jacobs’s gift for protest symbolism, for example holding a ribbon-tying ceremony at a site where the community hoped to prevent new construction.

One of the book’s strengths is that its position is not absolute, noting for instance that history has been kind to Moses. Methods aside, his roads and bridges continue to serve millions of people. Similarly Jacobs’s activism never fully addressed New York’s chronic shortage of affordable housing.

Still, their conflict offers meaningful lessons for today. America is littered with big-box stores in former farm fields, while downtowns struggle to remain economically viable. New urbanism seeks to reaffirm the notions of sustainable economy and colorful community that Jacobs espoused. The streets Moses called “blighted” are now homes to NFL quarter­backs and their supermodel girlfriends. Community, as Flint ably proves, is worth the inefficiency.

“We all live in two worlds: the world we physically inhabit, and the world we carry within us,” muses author Stephanie Saldana ’99. The newly minted Harvard Divinity School graduate arrives in Syria in September 2004 for a year’s residence as a Fulbright Scholar. The Iraq War has thrown the entire Middle East into turmoil; Damascus teems with refugees. The city of outcasts and exiles seems a good fit for the 27-year-old as she flees fresh heartbreak and starts to question her own belief system.

In The Bread of Angels: A Journey of Love and Faith in Damascus (Doubleday, 2010), Saldana beautifully details how she navigates two odysseys simultaneously. She confronts the external challenges of living as a stranger in a strange land, while facing even more daunting inner trials. Threads from her family’s dark past, woven into the story of her year in Syria, illuminate how the shy Catholic girl from Texas ends up a restless voyager who feels “at home in that help her along a difficult emotional and spiritual path. Her Fulbright mission is to study the Muslim view of Jesus. (In Islam, Jesus is a much-loved prophet who is human, not divine.) She must tackle practical matters first, however: finding lodgings, improving her knowledge of Arabic, and preventing her mind from wandering back to Boston and the man who suddenly stopped loving her.

She rents a room in a sprawling Ottoman-era house in the city’s old Christian quarter. Her landlord becomes a grandfatherly protector, her 73-year-old “knight in shining polyester pants.” At Damascus University, she joins the post-9/11 flood of foreign students—from American Mormons to radical Iranians—taking Arabic language classes. (At $200 a month, its intensive immersion program is the world’s fastest, cheapest path to fluency.) Chatting with local street vendors becomes a way to practice vocabulary and to make the loud, energetic city feel like home.

But Saldana also seeks refuge in the desert, at the remote Christian monastery of Mar Musa. Although she and God are “for the most part . . . no longer on speaking terms,” she decides to undertake a grueling program called the Spiritual Exercises. During a month of silence and prayer, the desert becomes a mirror for deep inner reflection. She tries to understand why she carries “the broken world inside of [her] heart.” Abbot Paolo and novice monk Frédéric patiently support Saldana through her spiritual journey. When she returns to Damascus to study the Qur’an, she shares her lessons in letters to Frédéric.

The memoir encompasses “a year of such impossible richness” that it needs “no embellishment,” the author notes. Saldana has published previously as a poet and journalist, but this is her first book-length project. Her grace, wit, and unsparing honesty make The Bread of Angels a compelling chronicle. Insights tumble forth as Saldana witnesses history, learns Arabic’s subtle gradations of meaning, and discovers surprising compassion and beauty in the Qur’an. Most moving is how profoundly she longs for a “partner in loneliness.” And how God answers her prayer in a most unexpected way.

Saldana’s sweeping tale would work gloriously as fiction. Poignant and powerfully told, the story takes your breath away because it is true.

—Elisabeth Crean
Game Notes

Learning is not confined to the classroom alone.

text by Maria Theresa Stadtmueller
MELDING MIND AND MUSCLE

YOU CAN'T READ THE LIST OF PANTHER MEN'S HOCKEY RECORDS WITHOUT NOTING HOW FREQUENTLY Mark Spence '98 shows up. Those scoring records don't even include the forward's Division III National Player of the Year and first-team All-American titles (there's a freshman NESCAC track title for good measure). "There are records before me and after me," Spence says with a self-effacing chuckle. "What's most important is that we're getting great student athletes—kids with good character."

When Mark Spence talks about hockey (to someone not a sports fan, anyway), he talks more mind than muscle. That's not surprising. After several years of playing minor-league hockey and two years as assistant coach for Panther hockey, the Middlebury psychology major earned an MA in mental health counseling and behavioral medicine from Boston University. He is now a clinical counselor at the Noble and Greenough School, in Dedham, Massachusetts, where he also advises students, assists with admissions, teaches a personal development class, and revisits the rink as assistant hockey coach.

Spence believes academics and athletics complement each other in building character. "Hard work, teamwork, perseverance, discipline, responsibility—in both pursuits you're constantly getting practice developing these values. You learn how to improve—whether you're having difficulty taking backhand shots or taking exams, you ask your coach or professor to help you and then you put in the work yourself." Spence praises two particular Middlebury mentors:

"Bill Beaney helped me develop as both a hockey player and a person," he recalls. Professor of Psychology Susan Campbell was also "a guiding light. She was vital to my success," he says, "I'm eternally grateful to her." He's also grateful for lifelong friends he made, many of whom were hockey players, many of whom were not. "I loved the community there. And I hear younger and older alumni, as well as students who've visited, all talk about Middlebury as a friendly place. It's great that the vibe has not left."

Spence still plays hockey twice a week, but his lasting legacy will be in educating "kids with good character," whether they're the 15 freshman boys learning communication skills in his personal development class, the students he counsels, or the young athletes he coaches. "You look for the best in each student," he says. "At the end of the day, it's going to be about them."

Water World, And Beyond

CAMERON MERCER '11 HAS ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED BY SPACE EXPLORATION. Unlike most other childhood Trekkies, though, the physics and geology major has already sat in on new lunar mission plans and analyzed Mars Rover rock findings while interning at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama. He speaks with intensity about using "multivariate principal components analysis" in identifying unique rocks that could provide clues to the distant past of the Red Planet, about an upcoming Lunar and Planetary Science conference he'll attend with his NASA mentor, and about his plans for grad school. But at the thought of his ideal future business trip, he breaks into an easy smile: "I'd love to be the guy on the moon, collecting the rock samples and doing the field geology."

Getting there means long runs and lab work. Unlike most other student Trekkies, though, the physics and geology major has already sat in on new lunar mission plans and analyzed Mars Rover rock findings while interning at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Alabama. He speaks with intensity about using "multivariate principal components analysis" in identifying unique rocks that could provide clues to the distant past of the Red Planet, about an upcoming Lunar and Planetary Science conference he'll attend with his NASA mentor, and about his plans for grad school. But at the thought of his ideal future business trip, he breaks into an easy smile: "I'd love to be the guy on the moon, collecting the rock samples and doing the field geology."

Getting there means long days of labs and equations. Thankfully, swimming on the Panthers men's team helps bring Mercer back to Planet Earth. "I get to hop in the water, loosen up, and focus on physical activity and on improving my strokes," says the breast-stroke and freestyle swimmer. "Swimming literally washes away my stress," he adds, and laughs, "and it lets me hit the books hard after a nice, big dinner."

Mercer has competed since he first arrived at Middlebury from Montrose, Colorado. "It was like an instant family," he says of his teammates. "We have a lot of fun hanging out, and we support each other—for example, they've come to my band gigs." (Mercer also finds time to play drums.) Coaches Peter Solomon and Andy Weinberg help establish a positive atmosphere that flexes with student academic needs. "I have a lot of labs, and my coaches are very supportive of my schedule when I have to run down there from Bick Hall," Mercer notes. And then there's the adrenaline of swim meets, also a plus. "The competition's fun," he says enthusiastically. "It's great to swim for Middlebury."
"I'LL MEET YOU AT NELSON." You were headed to play volleyball or tennis, or to work out on the climbing wall—but do you know who "Duke" Nelson was and why he would approve? Here are a few of the people who believed in the role of sports at Middlebury.

**CARROLL AND JANE RIKERT ’70**
Carroll Rikert was business manager and then treasurer of Middlebury College during crucial years of growth. He is (as was his late wife, Jane) a ski enthusiast who appreciates the pristine cross-country trails based at Bread Loaf.

**WENDELL "WENDY" FORBES ’51**
Forbes influenced countless students in his 25 years of coaching football, hockey, baseball, and golf.

**JOHN "RED" KELLY ’31**
The 3.5 km cross-country skiing and running trail honors John "Red" Kelly ’31, MA ’32, who taught physical education from 1936 to 1970. His wife, Elizabeth Kelly, was dean of women.

**ALLAN DRAGONE ’50**
Dragone was on the track team as a student. He was a businessman, a trustee from 1978 to 1993, and a breeder of Thoroughbred racehorses. Four Dragone children and one grandchild attended Middlebury.

**CORNELIUS VANDER STARR**
C. V. Starr was an insurance entrepreneur and philanthropist. He learned to ski just as Middlebury opened its first trails in 1938, and he took a personal interest in the development of the College's mountain.

**WALTER "DUKE" NELSON ’32**
Legendary head football, hockey and golf coach from 1946, he was athletics director from 1956 until his retirement in 1969. After 50 years as the Panther hockey rink, the reconfigured Nelson Arena is home to many intramural sports.

**MIDDLEBURY VETERANS**
The War Memorial Field House, built in 1948 to replace the outdoor hockey rink and house other sports, honors all Middlebury alumni who are veterans of war.

**THE PETERSON FAMILY**
The Petersons have been active in sports and generous in supporting their alma mater. Milton V. Peterson ’58 and Carolyn Skyllberg Peterson ’58, and their sons, Rick ’84, Jon ’86, P’13, and Steven ’88, were recognized with the naming of the athletics complex in 1998.

**ARTHUR ‘ART’ PEPIN ’44, P’75**
Pepin was captain of the hockey and football teams during a college career interrupted by World War II. He supported renovation of the gym and athletics at large.

**RALPH O. MYHRE ’78**
Myhre began managing Middlebury’s course in the 1960s. His dream of expanding the course from nine holes to 18 was realized in 1978. (He also managed the Snow Bowl from 1951 to 1978 and modernized its lifts.)

**WILLIAM YOUNGMAN P'64, GP '87, '90**
Youngman was a trustee, parent, and grandparent committed to Middlebury and to its student athletes.
Women’s and men’s Nordic ski coach Andrew Gardner was set to drive the Panthers’ equipment to the race site when the truck wouldn’t start. The recently retooled vegetable-oil-burning engine was blameless, but that didn’t matter to the other college coach who refused Gardner a ride. Despite climate change’s looming threat to nordic skiing and other sports, some in athletics see a bigger threat in changing a sport’s status quo.

Not Gardner. “What kills me,” he says, “is I’m 32, I’ve based my life on skiing since I was 12, and my students can’t do what I did as a student, like ski the Dachstein Glacier in Austria in the summer. (Warm temperatures have created too many dangerous faults.) The first year I came to Middlebury it reached 60 degrees in January. The sport is too important to me not to address this.”

January. The sport is too important to me not to address this.

Gardner, who doubles as Middlebury’s sustainability coordinator for the athletics department, frames this part of his job as a cultural challenge: “How do you gain a foothold and instill urgency about the consequences of climate change without putting the sport on trial?” Progress is building: after evaluating impacts of its new football surface, the College athletics department adopted a mission statement to “promote sustainable culture in all of sport,” whether intramural, club, or varsity. The men’s and women’s lacrosse teams began carbon-offsetting their team travel; ski and crew teams reduced their fleets (and costs) and converted vehicles to burn waste vegetable oil from Dining Services. Now Gardner is coaching a third team: the “Green Team”—student liaisons from each sport who coordinate with teammates and Gardner on conservation.

Ashley Bairos ’10 is a leading Green Team member. An environmental studies major (most Green Team reps are not) and women’s ice hockey player, Bairos concurs with Gardner’s take on the sports world’s apathy and resistance, and the need for education. “Some students think it’s some fluffy ‘green’ issue and wonder why they should care,” she says. She and her 30-plus Green Teammates meet each semester and weigh in via e-mail on ideas from changing laundry practices and machines to eliminating Styrofoam cups and improving recycling at Panther concessions. Gardner and the Environmental Council help locate grants to achieve those goals with higher price tags. Bairos has become so skilled in communicating the need for action in athletics that she’s attended college sustainability conferences with Gardner, representing the student-athlete position. “It’s a lot of effort but a great learning experience,” says Bairos, who’d like to pursue education and advocacy after graduation.

Meanwhile, Middlebury teams are buying fair trade balls made from sustainably harvested latex (but not the volleyballs, which didn’t meet the grade), combining men’s and women’s travel schedules when possible, regasing tennis balls, and, in the hockey rink, remodeling the water fountains so that players and fans can fill their own bottles. Bairos hopes Panther hockey can influence fans. “Hockey has a large audience, so we can promote public awareness of environmental issues by taking action,” she says, adding, “Our sport uses a lot of energy, so we have that responsibility.” As for the department’s responsibility overall, Gardner notes, “Middlebury’s barely out in front, but other schools have barely started.”

Selected Athletics Funding Opportunities
A sampling of funding opportunities for both annual (immediate) and endowed (long-term) support.

- Blue and White Funds .............................................. $10,000+
  a collection of endowed funds to support each of Middlebury’s varsity sports

- Carrol and Jane Rikert Ski Touring Ctr. Fund .............................................. open fund
  supports facilities at the Touring Center

- Club and Intramural Fund ...................................................... $100,000+
  endowed club and intramural sports fund

- Coaching Chair ............................................................. $1,500,000
  endowed coaching position

- Panther Fund ............................................................. open fund
  general support for athletics

- Snow Bowl Fund ............................................................. open fund
  supports upgraded facilities at the Snow Bowl

- Snow Bowl Lift Chair ..................................................... $5,000
  naming a chair on the new Worth Mountain lift

- Skate Changing Room ..................................................... $100,000
  naming the general skate changing room in Kenyon Arena

The Middlebury Initiative
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REUNION CLASS  
In the fall, Conwell "Deke" Abbott celebrated his 100th birthday on October 8 in Windham, N.H., and also on October 10 at his daughter’s home in Reading, Mass. The festivities continued on the 11th at a two-hour open house given by his bridge group at Triumphant Cross Lutheran Church in Salem, N.H., where a large birthday cake and coffee were served. Deke has two children, Ruth and James, and seven grandchildren. The oldest granddaughter lives in California and the second oldest lives in Germany and Switzerland and has one of Deke’s two great-granddaughters. Deke has been writing his autobiography and a grandson has helped him start a blog. You can find it at www.bornin1909.blogspot.com. Anyone who wishes to contact Deke can send a note to 65 Stacey Circle, Windham, NH 03087-1649.

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REUNION CLASS  
Grace Harris Wiener writes that she and her husband enjoy the activities in their retirement home in spite of the need for a walker. They are proud of their seven great-grandchildren, whom they see once in a while. Dorothy Maskell Henderson lives in an assisted living complex (don’t we all?) not far from the historic Wayside Inn in Massachusetts. Her two daughters live nearby. In a clipping from the Leadville, Colo., newspaper we learned of the celebration of the 176th birthday of Charles Kuster. He’s the oldest World War II veteran in his county. In the past he was involved with a mission to get a spacecraft on the moon. He lives with his son. I (Alma) have lots of time to feed my pets (the squirrels) that come to my window and fish out the peanuts I bring them. I watched the Phillies very carefully in the World Series. —Class Correspondent: Alma Davis Stuble, 147 West State St., Room 208, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

36  
We are sorry to report that Isabel Davies Emmerich passed away on May 1, 2006. While at Middlebury, she was an assistant editor of the Campus newspaper, worked on the yearbook, contributed to the Saxtonian, was a member of the choral and English clubs, and was a member of Delta Delta Delta. After raising her family in New Jersey, she moved to Hamilton, Ga., after her husband died, to be near her daughter Faith. She made many friends in her new community and was recognized by everyone as the woman with the white hair who walked to the post office every day. She was active in the Harris County Senior Center knitting group and every year produced 40 to 50 pairs of mittens for underprivileged Native American children.

37  
Mid-winter Middler memories: The outdoor hockey rink in front of McCullough Gym, where the snow had to be cleared off the ice before the games could begin, and where on some days it was so cold the players outnumbered the spectators. Classmates, send in your memories and tell us what you’ve been doing lately. —Class Correspondent: Marshall Snowell, 20 Morning Glory Ln., Whitefish, MT 89739.

38  
In early August I received a letter from Ray Brainard. Thank you again, Ray. Since 2000 he has been living at the Forum in Desert Harbor in Peoria, Ariz., near Sun City, in independent living. He says, “I enjoy the class notes, which are read to me each quarter as I am legally blind and unable to read or write understandably.” He explained that his good friend Krystal, who has been with him part-time on weekdays since he arrived there, had written the letter for him. I did appreciate his saying that he enjoyed what I had written about the maple syrup here at Wake Robin. Not only were Ray and I in the same class at Middlebury, we were also classmates four years at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. In September Arne Bulkeley Beltz and I had a delightful phone visit. Her nephew had been visiting and they spent one day at the Alaska Zoo, a very extensive and remarkable place, where there was a lot of walking up and down steep hills. At the end of the day she was a bit tired but it was worth it. Then she started telling me about how Annabelle had died and what a tragedy it was for Annabelle’s friend, Maggie. I wish you could have heard us both laugh when I realized Annabelle and Maggie were elephants! Arne then asked if I knew anything about Sarah Pain and I did not, so she said that nobody in Alaska even knows where she is. When she was governor, the local paper never missed a day writing about her but since she resigned, they haven’t written a thing. As you can imagine, if our conversation could move from a zoo to politics, it might have gotten us going on and on, but it was finally time to say goodbye. After trying to get together all summer, Betty Osborne Hadden and Polly Overton Camp were finally together in September. Betty’s daughter, who lives in New Jersey, drove her to Southbury, Conn., and the three of them went out to a favorite restaurant for lunch. Our family had our 30th annual reunion in July. We were at Standing Stone Perennial Farm (daughter Lynne and husband David’s place) in South Royalton, Vt. There were 20 of us ranging in age from 93 to seven weeks. Six states and two Canadian provinces were represented. A letter came from Bob Matteson the day before I mailed these notes. To quote him, “I have five Single-Age ‘93 World Bests (as they are called) in 100, 400, 800, one mile, and two miles. I am missing a World Best in only the 200m to have a six-events sweep.” He planned to take a final 200 shot in late October. He added, “As an eternal optimist, I’m hoping to hang in there until our 75th reunion in 2013?” Bob continues to have Matteson Associates, professional assistance consultants. Thank you, Bob, for your letter. I visited my son and his wife in Calgary, Alberta, in the fall. Details on that trip in the spring issue.

39  
Duncan Rollason stopped by the Alumni Office at Middlebury in September while visiting his son at Lake Dunmore. Duncan is spending the winter in Tucson, Ariz., and he encourages other folk in that area to contact him. He was sorry to miss the reunion last June. —Class Correspondent: Roger Clarke

40  
REUNION CLASS  
Our classmate R.C. Anderson has distinguished himself by preparing and rendering a report on his trek on the Long Trail he made some years ago. The trail runs 273 miles through Vermont, beginning at the Massachusetts border and following the spine of the Green Mountains to the Canadian border. He was asked to make the trip by Storrs Lee ’28 to survey the trail and its facilities for hikers and to record the salient features and each stage in photographs. R.C. did this and the trip was reported in a book written by Storrs Lee, published in 1941. R.C. reports that his expenses
for the trip, including the cost of the film he used to photograph each of the structures along the way, totaled $15.00. The grim reaper continues to nibble at our class and has scored three more times of late. Doris Keffer Kinsey, one of our most active classmates, died July 17. She was active in sports, dance, and the Saxonian, was in both the French and Spanish clubs, and was on the Winter Carnival Committee, to mention but a few of her activities. We shall miss her. **George Cook,** a prominent lawyer in Rutland who was politically active in the Vermont Senate in the 1960s and was well respected, died on September 26. In college he was active in athletics and was assistant manager of the football team. **Stanley Moore,** quiet and reserved, died October 5. He worked on the National Youth Administration Program while at Midd and helped dig root cellars for $0.55/hour. He was also active in sports and in most of the musical activities of the College, taking part in the band, choir, Glee Club, and orchestra. Obituaries for these classmates talk of their current issues. I want to serve notice on you that the 70th reunion of the Class of 1940 will be held at Middlebury on June 4–6. Our current list of classmates numbers 30 of us still alive. We want each and every one of you to plan to attend the festivities so that we can honor the 70 years of our graduation from Middlebury and enjoy the renewal of friendships. For those of you who are unable to attend, we would like to hear from you. Send us a note recounting some interesting event or activity at Midd that is memorable to you and perhaps had influence on your life after graduation so that we may enjoy contact with you even in absentia. Please keep in touch.

