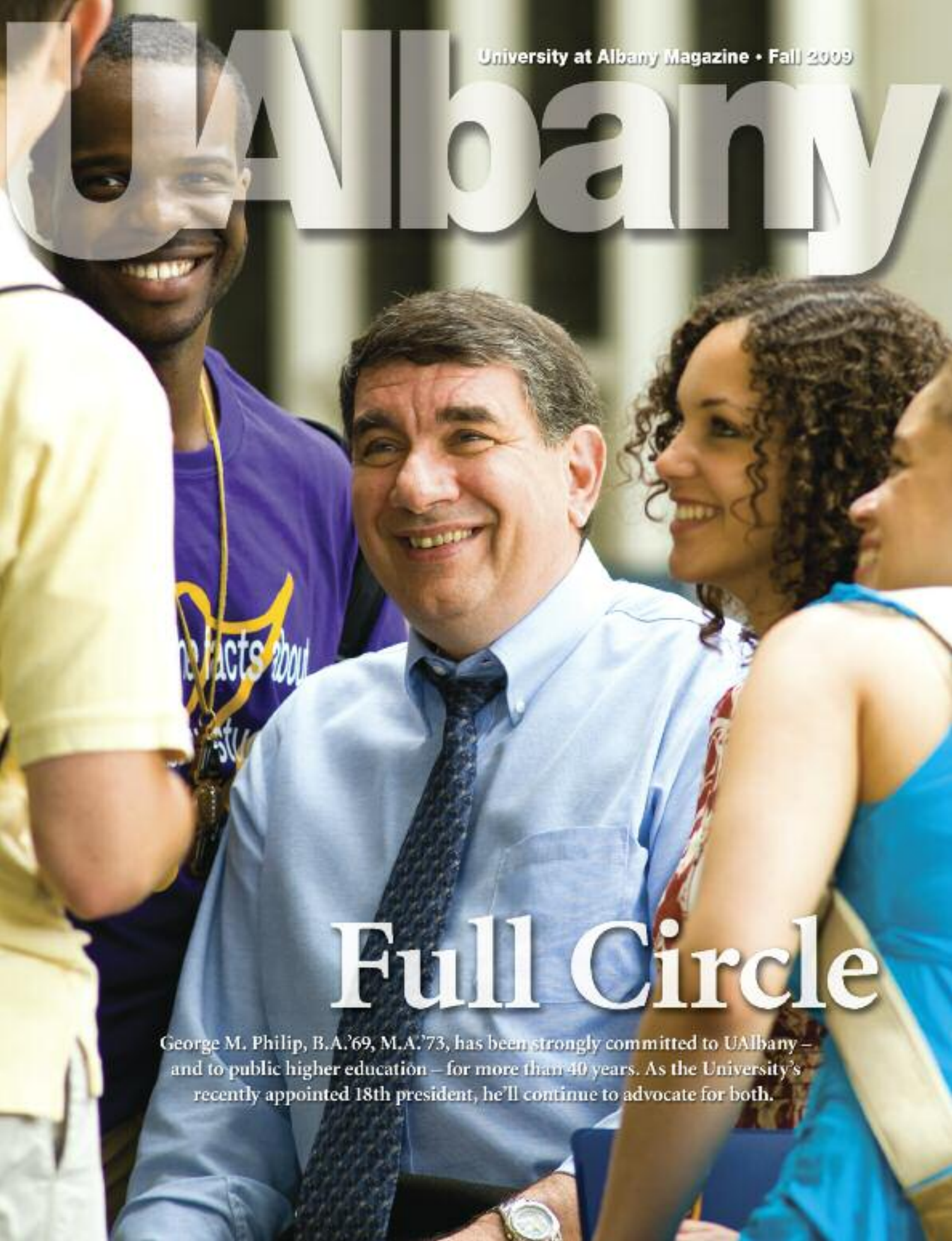


University at Albany Magazine • Fall 2009



# UAlbany

## Full Circle

George M. Philip, B.A.'69, M.A.'73, has been strongly committed to UAlbany – and to public higher education – for more than 40 years. As the University's recently appointed 18th president, he'll continue to advocate for both.



A man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit, a blue shirt, and a red patterned tie, is holding a small, white, rectangular device with a black border and a small screen. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a large, colorful world map showing continents and oceans. The title "The Big Picture" is written in bold black text in the upper left area of the image.

## The Big Picture

Center for Functional Genomics research scientist Sridar Chittur holds a genechip, which allows researchers to examine an entire human genome to determine the impact of treatment on genes. Chittur, an adjunct assistant professor of biomedical sciences and director of the DNA Microarray Core Facility at UAlbany's East Campus, was included in the *Capital District Business Review's* 2009 list of "40 Under Forty." The distinction annually honors 40 businessmen and -women under age 40 for their professional achievements and their contributions to the community. For more information about Chittur, CFG, and other UAlbany people and programs, please visit us online at [www.albany.edu](http://www.albany.edu).

## THE WORLD WITHIN REACH

# UAlbany

University at Albany Magazine  
Fall 2009, Volume 18, Number 2

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#### 10 Full Circle

As undergraduate, master's student, alumnus, University Council member – and now, 18th president – George M. Philip, B.A.'69, M.A.'73, has a unique perspective on the University at Albany.



Mark McCarty

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Five UAlbany graduates assume senior-level posts in Washington, D.C.; a sixth awaits U.S. Senate confirmation.



Gary Gold '70

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#### 24 Good Sports

With the Great Danes and their fans celebrating 10 years of NCAA Division I competition this fall, we present a look back at some memorable student athletes and sports milestones of the past decade.

#### 26 Staying Power

When he arrived at the University in 1970, Bob Ford thought his job would be a “stepping stone” to another football coaching position. Thirty-nine years later, he’s a UAlbany institution – and a model of wisdom and integrity for his “purple family.”

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Bob Ewell



# From the Podium and Beyond

By Carol Olechowski

## Fulbright Gateway Site UAlbany Welcomes the World

Mention “gateway,” and people undoubtedly think of cities – New York, Miami, Los Angeles – renowned for their hospitality. Now, UAlbany can claim an association with the word, too.

One of only eight institutions in the country selected as 2009 Fulbright Gateway Orientation Program sites by the U.S. Department of State and the Institute of International Education (IIE), the University welcomed about 40 international graduate students in early August. UAlbany’s Office of International Education coordinated the local arrangements for the week-long program, which included lectures, workshops, panel discussions, group projects and tours that introduced the guests – who will study at universities throughout the U.S. – to American culture, education and government, and to the Albany area. Sessions also focused on stress management, non-citizens’ rights, physical and mental health and wellness, banking, housing and community engagement.

Among those on hand for the event was IIE Director of Enrichment and Professional Development Carl DeAngelis, M.S. ’84, who holds a

degree in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). DeAngelis oversees all Fulbright enrichment activities, including English-language and orientation initiatives, as well as the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program.

Sponsored by the State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Fulbright Gateway Orientation Program prepares international students planning to pursue master’s and doctoral studies in the U.S.



Mark Schmidt

## Lane Conducts Research in Middle East



Mark Schmidt

Jason E. Lane spent part of his summer studying. As a 2009-10 Fulbright New Century Scholar, the assistant professor of Educational Administration & Policy Studies visited the Middle East for six weeks, examining why universities and colleges establish campuses in foreign countries. Hosted by Michigan State University Dubai at the Dubai International Academic City (DIAC), Lane also “traveled in country to Abu Dhabi and Sharjah, and took a trip to Qatar to explore the international branch campuses there.” Universities, he explained, “no longer function simply as resources for education and training. By serving as economic drivers in communities within other countries, these institutions are, in a sense, rewriting the theory of a university.”

Lane will return to Dubai for a follow-up visit in January.

## Ravi Is Distinguished Teaching Professor



Mark Schmidt

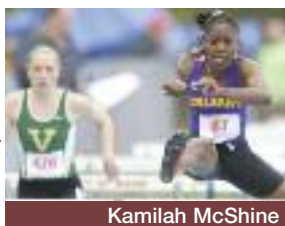
The State University of New York recently added something to S.S. Ravi's title: the designation "Distinguished Teaching Professor."

Ravi came to UAlbany in the 1980s, attracted by the prospect of teaching alongside such respected researchers as Daniel J. Rosenkrantz and Turing Award winner Richard E. Stearns. He has taught computer science at UAlbany for 25 years and administers his department's internship program.

## Chancellor Honors UAlbany Student Athletes

UAlbany undergraduates Katie Neer (women's lacrosse); Steward Ceus (men's soccer); Nasim Siddeeq (men's track); and Kamilah McShine (women's track) were among 72 SUNY students recognized June 9 as Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award winners.

Each scholar athlete received a congratulatory letter from Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher and a plaque.



Kamilah McShine

## SBA Ranks UAlbany's SBDC Among Top 10

The UAlbany-based New York State Small Business Development Center is one of the top 10 such centers in the nation, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

For 25 years, the center – part of the School of Business – “has helped start-up and existing companies develop strategic business plans and identify funding sources,” noted William Brigham, SBDC director. Its goal, he added, “is to provide Capital Region entrepreneurs with the facts and business acumen they need to help their organizations succeed.”

Since 1984, SBDC has provided business assistance to 17,273 entrepreneurs, spurred more than \$224 million in economic investment, and created or saved 8,586 jobs.

## USAID Supports CLD's Work in Lebanon

UAlbany's Center for Legislative Development (CLD), the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities of Lebanon, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have signed a three-year, \$9.3 million initiative government-reform training initiative that will offer specialized assistance to Lebanese municipalities.

With Lebanon preparing for municipal elections in 2010, the USAID-funded Assistance to Sustain Local Democratic Practices program will address such issues as training for new mayors, improving relations between citizens and their representative institutions, and developing strategies to facilitate smooth transitions to newly elected councils.

For more news about UAlbany,  
please visit us on the Web at [www.albany.edu](http://www.albany.edu).

# UAlbany Magazine

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*UAlbany* magazine is published twice a year for alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends of the University at Albany, State University of New York. Our objective is to produce a lively, informative publication that stimulates pride and interest in UAlbany.

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**Cover:** Recently appointed University at Albany President George M. Philip, B.A. '69, M.A. '73, chats with students.  
Photo: Mark McCarty

# From the Podium and Beyond

## BY THE NUMBERS: UAlbany's Class of 2013

The University at Albany is pleased to welcome another outstanding freshman class to campus this fall. Characterized by continually rising interest, growing selectivity, increasing quality and strong diversity, the Class of 2013 is one that we can all be proud of.

	2008	2009
Applications	21,892	22,186
Admit rate (percentage)	50.4	47.0
Enrolled	2,404	2,277
Freshman targets	2,350	2,250

*Traditional Freshmen	2008	2009
Mean high school G.P.A. enrolled	89.7	90.7
Top 10 class rank (percentage)	16	22
Mid-range SAT	1080-1210	1090-1220

Scholars & Honors	2008	2009
Presidential Scholars	147	241
Frederick Douglass Scholars	25	22
Honors College	81	140

Gender (percentage)	2008	2009
Male	50.8	50.3
Female	49.2	49.6

Ethnicity (percentage)	2008	2009
Students of color	27.2	30

### Most popular intended majors of enrolling freshmen:

business and accounting sciences (including biology, human biology, chemistry, earth and atmospheric science, and physics)	English, communication and journalism
psychology	criminal justice
political science and public policy	computer and information science
	history
	mathematics

*\*Excludes students admitted through the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) and other special admission categories*

*Information provided by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions*

## Clinical Psychology Program Earns ABCT Recognition

UAlbany's Clinical Psychology Program, which integrates scientific and professional training to prepare students for eventual roles as researchers, academics, clinicians, and problem solvers, has earned the 2009 Outstanding Training Program Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

Offered through the Department of Psychology and accredited by the American Psychological Association, the program admits only eight to 10 students each year.

## BYRON HAS A NEW GIG

Grammy-nominated musician and 2007 Guggenheim Fellow Donald E. Byron's next gig is in Europe. The winner of the 2009-10 Samuel Barber Rome Prize for Musical Composition will spend the next year at the American Academy in Rome, Italy, working on a chamber opera based on the novel *Gentlemen's Agreement* and the film of the same name.

Byron, a visiting associate professor at UAlbany, was also a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize in music this year. His albums include 2004's "Ivey-Divey," which was nominated for a Grammy Award.



Till Krautkraemer

## Semper Fi

The U.S. Marines have landed – and established a scholarship fund to benefit current or former Marines who are students at UAlbany.

With a \$75,000 gift, the Marine Corps Coordinating Council of NY Capital Region established the *Marine Sergeant William D. Powers Scholarship*, which honors a retired Marine who served five years' active duty. Powers, now the council's honorary president, chaired the New York State Republican Party from 1991 to 2001. He currently heads Powers & Company, a governmental and business-development consulting firm based in Albany.

The scholarship will support a Marine Corps active-duty service member, reservist or honorably discharged veteran enrolled in a University at Albany degree program.



## School of Business Campaign Exceeds Goal

In 2008, the School of Business set an ambitious goal: to raise \$3 million toward its \$9.75 million comprehensive campaign by June 30, 2009. Six weeks before that date, however, the objective was exceeded, thanks to the generosity of alumni, faculty and other supporters.

Contributions to the campaign totaled \$3,036,507 by May 15. The funding will support the construction of the new School of Business building, as well as enhancements to the student academic experience.

Ground will be broken for the structure in 2010, with completion expected by 2013.

## Pitney Bowes Supports CCI

Through a \$25,000 grant to the College of Computing and Information's Women in Technology program, The Pitney Bowes Foundation is supporting college initiatives that encourage women to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies in computer science, informatics and information science.

Women in Technology was created to address the critical shortage of women in the computing and information-technology industries.

## Lecture Series Commences

JoEllen Welsh, Empire Innovations Professor in the School of Public Health's Department of Biomedical Sciences and an internationally recognized expert on steroid hormones, nuclear receptors and breast cancer, was the speaker May 21 at the inaugural Hogarty Family Foundation Lecture. The lecture was held at the UAlbany Cancer Research Center's Massry Conference Center.

Welsh's research has examined the role of the Vitamin D in breast-cancer prevention and treatment. Her talk, which focused on the biological factors linking diet, nutrition and cancer, included a review of the current dietary recommendations for reducing the risk of the disease.

Supported by an endowed fund created by Daniel J. Hogarty and the Hogarty Family Foundation, the lecture series will cover topics related to cancer, genomics, research and treatment.



## Class of '09 Memorializes Richard Bailey

Through its senior gift, the Class of 2009 has left a very special legacy: a scholarship fund memorializing former classmate Richard Bailey.

Nearly 500 donors, including students, parents and friends, contributed gifts and pledges totaling \$46,377 to the senior gift initiative last spring. The proceeds established the *Richard Bailey Memorial Fund*, named for the 22-year-old Wantagh, N.Y., native, who studied sociology and criminal justice at the University. Bailey was the victim of an October 2008 shooting in Albany.



# Where Are They Now?

By Carol Olechowski

**C**ongratulations to **Alex Logono, B.S.'07**, who enrolled in medical school at the American University of Antigua last May. "I will be there for two years, and spend two more in the U.S., most likely in New York City," said the future physician, who was featured in the Fall 2007 *UAlbany* ("Lost No More"). Logono worked at St. Peter's Hospital while studying biology at UAlbany. After graduation, he returned to his native Sudan to see his mother, Lona Sitti, for the first time since fleeing the warring nation as a child in the 1980s. He visited her, "and the rest of my family," again before leaving for Antigua. A U.S. citizen since March 2007, Logono hopes to bring his mom to the States someday.

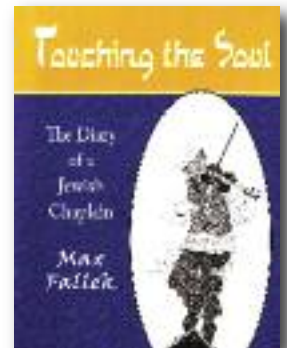


Mark Schmidt



Alex Logono, B.S.'07

**I**nspired by his work at Methodist Hospital and Minneapolis Veterans Home, **Max Fallek, B.A.'51**, has written *Touching the Soul: The Diary of a Jewish Chaplain* (Nodin Press, LLC; 2008). An expert on small business and entrepreneurship, Fallek earned a degree in mathematics at UAlbany and an M.B.A. from the University of Iowa. He held management-level positions with 3M, Tescom Corporation and Quantum Group, and was a marketing consultant for 35 years. Fallek, founder and past president of the American Institute of Small Business, received a Distinguished Alumni Award in 2001.



**A**s *Houston Chronicle* blogger "Aspie Mom" (<http://www.chron.com>), **Jennifer Skovan, B.A.'96**, writes about her experiences raising her 5-year-old son, Aaron, who was recently diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome. Skovan is also chairing the publicity committee for Walk Now For Autism, a fundraiser to be held Oct. 24 at Reliant Park in Houston. The former Presidential Scholar, who majored in psychology and minored in French, would "love to connect with UAlbany alumni" in the Sugar Land, Texas, area. For more information about the walk, please visit the link at <http://www.walknowforautism.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=304930>.







“Lapsed lawyer” and former geography major **Eric Deskin, B.A. ’86**, told us in the Winter 2008 *UAlbany* (“Taking Life *Less* Seriously”) that he could skate, play piano and do bird calls – simultaneously. But in recent television commercials for a candy bar, Cablevision and a hair-care product, he’s displayed an amazing acting range, portraying “a taste bud; a red pixel; and ‘Professor Bowlcut,’

a self-professed expert on all things hair,” respectively! In addition, the actor/comic appeared recently on the soaps “As the World Turns” and “One Life to Live,” and played a doctor on an episode of “Z Rock” on IFC (Independent Film Channel). Deskin also continues to perform at comedy clubs in the New York City area.

**Y**ou can tell a lot about a person from a handshake. Just ask **Anne K. Marfey**, whose book *Shake Hands Touch Hearts: A Collection of First Impressions* (Authorhouse, 2009), recounts her encounters with such notables as Martin Luther King Jr., Carl Sagan – and New York State Writers Institute Founder and Executive Director William Kennedy. Marfey taught Danish as an adjunct in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.



Mark Schmidt

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# Out and About

By Christine A. Doyle, M.B.A. '04

## 1. Burton Lecture

Photo: Mark Schmidt

New York State Board of Regents Chancellor Merryl H. Tisch, second from right, received the Burton Medallion at the annual John E. Burton Lecture and Distinguished Public Service Awards Ceremony on April 28. Pictured with Tisch, left to right, are award recipients David C. Momrow, The Honorable P. David Soares, GladysAnn Wells, Richard H. Neiman and Robert M. Maccarone.

