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Spring 2006

## **Maine Alumni Magazine, Volume 87, Number 2, Spring 2006**

University of Maine Alumni Association

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# MAINE

Spring 2006

A l u m n a z i n e

**Innovation with compassion**  
**Ashok Jhunjunwala '79 Ph.D.**

**New vodka reflects**  
**commitment to Maine**

**Meet the new**  
**UMAA president**

University  
Collection

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**Le Français,  
je l'chante  
par "coeur"**

**Franco-American singer/educator**  
**Josée Vachon '84**





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**Where there's a will, there's a way for UMaine students.**

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# MAINE

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The University of Maine 2006

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### Plus Mainely People with:

Classnotes, alumni events, weddings, obituaries,  
and more.

Cover photograph by Jeff Unger



### Students likely to face tuition increases

University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal has proposed an increase in tuition for all of the System campuses. The increases would average 8.7 percent across the campuses and would range from a \$399 increase at Fort Kent to a \$584 increase at the University of Maine. The proposal also calls for an increase in room and board at all campuses.

It was anticipated that the System Board of Trustees would approve the increases at their meeting in late May.

#### Tuition increases won't erase budget shortfall

Westphal noted that even with the tuition increases, the System will still be facing a budget shortfall in the coming fiscal year. While budget discussions were still underway when this magazine went to press, it seemed likely the System would receive significantly less than the \$5 million increase it had asked for.

That means a likely multi-million dollar shortfall and another round of belt tightening at the UMaine campus.

"At this point, we're squeezing water out of a rock," Janet Waldron, vice president for finance and administration, told *The Maine Campus*. "The deficit is more challenging this year than previous years because we have exhausted many cost-cutting options through past reductions and improvements in operations."

Former senator and vice presidential candidate John Edwards addressed more than 2,000 University of Maine graduates at ceremonies on May 13. It was the largest graduating class in the University's history.

It wasn't Edwards's first visit to UMaine; he made a campaign appearance on campus in September 2004. He currently serves as director of the Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The valedictorian of the 2006 class was Susan Eileen Scott of Ellsworth, a psychology major. Salutatorian was Alison Marie Pease of Saco, who received her University of Maine degree in ani-



**John Edwards Addresses 2,050 UMaine Grads**

mal and veterinary sciences. H.E. Sargent. He was also very involved in community service and was a strong supporter of UMaine's College of Engineering.

mal and veterinary sciences.

At the ceremony, well-known nutritionist Katherine Musgrave '74G was presented with an honorary doctor of science degree. Musgrave is a retired UMaine professor who continues to teach and work with local medical professionals, advising patients on proper nutrition.

A second honorary degree was awarded to James Knott, Sr., the inventor of the wire lobster trap.

The university also recognized the contributions of the late Herbert Sargent '29, founder and longtime head of

### UMaine's Distinguished Professor

This year's Distinguished Maine Professor is David Townsend '74, '81 Ph.D., a highly respected researcher and popular teacher, who currently heads the university's school of marine sciences.

The award is presented annually by the UMaine Alumni Association and recognizes outstanding achievement in teaching, research, and public service. Accompanying the award is \$4,200, a blazer, and a pewter medallion, all funded by the Class of 1942.

Townsend's Introduction to Ocean Science course is the largest lecture class offered on campus by a single professor. Students consistently give him top ratings, noting his passion for his subject, his communication skills, and his dedication.

As a researcher, Townsend has an international reputation as an authority on biological oceanography, particularly in the Gulf of Maine. He has published close to 75 papers since receiving his Ph.D. from UMaine.



### Campus mourns loss of UMaine senior in Iraq

Fighting in Iraq claimed the life of UMaine senior, Staff Sergeant David Michael Veverka in early May. He was the first UMaine student to die in the conflict.

Veverka was a member of the Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion of the 172nd Infantry regiment based in Brewer. A native of Jamestown, Pennsylvania, he joined the Guard to help pay expenses at UMaine where he was a top academic wildlife ecology major.

"David was well-liked and highly regarded by faculty and fellow students, and his death has hit the UMaine community very hard," noted university president Robert Kennedy.



## Grad students inspiring kids to pursue science

With the loss of jobs that has occurred in Maine's paper, fishing, and shoe industries, the future economic well-being of the state could well reside in getting more young people excited about science and engineering. Trained scientists and engineers will be essential in incubating new enterprises and attracting new industries to the state.

Since 2002, a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) has funded a program that sends some of UMaine's top science and engineering graduate students to Maine middle and high schools to teach and inspire young potential scientists. Recently the NSF provided \$2 million to allow the program to continue for another five years.



UMaine graduate student Wade Pinkham '04 works with Cecil Shorey at the Central Middle School. (Photo by Gabor Degre, courtesy of the *Bangor Daily News*.)

The GK-12 Sensors! Program allows 10 UMaine graduate students to work with youngsters from 20 area schools. The students get to learn about and work with state-of-the-art sensor devices being developed by university researchers. Electrical and computer engineering professor John

Vetelino, who is well known for his work on developing sensor technology, oversees the program.

Each graduate student spends up to 10 hours per week working with the same group of youngsters throughout the year.

One of the graduate students in the program, Judith Walker, has helped Bangor High students to create electronic maps using a global positioning system. The maps are helping the Bangor Fire Department plan for how it would respond in a possible biological attack in the area.

## \$6.9 million grant will develop sustainable forest bioproducts

A \$6.9 million National Science Foundation Grant will help the University of Maine conduct forest bioproduct research and development. It's hoped that the research will enable Maine's private sector to build an integrated forest biorefinery—one that allows mills to create new, high-margin revenue streams while maintaining their traditional production. The fuel, and other possible products made from forest bioproducts, would have the added benefit of being more environmentally friendly.

UMaine is investing an additional \$3.45 million for the project, which could become the first integrated forest biorefinery in the country, through the Maine Economic Improvement Fund.

The method of biorefining entails extracting chemicals from wood chips or shavings before the wood is further processed into pulp or oriented strand board, preserving the quality of the wood for further processing. The chemicals extracted could



be sold as new feedstocks or used on-site to manufacture materials such as fuel ethanol, plastics, and specialty chemicals such as coatings currently made with oil.

The grant will create immediate openings for over 40 people, including three new faculty positions.

UMaine will work with the University of Southern Maine and other colleges in state, as well as with Maine land owners and industries.

"By taking this holistic approach, Maine has the opportunity to build on our current knowledge and history in forest-based industries," says Hemant Pendse, chair of the department of chemical and biological engineering and manager of the NSF grant.

"We have momentum to build a vibrant, globally competitive, brand new industry that's more efficient, high-valued, and also environmentally cleaner."

Discussions are already underway regarding the feasibility of establishing a forest bioproducts research institute at UMaine.



### Softball team finishes first, sets school record

The UMaine softball team set a record for wins during the 2006 season, shattering the old record of 32 victories. The team ended the regular season with 36 victories and a first-place finish in the America East Conference.

By finishing first, the team was set to host the conference tournament beginning on May 11.

### Barbara Beers '74 is new VP for development



U M a i n e alumna Barbara Manuel Beers '74 was recently appointed vice president for development

at her alma mater. In her new role, Beers will oversee UMaine's development activities which include private fundraising, donor relations, and corporate support.

Beers brings more than 20 years of fundraising experience to her new job, including 10 years as development director at Maine Public Broadcasting. Since 1992, she has been president of Beers Associates, a Bangor-based firm that provided development services to Maine non-profit organizations, including the campaign for the UMaine alumni association's Buchanan Alumni House.

University of Maine System Chancellor Joseph Westphal will be leaving his position as of June 20 to assume a professorship in the System. In his new role he will teach and conduct research on national security and environmental policy.

During his four-year tenure, Westphal put forth bold ideas, including a major reorganization plan for the System and moving the System offices to downtown Bangor. He also helped to achieve greater cooperation between the System and the state's community colleges and also worked to increase federal funding for university research and development.

"Joe has been a strong and visionary leader as chancellor," said Charles L. Johnson III, the current System chair.

Former chancellor Terrence MacTaggart will take over as interim on July 1. The trustees expect to complete their search for a permanent chancellor by next spring.



### Chancellor Westphal steps down

### Harris Award nominations sought

Nominations for the 2006 President Abram W. Harris Award are now being accepted by the University of Maine Foundation. Nominees should be people whose work and actions have left the institution "stronger and in every respect better fitted to do its work," as was once said of the former UMaine president.

The award will be presented at the Foundation's annual meeting in October and carries with it a \$5,000 cash prize.

Nominations can be sent to the University of Maine Foundation, Two Alumni Place, Orono, Maine 04469-8503. For more information call 207-581-5100.

## A call for investment in research and development

**\$**ome University of Maine faculty and administrators have developed a plan that could mean a much brighter future for the state's economy.

The five-year plan calls for the state to invest \$30 million in the Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF). That fund supports the development of new products, technologies, and businesses. It also calls for an additional \$30 million to go toward research and development.

Such a significant increase in funds would have a major payoff for the state—a \$210 million boost to the economy.

It would also generate more than \$120 million in federal and private grants and contracts and more than 1,000 jobs, 100 patents, and nearly 60 spinoff businesses.

"This is about the future of the state—about our kids having jobs five and 10 years from now," Professor Habib Dagher, director of the Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center, told the *Bangor Daily News*.

"The university has a responsibility to help chart the course of the future," Dagher

said. He added that the University has been very successful at bringing in research grants and is in a position to grow.

The MEIF was created in 1996 to help provide matching money for university research and development. The fund currently contains \$12 million, which Dagher and others say is lower than what other states are investing.

"Other states are out-investing us," Dagher told the *BDN*. "If we don't catch up we'll be left in the dust. We'll keep falling behind and our kids will have to go to Massachusetts to get jobs."



## Detecting the tiniest tumors

They are notoriously difficult to detect. But small tumors, rogue groups of cancerous cells, and tiny pieces of larger excised tumors are a serious and potentially lethal threat to cancer patients even after surgery has been performed.

UMaine researchers are perfecting an amazingly tiny new technology that may soon help doctors pinpoint the location of even the most minuscule masses of cancerous tissue while the patient is still on the operating table.

Chemical and biological engineering professor Michael Mason is developing an improved screening technique in which nanometer-sized metal particles are used to "tag" cancer cells, allowing



UMaine researcher Michael Mason. (Photo by William Drake.)

surgeons to identify cancerous tissue more quickly and efficiently. In the procedure, attached biomolecules are attracted to specific molecules found on the surface of cancer cells. The metallic nanoparticles are capable of pointing out minuscule particles of cancer using microscopes available in nearly every hospital. The technique is sen-

sitive enough to reveal even a single cancer cell.

The new technique could allow more precise and rapid cancer screenings and could also dramatically reduce surgery times. It could prove particularly useful in treating abdominal tumors such as those found in the pancreas and liver, which often look similar to healthy tissue.

Mason and his team will provide the foundation for cellular tissue trials that will be conducted later this year at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. The cancer center provided Mason with the initial funding for the research.

## New plan calls for replacing ash trees on the mall

Members of the UMaine Campus Arboretum and Beautification Committee are proposing to improve the university mall by replacing the existing ash trees with bicolor oaks.

The oaks eventually would develop stately, elegant canopies appropriate for UMaine's largest formal green space, says committee chair Chris Campbell, professor of plant systematics and arboretum director.

Campbell says he understands that many people oppose cutting down growing trees. But, he explains, the mall trees have been damaged, most recently in the 1998 ice storm.

He and the other committee members believe that replacing the damaged trees with bicolor oaks would ensure a more attractive display of shade trees with taller, broader canopies that would frame the mall and visual approaches to the Fogler Library and the Memorial Gym.

Planted in the 1970s under the shadow of elms that previously lined the mall and were dying of Dutch elm disease, many of the ash developed imperfect trunks and branches, which arborists have not been able to correct.

If ultimately approved, the proposal would be paid for entirely by private funds. Already more than eight people have



volunteered to purchase one of the bicolored oaks, which are native to Maine, grow to 70 feet, and live for 300-350 years with minimal maintenance. Each tree will cost about \$3,000. For more information about the mall proposal contact: [christopher.campbell@umit.maine.edu](mailto:christopher.campbell@umit.maine.edu).



### The Bodwells are recognized for support of the arts

Longtime University of Maine benefactors Russell '44 and Barbara Higgins Bodwell '45 were the recipients of the 2006 Vincent A. Hartgen Award in April. The award is presented annually by the Patrons of the Arts to individuals who distinguish themselves in advancing the arts on campus.

The Bodwells are among the most generous and active supporters of the arts at UMaine. Most notable was their contribution of the Bodwell Lounge at the Maine Center for the Arts and their support and leadership in the building of Class of '44 Hall.

### Wingate bell mystery is solved

For six years college of engineering associate dean, Chet Rock, has been looking for the old Wingate Hall bell. He finally discovered it on top of the Fogler Library, where it had been sitting for 55 years.

Though it was moved to the library in 1951, none of today's UMaine employees had any knowledge of the bell.

On Maine Day, May 3, the bell was lowered from the library cupola and was wheeled to a safe site where students will begin to clean the century-old bronze bell.

From 1894 until a fire destroyed the Wingate Tower in 1943, the bell was a signature icon on campus.

**B**lake James, who has served as interim UMaine athletic director for the past year, will now take over that position on a permanent basis.

President Robert Kennedy made the selection of James from three finalists following a national search.

"It is clear to me that Blake presents all the attributes we are looking for in a Maine athletic director," Kennedy said. "Blake faced several tests during his tenure as interim AD. In each case he passed with flying colors."

Among the tests that Kennedy referred to were the searches for coaches in baseball and softball and a disciplinary incident involving men's ice hockey.



### "Interim" Removed for Blake James

James came to the university in 2003 as senior associate AD. Kennedy appointed him interim AD following Patrick Nero's departure to become

commissioner of the America East Conference.

Prior to coming to UMaine, James worked in various positions in the athletic departments of the University of Nebraska, the University of Miami, and Providence College.

As the University of Maine's permanent AD, he sees one of his primary roles as "providing our student athletes with the resources needed to achieve academic and athletic excellence."

James currently lives in Veazie with his wife Kelly and their two children.



Senior alumni president Jayne Hanson Bartley '49 (center) with Top Scholar Sandra Klausmeyer and Taverner Scholar Nelson Jewell.

### Senior Alumni Award Scholarships

The Senior Alumni awarded nearly \$80,000 in scholarships to more than 45 UMaine students at its annual scholarship award ceremony on April 23. This year 38 nontraditional students received Donald V. Taverner Awards. The Senior Alumni also gave scholarships to outstanding UMaine students in the Top Scholars and Distinguished Scholars categories.

### Hockey team gets back to Frozen Four

After seeming to be out of the national playoff picture in February, the UMaine hockey team went on an impressive late season run, and completed yet another highly successful season. Not only did they make it to the NCAA playoffs, they won their NCAA regional in Albany and earned their third trip to the Frozen Four in the last five years. Unfortunately, they lost to a red hot Wisconsin team in the opening round in Milwaukee. Wisconsin went on to defeat Boston College for the national championship.

Maine finished with a 28-12-2 record and a fourth-place ranking in the national polls.



# The “People-Person” Accountant

*Todd Saucier '93, '97G takes over as the new UMaine alumni association president*

**I**t may be an undeserved stereotype, but accountants are not generally thought of as extroverted, party-loving types. The popular image is that of a quiet, serious, efficient professional—someone who feels more comfortable in an office crunching numbers than at a social gathering.

Well, the University of Maine Alumni Association's new president, Todd Saucier '93, '97G, does his best to shatter that stereotype. Whether he is exuberantly leading the cheers at a UMaine hockey game, joyfully greeting attendees at a reunion dinner, or serving as MC for an alumni event, it's evident that this accountant is very much a “people person.”

Saucier has worked as an accountant for more than 13 years, including seven years at the alumni association, but his interpersonal skills are unquestionably equal to his ability to keep the Association's books in order.

“I feed off being with people,” he says. “I think it comes from growing up in a large Franco-American family. My mother loved having lots of people at our home—and there always were!”

The Sauciers didn't really need company to fill up their Ashland home. Todd is the seventh of eight children. And in addition, two of his mother's nieces grew up in the family home.

Four of the Saucier children ended up graduating from UMaine (a fifth graduated from Presque Isle), so by the time Todd entered the University, the family resources were stretched pretty thin. He worked 30-40 hours per week (including summers at the Ashland mill) for four years to pay the college expenses.

Following graduation, he went to work for Coles Express as a staff account-



tant and at the same time began to work on his MBA at UMaine. He completed his graduate degree in 1997 and also changed jobs, going to work for Medical Financial Services.

In 1999, former alumni association president Jeff Mills '82 hired Saucier to become financial director of the Association. In the years that followed, Mills steadily increased the young accountant's responsibilities. Saucier also credits his former boss with teaching him how to treat employees.

“Jeff would regularly walk through the building and ask people, maintenance people to directors, how they were doing,” Saucier says. “He treated everyone with humanity, openness, and respect. People on the staff really liked his approach, and that made a big impression on me.”

When Mills left the alumni association

for Monmouth University, Donna Keirstead Thornton '78, '79G took over as interim president. She also served as a mentor for Saucier and gave him even greater responsibilities at the Association.