—Class Correspondent: Dr. Loring W. Pratt (wolship@ao.com), 37 Lawrence Ave., Fairfield, ME 04937.

**Correspondent Margaret Shaub** sends greetings to all! Correspondent Elizabeth Wellington Hubbard-Ovens and husband Jack continue to enjoy get-togethers with family and friends. **Charles and Doris Wolff Bartlett** count themselves fortunate to be residents of their assisted living facility in Pennsylvania where they have been since February. Charlie’s health is good but Doris’s congestive heart failure has caught up with her, resulting in extreme weakness, but she continues to read and enjoy a sedentary life. Charlie drives residents to doctor’s appointments and also volunteers at a project making specialized wheelchairs for the disabled. Not long ago, he performed the ceremony at his granddaughter’s wedding. **Connie Girard Brown** is happily situated at Spring Arbor, a senior residence in Williamsburg, Va. They all take their meals in a private dining room at their facility on July 30. In mid-September Ray and Nomie continued the same group (except for Barb Wells who was unable to join us) at their camp on Lake Champlain. **At the end of August, I (Shaubie) attended Alumni College at Bread Loaf, an enjoyable experience despite the absence of any contemporaries.** And now I reiterate my plea to all of you to keep in touch. Elizabeth and I have tried calling you, but we don’t always reach you. “But I don’t do anything,” you might say. If you are reading this column, it’s evidence you like to have news of your classmates. So please drop us a line or a card. Thanks.


![Image](https://example.com/image1)

From your class correspondent:

NEWS! Bill Hennefrend e-mailed: “If I’m struck by a powerful urge to move off my couch, I write an occasional essay for our local newspapers. If I’m lucky, no one will respond to these outbursts, which holds down the need to fashion any rebuttal. Otherwise, life is tranquil.” It’s nice to know that Bill still has his delightful sense of humor. **Nancy Hall Whitehouse** keeps busy with bridge games three or four times a week, and knits for her church and the Ronald McDonald House. She admits to being a disappointed Red Sox and Patriots fan. She still drives and feels fortunate to be healthy and active. **Parke Wright** sent an e-mail with a rundown of life after Midd: three years in the Army Air Force, 30 years teaching high school math in Cazenovia, N.Y., followed by 10 years as a part-time bookkeeper in the local animal hospital. He and wife Marie are in their 23rd year of living in a retirement community in Hendersonville, N.C., and celebrated 62 years together in June. He ended with memories of enjoying intramural sports while at Midd. We hadn’t heard from Parke in a long time. **Still in San Rafael, Calif., Margi Fell Council lives with her companion, an 11-year-old Labrador. She plays bridge and volunteers with the Friends of the Library and her church.** **Roger Arnold** celebrated his 90th birthday and feels great after some cancer surgery. Three days a week he takes a train into Philadelphia to work out in a gym and occasionally there’s a lunch with friends at the Union League Club (where he is a Life Member). His young wife of 56 keeps him busy socially—a few times a year they’re off to Washington, D.C., for President’s Club meetings with the Heritage Foundation. He’s also active with other conservations and the Republican Party. **Ike and Sally Martens’ 41 Townsend** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in July. With his daughter at the wheel, Ike has taken many photos from their ultra-lite aircraft, which are in albums at the local library in Plainfield, N.H. Most every home is pictured and identified, so some day people can see what the area looked like in 2008! **Peter Stanlis** of New York City, walked this past summer in Scandinavia and Scotland and also gave talks around the U.S. He is spending the winter in Crystal River, Fla., enjoying “eternal sunlight.” **Ann Curtis Wood** enjoys her new digs in Brooklyn, N.Y. She can walk to the bank, doctor, friends, and metro transit. She’s had two trips to Turkey (and came home with pneumonia) including Istanbul, plus a trip on the Danube River and along the Dalmatian Coast. She visits daily with her daughter in the Boston area, another in Virginia, and a son in Maine. She sends greetings to all 42ers! **I had a great e-mail from Dixie Davis,** who was glad to catch classmates up on the Davises. For the last two years he and wife Dottie have had health problems, which have resulted in a move to a retirement home in California. Dixie still plays golf once a week. He says, “My drives are shorter, my irons don’t go where I’m aiming, but I’m still pretty good around the greens, which helps me shoot my age or better.” He adds, “I suspect that many of you classmates have also had problems that restrict your activities and lifestyles. That’s life in the Golden Years! Occasionally I reflect upon the memories of our days at Middlebury and the positive effects it has made on my life. I still think small liberal arts colleges like Midd are the best. I leave you classmates with the hope that your life has been full and eventful and that you have lived gratefully and without regrets. Some beautiful words from one of my favorite jazz bands, the High Sierra of California, are appropriate: ‘We’ll meet again. Don’t know where or just when but I know we’ll meet again some sunny day!’” **I (Joan) was in Middlebury a couple of days in July. I had a pleasant lunch with Bob ’54 and Betsy Heath Gleason ’54 (remember Betsy at our 60th?) and visited Sara Thurber Marshall, my contact at Middlebury Magazine. I also had a great dinner and evening with Peg Woods Eriksson and a visit with Julia and Bob Northrup who (at 88 plans to again hike the 27-mile Long Trail).**

—Class Correspondent: Joan Calley Cooper (jcalleycoop@gmail.com), 3400 Laguna St., Apt. 331, San Francisco, CA 94123.

**From the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September, where the news that 1943 won another award, the Robert W. Leonard ’37 Cup for the highest nonreunion class participation in annual giving—88 percent of the class made a gift to the College during the fiscal year ending last June 30. This is actually the third time the class has won this award, receiving the others in 1989 and 2004.** **Ted Peach** was the leader and driving force of the class agents who achieved this goal and he was recognized at the awards ceremony. Incidentally Ted attended the Middlebury graduation of grandson Morgan Peach in May this year on the 100th anniversary of the 1909 Middlebury graduation of Ted’s father, Arthur Wallace Peach. Morgan represents the fourth generation of Peaches to graduate from the College. On a sad note, Ted’s wife Nancy passed away on October 8. We send our condolences to Ted and his family. **In Watty Moore’s** most recent correspondence, he walks without a cane, follows the Red Sox closely, and takes day trips to towns along the Maine coast. His wife passed away two years ago; a daughter lives next door and keeps an eye on him. His brother Ray is Class of ’45. **I talked with Jim Kriebel at Kendal in Hanover, N.H., who reports...
that Mandy (Sanborne) remains in the nursing section, unable to talk or walk. Various medical maladies—like strokes on Lake George. She plays bridge occasionally but is not interested in a regular bridge schedule. She no longer drives and has given up her car. After 10 years in preparation, Stu Walker's new book was expected out in December. A departure from his previous ones on sailing, it's entitled The Code of Competition and is "full of great stories about those who win and about those who lose and about what makes the difference." *Creasy Stanwood Whiting," who summers in Freepoint, Maine, and spends winters in Falls Church, Va., has been retired from the Falls Church Episcopal Church for several years. She is now active in the Falls Church Community Service Council, a coalition of churches and organizations that provides emergency help for individuals in need who are borderline for the usual social services. Every few weeks she handles the phone calls to the council for a week at a time and helps as needed. From her home in Ohio, Bruce George reports that wife Harriet (Lindenberger) 44 died in April after being in the hospital for four months. At the insistence of his son, also of Troy, Bruce moved in with the son's family, which seems to have worked out well. He no longer drives, but continues to sing in the Dayton Harmonic Church and heads the annual Troy Mayor's Concert, which features the Dayton Harmonic Concert Band. He enjoys being a "senior citizen." *Pat Rogers Prukop writes of her experience last December with the nation's security efforts. At the time, Obama was vacationing in Oahu, and she had seen his motorcade pass by on the way to the Marine base where he exercised. One morning she wondered at a group of men with a dog checking on her garbage carts, which had been placed at the curb, then realized that they were Secret Service protecting Obama. On New Year's Eve, Secret Service knock on her door to ask that she not set off any fireworks in the direction of the president's lodging. Pat assured them that they were safe from her but that it was nice to be considered dangerous. *Roger Easton writes that son Roger Jr. is involved with imaging techniques that use various colors of light and x-rays to decipher the original writing on ancient vellum documents that have been written over, and he recently worked on a document in which the underlying writing, dating from about the year 1000, proved to be a copy by a monk of an original thesis by Archimedes. Roger now has a grandchild at Middlebury. *It is with regret that we report the death of Paul Liehr on September 5. He died in Grass Valley, Calif., in the hospital, after having been in a nursing home for over two years, where he appreciated frequent visits from Ted Peach who lives nearby. Our sympathy has been expressed to his wife. *Ken Eustis will appear in a future issue. *We welcome Jean Jordan Sheldon, who has agreed to serve as my co-correspondent. If you have news, you can be in touch with her at the address below.

Class Correspondents: Dr. John S. Gale

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44 After reporting on reunion in the last issue, Jean Milligan shares her own news. She made the jaunt from Burlington to Midd twice last year, with visitors, and she enjoys visits from her seven nieces and nephews and their families. She spent Christmas 2008 in Toronto, spent a week in Florida in March, and went to a wedding in Ottawa in August. *Gertrude "Gale" Nightingale Gettel has played tennis for years. And these days, when she's not on the court, she's at step aerobics, Nautilus training, or (to rest) at a bridge table. Gale's husband, Gene, passed away a couple of years ago, after which Gale chose to remain in their Melbourne Beach, Fla., home among friends and in a community she loves. She also loves her occasional visits to see her three sons—one in Texas, one in California, and one in New Hampshire. Gale keeps up with the doings of her active grandchildren (12 in all). *Edith Lee Beckwith has no longer winters in Florida, as she and Jack 41 did for so long. Since Jack died three years ago, Edie has found that she prefers to live year-round in their Middletown home of over 60 years. Son Jim and daughter Leslie "is lives full time in Florida near her own two daughters, who each have two sons. At the end of September, Sandy Young was making great progress in his recovery from a July hip replacement. He said, "I'm running around—well, not quite—with a cane." The hip problem had "put me on the beach as far as golf was concerned." He'll get back to it since he not only loves the game but has been doing a great deal of volunteer work with the USGA in the capacity of rules officiating for over 20 years. These days, Sandy's golf course is in Hendersonville, N.C., a new home for him after having lived 40 years in Connecticut. Sandy's wife, Joan—whom Sandy married after Georgina (Childs) 43 passed away in 1980—has also had physical problems this past year but is receiving excellent care. The two of them are in close touch with their five children. Sandy's son Christopher lives in England. Sandy's daughter Linda lives in Wilton, Conn., and daughter Sandra lives in Denver. Sandra's daughter had a baby girl in May. "You know what that makes me," Sandy says. "None of us run around the way we used to, but it's fun watching our kids and their children grow up." *Pat Noe Bursaw, along with other family members, spent ten days visiting her daughter and husband who have a lovely home on Sitka Bay, Alaska. Pat says, "We saw a lot that nature has to offer—whales, porpoises, and eagles." In October she was planning a trip to Maryland to visit another daughter. She sadly reports receiving a letter from Betty Mercer McChrystal, telling of the very sudden and unexpected death of her son in California. Our hearts go out to Betty and her family. *Irene Ruthenberg Conner says that things are going smoothly in Carlisle, Calif., in the house she's lived in for 55 years. Daughters Judy and April live with her. April drives a 55-year-old Plymouth. Judy is a nurse. *Jeanne Chatfield addison writes, "Edward and I are hanging in there. Most of our entertainment is weekend visits to daughter Jane's place at the shore in New Jersey, where the family gathers—the family being Jane and husband Jim, their daughters Jessica (who drove Edward and me to my 60th reunion) and Amy, with husbands, plus Amy's son Dan with girlfriend—and quite social. For weekend work, I help in the audio/video library and with our bazaar, and Edward is still active in the historical society and enjoys genealogical searching." *Georgia Hartdegen Booth retired long ago from a rewarding career as a school nurse. She now brings her enthusiasm to a volunteer reading program for kindergarten children. She admits the necessity of a walker, but observes philosophically that it has eliminated her ability to use the vacuum cleaner. *Ferd Ening feels his very active career (business and personal) has been "awesome." Highly significant has been his ongoing efforts to help secure the approval of the national KDR fraternity into the KDR Society. His experience as a national fraternity executive has included close friendships with the national executives of all Midd's former fraternities. He has, in fact, shaped the committees of the National Interfraternity Conference, dealing with undergraduate affairs. Another highlight has been his association with the New England Patriots football club, where he spent five years as senior consultant in strategic planning—and became pals with Ted Williams. Ferd and wife Mary recently joined the retirement family in the Exeter, N.H., community (phone 603.490.2664). They've curated their extensive overseas travel, but Ferd's speaking engagements across the U.S. have brought good friends into their lives. *We're sorry to say that Robert Crooks passed away on September 9, and John Worcester on October 2. Obituaries will appear in future issues. *Correspondent Elizabeth Ring (rrw e@verizon.net), 397 Old Sherman Hill Rd., Woodbury, CT 06798.

45 Reunion Class Correspondent Now Witoszkey McClellan reports: Greetings! Think 65th reunion in Middlebury June 4-6. We are housed in Gifford (elevators) and shepherded by student guides, I am researching publications appearing in the spring. Ruth Collins Shikes, writes, "Last spring's move from Manhattan to Michigan was traumatic, but necessary. Now I'm within shouting distance of daughter Jennifer and family and have easier access to the medical facilities only a jump away from my apartment. I've exchanged views of skyscrapers, bright lights, and water towers for quiet meadows, occasional deer, an abundance of beautiful trees, and sunsets that make me stop and gaze in awe. Happily I've made news friends here; even more happily, I'm still very much in touch with my East Coast pals. I'm writing a memoir about being a WAVE in WW II. It opens with a scene in New York in November when someone brings me the news that the country is at war. I'm learning that to write about a memory, you have to relive it. " *Lee Van Leuen Morehouse is thrilled about the three WindVane towers happening on Vinalhaven, Maine, helping it go "green" and hopefully
WAR STORIES

After completing pilot training, Ted Kelly ’45 was assigned as copilot with a nine-man crew on a Liberator, a B-24 bomber. He and the crew ended up in England where they joined the 8th Air Force and flew special low-level night missions, dropping spies and supplies to the French Underground. On the fifth of those missions, their plane was shot down by the Germans and they crashed in a field. Ted had been thrown halfway through the windshield, held in place by the parachute around his waist, and with the plane in flames, he needed to quickly get out. He met up with half the crew up a hill, and they assumed the other half had died. Immediately picked up by the French Underground, they were taken to a farmhouse where they rested a few days. Once they had recuperated, they were given civilian clothes, their brown military shoes were painted black, and they began their long trip to safety. Ted learned that his half-year-old nephew, they went by train to Bordeaux, France, where another Underground member was to meet them. After learning that person had been captured, the woman gave them tickets for a train station with a big smile on her face, explained everything and made it very real.

Bob Clement

McCleson (marplez 124@comcast.net), 124 RiverMead Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458, and Ray Walch (yahwinlake2000@yahoo.com), 75 SE Trafalgar Trce, Stitt, FL 34944.

It is with great sadness that I have to report that Frances Tenney Coombs passed away on August 19. She will be sorely missed by her family. We also lost another classmate, Betty Ann Donelan Gilmore, on August 11. She was a very talented lady who accomplished a lot in her life, especially using the Spanish she majored in at Middlebury. She lived for several years in Germany with her family and Mary Naismith Means, who was a good friend of Betty’s, tells the story about the time Mary and her husband were in Frankfurt, Germany, and took the U.S. Army night train through East Germany to Berlin. At 4 a.m. there was Betty at the train station with a big smile on her face, welcoming them and driving them to her home for breakfast. That’s a FRIEND! Obituaries for Frances and Betty will appear in future issues.

Natalie Fox says the aging process is relentless! She’s had her ups and downs but has recovered nicely from a broken hip and is now able to do things that were on the back burner for a few months. She celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary and considers herself very fortunate to be able to enjoy family and the things she and George like to do together. Janet Kasper Taylor has stopped teaching, but that doesn’t mean she’s a couch potato. She swims a lot and walks at White Rock Lake. She’s also working on a math book to help give teachers ideas on how best to make math less boring for kids who hate it. It’s not an ordinary math book—it’s written by a mouse, who appears on every page! She now has three great-granddaughters and feels very blessed to have so many happy little girls.

Hewson Evans and husband Sheldon took a WWII trip to Europe. He wanted to revisit the places where he had been captured—France and Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany, and the beaches. It was an extremely interesting trip, sobering and emotional. They had a historian on board the whole time, a West Point man who explained everything and made it very real. Sheldon was the only WWII veteran on the trip and he was royally treated everywhere he went. The Europeans expressed their gratitude for all the help from the Americans. They had their usual trip to Rehoboth Beach, Del., in the summer with family. Those are the best of times, aren’t they? Ruth Smiley Riley Wendell and her husband, Bob, report they had two very special trips this past year. They whaled then to Winnipeg and Churchill, Manitoba, to see the polar bears before the global warming makes them extinct. She attends classes at the Lifelong Learning Institute, affiliated with Binghamton Univ., and one of her courses is on Aristotle. No exams, no papers to write, homework is voluntary—it’s just learning for fun. She still skis at nearby Greek Peak, N.Y., and in March in northern New Hampshire with Kelly Delong Desmond. Did you know she has two grandchildren going to Middlebury? Way to go, Smiley! Jean Schwab Schork is still directing a weekly ladies chorus in Westfield, N.J., and according to Barbara Flink Ewels, Kay Craven is in good health and keeps active with golf and gardening in the good weather. In July and August she spends as many days as possible with friends at the beach. She still plays the piano and belongs to a piano group—retired piano teachers and retirees who play piano—that meets once a month in the fall and winter. She also plays bridge once a week. There is plenty of entertainment on Cape Cod where she lives—A Cape Cod Symphony and various summer and winter theater groups. This past summer Frank and
Joanne Hohmeister Davis celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with 18 family members from around the world. They celebrated by meeting in kindergarten 78 years ago! They take a day off each week to go to a museum or to something interesting. They went to hear the Middlebury choir at a Hartford, Conn., church. The music was really good (a cappella), but they were very disappointed they didn't sing any Middlebury songs. 

Bette Royce is really happy these days, having parked her walker after about eight months. She broke her hip, then three weeks later the greater trochanter (a bone on the side of the hip) broke off. The only weight she could put on her right foot was on the big toe for three months. Although she says she is not ready to dance a jig, she really enjoys walking again.

The Class of '46 certainly has produced a wonderful group of grandchildren. Joan Smith Rovegno's granddaughter received special awards at her graduation. Joan is still involved with the retail shop at her church and still plays bridge.

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She had just gotten out of the hospital when she wrote. Since quite a time has passed since then, we hope she is all recovered by now. Katherine Rowley Tuttle has slowed down somewhat. She's not driving as much as she used to, but with family and friends, she gets to the family week in West Ocean City, Md., with her family. How they were really good (a cappella), but they were very wonderful group of grandchildren. Joan Smith Rovegno's granddaughter received special awards at her graduation. Joan is still involved with the retail shop at her church and still plays bridge.

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Fortunately, her children come often to help her. Her granddaughter, a student at George Washington Univ., worked for eight weeks in a study program at Woods Hole, Mass., her way along the coast of Norway and to the Arctic Island. In between trips, she rides her bike, walks, reads, takes part in the Council of Foreign Affairs series, "Great Decisions," and attends exercise class. As a group, we octogenarians represent a lot of adventures and joyful living!

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Former College employee Heather Cahill sent this news from her new job at Westfield State College: "In September at Convocation John Fitzpatrick and wife Jane received honorary Doctor of Public Service degrees from Westfield State College for their commitment to civic, business, and political affairs. The couple also recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary." Burt Nourse sent word that Robert Dustin died on August 5. Bob worked as a dentist in the Greenwich, Conn., area and the kids called him Dr. Dusty. Donald 49 and Pat Salmon Henderson had seen Bob last winter. Pat wrote, "We skied with him one golden day. He had become a fine skier after his time in the Northwest. What a kind, gentle, reflective person he was. We had never known of his work with the handicapped." Bob's first dentistry job was at Lakeland Village in Medicine Lake, Wash., providing dentistry to 2,000 special needs patients of all ages. Our sympathy is sent to wife Karen and all the family. An obituary will appear in a future issue. Correspondent Elizabeth Bredenberg Ness reports: We had a whirlwind trip to England to be with them. After three sunny, warm months in England, she took a cruise along the coast of Norway and to the Arctic Circle. She goes to the theater, and plays golf and bridge. She also took a course in mah-jong.