## 2. Alumni Gathering in Tokyo

Photo: Courtesy John Pomeroy, M.S.'97

UAlbany Chief International Admissions Officer and Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions John Pomeroy, M.S.'97, center, joined fellow alumni, from left, James Veronico, Andrew Edsall, Minoru Abe, Karla Butler, Ben Parisi

and Bonnie Veronico for an evening out May 20 at Dubliners' Irish Pub in Shinjuku, Tokyo. The Veronicos, who are married, met at UAlbany.

## 3. Miami Event

Photo: Denis Bancroft

Miami Dolphins Head Coach Tony Sparano and his wife, Jeanette – parents of Great Danes football players Tony and Andy Sparano – hosted 30 alumni and friends April 3 at Dolphins Stadium. Evan Zahn, M.D., '82, offered a welcome, and UAlbany Head Coach Bob Ford addressed the guests. Football alum and donor Lance Vetter '85 encouraged those present to support the University's athletics programs. Pictured here with Coach Sparano is Ashley Prager '05.

## 4. Foundation Board Meeting and Reception

Photo: Mark Schmidt

On June 17, University alumni and supporters enjoyed meeting Pulitzer prize-winning author and New York State Writers Institute Founder and Executive Director William Kennedy, who shared some insights into his exceptional career. Kennedy's collection of personal papers is housed in UAlbany's Department of Special Collections and Archives.

## 5. School of Business Alumni Reception

Photo: Marty Heitner

Sardi's in Manhattan was the setting April 21 for the annual School of Business spring alumni reception. The event drew 150 guests who enjoyed an evening of networking, renewing old friendships and meeting Dean Donald Siegel, who poses here with graduates from the classes of 2000-2009. These young alumni won the "Decades Challenge," in which the decade with the most event attendees received UAlbany gear, as well as this magazine display!



## Spring Commencement

Photo: Island Photography

More than 2,900 bachelors, master's and doctoral students joined the University at Albany alumni family – a global network of more than 145,000 – upon receiving their degrees at the 165th commencement ceremonies May 16 and 17.

## Quick Facts:

- The 2009 graduates
  - represented 20 states and 42 countries, including Japan, the Republic of Korea, China, the Russian Federation, Nigeria and the Dominican Republic.
  - ranged in age from 20 to 60. Fifty-two percent of them were women.
  - earned degrees in 52 majors, from business to psychology, and from political science to biology.
  - included 19 military veterans. A tribute was given to them, and to U.S. servicemen and -women around the world.

Student Association President Daniel Truchan presents the senior class gift to President George M. Philip. The gift will support the *Richard Bailey Memorial Scholarship Fund*, which was established following Bailey's tragic death last fall.





“George is a longtime and effective champion of the University. At this time of deep challenges and great opportunities, he is the right person to advance the educational, research and economic innovation agendas of UAlbany, the NanoCollege and SUNY.” – *Senior Vice President and CNSE Chief Executive Officer Alain E. Kaloyeros, who began working with Philip when CESTM was still in the planning stages*





# Full Circle

By Mary Fiess



**This year, something he never anticipated happened to George M. Philip, B.A.'69, M.A.'73: He became his *alma mater's* 18th president.**

Philip's history with the University at Albany spans 44 years. In 1965, he arrived for his freshman year at what was then the "new" (uptown) campus. It was still under construction, and students met for many classes in a variety of rented spaces.

UAlbany changed his life. "Were it not for the University at Albany – or Albany State, as it was still known when I first arrived on campus – I would not have been able to attend college," recalls Philip. "Once here, I was exposed to people and ideas I had never experienced before."

Initially a math major, Philip switched his major to history, largely because of the late Harry Price. He describes Price as "a great professor, a great mentor."

At the University, Philip found lifelong friends. In the Dutch Quad cafeteria, he met his future wife, Sandra Ancowitz, B.A.'68, M.A.'72. He remembers: "She would go there to study; she was very diligent. Our first date was on April 1, 1967. Sandy's 21st birthday was the day before. We went to the Delaware Theater, and we saw 'Georgy Girl.'"

After graduating, Philip taught history at Linton High School in Schenectady. A year later, he married Ancowitz, who was then teaching French at Guilderland High School.

Much as he enjoyed teaching, Philip took a job as a field representative with the New York State Teachers' Retirement System in 1971. The Philips were thinking about children, and the position offered a higher salary. It also became

the first step toward a 36-year career.

At the retirement system, one of the 10 largest public retirement funds in the U.S., "I was willing to take on challenges," says Philip, who retired as executive director. "Very quickly, I was a problem solver."

Even as he moved up the ranks at the Teachers' Retirement System, Philip continued his education. He earned his master's in history from UAlbany in 1973, and his law degree from Western New England Law School in Springfield, Mass., in 1978.

Philip's law-school education served him particularly well when he began negotiating real-estate transactions at the retirement system. His work experience and his legal background were also assets when he took on his first volunteer assignment for the University in 1992 at the behest of then-President H. Patrick Swygert.

"I received a phone call from Pat. He said: 'I just read [in the newspaper] that you are one of our alums – a two-time alum. Why aren't you here helping me?' A couple of days later, I was on The University at Albany Foundation Board of Directors."

Philip's first assignment: to help with plans for the Center for Environmental Sciences and Technology Management (CESTM), the first facility on the site where UAlbany's nanotechnology research-and-development complex is now located. CESTM brought together University researchers and businesses to promote economic development in New York State and the Capital Region. Today, the 800,000-square-foot complex – home of the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (CNSE) – is the most advanced such research enterprise at any university in the world. It



Sandra Ancowitz and George Philip, pictured in their graduation photos, met at UAlbany and later married.

*"I don't think I ever met a more engaged volunteer. If he makes a commitment, he follows through. George is a man of integrity. He tells it like it is. He thinks about others before himself. It's not about him. UAlbany will have his total dedication as president."*

*– Former University at Albany President Karen Hitchcock, who worked with Philip during her tenure*



The Philip family gathered for the 2007 Citizen Laureate Dinner. George Philip was one of three Community Laureates honored at the event; two Academic Laureates were also recognized.



In February, Philip took time out for some fun at the Big Purple Growl.

*"With great dedication and candor, he has built a relationship of mutual respect between the administration and the faculty."*

*– Distinguished Teaching Professor of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences John Delano, who chaired the University Senate last academic year*

boasts more than \$5 billion in high-tech investment, attracts corporate partners from around the world, and offers students a one-of-a-kind academic experience.

Soon afterward, Philip helped to negotiate the purchase of a former pharmaceutical company property in Rensselaer County. Now UAlbany's East Campus, the site houses the School of Public Health, the Cancer Research Center, and private biotech and pharmaceutical facilities.

Such auspicious efforts on the University's behalf drew attention. In 1995, then-Gov. George Pataki appointed Philip chair of the University Council, a position he held until he was named UAlbany's interim president in November 2007. As co-chair of the *Campaign for the Libraries*, he enthusiastically raised funds for the Science Library, the first new academic building constructed on the uptown campus since its completion more than three decades before.

An original board member of Fuller Road Management, the entity that oversaw construction of CESTM, Philip also served on the board of the Student Housing Corporation, which managed construction of Empire Commons, the apartment-style student housing located on the western edge of the campus. He has also served on the SUNY Research Foundation Board of Directors and chaired UAlbany's Athletics Steering Committee.

Last May, the University Council, which is responsible for leading presidential searches, unanimously recommended to Chancellor-elect Nancy L. Zimpher that Philip be named UAlbany president. In turn, she proposed the appointment to

the SUNY Board of Trustees.

"All of us involved with the search for a permanent president knew George Philip would be the right leader at the right time for the University at Albany," said Zimpher, now chancellor. "It took some doing to persuade George we were right, but it was well worth the effort, and in the best interests of the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the greater SUNY and Albany communities."

Philip was deeply honored when Zimpher asked him to continue his service to UAlbany. "I have seen the University at Albany grow into a world-class research institution, and I firmly believe that all of us working together can take UAlbany to new heights," he says.

At the same time, Philip realizes that recession-related challenges are inevitable, as are difficult decisions about the University's future. He firmly believes, however, that the current fiscal challenges will ultimately provide UAlbany an opportunity to position itself as a stronger institution. At his direction, the University will soon embark on a strategic planning process.

"UAlbany is a great university," Philip adds. "We see this in the quality of our students, faculty and staff; in our vibrant research enterprise; and in the accomplishments of our more than 145,000 alumni worldwide. Our freshman class this fall is one of the most academically accomplished and ethnically diverse in recent history. At the end of the day, it is all about our students."

"We have tremendous strengths to build upon. This is the time for us to plot our future."





"Whether it's Moving-In Day, commencement or any number of athletic events, President Philip has fervently demonstrated his enthusiasm and pride in UAlbany and its students."

– Brian Tregerman,  
University Council  
undergraduate representative and former  
president of the  
UAlbany Student  
Association



Top: Philip greets a new student on Moving-In Day in 2008.  
Center: UAlbany Chancellor's Scholars meet with Philip in his office.  
Bottom: Philip shares a laugh with other Fountain Day celebrants.

## Five Things You Probably Didn't Know About George Philip

**1** His parents immigrated to the U.S. from Cyprus. He was their firstborn son.

**2** While he was a student at UAlbany, Philip would take the Mountainview bus back home to Kingston, N.Y., and work two 16-hour weekend shifts at the family business, Michael's Diner. Afterward, "I'd sleep a couple of hours and take the bus back to Albany," he recalls.

**3** On their second date, George Philip and Sandra Ancowitz "saw the Lovin' Spoonful perform. We had lots of good concerts on campus and downtown."

**4** The couple married after Philip returned from National Guard advanced infantry training – missing a tooth. "Sandy's dentist put a piece of white plastic in the spot. You can see it in our wedding photos," says Philip.

**5** Wed nearly 40 years, the Philips have three sons and several grandchildren. The newest addition to the family is grand-daughter Lucy, born in July.



# Rising Stars

**Six University at Albany alumni have assumed high-level positions within the Obama administration.**

By Lauren E. Cresswell, B.A.'09

**Bonnie Jenkins, M.P.A.'88**, U.S. Department of State coordinator for Threat Reduction Programs, holds the rank of ambassador. An expert on counterterrorism and arms control, she previously held positions in the departments of Defense and State. Jenkins, who served as counsel to the 9/11 Commission and a consultant to the 2000 National Commission on Terrorism, was most recently a program officer at the Ford Foundation.



**Jennifer Manner, B.A.'86**, is deputy chief in the Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. Previously a principal at ZComm Strategies, LLC, where she advised telecommunications companies about regulatory policy issues, Manner has

also served as vice president of Regulatory Affairs at SkyTerra Communications, L.P., and as senior counsel to former FCC Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy.

**John M. McHugh, M.P.A.'77**, who represented New York's 23rd Congressional District from 1993-2009 and served four terms in the New York State Senate, was sworn in Sept. 21 as secretary of the Army. Formerly the ranking member of the House Armed Services Committee, McHugh began his public-service career in the early 1970s as confidential assistant to the city manager in Watertown, N.Y.



**John D. Porcari, M.P.A.'77**, Maryland's transportation secretary from 1999-2003 and from 2007-2009, is the new U.S. deputy secretary of Transportation. Porcari, the former vice-president for Administrative Affairs at the University of Maryland, has also been an environmental planner, a development manager and a development review coordinator for Prince George's County, Md.



**Christine Varney, B.A.'78**, is assistant attorney general with the U.S. Department of Justice's Antitrust Division. As a partner at Hogan & Hartson in Washington, D.C., she headed the firm's Internet Practice Group and participated in its Antitrust Practice Group. Assistant to the President and secretary to the Cabinet during the Clinton administration, Varney also served on the Federal Trade Commission for three years.

**Mark Patterson, B.A.'84**, was appointed U.S. Treasury Department chief of staff last winter. Previously an aide to former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle and the late Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Patterson served more recently as vice president of Government Relations at Goldman Sachs.





UAlbany alumna Ann Mataraso employs vibrant colors and interesting textures in creating her works of art, such as the picture shown in the background on this page.

Decisions, decisions.

There are so many decisions for a young person to make. Select a college.

Choose classes. Declare a major. Settle into a career. • But making decisions about study and career doesn't end with commencement. Just ask

**Ann Mataraso, M.F.A.'02; Alex Sabo, B.S.'62; and Rhonda Cooper Gilberg, B.A.'89.** •


Mataraso loved art from childhood but "never imagined" that she could study the subject at the graduate level. More than four decades after earning an education degree and beginning a teaching career, Mataraso found her life infused with new "joy and delight" when she began studying for an M.F.A. at UAlbany. • Impressed by Sputnik, Sabo initially thought he'd like to study engineering. After realizing that field wasn't his "cup of tea," he enrolled at the former New York State College for Teachers to study mathematics and chemistry. While student teaching, however, Sabo realized that his professional life should take another direction. Today, as senior vice president and investment adviser for the international firm RBC Wealth Management, he's enjoying his third career. • And Gilberg, who majored in political science at the University, has had successful careers in both the courtroom and the classroom. While Gilberg still teaches law, she's adding a new line to her résumé: fashion mogul. Her inspirations? A milestone birthday – and her nonagenarian, "always very stylish" grandmother.

As Gilberg, Sabo and Mataraso can attest, it's never too late to plan for the future. Inspiration, combined with initiative and aptitude, can lead to

# New Beginnings

By Carol Olechowski





"I have to be creating all day," says Ann Mataraso, shown here working in her home studio. In fact, every room in the Guilderland, N.Y., residence "is a studio" – and a gallery – where Mataraso's creations grace floors, beds and walls.

*Ann Mataraso*



Ann Mataraso, M.F.A. '02

# An Unexpected Joy

Ann Mataraso is a doer, not a talker. An “obsessive worker,” Mataraso earned a B.A. in history from The College of Saint Rose in 1954, then returned the following year for a master’s in elementary education so she could put her future husband, Matt, through Albany Law School. The couple, who married in 1955, had five children, and she became a stay-at-home mom.

“Home was a wonderful, quiet atmosphere where I could be creative; I was always sewing or making something. The textile arts sustained me. My children observed and became interested in my work. I taught them to knit and sew,” recalls Mataraso, who was introduced to art as a sixth-grader in the Lansingburgh (North Troy, N.Y.) public schools. Her interest piqued by the Old Masters prints her teacher, Miss Dow, set out on the chalk trays every few weeks, Mataraso “always looked at art books, from that point on,” but never dreamt of studying art as an adult.

While recovering from breast cancer in the 1990s, “I asked Matt to buy me a book about painting.” Inspired, she signed up for painting classes at Troy’s Rensselaer County Council for the Arts (now The Arts Center of the Capital Region) and took private lessons with

an artist in Delmar. Mataraso subsequently enrolled at UAlbany, taking courses in the B.A. art program but not working toward a degree.

For her first class, “the room was set up like a stage, with flowers and a couch and a nude model. So we began to paint. Somehow, I got through it. And within a week, I knew I was going to sign up for *Drawing 101* in the fall, and *Painting*, too. Later, I wondered: What have I gotten myself into? This is way over my head!”

Mataraso remained at UAlbany for another three years. When her painting teacher, Mark Greenwold, approached her after class one day, “I thought I was being asked to leave.” Instead, the associate professor suggested she pull together a portfolio and apply for the master of fine arts program. To her surprise, she was admitted.

Finding “joy and delight” in her studies, Mataraso determined that her particular

interest was abstract art. “There were wonderful people who advised and helped me every day, and visiting professors – notable people from New York – who came in to critique our work.” During her final months of study, the art department faculty requested that Mataraso teach a semester-long course in 2-D art. She accepted the invitation.

“I have always loved the University at Albany. The wonderful University taught me how to express myself in art. My life has become so wonderful and different. I have such joy that something so unexpected could happen to me,” says Mataraso, who graduated at age 70.

Recently, she established *The Ann C. Mataraso Endowment Fund* at UAlbany. When fully funded, the \$25,000 endowment will help to defray the costs associated with the installation of the annual *M.F.A. Thesis Exhibition* at the University Art Museum.

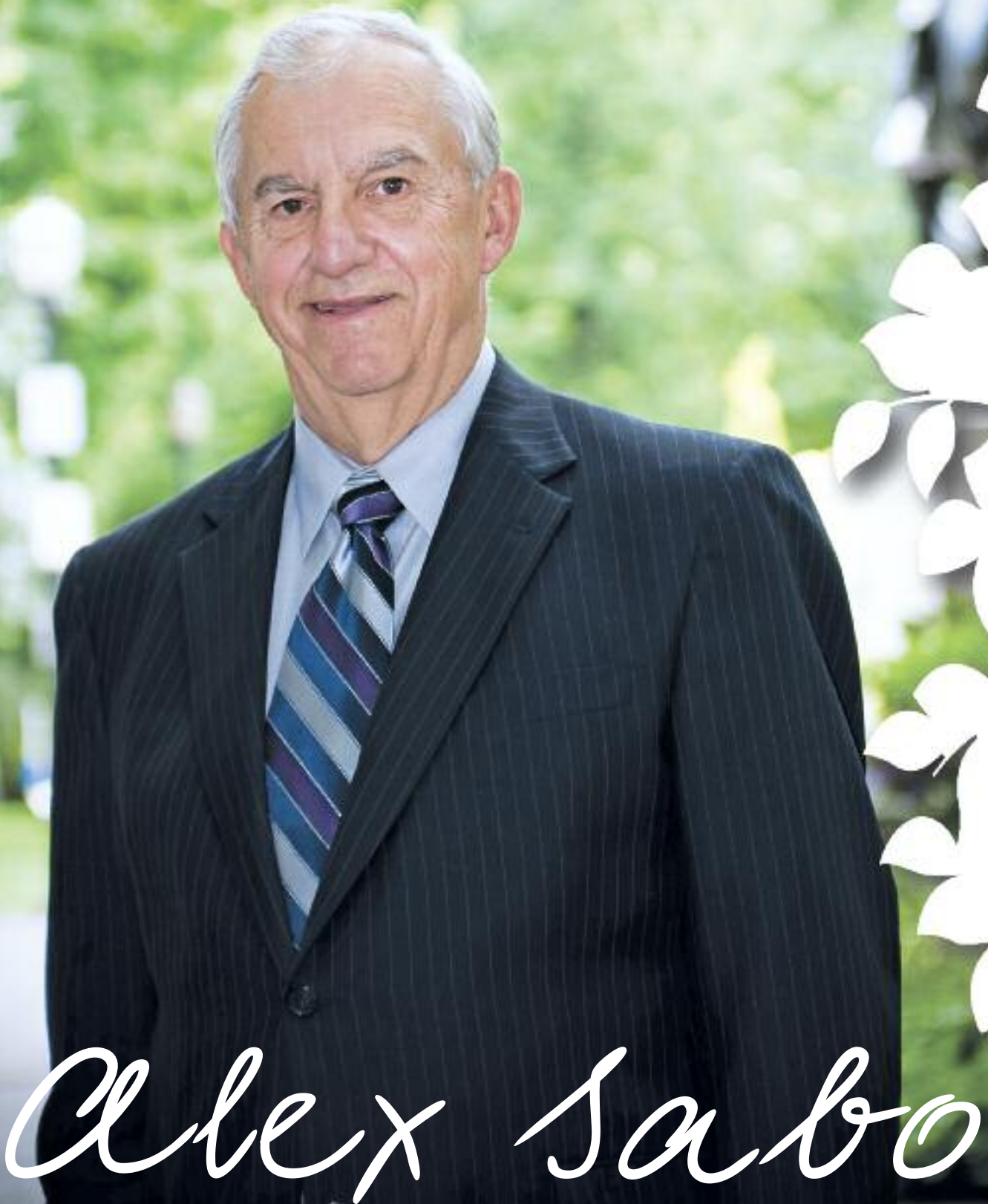


Photos by Gary Gold '70



Mataraso, who enjoyed weaving and other creative projects as a stay-at-home mom, also hooks rugs, makes jewelry, embroiders, cards wool and knits. Her love of abstract art is reflected in a basket, a painting, needlepoint and beadwork – her latest endeavor.

