

# Class of '87 Newsletter

Hello, Fellow '87's-

Note to self: Always, *always* write up reunion notes right after you come home. Here it is, a year later, and I am just getting our first Newsletter out to all of you. I am very sorry, there's no real excuse- but there is an explanation and her name is Molly.

## Another update on our class project — Dartmouth Partners in Community Service.

As you know, this gives a stipend to undergraduate students who work as interns for a non-profit during an off-term.

Without these funds, these internships wouldn't be possible. Also, DPCS matches the students with alumni mentors.

Members of the class of '87 can get involved by making a donation to fund an intern, volunteering to be a mentor or by letting the DPCS know of a community service organization in your area that could use a Dartmouth intern.

To give, the check should be made payable to Dartmouth College with DPCS noted in the memo line on the check. Send donations to the Tucker Foundation, c/o Sherry Cook, 6154 S. Fairbanks, Hanover, NH 03755 Thanks so much!

**Jessica Slosberg Benjamin**  
**Ricki Stern**

Now that I have entered the realm of parenthood I have a beef to pick with all y'all working moms- - you made it look easy! My husband Skip and I had things barely under control during my leave, because we were both home. I sailed back to work thinking it would be a stretch but manageable and basically created a train wreck trying to get all the moving parts aligned. Luckily, we have mostly survived but certain things took a hit, one of them being this newsletter.

There's my paltry excuse. Many of you have accomplished far more with multiples, so it's not really a good excuse, but here goes- let's hear how things are out there, for the rest of the world. (*REUNION Cont'd on page 4...*)

**Anne Schnader Jones, Lisa Sweeney, Meg Crone Ramstead, Sara Dann, Chris Foley Kollmorgen, looking pretty fabulous & youthful**



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And now, a letter from our President  
(no, not that one- our Class President)

**H. Randy Morgan**

Dear Class,

As some of you know, I have been serving as Class President since our reunion last year, taking over from **Amy Baker**, who had held the post for the previous two years. Many thanks to Amy for her vision and leadership, and to her predecessor, **Christen O'Connor**, for her ongoing input and guidance. I am thrilled that as Newsletter Co-Editors, Amy and Christen will continue to work closely with me through our 25th Reunion in 2012.

A huge thanks and ovation are due to **Allison Bleyler McDonald**, who chaired our 20th reunion last June. It was a wonderful success, Allison, and I understand we didn't give you a lot of notice before you were drafted into service! The Moon Rocks concert and other festivities that you and your committee organized made our tent the "place to be" even for members of the other reunion classes.

Also, by the end of the Reunion, **Tim Bixby and Raffiq Nathoo**, who are graciously continuing as our Head Alumni Fund Agents, succeeded in raising \$810,744 and achieved 48% participation in our reunion year giving campaign. It was a superb showing!

The reunions continue. You all may be aware of the phenomenal accomplishment that **Laura Gasser** made of our 87th Day/Night this year – Laura and her fellow volunteers hosted a dozen gatherings of Dartmouth '87s around the country at the end of March this year!

## **Funny story behind why H. looks like President Bush:**

January, 2007: As for news, I spent the last few months creating a surprise 40th birthday party for Lynn. Two fellow '87s came to town for the party - **Dan Wolfe** (and his wife Pang-Mei Chang); and Lynn's sister **Elizabeth Weidberg Maciag** (and her husband Mike). I held it at the National Press Club in DC and brought in the Clintons' and Bush's former White House Chef to prepare the feast. When the Bush impersonator cancelled, I found myself donning a wig and studying Bush speeches on the internet around the clock for the week leading up to the party. I surprised everyone with my 10-minute Bush schtick, and the former White House chef gave my name to a Hilton that is now contracting me to play Bush for 4 parties next month in Pennsylvania. Can you believe it? I still can't!

**H. Randy Morgan**

# Class News

You can read more about the fun mini-reunion get-togethers both in this newsletter and on the new and improved Class of 1987 Website that our Webmistress has designed. **Jenifer Holcombe Soykan** has produced a revised class site for us at [www.dartmouth.org/classes/87](http://www.dartmouth.org/classes/87). Among the features Jen has added is a list of Classmate Links. Send Jen (Jenifer.Holcombe.Soykan.87@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG) a link to your own home site, your company's or organization's website, articles, or anything that gives us some insight into what is important to you these days.