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Leighton and her husband have been living in Lovell, Maine, for the past 20 years. Having spent many years on their farm, they were intrigued by their street name, Slab City Road. Sue explained that in the days when winter roads were made passable only by horses towing heavy rollers, there had been a sawmill at the end of the road. A "slab" is an unmarketable part of a log. 

**Edith Pinckney** Williams Johnson says they don't live on a farm, but those of us who live in metro areas are not so sure. In addition to a vegetable garden, they have chickens, roosters, and goats. (Husband Dick '49 makes cheese and yogurt.) When Pinckney wrote, Dick was preparing East African dishes for a fund-raiser for a sister in village in Kenya, where they have gone in the past to help with building a clinic and other projects. They continue to live in Byfield, Mass., amongst their children. "We don't need to move to assisted living; we are in assisted living!" 

**Camille Buzby Lamont** and husband Ted are lending support to Obama's health-care plan and went to Washington, D.C., with their son and his friends. "We've been very fortunate with minimal damage. We've been very fortunate with minimal damage. I'm going up to the Anthony twins at reunion appearing hale and hearty." 

**Rachel Adkins** Platt reports. Imagine my surprise to come down the stairs at the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, Mass., and chat with two lovely ladies and a gentleman who were sitting at a table by the door. In the course of the conversation the subject of Middlebury came up and the gentleman said he graduated from Midd in 1948. (Sorry to steal him for a moment for our class notes.) It was none other than John "Jack" Fitzpatrick and his wife Jane. He said they were married and lived in Shoreham when he was in school. They are the owners of Country Curtains and the Red Lion Inn. If any of you are in the neighborhood stop by. We had a delightful conversation. (For more news about Jack and Jane, see the 1948 column.) 

**Rachel Reggie** Stryker Smith and husband Dwight wended their way west from Albany, N.Y. (by car with bikes atop) and 6 miles south of the Erie Canal in the western part of the state. We had the pleasure of having dinner one night while they were here. We discussed our fun 60th reunion, books we are reading, and caught up on families and friends. Middlebury connections are lifelong and enjoyable. I received a recent e-mail from **Jean Caldwell Ferrell** searching out my brother Leon "Lee" Adkins's e-mail address. She's doing a program for her Women's Fellowship group in California and needs a Methodist minister's input. She said she stumbled on Leon Adkins's name in a 1963 Methodist hymnal as part of the hymnal revision committee. Turns out it is our dad (Class of 1916). Lee assures me he can give her plenty of information. Very, very sad news to report as we all enjoyed seeing the Anthony twins at reunion appearing hale and hearty. 

**Winifred "Winnie" Anthony Stearns** died on August 5, 2010, at Westport, Conn. She was a gallbladder cancer (I call it), both lungs totally involved for this belligerent nonsmoker. Her ashes are now in her beloved meadow looking out on Mt. Sunapee." Gee told her sister, "I'm going up to learn to chase all those boyfriends I let get away and catch up with those who were important in my life." Always an endearing sense of humor. Winnie, we will miss your smile and your family. Thanks for your lovely letter. An obituary will appear in a future issue. 

**Jean Smith Davies** has retired as the owner/director of Camp Betsy Cox, a girls' camp in Pittsford, Vt. She is the author of two books on local history and is active in church, community, and environmental activities. I was out in Seattle in September to see my new grandson, Jack-GeorgesOnnie Platt, born to son John and wife Sandra. John was Class of 1980, but stopped off after his sophomore year and graduated from Colgate Univ. in 1982. However he returned to Midd slightly later and received his master's in English from Bread Loaf in 1991. I remember going to his graduation and so did his grandmother, Hazel Haseltine Adkins, Class of 1916, who must have been around 97 at the time. She was very proud and after that, started a scholarship for Bread Loaf students. She lived to be 104.

**Correspondent Dixon Henphill** reports: *Spence Wright,* they former roommate and Deke fraternity brother, described to me a fascinating boat trip he and some other history buffs took last June. They embarked on a six-day cruise aboard the 65-foot Moonlight Lady from Burlington, Vt., and headed north up Lake Champlain into Canada. En route they passed old forts, navigated the locks on the Richelieu Canal and journeyed down the St. Lawrence River to Montreal City. After spending two days in Montreal, they retraced their route stopping in Champlain, Quebec, and Roues Point, N.Y., on the way back to Burlington. Spence has canoed most of northern Lake Champlain but had never before taken a trip like this one. That's all for now. Keep in touch by e-mail, phone, or snail mail. We're all interested in our fellow classmates.

**Class Correspondents:** Dixon Henphill (dixon1972@verizon.net), 10/10 Olm Dr., Fairfax Station, VA 22039; and Rachel Adkins Platt (platt@ richesett.com), 34 Tohey Brook, Pittsford, NY 14534.
Boston hotel they went to Boothbay Harbor, Maine, for a few days' honeymoon at seaside. The travel agent at Saratoga mentioned a resort that he wasn’t pleased that he had to deal with a resort that excluded people of his Jewish faith. So the couple ended up in a room with twin beds, a situation the hotel quickly rectified. While there, they had a chance breakfast with aging broadcast star Fred Allen and his wife, Portland. Fred Allen and Jack Benny were renowned comedy duos of the radio era. After the honeymoon the couple ended up at Navy stations at Bayonne, N.J., and Norfolk, Va. After three years in the service they headed west for a new life in California. Soon a baby son was on the way. Today Gretchen and I celebrate our 56th anniversary, proud that we kept that pledge and are among an elite group that shares similar braggings rights. At year 49 we carried out a wish of Gretchen’s by reaffirming our vows—in Russia of all places. The service was conducted in St. Petersburg, on the bridge of the cruise ship Song of Flowers. It was fortunate that we didn’t wait. Our 50th we celebrated on an Alaskan cruise, then again at a party at home, but by then the sickness part of the vows was entering the picture and it was our last trip together. Fortunately throughout the years we had traveled much, covering five of the seven continents, and have scrapbooks full of memorable events. The sickness was taking Gretchen into the darkness of Alzheimer’s disease, which now has her confined to a good home that specializes in such care, where I can visit her daily. And she comes daily to the office, helped by her caregiver, to see me. The other day she showed us her wedding book, and although she cannot carry on a conversation, her eyes and expression indicated she recognized and remembered. We’re much different people now than we were back then, of course. Even though we knew each other only a little over a year when we were married, and had been separated more than together during our engagement, we somehow had faith that we had a good fit, and so did our families. Today, we’re both proud of the vow we worked hard to keep. To heck with the dreadful day of judgment.” If you’d like to be in touch with Gretchen, contact me (Phyllis). * Sadly, we must report that Donald Axinn passed away on October 13. We (Bill and Phyllis) received a letter some years after graduation when he held a poetry reading in Bristol, Vt. He and wife Joan opened their Weybridge home for many class and college events and he always made sure we received invitations. We’ve received several remembrances of Don and will include them in the spring issue. —Class Correspondents: William Huey (judgel@humus.com), 6 Belleview Rd., Indian Hill, OH 45243; Kön Nourse (gompq@comcast.net), 22 Little Pond Rd., Middlebury, VT 05753; and Barbara Cummins Villeit (villeit@gsvvserver.net), 208 Eaglesview Rd., Shushan, NY 12873.

Correspondent Barbara Cummins Villeit reports: I’ve been learning that not a few of us are enjoying a common experience of journeying down memory lane. Joan Shaw Friedman described the sensation succinctly when I talked with her recently. “Lately, all of me is coming back and putting itself together again.” Joan was a practicing lawyer, who specialized in litigations adjudicated in Saratoga County Court. She found coping with the kinds of quarrels that often emerged over estates fascinating and was often amused by the kinds of human behavior she dealt with. But eventually a back problem caused her to close her office and, though she would like to reopen her practice, she thinks pro bono work may be a better answer. As to family, Joan raised four kids and has “seven, I think” grandchildren. Two of her sons are doctors who have chosen to work with the international AIDS crisis. I am struck by how much a service of care was instilled in the next generation by coming from an energized grandparent and volunteer work are a part of Marty Potter Crouse’s life. After 11 years of working among Quechua speakers in Ecuador’s high Andes, she and her husband returned to the States and finally landed in St. Cloud, Fla., where they have lived for the last 30 years. They worked on the Obama campaign—a new experience for them—and they keep fit as runners with a local club called The Pavement Pounders. “A highlight for us each summer is a family vacation with our children and grandchildren in beautiful West Virginia next to the Monongahela National Forest. Our vacation week often coincides with the annual Durbin Days & Run in which three generations of our family like to compete. Twice I have received a money award for being the oldest runner in the race. Merle volunteers with the Nature Conservancy at the Disney Wildlife Preserve and I volunteer at St. Cloud Hospital where I have been affiliated with for about five years. I enjoy both and feel blessed.” And finally some news of my own. This past August my late husband’s contribution to the art of photojournalism was commemorated in a column by New York Times photographer Stephen Crowley on the Times’ online site called Lens. Crowley was a name I knew: his images of Obama, Geithner, Daschle, and so forth were “the real stuff,” so when I received an unsolicited e-mail from him last February asking if I was Barbara Cummins Villeit, I said yes. Our correspondence led to his celebration of Grey’s work on Lens and a simultaneous gallery exhibition on AOL’s Poxetera and spurred daughter Ann ’87 to create a Web site (greyviel.com), starting with the templates and building into a 10-page interactive review of his work. If you google Grey Villeit, you can find all of these sites. All of this was done as a joint effort to find a publisher for a retrospective book I’ve done that covers half a century of his work for Life, much of it a mutual effort. It’s been a journey down memory lane for me and as Joan Friedman said, “Lately, all of me is coming back and putting itself together again.” — Correspondent Ken Nourse reports: A call to Dave Paulson caught him at the store so I had a fun conversation with his wife, Eileen. Their children are grappling with the grandkids as they prepare to apply to college. Eileen recently had a heart attack but is okay now and improving each day. A former club champ, she and Dave were playing lots of golf prior to her attack. Dave still plays and enjoys good health. They see Buzz Tilton ’53 and wife Carol often as they live a mile away. My reaction to the call was that Dave married well and he should count his blessings. * I also had a nice chat with Dick Macnair who has been retired since 1988 as a research chemist with an Army installation in Natick, Mass., and not had a boring day since. He and his wife are about to enjoy their 50th wedding anniversary and he is about to turn 80. It strikes me that several of the guys are about to do the same. Gene Dix and I are already there—a dubious honor. The Macnairs are deeply involved with horticultural activity. Dick is the secretary of the American Begonia Society and his wife chairs the local group. They spend time in the summer in Bremen, Maine, at his grandfather’s property.

I’m very sorry to report that Dick Day passed away on July 15. Our condolences go to Patrica and all his family. An obituary will appear in a future issue.

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Chuck and Mary Gamble Callanan were awarded the 2009 Latchstring Award by the town council of Yarmouth, Maine, where they live. The award is given to residents who have contributed to the community in a positive manner. Mary’s passions are art, libraries, and children, and Chuck’s are education, schools, and children. Both have been involved in numerous community projects in these areas. * Kimber Smith recently joined Aker’s Ellis and Truluck Real Estate in John’s Island, S.C. He has more than 30 years of real estate experience. * Anne Schafer Edwards writes, “Last April, I joined fellow Habitats for Humanity in Mobile, Ala., to work on houses for families still displaced by Hurricane Katrina. It rained and stormed with thunder and lightning most of the time we were there, but we got a lot done in spite of the weather. Every time I work with Habitat I learn something new—this time it was how to tile floors. Back home, I’ve been working with my son on renovation of the house next door. We have removed walls, rafters, and roof, salvaging much of the wood for an outbuilding or tree house. When not with hammer, a sewing machine is my tool of choice; quilting, my favorite quiet time. Apparently we must report that Judy Von Bernuth Sharp passed away on July 22. Our sympathy is extended to her family. An obituary will appear in a future issue. * Living in Tampa, Don Beers used to set up golf outings for Midd golfers in Venice, Fla. He planned to be at the Gordie Perine ’49 Golf Tournament in Sarasota, Fla. * Judy Von Bernuth Sharp was a painter and writer. She was called “The real stuff,” so when I received an unsolicited e-mail from him last February asking if I was Barbara Cummins Villeit, I said yes. Our correspondence led to his celebration of Grey’s work on Lens and a simultaneous gallery exhibition on AOL’s Poxetera and spurred daughter Ann ’87 to create a Web site (greyviel.com), starting with the templates and building into a 10-page interactive review of his work. If you google Grey Villeit, you can find all of these sites. All of this was done as a joint effort to find a publisher for a retrospective book I’ve done that covers half a century of his work for Life, much of it a mutual effort. It’s been a journey down memory lane for me and as Joan Friedman said, “Lately, all of me is coming back and putting itself together again.” — Correspondent Ken Nourse reports: A call to Dave Paulson caught him at the store so I had a fun conversation with his wife, Eileen. Their children are grappling with the grandkids as they prepare to apply to college. Eileen recently had a heart attack but is okay now and improving each day. A former club champ, she and Dave were playing lots of golf prior to her attack. Dave still plays and enjoys good health. They see Buzz Tilton ’53 and wife Carol often as they live a mile away. My reaction to the call was that Dave married well and he should count his blessings. * I also had a nice chat with Dick Macnair who has been retired since 1988 as a research chemist with an Army installation in Natick, Mass., and not had a boring day since. He and his wife are about to enjoy their 50th wedding anniversary and he is about to turn 80. It strikes me that several of the guys are about to do the same. Gene Dix and I are already there—a dubious honor. The Macnairs are deeply involved with horticultural activity. Dick is the secretary of the American Begonia Society and his wife chairs the local group. They spend time in the summer in Bremen, Maine, at his grandfather’s property.

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staying busy since her husband passed away. She volunteers at the local hospital, talking with patients and helping nurses with various problems to the patients. Once a day she waters the herb garden she started 4 years ago. She stays in touch with friends in Boulder and Boulder Junction, Wisconsin, where she lived for many years. "I love the garden and how it brings me close to nature," she says. "It's a wonderful way to spend my time."
Thanks for the rich responses to our call for news. Several classmates wrote of the passing of Josephine Paleologue-Pierce on August 29. Some memories appear here and some will be in the spring issue. Mara Loveless Slotkin writes, "Jo was always interestingly different. Who else could claim, as she did, a childhood in Greenwich Village where she played with Mary Travers (later of Peter, Paul, and Mary fame)? Jo was artistic and a real original. Over the years her lengthy Christmas letters conveyed her enthusiasm for her family, her job, her travels. I saw Jo and husband Frank two years ago with mutual friends, and she was as delightful as ever. Thank heaven we had no premonition that it was our last time together. I’ll remember her forever, with great affection and admiration." Stan Hayward reflects, "I knew her well from the early ’70s when Frank and I worked together on the same campus for three years. My wife and I became good friends of the Pierces, a friendship that continues to this day." Dick Catlin and wife Barb hosted his annual gathering at Timberlock in the mountains of New York. In Dorset, VT, near Burlington, I’m having the time of my life getting involved with UVM, Champlain College, and Middlebury. I mentored the marvelous entrepreneurial classes last year at Middlebury, in a course taught by Michael Sykes—a real creative dynamo. I have had a great time at Timberlock. He adds, "My whit, charm, and health are all okay. "

Mara Loveless Slotkin, and a good time was had by all.

Dole sent this: "I moved from Old Lyme, Conn., to Colchester, Vt., near Burlington. I’m having the time of my life getting involved with UVM, Champlain College, and Middlebury. I mentored the marvelous entrepreneurial classes last year at Middlebury, in a course taught by Michael Sykes—a real creative dynamo. I have had a great time at Timberlock."

Dick Catlin reports, "We enjoyed a day of chitchat, a boat ride, and some swimming. Ned MacDowell says he and Ellie (Maier) ’77 had Chan Murdoch over to their Great Barrington, Mass., home for a day of singing and fun. Mark Benz and I are still working on our Midd Hydrogen Tractor Project and hope to get some student thinking out more efficient ways to store hydrogen. Mark and Nancy (Warner) had a weekend family reunion at Timberlock earlier in the season with all 21 of their family, and Linda Donk Gray also brought her extended family of 15 for a weekend.

Several of our class attended Middlebury’s Alumni College in August including Mona Wheatley, Tom and Sally Thomson Clark, Bill and Joan MacKinnon Houghton, and Lucy Boyd Littlefield among others. To this Tom and Sally Clark added, "Lunch was served at Timberlock, and a good time was had by all. Several of us attended the Alumni College at Bread Loaf where we learned how to "Get Right With Lincoln," led by Prof. John McCardell." John Chase checked in and said he had a great time at Timberlock. He adds, "My whit, charm, and health are all okay." Mint Dole sent this: "I moved from Old Lyme, Conn., to Colchester, Vt., near Burlington. I’m having the time of my life getting involved with UVM, Champlain College, and Middlebury. I mentored the marvelous entrepreneurial classes last year at Middlebury, in a course taught by Michael Sykes—a real creative dynamo. I have had a great time at Timberlock."

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From Dick Powell’s old pal from first grade, Paul Doer, this update came: "Wife Nancy and I have taken up fly-fishing at Lake Placid and here in our area. We haven’t caught any fish yet, but who cares. It’s an excuse to go west to good trout streams—like in Idaho! Someday, ‘Beaver L’ot’ at Lake Placid has received electricity and a telephone. The recession has hit the business reasonably hard, but we are still surviving, thanks to loyal customers. Now retirement in sight.” Judy Phinney Stearns shared this remembrance of husband John: "Most of you are unaware that I lost my dearest husband in May. It has meant a readjustment to life, an awakening to the reality of meaningful friends and family, and going on with head held proudly. John was such a sweet and generous tour de force in his family and communities. He was loved and held in very high regard. His accomplishments and legacies are powerful and long lasting. His strong spirit continues. So, I have made Glastonbury, Conn., my primary home and go to our Bridgewater, Vt., home for a few days each month to hold on to friendships, the land, the house, and the mountains. Left behind in Bridgewater were Meals on Wheels and my church involvement, but in Connecticut I am now involved in a program called FISH, driving people in need to doctor and dentist appointments and the like. I’ve also been honored with an invitation to serve on the board of Easter Seals of Greater Hartford, following in my mom’s and John’s footsteps. My involvement in the YMCA and Republican politics is also ongoing. A word to us all: Keep mind and body strong, spend time with others, keep family precious, live well every day."

That’s it for now. We hope you all had a marvelous holiday season.

Class Correspondents: Dick Powell (repowell35@gamil.com), 13581 Ryton Ridge Lane, Gainesville, VA 20155; and Judy Phinney Stearns (jashill@vermont.net), 53 Cannon Dr., Glastonbury, CT 06033.

Another travel report came from Frankie Hall: "Last May, I traveled to Peru for a fabulous two-week trip through Lima, Cuzco, the surrounding highland area, and to Lake Titicaca. We visited the formidable Inca ruins at Machu Picchu, Ollantaytambo, Pisac, Sacsauchaman, and Raqchi as well as the pre-Inca ruins at Sillustani. The people of the Andes and Altiplano were of great interest—hardworking and friendly and all wearing traditional dresses as they went about their daily tasks at 10,000-12,500 foot altitudes. I recovered quickly from the Peru trip as there is no jet lag traveling to South America. Peru is a fascinating country and a photographer’s paradise.”

From Down Under comes a voice from the past, Bo Wakefield: "June 17 was my second Vermont ‘look’ since the ’57 graduation. I came in from Vancouver with my youngest, Rosanna, and arrived in Middlebury as guests of Barbara and Hugh Marlow. We had dinner with them and Bill Badger. Wonderful South Street conviviality and accommodation. The weather was cold and wet! Warm Midd memories came from the old buildings; there was excitement and interest in the new. The best for us was the library’s Robert Frost collections. From there we went on to a family reunion on Cape Cod. Here at Terranora, with views from high above the South Pacific’s surf, we grow avocados, citrus, grapes, semi-tropical fruits, and nuts. We’ve also grown four children here, all now with university degrees. We have two grandchildren to date—next a granddaughter, please! Yes, my surfboard in the garage is still there; I haven’t caught any fish yet, but who cares. It’s an excuse to go west to good trout streams—like in Idaho! Someday, ‘Beaver L’ot’ at Lake Placid has received electricity and a telephone. The recession has hit the business reasonably hard, but we are still surviving, thanks to loyal customers. Now retirement in sight.”

Hugh Marlow in Atwater dining hall, 2,500 alumni spanning the classes from 1949 to 2009 celebrated Hugh’s many years at Middlebury. A slideshow with photos of Hugh over the years was shown and contained plenty of pictures from our college days! A great time was had by everyone and the night ended with “Walls of Ivy,” led by Emory Fagin.