This past January, when Thornton left to take a job at Rutgers University, Saucier was asked to step in as acting president.

Because of his commitment to maintain a balanced life between his job and his family, Saucier did not apply for the very time-demanding role as alumni association president.

But as the search proceeded, Association leaders recognized that the best person for the job was already in

it. They asked him to consider applying for the position.

“Todd has done a super job as acting president,” noted Association chair, Bion Foster '68, '70G. “He knows the alumni association operation from top to bottom and he is very well liked by the Association staff, board members, alumni volunteers, and the university administration. He was clearly the right person at the right time for the job.”

Saucier says he will keep to his commitment of maintaining a balanced life. That includes spending lots of time with his wife, Danielle “Dee” Daigle Saucier '93, '96G, a literacy specialist at the Dr. Lewis S. Libby School in Milford, and their two daughters Haley, 9 and Corinne, 6. It will also include time for two of his favorite pastimes, hockey and snowmobiling.



# Finding a Second Home in Maine

**T**he year was 1991 and Yugoslavia was unraveling along ethnic lines. The newly formed region of Serbia under the leadership of the notorious Slobodon Milosevic, was leading military interventions in the region to unite ethnic Serbs, creating hostility and instability in the region.

But there was little actual fighting in Serbia, and eleven-year-old Svetlana Miljkovic wasn't directly affected by the violence her country was instigating.

"At that point, I still had no idea what war was about," she recalls.

That all dramatically changed one day in 1992. Svetlana was traveling with her father when they stopped at a restaurant near the border with Croatia, one of the countries toward which Serbia was being an aggressor. Suddenly, an ethnic Serb approached the restaurant with a gun and shot Svetlana, causing an injury that meant the loss of the use of her legs.

She underwent surgery in her homeland, but due to a U.N. embargo medical care in Serbia was minimal. In 1993 she learned that there might be a possibility of getting more medical treatment somewhere in the United States.

In a program sponsored by Veterans for Peace and a Lewiston hospital, Svetlana was able to come to Maine with her mother to receive additional surgery and rehabilitation. She ended up staying for a year, making many friends and developing a fondness for the state.

When it was time to go back home in 1994, she found her country in a dismal state.

"There was even more ethnic fighting," Svetlana notes. "And with the sanctions, there was no power, no heat, and very little food. What makes me sad is that my own country was the aggressor."

Even in such a challenging situation, Svetlana was able to continue attending school. She says her childhood friends and



**A gunman's bullet on the war-torn Serbian-Croatian border left 11-year-old Svetlana Miljkovic without the use of her legs. But it didn't keep the UMaine senior from fulfilling her academic dreams.**

family members helped her get through the difficulty of living with her disability in the midst of scarcity and violence.

In 2000, when Svetlana was thinking about college, things took a turn for the worse when NATO began its bombing campaign on Serbia.

"We basically had another war," she says. "The bombings caused so much destruction. And there were few places in Serbia that were wheelchair accessible. In addition, we still had the same regime

(Milosevic) that had caused all the wars. It was a very closed society, a xenophobic society. I wanted to go to a university, but I knew I couldn't do it in Serbia."

Svetlana thought of Maine. She spoke English and had made many friends during her year in Lewiston.

She got in touch with folks she had known in Maine—they offered support and advice. One of the families offered to pay for half of her college expenses. She was accepted to UMaine and arrived on campus alone in 2001.

There were lots of adjustments. She "didn't have a clue" about the American higher education system—credits, requirements, and all of that. And there was the culture shock of living in a dorm with some 400 American teenagers.

"Socially, it was a big adjustment," Svetlana says. "It was so much more free-spirited than what I was used to."

One thing that was not a problem, however was getting around in her wheelchair.

"I never had any problems here with access," she says. "I never had a class at UMaine in a building that wasn't wheelchair accessible, although I know others who have. I can say that I never felt different from any able-bodied student."

She also had good friends who would help her around campus when needed and she has made good use of the university van that transports disabled students.

And when the university's old van began having problems and some disabled students couldn't get to classes, Svetlana took the initiative and brought the problem to the attention of the UMaine administration. As a result, the campus has a new \$50,000 van for disabled students.

Svetlana took part in graduation on May 13, but she still needs to take one class in the fall to complete her requirements for her molecular biology degree. She also majored in German. She is hoping to continue her molecular biology studies in grad school somewhere in the United States.



SPRING 2006



YOUR CLASSNOTES PUBLICATION

# *Mainely People*



VOLUME 19, NO. 2

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



1906 – 2006

## **Senior Skulls Celebrate 100 Years**

**ALSO INSIDE**

**Classnotes**

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**Weddings**



# Alumni News and Events



2006 Senior Skulls at Buchanan Alumni House. Top row (left to right): Stefan Scarks and Matthew Fortin. Third Row: Brandon Berce and Roger Blanchette. Second row: Seth Robertson and John DeAngelis. Bottom: Devon Gaudet and Zachary Richards.

## Senior Skulls

On the cover is the very first group of Senior Skulls. The Senior Skull Society was founded on December 14, 1906. Ten UMaine men, representing eight of the fraternities, met to "recognize dedicated service to the University of Maine, to promote campus spirit, to keep an eye on the fraternities, and to discipline freshmen."

Although the group long ago dropped its mission of disciplining freshmen, the Senior Skulls continue to serve the university in many ways, ranging from freshman orientation, various Homecoming activities—including the selection of Homecoming royalty—and various other duties as assigned by the alumni association.

The group celebrated its 100th anniversary at a luncheon at Buchanan Alumni House on May 6.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, June 2, 3, & 4, 2006

Reunion Weekend at the University of Maine

Honored classes are: 1936, 1941, 1946, 1951, 1961, & 1966 plus Senior Alumni and the Golden Reunion Class of 1956!

### Sunday, June 11, 2006—12 noon

New Jersey Alumni Chapter Summer Picnic in the Park

Monmouth Park Raceway, Oceanport, New Jersey

For more information please contact Baron Hicken '63 at: 732-650-0699 or email Bbhicken@aol.com.

### Thursday, August 3, 2006—10:00 a.m.

Portland Alumnae Summer Coffee

At the home of Faith Wixson Varney, 69 Falmouth Road, Falmouth, Maine

Hostesses: Faith Wixson Varney '56, '65G & Carolyn Bull Dahlgren '56

### Monday, August 14, 2006—8:00 a.m.

7th Annual Alumni Chapter of Southern Maine Golf Tournament

Spring Meadows Golf Course, Gray, Maine—check mainealumni.com for information as the date draws closer, or call the Southern Maine office at: 207-828-2327.

### Friday, September 1, 2006

Maine Hello day on campus—welcoming and assisting all first-year students

### Saturday, September 16, 2006

Gala at the Maine Center for the Arts

### Sunday, September 24, 2006—12 noon

20th Annual New Jersey Alumni Chapter Lobster Maine-ia, Valley Road Picnic Area Mercer County Park Commission, Hopewell Township, New Jersey

For more information contact Margaret Wilde Jiuliano '67 at: 908-725-1669 or jiuliano@att.net.

### October 20-22, 2006

Homecoming on the UMaine campus with Black Bear football, craft fair, reunions, and much more. Honored classes are: 1971, 1976, and 1981.



## Attention Alumni

The University of Maine Alumni Association will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, June 4 at 10:45 a.m. in the McIntire Room of Buchanan Alumni House on the UMaine campus. All University of Maine alumni are welcome to attend.





Frances Caroline Lubanda Hartgen '53G, '69G was one of the Dirigo Pines residents who got into the spirit of the Mad Hatter Tea Party at the Orono retirement community in February. The event was cosponsored by the UMaine Alumni Association. Frances was featured at another recent Dirigo Pines event, a book signing for her recently published memoirs, *A Maine Passage*. The memoirs recall her life with her late husband, UMaine pioneering art professor Vincent Hartgen, as well as her own creative life as a teacher, mother, and librarian.

## 2006 alumni awards to be presented at Reunion 2006

One of the highlights of every UMaine reunion is the Sunday morning awards breakfast (this year on June 4). At this annual event, the alumni association recognizes outstanding individual achievement as well as service and loyalty to the University of Maine and its alumni. This year's award recipients are:

### Alumni Career Award

Cynthia Nelson '55

*Sadly, Cynthia passed away this past February (see page 46). The career award will be presented posthumously to members of her family.*

### Bernard Lown '42 Humanitarian Award

Tabitha Spruce King '71

### Pine Tree Emblem Alumni Service Award

Gregory D. Jamison '72, '98G

### Fogler Legacy Award

The Edwin Haskell Family

### Black Bear Award

Irv Kagan (posthumously)

### Block "M" Award

Ralph M. Higgins '41

Richard L. McNeary '65

Richard W. Sprague '50

Dick '56 and Betty Brockway Nevers '56

### Hilda Sterling Class Correspondent Award

Frances P. Caswell '51

## Next MAINE Magazine will be in the fall

The alumni association will not be publishing a summer 2006 alumni magazine this year. We regret the disruption in our publications schedule and we foresee returning to four issues in 2007. We thank all our alumni association members for your understanding.



Nearly 20 people gathered in Ft. Pierce on March 9 for one of the many UMaine Spring Swing events in Florida and South Carolina.

## BODWELL MOTORS

Ford-Lincoln-Mercury-  
Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge



Good Luck Black Bears!  
Bill Bodwell '50

169 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011  
207-729-3375



## Looking Back



Bangor Daily News Photo

Four UMaine Forestry Students on a Harrowing Winter Trek in 1953

# Remembering a February Climb up Mt. Katahdin

By Joseph Mawson '55

**W**hy not? It seemed like a great idea. We did it the previous fall and had a great trip. This time, however, we would have an additional challenge.

The idea, discussed by my "brothers" in Phi Gamma Delta in the fall of 1952, was a hike up Mt. Katahdin during the second week in February 1953.

From Chimney Pond, well up on the north side of Katahdin, the summit is usually reached by one of three trails; Saddle, Cathedral, or Dudley/Knife Edge. The Saddle Trail is the easiest. The other two are a rather steep jumble of rocks that the chest pounders go up in the summer.

Fifty-three years ago there was little strict regulation about climbing this grand mountain, either in the summer or in the winter. Actually the winter climb is much easier (except for the weather and the temperature) since the snow packs in about 50' deep in places and the climb is gentle and long—if you like walking on the tops of trees.

At first there were five of us going: Bud Weiland, Walt Rule, Pete Wilson, Ralph Keef, and myself. Unfortunately Ralph got shot in the backside by a nearsighted, dumb, old (60+) hunter. Fortunately it was not a serious wound but he now had five

holes where nature put one and it was painful to sit.

We decided on a winter trek because the views from the top were so great. When you are young—and sometimes foolish, the danger of any adventure seems minimal. After all, most of us were foresters (budding at least) and we weren't too foolish, as we did know what equipment to take. At least the others did—I was clueless but willing to learn.

The plan was straightforward and not complex. Drive to Millinocket Lake, take a ski plane to Katahdin Lake; land and walk (snowshoe) the seven or so miles to Chimney Pond; climb the next day; come down and sleep in the cabin at Chimney Pond; walk and take the plane out. A neat weekend.

We planned well—had ropes, crampons (those picks you strap on your boots to walk on ice); food—lots of food; winter sleeping bags, Navy foul weather gear, jackets with hooks, layers of clothes, extra socks, and snowshoes. Mine were called "beavers," halfway between "bear paws" (wide) and "pickere!" (long, narrow, and turned up at the front), canteens, plus other personal gear.

The leader of the group was Bud Weiland, the fraternity house president and a senior. Walt Rule, Pete Wilson, and myself made up the rest of the group.

Anyway, the beginning was uneventful. I had been playing football so was in reasonably good physical shape. The others were in better shape and much lighter than my 220 pounds. All had climbed before.

Oh yes, one more small detail. I had never walked on snowshoes, at least for any distance with a 60-70 pound pack on my back.

The plane trip went OK until we had to land. Then the pilot, Gene Lagassey, remarked, "I hope there are no pulp sticks frozen up in the lake." We would land on about two feet of powder snow and if we hit one it was all over—they would remove our frozen bodies in the spring, maybe, if we didn't sink. (The pilot didn't say that but at that point it was on my mind.)

Well nothing happened and everyone sort of chuckled as we hit the powdered snow—except me, I was petrified.

The walk, as anticipated, was about seven miles to base camp (as I called it). I don't know about the others but I discovered muscles I didn't know I had.

The night was fine, the cabin warm with a good supply of wood cut by someone in the fall. We all looked forward to the next day's climb. The first hint that everything might not be perfect came with the snowstorm sometime after midnight and the

*(Continued on page 42)*



# Classnotes



## Senior Alumni Senior Alumni Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**William D. Currie '52**  
6 Blueberry Cove Road  
Yarmouth, ME 04096-6524  
(207) 846-3993  
wdc@maine.rr.com

The Senior Alumni activities committee continues to be a busy group. The committee arranged to have a luncheon in the Buchanan Alumni House on December 10th prior to the UMaine/Boston University men's basketball game. The game was again played in "The Pit." About 70 Senior Alums and guests attended the luncheon. The interim athletic director gave some remarks on various aspects of the UMaine athletic program. The committee welcomes all thoughts regarding future events. The group is looking ahead to another activity this spring. We'll keep you posted.

Some of the activities behind the scene include: several members of the alumni staff met in November with **Bill Currie '52**, chair, scholarship committee; **Ruth Fogler Goff '48**, cochair; and Gianna Marrs of the office of student aid to review the process that the scholarship committee will be using this spring when they review applications for the Donald V. Taverner Non-Traditional Scholarship Awards.

Some news about some of our seniors: **John Hooper '38** made the trip from his home on St. Simons Island, Georgia, to the campus. He

reports that he is in pretty good shape for age 90. He also had an opportunity to see his 100-year-old home in Old Town. John said his old homestead was still standing and in pretty good condition. He also visited Bucksport where he spent summers on his grandparents' farm. "The farm was in bad shape." Sorry to hear that, John.

There was a great article in the *Ellsworth American* published September 8, 2005, regarding veterans of World War II, "The Uniformed Branch of The Greatest Generation."

The article featured **Mary McGuire's '28** tour of duty in the Navy's WAVES program. She enlisted in 1943 and spent her time in Washington, D.C., where she was assigned to naval intelligence working behind the scenes in naval operations. She continued in the Navy Reserves and achieved the rank of commander. After the war, she enrolled in Columbia University and eventually earned her doctorate in English. She spent most of her teaching career at Chatham College in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, until retiring in the early 1970s. A native of Stonington, Mary never lost touch with her roots, returning to the family

homestead each summer. She moved into the house after retiring from Chatham College.

## 1935

**Basil G. Staples**  
275 Colwick Road  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 247-6509

Dear Classmates,

I have been advised that our endowment fund, now known as the Class of 1935 Warren W. Flagg Scholarship Fund, recently provided \$2,158 to three needy students. We can be justly proud that our past donations are making it possible for deserving students to attend our great university.

**George Carlisle** advises that he still plays golf twice a week and goes dancing with friend Barbara MacKenzie Giddings '37. His winter address is: 116 Whispering Sands Drive, Sarasota, Florida 34242.

**Ruth Harding Brookes**, our valedictorian and the only girl to attend our 70th Reunion, writes that

she still lives alone on Pemaquid Point with a view of the ocean. Ruth was married to the Reverend Kenneth Brookes '38 and they produced four children, two boys and two girls. Two of her children became college professors. One is a school librarian, and one is a minister. Ruth has seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren with more expected. She and Kenneth enjoyed traveling and made one trip around the world. Kenneth died in 1986. Since then, she has traveled extensively with her sister Helen Harding Brookes '38, who spends summers with Ruth in Maine. Ruth enjoys swimming and still drives her car. She does volunteer work at the Miles Memorial Hospital in Damariscotta and is on several boards of directors.

Since we graduated 70 years ago, it is safe to assume that most of the 60 now on our current mailing list are 90 years old or older. Presumably, we are all retired or semi-retired. This would indicate that we should have lots of free time. I ask that you take a few minutes of that spare time to write to me telling what you are doing and have done. Facts about your family are always welcome. Your classmates would like to hear from you and I will be anxiously waiting for those letters.

## 1936

**Kenneth L. Ireland**  
1100 North Abrego Drive  
Green Valley, AZ 85614  
(520) 625-1421  
kireland3@cox.net

**Gerry Beverage** sent me a Christmas card stating that his wife, Viola, had died on 10 October 2005. They had been married for more than 63 years. She leaves a daughter, Clare, her husband, Tim, and grandchildren, Anne and Daniel, all from California.

**Margaret Warren Thurlow '36** sent in a delightful note with her news:

"It seems a long way back to 1936 when we were graduated from



**Henry McCusker '34** with **Nancy Roberts Munson '59** during the March 7 alumni gathering at the home of **Allan '65** and **Susan Lawlor Arch** in Ft. Lauderdale.



U. of M. I have just celebrated my 94th birthday!

"My most enjoyable work years were spent with W. Atlee Burpee in various parts of the U.S. helping to produce hybrid seed.