Our new Co-Secretaries, **Wendy Becker** and **Melissa Walshein Smith** have also rejuvenated communications with the Class over the past several months. Wendy and Melissa successfully restored our Class Notes program after a prolonged post-reunion transition and have introduced an innovative strategy for collecting news on classmates. They have divided the class into 12 groups and are only soliciting one group every two months. That means each of us will only be pinged once every two years, so, be sure not to miss the opportunity to respond when your turn arrives.

To further help us keep in better touch, I would be grateful if each of you would send us your updated email address as well as addresses for any other classmates with whom you keep in contact. Please send them to me at [H.Randall.Morgan.Jr.87@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG](mailto:H.Randall.Morgan.Jr.87@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG).

Finally, I am very happy to report that **Anne Schnader Jones**, who stepped up to the plate last summer to assume the demanding role of Treasurer, is continuing to do a terrific job, as one would naturally expect of her. Anne is a joy to work with. Moreover, she finished the class tax return on time with a week and a half to spare!

I wish you all a wonderful summer.

**H (Randy) Morgan**

## Class of 1987 Officers

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Our new Web Diva  
**Jennifer Holcombe Soykan**

# Class News

## REUNION REMINISCING (cont'd from front page):

Okay first of all, even though it was eons ago allow me to reminisce about our “20th” reunion. I for one had more fun at that reunion than any other, and I have my theories as to why. One theory is that because I was more involved in putting this one together, I would therefore feel a sense of ownership and involvement that I wouldn't have before.

This could be true. The part I was worried most about was coming up with a great slate of officers for the coming term, and in a beautiful Zen moment this all came together while we were there. I have discovered the power of asking for volunteers while the one being asked is physically on campus. Very persuasive (Just ask **Maury Laurence Stephan**, seen below or **Laura Gasser**, to the right with Colin- neither escaped un-volunteered).



If you are at all inclined, you're more likely to agree to volunteer within sight of Baker Tower. Part of my sheer joy was the handing of the Presidential baton over to **H Randy Morgan** and knowing that I was handing the class over to good hands.



To further my theory about why this one was the most fun: at this point, I figure, we have all succeeded at something and we have all failed at something, usually spectacularly in each direction.

At our 5th, we were just finding our way, by our 10th there were definitely some comparisons going on, at our 15th the first of our class millionaires were beginning to crop up and there was an undercurrent of competition. Married vs. still single or newly re-single, children, house, job title, career path, etc.



It could have been my imagination, but by our 20th this seemed way less relevant- no matter what path you'd chosen you were happy to see others. Nobody was setting much stock either way and the whole affair had a “to each his own” feel to it. Maybe I have my rosy glasses on, but I had a ball and had to account for it somehow (see **Evan Ezriliant** & son, having a ball, above.)

# Class News



To start with, I thank my lucky stars that **Allison Bleyler McDonald** agreed to be our Reunion Chair- the whole thing went off without a hitch despite my giving her a late start. **Christen O'Connor** came to our aid by being registrar (here's a photo of the three of us after the entire affair had been pulled off).

Thankfully we had the help of **Lizzie O'Connell Burn** and **Sara Dann** (seen below), who organized several of the meals, and all of us pulled in others on an ad hoc basis- **Rusty Barber**, for example, organized the

memorial service, **Evan Marquit** worked behind the scenes to secure Moonrocks, and there were others too.

The tone for the whole weekend was set on Friday night when the 87's had the most rockin' tent on the row, because WE HAD MOONROCKS. And we all know Moonrocks rocks. (**Benjamin Moynihan** rocks the house, below.)



They kept us dancing- and I mean crowds were out there, kids were unabashedly and gleefully hopping around, groupies were swaying solo, '85s and '86s were crashing the party. It was by far the most fun I've had dancing pregnant on grass in oh, say, ever.



This was on top of a lobster dinner replete with corn on the cob that other tents were also eyeing enviously, having gone casual with burgers and dogs. (To right, **Jennine Shohan Pommier**, **Drew Desky** across from his partner and **Devon Davia** enjoy the lobster feast.)



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Saturday we had (literally) a Field Day out behind the gym (photo to right is of Collum Bleyler McDonald staring down the Big Guy), and Saturday evening **Harold Ambler** (seen here, shielded from a potential raindrop or two) got us ready for the



evening by playing for the crowd as we cocktailed away on Mass Row.

Saturday evening was in good old Thayer, which had really been spruced up nicely for the evening. The food was good but the acoustics were horrendous, which was unfortunate as our speakers were great and not everyone could hear.

**Leslie Collins Trautwein** and **Vic Trautwein** (below) talked about their experiences in Haiti, where they run a clinic and an orphanage to offset the effects of poverty.