Class Correspondents: Gail Bliss Allen (gallen@comcast.net), 1500 4th St., Apt. 15, Sacramento, CA 95814; and Kathy Platt Potier (kpotier@verizon.net), 1945 Park Plaza, Lancaster, PA 17601.
**Stu Purdy's** travel business found him cruising the Mediterranean and, last week, filming a production of Noel Coward's play *Waiting for the Wings*. He is already excited about our 55th, saying, "I've Cane, Will Travel." *Charlie Davis* finds his USTA Senior and Super Seniors tennis teams in contention for National Championships.

**Aileen Kane Rogers** reports, "My home in Woodstock, Vt., completed last summer, has been a work in progress for four years. It's on the coast in a very woody setting. I look forward to many days of special visits with family and friends. The birth of a first granddaughter and first child to my son John and his wife took place in November 2008. Coral is a delight to her parents and extended family. Our local Methodist Church in Centerport, N.Y., is taking on the book *The Purpose Driven Life* by Rick Warren. Current retirement of slightly over a year is not as quiet as I had imagined. I had a mini-reunion with Lee Lonsdale Schaffer in Atlanta; Lee and husband Mark (who has been teaching Emeritus at Georgia Tech, are active as ever and looking wonderful. Lee still judges figure skating." *AFOs and roommates Dean Beyer, Russ Miller, and Bill Miller and wives had a reunion in San Francisco in early October. They found it easy to reconnect even though Dean and Bill had not seen Carl for a year and Carl was a Tau, although our great 'hairy chested' leave much to be desired." Pat and Fred Swan were spotted in Denali National Park and Seward, Alaska, in late August, thanks to an Eldorhostel trip. *Dick Krasker* reports that KDR brothers are still checking in the memories of our 50th but express concern for the future of their fraternity house. *Bill Hussey* and wife Anita drove to Minneapolis to "drool over a new grandson." He feels he does not need to see another cornfield for some time. *Bob Luce*, his older son, and their wives planned to be in Johannesburg, South Africa, for Christmas with son Bob '92 and his family.

**Ruth Wininger Reiterman** writes, "In reading classmates' bios, I realized that mine barely alluded to an almost lifelong concern, one that has guided my life, so here's an addendum: Since childhood I have been pained by the inequities in our society. It wasn't until I found the principles of human rights and social justice; (3) welcomed the evolution of Middlebury into a more diverse and progressive institution; and (4) celebrated the historic election of Barack Obama. I attended our 25th and 40th reunions, enjoying the reunion with the many positive aspects of my college years. I regret not having been able to attend the 50th which, by all reports, was a great success." *Barbara Parker*, widow of Lew Parker, writes, "A wonderful time was had by all at the 50th reunion. The Class of '59 is very special—be ye ever missed a class reunion or a D-8 reunion and, for years, Lew played in the annual alumni golf tournament in September. Thus it was right for me to attend your 50th reunion in honor of Lew! I have always felt so welcomed by your class, over the years. I sincerely appreciate all of you for the kindness and love shown to me, and for your heartfelt words of condolence in my loss of Lew in January 2008. I am honored that you have adopted me as a honorary member of your class. Thanks for including me in your class picture—Lew would be proud! Thanks also to Bob Luce and Andy Montgomery for their incredible support these past two years—you're the best! See you at your 55th!"

**We** are saddened to report that Priscilla vacationed. *Pergicott Staufler* died on August 28, after a short illness. First stricken when she and family were vacationing on Cape Cod, she suffered a second and fatal bout of illness after they returned home. An obituary will appear in a future issue. *Class of '59 Web site: http://go.middlebury.edu/classof59*

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**Reunion Class Correspondent Jean Seeler-Gifford** reports: Many classmates came to ALC in September to work on our 50th reunion; creating our 50th reunion yearbook, which you should receive soon, planning reunion activities, and setting a goal for our gift, which was wonderful to receive with Peter and Jean Emrich Battelle, Phil Caruso, Pat Knox, Davies, Carolyn Ladd DeVibliss, Lee Farnham (coeditor of Perspectives, our new yearbook), Linde Hood Gibb, Bob Hall, Loey Boon Hill, Dave Klock, Breck, and Sue Hibbert Lardner, Nancy Mumford Mulvey, Graham Nye, Mike Robinson, Ed Sommers, Vcevy Strekalovsky, Judy Falby Tuttle (coeditor of Perspectives), Deb Wettmore, and Dick Wilkinson. When Lee Farnham found a photo of Sam Webber and his college JVW he sent it to Sam who replied, "Many cars and years have passed since college." Sam taught at the local high school for 13 years, retiring 14 years ago. He's very involved in the community in rural Hallowell, Maine, where he and his wife live. *Amy* and *Mike Robinson* have finally joined the ranks of grandparents. Sam, Carl '96 and grand father of Sam's son, David, married on September 2. The baby, Carl, and his wife, Stacey, are all thriving. Last winter, after an absence of 11 years, *Joe Bujold* got back into ski racing. He says it's great fun, especially when he skis the same courses as his daughter, Noelie. "Joe's season ended successfully with a sixth-place finish in the Giant Slalom Masters Nationals at Sunday River, Maine. We are sorry to report the deaths of Linda Short Hevly on August 3 and Phil Miller on November 20. Our condolences go to their families. Memorials will appear in future issues. *The news from your holiday cards and letters will appear in the next class column.*

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**Class Correspondents:** "Jean Seeler-Gifford (jeandelaw@msn.com), 1529 Steeple Ct., Trinity, FL 34655; and Veyk Strekalovsky (vws@shannah. com), 47 Fearing Rd., Hingham, MA 02043.

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**I** haven't quite figured out how to gather more news from our class, but I'd really like to encourage people to send a few sentences at any time. It's been wonderful to see a few "lost" classmates surface in the past few months. *Peter Spalding* spent more than 30 years in the Foreign Service, mostly..."
in Asia and Africa, retiring in 1995. For another 10 years, he continued working as a consultant for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and on nuclear nonproliferation issues. He’s been heavily involved serving the homeless in Washington, as a caseworker, and has been on the boards of two NGOs serving the poor. Peter and Priscilla relocated to San Francisco Bay Area with two children, four grandchildren, and one granddog nearby. So who needs to travel? Except one daughter lives in Minnesota. Their townhouse, on the water, faces west with wonderful sunsets and lots of waterfowl. Eileen and Max spent a Sierra Club Grandparents/Grandkids Week last summer with their three grandsons. Granddaughter Emma (4) will be able to go along soon. Every winter they rent a condo in the Sierras for skiing with family and friends. Eileen plans to celebrate her 70th with a picnic at Point Reyes! * Sandy Anderson Bolton reminisces about how she and Jeff Foran played in one of her sanctioned bridge matches at the Middlebury Inn. Sandy has continued to play and is now a Life Master. Jeff? (Not all of us had such positive memories of the Dean of Women!) Sandy traveled around the U.S. this year: Hawaii, Grand Canyon, San Diego, Florida, to summer opera in Santa Fe, and to Kansas City to see the new addition to the Nelson-Akins Museum of Art. She continues to ski and hike near home in the Rockies. Sandy had lunch in July with Ajka Cebe-Habersky Wallace and Jane and Tim Moore, complete with a sighting of a Lewis’s woodpecker from the Moore’s deck in Carbondale, Colo. * George Logan was fitted for his 70th by his three daughters, his son, and his daughter-in-law, all of whom have amazing resumes, which space doesn’t allow me to share. George comments that “thanks to them, it was a great party, although I felt a little ambivalent about the occasion.” George has not retired, and after a fruitful real estate development, now works in a small firm that sells and auctions golf courses, country clubs, and other leisure properties. In October he planned to embark on a Vermont Bicycle Tour through the Champlain Valley, ending up at the Waybury Inn. Those of us who live there were waiting at all bicycles during that time! * Bob and Linda Place Kasivinsky are now living in Waterbury Center, Vt., in a house built in 2006 by their son Matt. Matt and wife Heather, who live in Fairbanks, Alaska, were married at the house in December 2006 after it was completed. Bob and Lindy have made many trips to visit them in Alaska, the last in the fall of 2008. Bob and Lindy are happy to be renewing friendships from their Middlebury days and were at the Alumni Leadership Conference in late September, learning about 50th reunion plans and requirements. They were very impressed with both Pres. Liebowitz’s talk and a student/faculty panel on the state of Middlebury College today. * That’s all the news from the Class of 1961; it would be great to have more next time. Get well, Steve.

—Temporary Class Correspondent: Holly McKenzie (holly@shornanet.net), 520 Totton Rd., Stoneham, VT 05770.

62 Phyllis Cole writes, “Both Lee (husband Lee Yamada) and I still volunteer with the Red Cross. In addition to almost full-time assignments with the local chapter, Lee travels all over the country, responding to disasters, teaching, and taking classes. My work keeps me closer to home; I work to bring instruction about humanitarian law to the high school teachers of Santa Cruz County. We are enjoying the koi pond we had installed in our home’s entryway almost two years ago. Because we’d like some croaking this spring, we relocated two Pacific tree frogs and two California tree frogs from a friend’s Santa Cruz gardens. Have not seen or heard them since they arrived—they’re small, fast, almost invisible and, for now, quiet. Our latest endeavor: we replaced our 1000-square-foot lawn with iris gardens and artificial turf! Now, in the fourth year of drought all over the state, our local water company offered a credit of $1/square foot for lawn replaced with water-friendly gardens or turf. We agree that this is the best-looking lawn we’ve ever had! Both still into mushrooms, my husband knows about them from a scientific and culinary approach and I do organizational stuff. For one term (2010-13) I agreed to be prez of NAMA—the North American Mycological Association—umbrella mushroom organization for Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. * Dennie Williams writes, ‘I retired from the Hanford Courant after 39 years of news reporting, specializing in investigations of government, corporate, and assorted other corrupt organizations. It was a fun ride, although a bit rocky with all the layoffs and buyouts at the end of my career. Fortunately I was bought out with a year of salary and benefits. Afterward, I began a new career as a freelance investigative writer, which has slowed down recently because I was not too pleased with the manager of the main Internet site I wrote for. Now I’m looking for a new one. My daughter, Gisela ’91, who lives in Berlin, Germany, with husband Carsten and daughter Cosima (2), had another girl, Paloma Rose, born on the Fourth of July 2009. Gisela is a freelance travel writer. Son Tommie has created a sports hat business centered on unique designs. Meanwhile my wife, Ima, still operates a small mushroom organization for Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. * Correspondent Liza Dunphy Fischer has news of her own: ‘As a docent at Kresge Art Museum at Michigan State Univ., I have been involved with developing and conducting tours for people living with Alzheimer’s and dementia (early to midstage). I took the training at MoMA in NYC where the program originated. It is a most rewarding experience for this fragile and growing population. If you want more info, contact me.’

—Class Correspondents: Judy Bosworth Roesset (jbosv@village.net), 8809 Marshall Canyon Dr., Austin, TX 78759; Liza Dunphy Fischer (lbfischer@msu.edu), 11630 Center Rd., Bath, MI 48808.

63 Charlie Buell wrote to say that Francis Shepard died on July 18 in Naples, Fl., where he had retired. Charlie added, “After editing the Campus at Midd, Shepard leveraged his skills for the U.S. Trust Company and the Fiduciary Trust Company, retiring from the latter organization’s World Trade Center offices just a couple of years before 9/11. In Florida, he became involved with the local minor-league hockey team, befriending many of the players and helping some transition from sports to the ‘real’ world. He leaves two sons, Robert and Clay.” An obituary will appear in a future issue.

Alumni Trustee
Russell J. Leng ’60

The full slate of nominees for the term of office beginning July 1, 2010, will be available for viewing on March 1, 2010, and voting on April 1, 2010. The deadline for voting is April 20, 2010. Please vote at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/mca.

To appear in the online spring ballot, additional nominations must be received by March 1, 2010. These nominations must include a signed letter of acceptance, updated biographical information, a photo, and 200 alumni signatures endorsing your nomination.

For a paper ballot, more information, or to submit nominees, please contact: Alumni Office, McKinley House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753 or alumni@middlebury.edu.

64 I’d love to hear what classmates are doing. Send me an e-mail!

—Class Correspondent: Marian Demas Baade (mdbade@aol.com), 4 Red Rock Rd., New City, NY 10956.

65 REUNION CLASS
Correspondent "T" Terry reports: A huge 1965 contingent attended the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September. Peter Branch, Ann Gruhn, Peter Holcombe, Andy Johnson Perham, Judy Couperus Radasch, Tina Sterrett Scott, Fred Stetson, and I met to plan our 45th reunion to be held June 4-6. Andy and I suggested a "Quality of Life" panel discussion followed by small-group discussions as we begin to face the challenges of growing old(er). Class experts in geriatrics, psychology, psychiatry plus physical and occupational therapists and members of the clergy will be contacted this winter and encouraged to share their knowledge. Look at this as simply an
 upgrade." A new class tree has been planted next to the northwest corner of the Axinn Center at Stanford, and the new facility was too large to be transplanted during the renovations of that facility. Your correspondent Polly Moore Walters recently had to go through the emotional roller coaster of putting her family house on Kauai up for sale. To her great surprise, it sold almost immediately. That wasn't all. She retired. The staff, board, parents, and kids all got together and special ordered for me a made-to-size, penny-farthing bicycle! This is the old-time vehicle with one enormous front wheel and a little bitty rear wheel. It's a gas! I promptly rode off across the school playground, bouncing over divots in the grass like an idiot on a bronco, with a silly grin plastered all over my face. Riding is not really a problem. Dismounting was a challenge. I got a concussion on the second day. But I finally figured it out. Mounting is still beyond me, but any hanky boulder, split rail fence, or fire hydrant will do. I ride 45 minutes a day and LOVE it! *

Sadly, Steve Beebe and Ed Bartholomew died in the fall. A graduate of Scarsdale's Edgemont High School in New York, Ed was a member of DK E at MIT. After serving in Vietnam and receiving his MBA from Cornell, he returned to Vermont in 1977. He soon became the comptroller for the Burlington Free Press and served on its editorial board. He also excelled as a gourmet cook and outdoorsman. After his retirement from the paper in 2008 he began working for Homeland Security. The class extends its sympathies to his wife Margaret and son John. * Steve lost his long battle with prostate cancer. A member of DK E as well, Steve got his MBA from Chicago, then served in the U.S. Army before launching his career in finance for a number of communications companies, including Sprint and GTE. He retired from Priority Telecom as its CFO in 2003 and became active in a number of Great Falls, Va., area nonprofits. Our sympathies go to his wife Odiorne "O" Woodman, daughters Kristin and Brooke, three grandchildren, and to his brother David '67. Obituaries for these classmates will appear in future issues.*

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Class Correspondents: R.W.: "T" Tell Jr. (alan@owd.com, 139 Park Rd., Cornwall, VT 05753; and Polly Moore Walters (polly@fiti.com), 100 Grandview Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80521.

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67 Peter and Louise "Weebee" Holloway Brown sent an update: "In 2006 we had a transition year highlighted by the sail of our 46-foot catamaran, Moe, from Brazil to the Caribbean. Since then we've sailed up and down the Lesser Antilles during the winter and spring months, occasionally joined by son Eric, and we return to our home in Orlando, Calif, for summer and fall. In 2010 we arranged to meet Kathie Towle Hession (Weebee's sophomore year roommate), who had chartered a boat in the Grenadines. It was great to see reacquainted and meet Kathie's husband, Bob, who is also a retired pediatrician. In Bequia we paid homage to Horace Beck's likeness at the famous museum, taken part in a special outdoor celebration for his friend Atheneal Ollivierre, who was the island's most famous whaler and who also died of prostate cancer. For the hurricane season, Moe was strapped firmly to the ground in Puerto Rico and we re-launched in December with our cat Beq to venture north to the Bahamas. Weebee retired from the airlines in 2003 and my consulting in biotechnology has slowly dwindled with too much time away. But I do have a cottage industry that supplies devices to the biotech industry that has been both fun and rewarding (www.cellsetters.com). We had a splendid time last year with getting together for the first time in 30 or 40 years (can't remember which) with Tom Moore who is a physician in Rohnert Park, Calif, and has been there for decades. Weebee, who has become quite a quilter (our walls are completely padded at this point), and Tom's wife, Tina (who is also an avowed quilter), hit it off! "* Correspondent Susie Davis Patterson reports: The largest group yet of Women of '67 gathered on the shores of Lake Dunmore for our annual fiendfest the weekend of September 11-13. Saturday morning we had all of us on the lake in a flotilla of boats; that afternoon most hiked to nearby Silver Lake; many swam in the cool waters multiple times. Hosted this year by me at our camp, the group welcomed first-timers Jana Mara Holt, Judy Pierpont, and Gay Shaw. Returnees were Marion Boultrie, Elaine Dunphy Foster, Sue Schweikert Macy, Livvy Barbour Tarleton, May Speier Wull, Linda Morse, Marcia Chisholm, and CoolingMahlmann. Carol Collin Wheelock. Kathy Towle Hession, Jervis Lockwood Anderson, Helen Martin Whyte. Lee Powers Smith, Joan Viehdorfer Roller, Sue Rugg Parmenter, and Judy VanNostrand Sturgis. Carol Little summed up what makes this event so special when she thanked me for providing the chance to "paddle, swim, hike, eat well, share stories (and there were some great ones!) and laugh, but perhaps most of all, to experience the support and caring for each other." We had women who came from Seattle and Germany, so all you Women of '67, please plan to join us the first fall you are retired! E-mail me to get on the notification list for next year's gathering. * Even in retirement, John Plant remains very active composing music. We can't wait for John and Jocelyne to share their talents with us at our 45th reunion. He writes, "Jocelyne and I gave a recital at the Boston University "Vocapyle" series in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on November 12. The second half of the recital was the first complete performance of my song cycle, 'Babel Is a Blessing: Eight Songs in Eight Languages.'" MSR records recently released a CD entitled "John Plant: Vocal Works in Eight
Correspondent Brigg report: Michele MacKellar Sakurai

Michele MacKellar Sakurai is happy to report that she spent her freshman and senior years at Middlebury, because she was in Paris for the two intervening years, but she is still happy to consider herself a member of the Class of 1968. After 32 years at the United Nations as a conference interpreter, Michele retired in January 2007 and, with husband, Makoto, moved to Gainesville, Fla., to begin breeding Dutch and Holstein show jumping horses. They cleared land, built a barn and fences, and imported four mares from Europe to begin their operation. The mares are now beginning to produce foals and are competing in the Ocala in the Young Jumper Qualifying Classes. Fulfilling her ambition of working for the United Nations was an achievement, but developing this horse farm is something completely different! They welcome visitors to make a virtual visit to the farm via www.sakurahillfarm.com, or to visit them to see the horses in person! Michele reports that she and husband return to his love of gardening, cooking, and sketching. Daughter Monica, who graduated from Mount Holyoke College in May 2009, is spending this year in England training with Tim Stockdale, a rider on the Olympic show jumping competition. She hopes Monica will return to attend vet school at the Univ. of Florida and help her parents out on the farm! * Steve Orndorf sent a long overdue update. He’s very happy to have ended up in Napa, Calif., where he’s been since 1980, and he has spent 35-plus years in the steel industry. Currently he works a couple days a week consulting for the people who purchased the pipe mill where he’d been working, assisting them in their plans for a large and (contentious) development geared towards affordable housing (of which there is little in Napa). Steve reports that his wife and two daughters’ (ages 23 and 25) are all health nuts (Ironman competitions, triathlons, physical fitness director at the local health club, etc.). But, he says, “regrettably, I am still maintaining my old bad habits. It all averages out, I guess.” [But our memory is of a guy who played a mean game of intramural b-ball!] He spends most of his spare time fishing, either locally for striped bass, or in a local boat. He says, “I drink my share of wine, but I can’t give up my hobby, which is again classic understatement from this correspondent’s recollections of our undergraduate days!” * Charlie Daugherty writes from the antipode (New Zealand): “I confess I’ve pretty much lost contact with Midd and my Midd friends. (Although I do keep up occasionally with Ed Karp ’78, who is a naturalist from upstate New York who has visited here.) I’ve spent the past 27 years at Victoria Univ. of Wellington. For about 20 years, I was a professor and researcher, working on evolutionary and conservation issues, mostly related to birds and reptiles. For the past seven years, I’ve been a government manager and am now the assistant vice-chancellor for research. The best news in my life is getting married a year ago to a wonderful New Zealand woman, Maryanne. I travel to the U.S. once or twice most years, so I keep up with action on the ‘mother ship’ firsthand. I’m always happy to hear from Midd graduates passing through New Zealand, too.” * Lawrence Raib has another collection of poetry out, The History of Forgetting (Penguin, 2009). He has published six previous collections and his work has been supported by Yaddo, the Mellon Foundation, and the Guggenheim Foundation. Some of his poems have been read by Garrison Keillor on “The Writer’s Almanac.” He has taught literature and writing at Williams College since 1976. * Congratulations go to Bill Sessions! In October the Senate confirmed him as the chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Bill gave this statement: “I am honored to have been nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate to serve as chair of the Commission. This is a particularly exciting time because the Commission is holding a series of regional public hearings throughout the nation to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sentencing Reform Act and the establishment of the Commission. These hearings allow commissioners to hear directly from judges, practitioners, academics, and other individuals about their experiences with, and suggestions regarding, federal sentencing policy.” * We lead interesting and varied lives. As we turn 60, here’s a bit of evidence. * Katherine Bean Yancey (still “Kitty” to her friends) has a great gig. She says, “I’ve been with USA Today for almost 27 years. I have the best job in the world—I’m a leisure travel writer. This year I’ve been to Singapore, Cuba, Alaska, Denali Park, Martha’s Vineyard, and a Microtel near a Hooters outside Atlanta. No children, but delightful nieces and nephews and the extraordinary 17-year-old daughter of my boyfriend. I’ve not yet had a travel story in Vermont, which is funny considering I know the place and should come up with ideas.” * Andy Stoddard (hstoebs@aol.com), Beth Prasse Seeley (beth@seeley.com), and Nancy Crawford Sutliff (nccaronford_mfdejlfie@comcast.net).
He also announced that he would not run for reelection as Vermont's governor in 2010.