A public-speaking class Alex Sabo took at the New York State College for Teachers helped him to sharpen the “social skills” he later found useful in the business world. “The best four years of my life were at Albany,” notes Sabo, now senior vice president and investment adviser for RBS Wealth Management.





Alex Sabo, B.S.'62

# “A Self-Made Man”

In his 70 years, Alex Sabo has had three careers – each one “better than the last.” And he credits the University at Albany, known as the New York State College for Teachers when he enrolled in the late 1950s, with helping to make all three possible.

The Massena, N.Y., native’s academic journey got off to a rather rocky start. Impressed by Sputnik, which “had just gone up,” Sabo intended to study engineering at nearby Clarkson University. Realizing early on, however, that engineering “wasn’t my cup of tea,” he transferred to NYSCT to major in math and chemistry in preparation for a teaching career.

Although the college was “a great training ground for teachers,” Sabo discovered while student teaching that “I didn’t like being confined to the classroom.” Five offers for teaching positions awaited him in the spring of 1962, but he decided to explore another career option instead. When one of his friends signed up to take the Federal Service Entrance Exam, “I drove him to the exam site and signed up to take the test myself.” Sabo “scored very well” on the

exam, and “about a month later, I got a job offer from the U.S. Air Force Logistics Command in Rome, N.Y.”

As a civilian employee of the Air Force, Sabo crisscrossed the country. Posted to bases in Ohio, New Hampshire and Texas, to name a few, he worked his way up to a GS-15 position, deputy director of Contracting, at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio. There, he supervised a staff of 500.

Wherever he and his family lived, Sabo took post-graduate courses, accumulating credits toward an M.B.A. He earned his master’s in 1972 from Western New England College in Massachusetts.

Private industry later beckoned, and Sabo joined Lockheed Missiles and Space Division in 1981. Again, he moved up through the ranks and was eventually promoted to serve as director of Subcontracts and Material Management. When the firm downsized in 1992, he went into the securities industry, accepting a position with A.G. Edwards in Palo Alto, Calif.

Sabo maintains: “The best four years of my life were at Albany. I improved my social skills there.” He jokes that he “was well acquainted with the WT [Washington Tavern],” but adds that a public-speaking course he took at the NYSCT improved his communication abilities. Sabo vividly recalls “giving a speech about making concrete” after spending a summer working on a Niagara-Mohawk power project. “I had all the facts, but my presentation was not as good as some other students’. It was a ‘C’ presentation.” Sabo watched and listened to the other speakers in the class, and his own skills began to improve.

“In a business environment,” he explains, “social skills mean so much. Academics give you the background and the foundation on which to grow, but you get the job done by working well with others.” The “structured aspects” of math and the sciences were also important. “The scientific method helps you think through problems and arrive at the optimal solution – skills useful to teachers, business executives and financial analysts alike.”

Grateful for his experience at NYSCT, the American history buff and avid golfer has established the *Alex Sabo ’62 Scholarship Endowment* at UAlbany to benefit students from the Massena area. He adds to the fund from time to time, with RBC matching his donations.

“My Alcoa Foundation and New York State Regents scholarships helped me,” notes Sabo, a “self-made man” who worked his way through school. Now, “I’m trying to help somebody else.”

Sabo and his wife, Gretchen, reside in Lake Oswego, Ore.



Several years ago, Sabo made another career change. Now senior vice president and investment adviser for RBC Wealth Management, a subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada, he works in the firm’s Portland, Ore., office.

Sabo, who began his first career as a civilian employee of the U.S. Air Force in Rome, N.Y., worked his way up to a GS-15 position before heading for a position in private industry. In 1982, he received the Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service medal.



"Fashion is a great industry," says Rhonda Cooper Gilberg, founder of Frock Couture, a line of contemporary loungewear. Gilberg says that her UAlbany education and her legal background have provided "both a great foundation and a stepping stone" in launching the venture.

# Rhonda Gilberg



Rhonda Cooper Gilberg, B.A.'89

# Designing Woman

From age 8, Rhonda Cooper Gilberg knew that she would someday practice law. She didn't think about becoming a fashion mogul, however, until just a few years ago.

"I always loved the law and American history and the Constitution," recalled Gilberg, who majored in political science at UAlbany, minored in history and English, and earned a degree from New York Law School. She worked in the private sector and later supervised the Domestic Violence Unit in the Essex County (Mass.) District Attorney's Office. "I prosecuted all types of cases, from drug offenses to sexual assaults on children to domestic violence," she said.

After her second child was born, Gilberg took "a little hiatus" from work, then began teaching law courses at Marion Court College in Swampscott, Mass. She still teaches, but about five years ago, inspired by her grandmother, her career took another turn.

"My nana, who is 92 years old, was always very stylish," Gilberg observed. "When she came home from a long day, or when she was getting ready to go out, she would change into a housecoat or a duster. I started to think, What do women today wear when they are putting on their make-up and blow-drying their hair, or when they want to be comfortable lounging around the house?"

When Gilberg posed that question to women, she "got all sorts of answers: 'My husband's old shirt.' 'A tank top.' 'Nothing.'" As a follow-up to her rudimentary market research, she visited stores. "I found frumpy housecoats, but nothing modern."

Although she admittedly had "no fashion experience at all," Gilberg decided to find a way to fill the need for stylish, comfortable loungewear women could wear indoors or out. Her 40th birthday last year provided the impetus she needed to launch her line of modest yet modern, comfortable but contemporary loungewear. She decided: "This is it. It's now or never. If I really believe in this, I have to find someone to help me."

Gilberg talked with freelance designers and finally discovered one who could "understand what I was talking about." She also became engrossed in "finding the right fabric" – light, vintage-looking material that would adapt well to 21st-century designs.

Frock Couture, launched in July 2008, features styles "for women of all ages: the girl in the college dorm, young professionals, traveling career women, busy moms, women on vacation, trendy grandmas." Made of "superior-quality fabric that is comfortable and glamorous," each Frack Couture has a zipper and pockets, and comes with a matching headband and a hanger. Prices range from \$68 to \$88; the line will be distributed to department stores and boutiques nationwide, as well as online via e-commerce. A portion of the proceeds from sales supports Help for Abused Women and their Children (HAWC), a Salem, Mass., organization dedicated to ending domestic violence.

Gilberg has given each garment a name "reflective of its personality." "Grace," a simple knit design available in five colors; "Jackie," with its scoop neck and three-quarter sleeves; and the floral "Natalie" are most popular with customers. Gilberg herself "switches around," wearing each style; her current favorite is "Rita," a short-sleeved floral knit trimmed with lace.

"It's great fun to be creative," Gilberg said. "Fashion is a great industry. I've learned a lot on my own – how to develop a Web site [[www.frockcouture.com](http://www.frockcouture.com)], for instance. Every day, I'm learning something new; I think that's what makes it fun and exciting."

Still "best friends" with eight former UAlbany classmates – "We meet twice a year with all our kids!" – Gilberg remembers her University years as "a great experience. I got a great education." Her studies "are a help in any aspect of business, and my legal background has helped me in dealing with ownership, copyrights, trademarks and so on. My education was both a great foundation and a stepping stone."

Gilberg hopes that Frack Couture "will catch on, and every woman will need one! I wear mine every day."



Frock Couture styles include "Marilyn," left, and "Judy," above.



# Ask Geoff

By Geoff Williams, University at Albany Archivist

After publication of my last column, Doug Nielson '53 wrote to say he was sure soccer started at the New York State College for Teachers in 1949. I thought the soccer program began in the early 1950s, but he is correct.

Doug's inquiry, and the University's 10th-year observance of NCAA Division I competition this fall, got me thinking about the history of UAlbany athletics. A little research uncovered some interesting facts, as you'll see in the timeline, which also offers some collegiate athletics "firsts" from other schools, as well as a few historical highlights from our University's first 62 years.

Athletics evolved slowly from the time of UAlbany's founding as the New York State Normal School in 1844 until its designation as the State Normal College nearly 50 years later. But that was par for the course: Few schools or colleges had sports programs until the late 19th century.

This installment of "Ask Geoff" covers the period when our institution was a two-year school. I'll include soccer in my next column, which will trace University athletic programs from 1907 on. Meantime, enjoy this look back at the beginnings of UAlbany athletics, and of collegiate sports, in general.

# Timeline: Normal School/College

**1844:** The New York State Normal School is founded at 115-21 State Street in Albany, a temporary building that lacks athletic facilities. Its 1849 move to a "permanent" site at Lodge and Howard streets does nothing to rectify the situation.

**1859:** Amherst and Williams colleges compete in baseball, the oldest intercollegiate sport.

**1869:** Depending upon your definition of the sport, the first intercollegiate football game pits Rutgers College (now Rutgers University) against the College of New Jersey (now Princeton), in a more rugby-style match ... or

**1885:** The school's relocation to Willett Street – which also has no gym – allows students to use Washington Park athletic facilities and paves the way for a school athletic program.

**1858-62:** Normal School students briefly participate in lunchtime calisthenics. After the start of the Civil War, faculty members Rodney G. Kimball and Albert N. Husted lead male students in military drill. Both practices are abandoned when the men and their faculty leaders depart for Union Army service with the Normal School Company.



**1874:** ... Harvard against McGill, in a game more closely resembling football as we know it.

**1890:** The Normal School becomes the State Normal College. Despite the name change, the college maintains a two-year curriculum and is really a "semi-graduate" school of education.

*Physical Culture* is now a curriculum requirement at the college.

Just before the Civil War, Normal School students engaged in midday calisthenics, as this 1858 class schedule notes.

Sub-Juniors, No. 2, Arithmetic,.....	Mr. Husted.
12.40 to 1.15..... Calisthenics and Sub-Lectures.	
Seniors, Chemistry,.....	Prof. Orton.
Sub-Seniors, No. 1, Drawing, .....	Miss Ostrom.
Sub-Seniors, No. 2, Analysis,.....	Prof. Jewell.
1.15 to 1.55..... Juniors, No. 1, Algebra, .....	Prof. Plympton.

**Below:** The Normal School moved to Willett Street in Albany in 1885.

**Right:** An early State baseball team was pictured in the 1900 *Neon*, the Normal College's first yearbook.



# Athletics, 1844-1906

**1893:** Charles Kilpatrick, a student at the practice-teaching high school (later the Milne School) establishes himself as the college's first star athlete, outdistancing 32 competitors from other schools in a mile-long footrace.

**1898:** State begins intercollegiate competition, playing Oneonta Normal in baseball games May 21 and May 30 in Oneonta. In both contests, Oneonta pulls ahead in the ninth inning to post victories of 7-6 and 5-3, respectively. (Information from *The Oneontan*, June-July 1898)

**1905:** The New York State Regents approve the college's transition to a four-year liberal-arts institution that will educate high-school teachers.



**1897:** Normal College boasts three new sports: baseball, and club sports bicycling and tennis.

In October, students create an Athletic Association committed to creating a "Winning ball team." Further mention of the association, however, disappears until 1909.

Castleton-on-Hudson (N.Y.) defeats Normal College 5-2 in the college's first baseball game. An unnamed *State College Echo* reporter attributes the loss to poor coaching. The student newspaper blames poor sportsmanship by the Castleton team and the umpire after a June 5 rematch brings State another loss.

**1904:** Student and faculty donations create a gymnasium – for use by both men and women – at 100 Willett Street, adjacent to the college.

**1906:** The main school building is destroyed by fire in January. Until September, classes will be held in temporary quarters, leaving no space for extracurricular activities, such as athletics.

To submit a question for "Ask Geoff," e-mail [gwilliams@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:gwilliams@uamail.albany.edu).



# Good Sports

By Carol Olechowski  
Photos by Bob Ewell

A decade ago, at the start of the 1999-2000 academic year, the University at Albany's Athletics Program began competing at NCAA Division I level. To mark the occasion, *UAlbany* offers a few highlights of the past decade, featuring some of our Great Danes at their finest.

We're proud of all of our terrific student athletes, past and present, for exemplifying fair play, exhibiting sportsmanship, and representing UAlbany honorably and enthusiastically. In our opinion, each and every Great Dane is a winner!

Senior tailback **David McCarty** has a 154.3 yards-per-game average, a 2008 Gridiron Classic MVP Award and a place on the Sports Network Football Championship Subdivision



(FCS) All-America Team. But the Gansevoort, N.Y., native – UAlbany's leader in rushing yards (3,353) and all-purpose running yards (3,979) – credits "my coaches, teammates and offensive line" for all his success. McCarty, a history major who minors in general education studies, is now in the running for the Walter Payton Award, presented each fall to the top Division I FCS-level player.



Like her teammates, **Blair Buchanan, B.S.'07**, always played to win. A native of Muncie, Ind., she led the Great Danes to their first-ever America East championship – making the volleyball team the first UAlbany women's program ever to earn an NCAA Division I tournament berth. Buchanan, who majored in accounting and minored in business administration, also set a few personal records:

She holds the school record for career assists, with 5,049, and was the first player to win the America East Conference Player and Setter awards for three consecutive years.

All-America guard **Jamar Wilson, B.A.'06**, racked

up 2,164 points during his UAlbany career, graduating as the leading scorer in school history. Twice named America East Player of the Year, the Bronx, N.Y.-born Wilson, a sociology major and general education studies minor, led his fellow Danes to two conference championships and two NCAA appearances. He was the University's 2005-06 Male Athlete of the Year and the first UAlbany basketball player named to the Associated Press Division I All-America squad. In 2007, Wilson went on to play professional basketball in Belgium.



As an undergraduate psychology major and mathematics minor, **Amber Maisonet, B.A.'08**, of Newburgh, N.Y., juggled study and softball, maintaining a 3.85 G.P.A. and a .379 batting average while helping her team bring home three consecutive America East championship trophies. When an unexpected vacancy for a goalkeeper arose on the

women's soccer team last fall, the 2008 ECAC Merit medalist and 2007-08 Female Athlete of the Year was a good sport. Invited to play, Maisonet enrolled in the master's program in educational administration. She served as the soccer team's relief goalkeeper, then won the starting position.



Hamburg, N.Y., native and 2007 America East Conference Player of the Year **Frank Resetarits, B.A. '07**, had a great career at UAlbany. Resetarits, a sociology major and journalism minor, competed in three of the four NCAA appearances his team made between 2004-07, concluding his Danes career with a 49-game scoring streak. Ranked second on UAlbany's all-time scoring list with 158 goals and 83 assists, Resetarits was one of five finalists for the 2007 Tewaaron Trophy, the lacrosse equivalent of hockey's Heisman. He now plays for Major League Lacrosse's Long Island Lizards.

**Stephanie Klein**, a freshman pre-med major from Thornhill, Ontario, has a 4.0 grade point average and a place on the UAlbany Athletic Director's Honor Roll. In July, she earned another academic distinction when the National Golf Coaches Association in Coral Springs, Fla., named her to its All-America Division I Scholar Team. Klein, who helped to lead UAlbany's golf team to a second consecutive America East Conference championship title last spring, tied for third-place individual honors at the tournament with a two-day stroke total of 161.



## UAlbany's Division I program includes 19 sports:

baseball	football	soccer (men's)
basketball (men's)	golf	soccer (women's)
basketball (women's)	indoor track (men's)	softball
cross country (men's)	indoor track (women's)	tennis
cross country (women's)	lacrosse (men's)	track & field (men's)
field hockey	lacrosse (women's)	track & field (women's)
		volleyball

For more information about UAlbany sports, please visit the Web at [www.ualbanysports.com](http://www.ualbanysports.com).

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Bob Ford came to the University at Albany in 1970, expecting to restart the football program and move on. Instead, he stayed and built a powerhouse program – and has become an institution at the school he loves.

Players and colleagues alike describe Head Coach Bob Ford as an “incredibly wise” man who brings a “family attitude” to Great Danes football.



# STAYING POWER

By Jeff Gold



When Bob Ford arrived at UAlbany in 1970, he figured it would be a short stay. He'd get the University's football program going after a 46-year hiatus, and then he'd get going himself.

"I thought maybe three years, a stepping stone, and then I'd move on to another coaching job," he said. "I didn't expect to be there a long time."

Instead, he fell in love with the school and the city. Ford never did leave and instead has become an institution at the school he loves. He's turned down several coaching opportunities to help grow his UAlbany football program into a power.

Ford was 32 when he arrived in Albany. He's 71 now. And he has no plans to leave anytime soon. His passion for coaching football, and coaching at UAlbany, remains as strong as ever.

"I'm year to year, but I still love it. The program sort of became my baby and not a job. It became very hard to leave," the head coach said. "Being in Albany, it's a pretty easy place to live. I've got a little city life, a little country life, and it's really perfect for me."

At UAlbany, Ford is 225-143. Over the past 13 years, his results have been even more impressive, leading the Great Danes to a 95-48 record. Last season, UAlbany won its last eight games and went undefeated in conference play. He also guided the University to a seamless transition from Division II to Division I-AA in 1999.

On the field, Ford has stressed a powerful rushing attack, imposing defense and sound kicking game. But his commitment to building a family atmosphere, among his players, his coaching staff, and anyone affiliated with the school and the program, has been essential to his success.

"The family attitude that he brings, what we call our 'purple family,' whether it's the reminders in the locker room, or the way he treats people – from the coaches to the players to the equipment guys to the trainers – is really something special," said defensive line coach Bill Banagan, B.S.'84, who has coached with Ford for eight years and played for him in the 1980s. "You can't turn that type of thing on and off, or else it isn't real. The man has more integrity than anyone I know."

Ford's dedication to his program and his attention to detail are appreciated by his players. They look at him as a man who has seen it all and can point them in the right direction. They enthusiastically follow his lead.

"He's incredibly wise," defensive lineman Ed Delaney said. "He can relate any situation to something that we understand, and with his experience and memory, he has a good sense for what to tell us. He's a great coach."