In their own words: “We are building and developing orphanages, schools and care centers for poor kids in the Dominican Republic with a non-denominational Christian nonprofit called Kids Alive, Intl. We have been at this for 4 years now.” Leslie and Vic talked about their roles in helping at-risk children in the DR, their transition from comfortable suburban lifestyle to living in one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere with four small children, and how “the blessings of their Dartmouth educations and relationships have helped advance” their work.

They had slides, they had quizzes, and they had prizes for those who answered the trivia questions close to correctly. They also had a really good hand-off system, where they would take turns speaking and moving through the slides. Hats off to them, and apologies for the sound system.



# Class News



The other really cool thing about Saturday night was the class gift. Wow. **Pam Haering, Tim Bixby & Raffiq Nathoo (seen at right)** knocked the socks of that one. I think we gave twice what we gave at our last reunion, and that was only 5 years ago. The crew was working quite literally until the last minute, and they ended up handing over a check for \$800k. I was impressed, to say the least (last time was closer to \$400k) and I wasn't the only one.

President James Wright was also impressed, at least by the by the percent gain, even though he has seen larger checks. Anyway, he said a lot of nice things about us.

In all it was a grand old time (check out who's making **Jennifer Holcombe Soykan** laugh), just ask any of the below: **Valerie Levy Hartman** and **Zinka Benton**, or (below, right) **Anne Schnader Jones/ Kendall Burney Savage '86/ Kathleen Carr** or **Kerry Mullett**.

It's not too early to put in a plug for our 25<sup>th</sup>- which will actually be 25 years after we graduate. 2012, baby, be there.



# Class News

## MINI REUNION RECAP

Our Mini-Reunion Chair, **Laura Gasser** writes:

Thanks to all of you, we had '87 mini-reunions in 9 different locations on March 28th! Here's the news from the participants:

**Lawrence, KS** — **Colin Mahoney** and **Brad Hoopes** met up in the recording studio to work on mixing album tracks for Brad's band, the Yards.

Brad is the Yards' leader and organ player ([www.theyards.net](http://www.theyards.net)), and he also works as a solo musician, piano teacher, and freelance keyboardist. Brad and his wife Linda have a son and a daughter.

Colin and his wife Lisa have twin boys, and Colin manages to hold down a full-time job as a studio recording engineer with the University of Kansas while also playing drums in two bands (Truckstop Honeymoon ([www.truckstophoneymoon.com](http://www.truckstophoneymoon.com)) and Julia Peterson ([www.myspace.com/juliapetersonthebreaks](http://www.myspace.com/juliapetersonthebreaks))), working as an independent music producer, and doing studio drum work with artists from around the country.

### Twin Cities (Minneapolis/St. Paul)

For the first (I think first) Minneapolis/St. Paul '87 mini-reunion we had six attendees! We thought that was pretty good attendance given that there are only 17 Dartmouth '87's in the whole state of Minnesota. Everyone enjoyed catching up with each other and some of us met fellow classmates for the first time. In attendance were (from left to right in picture at right): **Peter Hanson, Liz Spear Deakin, Conrad Smith, Erik Knutson, Michael Keller and Jack Bohn.**



### Liz Deakin

PS We are going to have a summer event too....everyone was quite excited about that so we can meet families, etc.

**Austin** — **Diana Wheeler** reports:

Well, in Austin we had a very "mini" reunion... it was just me and **Jennifer Lane Hamlin** and her 3 cute boys, Tucker (age 5), Will (age 4) and Jack (age 2.5). **John Hamlin** was out of town at an REI Board of Directors meeting. If I'd known the boys would be there, I'd have brought my 3 year girl as well.

Anyway, we had a nice time drinking wine and watching the kids on the playground :)



# Class News

**Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill NC — Betsy Booth Scalco reports:**

The 87th reunion on the 87th day of our 20th reunion year was a success in Chapel Hill, NC! In attendance were 87s **Betsy Booth Scalco, Dawn Kleinman, and Karen Patton Alexander**, and some of their family members: Andy Cohen '85, Danielle and Lena Cohen, Emily and Megan Alexander, and Mark Scalco.

We discovered that we were all connected through the school system where Betsy works and Dawn and Karen have children enrolled. In addition, Betsy works at the school that Andy attended years ago and Karen has her children now! Dawn and Karen are also now physicians despite majoring in history and English and not doing any pre-med while at Dartmouth. In general, we had a good time remembering our College days and playing the “did you know” game. We don't live in a Dartmouth mecca, but there are still 3 more 87s in the Triangle, NC area, so we may be able to get more alums out next year.