"Since retiring from Burpee's and, later from *Down East* magazine in Camden, Maine, I live in my ancestral home in Lincolnville with a cocker spaniel dog—the fifth since 1952.

"I still plant a small vegetable garden, mow the lawn with a Deere riding mower, and drive my own car short distances. Two and three years ago heart surgery was done at Maine Medical Center in Portland Maine; these slowed me down only a little.

"During winter months, cardiac rehab exercises at our local hospital keep me active; reading, chair caning, and church are other hobbies.

"I'm glad to read in alumni notes for 1935 that Basil Staples is cutting his own firewood. Wonder if any of our class is still working hard?

"I burn expensive oil for warmth and hot water; recently had installed an electric generator to supply power when Central Maine Power may be interrupted by bad weather."

A postal card from Robert Hall, Class of 1945, informed me that his sister, **Margaret Hall Hook**, of South Thomaston had died at age 90 on 6 July 2005. After graduation she obtained a library science degree from Simmons College. She was employed as a librarian at Madison Heights Library in Michigan. Upon retiring to South Thomaston, she volunteered with the public library, the Owls Head Transportation Museum, and the Island Institute. Her life-long passion was genealogy. She was a member of the Maine Genealogy Society where she served for many years as vice president and corresponding secretary. She made several research visits to genealogical archives in Salt Lake City and Great Britain. She is survived by four children, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and her brother, Robert Hall.

My own wife, Leona, died at 89 on 4 October 2005. In the early 1950s she became a real estate agent, and for the next 10 years she ran her own thriving agency in the Nichols section of Trumbull, Connecticut. Often, when her baby-sitter did not show up, she would bundle our four children into her station wagon and go out to make a sale. She is survived by four children and seven grandchildren.



**George Carlisle '35 enjoys the alumni luncheon in Sarasota, Florida, on March 4. With George are Barbara MacKenzie Giddings '37 (right) and her daughter, Jane Fox. (Photo by Lola Orcutt.)**

## 1937

**University of Maine Alumni Association**  
P.O. Box 550  
Orono, ME 04473-0550  
(207) 581-2586

We were saddened to learn that class correspondent **George McLellan** died in early February. George became the class correspondent about five years ago. Although his North Carolina home was far from Maine, he enjoyed hearing from classmates, and reading about and rooting for his alma mater.

## 1939

**Edna Louise Harrison "Squeeze" Dempsey**  
2526 Carrollton Road  
Annapolis, MD 21403-4203  
(410) 268-1888  
eldempsey@comcast.net

Greetings one and all! It seems like a very long time since we were back in touch. Much has happened weather-wise and in every way really on this old planet of ours.

I recently received a long letter from **Charlotte King Pierce**. This past year saw her lose her husband and move to a retirement community as well. She likes her suite very much and also enjoys activities daily with new friends. Her bridge exper-

tise now comes in handy for her. She plays with a marathon group and also with the AAUW members as well. Also, she mentions reading as her "daily dose of euphoria," finishing many, many books in her spare time. Charlotte also writes for the activities bulletin for the retirement community at the request of their chaplain. It sounds as though Charlotte has kept her "get up and go" better than most persons our age. Charlotte's son Warren had heart surgery some months ago including the insertion of five stents on his arteries, so all in all, there has been much going on in Charlotte's life during these past months.

An original quote from Charlotte best describes what some of us are thinking. She writes, "Getting old for me is like a penance. Awful!" No way, Charlotte!

Again, Charlotte mentions the beautiful ball gowns that **Ellie Crockett Hutchinson's** mother made for her so many years ago. How lovely they were!

Coincidentally, I had a welcome phone call from Ellie recently. She is now alone in a very large home on Cape Cod and is on a waiting list to get into the Heritage Retirement Community nearby. She has kept up with her bridge and other activities, although admits to slowing down a bit from time to time (Welcome to the club, Ellie).

A cheery call from **Lucille Bell Grange** mentions her fabulous annual family reunion on the Outer Banks with 27 of 30 members able to attend, and also describing her monthly luncheons, on the second Tuesday, with Polly Jellison Weath-

erbee '40. She and husband, George '37, are happy and healthy at their advanced age.

I still have the company of two dogs as well as one grandson still here and one at college, and also my daughter who now writes communications for St. John's College.

Recently, going back in time, I remembered crossing paths with some very interesting people during 1939-40 in New York City, while in school there. First of all, meeting Jimmy Durante as he was coming out of the elevator at the Astor Hotel with a very large Irish setter was one. Another was being in an elevator with the real Elizabeth Arden, who, in her 80s, was quite elegant with a peach colored veil over her face. Then, having Abbot and Costello living upstairs in the apartment over mine and occasionally meeting them in the elevator, as well, was a big thrill as they had top billing in those days. It is fun to remember another time and place, but we must always come right back to where we are today!

Please do communicate, classmates and friends, and do give me some of your good memories of days gone by, or of special events in your life today.

All for now,  
ELD

## 1940

**Alice Ann Donovan Poeppelmeier**  
41 Rollins Lane  
Kennebunk, ME 04043-6687  
(207) 985-2667  
aliceann@adelphia.net

With snow on the ground and Christmas approaching I am writing a few not-so-new items that you will be reading in the spring! Lots of nice things happened for me last summer. There was a mini reunion with **Polly Jellison Weatherbee** and **Barbara Welch Wilson** when we went to meet Vivian and **Bill Treat** for lunch in Ogunquit. Then **Doc Gerrish's** son Hal and his wife came to visit me and take me to lunch. They were in Maine looking at their roots and had been to Lisbon Falls where Doc grew up and Bucksport where Martha lived. They are a delightful couple and I had a really nice time with them.

**Ginny Pease Dogherty** wrote that she had heard from Betty Barrell that **Dwight** died in October.



Dwight's sister, Barbara, lived in Seven Lakes, North Carolina, where I lived for 18 years and was a tennis friend of mine. I knew that Dwight was not well but am sorry to hear that he has left us. Also, Polly Weatherbee said that **Ed Ross** had died.

**Myron Gartley** wrote that at 87 and 86 he and Pauline Gillen Gartley '72 felt they were doing well to be up and around each day. They do volunteer work at church and hospital and community. They have three children. The oldest, Sue, is in San Francisco working for Folk Art International. Her project is Resources for Education. She is a Harvard graduate but did a summer session at UMaine. Their second daughter is married and lives in Stockton Springs. She works part-time and volunteers at WERU and at the library. She has her master's degree in mathematics from UMaine. Their son, George '77, '86 is married and has four children. He has a B.S. in wildlife management and a B.S. in nursing, both from UMaine. He works for the County Dialysis Center in Presque Isle. Myron is a retired farmer and Pauline is a retired R.N. Thank you, Myron, for the great newsy letter. A good example for some other classmates to follow.

**Wally Beardsell** writes that last December he married Ruth DeHaven, formerly of Lincoln, Massachusetts, and also widowed. They had met in their school days when he was a lifeguard at Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts, and had been in touch for several years. They are enjoying a pleasant life on the West Coast at Pacific Palisades, California.

**Camilla Doak Hurford** is in an assisted living facility in Bangor. Her address is: 758 Broadway, Laurel Court Room 104, Bangor, Maine 04401.

**Ed Young** sent along a nice note. "Season's Greetings! I'm dictating this note to my daughter Dorothy who is visiting us from Austin, Texas.

"Since my stroke last February, I haven't been able to write but I'm happy to report I have made a pretty good recovery from this second stroke and all the Young children have been able to visit with me during the year. Fortunately, my daughter Barbara and her family are living here and looking out for me.

"For my 88th birthday in May family and friends visited and we had a good party.

"I am still able to do some traveling—I went to Chincoteague off the

Maryland shore, where the wild horses live, with Nathan's family last summer.

"In October, Dorothy came from Austin to escort me to our cabin in Maine. Jill met us in Boston and then we went to Maine. We went to see the Maine fall colors but what we got instead was steady rain and muddy roads. We did manage to have two meals of lobsters and clams. I also got to see my brother Stan, his wife Joan, my sister Annie and her husband Chester, and Phyllis's cousin Fran. We were also able to spend two nights with Pam and John in Rockland, Massachusetts. I hope we can see my sister Blanche soon.

"Now that snow has come and roads and sidewalks are slippery, I've had to cut down on my outdoor walking so I am going to shopping malls and the grocery store for exercise.

"I spend a lot of time reading the *New York Times* and *The Economist*. Sometimes I think I'm back in school again when I listen to the excellent programs on the state radio.

"I'm supervised mostly by two yellow dogs; they sleep in my room and tell me when it is time to get up in the morning.

"Needless to say, I'm delighted with any notes or letters that come my way."

Ginny Pease Dogherty will be doing the next column. Please send her a nice resume like Myron's for us all to enjoy. Ginny's address is: 16 Walnut Drive, Granite Hills Estates, Augusta, Maine 04330 and her email is: [ginnydp@adelphia.net](mailto:ginnydp@adelphia.net).

## 1941 65th Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**Alma Hansen Langlois**  
543 Hanover Street  
Manchester, NH 03104

Happy New Year to all of you '41ers. (Although it will be well past the New Year when you read this, it was written before the New Year began.) Hope this column finds you all well and already making plans to attend our 65th Reunion coming up June 2, 3, and 4, 2006. Please try very hard to come back to meet old friends.

Our class luncheon will be held

in the Page Farm and Home Museum, just as it was five years ago. A special effort was made so we could hold it there.

About 170 members of our class, from a total of about 500, are on the mailing list of the university. (Only about 10 have returned their most recent forms telling us what they are doing, however.) Agnes and I don't always hear of the demise of classmates, but if you hear of one, please let us know so we can mention it in our column.

Recently we have lost three loyal members of our class, **George Ellis, Charles Parsons, and Dorothy Wing Nystrom**. All of them usually came back for reunions and they will be greatly missed.

George had a very busy life. He was the president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. He received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Maine as valedictorian. After serving over three years in the U.S. Army in the Pacific during World War II and rising to the rank of major, he got his doctorate in economics from Harvard University and returned to teach economics at the University of Maine campus in Orono. From there he was called to the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, first serving in the bank's research department and then as its director of research.

At the age of 41, he became president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, serving for seven years. He was also on the Federal's Open Market Committee, responsible for determining U.S. monetary policy. He later became president and CEO of Keystone Mutual funds and then president of Home Savings Bank of Boston. He also served as chairman of the board of Central Maine Power.

George was the recipient of many awards, including the University of Maine Lifetime Career Achievement Award. We extend our deepest sympathy to his two sons and two daughters and their families.

Charles Parsons also had a busy life. During World War II he served with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, attaining the rank of captain. He saw action with the 20th Bomber Command in India and Okinawa.

After the war he was a copartner in a potato seed farm in Masardis, superintendent of a fertilizer plant in Presque Isle, and an officer with Casco Northern Bank until his retirement in 1981. He was past president of the Aroostook Bankers Association, chairman of the Presque Isle

Recreation and Parks board, and a member and officer of numerous other organizations in Presque Isle. Our deepest sympathy to his wife of 62 years, Pauline, and his daughter and son and their families.

Dottie Wing Nystrom died on November 29. After graduating from the University of Maine with high honors, Dottie taught school in Connecticut. She later received her M.A. degree from Penn State College and was very active in church and community affairs. Our deepest sympathy goes to her husband, **George**, and her three sons and their families.

**Lib Peaslee Cain**, who served in the Waves during the second World War, had a special part in a special service in Washington, D.C., to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. The event featured a choral evensong, and ambassadors from the British Commonwealth Nations as well as the Honorable Celia Sandys, granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill, attended.

"At the reception afterward I was able to meet her. She was a very friendly and warm person who seemed to enjoy meeting people," writes Lib, who termed the event "exciting."

**Walter Gosline** is living in Fort Myers, Florida. He retired as an agent for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1983. He also had served in the Gardiner Savings Bank until 1991 and Gosline Murchie Agency until 1993. He is playing golf and enjoys reading during his retirement years. Married for 64 years, Walter has two sons, five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandsons.

**Mary Catir Clancy** is living in Harrisburg, Virginia. She has one child, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Mary was a teacher at Old Town High and also Edward Little High School in Auburn. She retired in 1981 as the secretary and bookkeeper of the Blessed Sacrament Church in Harrisburg.

**Will Alford**, whose construction firm is now operated by his son and grandson since his retirement in 1990, spends his retirement years "playing golf and swimming." His wife, **Frances Sawyer Alford**, also of '41, is deceased.

**Bruce MacKay** spent three years in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a physical instructor. Married for 59 years, he retired as an electronics engineer from the FAA in June 1975, after 30 years of



service. He then served as town manager for Winter Harbor, Eastport, Gouldsboro, and Buckfield. Now living in Winter Harbor, Maine, he is a member of the planning board, comprehensive planning committee, revitalization committee, and president of Channing Chapel, a non-profit organization. In addition, he is restoring an old house, working in his garden, playing golf, attending meetings of town affairs, and visiting with friends.

Retired for 20 years from the Portsmouth school department, **Frances Horne Miliner** is a resident of Old English Village in Manchester, New Hampshire. She, too, has a very busy retirement, working as a hospice volunteer, serving as a member of several church committees and social groups, and being a class secretary for Westbrook College. Her grandchildren range in age from two to 22. "It's quite lovely being retired and in good health," she writes.

Well, folks, that's all until next time. Don't forget to plan to come back for our reunion in June. In the meantime please write Agnes or me and tell us what YOU have been doing.

## 1942

**Marion Libby Broadus**  
40 Oakland Avenue  
Westbrook, ME 04092  
(207) 854-4648  
Mlbroadus@yahoo.com

**Priscilla Thurlow Anderson** is in a rehab facility in Phoenix, Arizona, as a result of a bad fall earlier in the year. If any of you are knitters and are interested in a different project, try contacting your local schools and find out if they need mittens, scarves, or socks. I found out about the school needs in a conversation with a local teacher—so many children come to school without suitable warm clothing. I started a knitting program for just that in Westbrook and it has been a great success. Lots of ladies told me they used to knit but did not have anyone to knit for now. Over 300 knitted articles were made last year. It has been a great success. Do write with some tidbits of any kind.

## Go Blue!



**Dorothy Brewer Erikson '42 with Jack Quirk (center) and her husband Gordon '43 at the Naples alumni gathering on March 5. (Photo by Lola Orcutt.)**

## 1943

**Helena Jensen**  
12 Frost Street  
Portland, ME 04102

Contrasts! Today marks the first snowfall of the season; when you read the '43 notes, maybe you will also be looking for the next crocus to bloom. Indeed!

On December 1, 2005, the Greater Portland University of Maine Alumnae met for a luncheon meeting at Newick's Seafood Restaurant, South Portland, and yes, the Class of '43 was represented. Alumnae came laden with paper products, toilet articles, sheets, towels, and canned goods instead of bringing presents to exchange. The articles were destined for Gary's House. Executive director of Gary's House, Regina Ketcheson, explained the purpose and operation of the home.

Gary's House is located on State Street, Portland, across from Mercy Hospital and it is named for Gary Pike who died in 2001. Due to the financial burden of extended treatment for cancer and travel to Portland, his family became destitute. They resolved to help other families saddled with similar financial hardships. Therefore, they and their friends engaged in a series of money-making projects over a period of seven years, and then Gary's House became a reality. It was opened to the public and Mercy Hospital was

asked to oversee its operation. Most families who stay at Gary's House come from greater than 25 miles from Portland so the \$15 lodging fee per night is most helpful—or fees may be waived. Families can use the kitchen with its stocked pantry. Local churches and schools donate to the food pantry. Sometimes guest families pool resources and cook for each other. There is also free laundry, a dining room, family room, and play room for children. There are nine bedrooms which can accommodate a total of 30 guests. It really is a home away from home.

**Alexander "Sandy" Hardie** always wanted to be a farmer and to own an apple orchard. This goal became a reality. He grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and then enrolled in the Class of 1943 at the University of Maine where he majored in horticulture. At a horticulture department picnic he met Mary Helen Raye '38 (she was on the faculty at the university where she taught anatomy to the student nurses from Eastern Maine Medical Center). As luck would have it she boarded at the home of the head of the horticulture department.

Upon matriculation from the university, he and fellow ROTC classmates were immediately off to military training. A two-week leave in November allowed him to come back to Maine to marry Mary Helen on November 6, 1943. He was then assigned to the 8th Division with combat at Omaha Beach and on to Hurtgen Forest.

While Sandy was in the service, Mary Helen had her marching orders to find a good place for an apple orchard farm. This she did with the help of her dad as they traveled around Maine. She was captivated by the big white house and red barn on a 50+ acre site in Union. Upon his return from military service, 1st Lieutenant Hardie was anxious to get going with his apple orchard—yet much work needed to be done on both house and barn. Apple trees were planted across the street where there was ample room. Unfortunately the Hardies couldn't always keep an eye on the fledgling orchard or the deer who enjoyed munching there. The first planting was declared a complete failure.

Life was not dull during those early years. A chicken business comprising 1,500 chickens came along with the property, but it didn't last long. There were also two little girls, Mary and Carol. They regularly went walking with their mother, with Carol in a buggy. One day they met a neighbor's billy goat in the road who tried to butt Mary Helen! Her hands were tied until their doctor drove by and offered to help. She asked the doctor to hold the horns of the billy goat until she could get away. Thus disaster was avoided and years later both girls matriculated from the University of Maine in the classes of 1968 and 1969 respectively.