While Ford has accomplished just about everything at UAlbany, there's one goal he'd love to see before he retires, and it has nothing to do with wins or losses: a new state-of-the-art football stadium befitting a successful Division I program.

"That would be really something special," he said. "It's something we really need."

It would truly cap what has been a legendary career.





# the Carillon

Alumni News and Notes

**36** **Harold Shapiro** continues a slow recuperation from a fractured hip. Your class councilor would love to hear from you. Please write or call **Carolyn Viall** with your news.

*Class notes councilor: Carolyn Viall, 131 Shaker Road, Albany, N.Y. 12211-2033, Home: (518) 434-6584*

**39** Happy 70th "psychic" reunion this fall, dear '39ers. Yes, it's going to have to be psychic, since only one correspondent, **Eleanor Wise Wood**, rose to the challenge. She wrote that she had planned "to drive to Albany for a reunion of some kind this year," and named eight classmates she would particularly enjoy seeing again. She concluded, however, that "a psychic reunion is fine with me if you don't get that massive appeal." Well, I didn't, Eleanor, and thanks for understanding. Did have a cheery Christmas letter from **Harriet ("Hallie") Green Cogger** describing two delightful trips she took with her good friend Barbara: a May '08 trip to Copper Canyon and Northern Mexico and an October '08 riverboat trip on the Seine River from Paris to the beaches of Normandy. Atta girl, Hallie!

**44** **Eunice Baird Whittlesey**, co-councilor of the Class of '44 for the past 15 years, passed away April 12. During those years, Eunice showed all of us her devotion to NYSCT, her admiration for everyone she knew from the classes of '41-'47, and her diligence

in providing for the interests and needs of the growing University. Her missions for the college, the University and the students over the past 65 years have been accomplished. We will miss her. **Jerry Merhoff Birdsall** spent last Christmas in Arizona with friends, calling it "a most unusual holiday season" since her husband Bill had died last June. **Trudy Meltzer Flax's** husband, **Leo '43**, passed away last August. John and **Helen Scislowski Skiba** sent greetings from their home in Westerville, Ohio. **Bert Kiley** reports both Jean and he are doing well, enjoying life in West Virginia. It's always a pleasure for me to see **Gertrude Bove Purcell** in the Schenectady restaurant we like. She calculated that if she had a family get-together with spouses, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren — there would be a total of 54 guests. **Shirley Mills Knappe** and her husband, Frank Long, are writing a book together. Shirley's novel *Ghosts of Four Chimneys* can be ordered from Xlibris. Shirley and Frank were featured in a *New York Times* article. (Search Shirley M. Knappe; click on "While You Were Out.") This year's Homecoming and Alumni Weekend is Oct. 9-11. These dates give the alumni the opportunity to see the campus "in action." The students will be on campus, as will many reunion classes. The Class of '44 reunion committee will send you a letter identifying the special sites and times for our 65th Reunion Celebration. Please save the dates.

*Class notes councilor: Helen Brucker Martin, Rotterdam Junction, NY 12150*



*Left to right, Dick Zeller '49, Jean McCabe Angell '49 and Wilma Whitney Saunders '49 share a light moment at the Class of 1949's 60th reunion.*

## 46 A note from your class

**councilor:** This past June, **Jean Whitney Sampson** traveled to Massachusetts to attend the wedding of her granddaughter, Caroline Bean. **Agnes Young Elze** flew to Seattle, Wash., for the wedding of her granddaughter, Heather Elze. Agnes is still singing with the Monday Musical Club and the Thursday Musical Club. Last year, Agnes took an escorted tour to Ireland. **Marie Liebl Muller** stays in touch by phone or e-mail with **Peggy Casey Hess**, **Jean Whitney Sampson**, **Helen Slack Caldwell**, **Roberta Van Auken Glatz**, **Arlene Skinner Lomber** (whose husband died recently), and **Joyce McDonald O'Dea**. In July 2008, Joyce and her children and grandchildren toured Ireland. I would love to hear from more of the '46ers! P.S. I would like to resign as class councilor. Anyone interested?

*Class Councilor: Mary Nolan, 96 Hollywood Ave., Albany, NY 12208-2709, Home: (518) 482-1489*

## 48 A note from your class

**councilor:** I was unable to attend the recent Council of Classes meeting in May, and two willing classmates went in my place: **Eileen Abrams Petterson** and **Wanda Tomasik Methe**. The meeting was held at the NanoTech Complex, followed by luncheon and a tour of the building. They both were very impressed with the tour, especially the "Clean Room." The Council of Classes will now be known as "The Alumni Volunteer Council" and welcomes any alumni as members. This council shall serve as a communications conduit between the alumni body, the Alumni Association Board of Directors and the University. **Arthur Collins** leads a busy life visiting his children, grandchildren, step-children and their children. Arthur is looking forward to a Berkshires summer with musical treats and resident theater performances. He keeps in touch with **Arthur Russell** who lives in France. His new address is: #111 Rue Edouard Foscalina, Maussane des Alpilles, 13520, France. **Janet LaRue** has retired after four years as president of the mid-Hudson area Retired Teachers Association. **Jane O'Brien's** 13-year-old granddaughter recently sang at Carnegie Hall in a children's concert. **Mary Emmet Foster** is a great-

grandmother of twins who live in Utica, N.Y. **Rita Shapiro Schwartz** keeps busy with the AARP safe driving program, encouraging people to take the courses offered, and also helps at tax time. **Kathleen McTavey O'Brien** keeps in touch with **Clare Creeden McCracken** and recently received a snapshot from Clare on top of Machu Picchu, waving her cane in the air. The sad news is that we have lost two members of the class: **Mary Scuderi** of Rome, N.Y., and **Margaret Smith** of Troy, N.Y. Good news is that \$10,000 in support of the Greatest Generation Fund for the libraries has been received in honor of our 60th reunion. Once again, so many have come through so generously. Gifts will be welcomed though 2009, and just a reminder that annuities and bequests are being encouraged as "ultimate gifts" for our *alma mater*.

Contact **Roberta Armstrong** at (562) 594-8995 or [Armst13@aol.com](mailto:Armst13@aol.com).

*Class notes councilor: Eleanor Holbig Alland, (518) 640-9564, [ealland214b@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ealland214b@nycap.rr.com)*

## 49 A note from your class

**councilor:** The news this year is about our 60th reunion and the awarding of the Excellence in Community Service Award to **Bob Kittredge**. When Bob received the award on Friday evening, May 1, he was cheered on by a group of classmates and relatives numbering 25. It was a very exciting, eventful evening. For our 60th reunion, we had a surprising number of '49ers registered, which included 30 classmates, six graduates from other classes, and 13 spouses and friends. Saturday began with a welcome breakfast, followed by a very enjoyable one-and-a-half-hour Aqua Duck tour of Albany, which included 20 minutes on the Hudson River. After the cocktail hour, where animated conversation took place, the reunion luncheon was held, with 43 attending. **Dick Zeller** presented an emotional tribute to **Annette Gardiner Delyser**, who has been our class councilor for over 20 years. I presented the tribute to Bob Kittredge for his achieving the Excellence in Community Service Award. Bob represents the fifth member of our graduating class of 310 to receive an Alumni Association award. At our 35th reunion, **Jean Ineson Ebbert** received the Distinguished Alumna Award; at our 45th, Annette Gardiner Delyser won the Excellence in Alumni Service Award; and at our 50th,

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At the Alumni Association, one of our goals is to offer services and programs that prepare students for success when they graduate. These include our regional network of alumni volunteers, and the Dinner With a Dozen Danes program, which connects students with alumni and adds a personal touch to the UAlbany student experience. Alumni host students for small dinner parties (lunch or breakfast works, too), bringing Great Danes together in a warm, friendly environment for good food, advice and camaraderie.

Students who attend Association events meet alumni, build their professional networks and grow their school spirit. Their presence at a visiting alum's lecture, poetry reading or career workshop helps augment their University experience. Our career workshops in resume writing, interviewing and networking, as well as our job fairs, have proven particularly useful as they prepare participants for their careers. Through our online mentoring program, UAlbany alumni also provide valuable connections and information on job-search strategies, specific companies, industry trends and professional organizations. These are just a few examples of what is available to students and how alumni can help.

You, too, can Make UAlbany Stronger by fostering a mutually beneficial student-University-alumni relationship, and by perpetuating a sense of pride in and commitment to UAlbany. Give us a call today at 1-800-836-ALUM, and tell us how you would like to work with us to promote a positive image of our University, its students and alumni through service and leadership.

**Lee Serravillo, Executive Director  
UAlbany Alumni Association**



## Alumni News and Notes

**Don Dickinson** received the Excellence in Teaching Award and **Bonnie Lewis Adkins** received the Distinguished Alumna Award. Not bad, '49ers! Messages were read from classmates who were unable to attend and, of course, the *alma mater*, led by **Betsy Franks Schuhle**, was sung with gusto. Since \$3,148 was still left in funds donated to our class over the years, we voted to contribute \$1,000 to the Greatest Generation Library Fund, \$1,000 for Higher Education Opportunity Program scholarships, and \$1,000 for scholarships for students enrolled in the School of Education. The success of the reunion can be attributed to the number of classmates who attended; the work of the planning committee; and the tremendous assistance given to our committee by Loida Vera Cruz, assistant director of Alumni Affairs. And now we have to get ready for our 65th! **Bobbie Houck VanTilburg** and husband Gerald will celebrate their 58th wedding this September. In February, they attended the wedding of their granddaughter, Lynn Lancaster. In May, **Abe Trop** returned from Namibia and resumed working for Habitat for Humanity's House No. 42 in Bakersfield, Calif. **Bill Sheehan** entered Albany Law School at age 32 and taught law in the School of Business at SUNY



Three Capital Region alumni shared their experiences with a group of students during a Dinner With a Dozen Danes focused on the law field. Dinner hosts included William McCann Jr. '86, Esq. (seated, center); and Todd Valentine '86, Esq. (standing, second from right). Not pictured is the third host, Anthony Giardina '81, Esq.

Albany for 28 years. His son, Joe, is now law coordinator in the School of Business and for the past 15 years has been city judge for Mechanicville, N.Y. His daughter, Kathleen, an honors graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School, is now general counsel for Beacon Communities in Boston, Mass. Another daughter, Marge, was an honor graduate of Albany Business College.

**"Mickey" Seaman Rozwod's** daughter, Elizabeth, graduated *summa cum laude* in three years in the Class of '79 of UAlbany. An even greater achievement was giving Mickey three grandchildren! Betsy and **Jake Schuhle** celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary this September. The Schuhles have three great-grandchildren, the third one born two days before our 60th reunion. One

granddaughter, who married in October 2008, is working on a master's degree in speech therapy. **Horty Zeilengold Schmierer** is secretary of the Southwest Nassau League of Women Voters and also volunteers at the Child Abuse Prevention Services on Long Island. As of May, she was planning a trip to Western U.S. parks. One granddaughter is working on her master's degree at Columbia, and another one who attends SUNY Binghamton studied in Florence, Italy, during her junior year. **Wilma Whitney Saunders** keeps busy volunteering at the hospital and Historical Society and doing church work. She has nine grandchildren, three married grandsons, and one great-grandchild expected in October. **Jerry and Estelle Reisner** celebrated 60 years of marriage in August. Estelle became a 30-gallon blood donor in June (not at one time!). Estelle and Jerry are enthusiastic Elderhostel goers and so far have attended about 20. Their oldest granddaughter will graduate from Rutgers in October. **Elfrieda (Freddy) Laemmerzahl Miller** brought from Oklahoma a 10-pound, six-inch thick scrapbook for classmates to view at our 60th reunion. This book was started at freshman orientation in 1945 and continued throughout her four years at NYSCT. Freddy said she is tired of lugging it back and forth from Oklahoma, so she is donating it to the Class of '49 memorabilia in the SUNY Albany archives. **Joan Rourke McClelland** has lived in Sedona, Ariz., for 29 years and loves it. She serves as a planning and zoning



**Casey Crandall '07**  
Call Center Manager,  
University at Albany



**Bruce Gaynor '89**  
Financial Advisor,  
Capital Financial Planning



**George Warnock '79**  
Partner,  
Deloitte & Touche

## Welcome New Alumni Association Board Members!

**Chris Wessell '02, '04**  
Recruiter,  
Source HR



**Patrick Romain '86**  
EOP Counselor,  
University at Albany



commissioner for Yavapai County. **Bob Kittredge** and wife Diana celebrated 54 years of marital bliss on July 6. Bob said that the strong show of support for him on the part of classmates and relatives at the Gala Awards presentation was very heartwarming. **Betty Ann Gibson Galli's** busy life has included 32 years of teaching at Shaker High in Latham, N.Y., working for the Theater Institute for many years, working in a flower shop and volunteering at Memorial Hospital. **Dolores Stocker Eklund** completed 26 years of retirement in June after 34 years in education. **Don Dickinson** writes a monthly column, "Library Notes," for St. Mark's Presbyterian Church in Tucson, Ariz. **Elsa Moberg Cox** reported the sad news that her husband, John, passed away on the date of their 17th wedding anniversary in April. The memorial service was held May 29. Elsa said that her daughter, Krista Mallory, who flew in from California to be with her mom at our 60th, enjoyed meeting some of the '49ers, and the Albany Aqua Duck tour. **Jean Spencer Bourgeois'** grandson and his wife received their doctoral degrees from UAlbany this year. **Larry Appleby** had the honor to receive the 2008 Alan Goodenow Award, which is presented to the person who has shown outstanding commitment to the Warsaw, N.Y. community. Larry volunteers at Wyoming County Community Hospital, the Historical Society, the Masons Lodge, Red Cross, Warsaw Central School, Trinity Church, Warsaw Garden and the Retired Teachers Associations. WHEW!! The newspaper article reporting on this award stated, "This retired Warsaw English teacher's generosity of time and talent is an asset to Warsaw." Congratulations, Larry. I personally would like to thank all the classmates who attended our 60th reunion for helping to make it a very enjoyable one. It was great to find out that all the work of the planning committee was not in vain. *Class notes co-councilor: Joseph Zanchelli, jizanch@yahoo.com*

## 50 Lollie and Charles

**Margolin** live in a retirement community in Lakewood, N.J., and stay active with way-off-Broadway productions and committees, tennis, ping-pong, bridge and bocce. Their bocce team came in second last year, ahead of 480 participants. They also enjoy traveling and cruising. The highlight of 2008 for

**Shirley Warner Martin** was the surprise 80th birthday party her two daughters planned for her. One daughter and her family flew in from Seattle; the second one drove from New Paltz, N.Y.; and one granddaughter flew in from Boston. When they arrived at Shirley's home in western New York, no one was home. A neighbor let them in so they could do

the party preparations. When Shirley and husband, Al, opened the door everyone shouted "Happy Birthday." Shirley nearly fainted but did recover and enjoyed the party her family had planned long distance. Her American Field Service daughter from Argentina sent a dozen roses for the occasion. "This is one birthday I will not forget." In January,

your co-councilor (**Audrey**) had a health setback, which included a heart attack and open heart surgery for a valve replacement and a single bypass. My younger daughter, Susan, came from California, where she teaches at Stanford Law School. Susan has recently accepted a position as assistant dean of students at Albany Law School. She and her



## TODD O. BURGER, B.S.'77, AND DEBORAH BURGER

When the concept of the "No-Gas, No-Car Vacation" catches on, we'll have Todd O. Burger, B.S.'77, and his wife, Deborah, to thank! For 17 days in Summer 2008, the Burgers traveled a total of 1,500 miles across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states, Todd wrote us recently. They began their odyssey by biking from their home in Lexington, Mass., to Boston, where they caught a train for Rensselaer, N.Y. After arriving in the Capital Region, they hopped back on their bikes and headed for the UAlbany campus. From there, they followed the Erie Canalway Trail, stopping to take a photo "just west of Canajoharie, N.Y., July 2" on the way to Syracuse. Turning south, the couple passed through the Finger Lakes and continued on to Lancaster, Pa.; Sykesville, Md.; Leesburg, Va.; and Washington, D.C. They spent the last day of their trip returning to Massachusetts on the train. Todd, who earned a degree in accounting, is chief operating officer and chief financial officer of the Boston-based Commonwheel Ventures, a firm seeking to "greenify transportation and delivery of good for consumers and enterprises."



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sister, Cindy, expect to develop a pro-bono program at the law school. Cindy, an appellate attorney in private practice, has her office in Saratoga. I'm pleased and comforted to have three of my four children close by; Rich and his family live in Lake George. **Edythe Kelleher Cotton** has enjoyed living in Fairfield Harbour, New Bern, N.C., since her 1988 retirement from 38 years at the New York State Department of Mental Retardation. Edy spends time playing golf, bridge, tennis, dominoes, etc. Her first husband passed away in 1997, and she married Hank Colton in December 2007. At the time, she wrote me they were leaving for a motor trip to visit children in Golden, Colo.; Bend, Oregon; and Berkeley, Calif. Their trip will include a week in Rapid City, S.D., attending an Elderhostel. Edy was looking forward to playing golf in three states. Her travels have included Yellowstone Park and the Grand Tetons, and she has rafted on the Snake River.

**Shirley Wiltse Dunn** has spoken in New York City, as well as in Massachusetts and at locations around Albany, about the arrival of explorer Henry Hudson among the Indians of the Hudson Valley 400 years ago. Her third book about the Mohican Indians was finished this past spring, and in 2008, she co-authored a book for young people about the Mohicans. She heads the Friends Group for Crailo State Historic Site, located in Rensselaer. She and husband **Jerry '51**, their four children and their grandchildren vacation every August in the Ithaca area. **Harold**

**(Sparky) Vaughn** and **Maria Pia** enjoyed a family mini-reunion that took place around grandson Benjamin Vaughn's commencement at Georgetown University in Washington. Ben received a juris doctor *magna cum laude* on top of a master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Sons Eric and Jason, daughter Karen, and their families, including two other grandchildren, joined in the celebration. **Audrey Hartman White's** husband, Bill, has MDS, a bone marrow disease, and requires weekly chemo. Their granddaughter, Autumn, will be moving to Ohio to go into a family practice program so she can check on Bill. Autumn did her preliminary surgery internship at Albert Einstein in Philadelphia and was ready to leave the "inner-city setting." Audrey's son, Scott, has been working in London. Scott's 16-year-old son is in 11th grade at the

American School in London. Audrey and her sister are planning a trip to London while Scott still has his apartment in central London. Because of the economy, Scott's job is ending this summer.