Carole Brill, of Bennington, is an important figure in Vermont's cultural and political life. She serves as president of the Vermont Arts Council and is a leader in the development of arts education in the state. She has been a long-time advocate for the arts and has worked to ensure that arts programs are accessible to all Vermonters.

Tasaki in the 1990s when she was at Mount Holyoke College. She and I became close over the years, and I began working with her to form the foundation that became the Women's Leadership Program at the College. Our goal was to support women in leadership positions in the community. We've worked hard to make this happen, and I'm proud of the progress we've made.

The best news was that we were successful in obtaining a grant from the Global Fund for Women this past summer, to use toward leadership training and education for girls and women in the manneries and surrounding communities. We're also planning to collaborate with the READ Foundation, a Gates-funded literacy program, now starting up in Bhutan.

Many girls and women in Bhutan enter nunneries to gain an education, spiritual enlightenment, and rise about poverty. If you'd like to learn more, visit www.bhutanunns.org. In August it was announced that Leslie Cadman had been named the director of Sotheby's Institute of Art in New York, the graduate and postgraduate education program for students seeking a career in the international art world. She had been serving as acting director since February.

Katrina Horton, of New York, was named the director of the museum at age 54. She has more than 30 years of experience in museum administration, including 25 years with the Alaska State Museum. She has a bachelor's degree in anthropology and a master's degree in museum studies.

In Alaska, Matt Morrow has been hired by R&M Consultants as a project engineer. He has more than 30 years of design, construction, and construction administration experience, including 25 years with the Alaskan Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities. This fall Kohler, a key member of the firm, announced that he would be leaving the company to join KKR Asset Management, based in NYC.

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Marie D'Amato '96 and her partner Emily Blake celebrated their civil union on August 9, 2008, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in White River Junction, Vt. At the reception friends helped celebrate the union at the Dartmouth Outing Club House: (all '96 unless noted) Kate Bishop, Scott Goldman, Jane Halladay Goldman, the newlyweds Emily and Marie, Caryn Sheftel '95, Sara Peckin Weatherley, (second row) Jill Boat Rakowski, Lindsey McClelland Hart, Tom Elliott, Donn Freshiear, M. Keltner '97, and Sungwha Hong '97.

On June 28, 2008, Brendan Condit '05 married Hillary Waite '05 in northern Lake George, N.Y. Many friends and family joined in the celebrations: (all '05 unless noted) Lauren Singer Waite '74, Barry Schultz King '74, Hannah Waite '11, the newlyweds, Colin Kikuchi, Daniel Stone, Thomas Hand, Chris Hicks '06, Nick Benjamin, (second row) Stacy Brendtro, Abigail Sanders, Kathleen Fleury, Emily Hruby, Ellen Whelan-Wuest, (third row) Rick Cooley '04, Mike Hennessy, Lekand Bourdon, Christopher Waite '08, Duncan Cooper '06, Conor Stinson '06, Joel Cubley, Minna Brown '07, Chuck Bettigole, and Christopher Morse.

Molly Vaughn '06 married Bucknell Univ. alumnus Jeff Summerhill in Vail, Colo., on July 19, 2008. Helping to celebrate were John Stewart '06, bridesmaid Katie Devine '06, the newlyweds, and Allison Lange '06.

On July 19, 2008, Irina Marinov '98 and Justin Khoury celebrated their marriage in Sherbrooke, Quebec, surrounded by family and friends: Mihai Aldea, Cornelius Marinov, visiting professor '00, Thomas Moser, the newlyweds, Milda Darguzaitis '99, Virginia Hardy Moser '80, Juliana Marinov Aldea '03, Anca Marinov, visiting professor '01, and Sally Olson '03.

Middlebury friends reunited at the Waybury Inn in East Middlebury, Vt., on July 5, 2008, for the wedding of Erica Hill '00 and Mike Cordaro '00. Celebrating with the couple were (all '00 unless noted) Christa Leonard Abbott, Adam Popkin, Irakly Areshidze, Phoebe Chase, the newlyweds, Josh Nothwang, Kristen Gustavson '91, David Babington, and Rev. Gus Jordan, who officiated the ceremony.

In Grantham, N.H., Nancy Smith '80 married Edward Brennan on July 20, 2008. Joining them were friends Nancy Karison '72, Brian Calhoun '79, Kelsey Calhoun '12, the newlyweds, and best woman, Majie Zeller '79.
Jina Sagar ’96 and Lucas Haley were married on the June 21 solstice in a cedar grove in Colton, Ore. The wedding wasn’t complete without Middlebury friends: (all ’96 unless noted) Cole Conlin, MA Spanish ’04, Beth LaRusse, Michele Punke, Heather Mulkerns, Tatiana Kotchoubey, and in front, the newlyweds.

Sharon Wilson ’01 and Michael Purdy were married on May 31, 2008, at the Purdy’s home in Annandale, Va. The wedding was followed by a traditional Korean ceremony and feast. Friends from the Class of 2001 who were in attendance included Garrett Dodge, Kristen Lyall Dodge, Sarah Day Guzman, Laura Daly Hall, Ellen Guettler, Laura Ford, the newlyweds, Elena Wilson Rowe, Pauline Gadens Moore, and Carolyn Welsey.

Christy Thomsen ’96 married Joe Covalesky on June 21, 2008, in Carmel, Calif. Friends who helped the couple celebrate included Kristen Ford, Justin Bougher, Sid Suri ’96, Tracy Varghese ’96, Christy Picard Dimmig ’96, the newlyweds, Mo Renganathan ’96, Laurel Cox ’96, and Susie VanBuren ’96. Missing from photo is Jason Dimmig ’96.

Kate Kellogg ’04 and Raime Masket ’04 were married on June 28, 2008, in Burlington, Vt. In attendance were Midd friends (all ’04 unless noted) Hannah Reid, Susan Reagan, Holly Briggs Cathcart, (second row) Michael Fournie, Trevor Chisholm, Cassie Crawford, Dave Tierney, the newlyweds, Tim Simnett ’02, Christine Gould, Chris Farina ’05, Laura Kelly ’06, and Jim Pergolizzi.

Jim Ralph ’82 and Ophelia Eglene were married on July 12, 2008, at Mead Chapel, then gathered with family and friends at the Waybury Inn for a reception: Edward Brown ’83, MA English ’89, Nadia Horning, political science, Jim Ralph ’54, Larry Yarbrough, religion, the newlyweds, Bob Hill ’82, MA English ’87, Febe Armaninos, history, Carol Rifel, French, (second row) Andy Brockway ’82, Victoria Fineman Brown, MA English ’89, Bill DeSantis ’82, John Pinkos ’82, Dave Taylor ’82, Brad Nadeau, athletic communications, Anne Klinck Cluss ’87, Bob Cluss, chemistry and biochemistry, Don Wyatt, history, Travis Jacobs, professor emeritus of history, Andy Wentink ’70, curator of special collections, Bill Hart, history, Martin Beatty ’84, John McCardell, president emeritus and history, Leger Grindon, film and media studies, and Tim Spears, American studies and Dean of the College.
On July 12, 2008, Amy Wlodarski '97 and Jeremy Ball gathered with friends and family for their wedding in Bar Harbor, Maine. Celebrating with the bride and groom were James Brenner '93, Erin Eggert Brenner '95, Hana Rubin ’97, Jenna Mason-Plunkett ’97, the newlyweds, Christine Jacobs ’97, Meredith Hinkley ’95, Wendy Goyert ’97, and Michael Stabler ’03.

Lisa Jasinski ’03 and Patrick Keating were married on July 5, 2008, at the Central Public Library in San Antonio, Texas. The service was officiated by Nathan Davis ’03, a friend of the couple. A reception followed at Boudro’s Texas Bistro on the River Walk in downtown San Antonio with friends Jack Thurston ’02, Dan Shea ’04, Yoshie Komada ’03, the newlyweds, Nathan Davis ’03, and Andrew Gustafson ’04.

On July 18, 2008, Jamie McBride ’00 married Jan De Weer at St. Joseph’s Church in Clayton, Mo. The reception, replete with a first dance medley featuring “Ice Ice Baby,” was held at the 1904 World’s Fair Pavilion in Forest Park and Midd friends helped celebrate: David Babington ’00, Kirk German ’00, Peter Solomon, swim coach, Andrea Solomon, art museum, the newlyweds, Emily Egan, MA Spanish ’07, Nate Johnson ’98, and Paige Budelsky Johnson ’98.

Cathrine Prenot ’96 was married to Jeff Fox in Southwest Colorado at McPhee Reservoir on June 21, 2008. Jeff and the groomsmen arrived by mountain bike, and the bridal party arrived to the ceremony by boat.

On June 21, 2008, Laura Woodward ’03 and Brad Tufts ’03 were married at the Great House at Castle Hill in Ipswich, Mass. Many Midd friends and family joined in the celebration: (all ’03 unless noted) Leonard Ceglarski ’77, Kel Vassileff, Emily Swan, Dana Tufts ’77 (front), the newlyweds, John Prescott, Hallie Parker Prescott, Jake Durling, Caitlin Peirce Durling, (second row) Audrey Pellerin Onsdorff, Neil Onsdorff, Andy Cobb ’02, Matt Boucher ’08, Geoff Martin ’04, Laurel Houghton Martin ’04, Andrew Sterling, Brad Alexander, Jessica Warren Kyle, Geoff Silvius ’99, Ryan Petersen, Pat Harris, Ryan Simper, Matt Kieler, Jen Schultz Reed, Dave Greiner, and Peter Osborne ’77.
Middlebury friends gathered at Two Lights State Park in Cape Elizabeth, Maine, on July 26, 2008, to celebrate the marriage of Ingrid Erickson '03 and Buster Smith '03; (all '03 unless noted) John Condon, Kyle Whittinghill, (second row) Juan Pena, Tyler Kremberg, Mun Chan, Johanna Rosenfield '05, the newlyweds, Carrie McCalley, Sandy Carbolova Unger, Mike Unger, and Allison Nagel.

Kathrin Platt '01 and Todd Gonzales were married on July 19, 2008, in Eugene, Ore. Celebrating with them were friends from the Class of 2001: Jess Stahl, the newlyweds, Kate Wright Kelly, and Jean Burr.

Eliza Cameron '05 married Christopher Eaton '99 on September 8, 2007, at the bride’s home on Nantucket, Mass. The reception following at the Nantucket Golf Club included a multigenerational Midd crowd: Ethan Beck ’96, Kate Swan Malin ’99, Ian Malin ’99, the newlyweds, Dort Cameron ’67, Teddy King ’05, Mayo Fujii ’05, Thomas Hand ’05, Richard Werderger ’69, (second row) Aimey Close ’05, Lauren Sherman ’05, Aimee Sanders Freund ’98, Matt Molyneux ’99, Beth Cameron ’95, Elizabeth Connors Cameron ’67, Sarah Cameron ’92, Kirtley Horton Cameron ’95, Heidi Lehner ’72, Kristen Laird ’05, Stephen Swank ’05, Jackie Ogden English ’89, Robert Beattie ’55, Stephanie Eaton ’58, (third row) Mike Schoenfeld ’73, Kelly Macaluso Coles ’90, Laura Markow Lanta ’01, Miles Cameron ’00, Evan Freund ’99, Edward Norton ’67, Barbara Markow, Betsy Mitchell Etchells ’75, Tim Etchells ’74, Reed Harmon ’68, Michael Melone ’99, Andrew Fletcher ’99, and Michael Sims ’00.

Katie O’Connor ’05 and Adam Sinoway ’05 were married on June 21, 2008, in Manchester, N.H. Friends and family who helped celebrate included (all ’05 unless noted) Lindsay Whitton Christ, the newlyweds, Catherine Foster, Dave Fischer ’82, (second row) Danny Greenstein, Ethan Fitzpatrick, Simon Behan, Colby Hewitt, Taylor Davis, Cortney Fritz, Tyne Pike-Sprenger, Michaela George ’04, Lauren Bowe ’04, Carol O’Connor-Fischer ’82, and Andrew Statres ’03. Missing from photo: Matthew Christ.

Janeen Hetzler ’00 and Rob Curtis were married on July 12, 2008, in Darby, Mont.
As part of a 50th birthday celebration, friends from the Class of 1980 gathered in North Carolina to reminisce, play golf and tennis, and take a whitewater rafting trip down the Chattooga River (where Deliverance was filmed): Kevin Matson, Craig Franklin, Frank Nelson, Mike Haynes, (second row) Bob DeVille, Mark Fernberg, Kevin Kellerher, (third row) Matt O'Connor, Jeff Angers, Bob Yeadon, Peter Murray, and John Dale.


Still loving life, Peter Walker '80 and Ricardo Presnell '81 ski the traverse of the Alps. Karen Moyer Walker '81 snapped the shot.

Classmates from 1988 and families had a mini-reunion last May at the home of David Van Luven and Isabelle Bleecker: (On the floor) Frances Fox Chowdhury '88 with Varun; Isabelle Bleecker '88 with Emma; Jo Ann Yoon with Xander; (second row) John Chaplin '88 with Audrey, Clara, Ben; Jill Adams; Doug Yoon '88 with Mason; and David Van Luven '88 with Catie and Juliette. Vikram, the oldest son of Frances, took the photo.

Thanks to everyone who answered our e-mails and calls for news! If you haven’t heard from one of us yet, you will. * From Connecticut, Janine Jones Shipp reports, “I’ve been working for the same company for over 20 years, Glencore Ltd., a commodities trading firm that manages my two sons, ages 12 and 15, from track meets to football, basketball, and soccer games, marching band, jazz band, and orchestra concerts. I think both have their music in their blood, one with the trombone and the other, viola. I ran into my first Middlebury roommate, Katie Manning, last year (for those who were from Alumnae) at Shakespeare on the Sound in Darien, Conn. My son was wearing a Middlebury T-shirt, so she asked him who he knew that went to Middlebury before she saw me. That was a nice mini-reunion. Luciano Nicasio ’78 was there as well. Last spring my husband and I flew out to San Diego for the wedding of the daughter of Sarah Edly ’78.” Janet also notes Allan Rau as their kids participate in many of the same activities. * Brian Miller writes, “A recent casualty of the economic downturn, I have secured a position with Cooper Interconnect as product line manager for military and commercial aviation. I produce audio and power connectors to support military radio and power systems. I regret not making it to the 70th reunion, but will try to get every effort to get there for no. 35!” * Suzie Devine writes, “I am a library media specialist in the Andover School of Montessori pre-K–8. This past summer I enjoyed a visit from my roommate from my junior year in Paris, a Belgian national who truly appreciated the beauty of New England on her first visit to the U.S.” * Casey O’Brien-Blondes e-mailed recently, “Very sorry to have missed our reunion since the 25th was so much fun but timing was poor. I spent three weeks late April/May on the East Coast doing a book tour for Partisan Hideaways (my second book published by Rizzoli, New York) and had to get back to cheerlead our two daughters through their Baccalaureate and Brevet exams. The book is a response to the number one question of my 21 years as an expat in Paris, ‘where can I buy a French cheese and wine shop? ’” * Gary Schiff informed us, “Daughter Sarah was off to a great start this fall as a sophomore at Smith. She’s a biochem major and continues to pursue her dream of veterinary medicine. She worked at a local vet practice this past summer and enjoyed every minute. Hannah also I’ve only won the local school board election.” * "A fter seven years in property management for a medium-sized Massachusetts company, I started my own property management this past year. So far things are going great and I love being my own boss and working from my home office." * When Chambers USA came out with its annual law firm rankings, Doug Bond was ranked one of the top ten.rensslawyers in Illinois. He works at the Chicago law firm Butler Ruben Saltarelly & Boyd. * Barbara Krichevsky began this school year as the director of advocacy for the Univ. of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. She’s been a law professor at the university since 1983 and for the past 20 years has served as faculty adviser to the Moot Court Board and coached moot court teams. * Class Correspondent: Bob Lindborg (rl@lurip.com). * Kevin O’Leary checked in: “I was recently listed as one of the top 10 corporate attorneys in L.A.—something I didn’t like to do. After practicing for 25 years, it’s nice to get some recognition. I continue to attend the soccer and rowing events of my daughters and recently served as the Middlebury rep at their high school college night. I also serve as a rep for Georgetown, my law school alma mater. We don’t get back to New England much but I wanted to wish everyone well. We’ve been spending more and more time traveling and vacationing in Taos, N.M., which I love and someday hope to retire to with my wife. I occasionally see Joe McCarthy and Walter Burriell in L.A., which is fun.” * Central Vermont Public Service recently announced that Elisabeth Robert had been appointed to their board of directors as an advisory director in anticipation of her nomination and election to serve as director in May at the annual meeting of stockholders. * Sadly, we must report the death of Peter Culman of a heart attack on Oct. 2, 2010. His condolences are sent to wife Susan and all his family. An obituary will appear in a future issue. * Class Correspondents: Dafn Jaffay (djaffay@mcd.com); Phyllis Wondell Mackey (phylmackey@hotmail.com); and Anne Rovell Noble (annenchamblen@aol.com).
been 31 years since we pulled the station wagon up to Battell South? The long drive from North Carolina was well worth it as the College looked wonderful under clear late summer skies. During the four-day stay, we enjoyed spending some time with Henri Lazaridis Power and Denise Walker Lee (whose daughter Jessica is also a freshman). Lee McShane Cox writes, "After being laid off from the private school at which I was teaching (lack of enrollment), I procured a long-term-sub stint for a pregnant high school math teacher. That was done in December, and I'm planning to do ski school teaching as much as possible for the winter. After e-mailing some ski clients of my husband's over the summer, I learned that two of the families are doing a trek to Mt. Everest base camp in March and April. Since I'm not tied to a school schedule, I signed up as well. I'm so excited. The only sticky point is finding a day pack that will carry my camera gear as well as what I will need!"

Nancy Rielle has traded her paintbrushes for pixels and recently launched VerveCards.com, home of "wry and snappy—never sappy" e-cards for savvy senders. Early Ververs included Nina Koules Anton, Betsy Hone Ahearne, Carol O'Connor-Fischer and Dave Fischer, Margaret Miller, Beth Stelluto Donnair, and Elaine King Nickerson. John Vergara and Mary Frangakis Clark were domestic and international site testers, respectively. (Mary's first tour of duty with the Foreign Service has taken her to Mexico City!) In other '82 news, Laurence DiNardo was recently appointed chair of the department of otorhinolaryngology at Virginia Commonwealth Univ. He lives in Richmond, Va., with his wife and two sons.

—Class Correspondents: Wendy Behringer Nelson (gonongo@bellsouth.net); and Caleb Rick (crick@northcommon.com).

Jennifer Peters was recently hired as the director of the hospitalist program at Copley Hospital in Morrisville, Vt. With a medical degree from the Univ. of Utah, she has 10 years of experience as a hospitalist—a specialist in internal medicine who works closely with primary-care physicians—regarding patients who have been admitted to the hospital. She lives in Stowe with her husband and two children.

—Class Correspondents: Ruth Kennedy (kennedy2@aetna.com); and Obiaha Leahy Ulrich (silrich@westminster-school.org).