To get on with the orchard—Sandy became active in the soil and water conservation district and he ordered most of his trees through them. Eleven hundred trees were planted over the years including Northern Spy, Red Delicious, Yellow Transparent, Macintosh, and Macoun. Planting was a joint effort with Mary Helen standing by the road and looking through a forked stick, telling Sandy where to plant each tree. The orchard was planted next to the house and there has been no more munching by the deer. Sandy took care of the orchard himself, carefully mowing so that apples wouldn't fall into the tall grass at harvest. He pruned carefully so that one limb would not rest on another or prevent the sun and air from reaching all fruit; "fruit needs to be able to dry after a rain and not be crowded." He sprayed to meet specific needs and he dug a farm pond so there would be no worrying about watering. "Trees will live and bear as long as they are healthy and cared for." Sandy gave a good deal of credit to fellow orchardist, Ray Thurston, whom he declared a



"father advisor" to him. Sandy declared picking to be an important job. People were not allowed to pick their own apples. Instead, he had a crew of friends and neighbors who were careful not to bruise or pick any unripe fruit. Sandy would go over each apple and decide which were for sale or which were to be used for cider. His cider was known as the sweetest cider around. Apples were bagged for sale. If the family was to be away for a lengthy part of the day, he left a wooden money box with the apple display. He was never cheated.

Mary Helen thought about returning to teaching when the children were in school all day, so when the Union School superintendent told her he needed a science teacher, she accepted the offer and taught for the next 20 years and became head of the math department.

Sandy had often welcomed children on field trips to his orchard. So one day the Augusta superintendent of schools stopped by to ask if he would take the position of botany and science teacher at Cony High School, which he did.

Sandy has sold the orchard which he operated for almost 40 years and has built a smaller house across the street. Ironically he became allergic to apples after he retired. Even then he felt most fortunate to have chosen the work of an orchardist!

The Union Historical Society has prepared a brochure: "The Hardie Apple Orchard, Sandy and Mary Helen Hardie, Union, Maine."

A fitting tribute, wouldn't you agree?

## 1944

**Joyce Iveney Ingalls**  
7 Seabury Lane  
Yarmouth, ME 04096

With very little class news in hand it's time to start our column which is due December 19. There may be a few cards or notes that come to us between now and then that will give us a little more to work with.

**Bob and Pearlee Buchanan** have a new address: 4751 Eagle Ridge Circle #108, Pueblo, Colorado 81008. They apparently have been at that address since September. Bob writes that Pearlee has had serious carotid artery surgery but is

doing pretty well. We hope that by now her recovery has continued in a very positive way and we all wish you both the very best.

**Al Ehrenfried** forwarded a letter that he had received from **Fran Sheehy Brown**. Fran wrote about her visit to the university with her daughter, Suzanne, and her grandson, Patrick. They were "wined, dined, and feted" with a campus tour, dinner at the Chocolate Grille, and a truly grand concert and reception by the music faculty. The visit was planned to show appreciation for the gifts of pianos, restored and given, by Fran and her husband. Fran hopes that any of our class who go to Orono will seek out and see the Steinway and the Yamaha practice piano in Minsky Hall. She says, "no one has had more pleasure and satisfaction from a gift given than we have from this."

A Christmas card from **Rhoda Tolford Stone**—she has had a full and happy year. Rhoda was in San Diego last April with family. In June she spent two weeks on Peaks Island. **Joe** and I spent a fun day with her there having a leisurely lunch at the Peaks Island Inn followed by a grand tour of the island. Many of her family also visited with her while she was at Peaks. A highlight of her time in Maine was her 65th Deering High School class reunion which was hosted by **Charlie** and **Anita Stickney** at Cutter House in Yarmouth. We (Class of '44) have been there, done that, and know what fun it can be. Rhoda and her daughter, Meg, evacuated to a friend's home in Annapolis to escape hurricane Wilma, which in the end bypassed Sarasota.

Another Christmas greeting and nice note from **Ernie and Midi Wooster Roberts**. They too mentioned the Florida hurricane in October that kept them on their toes for four days of darkness. They escaped with little damage but next year plan to stay in Maine until after the hurricane season (November). A highlight of their year was the Fourth of July when all of their kids joined them in Franklin, Maine. For the holiday festivities, Ernie mentions something about "more doctor appointments than tee times nowadays." Join the crowd!

There was a great hockey game at the Civic Center in Portland this past week when the UMaine Black Bears beat the Brown University squad, 2-1, in the last period. Coach Tim Whitehead '92G told the alums, gathered for a reception before the game, that the Black Bears were a

third period team this year. His advice that we hang in to the end of the game was right on! We were there with the Stickneys. **Charlie** said that he saw and talked with **Russ Bodwell**. We also saw and visited with **Pat Cummings** '89, '44H. A great evening for all who were cheering for Maine.

**Joe** and I are very happy here in Yarmouth with daughter, Jane, her husband, **Joe**, and **Annie** and **Billy** also here in Yarmouth. Our son, **Terry**, and **Susan** are in Portland and granddaughter, **Abby**, lives just down the street from them. We had our usual family gathering this summer at Boyden Lake in Perry. All of the gang was there over a period of two weeks. We went to San Francisco again this year in October to visit **Rob** and **Karen** who now live in Tiburon. Daughter **Gini** and her **Rob** are in Lenox, Massachusetts, so we see them quite often. Their **Carolyn** is in her second year at Connecticut College and **Bobby** enters Methodist College in the Carolinas next fall.

All for now—but please drop me a line with your news for the next column!

## 1945

**Carolyn Chaplin Grant**  
257 Canco Road  
Apt. 123  
Portland, ME 04103  
(207) 761-1827

Happy spring, classmates, from "Charlie" who's back in Maine!

Thanksgiving came and went and I saw my first snow again—the first time in 15 years! Indeed it is pretty and transforms the landscape gently into a winter wonderland. Therefore, I'm delighted to have L.L. Bean just "up the road a piece!" I had no idea that winter coat styles had changed! I felt I was in my mother's coat of 1918! No, I never wore it—but I do recall the pictures of her in it. Fortunately, Beans had a shorter coat with a fuzzy lining in a beautiful burgundy shade. Since then I've completed a Maine wardrobe and am thankful for the warmth and coziness from top to bottom—hat to boots—things I haven't even seen for 20 years!

Life here in my small apartment is finally settled down and cozy. My new kitty is so lovable and insists on sleeping snuggled up beside me, often purring the both of us to sleep

each night! We enjoy the comfort of one another. She's what they call a "money cat"—a plethora of various colors including black, orange, and tan, and has four double paws (all the more claws to "love" me with!) For these I've named her **Mitzie**.

Most everyone here is Christmas shopping and wrapping these days and tomorrow the postal department is setting up facilities to mail packages and purchase Christmas stamps in our lobby: a great service for us as the Portland post office is in a very busy traffic area. They truly decorate this place beautifully for each holiday.

There's a beautiful staircase going up from the foyer and they tell me they hang a Christmas stocking up for each resident—180+! I've heard it's a beautiful sight with the tree lit, the tiny stockings filled by "Santa"—and wreaths. I'm looking forward to it all! I plan to put my Christmas tree up this week—however, I feel I'll have to put a shield around it or **Mitzie** will rejoice in playing with all the pretty ornaments!

My great-grandies have been arriving regularly in recent years—number seven in October and number eight in the New Year. I can hardly believe that there is only one girl among seven boys! I understand that this ratio is quite normal during wartime! I find it very difficult to realize that my family has grown to the huge number of 45! They're all the joy of my life! And now that I'm "back home" again, they are showering me with love and attention. I had no idea I was so missed!

Just last evening I spoke with **Elliott "Bud"** and **Pat Ludwig Hale**. They just moved from Pat's family home in Washington, Maine, to Plymouth, New Hampshire, in a condo community and are so happy to be in an exciting new environment and much easier to care for. Especially since there they have two sons nearby! For Christmas they flew to California to spend the holidays. On their return, they both were looking forward to the ski slopes in their area. Obviously, Bud has recuperated very well from his extensive bypass surgery last May (the reason they missed our 60th Reunion)—Both are in high spirits now and stimulated by their new lifestyle. However, their lovely home they left is still on the market! They had modernized it as a comfy home in a true Maine setting. Anyone interested?

They also told me of **Ben Warner's** dreadful continuing pain from his bout with shingles. He's off to



Duke University Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, and hopes to get some relief there. They have an outstanding research division that tackles many of these unusual problems. We do wish you success, Ben!

I'm spending holidays and having wonderful times with all of my children again! I spent Thanksgiving with my children and their families in Saco. There were 14 of us gathered around the "groaning board." My contributions were small as I have no real kitchen but I did manage a mince pie and cranberry relish.

Daughter Cindy decorated her home and it always is like a "Holiday House" plus a yummy dinner and gifts under the tree. Twenty-month-old Rylan kept us hopping—what a happy, fun child he is. I bought a little chair for him for Christmas so he'd have his own place to sit. Kara painted it for me. I took her to dinner and to see Dickens' *Christmas Carol* for her 20th birthday. She's still "Mimi's girl!"

Grandson Robb and a friend have ventured forth and have started their own business and can just barely keep up with it! They do building, remodeling, painting, roofing—anything to do with home upkeep or remodeling. Whatever happened to those adorable grandies? They're most all grown—or will be in 2006. Missy and Mike's wedding is planned for July 1st and Brad and Sandy are planning a fall ceremony—that means two major trips to New York in three months! (So nice to look forward to.) They all live in New York state 70 miles north of New York City.

I flew up to Alex's graduation from the University of Maine last May—a joyous day for all and I was so proud as I was the one who convinced him to choose the University of Maine in Orono—his son Dawson is six years old now! He was the baby I was holding when I received the Black Bear Award in 2000—my first great-grandchild!

Grandson and wife, Scott and Candy, came to visit me in Florida just days before I moved. I'd never seen Nathan before and he's an adorable big brother to Andrew, born in October. Linda and Wayne are rejoicing in grandparenting—both are retired now and this is their favorite hobby! They do spend the summer in Maine—so I did see her most every week last summer.

On the way home from Reunion **Connie Carter Lamprell** and I stopped to see grandson Josh and Katie Treat and it was my first time

to see 18 month-old Hunter! They also have a nice new home—I am especially happy as Hunter became a big brother soon after the holidays! Never in all my wildest dreams did I expect to have a family of our 40 members! But every single one is an individual unto him/herself and as precious as life itself to me.

Since I arrived here at Canco Woods I've attended two UMaine alumni activities and am enjoying them—I keep in touch with them by phone, short visits, or correspondence so I can keep up with as many as possible!

Which reminds me of Bev Knudsen, **Dick's** widow—for the first time in her life she has time to herself (though her children and grandchildren keep her in the hop). She plans to remain in their home on Casco Bay in Falmouth Foreside—it's a lovely home with a magnificent view. She spent Christmas with their daughter Kim and family at their hideaway in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

I also had another classmate, **John Wilbur**, visit recently. We went to lunch and then he drove me through his childhood neighborhood in Cape Cottage woods, a part of Cape Elizabeth. He showed me the homes of his friends—**Bob Chase** and **Bob Ludwig** They actually went to school together from grammar school straight through college! And Bob Chase and John went through World War II together along with **Peter Calott**. Amazing—and they're still the closest of friends and in touch regularly. It's a cozy neighborhood and he suddenly stopped and said, "Look, Charlie" and in the front yard of an occupied home were two fawns grazing in the yard with "Mom" close by—keeping her eye on them! Amazing—right in a busy neighborhood! A delight many of us see on occasion here in Maine but a rare sight elsewhere!

A call to **Gerry Keenan Oakes** in Presque Isle to check on her condition following her hip surgery—**Roger** said she was being moved to physical therapy. That's the best thing she can do—if we don't follow up bone surgery with extensive physical therapy, you just don't mend well! **Jim Donovan** reminded me of this when I had my knees replaced several years ago, and I stuck to it and am so grateful!

Keep the letters, phone calls, and visits coming so we can all remain as close as we always have—'45 is the best class ever, right? My telephone number is (207) 761-1827 for any special news!



**Senior Alumni treasurer Thelma Crossland Robie '49 was among the attendees at the Mad Hatter Tea Party at Dirigo Pines in Orono in February. The event was cosponsored by the alumni association.**

## 1946

### 60th Reunion

### June 2-4, 2006

**Mary Spangler Eddy**  
10 Bryant Park Drive  
Camden, ME 04843  
(207) 230-6624  
maryeddy@webtv.net

Happy spring, everyone! Now that you've come out of hibernation, how about dropping me a line? Surely there's some event during the last six decades since our graduation that is worth reporting.

I hope to see you at Reunion!

## 1947

**Mary "Chickie" Sawyer Jordan**  
6 Sea Street  
P. O. Box 223  
Northeast Harbor, ME 04662  
(207) 276-5362

No news is not good news for the Class of '47. I know there's news out there, but it isn't reaching me for this column. Please, everyone, let me know what you're doing so I can

have something for your classmates to read.

Have a great spring and summer!

## 1948

**Lancy Carter Bradshaw**  
16 Birchwood Terrace  
Pittsfield, ME 04967  
lancy@midmaine.com

**Barbara Sullivan Knowlton**  
16 Lloyd Road  
Waterville, ME 04901

Hi, classmates of Maine 1948. I am in the throes of Christmas preparations as I write this appeal—please send us some news! It is impossible to be a class correspondent if nobody sends us any notes, letters, emails, or even a telegram. When you read this, it will be spring and then you will all have excuses—about your gardens, your visitors from away who are coming or have been, the long winter which we've just survived, etc. Your lives can't be so dull that you have nothing to convey. Please, I beg of you all, just a short note to one of us, and we'll put it in print.

Sadly, the only bit of news to report is the loss of **Catherine McCann Foley**. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

A very belated wish for a Happy New Year to all of you, and write us.

## 1949

**Dorothy Averill Hawkes**  
296 Mount Hope Avenue  
Bangor, ME 04401  
(207) 942-8348  
dorothyannhawkes@aol.com

At the annual meeting of the University of Maine Foundation on October 6, 2005, **Donald F. Collins** was elected as board chair of the foundation. Don is the retired president of S. W. Collins Company of Caribou. The foundation plays a very important role, encouraging gifts and bequests that nurture academic achievement, foster research, and elevate intellectual pursuit at the University of Maine.

I received a welcome note from **Nancy Carter Bishop Hoople** in



October. She wrote, "Recently I received the alumni magazine and decided to send something to you. In the middle of September, **Lexey Carter, Barbara Haney McKay**, and I went to the Cape for four days. We have been getting together for several days for three or four years now. Each year we rotate on who decides when and where to go. This year was my turn to decide. We went to Cape Cod and Nantucket. We had great weather and toured much of the Cape and spent a day on Nantucket (took an interesting tour of the island). We always have a grand time and share fond memories of the University of Maine and catch up on what each of us has been doing for the past years. Bill Hoople and I have had a busy summer and fall—lots of company, which we enjoy. Bill plays lots of golf and bridge. I play golf, but not any way close to the amount he does. We will leave the end of December for my home in Estero, Florida (west coast between Fort Myers and Naples). We stay there for four months and then head for our beloved home in New London, New Hampshire."

The Class of '49 Ladies Luncheon Group held their fall gathering on October 11, 2005, at the home of **Barbara Thompson York**, 30 Wildwood Boulevard, Cumberland Foreside, Maine. Members of the classes of '50 and '51 also joined us. We socialized at Barb's home from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and then drove to the Downeast Restaurant in Yarmouth where we enjoyed lunch together. Those attending were: **Mary Wiswell Libby, Polly Cheney Howard, Barbara Haney McKay, Lexey Carter, Barbara Thompson York, Dorothy Averill Hawkes, Louise Litchfield McIntire '50, Verna Wallace Andrews, Thelma Crossland Robie, Kay Kennedy Nickless, Marian Stanley Burns, Colleen Richardson Coates, Mary-Abbie Pulsifer Kilgore, Priscilla Thomas Rines, Frances Foster Addor, Elizabeth Tufts Goodrich, Caroline Strong '50, Ginny Stickney Cooper '50, Shirley Jackson Hilton '50, Edie Hayford Grant '50, Joan Wiswell Beach '51, Thelma Lord Dombkowski '51, Ginny Merchant Hoy '46, Frances Pratt Caswell '51, Margaret Mollison McIntosh '50, Penny Guptill Higgins '51, and Polly Robbins Gosse '51.**

The 130th Homecoming celebration was held at the University of Maine on October 21-23, 2005. Colleen "Sparky" Richardson



Enjoying an alumni reception prior to the UMaine baseball game on March 8 in Boca Raton are (left to right): **Norma Berg, Howard Berg '50, and Liz Hitchcock Locke '77.**

Coates was my house guest for the weekend and we always have a great time at Homecoming. On Friday we attended the third annual Senior Alumni Homecoming luncheon in the McIntire Room at the Buchanan Alumni House. After lunch Sparky played the piano and all sang a rousing rendition of the "Maine Stein Song." In the afternoon we attended the Celebration of Jazz Music in the Memorial Union. On Saturday we attended the Phi Mu Homecoming Brunch in the Chapter Room in Knox Hall where we met with other alumnae, current sisters, and their families. In the afternoon we watched the UMaine Black Bears play football against UMass. Our day ended with a visit to Pat's Pizza in Orono.