**Rhoda Riber Mones** writes: "Even though we have been in San Diego for almost 22 years, the long arm of our college has reached way out here. Just a few years ago we were reunited with **Bill Dumbleton** and his wife. He was retired from teaching at SUNY Albany; Sue was working for National University as an associate dean. They have since moved to the Chicago area, where Sue was offered a very powerful position with a college there. The other graduate with whom I am regularly in touch is **Renee Barger Harris**, who was my former roommate and lives about two hours from us, in Huntington Beach. The old cliché about 'a small world' is very appropriate." **Doris Price Rollings** and her husband, Ray, are living in a cottage in a retirement community on Solomons Island in Maryland. Their cruising sailboat has given way to a 12' sailing dingy. Before retirement, they sailed an Intracoastal Waterway cruise to Key West and back. They have travelled extensively. Highlights included a visit to Normandy in 1944, just before the 50th anniversary of D-Day; a visit with **Marilyn Cohen Saylor** and her husband, who were missionaries in Costa Rica; and cruising the Greek Aegean Islands with **Evie Erdie**

**Eisenhard '52** and her husband. Last summer, Doris received a copy of a calculus textbook authored by an extremely gifted boy she worked with for three years at a private school before he attended Stanford and Princeton. One of her most satisfying experiences was serving as a faculty advisor to the Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship of the local public honors college, St. Mary's College of Maryland. As I prepare these class notes in early June for publication in the Fall 2009 *UAlbany* magazine, I have to say we have been underwhelmed by the number of classmates who have submitted their "stories." The good news is that the quality of the participating classmates' stories is awesome. Your submissions give you another opportunity to be a part of this special 60th anniversary project. Therefore, we are extending the deadline until Dec. 31, 2009. Don't delay. Do it now.

*May you be happy  
May you be well  
May you be peaceful!  
May you know joy  
May you also know  
Your classmate (my word)  
Of so long ago  
Gratefully  
Remembers  
You.*

By ALICE WALKER

*Class notes co-councilor: Audrey Koch  
Feathers, [akochfeathers@roadrunner.com](mailto:akochfeathers@roadrunner.com)*



*Kathryn Zox, M.S.W.'83, popular radio host and well-known philanthropist, speaks at the inaugural Celebration of Vital Volunteers about the value of volunteering and philanthropy.*

**51** Condolences to **Paul Kirsch** and his two sons. Paul's wife, **Lorraine ("Midge") Doiron Kirsch '51, '53**, passed away May 11 after a long illness. Midge was an active volunteer in many community organizations in Geneva, N.Y. **Caroline Williams Rickerson** lives

in Mount Airy, Md., where she is a bird watcher and a gardener, and a volunteer with the Audubon Society. **Joan Ahr Robertson** is another Audubon volunteer. She is involved in bird counts and advising on bird migration patterns. **Don** and **Martha Spencer Ely** are slowing down following Don's retirement from

Syracuse University. They and their four boys lived for a time in Santiago, Chile, and the Netherlands. Don also taught at universities in South Africa, Indonesia and Peru. **Bob Umholtz**, our co-counselor, and **Royanne Salm Blodgett** met recently at a Benevolent Association Meeting and luncheon. Bob is treasurer

of the association and Royanne, a former association volunteer. **George Philip '69, '73**, the new University president, addressed the members. A group of Phi Delta sisters and friends recently gathered in Cobleskill for lunch. Attendees from 1951 were: **Marilyn Allen Ochs**, **Joyce Barringer Soule**, **Dorothy Bens Langr**, **Jackie Mann Gavryck** and **Marie Thurlow Gunn**. Marie and husband Joe will tour Scotland this summer. Others at the lunch included: **Juanita Evans Thompson '49**, and **Gene ("Tiny") Donovan Reynolds** and **Phoebe Fuller Johnson**, both '52. Luncheons are scheduled for Sept. 30, 2009, and June 2, 2010, and any alum is welcome.

*Class notes co-councilor: Jacquelyn Gavryck, jagvryck@nycap.rr.com*

**52** *Notes from your class councilor:* **Bert Jablon** is still working at Empire State College as an adjunct mentor, handling health care administration responsibilities with adult students involved in the field. He has been working with them for more than 30 years. In June, Bert also volunteered at the 2009 U.S. Golf Championship at Bethpage State Park. Another classmate who continues to be gainfully employed is **Jeanne Seymour Earle**. She was the librarian at Hendrick Hudson High School in Montrose, N.Y. from Thanksgiving through April, and subbed for the rest of the year. Jeanne taught Latin to the Mahopac teachers in their staff development program and also still finds time to attend many Broadway shows. **David Treharne** is employed part time with a business he conducts from home. David enjoyed three careers: in education, executive recruiting and hospital admissions. Though he's lived the last 20 years in Naples, Fla., he previously lived in the Capital District; Louisville, Ky.; Dallas, Texas; and the Umbria region of Italy. David goes to the Naples Philharmonic Center, which presents a variety of programs; reads extensively – magazines, newspapers and best sellers – and finds time to keep in touch with **Warren Gibson** and **Alice Mashoian Walrath**. **Bill Wiley** continues as president of his Townhome Association and as a member of his Rotary Club, which is committed to helping the Hilton Head Child Care Center. Bill and Jane enjoy seeing their



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**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York



## Alumni News and Notes



### PAUL LEONARD, B.S.'75, M.B.A.'76, AND KRISTINE G. LEONARD, B.A.'75, M.A.'76

#### STILL MANAGING A FULL SCHEDULE

Former School of Business Dean Paul Leonard and his wife, Kristine G. Leonard, may have retired – but that doesn't mean they've slowed down. They have "spent the past six months doing a complete refurbishing – new kitchen, baths, floors, paint, lighting – of the home they purchased in a Georgia golf community, "so we have been working full time. The old adage that 'everything takes longer and costs more than you thought' is very true!" Kris, retired after more than a decade with Delta Air Lines, and Paul plan "a lot of travel." In June, they hiked in Utah and Colorado; later this year, they plan a 16-day visit to Japan and a week's stay in Argentina, where Paul will teach at Universidad del Salvador. Future itineraries include "Peru (Machu Picchu) and Bolivia (Lake Titicaca), Easter Island, and the Chilean side of Patagonia; we've already been to the Argentine side. And we'll take as many 'short' trips to the Georgia coast and the West, for hiking, as we can fit in." The Leonards, who established a scholarship endowment to support transfer students at UAlbany and made a major gift to toward the new School of Business, are "following the progress of the new building." Adds Paul: "We miss our friends at the University very much. Not being at commencement – my favorite event of the year – was tough on me. We'll be in Albany this summer to visit."

grandchildren grow to maturity; one just graduated from Purdue as an electrical engineer; her sister has completed her freshman year at Grinnel; Bill's namesake Will earned a Sportsman of the Year award; and their "grown" granddaughter in Florida they strongly support. This fall, the Psi Gams – **Ann Adams Wilbur, Jean Greenshilds Burns, Helen Padoba Donovan** and **Anne Sullivan Morgan** – enjoyed a wonderful lunch together wondering where all the time since '52 has gone. Jean and her husband, Jim, spent Christmas in Colorado with their son, his wife and 5-year-old Deaven. **Jane Minckler Jennings** visited Block Island this summer and spent time with **Mimi Gorski Blake** and her husband, Bill, who also visited the island. **Jean Faville Smith** visited Vermont last fall to attend a wedding and also flew to California to celebrate her daughter's 50th birthday. A visit with **Joan Bennett Kelly** and Charlie in Bonita Springs, Fla., was a "wonderful time." **Helen Pilcher Terrill** reports that two granddaughters were married: one May 30 in Bristol, Tenn., and one Aug. 15 in Midlothian, Va. Helen and Bill do a remarkable job keeping up with 11 grandchildren and their graduations and sports events. Deep Creek Lake Week in July is a special family vacation; other highlights include Bill's three weeks of fishing on Cape Cod in October. The Terrills are "most grateful," for their youngest generation of loving and caring young people." **Nancy Frey Pettinelli** and husband Lou took an eight-day trip to Italy with sons Larry and Neal and grandchildren Emma and Drew. **Joan Bennett Kelly** and Charlie have been on the go trying to keep up with their grandchildren's many achievements: lacrosse, gymnastics, outdoor track and violin concerts. They went to 11 events in three weeks, with a trip back to Vermont in between. They had their usual family get-together on the Fourth of July. **Bob Donnelly** retired from his 12-year position on the board of directors of Chapel House. **Tom Holman** has returned once again from his annual trip to St. Maarten and sees **Wilma Diehl '48** every Saturday for breakfast. **Sally McCain Horn** and her husband, Bob, have four children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandsons. After years of part-time education and volunteer work, Sally is now retired. She and her husband worked on a number of

volunteer projects with the International Executive Service Corps in Costa Rica, Belize, Jamaica, Latvia and Morocco. They consider themselves lucky to have been able to travel so widely in the United States and abroad. **Joyce Leavitt Zanchelli** and husband Joe attended their 14th Elderhostel in Philadelphia, where they were privileged to view the Barnes collection, a must-see for all art lovers. They are looking forward to a trip to Egypt this fall. One of the highlights of their year is having the whole family with them for a week in the summer, and Saratoga is a great place to be in the summer! As many of you know, we are doing some preliminary planning for a mini-reunion hopefully to be held on Homecoming Weekend, October 2010. I would like to be in touch on this by e-mail, but I need your e-mail address in order to do this. If you have not been receiving e-mails from me, it means I don't have your address. Please send it to me. Hope to see many of you in 2010.

*Class notes co-councilor: Joyce Zanchelli, Jjzanch@yahoo.com*

**54** **Dick Bailey's** daughter, Jenny, gave birth to two boys last May. Jenny lives nearby in Ukiah, Calif., so Grandpa will have lots of opportunities for interaction with "the youngest generation." Grandson Josh, meanwhile, will be making different sounds on the East Coast; he is entering graduate study at New York University as an opera major. Dick expects to make the upcoming 55th.

**Cynthia Jackson** is starting a Memory Bridge Program at the local high school to create relationships between students and Alzheimer's patients. **Art Stone** is president of the United Dance Merchants of America, an organization of dance-costume manufacturers. **Ken**

**Schoonmaker** has given up skiing but traveled to Holland in May. **Pat Byrne Manning** stays busy volunteering for Hospice and the Light of Christ Early Childhood Center, and also does pro-bono book reviewing for the *School Library Journal*. **Jim Thompson** is engaged to Carol Zepf. Carol's daughter Pam graduated from high school with Jim and Lois' (SUNYA '54; deceased June 2004) son, David. Jim and Carol traveled to Pensacola in March to attend the Change of Command ceremony for Jim's son, **Commander Scott Thompson '91, '93**. John and **Rose**

**Mary Zongrone** celebrated the baptism of their twin granddaughters in May. John marked his 50th anniversary in the insurance industry with a ribbon cutting ceremony at his new office in June. John and Rose Mary are looking forward to our 55th reunion and will host their usual open house on Saturday, Oct. 10. Hope many of you can come! John and **Shirley Callahan Dillon** visited Naples, Fla., last March. Please don't forget to attend our 55th reunion this Homecoming Weekend, Oct. 9-11.

*Class notes co-councilor: Joan Bolz Paul, fpaul1@nycap.rr.com*

**55** **Dee Montalbano** has co-founded an informal social program in Boulder, Colo. Over the Moon Ovations gathers each month to provide women "in the second half of life" with a way to share their experiences, talents and personal journeys with one another. Begun in 2008, the idea has caught on, and the monthly topics are far ranging and unique. As a result of her involvement, Dee has gone back to teaching women's writing groups. In appreciation for the Ithaca, N.Y., hospital's treatment during a grave cardiac emergency in 2007, **Ann Tobey** volunteered to be a part of their 2009 marketing campaign. To her surprise, she became a celebrity. For weeks, Ann was a presence on radio, on posters around town, in area newspapers, on city buses and on highway billboards. An unexpected bonus for Ann was hearing from many former students. In 2008, **Dorothy Croce Ferguson** and her husband **Ed '56** were in England for a friend's wedding. While there, they attended the Royal Ascot opening day, where they saw Queen Elizabeth and even won some money on one of the races. The Fergusons also sojourned in Ireland while in the United Kingdom. **Evelyn Rubin Rosenthal** has resided in Vestal, N.Y., since 1968. Evelyn and husband Bernard have three children and four grandchildren. Evelyn taught statistics at Binghamton University. Suzanne Levine, a UAlbany doctoral candidate, is this year's recipient of the Class of 1955 Award. For her dissertation, Suzanne is using textbook content analysis to characterize the differences between high school and college science. Suzanne was a *magna cum laude* graduate with a bachelor's degree in physics and science.



*Sophie James '05 and Jill Lauri '82 talk about their experiences at UAlbany and their shared interest in living in New York City at the UAlbany Alumni Association Networking Reception June 4 at Vertigo in New York City.*

## Call to Action: Regional Volunteers

Would you like to bring a slice of UAlbany to your community? You can – by becoming a regional volunteer for the UAlbany Alumni Association.

You'll act as a local contact for the Alumni Association as well as for prospective students and new graduates of the University. You may occasionally be asked to help determine the best location for a UAlbany function or to assist in planning informal area events. In addition, you may have the opportunity to serve as a University ambassador at local events. It's also a great opportunity to network while helping to strengthen the UAlbany connection among alumni in your area.

Becoming a regional volunteer is a great way to give back to UAlbany, no matter where you live. For more information, contact the Alumni Association at (518) 442-3080 or [alumniassociation@uamail.albany.edu](mailto:alumniassociation@uamail.albany.edu).



# Ashton Holmes, B.A.'02 Talented – and Lucky

It's been a slow summer for Ashton Holmes.

"The economy has affected Hollywood, too," the actor noted in a recent telephone interview from Venice, Calif. With television shows on hiatus, too, "I'm just being an unemployed actor right now."

Not really. Holmes will shortly begin promoting his latest effort, HBO's 10-part miniseries "The Pacific." The Steven Spielberg-Tom Hanks production tells "the story of U.S. Marines in the Pacific Theater during World War II." It will air this winter.

A Rensselaerville, N.Y., native, Holmes initially enrolled at New York University. Unsure that he was ready for college, he left NYU and took a year off, but studied on a non-matriculated basis at UAlbany. He later enrolled to major in theatre and minor in English.

Holmes found the theatre program "very intense and peer driven. The theatre track offered a lot of experimental stuff and gave students a well-rounded view of how theatre was produced. Leigh Strimbeck, who taught *Acting IV*, encouraged me. She told me: 'You really have a gift for acting. If you stick with it, you can have a career.' I was so young, and there were so many distractions, I didn't think I could commit myself. But our talk was the turning point in my career."

After graduation, Holmes left for New York City, found a manager and auditioned for the musical *Rent*. Chosen as one of the leads, he spent eight months touring the U.S. with the production. In Los Angeles, an agent who saw the show suggested that a move West would benefit his career. Holmes finished the tour and returned to New York, where he auditioned unsuccessfully for movie and television roles. Six months later, he relocated to L.A. His career gained momentum after he starred in the Oscar-nominated film "A History of Violence," directed by David Cronenberg and starring Viggo Mortensen, Ed Harris, William Hurt and Maria Bello.

Holmes is attracted "to good characters. If there's a good script and the character is well written, I'll take the role. And I like working with really good people – actors, producers, directors – who have experience and a vision, and good credits. I've done mostly film, but if the right television job came along, I'd be interested."

Meantime, Holmes is a man with a plan. Or two. "My short-term plan is to get another job. Long term, I'm building a reputation in Hollywood as someone who chooses good projects and works steadily. I've been lucky."

– Carol Olechowski



**56** Please don't forget to support the *Class of 1956 Scholarship Fund*. **Marlene Watson** is retired from teaching secondary school mathematics. She has traveled across the continental United States and has visited Alaska and Prince Edward Island. Marlene fondly remembers her years at Pierce Hall and the privilege of meeting Anna Pierce, after whom the hall is named. **John Wilcox** has retired from his career as a high-school administrator and is presently tutoring. **Bea Engelhardt Wright** stays active with golf, bridge, volunteering and traveling in the United States and abroad. She keeps in touch with her college roommate, **Vivian Schiro Benenati**. **Dolores Del Price Ziao** has taken on the title of "domestic engineer" as she follows her career path of working with her two grown children and five young grandchildren. **Virginia Watts Ziebarth** taught English and French in western New York for 10 years, returned to college in 1976 to obtain a master's degree in public administration, and ultimately retired as an urban planner after 16 years. Virginia volunteers with Literacy Volunteers, Albright Knox Art Gallery and Public School 18 in Buffalo, N.Y.

**58** **Arlene Adel-Posses'** name was erroneously omitted from the Spring 2009 *Carillon*, but she did attend her 50th class reunion during Homecoming Weekend 2008.  
*Class notes counselor: Susanne Russell Williams, swilliams36@nycap.rr.com*

**60** **A note from your class counselor:** Greetings, classmates. By now you have received our first mailing and a questionnaire regarding our 50th reunion, coming up in Fall 2010. Our thanks to those of you who have responded; hope the rest of you do so, as well. We want to know what you'd like for reunion get-togethers. Any ideas and/or volunteer assistance would be appreciated. Now, on to our classmates' news: **Johanna Bonacci Albrecht** and her husband plan to attend our 50th reunion. **John** and **Grace Engels Beza** are retired and living on Long Island. **Bunny Silverstein Calabrese** is recuperating from surgery to install a pacemaker/defibrillator. She is determined to make it to our 50th reunion! **Madeline Despres** retired from teaching in 1991 and served as dog control officer for Tully, Lafayette, Fabius and Pompey (N.Y.) from 1991-2005. **Gloria Deutsch** is retired but occasionally substitute teaches and travels, most recently to San Diego; San Francisco; and the Washington, D.C. area (Smithsonian, D.C. monuments, Annapolis Naval Academy). **Chuck Fowler** is living in New Hampshire. He also maintains a New York City office, where he continues to work in the field of education, following his retirement as a superintendent in several parts of the United States. His business deals with searches for administrators, as well as with consultations in the field. Chuck enjoys world travel and vacationing with his family – children and grandchildren! **Nancy Lou Ryan Gnan** and husband **John** are retired near Cocoa Beach. They enjoy the beach, NASA launches and working on genealogy, along with many cruises (awesome Alaska trip last year). They also volunteer for several causes and clubs. **Fay McMore Graham** is a retired social worker and has traveled widely. This fall, she will go to Vietnam with Overseas Adventure Tours. She keeps busy with five grandchildren and many group activities; she has finished training with Literacy Volunteers and is awaiting a student.

**Nancy Rishel Hackel** is enjoying the warm Florida winters and the many opportunities for varied volunteer roles, which include AARP Tax Aide, as well as American Legion Auxiliary programs that help returning and retired veterans.