In September Midd alumni and friends attended a special performance of The Common Swallow, a play written by David Cauldle and performed at the 45 Bleecker Street Theater in NYC. One of the cast members was MacLeod Andrews '07. Peter Bahls was awarded the 2009 National Wetlands Award for Conservation and Restoration by the Environmental Law Institute at a ceremony on May 12 in Washington, D.C. An aquatic biologist, Peter founded Northwest Watershed Institute in 2001 to provide scientific and technical support for natural habitat restoration in the Pacific Northwest. Over the past eight years, NWI has been implementing a model watershed protection and restoration project in the Tarboo watershed on Washington's Olympic Peninsula.

In September Hillary Stewart Petersen participated in the Bay Area Outreach and Recreation Program (BORP) bike ride in northern California with fellow classmate Brad Frazee, who led the way on his hand cycle, and with Paul Quinlan, Doug Robotham, and Josh Rabinowitz. The group rode with Brad for 23 miles in the 100-plus head and admired his determination and good humor. Hillary writes, "It's a great story and it should be shared with the rest of the class who may not know who Dr. Frazee has been going through for three years." The BORP ride brings together hundreds of people to raise funds for BORP and promote disability awareness.

—Class Correspondents: Elizabeth Eppes Winton (ewinton@mac.com); and Andrew Nehrer (andrew.nehrer@gtcrest.com).

85 REUNION CLASS

Greetings from Ruth and Denah! We attended the Alumni Leadership Conference at Bread Loaf in September so we thought we’d tell you about it! Several of us Class of 1985ers joined other Midd alumni to learn about Why Middlebury Matters, then we broke off to plan our 25th reunion (June 3-6, so mark your calendars and please register!). Here are some of our classmates that attended this planning session (and where they live now): John Denny (NYC), Anne Davis Peter (Burlington, Vt.), Jack Klink (Conesville, Mass.), John Don (Traverse City, Mich.), Andy and Kim Davis Gluck (Newton, Mass.), Megan Gough (Cincinnati), Kristin Anderson-May (Baton Rouge), Lisa Meyerhoff Marks (Aptos, Calif., near Santa Cruz), Lee Findlay Potter (NYC), Lorraine Siciliano (Burlington, Vt.), Karen Heggan (Malta, N.Y.), Sarah Sword Lazarus (Condor, Mass.), Sarah Van Tuyll Ray (Shelburne, Vt.), and Chris Powell (Richmond, Vt.). Anne Peterson and Torry Philip’s boys are freshman roommates in Battell! Ruth and I were amused to realize that we’re all now old enough to be parents of college-age children. Jon Roth and his family are involved in a yearlong effort to reduce their carbon output without substantially lowering their quality of living. Look for JR’s book about the subject, Carbonwise, in 2006. We don’t have space here for more, but needless to say, all these folks had wonderfully interesting stories to tell, and we hope all our classmates will join us for reunion so we can catch up with each other after the past 25 eventful years. We also heard from a few other classmates. John Crossman is still living in Taiwan with his wife, Anlyn, and three (constantly growing) kids: Jessica (14), Vanessa (12), and Matthew (9). Maura Toole Weis, who lives in the Pittsburgh area, will be flying out to Boston in April to compete in the Boston Marathon. She’ll be staying with John ‘83 and Jen Gibson Lewis. Please keep the news coming and we’ll see you back at Middletown in June!

—Class Correspondents: Ruth Lohmann Davis (r.l.davis@comcast.net); and Denah Lohmann Troupin (denahlt@comcast.net).

We received some sad news about our classmate Jacquie Ballenger Tavaststjerna Jeannine Batal Varney wrote to tell us that Jacqui passed away on September 9 from complications associated with MS. Jacqui fought a long, brave battle with MS for more than 10 years and leaves her husband of 10 years and two beautiful children, Chloe (13) and John (12). Jeannine was lucky enough to spend a lot of time with Jacqui over the last several years and much of that time was spent laughing and reminiscing about Middlebury and all of the great times Jacqui shared with all of us. An obituary for Jacqui will appear in a future issue.

Mike Kinnealey has officially started his new position as director of admissions at The Governor’s Academy in Byfield, Mass. This puts Mike and Julie Morris Ogden back on living on the same campus again. * Bessie Cromwell Speers, head of Ethel Walker School in Simsbury, Conn., reports there is a terrific contingent of Middlebury folks in the area. As a relative newcomer, it was great for her to find a well-established Middlebury women’s lunch group that meets annually, hosted most recently by Carol Morrison Bingham ’81. Ethel Walker School has been fortunate to collaborate with two great Middlebury professors; Professor Jon Isham spoke to the board of trustees about environmental sustainability and Professor Molly Costanza in a conversation with the science department to share ideas, specifically about maple sugaring. * Phil Hanrahan recently published Life After Fare (Skyhorse Publishing), his book about the Green Bay Packers’ transition season in 2008 after Brett Favre left the team. Although he lives in L.A., he moved to Green Bay for the 2008 season and spent the 2009 season there as well.

—Class Correspondents: Torsten Gabel (skytag@verizon.net); and Kate Wallace Perootta (gperoota@verizon.net).

87 In September a solid group of ‘87s and others gathered at Middlebury to honor fellow classmate Bill Tucker, who passed away in 2008. Dominic Napolitano and Mark Schille coordinated the affair that involved the dedication of a bench on the 17th hole of the golf course, and the creation of an annual scholarship in Bill’s name. In attendance were Dominic and Mark, Peter Britz, Cam McClellan, Chris Casey, Rich Toran, Paul Bottino, Liam Patterson, Chris Devito, Nancy Dunbar, Brian O'Brien, Steve Kirkpatrick, Mark Wilkins, Joseph Ganley, Andrew Bird ’88, and ’86ers Chris and Lisa Cheney Sullivan, Rich DeSimone, Bruce Johnstone, and Rich Carroll. Also attending were Marty and Andy Tucker, Bill’s brothers, and some of his other longtime friends. * This past fall Shady Side Academy in Pittsburgh, Pa., announced that Tom Cangiano had been appointed the next president of the Academy, effective this July 1. Tom has been the president of the American College of Sofia, Bulgaria, since 2007. He and wife Linda and family will be moving back to the States and children George (10), Grace (8), and Celia (6) will attend Shady Side. * Red Door Spa Holdings CEO, Todd Walter, serves on the editorial board of hotelexecutive.com. Todd has been at Red Door since July 2004. * In September Alonso Mendez, a Mayan archaeo-astronomer living in Mexico, gave a talk at the Ringing Rocks Foundation in Sedona, where he conducted astronomical investigations at the historic site of Palenque and has discovered new astronomical alignments in the major temples.

—Class Correspondents: Tom Funk (tfunk@timberlineinteractive.com); and Elizabeth Ryan O’Brien (obrien@bigbloop.com).
History was made in September when Chris Waddell became the first American to summit Kilimanjaro without the use of his legs. He set out on September 24, taking the Marangu route, and reached the summit on September 30 on his custom-designed, four-wheeled rig affectionately called “Kubwa,” which is Swahili for “really huge,” in reference to the monster-truck-type tires it has. Read Chris’s blog about the adventure at one-revolution.com. Bill Hussey ’97 sent the news that daughter Tara Hussey Nabey had a son, Decker, on August 12. Tara is now a principal scientist at Medtronic in Fridley, Minn., and lives with her family in Minneapolis. At Cornell Women’s Community College’s Coast Independence Day celebration, Berman Clay was recently promoted from assistant professor of English to associate professor. Corey Davis was recently hired at Jeffries as a managing director covering specialty pharmaceuticals. He earned his MS and Ph.D. in molecular biology from Princeton Univ. Kristina Stiff Erens was recently appointed the director of field operations. Previously she was a dean at Woodbury College. At the annual spring conference of the National Association of Professional Organizers, Porter Ball Knight was nominated by her peers for the Founder’s Award, the highest honor bestowed by the industry. We still need two people to serve as class correspondents. If you can help, contact Sara Marshall, alumni editor, at smarshal@middlebury.edu.

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A mini-Midd reunion came together in Delmar, N.Y., last May when Frances Fox Chowdhury (with sons Vikram and Varun) came back to the States from New Delhi, India. Other 88ers present were Doug Yoon (with wife Jo Ann, daughter Mason, and son Xander), John Chaplin (with wife Jill, son Ben, and daughters Audrey and Clara), and Isabelle Blecker and David Van Luen (with daughters Cafe, Emma, and Juliette). See page 74 for a photo! In October Middlebury alumni and friends were invited by playwright John Kolvenbach to a performance of his latest work, Mrs. Whinfrey, at the Magic Theatre in San Francisco. Mrs. Whinfrey, a sequel to Goldfish, is described as “a comedy about heartbreak.” —Class Correspondents: Claire Geatkin Jones (gwakke@yahoo.com); and Beth Zogby (zogby@alumni.middlebury.edu).

In September, Midd alumni and friends enjoyed a free screening of Dixie Dynamite, an animated feature film produced, directed, and written by Bob Clark. Dixie Dynamite, a classic kung fu myth, redneck style, made its European debut at the Portobello Film Festival in London. Vermont Attorney General Tammey Lane announced that Susan Palmer had been appointed the director of field operations. Previously she was a dean at Woodbury College. At the annual spring conference of the National Association of Professional Organizers, Porter Ball Knight was nominated by her peers for the Founder’s Award, the highest honor bestowed by the industry. We still need two people to serve as class correspondents. If you can help, contact Sara Marshall, alumni editor, at smarshal@middlebury.edu.

Congratulations to Raima and Nick Elfiner who had son Sam on July 17, joining older brother Benjamin. They recently moved to Cohasset, Mass. Daniel Coyne chimed into class notes for the first time, glad to be back in touch. He reports, “I’m living in western Massachusetts, doing freelance copywriting and marketing and occasionally performing as a juggler and magician.” Maria Gorman shares, “I recently left my job as an editor at the Web site ReadWriteThink.org to become a full-time freelance writer. I also spent six weeks this past summer on the road with husband Matt and sons Tommy (7) and Teddy (4).” Pat and Winona Dorschel McCarthy announce the birth of Emma Borgailey McCarthy on July 11, joining sister Caitlin (2), at their home in Montreal. Berlin-based journalist Kim Bradley and Austrian partner Michael announce the birth of their first child, Iona Eleanora, on June 21. Ed Roche, wife Phyllis Stinson, and daughters Agnes and Mauve moved to Dakar, Senegal, in September 2009. Ed is working with the USAID Office of Development Credit. Ed and Phyllis are old Africa hands, having met in the Peace Corps in Sao Tome & Principe (an island nation off the coast of West Africa) in the early ‘90s. Lest we forget, our whoppinG 20th-year reunion is scheduled for June 4-6. Remember how much fun we have when we’re together on Middlebury ground, and let’s get as many of our friends to return as possible. See you there! —Class Correspondents: Dawn Cagley Drew (dnd_phr@hotmail.com); and Elizabeth Tider (etider@conmat.com).

Sarah Johnson Ryde reports that she had a beautiful baby boy, Hunter Fitzgerald Ryde, in June. Sarah still has her consulting business, Studio V Marketing, but has scaled back somewhat. She and her family live in San Francisco and love their adopted hometown. Andrew Jusko married Jillian Novasad on July 25 aboard The Pan. He works as an ophthalmologist in a private practice in Springfield, Mass., and his wife is employed at Baystate Medical Center. Deke George’s company was profiled recently in Minnesota Business. Called NetSPL it helps clients determine their digital security risk level and comply with regulatory requirements. Founded in 2001, the company has been profitable every year. —Class Correspondents: Mary Stine Cains (maeins@middlebury.edu); and Gene Swift (geneswift@mac.com).

Katie Bunn-Marcuse is still in Seattle with husband Andy and two kids. She’s a visiting lecturer in the art history division at the Univ. of Washington, teaching courses that focus on Native American and Polynesian art and culture. She’s also the managing editor for publications at the Bill Holm Center for the Study of Northwest Coast Art at the Burke Museum and is editing a volume on contemporary Northwest Coast indigenous art as well as a DWD entitled Visual Field Notes from Fort Rupert: Studies of Kvaska/Dance and Movement by Franz Boas. Ashley Kincheloe Dyson recently published her first book, Standing in Two Places: A New Landscape of Motherhood (Aberdeen Bay, 2009). A memoir, it shares the story of surrogacy and what happens when another woman bears your child. Eric Batchelder was on campus in early October to give a presentation on Goldman Sachs and to conduct interviews. —Class Correspondents: Maria Diaz (latamurri@gmail.com); and Laura LeClaire Grace (elcgne@gmail.com).

REUNION CLASS

Can you hear the pitter-patter? Alex and Beth Walton Chang report: “Back in September of ’08 our two-year-old son Cooper woke up to find that he had to share the stage with his new sister, Cayley. They’re doing great and causing lots of trouble. We’re well into summer, but I’m always real estate start-up called Roost.com.” —Class Correspondents: Bill Driscoll (william.driscoll@gh.com); and Kate J. Kelley (katejkelley@gmail.com).

Sarah Johnson Ryde reports that she had a beautiful baby boy, Hunter Fitzgerald Ryde, in June. Sarah still has her consulting business, Studio V Marketing, but has scaled back somewhat. She and her family live in San Francisco and love their adopted hometown. Andrew Jusko married Jillian Novasad on July 25 aboard The Pan. He works as an ophthalmologist in a private practice in Springfield, Mass., and his wife is employed at Baystate Medical Center. Deke George’s company was profiled recently in Minnesota Business. Called NetSPL it helps clients determine their digital security risk level and comply with regulatory requirements. Founded in 2001, the company has been profitable every year. —Class Correspondents: Mary Stine Cains (maeins@middlebury.edu); and Gene Swift (geneswift@mac.com).

With less than 6 months until our 15th reunion, we are hoping to see many of you in Middlebury this June 4–6 to catch up in person. Joseph and Nicole Mathews Engler are living in San Francisco and are pleased to announce the birth of their fourth child, Joseph Louis Engler, on January 26, 2009. His three older sisters enjoy having a live doll to feed, dress, and generally torture. Nicole opened Flair, a T-shirt printing business, in September. Aaron Mendelson writes that wife Mariam gave birth to their first child, Claire Dorothy, on June 2. They enjoy living in Manhattan. Kate and Stephen Pozatek welcomed Blake Donovan Pozatek on June 8. According to Stephen, “Blake should be the Red Sox starting shortstop by 2031.” Jay Fritz writes, “Advee ’96 and I still live in Concord, Mass., with our two daughters. Enjoyed seeing many classmates at Jimmy Stahl’s wedding last summer and Josh Smitrench’s in September. Looking forward to catching up with more at reunion.” Tim Louzonis is living in Lviv in Western Ukraine, where he has managed to hold two very different consulting assignments.

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Amanda Dickson and Peter Dougherty were married on June 6 at the Shelburne Museum in Vermont, with a happy bunch of Middlebury friends in attendance. The newlyweds are now living in Basel, Switzerland, where Pete is a collaborating architect with Herzog & de Meuron (designers of the Beijing 2008 "Bird's Nest" Olympic stadium) and Amanda is continuing her own architecture, design, and photography practice. Anyone passing through the neighborhood (or interested in developing projects—any size, anywhere!) can contact them via amanda.dickson@gmail.com or pd@post.harvard.edu.

Ted and Helen Elston welcomed son Van Thompson Rowan on July 25 at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston. The Rowans are thrilled to have made the leap into parenthood! They live in Concord, Mass., with their black lab, Brooklyn. • Margaret and Rob Lawrence are pleased to announce the arrival of Mac Birks Lawrence on October 27 (5) has adjusted to not being the center of attention all the time and loves his little sister. The Lawrences still enjoy the South End in Boston. Margaret is on maternity leave, but plans to go back to Pilot House Ventures. Rob still works for The Parthenon Group and has spent the last six months working on some exciting projects around K-12 public education reform in Chicago. • Lee and Lisa Caruso Wesner welcomed Luke Gerald Wesner on August 15. He joined big sister Lila (2). The Wesners live in Providence, R.I., where Lee is an anesthesiologist and Lisa is the director of financial analysis for Hasbro, Inc. • Elise Worden Hooper is now a work-at-home mom. She started her own business early last summer with great results so far, both online and off! She's having fun creating personalized baby blankets and goodies for kids at www.elisefooperdesigns.com. Some of her sewing skills developed in high school, but is the money paying off? • Carl Robinson and wife Stacey welcomed Sawyer Robinson on September 2. Word was sent by proud grandfather Mike Robinson '60. • On March 1, Gretchen Fletcher and Eric Bakeman were married in Middlesex, Vermont. Gretchen is a senior program officer at the Institute for Sustainable Communities and her husband works for Süss Microtek. They live in Montpelier, Vt. • At the invitation of the Dalai Lama’s Office of Tibet, The Buddha Prince, an outdoor “walking play” created by Markell Kiefer, returned to NYC for several free performances over this past Labor Day weekend.

Graham Balch writes that he’s running for state senate in Georgia in 2010 and sends his campaign website, http://grahambalch.com. “Things are going well in the campaign so far and I am excited to help improve our public education, get our economy back on track, make our communities safer, and improve health care for all.” Graham, who is married and has two wonderful kids, Helen (4) and William (1), sprout a little more each day. I was back in Vermont for the first time in six years to run the Vermont solo trail race (which benefits Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports) at the Ascutney Mountain Resort.
Megan Maloney writes, "Sanofi Pasteur gave me the opportunity to live in Lyon, France, and work at company headquarters—it was an amazing experience. While I was in Europe, my then-boyfriend proposed while he was running the Stockholm marathon. We were married over Memorial Day weekend at Migis Lodge in Maine. Upon returning to the U.S. in July, my company relocated me to Cambridge, Mass." * Michael Russell writes, "I'm still living on the island of Maui, upcountry in Makawao, Hawaii, where I've been working as a high school Spanish teacher and soccer coach for the past eight years. I married my wife Shawnde in 2007 and spent a year on the northern coast of Peru in Chiclayo on a Fulbright Teacher Exchange. We are now back and have had our first baby, daughter Marley Ella Russell, born May 31." * Caroline and Steve Monninger welcomed Joseph Jacques or "JJ" on July 9. He was delivered by Dr. Kate Howard Wagner! * Chris and Beth Jones '99 Latham recently joined the faculty of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center for wild fire crews going to Quebec. Dr. Jane Gerey (MA '72), German '01, DML '07 recently joined the faculty of the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in Monterey, Calif. He is an assistant professor of German in the School of European and Latin American Languages. * David Callahan (MA '09) has taken a job as head of money market investors at Lombard Odier Darier Hentsch & Cie in Geneva, Switzerland, where he can finally practice French every day. He can be reached at d.callahan@lombardodier.com. * In May Elizabeth Pitcairn ('99–200) performed with the Richardson (Texas) Symphony Orchestra playing the famous "Red Mendelssohn" Stradivarius, which inspired the 1999 film The Red Violin. 

German School

In March Kathryn Cowin Decker ('69) welcomed her first granddaughter, Katrina, who joined brothers Samuel and Colby. Kathryn continues to work as a bilingual (English/Spanish) school psychologist for the San Lorenzo (Calif.) school district. In July the Benedictine community of Saint Meinrad Archabbey celebrated the 50th jubilee of monastic profession of Fr. Michael Langston (MA '70). He is the chaplain at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, N.C. * In August Sr. Christine Steigerwald (MA '92) professed perpetual vows in St. Mary of the Angels Chapel in Williamsville, N.Y. She serves as pastor at Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, N.Y. * Justin Hajeck (MA '98) married Melissa Farrington on May 2.

Italian School

Anthony Integlia (MA '64) recently published a book entitled How To Be A Great Teacher. His own teaching career covers half a century. * This past fall Tiffany Bistocchi (MA '06) taught a ten-week beginner Italian course at the Appalachian Club of Stoneham, Mass. She teaches in the Burlington, Mass., school system.

Russian School

After being laid off as a tax attorney, John Fowler (MA '93) turned to his classical music training for work. As a baritone, he has sung with the Philadelphia Singers and the Macy's Festival Singers and has co-founded his own chamber group, the Buxtehude Consort.