**Nashville** – Despite **Lisa Damon's** best efforts, she was the only '87 (of the 4 in Nashville) who showed up at the meeting spot. So she had a lovely lunch with her husband instead!

**Dallas** — **John Gannon** had rounded up **Craig Budner** and **Allison Exall**, but then a Dartmouth event the night before and some out of town travel disrupted their plans. John pledges to try again later this year...

**Washington DC — H Randy Morgan reports:**

We had a wonderful time at our mini reunion in Washington, DC as well! In attendance were 87s **H. Randy Morgan, Jr.** and **Kristina (a.k.a. Kristine) Kohler** and her lovely parents, who were visiting from Kansas City. Kristina moved to DC about a year ago. She is a technical consultant for medium-sized to large non-profit organizations, and H is an entrepreneur and business coach. In addition to practicing our Russian and German with Kristina's parents, we discovered that we are both still heavily into the performing arts. H just finished up a production of *Fiddler on the Roof* (with '89 Adam Lehman), and Kristina is singing with the National Cathedral at the Kennedy Center at the end of March.



*(Editor's note: Kristina's parents became honorary members of the class of '87 and effectively doubled the turnout.)*

# Class News

## San Francisco:

'87's that attended (in order of photo): **Chris Baker, Landon Gates, Amy Baker, Stephanie Kip Losee, Mike Lee, Pete Donat, Steve Slanec, Laura Gasser, and Evan Marquit, Ken Hittleman** plus Amy's husband Skip and daughter Molly.



In Amy's/my words: This was a merry crowd, and they obligingly came to my house instead of somewhere else so that I wouldn't have to find a babysitter. I am coming to the conclusion that Dartmouth alums age well- everyone looked really great. In contrast, when I saw the photos from the event I was horrified to see that I

looked as exhausted as I felt. That was still in the "let's wake up every 2-3 hours and then go to work in the morning" phase. That's changed. (I still go to work, but I sleep more. Hallelujah.)

My main takeaway from the evening is that **Pete Donat** (seen at right) is way more mature than I am. I don't just mean that he has a good job, nice home, lovely family, etc, although that's all true. I mean this: at some point, every college student experiences some sort of tough emotional blow that takes the wind out of them (if you're lucky, nothing worse than a break up, not making the team, or a ding letter). Some combination of youth and heightened emotions make us less resilient to these small tragedies.

The way I remember it, Pete Donat had a front row seat to one of my own searing heartbreaks, and did not get out totally unscathed himself. It was more a function of immaturity on everyone's part than anything else, but I had always assumed that his association with me was around that unhappy chapter and the bad juju it left.

But when I brought it up at the '87<sup>th</sup> night reunion he looked at me blankly. He seriously had no reference point for this supposedly shared memory and misery. It wasn't even close to ringing a bell. I tried to jog his memory, but bless his heart, he had **MOVED ON**. I thought I had too, but I could take a page from his book.



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It was great to see him because it had been ages. Everyone else was in good form too- **Laura Gasser** (seen below left with Landon) did a bang up job organizing everything, not just for San Francisco but for the whole class.

There were a few reunion memories getting traded and it turned out that several of us had gone solo, leaving our spouse behind. One unnamed member of the party was highly amused when their fellow solo but unmarried roommate for the weekend had themselves a good old fashioned reunion fling. That campus is happening! Still.



Right: **Ken Hittleman, Evan Marquit, Stephanie Kip Losee**

**LA — Pam Haering** reports:

Hi everyone! The LA mini-reunion was a great success. We had a total of 10 attendees (representing 3 classes) from all over Southern California. Our group filled half of the little Manhattan Beach bar in which we met.