**Mary Ellen Johnson** retired in 1994 after 32 years of teaching secondary social studies. Active involvement with both the Capital District Civil War Round Table and the local historical society keeps her busy. Mary Ellen has traveled widely in Europe; has visited numerous Civil War related sites; and enjoys gardening, reading, collecting antiques and birding. **John Johnston** spent 18 summers high-altitude mountaineering on three continents. Retired from teaching for 17 years, John still enjoys reading World War II history and participating in annual demonstration presentations at

Rutgers University and at STANYS Conferences in Rochester, N.Y. He has had a 33-year affiliation with the Union College Physics Department. **Barbara Beswick Perriman** retired in 1993 from South Colonie Schools as a librarian. In 1995, she and her husband began home exchanging, which has taken them as far away as Australia for visits ranging from a few days to five weeks. In 1999, one of their 30 exchanges took them to Sedona, Ariz.; within six months, they sold their Niskayuna home and moved to Arizona's High Desert! Barbara tutors in an adult English as a Second Language program. She is also a court-appointed special advocate for children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. **Paul Reagan** was featured on page 25 of the Spring 2009 edition of *UAlbany* magazine. He has

spent much of his life serving others in social work, including through the American Red Cross. **Don Reinfurt** worked with the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill in the Highway Safety Research Center for 34 years prior to retiring in 2002. Among other things, the center brought the country the idea for the successful "Click It or Ticket" seat belt campaigns. Don enjoyed singing at Carnegie Hall in 2006 with a special group. He also refereed high school basketball and football for nearly 20 years. **Nancy Ryan** has achieved her life goal of having 3,000 poems published. **Shea Allen Szachara** has fulfilled a lifetime dream of living near the ocean minus cold, sleet, freezing rain and snow. Living only minutes away from the beaches of Hilton Head Island, S.C., she is still painting and teaching art

to other retirees, as well as to 60 talented but needy fifth- and sixth-graders.

**Steve Hoover**, who lives in Hadley, N.Y., enjoys the arts with his wife and, after 48 years, still teaches botany, microbiology and forestry. Steve has two daughters and five grandchildren. Now retired, **Lore Howard Scurrah** is living in Satellite Beach, Fla. **Art Strassle** is a retired school administrator and college professor. He and wife Joan live in Nesconset, N.Y., and have four children and eight grandchildren. **Bob Helwig** and his wife, **Doris Wagner Helwig '61**, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in June! Congratulations! They moved from Garrison, N.Y., after Bob retired from teaching middle-school English and Doris retired from owning a business. They now live on a private, three-acre island in Surfside, S.C., and

# You have something our students need!

- 1 Direct and relevant experience in a specific area of work
- 2 Advice and suggestions that can help a student be successful
- 3 The ability to empower young people by building their confidence and self-esteem

The number of students looking for mentors is on the rise. Become a mentor through AlumNet, UAlbany's online mentoring program. It's quick. It's easy. It's online. It's a great way to give back.

To become a mentor, visit our Web site at [www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UAB/](http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/UAB/) and click on the Career Center link for directions.

"I was really able to gain some great insights from my mentor. His feedback and constructive criticism helped me set goals and plot out the next steps in my career path."

~ Jillian Pasco, UAlbany Senior





# Alumni News and Notes

they have two sons. **Art Hackett** and wife **Carol Sheu '59** live at Heritage Hunt, a senior retirement community in Gainesville, Va. Art retired from IBM in Manassas, Va., as a semiconductor engineer after 37 years. They have lived in Virginia since 1970, except for a three-year period when they were in San Jose, Calif. Carol is a retired math and preschool teacher. They have two children and three grandchildren and expect to attend our 50th Reunion. Until next time — keep the news coming.

*Class notes co-councilor: Doris Hische Brossy, e-mail: dbrossy@aol.com*

## 61 A note from your class

**councilor:** Our class has begun planning our 50th Reunion. We have sent a survey to those class members who have provided us their e-mail addresses. We are seeking to build our e-mail address list, obtain suggestions for our reunion plans and ask for committee volunteers (some committee tasks can be accomplished from home). If you can provide us with any information/help, please contact Mel at melandsis@yahoo.com.

**Phyllis Hammerman Schultz** and Howard were married 47 years June 18, 2008. They live in Jericho, N.Y., not far from their two married children and four grandchildren. Phyllis sends regards to her Sigma Phi sisters, Pierce Hall housemates, and old friends and classmates. The second post-retirement textbook by **Brad Mundy** (from Maine) should be in press by April 2010. "For my summer schedule I generally write from 5:30 in the morning until 8 or 9; then it is time for other stuff. More writing in the evening. Rainy days and winter I can work all day on the project, and our winters are pretty long!" Brad told us. **Margaret Saimond Mundy** is still spending a lot of time on quilting projects. **Barbara Sholtz Cox** is an associate professor at the University of North Texas, where she has taught costume and makeup for 20 years. Barbara became a costume designer thanks to her wonderful mentors: Paul Pettit, Jim Leonard and Dr. Burian. Dr. Pettit's son is also on the English faculty at the university. Barbara spent three years at Stanford University, eight years at California State University in Long Beach and 10 years freelancing in theatre before finally settling in Denton. She also continues to freelance, working at several theatres in the area, including the Dallas Children's Theatre. Currently, their production of "Mufaro's Beautiful

Daughters" is touring the country, with Barbara's costumes. She enjoys living in Texas and would love to hear from fellow theatre alums. **Cindy Sugarman Selmon** retired from teaching social studies at Curtis High School on Staten Island in 1995. She then worked at the College of Staten Island for four years as a special-project coordinator in the Center for International Service. Now fully retired, Cindy spends time traveling, visiting children and grandchildren, singing in the temple choir and the retired teachers chorus, and volunteering at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and at her temple.

*Class notes councilor: Mel Horowitz, Melandsis@yahoo.com*

**63 Michael Camarata** is in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to help establish a transitional entrepreneurial course for freshmen at King Saud University. As part of a Kent State University curriculum development team, Michael also will be teaching in the new program.

**64 David Crystal** has retired as a professor from the School of Mathematical Sciences at the Rochester Institute of Technology, where he was hired as an instructor in September 1967. David has been granted the status of professor emeritus and currently has a small photography business specializing in equine subjects and equine sports.

**65 Roselle Warshaw Mironer** continues to enjoy teaching Spanish at Birch Wathen Lenox School in Manhattan. Her husband, Merrill, is still working as an attorney in Manhattan, and their son Michael lives and works in White Plains. Last summer, Roselle and Merrill went to Merrill's 50th high school reunion in Gloversville, N.Y. **Ila Nussbaum Falvey, Janie Fagan, Naomi Skolky D'Alessio** and Roselle are hoping to have a get-together this summer. Roselle plans to work in Israel this summer with an organization called Volunteers for Israel. **David Simons** and his wife recently returned from a week in Peru. They spent most of the time in Cusco and Machu Picchu, and stayed in Aguas Calientes while visiting Machu Picchu. They noted that everything in Aguas Calientes is either uphill or downhill; there is hardly a flat spot anywhere. Even the shopping area is terraced! Prior to her death in June, **Barbara Townsend** had received the

*The UAlbany Alumni Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex and Ally Association held its first alumni reunion prior to the first Lavender Graduation. To learn more about this newly formed affinity group, contact the Alumni Association.*



2009 American Educational Research Association's Division J Eminent Scholar Award, as well as the Council for the Study of Community's College's Distinguished Service Award and the UM Status of Women's Committee's Distinguished Service Award. Barbara was a professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia in Columbia, Mo.

**68 Ray Starman's** book, *TV Noir*, has been accepted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Humanities Library for its collection of materials on film. *TV Noir* will be available online for Fall 2009.

**70 Marcy Boyle** spent 20 days traveling to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia Island. The Falklands are located about 300 miles from the southern coast of Argentina. South Georgia, which is geographically part of Antarctica, is located about 1,250 miles southeast of the coast of Argentina. The remoteness of these locations makes them havens for wildlife; they contain huge seabird, penguin, elephant seal and sea lion colonies, among others.



Marcy Boyle

**72 Rich Williams** has been named president and COO of Advanced Plan for Health, located in Irving, Texas.



Rich Williams

Rich's extensive career in health care includes former positions as CEO of a regional health care system, executive vice president of a 27-hospital

tal/10 long-term care health facilities system, and COO of a 25-hospital system. He also has strategic consulting experience. Rich is the author of the first health care-focused sales-training programs used by the American Hospital Association. **Peggy Ettman Rantanen** has been working in Paris the last two years as contracts manager/operations for the joint venture Thales Raytheon Systems.

**73 Louis Cimino**, vice president of W.H. Reeves & Company, has been promoted to the position of COO. Louis joined W.H. Reeves in 1997. In addition to his new responsibility of overseeing the day-to-day activities of the company, Louis will continue to serve as the firm's telecommunications and technology analyst, head its risk-management team, and act as an assistant portfolio manager for some of the firm's individual account relationships. **John Fairhall** left *The Baltimore Sun* last summer and now is a senior editor at *Kaiser Health News* in Washington, D.C. **Jeffrey Rodgers** and his wife, **Vivian Taylor**, have entered into a partnership with William and Robert Carr-Hartley Safaris — the leading provider of safaris in Kenya and throughout East Africa. This is a major enhancement to their business, Vivian Taylor International, which provides customized travel and touring for the discerning traveler.

**75 Virginia Tech** in Blacksburg, Va., has honored **Patricia Caldwell** with an Alumni Distinguished Service Award for 2009. Patricia has served as a



Patricia Caldwell

longtime member of the former College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Roundtable and as past chair of the College of Science Roundtable. She also has served on the Virginia Tech Foundation Board, the Department of Mathematics Advisory Board, and the Quiet Phase Campaign Steering Committee. Patricia is now a member of the College of Science Campaign Steering Committee and the Women and Leadership in Philanthropy Council. **Jeff Silvernail** is senior pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Clifton Park, N.Y. Jeff comes to the church after serving as pastor of St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Bemus Point, N.Y., for more than 11 years. The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., has announced **Victoria Swigert**, professor of sociology, is the recipient of the Mary Louise Marfuggi Award for Academic Advisement for 2008-09. Victoria, who was appointed assistant dean of the college in 1990, was selected as the first winner of this award for her extraordinary work with and dedication to students over the past 18 years. A faculty member since 1975, Victoria is the author of seven books and numerous articles; her research and teaching interests are in deviance theory and criminology.

**77**

**Tom Lanagan** was promoted to head the Army Studies Office at the Pentagon. He previously directed the Business Operations Group for the Defense Logistics Agency's Operations Research Office.



Tom Lanagan

**78**

The U.S. Senate confirmed **Christine Varney** to be President Barack Obama's anti-trust chief at the U.S. Department of Justice. **Edward LoBello** has been named a member of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. He joins the firm's Bankruptcy & Business Reorganization group and will practice from the New York City and Garden City, N.Y., offices. **Joe Cupo** recently celebrated his 30th year as TV meteorologist at WCSH-6 in Portland, Maine.



Edward LoBello

**80**

**Debra Kopf Levy**, publisher of *AGRR* magazine, has been elected president of Auto Glass Replacement Safety Standards Council in Charlottesville, Va. **Stuart Gruskin** passed away following a tragic pedestrian accident on April 28 near the New York City office where he worked as senior vice president. Stuart, an immensely popular man who spent 13 years with Valuation Research Corporation, will be remembered for putting others first, as well as for his compassionate heart, indefatigable work ethic, quick wit and high principles. **Mary Mullin**, Merrill Lynch financial advisor in Boston, was recognized on *Barron's* magazine's Top 100 Women Advisers List, which annually ranks America's top female financial advisors. Mary's ranking reflects her assets under management, revenue generated for Merrill Lynch, and quality of her practices. She has been with Merrill Lynch for 26 years and works with affluent families and business owners providing financial planning and investment advice. The mother of four children ranging from 12 to 16, Mary also has donated time to her parish as a religious education teacher.

**81**

Independent Health of Buffalo, N.Y., has named **Judy Feldman** senior vice president, information technology and chief information officer. **Anthony Giardina** is assistant secretary for Economic Development and Upstate Recovery for New York State.



Judy Feldman

**82**

**Jill Weinberg** of Weinberg Law Firm has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows are selected for their outstanding professional achievements and demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout the state of Texas. **Keith Dropkin** has been named partner in Jackson Lewis LLP, White Plains, N.Y., office.



Keith Dropkin



Jill Weinberg

**Kathryn Lowery, B.A.'75, M.L.S.'76**

## A Lifetime of UAlbany Memories



**K**athryn Lowery, recently retired vice president for Finance and Business at the University at Albany, thinks "it's nothing short of amazing what's happened to this campus since I began as an undergraduate. A new building wasn't built for close to 25 years, and now they're sprouting up all over the place. When I started here, it was really cold and hard around the edges. Over the past few years, we've really tried to bring it down to a human scale, and I think that's really made a huge difference."

A strong believer in the foundation of a liberal arts education, Lowery received a bachelor's in English with a minor in American studies. She credits her master's in library science with developing the critical thinking and organizational skills that served her well in her career — a career staged mostly at UAlbany, aside from a year when she worked at the New York State Library and an investment firm.

As vice president, "first and foremost, my main task was managing the campus budget process," Lowery said. "We've gone through some very difficult fiscal downturns during my tenure here. I'm proud we were able to weather those and continue to grow and prosper, and become much more of a well-rounded research institution than we were 30 years ago."

Lowery's work contributed toward the financial architecture that enabled the University to grow, first as a research facility, and then physically, to accommodate that expansion. The new entry plaza, the new Life Sciences building and University Hall are just a few examples of new facilities built under her watch.

The University's Task Force on Environmental Sustainability, begun in 2006 and co-chaired by Lowery, is another effort of which she is especially proud. The Purple Path, a perimeter walking and running course, was begun as part of these campus efforts toward sustainability. This project was done in collaboration with the University's Department of Geography and Planning, the first of many such collaborations. Groups such as Community Hospice and The Kidney Foundation used the path, which is partially completed, on fund-raising walks last June.

For now, Lowery is briefly continuing her duties as operations manager for the Research Foundation at UAlbany. She plans to travel, read, garden and walk once she completes her long goodbye.

— Amy Halloran, B.A.'90



# Alumni News and Notes

**Rod Thorn** has left his job as vice president of Communications and Public Affairs for Kodak and is now writing a memoir. The book, as yet untitled, will be released next spring. Rod's play *Son for Hire* was presented by Giovanni Productions in April at the Bundy Museum Annex in Binghamton, N.Y.

**83**

**Rolf Thorsen** was elected town justice of the Town of Clarkstown in Rockland County in November 2008. He will continue to maintain a private law practice in Garnerville, N.Y.



Rolf Thorsen

**Ellen Santasiero** has published an essay in *Going Green: True Tales from Gleaners, Scavengers, and Dumpster Divers*, published in April by the University of Oklahoma Press. She also had an article on literary archives in the spring issue of *Oregon Humanities* magazine.

**84**

**Donald Freer** is a U.S. Army Reserve captain currently deployed to Contingency Operating Base Specier in Tikrit, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He serves as the executive officer of the 361st Psychological Operations Company, an Army Reserve unit based in Bothell, Wash. **Arthur Vidro** served as a judge on the Best Play committee for the 2009 Edgar Awards, given by the Mystery Writers of

America to honor the best mystery works of the year. **Paul Vink** and **Andrew Tomko**, accompanied by **Paul Borden '83** and **David Schaffer '83**, celebrated the exact 25th anniversary of their graduation on May 20 by visiting the campus, as well as some old haunts.

**85**

**Karen Alpert** is featured in the *Moms Who Kick Calendar* for the month of October. The calendar features moms over 40 who are in excellent physical condition and train in some type of martial arts. Their project is "a tribute to all women who have battled with breast cancer," and all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society.

Information about purchasing a calendar and supporting the initiative can be found at [www.tigresspersonalfitness.com](http://www.tigresspersonalfitness.com).

**Amy Clarke** has been appointed vice president of Sales for Lippincott Williams & Wilkins of Philadelphia, Pa.

**Patricia Salkin** of Albany has been elected chair of the Municipal Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. She is an associate dean, Raymond and Ella Smith Distinguished Professor of Law, and the director of the Government Law Center of Albany Law School.

**86**

**Jennifer Manner** is Entertainment Software Association's senior vice president for Government Affairs. She is responsible for heading the association's federal and state



The UAlbany Alumni Association partnered with MyWorkster.com to offer an alumni job fair in New York City attended by more than 100 UAlbany alumni. Left to right, Tunisia Tate '05, Gershwin Williams '00 and Shamella Stewart '00 met up to discuss the employers at the fair.

government relations team, which works directly with elected officials and regulatory agencies on behalf of the entertainment software industry. **Howard**

**Krooks** was appointed to a one-year



Howard Krooks

term as secretary for the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys Board of Directors. Admitted to practice law in Florida and New York, Howard is a partner of Elder Law Associates PA with main offices in Boca Raton, Fla., and of counsel to Amoroso & Amoroso LLP in Westchester County, N.Y. **Paul Schaffer** has left Citigroup after nearly 19 years and is now CFO at Alterna

Capital Partners, a private equity firm investing in core capital assets in the transportation, industrial and energy sectors.

**87**

**Maria Tebano** has been named partner at Tully Rinckey PLLC; she will head the civil litigation department in the firm's New York office.



Maria Tebano

**Patrick Giannetto**, fire captain for the city of Del Mar and senior personnel research psychologist for the County of San Diego, Calif., has been recognized by Cambridge *Who's Who* for dedication, leadership and excellence in all aspects of public services. He was a member of the *Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges* (1985) and was inducted into the Vestal (N.Y.) High School Hall of Fame in 2006.

**88**

**Eleanor Zimmerman** has joined Hodgson Russ's Corporate & Securities Practice Group in the law firm's Johnstown, N.Y., office. **Philip**



Eleanor Zimmerman

**Botwinik** is an attorney for Bridgers, Peters and Kleber in Decatur, Ga. He also mentors political science graduates pursuing law or government careers in Georgia, or those pursuing military opportunities.

**91**

**Commander Scott Thompson** finished a two-year tour of duty as the commanding officer of Navy



GOLD alumni from New York City enjoyed an evening of networking and comedy at the COMIX Comedy Club. The event featured UAlbany alum George Prinzo '95.

# DAN BOCANEGRA, B.S.'08 CREATING A BUZZ

Legal Services, Southeast, U.S.A. Currently serving a 13-month tour as senior mentor to the Afghan National Police, he is stationed in Kabul.

**92 Shelly Baldwin** has been named partner in the New York office of Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP.



**Karin Sloan DeLaney** has joined Hancock & Estabrook LLP of Syracuse, N.Y. Karin has more than 13 years' experience as a trusts-and-estates and tax attorney with New York law firms. She lives in Baldwinsville, N.Y., with her husband and two sons. **Kevin Jackson** is head writer and director of a new Web-based episodic series called "Lombardi Street." The series emanates from and is collectively created by the members of a social network of the same name. Anyone who is interested in participating in any way — as a writer, director, crew, marketer, investor, or even just as a fan — can join the site and contribute. Visit [www.lombardistreet.com](http://www.lombardistreet.com).

**93 James Woodson** has been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of Psychology at the University of Tampa, Fla. He also won two faculty-development grants and was awarded a one-semester sabbatical toward work on his in-progress introductory-level textbook, *The Fundamentals of Biological Psychology*.