Spanish School

A book edited by Robert Hatton (MA '59) entitled William James Smith's Memoirs of the 2nd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, Company M was published last fall by Little Miami Publishing Co. Private Smith was his great-grandfather. In addition, Bob was inducted into the Capital Univ. Professors Hall of Honor in April. He retired from the university in 1999 as Professor Emeritus of Modern Languages. * In 2008 Clark Zlotchew (MA '66) was promoted to SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor at SUNY-Fredonia. He has had 15 books published including literary criticisms, translations from Spanish, and Spanish teaching guides, and his 16th book came out in 2009. It's a collection of his short stories entitled Once Upon a Decade: Tales of the Fifties. * Michael Dilanni Madera (MA '84) writes, "Since 1984 I have founded a food company, gone back to school for a doctorate in psychology, played in rock bands, worked as an executive coach and consultant, gotten married, and had two boys, now ages five and seven." He and wife Piña recently started a company, Sing-A-Lingo, that has the mission of teaching languages to kids using music and humor. Check it out at www.singalingo.com. * Terri Knoblauch Wilson (MA '84) wrote with the sad news that Gloria Caspoli Caliendo (MA '84) passed away in July. Undergraduate friends, Terri and Gloria came to the Spanish School together. "Gloria went on to great things becoming a two-time Fulbright Scholar doing work in Ecuador and El Salvador, where she loved to spend her summers."

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bered what the Grille was called before McCullough was renovated—the Crest Room! In Finnegan Saldana's memoir, The Bread of Angels: A Journey of Love and Faith in Damasus, will be coming out from Doubleday Publishing. (See Book Marks.) Peter Nilsson sent this update: “I was married to Crystal Gipe (non-Middlebury) in Marblehead, Mass., this past July 12, and after four years in New York, we’re moving to western Mass., where I’ll be teaching and working at Deerfield Academy, and she’ll be pursuing an MFA at Smith College.” Maureen Nowlan Principe reports, “We are delighted to announce the birth of Lilian Grace in June 2009. Big brother Patrick (2) and parents are enjoying her.” Justine Skwatkowski moved to Miami and started an eco-consulting business, under the umbrella of Green Irene. She offers customized environmental advice, design ideas, and products for homes and small businesses. Check out her Web site at www.greenire.com/justinemiami. Seth Schofield is preparing a land use case to go before the County State Supreme Court. Jeff Ippolito continues to work for a Boston-based engineering firm that creates orthopedic devices. Wife Melinda Morrill is in the midst of clinical psychology training at Clark Univ. After the birth of her twins, John and Jay, last year, Mythra Anderson McDonald left her post as executive director of the Friends of the Lower Blue River in Colorado. She can spend more time with her family but can also work to help protect the rural nature of her county. Ana Cardenas is an official photographer for Converse Shoes and is residing in Newton, Mass. Courtney Thompson spent last year embedded with Georgia’s paramilitary prison system for Hard Time, a six-part reality series on the National Geographic Channel. She was the associate producer for the series and also was field producer and writer of two of the episodes, including the final one, “Breaking Out,” where she joined the team searching for two escaped convicts. Will Heid and Kim Havens made an East Coast appearance and are considering their next real estate adventure. Kim was recently recognized as an outstanding real estate professional, winning the top “20 under 40” award from the Connecticut Women’s Network. Matt Bak has officially started his practice as a head and neck surgical oncologist at Eastern Virginia Medical Center in Norfolk, Va. Scott Dudley is running a booming solo dental practice near Washington, D.C., called Virginia Center for Cosmetic and General Dentistry. Max Zayas and Cristi Lopez are both working as busy attorneys in Hartford, Conn., and are the parents to two lovely puppies. In NYC, Matthew Grodd has been spotted at both Yankee Stadium and PJ Clarke’s after work. Tim Morse is an oral and maxillofacial surgery resident at the Univ. of Minnesota. Union Street Media, Ted Adler’s company, was selected as the 2009 Best Web Developer by readers of Seven Days. —Class Correspondents: Melissa Pennings (mpennings@yahoo.com); and Peter Steinberg (austin99@gmail.com).

# Reunion Class #

Stephen Kelly married Pia Talukdar in Cary, N.C., on April 25, 2009. The ceremony, at the Umstead Hotel and Spa, was bicultural, celebrating both Hindu and Catholic faiths. The reception was at the Prestonwood Country Club. The two met while at Duke University in Durham. From 2004–2006, Thirteen Midd alumni were in attendance, including groomsman Matt Franzosa and Nils Hegstad. The couple honeymooned in Thailand for two weeks, enjoying Koh Yao Noi, Krabi, and Bangkok. Stephen works for BlueGate Partners, a boutique real estate investment bank in NYC, while Pia works for Johnson & Johnson in northern New Jersey. They live in Hoboken, N.J. Brewer Boyd sent word that he coauthored a book recently published by GreenLeaf Publishing, Entitled Hybrid Organizations: New Business Models for Environmental Leadership, the book presents a thorough examination of recent trends from more than 100 hybrid organizations and provides detailed case studies of five. Brewer researched and wrote the book while pursuing his MBA and MS at the University of Michigan’s Erb Institute for Global Sustainable Enterprise. He now lives in Denver with his family. A very special week in July 2009 brought a baby boom for three classmates and good friends. James ’01 and Jessica Grillo Rudolf welcomed their first child, James Dickinson Rudolf Jr., on July 12 in NYC. Two days later, on July 14, Jenny Williams Weymouth and husband Sandy welcomed their first child, John Patrick or Barnum and Bailey Circus, which was in town. Hillary Amoss Gibbons and husband Patrick welcomed their second child, John Patrick or “Jack” in Salt Lake City on July 16. All moms, dads, and babies are doing great and are looking forward to hanging out during the 10-year reunion! Pete and Jen Close ’98 Huppi are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Mason Anderson Huppi, who also arrived on July 14. Pete and Jen moved two years ago from Vermont to southeast Connecticut, where Pete works as the director of multimedia at The Day, an independently owned newspaper in New London. Irene Flowers Eide and husband Steve are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Frederick. Little Freddy arrived in April and is reportedly busy mastering the forward crawl required to follow big brother Lawrence Donald everywhere he goes. Channeling the entrepreneurial spirit that made her famous in college, Jamie McBride DeWeer has started a custom-order cupcake business called Jamie Bakes (www.jamiebakesonline.com). Speaking of baking, Hillary Guttman’s Laurel Street Bakery in New Orleans had a strange order last summer—a 300 leaves of bread. For elephants. The order was placed by Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, which was in town. Hillary made them the same multigrain bread she bakes for human customers, but without the seeds. Paul Dome is still in Boston, focusing on acting and performing full time and loving “making my passion my job.” Paul reports that he, Isaac Ro, Amy Porter Duffell, and Jeff Kendig scored tickets to see U2 in Dublin, Ireland, this past summer. “Lots of tasty Guinness, an amazing concert, and a plastic dinosaur named Murph made for an epic trip.” Phoebe Chase is a social worker in the neonatal intensive care unit at Children’s Hospital in Boston. She writes “Being able to celebrate the accomplishments of these little (sometimes very little) people and to share in a family’s joy and grief are aspects of my job that I value beyond measure. I feel honored every day that I am a part of these families’ lives and grateful to share in them for any amount of time.” Class Correspondents: David Babington (davidbabington@gmail.com); and Lindsay Simpson (simpsonlindsay@yahoo.com).

Chris and Greta Simmons Herbert are happy to announce the arrival of Charles Morrison Herbert on April 6, 2009. Jack (17 mos.) is embracing his new obligations as older brother. Kristen Lyall Dodge writes, “Garrett and I celebrated our one-year anniversary in September and are living in San Francisco. I finally completed my doctorate in epidemiology in November and will graduate from Harvard School of Public Health this spring. Garrett is working in marketing here and has also started a dog-friendly Web site and iPhone app called Fido Factor with some friends. In March we are planning to visit Miranda Hillyard, who is doing a fellowship through the Fogarty International Clinical Research Scholars program in Peru for the year.” Keegan Uhl is still living in L.A. and wants you to check out his Web series at www.guessagain.net. Dave Gurtman and Kathy Batty had son Chase Cameron Gurtman on July 9. Kathy reports, “Our family was a bit transient for the summer while we awaited the completion of the LEED-certification of our home. Truly, but now we’ve moved in, settled down, and are entertaining visitors.” Becky Ruby married Mike Swansburg on September 12 in Louisville, Ky. Becky’s bridesmaids included Middlebury roommates Kristen Sylva Capodilupo, Kate Grifiths Wilk, and Leslie Fox Arnold. Also making the trip to Louisville for their first child’s celebration were Corey Wilk, Matt Arnauld, and Mike Hartt. Becky was very happy that her New England friends finally got to visit Kentucky! Becky and Mike live in Louisville where she’s the director of public affairs and communication for Greater Louisville, Inc., and Mike is a third-year law student at the Univ. of Louisville. Elissa Burnell has moved to Pittsburgh where she attends the Tepper School of Business at Carnegie-Mellon. Mary Tucker Arbuthnot has news to share: “I’m delighted to report that I got married on May 25 to Stephen Arbuthnot (Tufts ’94) who I met in London, and we are Democrats Abroad evening almost two years ago. We had a lovely English country wedding à la Four Weddings and a Funeral in a 16th-century barn and are now happily living near Wimbledon. Raegan Randolph Apostolatos, my former partner at the Campus newspaper, and Leslie Thompson ’05 were in attendance.” On August 22, Rich Gallup married Rebecca Hicks (Wesleyan ’02) at St. Paul’s School in Concord, N.H., where they met while teaching at the advanced studies program in 2001. After several years in San Francisco, Becca and Rich now live in Somerville, Mass. Becca is in her third year at BU School of Law and Rich is a producer for Curt Schilling’s video game company, 38 Studios, where he works alongside cinematic artist Ben Coello. Stay tuned for “The Ben and Rich Show: The Reunioning II—The Game” coming to all gaming systems in 2010! Brendan Williams and Yu-Wen Huang were married on September 26 in Princeton, N.J., surrounded by classmates Zach Bourque, Robb Dahir, John Batalis, Andrew Shogan, Genta Roh, Brandon Klein, Elissa Burnell, and Megan McCosker Mandigo. Holcomb Johnston and Conor

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Darby are living in the mountains outside of Bozeman, Mont., with their two dogs. She writes, "We love each day here and are incredibly grateful this is our home." Contemporary Independent Power Systems, a company that designs and installs renewable energy systems for residential and commercial interests. I’ve started my own naturopathic medical clinic and am honored to be a doctor.” *Julie Hand* recently published *Wish You Were Gay*, her debut novel.

—Class Correspondents: Leslie Fox Anould (lesleeanould@gmail.com); and Michael Hartt (hartt@alumni.middlebury.edu).

## Several Midd alums laced up to run in the Marine Corps Marathon on October 25 to raise money for College For Every Student (CFES), the organization devoted to helping low-income students gain access to college. **Andrew Helming,** who is on the CFES board, spearheaded the training and fund-raising for Team CFES. He ran the marathon along with Erick Dalton, Levi Doria ’03, Michael Kennedy, Marc Scheuer, Charles Howe, and John Dawson. Running with them was Paralympian and Dartmouth ’90, Courtney Campbell, Amanda Green Helming ’03, and hockey coach Bill Beaney. Team CFES recruited a total of 33 runners and raised $15,000 for the nonprofit. *Lila Buckley* has moved from China to England, after four amazing years in Beijing, and now pursues an MS in environmental change and management at Oxford Univ. She will be focusing on food policy, agriculture, and climate change. A modified version of her Midd senior thesis was recently published as a coauthored chapter of a book entitled *Childbirth Across Cultures: Ideas and Practices of Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Postpartum*. This year, Shehnaz explores childbirth in China. A lot of weddings have been happening in the Class of ’04. **Tom O’Connor** married Elizabeth McLellan on July 10 in Old Greenwich, Conn. He’s a litigation associate in the New York office of Winston & Strawn and teaches sixth-grade social studies in the Northeast Kingdom. Meagan and Joe live in South Burlington, Vt. She earned her M.Ed. in literacy from UVM. Regina Windsor lives about 20 minutes outside of Boston with husband Shevra and two children. They were married in March 2009 in Hyderabad, India, with a lovely reception at the Secunderabad Club. Regina completed her MPH in epidemiology and global health in 2008 and works as an associate editor for the Natural Standard Research Collaboration, an organization that specializes in evidence-based, integrative medicine research. *Ron Schilgde* and Michael Stahler copublished a paper in the fall 2009 Vermont Bar Journal. Entitled “Student Speech after Morse v. Frederick: An ‘Unwise and Unnecessary’ Convocation,” the paper is an adaptation of Ron’s master’s thesis at Dartmouth. Ron’s other big accomplishment happened this past summer when he completed his final high peak (over 4,000 feet) out of 46 in the Adirondacks with the help of brother Adam ’01 and his father. He began working on becoming a 46er while at Midd, so he was proud to have met the goal.

—Class Correspondents: Meagan Dodge (wdodge@alumni.middlebury.edu), and Ulises Zanella (zanella@alumni.middlebury.edu).

## On July 26, 2008, Meagan Dodge married Joe Fitzgerald at the Inn at Mountain View Farm in East Burke, Vt., where a celebratory swirl of Midd Kids danced up a storm in the party barn of the Northeast Kingdom. Meagan and Joe live in Seattle, Wash., with their lovable mutt, Lulu. Meagan is in her third year at the Univ. of Washington School of Medicine. **Ron Schilgde** and Michael Stahler copublished a paper in the fall 2009 Vermont Bar Journal. Entitled “Student Speech after Morse v. Frederick: An ‘Unwise and Unnecessary’ Convocation,” the paper is an adaptation of Ron’s master’s thesis at Dartmouth. Ron’s other big accomplishment happened this past summer when he completed his final high peak (over 4,000 feet) out of 46 in the Adirondacks with the help of brother Adam ’01 and his father. He began working on becoming a 46er while at Midd, so he was proud to have met the goal.

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Now in Damascus for a year on a Boren Fellowship, studying Arabic at Damascus Univers. and learning to play the oud in his spare time.

Check out his blog at /damascusthon.blogspot.com.

- Jon Erwin moved to Savannah, Ga., in July and was stationed at Hunter Army Airfield. He worked with a great group of soldiers and really enjoyed Savannah. In November he was deployed to Afghanistan.

- Eric Yos graduated from Northwestern in June with a master's in higher education. "I now work for Grinnell College and I'm really enjoying it. I attended the wedding of Meg McFadden '06 in July and celebrated with Devon Parish as well as a slew of other Midd Kids." *Thanks to everyone for sending news. We had so much that the rest will appear in the spring issue.

—Class Correspondents: Martha Dutton (martha.dutton@gmail.com); and Dena Simmons (dena.simmons@gmail.com).

06

Tamara Jacobi had another piece in the eco-development world. Tailwind. Last March it became the first Certified Sustainable Eco-lodge in Mexico!

*At the Capital Fringe Festival in D.C. this past summer, one of the shows premiering was Cover Me in Humanness by the Zoo Project, a theater company started by Meghan Nesmith and Caitlin Hennessey in Boston. More, Claire Anderson recently accepted a position as a microbiologist at BioScience Laboratories in the in-vitro laboratory.

—Class Correspondents: Tristram Arcott (warscott@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Jess Van Wagenen (jvanwagenen@gmail.com).

07

Luke Strauss and Lisa Gerstenberger are living in Ithaca, N.Y., where he is working on his master's in environmental science and forestry. *Geoff Homer migrated north for the winter months to pursue his interests in the ski industry and to work at Shawnee Peak in Bridgton, Maine. *Amy Witherspoon and Laura Jiebink participated in the Kelly Brush '08 Career Bike Ride in Vermont, where they ran into fellow classmates Linda Martinez and Laura Van Wagenen. Laura came out unscathed but unfortunately we cannot say as much for Amy.

- Brett Swenson ran in the Chicago Marathon in October and Ryan Miller cheered her along.

- Scott Coriel has returned from Africa and has moved to the D.C. area where he often sees Pete Sung and Guillermo Garcia '08.

- After two years in New York, Emily Kilborn moved to D.C. to study at Georgetown, where she is working on an MS in Foreign Service with a concentration in international relations and security. Fiancée Douglas Penrose '06 is in her second year of law school at the University of Washington, where she is working on a research assistant in an environmental toxicology lab at the Marine Biological Lab in Woods Hole, Mass. Evan Williams is also there working at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

- Matt Boucher is living in Boston and working as a marketing consultant. He says his 45 hours a week now compare lightly to the 132 hours a week he worked last year as a CRA at Atwater Commons. Hal! *Dan Goulette is in his second year of teaching biology and coaching soccer at Choate Rosemary Hall in Wallingford, Conn.

Janet Schroeder works in the admissions office there. *Robby Zeller is married and working as a French teacher at the Bedford High School in New Hampshire. *Patch Colburn recently moved to NYC, where he joined the A&R Division of his former Republic Records. *Andy Mittelstadt is at the Conservatory of Music in Pennsylvania in a post-bac medical school program.

- Claire Anderson recently accepted a position as a microbiologist at BioScience Laboratories in the in-vitro laboratory.

—Class Correspondents: Tristram Arcott (warscott@alumni.middlebury.edu); and Jess Van Wagenen (jvanwagenen@gmail.com).

08

Joey Swenson was in El Colorado, Chile, skiing this past summer. He's been training out of the Green Mountain Valley School and he made the national team and made it to the Winter Olympics! *Vansa Chhatikavanij works as a research assistant in an environmental toxicology lab at the Marine Biological Lab in Woods Hole, Mass.

- Amy Chiueh Chenchen Wu is pursuing her master's in environmental science and forestry at Stanford Univ. *Lani Young lives in Denver, Colo., where she's in her second year of Teach for America at Meemen Elementary School. She has 18 prekindergarten students for the whole day! The students are from around the world and the class speaks over 10 languages. *Heather Neuwirth is in Italy for four months, going through an international film program at Cinecitta. *Zhen Chen, organizes a gleaning network in the salvaged produce to local food shelves. *Andrew Lamb in Wilbraham, Mass., Morgan Heyse was the maid of honor and Danielle Reeder and Karen Levin were also in the wedding.

—Class Correspondents: Michelle Cadby (michelle.elizabeth.cady@gmail.com); and Laura Lee (lauranwhiteleylee@gmail.com).

09

Andrew Thro Dahl is living in Madras, India, working for the film-score composer A.R. Rahman and having a great time getting to know the culture, traveling, and meeting different expats.

- Patrick Martinez, a Latin American studies major, has found himself teaching English right outside of Seoul, Korea. Go figure. *Nick Ballen lives in Nagasaki, Japan, and works for the prefecutural government on international relations issues. During her time in Nicaragua, Kate DiMemuracio has participated in a human rights delegation in Tegucigalpa to monitor the use of violence and repression against peaceful protesters of the coup in Honduras. *On a travel adventure, Luke Douglas and Bill Souer were in Istanbul via Prague and Scotland, then traveled through Turkey to the Caucasus region (Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan). They did the usual tourist routine but also some hiking, sailing, and windsurfing.

*In Jackson Hole, Wyo., Alex White is working at a therapeutic group home for kids with juvenile offenders and issues, called Van Vleck House. *Also in the West, Ruby Bolster is teaching second grade on a Navajo reservation in New Mexico through Teach for America. "My town, Pueblo Pintado, consists of a school, a gas station a mile down the road, and a laundromat five miles down the road. Groceries and civilization are over an hour away." *Back on the East Coast, Matt Westman got together for dinner with Antonio Arana, Catherine Timmins, Emerson Tuttle, Kyle Dudley, and Mike Walsh '08.

- Matt spends his time teaching French and coaching soccer and basketball at Groton School in Massachusetts, while Catherine Timmins, Katie Sparkes, and Hallie Fox are all teachers in New York. *Flint Reilly is in NYC working for PROPOLO, the first-ever international professional polo league in the world. "We're looking to have leagues in five regional world markets, including South America, North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia."

- Also helping to develop an organization is Dave Campbell '07, based now out of Middlebury. He's living in Cornwall with Pete Mellen '07 and working in the President's Office as a research analyst, but he's also joined a nonprofit. Lacrosse the Nations, to help develop it, and recently returned from Peru. Speaking of lacrosse, the Boston Blazers selected Mike Stone in the sixth round of the NLL entry draft. *Brian Marcks is a first-year medical student at the Univ. of Conn School of Medicine.

- Emily Asher is teaching English at Lake Forest Academy in Illinois, her alma mater.

- Michael Murali worked as an intern for U.S. Senator Mark Begich of Alaska this fall. With her Compton Fellowship, Corinne Almquist has been establishing a gleaming network in Addison County. Gleaning is the act of gathering produce from farmers' fields, after the farmers have harvested what they can sell, and donating the salvaged produce to local food shelves.

- And finally, Alex Braunstein continues to hold down the fort in Middlebury with her philanthropic engagement fellowship at the Vermont Community Foundation. She's bunking up with Chrissy Fulton '08 (admissions counselor for the college) and Garrett Edwards (student teacher at the high school).