Included were:

- Crystal Crawford ('87)** from Baldwin Hills. She is currently the CEO for the California Black Womens' Health Project. She is as amazing and filled with energy as ever!
- James Killmond ('87)** from Woodland Hills. James is now an in-house lawyer at TCW and has FIVE kids ranging from 18 to 2!!
- Jeff Moore ('87)** and his wife joined us from Palos Verdes. Jeff is currently an account manager with Total Petrochemicals and has 2 boys.
- Gordon Cook ('87)** from Manhattan Beach. He is working in finance for a group that just recently spun out from ING. He has three adorable little girls (6,4,2).
- Steve Salem ('87)** from Manhattan Beach. "Coach Steve" ran over to meet us after a softball practice for one of his daughters.
- Roland Reynolds ('87)** from Beverly Hills. Roland is a lawyer and has a toddler daughter.
- Ed Lear ('84) and Lynne Tenhoopen Lear ('86)** from Manhattan Beach also stopped by for a drink. They are dear friends and couldn't resist the chance to be a part of a Dartmouth gathering!
- Pamela Haering ('87)** I was the 10th attendee. You have the scoop on me...Manhattan Beach, twin 5 year old girls, marketing consultant, sweet husband Randy who came home early to watch the kids, blah, blah, blah, blah
- Star Bailey ('87) and John Street ('87)** had planned to make the big trek from San Diego, but the reality of the 2.5 hour, traffic-filled drive caught up with them and they canceled the afternoon of the event. **Brian Venerable ('87)** from Pasadena, also had planned to come, but had to cancel the afternoon of the event. We hope to see all of them next time!

I brought a camera, but got so wrapped up in the conversations that I didn't think to bring it out until I was heading to my car at 10:45! What is wrong with me?! So sorry. Next time...I promise.

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**Atlanta** — **Maury Laurence Stephan** reports: **Patricia (Hutton Sharpe)** and I did meet up for lunch. No one else could make it. We had a nice time revisiting.... We knew each other at college, but I am not sure we ever quite figured the connection. We both have three kids. Her husband stays at home with them, while she works for IBM. Her current client is the Gwinnett County Public School system. My son goes to a Gwinnett County Public School. I am caught up in the world of the PTA, and my dream is to change the school lunches. The cafeteria workers at my school have told me the menu is set by the county, and Patricia gave me a small picture of how archaic and arcane the system in general is. I think it will be no small feat to get any changes to occur.

We both thought it would be nice to get together again...maybe have another mini-reunion. She has graciously offered to host a BBQ at her house, so we are looking at a date...possibly May. Hopefully we will get a few other classmates to join us.

Maury

**Slightly manufactured Green Card** (as in news shared with me but not in the form of a Green Card)

At our last reunion I got a HUGE kick out of meeting **Rusty Barber**'s fiancée, Elzbieta. At the time I saw them, they had been engaged barely a month and the city they would choose to live in was still undecided. Here's the news as Rusty told it in May, 2005:

"I thought I would pass on that a little over a week ago, on a remote section of beach on the Polish Baltic Coast, over a picnic with wine from a broken bottle (I forgot to bring a corkscrew), I asked Elzbieta Isabella Gistel to marry me. Having no other means of transportation back to civilization, she wisely accepted my proposal. The attached photos were taken a couple of days following our engagement.



Elzbieta is from the Hanseatic port city of Gdansk and we met almost a year ago when I visited there while posted in Vienna. She was my guide and insisted that I honor her beautiful city's heritage by viewing every cobblestone and gargoyle in the town. I happily complied."

The part that I (Amy) really enjoyed about Elzbieta was her attitude- everything was fresh and new and meant to be savored. It was fascinating watching Rusty translate not just the few words Elzbieta didn't know (and there weren't many) but the cultural sub text of what she was watching. When you live in it, it's hard to see which pieces would need translation.

Rusty was great- he told her what rituals were specific to Dartmouth (all that green), to New England (lobsters) and to the States in general (too numerous to record here). In her shoes, I would have been a little overwhelmed and maybe even ungraciously snippy about how difficult it is for someone from the outside to enjoy themselves at these events. Not Elzbieta. She wanted to learn how to eat lobster, she went to the Memorial Service and was appreciative of its tone, she wanted to know all about each person she met. I am not sure how many other women from the port city of Gdansk will marry into our class, but they have a hard act to follow.

# Class News

## The Green Card Alternative

A girl's gotta have her sources, I always say. These newsletters are fueled with more than green cards- rumors, hearsay, bullying tactics to make classmates fess up, newspaper clippings, sheer speculation- it all gets out into the mix. But this newsletter I experienced a "first" in my newsletter history- my informant was a fellow classmate's *father-in-law* who happens also to be a Dartmouth Alum.

I thought that was actually a pretty good sign- not just that you might share an alma mater with your spouse's dad but that he thought highly enough of you to make sure your class newsletter editor heard about your recent achievements. I have a fabulous father in law, but I don't think it would ever occur to him to make sure you all knew about my recent successes. (Actually, maybe he knows that I would just be on the hook to tell you myself, but I think a more likely story is that most colleges don't have chatty newsletter editors to boast to.)