**94 Christopher Hahn** has joined Meltzer, Lippe, Goldstein & Breitstone LLP to lead the firm's Government Relations practice. He is well known in New York political circles, having served as a longtime senior aide to U.S. Senator Charles Schumer and as chief deputy county executive under Thomas Suozzi. Gov. David Patterson appointed Christopher to the Long Island Power Authority Board of Trustees, where he helps to oversee the second-largest public utility in the nation. **Oliver Robinson** has become the president of the New York State Council of School Superintendents Association.

**95 Jack Styczynski** received a writing award from the United States Basketball Writers Association at the



**U**ALBANY M.B.A. STUDENT DAN BOCANEGRA HAS A NOBLE OBJECTIVE: TO HELP OTHERS THROUGH AN ENTERPRISE THAT WILL ALSO SUPPORT HIM.

Last February, the 23-year-old "social entrepreneur" began selling T-shirts to support the **BUZZKILL Initiative**, an effort to purchase mosquito nets for use in Africa, where the risk of malaria is high. On campus; at churches and sporting events; and on social media, such as Facebook and Twitter, "I sold more than 500 shirts to fraternities and sororities, family and friends," noted Bocanegra, who visited half a dozen Kenyan and Ethiopian villages for two weeks in July to distribute the nets. He also "helped to build two schools and did HIV-prevention work."

By late April, the Daly City, Calif., native had raised more than \$10,000 toward the purchase of 1,000 mosquito nets in different sizes. Sponsors, including "Ed Swyer of Stuyvesant Plaza in Albany; Dan Nolan of NPV Capital; Michael Carmen; Michael Mayer of Mayer Capital Management; Rick and Pam Tinkham of Tinkham Real Estate; and UAlbany Volleyball," covered his travel expenses. Global Hope Network International, a non-profit, private humanitarian organization dedicated to serving the food, water, economic, education and wellness needs of people in 38 countries, handled the logistics of the trip.

Social media kept a worldwide audience apprised of the progress made in distributing the nets, which were draped around beds to protect sleepers from mosquitoes. Award-winning videographer/photographer Brett Beadle, who taught photography to children in Rwanda, captured the BUZZKILL experience. The pictures will be included on Bocanegra's Web site, [www.galatomy.com](http://www.galatomy.com), which "will go live in September" in the hope of creating "an e-commerce site dedicated to the sale of clothing with a social conscience. A portion of the proceeds from each T-shirt sold will go toward the cause it promotes. I want to make a positive impact on the world while developing an income." Bocanegra, who played football for the Great Danes while earning his undergraduate degree in business, added, "'Galatomy,' means 'We give thanks' in the Oromo language of Ethiopia."

As a teenager, Bocanegra visited New York and Boston and "knew I wanted to be on the East Coast" for college. "UAlbany was the best place for me; I got a football scholarship, and I was impressed by how supportive the University is with the process of transitioning to graduate school. Also, having all of my friends in this area made it easier for me to want to stay in Albany."

— Carol Olechowski





# Alumni News and Notes

Final Four in Detroit. Jack is a research adjunct at the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism. After taking a year off from being a public school teacher to be a stay-at-home dad, **Lance Somerfeld** started an online meet up/playgroup of stay-at-home dads in New York City that now has more than 60 members. About 12-14 dads get together every week to

go to museums, play gyms, music class, the zoo, etc. The group link is [www.meetup.com/New-York-City-Dads-Meetup-Group/](http://www.meetup.com/New-York-City-Dads-Meetup-Group/) and the blog site link is [www.nycdadsgroup.com/](http://www.nycdadsgroup.com/).

**96 Judy Hugentobler** held a sculpture and mosaic art exhibit, *Primordial Debrisat*, in January and



## Second Annual Young Alumni Reunion Planned

Good friends, free food and free beer.  
It doesn't get better than that.

Plan to come on back to UAlbany Oct. 9-11, 2009, and be part of the second GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Reunion. Join hundreds of other recent graduates, meet up with old friends and see what's new on campus.

### These exciting events and more await you:

- GOLD Friday night get-together at Jillian's – We've got Jillian's spacious game room all to ourselves, so come enjoy drink specials, free hors d'oeuvres, free billiards and great music at Jillian's, voted Albany's best sports bar. No cover charge.
- Homecoming 5K Fun Run/3K Walk and Little Dane Dash
- GOLD Tailgate Party with free beer, food and live music
- Great Danes Football vs. Duquesne
- Great Dane Great Bash at Washington Tavern with free food and drinks for all alumni
- Nanotech and Weather Center tours, academic presentations and student group demonstrations

Check the Web at  
[www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming09.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming09.php)  
for all the details.

February at the Wagner College Art Gallery in Staten Island, N.Y. **Arthur Laitman** has received the 2009 *Long Island Business News* 40 Under 40 Award. A partner at Rosenberg Fortuna & Laitman LLP, Arthur, an active member of Hofstra Law School's alumni board, was recently appointed to the board of the North Shore Long Island Jewish Commerce and Industry Council.

**Heather Campbell-Fife** is the new "Mrs. Yokota." The Mrs. Yokota

Organization is a not-for-profit organization that focuses on community service and raises funds for scholarships for married women stationed at Yokota Air Base outside Tokyo, Japan. The title is awarded annually through the Mrs. Yokota Scholarship Pageant. **Monica Miranda-Small**, director of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs at the University of Rochester's College of Arts, Science and Engineering, was presented the 2008 Outstanding Greek Advisory Award by sorority Phi Sigma Sigma's national organization. Monica also was honored by her peers with the Association of Fraternity Advisors' Sue Kraft Fussell Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes innovation, leadership and guidance to the university's Greek-lettered organizations. The Luther College Board of Regents in Decorah, Iowa, has announced a grant of tenure for **Lea Pickard** in anthropology.

**Jennifer Ciavarella Schmidberger** is the founding principal of Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School in The Bronx, N.Y.

**98 Mary Egan's** book *Billy's Village, a Saga of Ballston Lake in the 1920s*, is now in its second printing. Mary's granddaughter, UAlbany graduate **Bridget Blythe**, is news anchor on WKBW-TV in Buffalo, N.Y. **Brian Fetterly** is an outreach coordinator for Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield in Rochester, N.Y.

**00 Daniel Guyton's** most recent play, "The Mother of God Visits Hell," was accepted for simultaneous production at two theatres: the Alive Theatre in Los Angeles, Calif., and the Town & Gown Players in Athens, Ga. Both productions opened in February.



Dan Guyton

The Alive Theatre production features a publication deal and is being staged at the Royal Theatre aboard the Queen Mary cruise ship, which is docked in Long Beach Harbor. "The Mother of God Visits Hell," inspired by Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *The Brothers Karamazov*, is a full-length play written entirely in rhyming iambic pentameter. Daniel, who has published three other plays – "Attic," "Where's Julie?," and "Spat!" – has won two Kennedy Center awards for his writing. His plays have been produced worldwide.

**04** After spending two years as an auditor at National Government Services, **Jane Hopke** is a reimbursement analyst at Ministry Health Care in Stevens Point, Wis.

**05 Diane Onofry Ford** is a second-grade teacher at Rice Elementary School in Columbia, S.C. **Brian Rosenberg** is a senior consultant with Deloitte & Touche in Manhattan. **Matthew Laroche** was named Best Preliminary Round Oralist and Best Final Round Oralist at the John J. Gibbons Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition at Seton Hall University in March 2009.

**06 Daniel Kain** is an account executive with National Retirement Solutions. **Jeannine Sikora** is project assistant and housing policy advisor in the Office of Policy Research & Development at the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal in Albany.

**07 Tully Rinckey** PLLC announced the addition of **Peter Faherty** as a law clerk with the firm's Employment Law Department. Peter will assist the firm's attorneys with research and background work on various case law and other legal matters.



Peter Faherty

**08 Anna DiPasqua** is a seventh-grade life-science teacher at Little Falls Middle School in Little Falls, N.Y.

For a complete listing of class councilors:  
[www.albany.edu/alumni/council\\_of\\_classes.html](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/council_of_classes.html)  
or call the Alumni Association at (518) 442-3080.



Ariella Rosen



Austin Ira Klien



Claire Tiana Arnoff



Maeghan Russo



Luca Brazze  
De Launière



Stella Lucia Illuzzi



Giuseppe Ferraro with  
sister Samantha and  
brother Pasquale



Kadence Amelia Chambers



From left to right: Megan Buchanan '00,'02; Liz Tucker '01; Marie Connors '02;  
bride Melissa (Schoonover) Dunham '00; Cara Caffell White '02, '04;  
Dawn DiMicco Lucowitz '00, '02; Lauren O'Brien Neale '00



Russell Stout Jr. '03 and  
Audrey Richards '03



Alison Donahue and  
Sean Del Duca '03



Amber Amelio '03 and  
Richard DeSimong

# Births



- 1974 – **Fritz Drasgow** and wife Jean, a daughter, Annika Mary, May 3, 2008  
**Barry Davis** and wife **Beth (Kardon) '91** adopted Shay-Lynne, April 6, 2009
- 1989 – **Alison Frank** and Roberto Amador, a son, Franklin Lorenzo, Sept. 27, 2008
- 1990 – **Patti Santosus McCauley** and husband Thomas, a daughter, Jordan Patricia, Feb. 18, 2009
- 1991 – **Michael Gutter** and wife Emily, a daughter, Sophie Ella, Oct. 31, 2008  
**Danna Goldman Sobiecki** and husband Stephen, a daughter, Tori Alyssa, Feb. 12, 2009
- 1995 – **Peter Russo** and wife **Teresa Jennings '96**, a daughter, Maeghan Amelia, Jan. 24, 2009  
**Lance Somerfield** and wife Jessica, a son, Jake Aaron, July 13, 2008
- 1997 – **Kevin Chambers** and wife Damara, a daughter, Kadence Amelia, Feb. 20, 2009  
**Stacy Pettigrew** and husband Scott Kellogg, a daughter, Violet Marie, May 30, 2009
- 1998 – **Brian Grieco** and wife Nina, a son, Giovanni Alexander, Nov. 10, 2008  
**Kristy Ackert** and husband Matthew Illuzzi, a daughter, Stella Lucia, Nov. 7, 2008
- 1999 – **Paul Alan Rosen** and wife **Jodi Ellenbogen**, a daughter, Ariella Yaira, Feb. 12, 2009  
**Lawrence Klein** and wife **Debra Cavalli '02**, a son, Austin Ira, Jan. 14, 2009
- 2000 – **Jonathan Arnoff** and wife **Andreea Constantinescu**, a daughter, Claire Tiana, Nov. 7, 2008
- 2003 – **Lisa Ferraro** and husband Giuseppe, a son, Giuseppe "Joey" Jr., May 22, 2009  
**Amanda Brazee** and husband Guy De Launière, a son, Luca Brazee, March 13, 2009

# Marriages

- 1997 – **Gregory Michelsen** and Karen Hammel, May 24, 2009
- 1998 – **Brian Fetterly** and Sara Croniser, July 18, 2009
- 2000 – **Melissa Schoonover** and Eric Dunham, April 18, 2009
- 2001 – **Christopher Anderson** and Michele Salamy, July 11, 2009
- 2002 – **Benjamin Speciale** and Melinda Watts, May 2, 2009
- 2002 – **Audrey Richards** and **Russell Stout Jr. '03**, July 5, 2008
- 2003 – **Amber Amelio** and Richard DeSimong, June 7, 2008
- 2003 – **Sean Del Duca** and Alison Donahue, May 1, 2009
- 2005 – **Diane Onofry** and David Ford, March 27, 2009
- 2005 – **Brian Rosenberg** and Lauren Stein, June 6, 2009



## Authors & Editors

**Edith Cutting, B.A.'38**, has a new book, *Joanna of Jerusalem*. This children's story set in biblical times involves a teenage girl's life touched by worry and fear, as well as by friendship and love. Edith's earlier book, *A Pioneer Songster: Texts from the Stevens-Douglass Manuscript of Western New York 1841-1856*, is scheduled for reprint by Cornell Press.

**Edith Davidson, B.A.'44, M.A.'49**, has written *Intricacy, Design and Cunning in the Book of Judges*, an anthology of action-packed stories about heroic battles on Israel's frontier in 1250 - 1150 BCE. The *Book of Judges* in the Bible is a deeply-disturbing anthology of short stories about a people desperate for survival. A comedy of horrors, its dynamic interactive tales display secrecy, deceptions, ambushes, assassinations, improvised weapons and one passionate illicit love affair. Learning the secrets of this ancient masterpiece of world literature and deciphering its profound messages should give pleasure to all - whether religious or not. Davidson, for many years a professor of world literature, is also a biblical scholar.

**David Pitkin, M.A.'64**, has published his seventh book, *New York State Ghosts, Volume 2*. Pitkin owns Aurora Publications, a small press in Chestertown, N.Y., where he writes novels and researches collections of ghostly folklore. He also is a professional storyteller.

**Ellen Gordon Pickus, B.A.'71**, has published *Unbroken Promises*, a book of poetry. Topics range from summers in the Catskills to the joys and challenges of raising a special-needs child. Her poems have appeared in the *Midwest Poetry Review*, *Fan Magazine* and the *Long Island Quarterly*. Ellen has won prizes for both her writing and her teaching of poetry. Her book is being sold to raise money for Alzheimer's disease, from which her mother suffers. Contact

information: Boxer Books, P.O. 217, Baldwin, N.Y. 11510.

**Sally Valentine, B.S.'71**, has written *Theft at George Eastman House*, a novel for middle-school students. This mystery about a fictional theft at a real place, George Eastman House in Rochester, N.Y., is a sequel to *Ghost of the Charlotte Lighthouse*. It is the second book of a series set in Rochester landmarks.

**Margaret Lynch-Brennan, M.A.'76, Ph.D.'02**, has written *The Irish Bridget: Irish Immigrant Women in Domestic Service in America, 1840-1930*. "Bridget" is the term for Irish immigrant service girls who worked in American homes from the second half of the 19th century into the early years of the 20th. She is widely known as a pop culture cliché: the young girl who wreaks havoc in middle-class American homes. Now, in the first book-length treatment of the topic, Lynch-Brennan tells the real story of such Irish domestic servants, often in their own words, providing a richly detailed portrait of their lives and experiences.

**Peter Marino, M.A.'83**, has published *Magic and Misery*, which has been nominated by the American Library Association for Best Books for Young Adults. This novel is about a magical - and miserable - time in the life of TJ, a high-school junior who lives in a small city in upstate New York. TJ must balance her love and affection for her gay best friend with that of her boyfriend. Marino is an English professor at Adirondack Community College in upstate New York.

**Alexandra Siy, M.A.'86**, and Dennis Kunkel have won the 2008 AIP Science Writing Award in the children's category for their book *SNEEZE!* Siy is a photographer and children's book author in upstate New York. Combining her photographs and

prose with Kunkel's electron micrographs of pollen, mold, dander, mites, and other invisible irritants, *SNEEZE!* is about nine kids discovering nine different reasons for sneezing.

**Paul Winkler, B.A.'87**, has published his first book, *Above the Maddening Crowd - How to Avoid Being Destroyed by the Wall Street Marketing Machine*. Winkler is CEO and president of Paul Winkler Inc. and is the host of a popular radio program, "The Investor Coaching Show," in Nashville, Tenn. He also is a weekly guest on "Fox 17's Morning Show," discussing various financial topics. More information: [www.paulwinkler.net](http://www.paulwinkler.net).

**Sabine Ludwig, M.A.'91**, has published *Climate Change and Development Policy*. Written in German, this new book describes adaption strategies to reduce the impact of a changing climate. More than 25 environmental experts within the international community and the developing world collaborated in outlining the specific threats posed by climate crisis and burgeoning species eradication, while also offering possible solutions through new adaptation strategies. More information: [www.amazon.de](http://www.amazon.de) or [www.sabine-ludwig.com](http://www.sabine-ludwig.com).

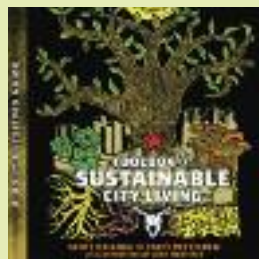
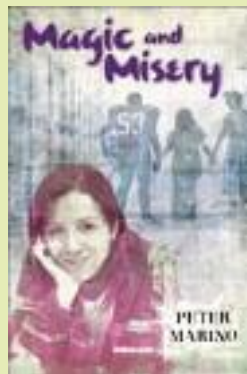
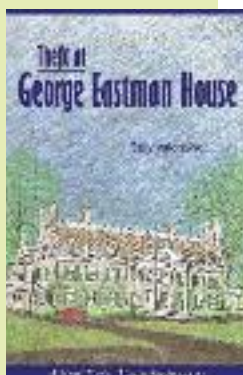
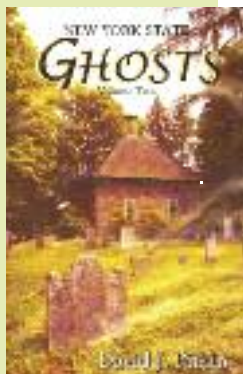
**Stephen Soucy, B.A.'91**, is a publisher of literary fiction. In 2008, the Congressional Quarterly Press territory manager and acquisitions editor established Modernist Press and published his first book, *Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine: West Hollywood Stories*, for which he wrote both the foreword and a story, "I Wouldn't Normally Do This Kind of Thing." His second book, a collection of short fiction inspired by works of art and aptly titled *ART From ART*, has just been published.

**Michele Battiste, M.A.'95**, has published *Ink for an Odd Cartography*, a revealing collec-

tion of narrative poems. *Ink for an Odd Cartography* travels from San Francisco to Wichita to New York City, surveying the places and spaces where children talk to gravel, stalkers give pointers, and fallen angels kill time in night-clubs. Battiste takes on the poetics of geography, examining the influence landscape and place have on people and their decisions. She also is the author of *Raising Petra* (2007), and her poems have appeared in several literary journals such as *The Mid-American Review* and *Poetry International*.

**Stacy Pettigrew, B.A.'97**, has co-authored *Toolbox for Sustainable City Living, a do-it-yourself guide for creating locally based, ecologically sustainable communities in today's cities*. Its straightforward text, vibrant illustrations and accessible diagrams explain how urbanites can have local access and control over life's essential resources: food production, water security, waste management, autonomous energy, and bioremediation of toxic soils. Written for people with limited financial means, the book emphasizes building these systems with cheap, salvaged and recycled materials, when possible.

**Lee Krinsky, B.A.'01**, has written *The Longest Fall*, based in part on the author's high-school experiences as a member of the W.C. Mephram cross country team with legendary coach Paul Limmer. Tragically, like one of the main characters in *The Longest Fall*, one of the runners from the cross country team, Troy Depass, died in Krinsky's junior year. *The Longest Fall* demonstrates that sometimes it takes an entire team to pull together in order to come out a winner, especially when the goal line is crossing over into adulthood. A portion of sales from *The Longest Fall* will go toward the *Troy Depass Scholarship Fund*.