I received a Christmas letter from classmates and travelers, **Vance and Evelyn Ellsworth Dearborn**. In February they were in Texas and took a nature tour with a birder as their director. They saw 77 species, including a flock of golden looking wild turkeys, Rio Grande subspecies. In March they visited their daughter and son-in-law in Oklahoma City. Daughter Shirley is administrative director for graduate education with Integris Health Care System and Randy is senior political science professor at the University of Central Oklahoma. They went on to Champaign, Illinois, for a visit with their daughter, Lynne, and granddaughters, Sunita and Mishy. Lynne is on the architecture faculty

at the University of Illinois. They then headed east to Clinton, Connecticut, for a visit with daughter, Sue, head physical therapist at Connecticut Valley Hospital. They made it back to Maine for April Fool's Day, traveling 13,884 miles and visiting 109 new counties. There are a total of 3,140 counties in the United States and they have 420 more to go before having visited them all.

It is with great sadness that I report the death of **Beverly Green McGary**, Ganneston Drive, Augusta, Maine. Bev was my roommate at Estabrooke Hall in 1947-48. She graduated from Farmington High School, Class of 1944, and attended the University of Maine in both Orono and Farmington. She enjoyed gardening and was a member of the Kennebec Valley Garden Club, where she held several offices, and also held offices with the Maine State Garden Club. She was active in community affairs and fund-raisers. Bev took pride in her home and enjoyed traveling. She was predeceased by her husband, Carlton D. McGary '48. Two sons and a daughter, three brothers, and five grandchildren survive her. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her family.

As I write this, Christmas is just around the corner and it is hard to imagine that it will be spring when you read my column—so have a great spring and summer and remember to send me your news.

## 1950

**Ruth Holland Walsh**  
186 Jerry Browne Road  
Apartment #1112  
Mystic CT 06355  
(860) 536-6265  
rhwdvb@aol.com

Can you imagine that it is 2006—particularly when it was just 1950 a few moments ago?! I hope that this new year is a healthy and happy one for you—one that is filled with adventures and new experiences galore. By now, am sure we have come to realize that each new day is a gift to us—and how vital it is that we live each one of those 24 hours to the absolute MAX! Christmas at StoneRidge was very joyous—with so many activities available that our heads fairly swam with all, and our decision-making abilities were put to the fore! I did spend one superb afternoon threading cranberries and popcorn strings—which eventually made their way to the bare tree branches around the complex; it was a delight to just relax, chat, thread, and sip hot cocoa—and then after the strings were placed on the trees, we were treated to a dividend as we watched the birds flitting through the woods outside, while snacking away to their hearts' content!

I did have even an extra December bonus in that my granddaughter, Alison, (a performing arts graduate of Ithaca College in May) secured a job on the Norwegian Cruise Line *Jewel* for a four + month stint in their entertainment division. Though the trip meant that she would miss Thanksgiving and Christmas at home, we were delighted for her and tried to figure out how to make the supreme sacrifice by taking one of the cruises so that we could support her by clapping and cheering, while enjoying the cruise and its interesting port calls. Jan Page, a long time Alpha Delta Kappa friend from Illinois, and I decided to go for it, by cruising on the ship's Western Caribbean run out of Miami—leaving the 11th of December. Though I shall have to bring you details in my next column, we anticipate (as of this writing) a wonderful time of it! (Hope we can get to Miami safely while dodging snow and sleet that seems to have arrived in New England after a very mild fall.)

There was a mini executive board meeting of our class in November at **Maggie Mollison McIntosh's** time-



share condo at the Samoset in Rockland. The setting there is just outstanding "cradled between lush green hills and the blue waters of Penobscot Bay." Her particular unit overlooks a gorgeous manicured golf course, the expansive breakwater with a wee lighthouse at its end, and across the way we saw (and heard in the foggy morning!) Owls Head Light. The view was serene and tranquil! And at night, with no lights to obscure the brilliance of the heavens, we were privileged to look up and see millions of stars sparkling away! **Dick and Flo Mad-docks Fairfield**, and **Alton "Hop-py" and Dottie Lord Hopkins** ventured up from Rhode Island and New Hampshire; we conference-called veep **George Gray** and class agent **Henry Saunders**—both of whom were in Florida for the winter—and so were able to cover business items on the agenda. In addition we were pleased to welcome Donna Keirstead Thornton '78, '79G, Paula Sheehan Paradis '71, Danny Williams '91, '94G, and Todd Saucier '93, '97G—all of whom drove down from Orono to be with us. We talked away, snacked on good food, and proceeded to matters at hand. Reunion 2006 will be held in Orono on June 2–4. One of our main orders of business will be the presentation of the Greatest Generation Awards to classmates at the 1950 Flag Plaza on the 3rd; the award is designed to honor classmates for distinguished service to our country during World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Classmates are invited to request an application for consideration from GGA chairman **Dick Fairfield**, 36 Walnut Street, Barrington, Rhode Island 02806. If you have any questions, please give him a ring at: 1-401-248-1065—or contact him by email at: dickf36@juno.com. You will receive details regarding the reunion activities, but I know that we are staying at Doris Twitchell Allen Village right on campus, and will have easy access to all of the reunion venues in addition to being able to walk to nearby gardens while surveying "our campus." We will have a social room in the Village where one and all can gather to get caught up on all. Mark your calendars now for the early June dates and watch for information coming from the alumni association.

We thoroughly discussed the Class of 1950 Scholarship that is designed to offer financial assistance to descendants of classmates. Our hope was that through



WOODY BEACH '51 has enhanced UMaine events for many years with his bagpipe playing. Every June he plays the pipes at the 50th Class Reunion memorial service.

Now, thanks to the alumni association and the UMaine Foundation, Woody will be donning a brand new kilt when he performs.

the fundraising efforts associated with our 55th, we would have a greater amount of money to distribute to our applicants. The goal was a total principle value of \$50,000, but alas, we fell short with funding currently valued at only \$42,944. It is that amount that we will have to base the 2006-2007 awards to candidates for scholarships. (The award for academic year 2005-2006 was a meager \$246 for the 10 recipients—not even enough to purchase books!) It was determined that the guidelines be changed to reflect the fact that the scholarship(s) will be for \$500 or more, depending upon the number of students selected, and that the scholarships be awarded based on financial need as well as academic merit with a GPA of at least 2.5. Determination of need and academic merit will be evaluated by the office of financial assistance. We shall keep you posted on the fund

and urge that you continue to contribute monies to help us attain our reasonable goal of \$50,000; remember also that it is up to the potential recipients to make the office of financial assistance aware of their relationship to a member of the Class of 1950.

Our late summer meeting in 2006 will be at 10 a.m. on the third of August at the Cumberland Club in Portland. Though we shall endeavor to keep you informed as we get closer to the date, please give Maggie a call for further details and all. Her phone number is: 1-207-363-5510.

Renee and **Len Minsky** have been longtime benefactors and supporters of the arts in the Bangor area as well as the university. Last fall they were awarded a handsome plaque which was mounted in the Minsky Recital Hall during a concert marking the debut of a newly refurbished Steinway concert grand

piano. The evening's program, showcasing the Steinway "D" and featuring the talents of faculty and student pianists, included works by Chopin, Debussy, Dvorak, and others. Many thanks, Renee and Len, for your generous contribution to the piano "which sounds fabulous and plays wonderfully" and is, in essence, a new Steinway grand piano inside the box of an old one.

**Chester and Patricia Kennedy** celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in October. They are retired and living in Brewster, Massachusetts, nestled on very scenic Cape Cod. **Rudy Violette** is living in Scarborough, Maine. He noted that he retired from his building restoration contracting business 10 years ago—and that his business partner was classmate **Edwin Smith**. Although Rudy spends winters in Marco Island in Florida, he still thoroughly enjoys summers in Scarborough where he plays golf and just enjoys the beauty and wonder of Maine. There was a fascinating newspaper article in the *Barre-Montpelier Times* in Barre, Vermont, about **Dave Clark** from St. Johnsbury who divides his time between the Vermont State House and his apple orchard known as Crow Hill Orchard. He served as St. Johnsbury's town manager from 1960–1996, and then was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives in 1996—at which post he works from January until May or June. He then works the orchard, growing such tasty apples as Macs, Duchess, Cortlands, and Ida Reds. Not only does he sell wholesale to local supermarkets, but he also maintains a rustic stand where one can buy single apples, a bushel of apples, or even a gallon or two of freshly pressed cider. Was interested to read that the Vermont Legislature recently voted the state pie to be the apple pie, thanks to a push by local growers in Northwestern Vermont. Such a tasty treat!

Last fall, the *Ellsworth American* ran a series of articles about veterans of World War II. Featured in the series were several classmates. **Baxter Walker** of Hancock served as a medic in the 10th Medical Battalion of the 10th Mountain Division. He trained in Leadville, Colorado, and taught many of his fellow soldiers to ski. After months of training, the division left for Naples, Italy, where their first battle was on Mount Belvedere. The article I read noted that medics wore helmets with three crosses painted on them to identify them as



medics, and were theoretically protected by the Geneva Convention. However, it didn't take long for the medic helmets to be painted olive drab after several were killed by the enemy who used those crosses as a target. His division's missions involved the Battle of the Po Valley in the northern Italian Alps, getting Yugoslavian guerrilla leader Marshall Tito out of the mountains, and expelling Germans from those mountains. Baxter received the Bronze Star for "volunteering to drive an ambulance forward of the battalion aid station to speed evacuation of wounded personnel....he drove his ambulance through a mine field and also further imperiled his life by weathering the artillery and mortar shells falling in the area." He was responsible for saving many lives by his prompt and brave actions under fire. While the division was en route to Burma to join the action in the Far East, the Japanese surrendered. He was discharged, joined our class, and was a forestry major. Baxter has served in the color guards of American Legion and VFW posts in Ellsworth for the past 15 or so years. Baxter, we are mighty proud of your courage and deep devotion to the humanitarian duties you were charged with! Was interested to read about **Allison G. Catheron II** who, though he could not join the regular military because of diabetes, joined the Civil Air Patrol and began the rigorous training program right after the beginning of World War II. He was based in New York on anti-sub patrol duty and then was assigned to a CAP Tow Target Squadron in Maryland and Delaware to assist in the training of gunners manning coastal antiaircraft batteries and aircraft spotters using searchlights. He was discharged from the CAP in June of 1945, completed requirements for high school graduation, and then joined our class in 1946 where he was in the ROTC program and a forestry major. He is retired in Franklin. One other classmate featured in the series was **George H. Bragdon**, a member of the Army Air Corps. He enlisted at age 19, trained to be a waist gunner on a B-17, and manned a machine gun which poked through the fuselage halfway between the cockpit and the tail section of the aircraft. He was stationed in England, flying into France and Germany making bombing runs. In early January 1944 his plane, *Sunnie's Big Stoop*, (and he was standing by his machine gun in



Among the attendees at the Sarasota alumni luncheon on March 4 were (left to right): Ken Dickey '51, Amos Orcutt '64 (University of Maine Foundation president), Prudie Dickey, and Barbara Manuel Beers '74 (vice president for University of Maine Development).

stocking feet!) came under attack by some 50 German fighters; the aircraft's engines were hit and the crew had to bail out into the freezing night. The landing was a hard one, and after two cold hours, he and the crew were marched to a German unit (still in his stocking feet). Ultimately they were taken to the Stalag 17-B prisoner of war camp where the days were long and dreary. After about 15 months, they were marched north—inasmuch as the word was that the Russians were coming. One early morning while on the march, the prisoners woke up and the Germans were gone! That was two days before the end of the war in Europe—VE Day! George returned to the U.S. aboard a Liberty ship and truly savored the taste of blueberry pie and eggnog upon his return to Maine! He makes his home in Richmond, Virginia.

**Irv and Dottie Butler Marsden** have moved into a new home in an independent-living community: 512 Garden Club Drive, DeLand, Florida, 32724. Their new phone is 386-734-8864.

That is about it for news of classmates. I hope that there may be a few Christmas cards in my mailbox with news about your comings and goings. Our column can only "be" if we have news of one another. Drop me a quick note and let me know how you are and what you are doing! Looking forward to seeing you in Orono in June!

## 1951 55th Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**Frances Pratt Caswell**  
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fcaswell@gwi.net

It's hard to believe that five years have gone by since our great 50th Reunion. Over the last five years we have kept the spirit going with summer picnics, and now it is time for us to gather once more for our 55th Reunion in Orono. During Homecoming last October the Class of '51 fund raising committee met with class agent **Woody Beach** to plan for our 55th Reunion. Attending with Woody were **Dick Noyes**, **Russ Meade**, **Clair Shirley**, and **Frances Pratt Caswell**, along with **Jack Ryder** by conference phone. It was decided to set a class goal of \$250,000. A set of armchairs for the honors program at Colvin Hall will be purchased from the unspecified Class of '51 fund. Other funds raised will be distributed according to the wishes of the donors. It was decided to have a pre-reunion event at Moosehead Lake in Greenville, featuring a cruise on the *Katahdin* and a cocktail party at the home of **Bill Robertson**.

Also in October, a group of '51 classmates joined members of the Class of '49 at a coffee at the home of Barbara York '49 in Cumberland Foreside. At noon we went to lunch at the Downeast Restaurant in Yarmouth. Attending were **Polly "Boo" Robbins Gosse**, **Thelma Lord Dombkowski**, **Joan Wiswell Beach**, **Penny Guptill Higgins**, and **Frances Pratt Caswell**.

In September ground was broken for the University of Maine's Mahaney Dome. Kevin Mahaney donated \$1,000,000 for the project in honor of his father, Bangor businessman and longtime UMaine athletics benefactor, classmate **Larry Mahaney**. The pressurized dome will be used for baseball, football, softball, soccer, field hockey, and other university programs. Larry began advocating for such a project five years ago, but failed to get administration support. Larry passed away this winter, and we extend our deep sympathy to his family. He will be remembered for his devoted support of the University of Maine.

In November '05 **Robert Wright** of East Machias found the body of a family friend, Gardiner Cole, who had been missing over a year. Bob had been away when the original search was conducted. The *Bangor Daily News* quoted him as saying, "It's not psychic, and it's not intuition; I'm just a person of the woods, and I know those logging roads real well." Bob works as an appraiser, real estate broker, and logger in Machias. We extend our sympathy to the family of **Richard Dwelley**, who died on May 28, 2005, in Reedsport, Oregon. He had worked as a precious metal exploration geologist, traveling throughout the world. He belonged to the American Institute of Professional Geologists, the Society of Mining Engineers, and the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers.

**Leo Leclerc** writes that he spends his summers in Springvale, Maine, and winters in Hudson, Florida. Leo says life is good; bowling is so-so; and golf is practically non-existent. He wonders if anyone in his area is up for bocce.

**Marjorie Merchant** has recently established a scholarship fund with the University of Maine Foundation in honor of her parents, Dr. Charles H. and Katherine C. Merchant. Dr. Merchant was professor and head of the department of agricultural economics and farm management at the University of Maine from 1924-62. Marjorie received a master's degree



from Penn State and taught for 30 years in the home economics and consumer science department at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

The following are excerpts from some of the replies to questionnaires sent with the advance information about our 55th Reunion. **George Paradis** writes that he is retired after 35 years with Eastern Industries/Fluid Control Division, where he held the positions of R and D manager, engineering services manager, and sales manager for the eastern U.S. He is now senior partner of Paradis Family LTD Partners, which owns and operates multi-family residential apartments. He lives in North Haven, Connecticut, where he chaired the building committee for St. Frances Cabrini Roman Catholic Church and served on the North Haven board of finance for 19 years. He is a retired commander of the U.S. Naval Reserve.

**Robert Nason**, who is retired from a steel fabrication business, writes about a favorite memory: "After drinking beer at Pat's one afternoon during summer school with **Neil Lane** and the late **Joe Bowden**, we took Neil's father's car, drove to Mechanic Falls, picked up my then-girlfriend, went to the Wayside Inn in South Poland, dropped her off in Mechanic Falls about 1:00 a.m., took Joe home to Castine, then drove back to Orono for an 8:00 a.m. class."

**Eleanor "Skeeb" Murray Small** recalls her uncle, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Joseph Murray, told her to stop cutting Spanish oral recitation every Monday. Her father told her to get good enough marks to stay there and to behave. She says she did the latter. She is the widow of Charles H. Small '51 and lives in Hampton, New Hampshire, with her son Eric.

**George Ayres** retired from the University of Southern Maine in 1991. He serves on the board of directors of the Newfield Historical Society and volunteers at the Tuesday Food Ministry in Gorham.

**Barbara Attner Higgins** taught nursing at Eastern Maine Medical Center School of Nursing from 1968-1985. She retired from Eastern Maine Technical College as director of the nursing program in 1990. From 1990 to 2002 she taught part-time in the nursing assistant program at EMTC. Currently she serves as scholarship chair for the Veazie Garden Club and program and publicity chair for the EMGH-EMMC Husson College Nursing Alumni

Association. She is also corresponding secretary of the Sunshine Club for Children.