Anyway, I thought this was just about the sweetest thing ever, this alum calling me to tell me this story about his son in law, our very own **Tim Foster**. I not only enjoyed his conversation but I was also pumping him a little shamelessly, recognizing that he was more likely to sing Tim's praises than Tim would sing them of himself.

Case in point: here is what Tim wrote about the same incident: "I just began my new post as Dean of Students at Bowdoin."

Here's what Bob McDonald, '51 told me:

Tim had been at Bowdoin for years, just about 10, and had gone about as far as he could go without ousting the Big Daddy in charge of everything (the technical title for this stage is Senior Associate Dean of Students). And we all know turnover amongst Dean of Students at small liberal arts colleges in New England is about as high as turnover in the Royal Family (the British Royal family, not Saudi Arabian).

At any rate, sooner or later Tim and his wife (Stephanie McDonald Foster, '85, (her dad told me a funny story about how they met too) decided it was time to move up and that meant moving out. They considered Carnegie Melon, and were even wooed by the "Ivy League of the Middle East" and flew to Qatar.

And then suddenly the impossible happened and Bowdoin had an opening, because the Big Cheese there had been wooed by the International College in Paris. Am I the only one with the image of all these colleagues clandestinely flying around the world, interviewing for jobs they aren't supposed to let anyone know they are in the running for? It looks a little like a round robin from the outside.

So Tim got the promotion and he and Stephanie got to stay at Bowdoin after all, with their two children, Dakota age 11 and Reed, age 9. I think Bob McDonald was pretty happy they didn't end up in the Middle East. He's clearly a big fan but that's a long flight.

Note- Tim's version of all this referenced the trip to Qatar and the incredible institution being built there in collaboration with institutions around the world like Texas A&M, Cornell & Georgetown. He said "We discovered the world is truly flat, and becoming more so all the time. Too bad there is such a culture of fear propagated around living and working abroad." Leave it to Tim to be modest and insightful! I'm glad his father in law gave me more of the scoop.

# Class News

Age old but still relevant Green cards:

## **Karen Hill Hilyard**

Hi there- several news to report. On April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 my husband Jeff and I welcomed Nathaniel Wickendon Hilyard into the world. He joined big sister Vivian, who was three at the time. Nathaniel's timing was perfect; I went into labor not long after turning in all my assignments for the semester, completing the first year of a PhD program in Mass Communication at the University of Georgia. We returned to Georgia last year after a couple of years in NYC and a couple in Kentucky. I was a full time visiting instructor at Eastern Kentucky University 2004-5, where I got bitten by the teaching bug. My plan is to look for a tenure track position once I finish here in 2008. (And yes, I dragged the whole family to reunion!)

## **Ross Koller**

We're moving again! I have taken a new position located in Geneva. Still trading oil. The kids are looking forward to some serious skiing. *(Editor's note- how's that for cryptic? There's more in those short declarative sentences than most people pack into an email to their boss.)*

## **J. Charles DeWitt**

I'm afraid I missed reunion in June because I was at a Gettysburg PA Retreat as part of a program at Georgetown's McDonough School of Business.

## **James Robertson**

I can hardly believe that five years has passed since our last reunion, or 19 years since we graduated, or 23 since we arrived in Hanover. I'm not really this old. Am I?

My best intentions notwithstanding, I will be unable to join the festivities in Hanover this weekend. While I may have a store of New Hampshire's granite somewhere in my body, I'll instead be off roaming the girdled earth. I work in global public health on projects that address HIV/AIDS. This month, I'm traveling to Kazakhstan (where I am now) and then to Uganda. I won't be back in the US until July 12, long after our reunion bunting has been packed away. Let me know if anyone else from our class is celebrating our "20th" in Central Asia. Perhaps we'll arrange a satellite event! :)

I hope the reunion is a great success. You'll all be on my mind.

Best from Almaty!  
James

*(Editor's note- you're forgiven, James, but can you make an exception for the 25<sup>th</sup>? You've got a 5 year lead time for finding excuses not to be in Kazakhstan.)*

# Class News

## Jenifer Holcombe Soykan

Our dog's name is Kismet, which in Turkish means "fate, fortune, and destiny." That aptly sums up my life right now as I never thought that I would live again in the suburbs of Syracuse, have children, work in an office without windows, or play ice hockey in a men's league at the age of 40. But here I am living in Cicero, NY with my two daughters, my husband and 95 pound black lab.