—Class Correspondents: Chandler Kogmeier (chandler.kogmeier@gmail.com); and Eva Nixon (evanixon@gmail.com).
Edmund D. Steele, 98, of St. Albans, Ve., on March 27, 2009. After graduating from W.U.'s School of Commerce, Accounts, and Finance, he began his lifelong career as a banker. Moving to Vermont, he worked at the Vermont Savings Bank from 1938–1945 then at the Franklin County Bank until his retirement in 1976, serving on their board of directors until 1981. Involved in the community, he served as trustee and director of many organizations and was named St. Albans Rotary Man of the Year in 2000. Predeceased by wife Dorothy (Crowe) '35, he is survived by son George, two grandsons, and one great-granddaughter.

Isabel Davies Emmerich, 96, of Hamilton, Ga., on May 1, 2009. She studied journalism and library science at Columbia Univ. and enjoyed writing short stories, poems, and letters. She had a strong interest in botany and was an enthusiastic gardener, especially when she and her family lived in Randolph, N.J., and later in Boxford, Mass. In her 80s and 90s she was a fund-raiser for Sunburst Connecticut, serving on their board of directors until 1981. Involved in the community, she was especially committed to early childhood education and was named Barnum Rotary Woman of the Year in 2001. Predeceased by husband Charles, she is survived by daughters Faith Birkhead and Lucy Letzell '66, son David, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Barbara Gregory Hopkins, 92, of Oconomowoc, Wis., on April 19, 2009. With a master's in social work from the Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, she worked from 1961–1982 in the social work dept. of the Waukesha (Wis.) public schools. Previously she had worked in various social service positions including at the military welfare dept. in the American Red Cross during WWII and for the Red Cross in the Panama Canal Zone in the early '50s. In retirement she worked part time with early childhood education. Among her volunteer activities she was a fund-raiser for Sunburst Homes, a treatment center for children of abuse. An active and loyal alum, she served as class secretary from 1987–2002. She is survived by son John, daughter Jennifer, and two grandchildren.

Virginia Fischer Ellison, 92, of Bernales, Pa., on March 19, 2009. After completing high school at Katherine Gertrude Secretarial School, she worked as a secretary for various employers, including the YMCA. Living in Norwich, N.Y., for many years, she was an active volunteer in the community. A loyal Midd alumna, she served several times as class secretary, including the 10 years after graduation. Predeceased by husband Herbert '37 and sister Avis Fischer '35, survivors include son Thomas, daughter Christine Sybert, three granddaughters, and four great-grandchildren.

William J. Buraw Jr., 89, of North Andover, Mass., on May 1, 2009. Joining the Navy in 1942, he served two tours of duty in the South Pacific, receiving the Navy's Silver Star Medal while acting as commanding officer on PT boats. After WWII, he joined the family oil business and served as president. He was very active in industry trade associations, often serving as director or president, and he was also active on town boards, church committees, and in organizations when living in Wenham, Mass. He had an avid interest in marine art and enjoyed U.S. and maritime history. Predeceased by son Allan, he leaves his wife of 64 years, Patricia (Noe) '44, daughters Margaret, Barbara, and Janet, sons David, Jonathan, Christopher, and Richard, and six grandchildren.

Helen Cass Cain, 90, of Frederickburg, Va., on April 10, 2009. In WWII she enlisted in the Navy and completed training as a Navy weather observer. Her career was in education, and she taught for many years in the Natick, Mass., school system at the junior high level. Predeceased by husband Edward, she is survived by sons Edward and Christopher.

June Perry Conklin, 87, of Middlebury, Vt., on April 27, 2009. An active volunteer in church and community, she was especially committed to her hospital work. She served in several different volunteer jobs in the local hospital in Burlington, Vt., and served on the auxiliary board, including as president. Working on the Cancer Crusade for many years, in 1980 she served as the City Residential Chairman and for a year manned the Crusade office. She had a lifelong love of painting and exhibited in juried shows. Predeceased by husband Rink '41, survivors include daughters Carol Wheelock '67 and Nancy Malcolm, son Richard, nine grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, as well as sister Jennie-Belle Perry Bart '38.

William F. Youngs, 88, of Brewster, Mass., on April 7, 2009. After serving in the Army during WWII, he worked as a jazz musician for 10 years. Earning a master's in counseling, he moved to California where he began a career as a psychologist. With a specialty in counseling troubled youths, from first-time offenders to runaways and gang members, he worked 30 years with the L.A. County Probation Dept. After retiring, he was hired by a residential treatment center for disturbed teenagers, where he worked until he was 88. He is survived by two sisters.

James P. Brown Jr., 87, of Fall River, Mass., on March 18, 2009. During WWII he served in the Marines as a field radioman in the Pacific Theater, earning a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart. He finished his BA in economics at Yale Univ., then began a lifelong career in journalism. After working on various newspapers, he went to India for a year on a journalism fellowship in 1955 and returned to India in 1960 as a U.S. press officer. In 1962 he went to work as an editorial writer for the Providence Journal/Bulletin, but he left there due to controversy over his editorials denouncing the Vietnam War and he joined the editorial board of the New York Times. In 1977 after relocating to Maine, he worked at various publications, including Down East Magazine. Predeceased by wife Trudell (Green), he is survived by sons Clement and Matthew, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Donald L. Gale, 86, of Winter Haven, Fla., on April 28, 2009. During WWII he served in the U.S. Navy at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. He was a nuclear physicist with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, retiring in 1975 after 30 years of service. He is survived by wife Elizabeth (Simmons), sons Don, John, and Timothy, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Deceased Middletown relatives include brother Paul '45 and cousin Elizabeth Galvin Davis '38.

Lewis E. Haines, 87, of Anchorage, Alaska, on May 12, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and the U.S. Navy, then remained in the Army Reserve until 1981, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. He earned a master's from Columbia Teachers College and a Ph.D. in educational administration from Washington State Univ. He worked at the Univ. of Alaska Fairbanks from 1964 until 1969 when he was named the provost at Univ. of Alaska Anchorage. He stepped down as provost in 1978 but continued teaching until 1989. An avid tennis player, golfer, and runner, he was the father of two Olympic cross-country skiers and grandfather of a third. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Verga (Tones), sons Chris and Peter, daughters Deborah, Becky, Tori, Betsy, and Mary, and 21 grandchildren.

Harriet Lindenenberger George, 87, of Troy, Ohio, on April 10, 2009. During WWII, she worked for Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati and later at Hobart Manufacturing. After raising her children, she worked as a secretary to the director of institutional research at Sinclair Community College. An active member of the Troy community, she volunteered at the Hayner Cultural Center and with Friends of the Library. She is survived by husband Bruce '43, daughter Mary Barker, son Tyler, and five grandchildren. Decedent Middletown relatives include cousin Ruth Norton Forsberg '46.

Susan Taylor Isemberg, 84, of Indianapolis, Ind., on March 6, 2009. After working in the U.S. Legation in Tangier, Morocco, for two years, she worked for the American Library Assoc. in Chicago and eventually moved to Indianapolis where she worked for Ameritech Publishing for 20 years. In 1987 she was a volunteer during the Pan Am Games as an attaché to the Mexican delegation and in 1990 was the host attaché to Argentina during the World Gymnastic Championships. She is survived by son Tom.

Eileen Luz Johnston, 84, of Basking Ridge, N.J., on April 10, 2009. She started her career as a research chemist at Merck & Co. Once her children were in school, she went to India for a year on a journalism fellowship in 1955 and returned to India in 1960 as a U.S. press officer. In 1962 he went to work as an editorial writer for the Providence Journal/Bulletin, but he left there due to controversy over his editorials denouncing the Vietnam War and he joined the editorial board of the New York Times. In 1977 after relocating to Maine, he worked at various publications, including Down East Magazine. Predeceased by wife Trudell (Green), he is survived by sons Clement and Matthew, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Barbara Rupp Lister, 84, of Kensington, Md., on March 14, 2009. Living for many years in Huntington, N.Y., she was active in politics, from serving on the board of the League of Women Voters to working as secretary to Democratic leaders and county legislators. She enjoyed swimming in Huntington Bay and playing tennis and bridge. Survivors include husband William, daughters Ellen Mishkin and Ann Hile, son Timothy, and seven grandchildren.

Donald B. Hyde Jr., 84, of Stow, Mass., on April 2, 2009. In the mid-1950s he took over Hyde Bird Feeder Co., and served as president of Hyde's Inc. Active in his community, he served as town moderator for
25 years and served on the Massachusetts Town Moderator's Assoc., including as president. Among his many activities, he was a director of Community National Bank, a trustee of the Charles River Museum of Industry, and charter board member of the Wild Bird Feeding Institute. Predeceased by first wife Elaine (Phillipi) '48, second wife Jean (Flewelling), and sister Jane Hyde Christopher '51, he is survived by children James, Barbara, Betsy, Douglas, Peter, Elizabeth, Virginia, and Melanie, and eight grandchildren. Surviving Middlebury relatives include niece Susan '76, and nephews Edward '78 and David '83 Christopher.

50 James P. Sheehan, 81, of Meriden, Conn., on March 8, 2009. Working at Pratt and Whitney for 37 years, he retired in 1989. He was a member of the VFW and American Legion and enjoyed playing cribbage with friends at St. Pierre Social Club. Predeceased by daughter Lori Lee and brother Robert (Bob) '44, he is survived by wife Mildred (Moore) '46, sons Michael 25 years and served on the Massachusetts Town Council, and James, daughters Deborah and Jo Dee, 15, and six grandchildren.

51 Raymond A. Gadaire, 88, of Brockton, Mass., on March 19, 2009. Serving in the Air Force as a staff sergeant during WWII, he was in charge of the enlisted pay section of finance in the Mediterranean Theater and received the Good Conduct Medal. After receiving his degree, he began a 39-year career as a teacher and coach, working at Bridgton Academy in Maine and then spending the last 33 years at Milton (Mass.) High School. During his career, he received commendation as an outstanding teacher and was elected to the Bridgton Academy Hall of Fame. Survivors include wife Jane (McBrien), son Mark, daughter Janice Fleurieu '81, and two grandchildren.

Robert Grocott, 82, of Salem, S.C., on March 15, 2009. He served in the Navy during WWII. After receiving his degree, he went to work for General Electric, retiring in 1985. He and his wife then settled on Keowee Key and he became active in community organizations. Predeceased by wife Claire (Murphy) and son Robert, he is survived by daughter Carol, sons Thomas and Richard, and six grandchildren.

Leonard S. Inskip, 82, of Richfield, Minn., on March 6, 2009. Joining the Star Tribune in Minneapolis, Minn., as a police reporter in 1953, he soon moved to the editorial dept., where he worked for 39 years as a writer, editor, and columnist. He had a loyal following for his thought-provoking columns on community and social issues. Preceded in death by wife Ann, he is survived by daughters Kimberly Cadieux and Kate Williams, and son Tom.

Donald Everett Axinn '51, Honorary Doctor of Letters '89

July 13, 1929—October 13, 2009

Donald Everett Axinn, 80, died in October after a brief illness. He was a successful real estate developer on Long Island as well as a poet and novelist. As anyone who knew him soon realized, he also loved flying. “My first experience flying was in a biplane with my father,” he once wrote. “The excitement, the rush, the romance—it was awesome. The attraction of flight, as I've written about in my poetry and novels, has never left me.” Flying was an activity that inspired many poems, and the image of flight can be found in his novels, as well. He could often be seen in the skies over Addison County in his yellow 1944 Boeing N253 Navy Stearmann biplane.

Don was a man of irresistible energy and imagination: the author of 11 volumes of poetry, including Travel in My Borrowed Lives: New and Selected Poems. His articles and essays appeared in the New York Times, Newsday, Antaeus, and elsewhere. He published three novels, Allen, Buming, The Ego Makers, and Spin, and the latter was turned into a film directed by James Redford. Most recently, he coproduced with James Redford a documentary film called Mann vs. Ford, focused on the Ramapoughs, a small tribe of Native Americans, and their long struggle with the Ford Motor Company.

Don's love of Middlebury College extended throughout his adult life. He was a Tennessee Williams Fellow at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and he founded the Axinn Chair in Creative Writing. He also helped establish the Axinn Center for Literary and Cultural Studies—a magnificent building created out of the old Starr Library and home to several departments in the arts and humanities. It has become a focal point for literary activity at the College, and it remains a wonderful tribute to Don's legacy.

A longtime resident of Sands Point, Long Island, where he lived with wife Joan, Don also had homes in Weybridge, Vt., and Spruce Creek, Fla. In addition to Joan, he leaves behind six children and seven grandchildren. He will be sorely missed by the Middlebury community.

—Jay Parini, D.E. Axinn Professor of English and Creative Writing

Anthony R. Mangione, 75, of Queens, N.Y., on March 4, 2009. He spent his career as an educator, teaching English and drama, first at the high school level, and then at Brooklyn College, where he was a professor of English, retiring in 1988. He earned his master's from Harvard and his Ph.D. from NYU.

Barbara Hunter Walsh, 75, of Jacksonville, Fla., on March 25, 2009. She held graduate degrees from Union Theological Seminary and the Univ. of North Florida. All her life she worked to fight racism, discrimination, and other forms of social injustice and was involved in many women’s organizations. Predeceased by husband Donald, she is survived by son Stephen, daughters Jacqueline and Vickie, and three grandchildren. Deceased Middlebury relatives include mother Dorothy Slayton Hunter '23, aunt Barbara Browning Hunter '23, uncle J. Allan Hunter '24, and cousin Joan Hunter Kent '31. Surviving Middlebury relatives include cousin Patricia Hunter Highley '36.

Barbara Esty Meyer, 74, of Roanoke, Va., on May 4, 2009. Beginning her real estate career in 1978, over her 30 years in the business, she was recognized as an award-winning agent who dedicated herself to meeting the needs of her customers and clients. She played a key role in the organization of the Hunting Hills Swim Team, was a founder of the Hunting Hills Garden Club, and was active in the Roanoke Valley Assoc. of Realtors. She is survived by husband Bill '36, sons William and Gary, daughter Linda Lombardi, and four grandchildren.

Mhairi Cleghorn Santiago, 74, of Montreal, Canada, on April 4, 2009. After earning a degree from McGill University in 1957, she studied speech therapy at the Université de Montreal, earning a master's in 1959. She had a long, successful career as a speech therapist at various Montreal hospitals, treating children, stroke victims, and others with speech difficulties. Survivors include daughter Anna, son Peter, and two grandchildren.

Gregory M. Power, 74, of Key West, Fla., on March 13, 2009. For 16 years he worked as an engineer for various industries before becoming the owner-operator of the Sea Shell Restaurant in Southold, N.Y., with his wife for more than 20 years. Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Carole (Oates); sons Greg and Steven, daughters Cynthia and Melissa, and seven grandchildren.

Nancy P. Johnson, 64, of Denver, Colo., on March 20, 2009. After earning a master's in business from Whitworth College, she went to work for the United Bank of Denver, eventually being appointed as a compliance officer. She then returned to school at the Univ. of Denver College of Law, earned her JD, and worked for Holme Roberts & Owen in Denver.

William H. Hearne, 61, of Fairport, N.Y., on May 7, 2009. After 30 years with Eastman Kodak, he retired and began a second career as a personal trainer and coach at the YMCA. He was cofounder of Oven Door Runners and Mercury Opera and a board member and performer with the Rochester Bach Festival. Survivors include wife Deven (Hayford) '67, daughters Jennet and Libby, and son James.
Financial Research for the National Bureau of Economic Research and a lecturer at the School of Military Government during WWII. A loyal Middlebury alum, he received an honorary degree from the College in 1957, was elected an Alumni Trustee in 1958 and then became a Charter Member of the Board of Trustees in 1965. In 1974 he was awarded an alumni plaque for his many years of devoted service to Middlebury. He also served as a class secretary from 1989–2004. Predeceased by wife Estelle (Sydney), he is survived by wife Roger, daughter Jessie, son Alex, and three grandchildren.

**GRADUATE SCHOOLS**

32 Jeanette Brandriss Kruger, 98, MA French, of Hamden, Conn., on February 27, 2009. Before having her children, she taught high school French. She loved all things French, singing, and traveling.

47 Arthur K. Day, 93, MA English, of Portsmouth, N.H., on February 13, 2009. He served in the Army during WWII and retired from the Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel. For many years he taught English and driver’s education at Portsmouth High School before retiring in 1977.

64 Joseph A. Martinez Jr., 68, MA Spanish, of Nevada City, Calif., on February 24, 2009. He worked as a high school teacher and bilingual counselor for eight years before beginning his career with McDonald International. In 1987, he purchased the McDonalds in Grass Valley, Calif., and ran it until his retirement in 2007.

65 John G. Crocker, 81, MA German, of Davidson, N.C., on February 23, 2009. Following a career as a civil engineer, he moved to North Carolina in 1965, where he taught German at Davidson College and North Carolina Central Univ., and studied at UNC.

76 Alicia Jankiewicz-Castellanos, 55, MA French, of Gordexes-Yucatan, Mexico, on February 14, 2009. A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., she was the founder and director of the Department of Languages at the Anahuac Mayab University.

89 Susan Martin Goodrich, 86, MA Spanish, of Marquette, Mich., on January 11, 2009. With a Ph.D. from the Univ. of Calif.-Berkeley, she was an associate professor of modern languages and literature at Northern Michigan Univ. As a Latin American scholar, she traveled widely.

**FACTORIES**

Alison Liebhafsky Desorges, 66, of Buffalo, N.Y., on February 12, 2009, in a plane crash near Buffalo. A visiting lecturer of history in the 1970s, she became a human rights activist who worked to call the world’s attention to the genocide in Rwanda in the 1990s and later wrote a book about the slaughter. Leave None to Tell the Story: Genocide in Rwanda. She was also an authority on human rights violations in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo. She is survived by husband Roger, daughter Jessie, son Alex, and three grandchildren.

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**Long Live the Great White Yak**
Finding common cause—and lasting community—under an unlikely symbol.

**By Megan Gambino '06**

During my four years at Middlebury, I pledged my allegiance to the Panther. I woke up before sunrise on J-term mornings, merging with other bundled figures slinking along the unplowed sidewalks to track practice, ran the workouts and the meets, even captained the team my senior year. I was dedicated. But, deep down, I daresay, my loyalty was with the Great White Yak.

The Great White Yak was a mascot dreamt into being by my sports-happy intramural friends. We rallied behind the yak, of all animals, because it was fearsome and obscure, an animal whose potential for mascotdom was untapped in the realm of professional sports. We chose white yaks to reflect our pure, angelic sportsmanship, and our white yaks were “gi’eat” because, well, we were a confident bunch.

To cement the fraternal bonds of our members, we tagged two Greek letters, chosen simply based on their aesthetics, to the team’s name, making us the Xi Omega Great White Yaks. We even designed a logo, the symbols for xi and omega encircled by the outline of a yak, for our uniforms. We wore that insignia like a tattoo, and three years, three Yak jerseys, a hat and a pair of shorts later, we were a bona fide franchise—some 30 players that, in different permutations, fielded a hockey, soccer, broomball and softball team.

Our players ranged in ability from a kid from India who had never seen ice before, let alone played hockey, to two Minnesotans and a Canadian, retired from the men’s and women’s varsity hockey teams (Division III national champions, mind you), who had ice in their veins.

The energy my friends put into the team was contagious. As a varsity athlete, I was torn between the two levels of play. I thought it was against my better judgment to play in intramural games, for fear that I could injure myself and jeopardize my track season. But, while I managed to abstain from a few sports (hockey and softball), soccer and broomball were my guilty pleasures. Of course, concealing my intramural addiction was tricky, and I, admittedly, didn’t do so well at it. I lined up on the indoor track decorated with bruises from broomball spills. And just as I had feared, I jammed my foot enough in indoor soccer to cause a season- and career-ending (since it was my senior spring) stress fracture that secured me a few months in a supportive boot.

At the time, I was devastated by the injury (and to this day still have pangs of regret), but I was recently reminded, albeit bittersweetly, of what I had sacrificed my varsity career for—an indelible bond among Yaks. When one of our own lost his father to cancer, a core group of us flew to his hometown in Nebraska for the funeral. Not a second thought was given to what we’d do after the service. We played a game of Wiffle ball in his backyard and reverted right back to our Yak ways, heckling whoever was at bat and never, of course, forgetting the score. As close as we are, it was a sad day, the saddest most of us had ever experienced in our 24 or 25 years, and yet, we found comfort in that game. It was our way of showing our friend that we were there for him. And the simple, Norman Rockwell-esque scene of us playing showed me that I was wrong in ever thinking it was against my better judgment to be a Yak. As ridiculous as the Yak bond can sound, we’ve gone from being teammates to extended family, and being a Yak was the best judgment call I’ve ever made.

Megan Gambino '06 is an editorial assistant at Smithsonian magazine.
Present & Future

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Deb Wales (left) and Anne McMenamin (right) with a replica of Painter’s Cane in the Axinn Center.
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