**William and Barbara Foster Duplisea** live at: 287 Verde Hills, Center Point, Texas 78010. William is a retired engineer, having been employed by Kodak Colorado.

**Rita Conti Murdock** lives at: 10 Trinity Lane, Windsor Locks, Connecticut 06096. She continues substitute teaching in elementary school.

**Roy Farmer**, of Roy Farmer Associates in Wiscasset, continues a long career in insurance and real estate. He has served as representative to the Maine Legislature, register of probate, and county treasurer. In Wiscasset he has served as selectman, school district trustee, and member of the budget committee.

**Ronald Noyes** retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1987 and from substituting as a fifth grade teacher in 1993. He served as scoutmaster for 11 years and produced 13 Eagle Scouts, one of whom was his son, Gary. He received the Silver Beaver Award from Katahdin Council. He has been active in Orono civic affairs and has been a member of Mainely Music, a barbershop chorus, for 30 years. He recalls the University of Maine mayoral campaign of his friend "**Tiny**" **Fletcher** with his harem of dancing girls.

**Richard Page** is a retired educator, having taught in the Enfield, Connecticut, school system. He remains active in Masonic bodies and summers in Winthrop, Maine.

**Edwin Grove** continues to work as a blacksmith at Grove Forge in Brownfield, Maine. Ed has traveled extensively around the country teaching and demonstrating the trade and is now working on a book about blacksmithing. He was an EMT I with the Fryeburg Rescue for 22 years and has served on the Brownfield board of selectmen, fire department, and planning board. He recalls living in the trailer colony on campus as, "An experience not to be compared to any other."

**Phyllis Osgood Boutilier** writes that eight years after the death of her first husband, Dave Boutilier, she married Art Weaver. They make their home in Houghton, Michigan. Phyllis is retired from Michigan Technical University, where she taught for 30 years in the math department. She is active in the League of Women Voters, Habitat for Humanity, Little Brothers, Friends of the Elderly, Planned Parenthood,

and MADD. Phyllis and Art have enjoyed travels to Costa Rica, the Galapagos Islands, and Alaska.

**Dorothy Patten Curtis**, who lives in Rockland, Maine, retired from teaching in 1989. Dot is active in her church and serves as necrology reporter for the Knox County Retired Teachers Association.

**Warren "Bucky" Alieff** retired after 34 years as a civil engineer with the Illinois Department of Transportation. Early in his career he was a resident engineer on the interstate highway system. Currently Bucky is active in the American Legion and volunteers at the Red Cross blood bank. He enjoys trout fishing and raising exotic cattle.

**Pauline Davis Lorfano** continues to paint, exhibit, and enter competitions. She serves as art board chair for the National League of American Penwomen and as a board member of the Washington (D.C.) Watercolor Society. In 2000 she was awarded an honorary degree by Maine College of Art.

**Bernice Sutton Horton** lives in Poughkeepsie, New York, and has retired after teaching special ed for 22 years. Previously "Bunny" was a nursery school teacher and director. She currently serves as board chair for Meals on Wheels and enjoys playing bridge, traveling, and reading. She remembers attending Graduation Ball with a fever and the worst sunburn of her life, obtained the day before at Sand Beach on Mt. Desert.

Elwood "Woody" Beach, our class agent, continues to work as a supplier consultant in the paper industry. As an avocation, Woody is a bagpiper, and his Celtic airs can be heard wafting on the breezes at UMaine alumni activities.

**Amo Kimball** lives in Fryeburg, Maine, summers and spends the winters in Sarasota, Florida. She is retired from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Following graduation she was employed at the Clarke School for the Deaf in Northampton. In 1958 she received an M.Ed. from Smith College. She taught the oral deaf for 20 years and then became a social worker. She is a past matron of Bethlehem Chapter OES of Northampton and Pythagorean Chapter OES of Fryeburg. She enjoys crafts of various kinds, especially quilting.

Kathy Boutilier, assistant director for scholarships, has compiled the following information about Class of '51 scholarships awarded to descendants of our class over the last ten

years.

1995-96: Glenn Brown, secondary education and James J. Evans, health, physical education.

1997-98: Christopher Atwood, business administration, and Meredith Atwood, animal veterinary science, nephew and niece of the late **Charles Sawyer**.

Jennifer Johnson, chemical engineering, and Karen Johnson, chemical engineering, granddaughters of the late **Arnold Cliff**; Charlotte Martin, anthropology, granddaughter of the late **George Crabtree**.

1998-1999: Christopher and Meredith Atwood; Jennifer and Karen Johnson; Charlotte Martin.

1999-00: Peter Victor, aquaculture, son of **Milton Victor**.

2001-02: Kimberly Stowers, education, and Jonathan Stowers, computer science, grandchildren of the late Joseph Bowden; Gerald Johnson III, business administration, grandson of the late Arnold Cliff.

2002-03: Kimberly and Jonathan Stowers; Gerald Johnson.

2003-04: Kimberly and Jonathan Stowers; Gerald Johnson; Brian Fernald, construction management technology, and Michelle Fernald, secondary education, grandchildren of **Arthur Fernald**.

2004-05: Brian Fernald and Michelle Fernald.

2005-06: Michelle Fernald; Joseph Shepard, mass communication, grandson of **Bill Robertson**; Caroline Seastrom, food science and nutrition, granddaughter of **James Elliott**; Nicholas Mooney, computer science, grandson of **James Mooney**.

The total amount awarded from the Class of '51 Scholarship Fund since 1997-98 is \$11,011. Be sure to remind your grandchildren of this resource.

Make plans to be with your classmates for our 55th Reunion in June 2006.

## 1952

**Frances Smart Trefts**  
**40 Harbor View Drive**  
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**frub2@verizon.net**

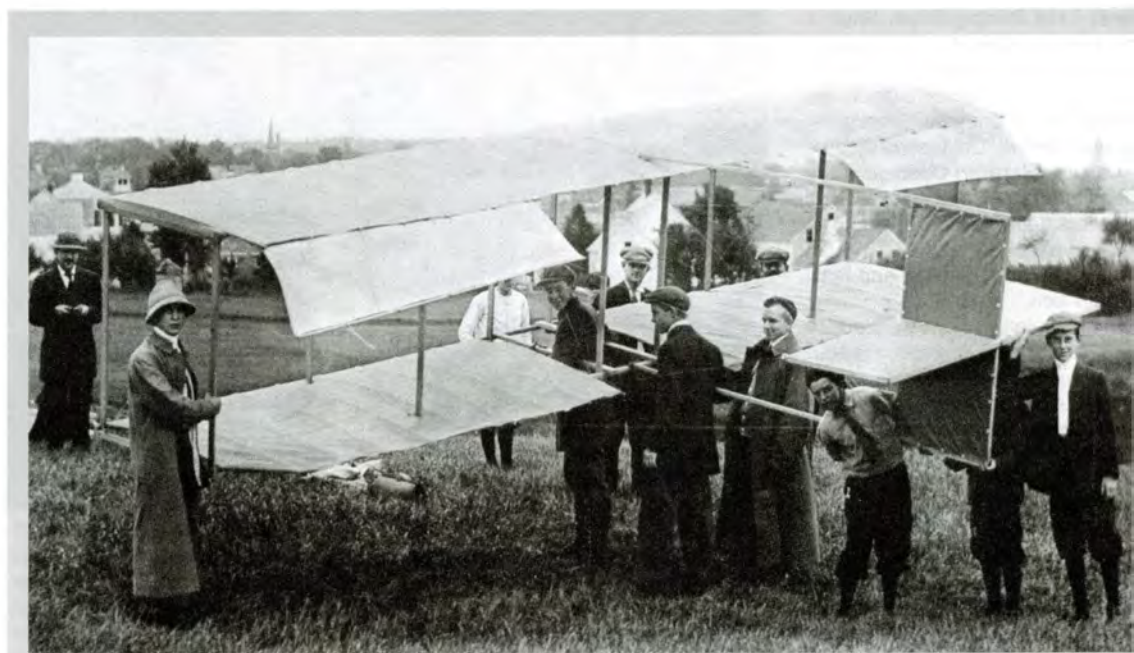
News from the cupola: And speaking of the cupola, the Class of '52 gift to the Buchanan Alumni House is the first campus marker on the right driving north on College Avenue.



The day of the ribbon cutting on May 31, 2002, one of the speakers said that we wanted to show-case our best, so current and prospective students will be inspired by what these alumni have done. When you drive by that exquisite architectural design, slow your vehicle, look right, observe, and enjoy.

A recent Christmas letter from **Mary Snyder Dow** and Stewart Coffin told of their Caribbean cruise last January along with news of their (perhaps) best Elderhostel bike trip yet from Dessau, Germany, to Prague in the Czech Republic. They also say staying closer to home; enjoying their own beautiful surroundings in each other's company becomes an increasingly attractive option to continual travel. They enclosed this puzzle from the 1970 *Farmer's Almanac* that will also be included in Stewart's book *Tall Trees and Wild Bees*: "A man rows upstream for one hour and then jumps overboard and swims back downstream to his starting point. Meanwhile his boat drifts back with the current and arrives two hours after the swimmer. In still water, the man can row twice as fast as he can swim. How much time could he have saved by rowing back instead of swimming?" By the time you read Stewart's book, you will certainly have figured out the answer, and if not perhaps Mary will send it to us next year. They convey wishes of peace and tranquility to each of us during these troubled times through an amazing photomontage of their beautiful backyard flower gardens surrounding an oval snow scene exhibiting a brightly lighted Christmas tree. On the reverse side of the photo sheet they have managed to snap pictures of 25 birds at their feeders or on the wing. Those pics are Audubon quality! Thanks so much. Between Mary volunteering at the Charter School in Lawrence and at the local YMCA (where they swim every other day), freezing their garden produce, propagating blueberry bushes, and planting more fruit trees, I understand why they need to stay at home and enjoy local surroundings.

Class co-president **Alton Cole** wrote that **Fred Littlefield** had passed away on July 26 in Olmstead Falls, Ohio. May Fred's family accept the sympathy of his classmates of 1952. Al also emailed on November 20 to tell of the death of **John A. Harmon**, a classmate of his at Thornton Academy and in our class at the university. Al said that John is still listed in our class regis-



Class of '53 correspondent Nancy Schott Plaisted received this photo from the Maine State Museum in Augusta. It shows a glider designed and built around 1911 by Class of '53 member Fred Tarr's uncle, Harold Cooper '15, just prior to his entering UMaine. Assisting in the project was Fred's father, Omar Tarr, Class of 1916. The glider was piloted by another of Fred's uncles, Philip Tarr (he was 11 at the time), who reportedly soared 30 feet in the air above Auburn. (Photo courtesy of the Maine State Museum.)

try, but somewhere along the line he must have transferred to Northeastern School of Accounting. The obituary states that he graduated from there in 1953. Our sincere condolences go out to the family of John Harmon.

Al and Alice Cole were back at their Carrabassett Valley winter home, looking forward to great skiing at Sugarloaf where they volunteer at all ski races. Bring on the snow-filled skies over Sugarloaf.

**Alan and Margaret "Marnie" Murray Pease's** Christmas message told of them both volunteering at the local library in Camden. Al also works on web sites for non-profit organizations. They keep their minds agile by doing *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times* crossword puzzles and muscles in shape biking and playing tennis. Their granddaughter, Kate, is attending the University of Richmond. They went down to Family Weekend in September with Kate's mother, Kathryn Pease Foss '79, to find many similarities with their own college experiences along with many differences. Another grandson, Sam, also Kathryn's son, is going to Worcester Poly Tech, and will be taking his winter term at a

Bangkok hospital in Thailand. Sam graduated from Maine's Science and Math High School in Limestone. A third grandson, Joe, the son of Captain Daniel Pease '82, is a junior at Camden Hills High School. His younger brother, Bill, is being home schooled during his freshman year. Marnie and Al spent two weeks in April riding the rail trails in northern Maryland and eastern Pennsylvania with friends.

The alumni office sent a piece from the November 10th issue of the *Ellsworth American* written by Stephen Fay about **Paul Garland**. Paul was a member of Ellsworth High School's class of '42. He left school his junior year to join the Navy in '41. His first tour of duty was aboard the USS *Sierra*, a destroyer tender with a crew of 1,500 on its maiden voyage. As a member of its first crew, Paul was a plank owner. The crew spent three months cleaning and repairing at Pearl Harbor before heading to Japan. Paul saw action throughout the South Pacific including the Battle of Midway. He also participated in the liberation of the Philippines. After the war, Paul recalled that while gliding under the Golden Gate Bridge he got the thrill of his life. He returned to Ellsworth

High School and graduated with the class of '46. With help from the GI Bill, Paul earned his degree from the University of Maine at Machias in 1952. After teaching 28 years in elementary and middle schools in Avon, Connecticut, he retired and returned to Maine with his wife, Angela. They now live where they enjoy their seven children, seven grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. At the age of 80, Paul Garland thinks it's been a good life. Thanks for serving your country, Paul.

I spent a few days in Reno with **Ruth Drysdale Frazier** in January. We then went on to L.A. where **Adelaide "Gump" Grant Ruby** boarded the flight. Destination was Ruthie's time-share in Puerto Vallarta for the following week. We returned to Reno, leaving Gump en route. I stayed another week with Ruth and Kathy Mueller Kimball who came from Seattle. Kathy used to be director of special education in Greenville before she was elementary principal there. Now she teaches principals and superintendents at UW.

Gump moved from her New Jersey home in July to be near her daughter Kathy Ruby Lunde. She is



now at: 1116 Sterling Street, Warwick, Pennsylvania. For Christmas, Gump was with her son Stephen and his family in Colorado. In January she went to daughter Anne's family in Oxnard, California.

**Carolyn Harmon Coco** sent a recent note saying she and husband Sam were doing fine. Also, Gump spoke on the phone with **Marilyn Harmon Saydah**, and she and Bill are both well.

Even though you have already had a bit of a start on 2006, may its remainder be most enjoyable. Thanks to everyone for the news, and let's hear from some others of you one of these months.



**1953 classmates (left to right): Claire Fillettaz, Nancy Schott Plaisted, and Lida Maxim Muench at a get-together last year in Auburn.**

## 1953

**Nancy Schott Plaisted**  
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**nan53@zwi.net**

Another year in our lives has begun. Let's hope it's a good one. I'm quite short-term memory (Is that a word? I doubt it, but let's use it.), but I guess that means I can remember things in the long run. How was last year for you? (I have to look at my calendar to see what happened to me): doctors, dentists, haircuts, taxes, births/birthdays, baby-sitting, Vegas, California, brunches, lunches, dinners, movies, gatherings, reunions, camp, holidays, and that sad event, death. However, one bright spot (and there were many): The announcement that I'll be a grandmother once again this year. My 15th. I think this might be my last?

However, it's classmate time. And this is your space.

Emails brighten my screen—those of **Zeke Mavodones**, **Lloyd Oakes**, **Ray Robbins**, **Hank and Dawn Miller Woodbrey**, and occasionally others. Thanks so much. I want more! (P.S. I can't open attachments most of the time. "Unsafe," they say.) Here's a "safe" one from Lloyd, of East Longmeadow, Massachusetts, dated December 7, a short one (he always gets to the point fast): "Well—finally we are going to be snowbirds for 2006. Last year was a disaster due to the blow-out of the condo we had been renting for the last few years on Hutchinson Island, Fort Pierce, Florida. Hopefully, all is repaired, and we will not

have to be looking at plywood, as lots of the condos are not yet repaired. Looking forward to having the annual alumni picnic in Fort Pierce." Thanks, Lloyd.

This one from Ray Robbins of Pittsford, New York, and West Tremont, Maine, summers, dated December 26: "Merry Christmas a day late, but I'm in time to wish you a happy and healthy New Year! No more health problems. Light and wet snow out here today. The roads are bare, thank goodness. In a couple hours or so Mary and I will be tackling the leftover turkey, etc. with her granddaughter and her boyfriend. I have to get more heavy cream to whip for the pumpkin pie. No Cool Whip for me!

"Last spring I finished another Tremont family genealogy (Dawes/Daws) and presented it at the Tremont Historical Society meeting last August. Now I'm well along on another, the Pomroy family. Those folks have been prolific enough over the years to keep me busy!

"In my Christmas card from our classmate **Pete Douglas**, he mentioned how much they enjoyed our lunch at The Seafood Ketch back in August and hopes we can do it again in 2006. Any idea where to meet in 2006? I hope it can be in August again. We did have a good time and shouldn't let it stop there. We'll only be able to do it for another 20 years or so!

"Right now I'm listening to a tape of 'The Memphis Belles' that I got from Pat Cummings '89, '44H of the University of Maine. She gave me that and I sent her my two books on the *History of the West Tremont Houses* for the Buchanan Alumni House.

"Have a good winter and I hope to see you and others come summer!"