After five transformative years in Asia where I taught high school history, literature, & technology, literally traveled the world on holidays, and failed Cantonese 1 three times (my first experience at not doing well in school!), I decided to move home to my summer cottage in the Thousand Islands, New York.

Once there I married an old friend and became Director of Education at the Antique Boat Museum in Clayton, NY. At the Museum I knew just enough about computers to be dangerous; thus I became the "IT specialist" in addition to my other duties. With the birth of our second child I became a stay-at-home mom – a career for which I am not suited – leading me to employment in my windowless (except for Microsoft of course) cubicle at Syracuse University's Faculty Academic Computing Support Services.

I stay in touch with **Natalie Broomhall** who is a veterinarian living in California and **Eve Stacy** who I saw become starry eyed as she met her future husband while at a party in Hong Kong.

Jenifer Holcombe Soykan  
Instructional Technology Consultant  
Faculty Academic Computing Support Services (FACSS)  
Syracuse University

## Val Frankel

Val not only came to reunion she lined up some book signings for her (then) new book. Talk about multi tasking. Her words:

I'll be signing copies of my novels, including my two 2006 releases "Hex and the Single Girl" (HarperCollins) and, for teens, "Fringe Girl" (Penguin). My sister Alison, a Dartmouth '85, also has a new book out, a nonfiction narrative called "Double Eagle" (Norton). It will be a joint signing (this is her reunion weekend, too). Two alums for the price of . . . actually, it's a free event.

My website ([www.valeriefrankel.com](http://www.valeriefrankel.com)) has first chapters and reviews of my books.

[www.valeriefrankel.com](http://www.valeriefrankel.com)  
[valerie@valeriefrankel.com](mailto:valerie@valeriefrankel.com)

## David Herron

I got married last year to Ivy, who is a writer from Hong Kong and we have a 4 month boy named Bo. I think I can safely assume that I will be the oldest parent at his college graduation. We call our little guy Bobo (Bo is one of the few English-Cantonese crossover names and bobo means baby in Cantonese).

# Class News

## Debbi Jayne Seaver

I have a question to pose:

My husband, two sons (then aged 3 & 5) and I are planning to live in a Spanish speaking country next winter, for 3-4 months. We would like to find a small, somewhat affluent community where people are outdoorsy. Perhaps mountains and a lake or the ocean nearby... we would prefer not to be near too many expats as our goal is to integrate into the local culture and learn the language. Ideally, it would be reasonably priced and we could buy a home there. Does anybody have any suggestions or know of people who have done this who have advice? Please contact me, [jdseaver@comcast.net](mailto:jdseaver@comcast.net)

*(Editor's note- my apologies- Debbi is probably already in said country. Stay tuned for another update...)*

**Peter Bogardus** *(Editor's note: Peter Bogardus will always be Skip Bogardus to me, but I understand wanting to lose a nickname as an adult. I'll never forget Peter [then Skip] explaining to my mom with cheerful off handedness that his freshman winter had been so brutal, he was determined never to spend another winter in Hanover. My mom, amazed that Hanover was akin to the Arctic according to sunny Marin logic, asked "How did you manage that?" and Peter listed all his ice-dodging opportunities: LSA, Dartmouth Plan, maybe the UCSD term. Anyway, it was clear to me then that pretty much anything Peter wanted to arrange he could. Apropos of the following green card I'd say I was right.)*

Starting my 10<sup>th</sup> year in Crested Butte, Colorado. The skiing and biking are fantastic. Working too hard as an attorney, mediator and part time Judge. Maybe I'll take up fly fishing some day when my knees give out (they say it's good around here).

I'm lucky to see many Dartmouth classmates often but I don't think they want me to mention their names *(Editor's note- what- they're afraid I'll embellish your version? The cheek!)*. My little girl Addie (then 3, now 4) will have private ski lessons again this year. My new house in town will be done by summer 2007 *(Editor's note- hey! That's now! Let's go visit...)*

Best regards from 9,000 ft.

Peter B.

## Susan Kingsland

I see **Denise Duval** in Baltimore- she continues to work to reform the housing court system in Balt and has two children. **Daphne Eviator** is a freelance journalist living in Brooklyn, specializing in international affairs, Latin America and oil politics *(Editor's note- Wow. That's quite a line up.)* **Holly Taylor** teaches psychology (research) at Tufts and lives in Hanover with her husband who teaches at Dartmouth in Earth Sciences- they have three children. I am working with artists and activists on anti-war & peace projects for community organizing and education. We are a small collective and do local actions in subways, events & rallies. A variety of campaigns addressing different political issues.