## Deaths

### 1920s

**Dorothy Gedney Dayton** '28, May 30, 2008

### 1930s

**Marion Roberts Young** '30, Jan. 22, 1999

**Louise Koory** '32, Sept. 2, 2006

**Margaret Service Cox** '33, July 20, 2008

**John H. Grosvenor** '33, Oct. 4, 2008

**Margaret R. Hart** '34, Dec. 12, 2008

**Wilhelmina Palkovic Kenney** '36, May 26, 2009

**Carolyn Simonet Snow** '36, March 10, 2008

**Robert Coutant** '37, Feb. 19, 2009

**Frances Kniffen Dietz** '37, Nov. 30, 2005

**G. Raymond Fisk** '37, Dec. 31, 2008

**Lester W. Rubin** '37, April 14, 1999

**Frances Wirpsza** '37, Feb. 17, 2009

**Margaret Takacs Broderick** '38, March 1, 2008

**Ruth Miller** '38, Nov. 16, 2006

**Sophia Jadick Smith** '38, Dec. 14, 2008

**Harry B. Bergstein** '39, Feb. 9, 2003

**John L. Dorman** '39, April 20, 2004

**Roger W. Marsters** '39, Nov. 13, 2008

**James R. Spence** '39, Nov. 5, 2007

**Ruth B. Wooschlagher** '39, May 13, 2008

### 1940s

**Julia Vamosy Coulson** '40, Jan. 21, 2009

**Florence J. Furfaro** '40, March 9, 2009

**Walter Karpiak** '40, Feb. 1, 2008

**Mary Jane Bulk Shafer** '40, Oct. 1, 2003

**Edwin C. Casler** '42, Feb. 15, 2007

**Charles W. Reynolds** '42, May 31, 2007

**Marie Hart Dowd** '43, March 6, 2009

**Peter Marchetta** '43, Jan. 25, 2005

**Dorothy Cox Myers** '43, July 27, 2000

**Mary Manion Boyd** '44, Feb. 15, 2009

**Mary Gravelle** '44, May 11, 2003

**Eunice Baird Whittlesey** '44, April 12, 2009

**Ruth Cassavant Eyres** '45, May 18, 2009

**Elaine Harris Heidenstrom** '45, Jan. 28, 2009

**Florence Garfall Traber** '45, Nov. 9, 2008

**Beatrice Wheeler Vicks** '45, Feb. 28, 2009

**Lela Rockefeller Tosh** '46, Feb. 3, 2008

**Edwina Lucke Goodrich** '48, Jan. 12, 2008

**Frances Flanagan Nichols** '49,

May 23, 2008

## Eunice Baird Whittlesey

**Eunice Baird Whittlesey, B.A.'44**, passed away April 12, 2009.

She was 86.

After earning her degree in English from the New York State College for Teachers, Whittlesey began her teaching career in New England. She later became active in politics, holding several prominent statewide and national positions with the Republican party. In addition, Whittlesey promoted environmental awareness through her work with the New York State Environmental Health Services Unit's Pure Waters Division, the Ambassadors to Bring About Action Through Environmental Study (ABATES), and the Keep New York State Clean program.

Whittlesey was also a tireless supporter of the University at Albany. Co-councilor for the Class of 1944 at the time of her death, she was also a past president of the Alumni Association, former chair of the Annual Fund, and onetime member of the Benevolent Association. Several years ago, Whittlesey and other alumni volunteers created the Wall of Honor, a lasting tribute to the 3,000 University faculty, students and staff who served in the nation's armed forces. In an interview published in the Spring 2007 UAlbany magazine, she called the wall, which is located in the University Library on the uptown campus, a "very rewarding" project. "I felt we made a contribution because those people won't be forgotten," Whittlesey added.

Her husband of 60 years, Joseph I. Whittlesey, passed away July 15, 2009.

Survivors include their daughter, Anne Donlan, and two granddaughters.



# Alumni News and Notes

## 1950s

**Lois A. Bassett Keller** '50, Jan. 31, 2007  
**Donald G. Burt** '51, March 31, 2009  
**Claramartha Brawn Gilmer** '51, Sept. 23, 2008  
**Frederic T. Knoerzer** '51, Feb. 17, 2004  
**Doris Law Rivenburgh** '52, May 26, 2001  
**C. Michael Abraham** '53, Feb. 23, 2007  
**Thomas J. Atkinson** '53, March 17, 2004  
**Lorraine Dioron Kirsch** '53, May 11, 2009  
**Leonard Bintz** '54, April 25, 2009  
**John S. Wilson** '54, Feb. 3, 2009  
**William L. Aumic** '55, Oct. 2, 2008  
**John M. Morrissey** '55, Sept. 6, 2008  
**Gladys Cook Sage** '56, June 15, 2008  
**John E. Stefano** '58, Dec. 5, 2008  
**Rosemarie Abraham Devoe** '59, Nov. 20, 2006

## 1960s

**Hedy Schwartz Bagatelle** '60, July 17, 2008  
**Richard L. Boyle** '60, May 11, 2008  
**Mary M. Flynn** '60, Sept. 20, 2008  
**Norma Fiebke Goodrich** '60, May 13, 2008

**Chuck Huntress** '60, May 21, 2009  
**David C. Frank** '62, Jan. 30, 2009  
**Wayne R. Arthurton** '64, Feb. 14, 2009  
**Carol A. Matthews Metz** '64, Oct. 23, 2007  
**Barbara Kay Townsend** '65, '66, June 11, 2009  
**Joanne H. Rein** '66, Nov. 27, 2008  
**John Woodward, Jr.** '66, Oct. 21, 2008  
**Patricia Hanlin Sharp** '67, Feb. 04, 2009  
**Elizabeth Lokenberg Dixon** '69, Aug. 27, 2007

## 1970s

**Leonard Quint** '70, March 29, 2009  
**William B. Schade** '71, Oct. 23, 2008  
**Richard D. Garlock** '72, March 13, 2009  
**Frances Disalvatore Warner** '72, Jan. 12, 2009  
**Margaret H. Fogarty** '73, Nov. 17, 2008  
**Susan G. Hewitt** '73, Dec. 8, 2008  
**Barbara A. Kachur** '73, Dec. 28, 2008  
**Raymond Pressman** '73, March 14, 2009  
**John P. Rumsey** '73, March 20, 1999  
**Frederick Severance** '73, Oct. 23, 2007

**Thomas H. Calvin** '75, Jan. 27, 2009  
**Andrew W. Jastrebski** '76, Dec. 30, 2008  
**Joseph R. Nass** '76, Aug. 27, 2005  
**Joanne Josephs Abdalah** '77, May 27, 2008  
**James F. Dunlay** '77, May 22, 2001  
**Patricia Ruth Chetuck** '78, April 15, 2006

## 1980s

**John W. Cooper** '80, July 26, 2007  
**Peter J. Garczynski** '80, June 8, 2007  
**Stuart C. Gruskin** '80, May 1, 2009  
**Elaine B. Lefkowitz** '80, April 26, 2008  
**Janet Aldridge Bozzi** '81, Jan. 1, 2009  
**Philip W. Filieau** '81, Dec. 25, 2006  
**Jeanne M. Jacobson** '81, Jan. 29, 2009  
**Frederick J. Bond** '82, May 17, 2004  
**Linda Crump Stenberg** '87, Dec. 21, 2003  
**Jane C. Neale** '88, July 12, 2007

## 1990s

**James E. Flanagan** '90, March 26, 2003  
**Kam K. Kruglak** '95, Sept. 10, 2008  
**John J. Ingrassia** '98, March 4, 2009  
**Ronen Segal** '99, April 26, 2009

## 2000s

**Melissa S. Daniels** '04, Sept. 5, 2008  
**George A. Wood** '04, Nov. 20, 2003  
**Brian D. Lyons** '07, Sept. 3, 2007

## FACULTY/STAFF

**Jerome Eckstein**, May 8, 2009, Professor, Judaic Studies, Religious Studies, 1966-1997

**Walter M. Gibson**, May 15, 2009, Distinguished Professor, Physics, 1976-2009

**Pong S. Lee**, Feb. 3, 2009, Professor, Economics, 1966-1995

**William T. Reedy**, Oct. 24, 2008, Professor, History, 1964-1999

## Professor Emeritus Jerome Eckstein,

who guided the launch of many new academic initiatives during his 31-year career at the University at Albany, passed away May 8, 2009. He was 83.

A graduate of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University, Brooklyn College and Columbia University, Eckstein began his teaching career at City College of New York and Columbia. He was a driving force behind the creation and growth of UAlbany's Judaic studies department, and helped to establish the religious studies department. Eckstein, who held a joint appointment to both, also wrote several books, including *Deathday of Socrates* (1981) and *On Meanings of Life, Their Nature and Origin* (2002). Following his retirement from UAlbany in 1997, he became a visiting professor at Israel's Bar-Ilan University and Virginia Commonwealth University.

Eckstein is survived by his wife, Kathleen; a stepdaughter; three children; and several grandchildren.

## Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Physics

## Walter M. Gibson,

founder of UAlbany's Center for X-Ray Optics, died of leukemia May 15, 2009, at his home in Clarksville, N.Y. He was 78.

Born in Utah, Gibson earned a doctorate in nuclear chemistry at the University of California-Berkeley. A pioneer in semiconductor detectors, x-ray optics and x-ray analysis techniques, the U.S. Air Force veteran worked at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey prior to joining the UAlbany Department of Physics faculty in 1976. He later chaired the department for more than 10 years, and also served briefly as acting vice president for Research and dean of Graduate Studies. Gibson guided 48 doctoral candidates through the dissertation process. His teaching and research brought him such recognition at The University at Albany Foundation's 1992 Academic Laureate Award. He was also the first faculty member to serve as James W. Corbett Distinguished Service Professor of Physics.

Survivors include his wife, Alice; five children; 20 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

### A Class of 1957 Alumna Shares Some News

*UAlbany* is excellent and a tribute to a great University.

I read the article on the Peace Corps volunteer in Moldova [Rebecca Whiteley, B.S.'07] with great interest. I, too, was a Peace Corps volunteer in Eastern Europe/Romania, 2001-03. An interesting aspect of my tour is that I graduated from the University at Albany in 1957! Some of the best years of my life were spent there; the University provided a considerable grounding for a good life. My name at the time was Anne Marie Persico.

In the year following my Peace Corps tour, I wrote a book under my current name, Annabelle Townson. *We Wait for You: Unheard Voices from Post-Communist Romania* was published by Rowman & Littlefield in 2004. I also became employed by the Peace Corps Agency Headquarters in Washington, D.C.; for some time, I have been actively recruiting senior citizens – who mainly do not realize they can volunteer with the Peace Corps! As a Country Desk representative for Moldova, Romania and Ukraine, I assist applicants through the nomination and orientation process. A lovely coincidence is that I was at the desk when Ms. Whiteley was processed for her tour in 2007.

On another note, I was surprised to find no entries for the Class of 1957 in *UAlbany's* "Alumni News and Notes" section! Because

I would like to encourage my former classmates to share their news, I will offer some of my own: In September, I begin a tour with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a disaster assistance employee with the Community Relations Reservist Cadre.

Finally, I received a notice some time ago, inquiring if any of my family members were also State University of New York graduates. I have two brothers who graduated from UAlbany. Joseph E. Persico '52 is a historian and a published author of many books, including the autobiography of Colin Powell. Richard A. Persico '55 is a retired attorney with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and former executive director of the Adirondack State Park Agency.

**Annabelle Townson**  
(Anne Marie Persico, B.A.'57)  
Washington, D.C.

## Calendar

### October

- 9-11 Homecoming/Family Weekend & Reunion
- 9-11 GOLD Reunion
- 10 Presidents' Legacy Reception

### November

- 11 Culinary Institute of America Lunch

### December

- 3 Varsity Club Luncheon with Coach Will Brown
- 5 UAlbany vs. Siena Basketball Pregame Party, Broadway Joe's, Albany
- 10 See "Wicked" and Meet Author Gregory Maguire '76, Capital Region Chapter

**For additional events and details, visit**  
**[www.albany.edu/alumni](http://www.albany.edu/alumni).**

### UAlbany's Spring Issue Was Touching and Inspiring

I wanted to let you know how very much I enjoyed reading the Spring 2009 *UAlbany* magazine. As a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and a University employee who works very closely with both undergraduate and graduate students, I was delighted with the magazine's focus on not only achievement, but, more to the point, on achievement that impacts others in a very meaningful way. The articles highlighting service to the community really touched my heart, and left me very much looking forward to the next edition of the magazine. I have forwarded copies of articles to numerous colleagues, family members and students. The magazine is an utter inspiration. I can only hope that each edition will maintain the same tone, and be as chock full of articles on alumni as this one.

Thank you to your and your staff!

**Stacy (Gaudin) Newman, B.A.'86, M.P.A.'89**  
Clifton Park, N.Y.

# UAlbany

Here are the best ways to reach us!

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Albany, NY 12222

#### ALUMNI NEWS AND NOTES

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Albany, NY 12222  
Ph: (518) 442-3080; Fax: (518) 442-3207

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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# The Last Word

By Christina Loud, B.A. '92

His pledge name was “Boss Hogg” – a tribute to his round stomach, balding head and love of food. He was loud, boisterous, funny, self-possessed, and made friends with nearly everyone he met. I am talking, of course, about Father Joe Cotugno, Catholic chaplain at UAlbany when I was an undergraduate.

It was impossible to overlook Father Joe. His bright Chapel House office contained jars labeled “blessings” and “angels.” “Hello!” he would boom over the telephone; “this is the Holy Man of God

student’s parent and therefore actually listened. He said Mass outdoors, cajoled his mother into cooking homemade marinara sauce for an entire retreat, and drove around Albany with his two dogs – and all the students who lived off campus and needed rides home.

This exemplary priest helped many students deal with alienation, financial hardships, worries about their academic standing, thoughts of suicide and struggles with their faith. In him, those disillusioned with the Church found someone waiting with open arms to welcome them back.

Joe left UAlbany when his health began to fail. A diabetic, he spent 10 years on dialysis, waiting for a kidney that never came. He kept both his sense of humor and his faith, giving a pet name to his dialysis tube; admitting that he cried when he learned a relative did not match as a donor; and realizing that, with his health in rapid decline, he would be going home to God. He offered a special Mass to celebrate his life and say goodbye, dying at St. Peter’s Hospice two days after saying his final Mass at the Capital District Psychiatric Center, where he ministered to patients.

A week later, nearly 15 years after my graduation, I was touched that so many UAlbany alumni had gathered to say a final goodbye at Father Joe’s funeral. He had loved our hearts, fed our souls and shown us true faith. We had gone to college to learn and grow, and he had succeeded in helping us to do both.

Chris Loud, who earned a bachelor’s in psychology and English, is a licensed social worker and teacher. The White Plains, N.Y., resident currently teaches science to special-education students in grades 6-12.



Christina Loud, B.A. '92



This photo from a Chapel House album pictures Father Joe Cotugno celebrating Mass in 1992 at UAlbany.

calling! And how are you today?” He was quick with a joke; gave long hugs; and ended all conversations with his trademark “Peace, love and joy.”

At his standing-room-only Sunday Masses, his homilies frequently focused on both world issues and student concerns. They resonated with his young congregants, who found Mass – often for the first time – a welcoming place. He really did pledge a fraternity, and students wearing T-shirts with Greek letters started showing up at Chapel House functions. Joe really did have an adopted son, Jason, the SUNY Buffalo student he could talk about so frankly that we forgot we were hearing advice from another

# Giving Back



Alan Stephenson

## Kathleen Dennis, B.S.'75

Kathleen Dennis knows numbers. That's why her "great experience at UAlbany," plus a desire to give back, added up to her decision to include a bequest intention for the University in her will.

As an undergraduate economics major with a minor in accounting, Dennis appreciated UAlbany's "flexibility" in allowing her "to do some things that were differ-

ent." For instance, she enjoyed reading novels and fiction but "felt I didn't have time to read for pleasure, so I always tried to take a few English courses." Her schedule also allowed her to participate in the University's Community Service Project; she worked for Rochester, N.Y., lawmaker Thomas Hanna and was introduced to the New York State Legislature. "I got a good education at UAlbany, and I grew up a lot there. I was a bit of a 'wild child,' but I got some direction at the University."

Dennis spent "pretty much" her entire banking career "in asset management and the trust business." Now self-employed, she consults for the mutual-fund industry.

Because "schools need money to keep going and to do the good things they do, and the days of state support are pretty well gone,"

Dennis incorporated into her will a bequest intention benefiting UAlbany. It has not been specified for any particular program or purpose – and it may remain undesignated. "I believe in letting an organization figure out where it has the greatest need," says the Ohio resident. "I could think of something today, but obviously, it will be a while – I hope! – before the University receives the bequest, and the school's needs may change. It's best to leave it up to the people in the leadership roles there to decide where the need is."

## Bequest Intentions

**It's not too early (or too late, for that matter) to plan for the future!**

**Whether you are 45, 65 or 85 years old, you can become a permanent partner with UAlbany through a bequest in your will. When you make a bequest through The University at Albany Foundation, as Kathleen Dennis has, you are making the ultimate gift: a gift to the future.**

After including bequests for family, friends and other loved ones, please consider including a provision for UAlbany – one that could support scholarships and awards, library and research, lectures and cultural programs, graduate fellowships and even professorships.

For our new brochure on bequests, including suggested wording, please contact Sorrell Chesin, without obligation:



**UALBANY FUND**

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# SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS!

Homecoming/Family and Reunion Weekend  
Oct. 9-11, 2009



## Weekend Highlights:

- UA Football vs. Duquesne Dukes
- Touchdown Tailgate
- Reaching Higher, Achieving More Luncheon
- Farmer's Market
- Academic Presentations
- Aqua Ducks Tour
- Presidents' Legacy Reception
- Campus Tours
- Omicron Delta Kappa Induction
- Sorority Coffee Hours
- Great Danes Great Bash at WT's

We will be celebrating the milestone reunions for the classes of 1999, 1984, 1969, 1954 and inducting the Class of 1959 into the Half-Century Club. A special reunion will be held for the State College News and Albany Student Press.

For homecoming and reunion details, please visit [www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming09.php](http://www.albany.edu/alumni/homecoming09.php) or contact the Alumni Association at 1-800-836-ALUM.



**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY State University of New York

*Stay Connected. Make UAlbany Stronger.*

Come back to campus this fall, invite your friends to join you for a memorable and exciting UAlbany Weekend and remember our dress code: **Purple and Gold!**

**THE WORLD WITHIN REACH**

This event is made possible in part through a grant from University Auxillary Services.