This classmate in Westborough, Massachusetts, said, "I'm doing well," and his wife (on another phone) said, "He's doing beautifully. His creative mind is wonderful—it's developing again." So I think **Fred Tarr** (and Jackie) are faring quite well, don't you? Fred is now focusing on reading, with a cataract operation in the near future. (Fred said one eye is already 20/20, so this will bring both to 20/20.) Parents of six and grandparents of 15, Jackie said Fred's appetite is "excellent, he's in good shape, and loves his sweets." Good!

Jackie said they had a fun time at a family reunion last summer in Westminster, with about 60 attending. Speaking of reunions, Fred said that if there were any alumni association meetings or class gatherings close to Framingham, he'd try to be there. He said he just can't make long trips. And then Jackie told of making a trip to the Maine State Museum in Augusta recently to see a replica of the glider that Harold Cooper, Fred's uncle, of Auburn, Maine, designed and built, probably in 1911. She said the glider was hanging in the museum's atrium. Fred told how his father, Omar Tarr, a chemical engineer who graduated from UMaine in 1916, assisted Harold, who graduated with a mechanical engineering degree in 1915. (Note: since that time Omar's son and three daughters graduated from UMaine. Also, three of Fred and Jackie's six children are UMaine grads.)

Of course, I had to call the museum with hopes of getting a photo

and further information, which I promptly received. Also, in the photo, but not identified, was another uncle of Fred's, Lawrence Cooper.

The following material was gleaned from the museum's winter 1999 issue of its publication, *Broadside*. It said: "Harold Cooper, a graduate from Edward Little High School, created a glider that would successfully soar some 30 feet in the air with an 11-year-old boy, Philip Tarr, from Auburn, as the glider's pilot." Cooper was too large for the glider to get off the ground. Fred said Philip and Omar were brothers. "The plane was a 20-foot glider made of pine stock, music wire, and linen, all held together with carpet tacks and carriage bolts," stated *Broadside*.

The article said: "Harold died in Auburn in 1953 and Charles Kerr of Auburn acquired the glider and wrote an article about it in the magazine, *Soaring*, which described how Harold Cooper constructed it. Connie Cooper Landers, Harold's daughter, gave Kerr a photo and blueprint of the glider which along with the glider are now at the Maine State Museum."

I talked with the museum's art director, Donald Bassett, and he said the glider, hanging some 10 feet off the floor, was an exact replica and was in the museum's permanent exhibit, so it would probably be hanging in the museum for some time. The museum does have the original glider, in storage, with the tailpiece intact, he said. Bassett spoke of the museum's shop crew, located right there on the premises. The crew does everything except for large structural welding.

Thanks, Fred and Jackie—truly an interesting piece of family, city, and state history.

I'm also looking at another photo, a Christmas card from the "wilds of Maine" with a black bear and a fallen bird feeder, which classmates Dawn and Hank Woodbrey of Orono sent. It said: "I (Dawn) was home alone and managed to get a whole roll of film on him. I had to prove to all the doubters that after living in the woods for 30 years—we had finally acquired a bear! I started taking pictures of him through the window but after watching him for two hours and getting fairly well acquainted, I moved to the front door—being very careful to leave the door open behind me!"

And to catch up on their family: "Kevin is technology specialist for the town of Raymond, and I



guarantee you that no town in the United States has such advanced technology! He is now installing a digital broadcast studio. He also works at installing computer systems at airports around the country, as well as building an addition onto his house. Vicki is a software developer/designer at Wright Express. The boys are growing fast. Kyle is a sophomore in high school. He loves Latin and is an all-A student. Erik is in sixth grade and is for sure going to be an engineer—the way he loves to build! They and their parents are very involved in scouting and camping.

"Kim and her family have just recently moved to Colorado. Kim works out of Denver for First Data Corp and does a lot of traveling. We visited them this past summer in Nebraska and flew from there to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where we spent a week at the Youth National Arabian Horse Show. Our granddaughter, Sarah, once again, won the National Championship in English Pleasure. It was so special to be there!

"David and Heidi, along with Ben, have moved to Cherryfield, Maine. They have opened The Hungry Bear Café. David has his own cell phone business. Heather is living with us so she can finish up at Orono High. She is a junior, an honor roll student, and very involved in varsity sports. In the spring she plays softball. We are enjoying all the fun of having a teenager in the house once again.

"At the end of February, we drove to Naples, visiting friends along the way, some of whom we had not seen for years! We spent five weeks in Naples and had four weeks of company! Kim and Ralph were able to visit us for a week and we had two sets of friends from Massachusetts. What fun! Hank golfed and went to Red Sox spring training games, while I enjoyed the company and the pool."

Thanks, both of you, and watch out for that bear! He'll be bigger this year!

**Helen Strong Hamilton**, now our class president (it was Miss Helen Strong of Easthampton, Massachusetts, at that time) used to write this column in 1957. Here's something she wrote back then: "A November wedding is planned for Marlene Pierce and **Peter Douglas**. Marlene graduated from Carnegie Institute of Technology in Cleveland in 1955 and is on the staff of the Mt. Desert Island Hospital, Bar Harbor. Peter is employed as an electrician



**This handsome fellow must have found out that Hank '53 and Dawn Miller Woodbrey '53 are big Black Bear fans! The bear visited the Woodbrey's yard in Orono to enjoy the leftovers from this fallen bird feeder. Dawn says that after watching him for two hours, she ventured out the front door for some closer photos—"being very careful to leave the door open behind me!"**

at the Portsmouth Naval Base, Portsmouth, New Hampshire."

Also included in that column of Helen's: "We're proud to announce that Phil '50 and **Peggy Given White** of 10 Fairmont Road, Reading, Massachusetts, now have four income tax deductions. Paul Christen joined them on May 20, only a day after his pa, ma, and sister had attended the spring Boston alumnae family picnic at M. Eleanor Jackson's '20 home in Stoneham, Massachusetts." (Phil "Rocco," a math major who went on to law school, died in 1988. The three other children are Susan, Thomas, and Jane.) Peggy, thanks for all those past issues!

I did call Peggy yesterday because I wanted to see how her "off-and-on-for-years" gathering at her cottage on Peabody Pond in Sebago went last summer (really September, but had it turned fall yet?). We had a nice talk. She said **Dee Draper Weidemeyer** of Clearwater, Florida, came, as did her sister Chris and their mother, Jean Draper, of Cundys Harbor. (Chris spends her summers with their mother, whose 98th birthday was January 17.) Also coming for meatballs, salads, and more were **Noni Dinsmore Mills** and her husband, Ron '55, of Kittery and Hank and Dawn Woodbrey of Orono. **Dave** and **Marcia Beppler**, of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania, came earlier with a couple of granddaughters.

The same old Peggy still lives "in the same old house," she said, and I know she was smiling. In Reading

for 50 years and in the house about 40, Peggy said she's a "terrible packrat." Grandmother of five, she quilts and crafts—"you have to have stuff," she said. This year she made an artificial feather tree, made with feathers like in the Victorian days, with antique ornaments. "A.C. Moore is my best friend," she said. "I keep myself amused." A Brunswick High grad, a math major who taught briefly, and an AOP sorority member, Peggy said she and Dee roomed together in East and Estabrooke halls.

Peggy spoke of acquiring one of Vincent Hartgen's paintings, a watercolor of the '47 fire: "a fire-blackened forest with smoke still rising from the dust," she said. She considers it realism, but said her family thinks it's abstract. (Peggy worked as an instructor for Hartgen her junior and senior years and that leads me to Lord Hall where a lecture hall has been named in his honor.)

I called Pat Cummings '89, '44H, senior development officer for the University of Maine, and she filled me in on Lord Hall's renovation for the art department. She said it's almost complete and that faculty expects to move in this spring. Some formal celebration or open house will take place at reunion, she said. I asked her what Lord Hall, with its three floors, was originally. She said the electrical engineering building. Prior to this life and most recently, Pat said it was the departments of journalism and music.

"The renovation is beautiful,"

said Pat. "You can now see from one end of the building to the other." She said there's an art history wing, an art education wing, a design wing, a digital art wing, and the student gallery on the first floor; and the Vincent Hartgen classroom. Thanks, Pat, for filling me in. Let's all try and get up to Orono at reunion time and see the new Lord Hall.

This English major, and another AOPi, who does a lot of church work, has "slipped into happy retirement." Her name? **Noni Dinsmore Mills** of Kittery, Maine. She's both mother and grandmother of three and a 1949 graduate of Rumford High. Noni left the university at the end of her sophomore year to go on tour. However, she did return one summer and that's when she met her husband, Ron '55, editor of the *Bangor Daily News*. They've been married 41 years. The secret? Meeting late. Noni taught dance (ballet and tap) in New York City. (It runs in the family. Her mother had a dance studio in Rumford.)

Noni, who called herself a late bloomer, and a senior in every way, spoke of her children and said she feels "very lucky, very blessed—all my chicks are married, and all are very spiritual—Protestant, Jewish, and Catholic marriages." Her oldest, Wallace "Wally" (41), a medic, and his wife, Theresa, live in South Berwick and have two girls, Kimberly and Danielle. Her daughter, Deirdre (38), lives in Essex, Massachusetts, with her husband, Kevin Goldenbogen. He's going to become a minister and they have a son, Owen. Raymond (32), converted to Judaism and recently married Rachel in a huge wedding in New York City.

Her New Year's resolution? "To enjoy life, enjoy grandchildren, that's all." That's the spirit!

This classmate's line was busy, and I was busy re-dialing it. I won, he answered, and we talked for a while. He's **Richard Hefler**, a history major from Annapolis, Maryland, now of Sebago, who sounds so young over the phone. Richard transferred to UMaine and dormed (I know, that's not a good word) with the Class of '54, so he said he knows more from that class than those from '53. He said he skis a lot at Shawnee Peak in Bridgton, walks, and does a little volunteer work in a nursing home in Bridgton. An Army veteran, his 2006 resolution: "Exercise more." And if we do get together this summer or fall (Peggy also offered her place in Sebago), Rich-





*Sidney '54 and Eleanor Newhook Butler '53*

## Remembering a Mentor and a Friend

It was 1950 and Sid Butler '54 had just flunked out of the University of Maryland. His self-confidence was low. Like a lot of young people he had a lot of unanswered questions about his future.

Sid was familiar with the state of Maine from frequent family summer vacations at Branch Pond. He also knew about the University of Maine and decided to see if that school would give him another chance.

It did, and the influence of one caring and dedicated UMaine physics professor turned Sid's college career into a success. Such a success that he would go on to earn a Ph.D. from Penn State and become a university professor himself (including 22 years at Lehigh University).

That UMaine professor was George C. Krueger, who earned his Ph.D. from Brown and went on to teach at UMaine for 47 years. When Sid started out as a freshman, Professor Krueger was one of his first teachers.

"George was an absolutely selfless and unassuming person," Sid recalls. "He told me if I needed help to come around his office. I did—so much so that I'm sure he was sick to death of me. I practically lived there. He helped me get my feet under myself as a student. More than that he also befriended me and built up my self-confidence."

And it was in Krueger's class that Sid met his wife of more than 50 years, Marion Eleanor "Ellie" Newhook '53. She shares Sid's great admiration of their former physics professor.

When Professor Krueger died in 2004, Sid and Ellie wanted to do something to recognize his dedication to undergraduate teaching and keep his memory alive. They contributed \$50,000 to begin a memorial fund which will be used to purchase equipment in the physics major laboratory courses and provide small grants to physics undergraduates. They also are planning an additional bequest to support the memorial fund.

To join the Butlers in remembering George Krueger and also to help UMaine physics undergraduates, go to the University of Maine Foundation website at: [www.umainefoundation.org](http://www.umainefoundation.org) or call 207-581-5100.

ard would like to know. I bet he'd come. We could have a few outings, in different places, so different people could go. Why not? Call Helen Strong Hamilton, our class president, in Bow, New Hampshire, with any ideas you might have: (603) 224-4893 or email her at: [Helen.Hamilton@verizon.com](mailto:Helen.Hamilton@verizon.com).

"Other than a turkey neck, I'm a very handsome woman." This is what classmate **Phyllis Webster Jamison** of Hudson, Florida, was told by one woman. Phyllis laughed. I told her I was looking at her picture in our yearbook and I described how she looked and what she wore and she said, "My hair is medium/light brown and that was my last piece of expensive clothing." A Delta Zeta sorority gal from Eliot and Kittery Point, Maine, with a major in history and government, she said she worked for about 10 years and taught everything except her major. She spoke of Orono and **Janet Hanna Leblanc**, her roommate freshman year. (Janet died in 1989.) Then because her courses required a lot of reading and extra hours, she roomed by herself. She also spoke of **Jane Bellamy Young** of Massachusetts, **Anne Dutille Ryan**, now of Kennebunk, **Avis Leahy Wright**, who died in 2001, and her husband, **Larry**, who died in 2000. She also spoke of her brother, William Robert Webster '50, a civil engineer major who died six months after graduation.

Phyllis went to Eliot High, then Traip Academy in Kittery, William and Mary, University of Virginia, and somewhere in there came Orono. Also, Phyllis got her commission in the Navy, and received her M.S. at Old Dominion University business school in Virginia, a master's in education with an emphasis on guidance and counseling. She went there in 1967. She's mother of two: Robert of Morgonton, North Carolina, a single parent with a son, Nicholas; and David and his wife, Jennifer, of Wesley Chapel, Florida, with two children, Nolan and Caitlin.

Phyllis said her husband, Wayne, who was in the Navy 20 years and went to college in Virginia Beach, died in 2001. He became ill one year prior to her mother's death in 1988. (She had been taking care of her mother for six years, and then she took care of him.) Life wasn't easy, she said. (She also had a stroke at age 41.)

To get back to her college days, Phyllis said she used to work summers as a waitress at both the Wentworth By The Sea in Newcas-

tle, New Hampshire, and at a hotel in York, and played the piano (classical music) in the yacht room of another hotel (since demolished). "That paid for much of my education," she said. And she spoke of family vacations in Bar Harbor, and her father's hunting and fishing trips up that way. She said while at Orono she took geology trips along the cove there: "Spelunkers, cave searchers, we were."

Phyllis still drives. "I don't know what I'd do if I didn't," she said. She still hears from two elementary school classmates and one from high school, but said she'd love to hear from University of Maine classmates, so here's her address and phone: Phyllis Webster Jamison, 8508 Lincolnshire Drive, Hudson, Florida 34667. Telephone: (727) 863-6298. Thanks, Phyllis.

**Philip Turner**, a freshman wingback on the football team, was another person in Florida who I called. An agricultural economics major from Fort Fairfield, Phil now lives in Longwood with his wife, Muriel, of 45 years. She answered the phone and said Phil's hearing wasn't all that good, but he was doing fine, so she and I ended up talking. (You could hear him in the background as she was asking him questions.) Muriel was so nice and her French accent was so pleasant to hear. She said it was a beautiful 81 degrees and that they had survived four hurricanes last year. She spoke of Phil's first job in Caribou, in the lab department, and his last at Lockheed Martin in Orlando, Florida. Where did they meet? Of course! In the freezer department at Bird's Eye in Caribou where they both worked. She laughed and promptly cleared that up and said he worked in the lab!

Phil and Muriel have three married children who all live in Florida close by: Bruce (42) has two sons; Gregory (40) has a daughter; and Lori is 38. Muriel (maiden name Plourde) said she grew up in St. Agatha, Maine, (12 miles from Fort Kent) and bowls three times a week with the big ball, little pins, tenpins. And she quilts. Phil, who attended reunions a long time ago, is now retired. He used to love to play golf, she said, and at one time was a volunteer at Florida North in Altmon-te Springs. Her 2006 resolution: "Try to push yourself away from the table!"

I'm alive after my open-heart surgery in October, and as one of the instructors in cardiac rehab said: "You're vigorous for someone your



age." I can't shovel for a year, but that's OK. It's nice to hear someone else out there in the snow shoveling!

And **Tom Laskey**. I was watching TV the other night and kept wondering who this actor reminded me of. It was you, Tom!

I'm having lunch with Anne LaRochelle tomorrow. She's married to **Don LaRochelle**, our classmate from Wells. He's fine and working part-time as clerk of the works/inspector at Southern Maine Medical Center in Biddeford, which has been expanding.

And from the John Tesh radio show, I found out that if you stand on one foot for 30 seconds, you'll sleep better. I haven't tried that one out yet. Another thing is to eat ice cream, with all that calcium, before you go to bed. That should do it. I've done that, not knowing about the good benefits, but did I sleep better? I don't know. I wasn't testing. I am going to try and eat/drink better: Pomegranate juice, fish minus crumbs, shredded wheat minus sugar, bread with "wheat flour" listed first, and peanut butter with oil floating on top. The list goes on.

I went to Disneyworld February 2-6, compliments of my daughter and husband, to hear my oldest grandson, Alex (17), sing with some of his Deerfield classmates. That broke up the snow scene.

And last of all, my nephew Wade Zahares, who attended UMaine from 1978-80, has illustrated his fifth children's book, *Liberty Rising: The Story of the Statue of Liberty*, by Henry Holt and Company, Books for Young Readers, which came out in September. See [www.zahares.com](http://www.zahares.com). I bought one of the prints. He's working on his sixth, something about Jake the pig.

I know postage has gone up, but you people out there can still write, call, or get on the computer. Even once a year. It's a chore, I know. It takes time. But communication is what life is all about. Be happy. That's the best.