# Class News

## Ricki Stern

This didn't really come from a green card- Ricki is modest and busy- but her film "The Trials of Darryl Hunt" is doing really well- serious momentum and critical acclaim. Way to go, Ricki!

Ricki herself couldn't screen this at our reunion because of the film's success and her commitment to touring with the film- here are two excerpts, one from a film critic and one from someone who saw Ricki speak at the Q&A after a screening.

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Filmmakers [Ricki Stern](#) and [Annie Sundberg](#) began following the [Darryl Hunt](#) case in 1994, and ten years of research and interviews went into the making of [The Trials of Darryl Hunt](#), a documentary following his long and painful road to eventual justice. Produced for the premium cable network HBO, [The Trials of Darryl Hunt](#) was screened to enthusiastic reviews at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival.

~ Mark Deming, All Movie Guide

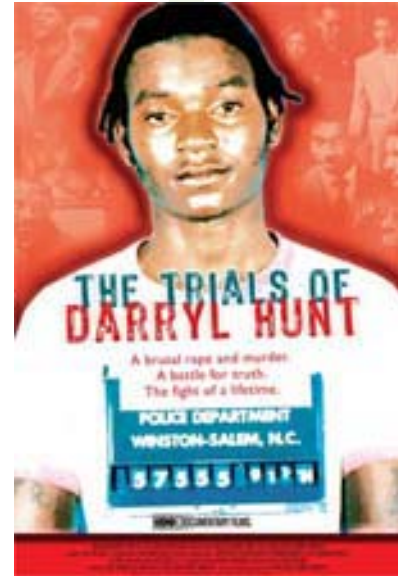
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It was also powerful to see the people who the documentary is about and the filmmakers together at the Q&A after the screening, seeing what they are doing with their lives now. What for Darryl (and his family and supporters) was a 20-year tragedy has blossomed into a better, more purposeful, fulfilling life than he'd have probably ever known, and the same is true of all who helped see this through. The story is a testament to Darryl and his supporters' courage, determination and faith. The whole incredible sequence of events encouraged in me a knowledge so oft-forgot (or trivialized) it cannot be overstated, in the goodness of life and our fellow human beings. After an emotional Q&A, rather than ask a question, the last audience member, an older woman, offered her gratitude to all of the participants and filmmakers for who they were and what they were doing with their lives. It was simple and moving. She spoke for me and I think everyone. That the film evoked such generosity of spirit perfectly illustrated what we'd already received from it.

The film-making is excellent, too. Great music, on purpose, clear, dramatic and human. One of the best documentaries of this type I've seen, seriously. I can't imagine what Darryl went through, nor what his friends and family and the filmmakers went through as this all played out, disappointment after hopeless disappointment. And let's never forget the victims and the wreckage left behind, either. Disturbing, yet inspiring, check it out.

~ Barry Mendel, LA

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# Class News

## Baby, Baby, Where Did Our Time Go?

Welcoming babies into this world- San Francisco alone has seen several new '87 babies recently. My daughter Molly Baker Pile (seen right) arrived in October, 2006, followed closely by Freddie Oman, born to **Feyna de Clercq Oman** and Carl Oman's. Then in March 2007, **David Herron** and his wife Ivy had Bo (left), nicknamed Bobo. A few weeks later, **Lauren Schwartz** and her husband Mill Nash welcomed their daughter,



Parker Duvall Nash (I ran into Lauren and Parker at a coffee shop last weekend and can confirm Parker is a really cute baby. I think she'd better cut back on the caffeine though.)



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**Allison Bleyler McDonald and Jock McDonald** welcomed their second baby, Spencer Bleyler McDonald, in October 2006 (left).

**Ken and Kristi Hedley** had their third, Meredith Garner Hedley (whole family at right.)



Judging from the photo on page 7, **Kerry Mullett** must have had her baby, and I'm sure there are more. This class is still young at heart, and it's a good thing because parenting takes vigor.

That's all that's fit to print...

Send us your news! And if you send via email, include a photo- it's more fun to read this if there are lots of visuals.

Christen and I pledge on your Green Cards that the newsletters will flow more regularly. We look forward to dishing up some more news in the Fall.

**Amy Baker**

[Amy.Baker.87@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:Amy.Baker.87@alum.dartmouth.org)

(& **Christen O'Connor**, [christen.m.o'connor.87@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG](mailto:christen.m.o'connor.87@Alum.Dartmouth.ORG))