## 1954

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Greetings, Class of '54. We're



## All Maine Women Loyalty

Class of 1955 correspondent Janet Bishop Butler sent us these two photos of the 1955 All Maine Women—in their senior year at UMaine (above), and one taken last June, when every member of the original group of 10 showed up at their 50th Reunion. In both photos are, back row (left to right): Connie Lewis Calkin, Mary Atkinson Johnson, Mary-Alice Hastings Bancroft, Nancy Caton Dean, Norma Cumming Russell, and Nancy Collins Adams. Front row, left to right are: Betty Forss Philbrook, Liz Pierce Cross, Cyn Nelson, and Janet Bishop Butler.



looking for someone to take on the role of class correspondent. If you enjoy writing and getting news of your classmates, please contact the alumni association at the above address. You can make your literary debut in the next issue. Enjoy the warmer temperatures!

**For Black Bear sports,  
 alumni events, and more  
 go to: [mainealumni.com](http://mainealumni.com)**

## 1955

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Doesn't seem possible that it is once again time to send my column in for the next issue. By the time you

receive this copy of the *MAINE Alumni Magazine* winter will be behind us and spring will be upon us.

Did you read in the November 2005 issue of *Legacies*, the University of Maine Foundation newsletter, about new members of the University of Maine Foundation who were elected at its annual meeting in October? If you did, you must have recognized that **Sally Carroll Fernald** was selected to serve on that board. Congratulations, Sally. We hope you enjoy your tenure in that capacity.

**Betsy Pullen Leitch** and her husband, Bill, who have made significant contributions to the Honors College and its campus home in renovated Colvin Hall, received a copy of a photo that hangs in the Honors College Commons Room. This photo was delivered personally by a busload of college students who were on their way to Washington, D.C., and who stopped at their home in Newtonville, Massachusetts, to present it to Betsy and Bill. What a pleasant surprise this must have been. This photo was taken during the blizzard of 1954 when the snow was so bad that all classes were canceled. Betsy said that for the first time, she had planned to cut a class as it was really snowing but found out that there were no classes anyway. Betsy and Bill like to travel now, but Betsy still finds time to be involved in several volunteer organizations and both are very active in their church.

It was a real delight to see **Betsy Parker Enstrom** at Reunion. She hasn't changed a bit and looks wonderful. She and her husband, Ivan, live in Rochester, New York, where Betsy enjoys her four wonderful grandchildren and enjoys making a contribution in volunteering her time to the Rochester Museum & Science Center. She says, "I work with so many good people who care about making the quality of life in the area better for everyone." Would love to see you again at our 55th Reunion, Betsy.

**Chip Moody** lives in New Hampshire but spends six months of the year in Ft. Myers, Florida. He and his wife do a considerable amount of travel in the United States and abroad. He is a United Way volunteer, plays golf quite a few times a week, does woodworking and landscaping, and enjoys fishing trips. Sounds like a wonderful way to enjoy retirement.

A favorite memory of **Nancy Littlefield Greenier's** university



days was when she was tapped as a Sophomore Eagle. She cherished friendships—new ones every day—and just loved her college years. Nancy continues to be very busy with attending summer theater, going to museums, taking tours, Maine Senior College classes, visits to kids and grandkids, and loves to entertain house guests. I feel that Nancy really enjoys life, and I think that's great.

I remember **Bob Biette**, a French major, as I was in a couple of classes with Bob when my major was in French. Bob retired in 1992 after being with the Raytheon Company in Andover, Massachusetts. He and his wife retired to Brunswick and built a house on land that had been in his family. They enjoy their ocean setting and the "great life that Maine offers."

**Muriel Bennett McAlister** has been to many of our class reunions, and it is always a pleasure to see Muriel. She volunteers at a hospital once a week, likes to play bridge, and "tries" to play golf. Isn't it fun "trying"? She and Art live in York, Pennsylvania.

I very much missed not talking with **Gordon Batson** at Reunion and especially so, as he was a high school classmate of mine. Gordon is a retired professor emeritus at Clarkson University but still has an office and teaches a class once a year. I do hope, Gordon, you will be able to return in August of 2006 for our 55th high school reunion.

**John Kelley** spent 28 years in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps and was a consultant to the U.S. Air Force for 20 1/2 years. He retired in 2005 and planned to move back to Maine from Springfield, Virginia. He was looking forward to boating, fishing, and traveling. I do not have your new address in Maine, John, and would appreciate your calling, mailing, or emailing me your changes.

Each year the University of Maine Alumni Association acknowledges the accomplishments of its distinguished alumni. Those who are recognized are chosen from a pool of nominees whose nominations are submitted to the alumni association and are reviewed by a committee of University of Maine alumni. The Alumni Career Award is the highest honor bestowed upon an alum of the University of Maine and is presented annually to a University of Maine graduate "whose life's work is marked by outstanding achievement and dedication." At Reunion in June 2006, our very



**Frank Gooch '58 (left) and Wes English '57 showed up for the Maine/Minnesota-Duluth game at the Florida College Hockey Classic wearing identical Black Bear sweaters. Frank makes his home in Sarasota. Wes lives on Marco Island (just south of Naples). Wes has retired from his medical practice but continues to enjoy performing music.**

illustrious classmate Dr. **Cynthia Nelson** will be receiving the 2006 University of Maine Alumni Career Award posthumously. Cyn had an outstanding four years as an undergraduate academically, athletically, and as a academic leader. She received her Ph.D. and was dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, for many years. It was great seeing Cyn in June, and wouldn't it be wonderful if we could have a large contingency at the All Alumni Reunion Breakfast and Awards Ceremony on Sunday, June 4, 2006. If you contact the alumni association, I am sure they would be more than glad to make a reservation for you. If it would be simpler, just get in touch with me, and I will call the alumni association for you.

We were so sorry to learn that Cynthia died in February at the California home of her brother Roger. Roger and his wife are planning to travel to Orono in June to accept the award that honors Cyn.

That's about all the happenings for now from points north. Do remember me by sending some news via whatever communication is most convenient for you.

**Show your UMaine  
Pride!**

**Consider a lifetime  
membership in the alumni  
association.**

## 1956 50th Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**Joanne Owen Bingham**  
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Classmates:

I am repeating what the committee told me to remind you all. The first of June many of us will be descending on our beloved campus to make merry!

Please plan on being there to share all the fun. In the last column I mentioned the Memory Book which is being coordinated by **Faith Wixson Varney** and **Betty Brockway Nevers**. So far they have had 73 replies, many with pictures. Keep up the good work—I hope by the time you read this you will have sent in a brief resume of your life the past 50 years. **Rick Starbird** has put together a good time for you all at Bar Harbor. A block of rooms will be available at the Bar Harbor Inn. That gathering will begin on Wednesday, May 31st. There will be a bus to take us on tours around Acadia, with a lunch at the Jordan Pond House, then back to Rick's for a cocktail party, and then out to a lobster bake.

We will have a hospitality room at the Doris Twitchell Allen complex

on campus. There are rooms set aside at the Bangor Motor Inn and the Black Bear Inn, so get your reservations in early so as not to miss out. You can see that your committee has really been hard at work—please support them by being there to celebrate our BIG 50.

I mentioned in my last column about the scholarship support available for our family members who want to attend college at Orono. **Dick Nevers** had a wonderful letter from Megan Tapley, who is one of the recipients of our help. She is the granddaughter of the late **Haynes Hussey**. She will be graduating in June, and says she could not have done it without our help.

**Jay Hoar** is still pursuing his love of the Civil War. That love began in his teens. Jay went into the Navy after graduation, taught high school level in Solon in the early '60s, earned his master's in English at Middlebury College, taught at Maine Maritime Academy, and then taught English at the University of Maine at Farmington for 33 years. He now teaches individuals over 50 at the Senior College at UMF. He began this after retirement. His latest book about the Civil War is about the young boys who went to war for their country.

By the time you read this I hope you will have made the necessary arrangements to join us all at Orono.

Oh yes, we had a great time on our Lewis and Clark trek; we were gone for three weeks and got as far as Astoria, Washington; visited Fort Clatsop there, and saw the Pacific. We came home through Oregon, Idaho, (visited a boyhood pal of Bing's '54 from Portland) Utah, Colorado, (where we actually saw cowboys herding cattle, although one of the cowboys did have a baseball cap on). We had only one night that we couldn't find a motel room, in Pierre, South Dakota, but I had noticed a campground on the way into town, so we went back, and they had one small cabin free. Luckily we had brought our camping equipment along. Bing also visited his sole remaining aunt who at 93 is still driving herself around Denver, although she did admit to getting lost the last time she went to the dentist. We saw the house we built in Naperville, Illinois, in 1964. The house looked the same, but the trees that we planted were huge. Came home through upstate New York and Vermont. We ended up writing 20 pages of notes, and saw natural beauty I will never forget.

See you on campus.



# 1957

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**Alden Small** and his wife, Priscilla, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the Augusta Country Club in September with friends and their children—Galen and his wife, Christy; Scott and his wife, Jennifer; daughter Heidi Crossman, and six grandchildren. Alden was with the Maine Department of Transportation for many years and Priscilla taught in the Winthrop Grade School and Wonder Awhile Nursery School.

Currently serving as cochairman of the Augusta YMCA fundraising effort, **John Bridge** received the Northern New England Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Maine Philanthropist of the Year Award in November. Previous recipients include Harold Alford. Bridge was once urged by his accountant to "save every penny" for his retirement just in case he needed it. He quickly informed the accountant that was not going to happen. "At some point, we all have to establish what is a reasonable standard of living for us—now and in the future. If you have any additional assets and means, set some aside for your children and some for your community." John also agreed to vacate the 15-year-old Chester G. Bridge Tennis Complex named after his father to pave the way for the new Mahaney Dome. The courts will be relocated.

The "Late Fifties UM Ladies" doubled their attendance at the holiday season luncheon at the Captain Daniel Stone Inn. We all agree that it is relaxing to gather midway between Christmas and New Years with visiting college friends as THE major focus.

The driving conditions were good. Coming for the first time from right in Brunswick were **Charlotte Bourret Hart**, Rosalie Chase Ober '58, and Lois Blanchard Widmer '58. Marilyn Graffam Clark '58 has a daughter closer than Presque Isle and stopped on her way back home. **Jane Barker** has relatives closer than Bar Harbor and admitted that she really has retired now. Ann Dunne Snow '58 hopped into her car and picked up **Alice Osier Depatsy** on the way—nice to see them both. Cyn Rockwell Wright '58



Having a good time at the Sarasota alumni luncheon on March 4 are (left to right): Bob '54 and Barbara Buck Grover '54, Natalie Earley Desmond '55, Peggy Thompson Homans '54, '70G, Harrison Homans '52, and Paul Desmond '59.

picked up Sandy Daley Denman '58 on her way. **Lois Whitcomb** shared a ride with Jean Partridge Mason '56. Midge Grispi '60 and Ginnie Freeman '58 were there, as were Judy Demerchant Cohen '58 and **Carole Thomas Fryover**. **Ann Dingwell Knowles**, **Janet Malcolm Buck**, **Claudie Halle Higgins**, **Dru Nesbit Pedro**, and the McCann sisters, **Margaretmary** and Dottie '52, filled out the greater Portland contingent. Marty Pineau '58 brought **Barbara Swann Pineau**, after an early appointment in Portland and then joined Les Smith '63 for lunch, before they clustered with Ken Fryover '60 and were discovered and brought in to the sun porch. **Pat Wade Fraker** capably handled the arrangements and reminded us all that "Fifty-Seven's 50th is only two years away."

# 1958

**Mrs. Leo M. Lazo (Jane Ledyard)**  
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As I am writing this, I am looking out the window at a gray, rainy, sleety, snowy day, just right for hibernating with a good book or movie. I think most of you have been doing the

same, as I have not received much news from anyone this time around. I know that most of you are computer literate with regards to email, so drop me a line at: lmlazo@juno.com unless you want our column to disappear from the magazine.

**Sandra Daley Denman** writes that **Barbara Porter Wolfert** and David '57 vacationed last summer in Bar Harbor. A group of classmates met with them at Moose Point State Park for a picnic and to catch up on all the goings-on for the past forty-seven years. The Wolferts are now retired and have moved to Idaho near Coeur d'Alene from Ohio. Sandy said that they had a great day and a really fun get-together.

**Larry and Helen Thurrell** write that they are the proud grandparents of 12 grandchildren—seven grandsons, with the seventh arriving last March, and five granddaughters. While they are not baby-sitting this crew, they are traveling. This year they went to the Outer Banks of North Carolina, Hollywood Beach in Maryland, Rehoboth Beach for Sea Witch Weekend, and took a tour of Michigan by bus. They met in July in New Hampshire for the biennial reunion of the clan. Their biggest trip was in August when they traveled to the Canadian Rockies, starting in Vancouver, seeing Jasper, Banff, rafting on the Fraser River, and ending in Calgary.

Tom and **Barbara Hasey Andrews** took a "glorious" tour of the

Baltic Sea with stops in Tallin, Estonia, where they visited with a colleague of Tom's; St. Petersburg, Helsinki, Stockholm, Berlin, Potsdam, and Copenhagen. Barb said that "the most sobering experience was viewing the World War II Memorial where the Nazis burned the books of all the thinkers." They were hosts during the summer for a group of "tanker jocks and Jills" from the old Dow Air Force days, and took some continuing education courses in Longboat Key near their place in Bradenton, Florida, last winter. She says the family is all fine including grandchildren except for Tom who is having some problems with his back. Their Winnebago home was taken over by a large colony of bats (250 to be exact). Since the law says you can't kill them, they had to have a pest control expert who built a bat condo for them until they migrate north this spring. Barb says, "they are harmless to humans" and she suggest getting some of your own to deal with mosquitoes in your yards this summer.

The **McKowns (Bob and Lois Danzig McKown)** write that they welcomed their ninth grandchild last July and helped their oldest daughter battle and conquer cancer this past year.

The **Lazos** are all healthy and busy traveling to Maine, the eastern Caribbean, and Ohio. The kids (Valerie, Michael, and Christina) threw a 40th wedding anniversary



party for us on Labor Day weekend 2005 and a fantastic time was had by all. We will be going to Rome in May for the 500th anniversary of the founding of the Swiss Guard, and hopefully a meeting with the Pope.

Keep your cards and letters coming—either to me or to the alumni office. You must be doing something—even if it is lazing around with a good book or working as a volunteer—that your classmates would be interested in reading about.

Remember this column is only as good as the letters and clippings I receive about you. Remember that our 50th Reunion is fast approaching and your class officers are looking for ideas to attract the largest and best group of alumni to return to UMaine. Let us know what you would like to do—two years is not that far away. Hope your holidays were healthy and happy and that 2006 has been treating you well so far.

## 1959

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Hi '59ers! Don't know if this is the first publication after the New Year but I hope 2006 will be a wonderful, happy, and healthy New Year for all of you.

Two of our classmates were honored recently. **Robert Kelley** was inducted into the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Honors. He was honored for his contributions to Maine athletics and youth. During his career he taught physical education for 28 of the 40 years that he was at Fifth Street School in Bangor. He was coach of Bangor High School's baseball team for 32 years. During that time his teams won eight state titles, 15 Eastern Maine titles, and compiled a record of 479-89. He was also a well-respected junior high basketball coach and high school basketball official. Certainly this is a well deserved honor!

**Roger Pellerin** was honored by the Lawrence High School Alumni Association as a 2005 Bulldog Award winner. He graduated from Lawrence High School in 1955 and retired after a 32-year career as an agricultural research engineer. After



### Celebrating UMaine in Hilton Head

Alumni association board chair Bion Foster '68, '70G and his wife, Dorain '68H, hosted an alumni reception at their Hilton Head residence on March 16. Enjoying the event are (above): Laurie Baldwin Liscomb '61 (left) and Virginia Norton Beach '52. Below, left to right are: Donna Fritz Brunstad '60, Bion and Dorain Foster, and Eilleen Keane.



college, he served in the U.S. Army as an artillery officer and helicopter pilot. After the service he worked for the Keyes Fiber Company in Fairfield. He then returned to academic work as an agricultural engineer for the Cooperative Extension Service at UM in Orono. In 1969 he received his M.A. degree in agricultural engineering and then accepted a position as research engineer in the department of agricultural and biological engineering at Cornell University.

## Go Blue!

## 1960

**Gail Rae Carter**  
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305 Commercial Street  
Portland, ME 04101

Hello, classmates of 1960! Greetings for spring are sent your way from me, and from **Diane Faucher Roderick**, who has done this column for many years. We have a lot of news for you from our spectacular 45th Reunion at Buchanan Alumni House. **Nancy Morse Dysart** and the staff outdid themselves organiz-

ing all the events. The campus welcomed us with open arms and we enjoyed our gatherings in the Alumni House, which is just beautiful, and the new Bear's Den pub. Please keep the news coming for future columns, and those of you who almost came but did not should be the first for me to hear from. **Ace Conro**, where are you?

**Donald Treworgy** left the university in 1965 after working at the student observatory and running the planetarium. He has been at Mystic Seaport as their planetarium director ever since. He connects people with both the sky and ships, teaching students celestial navigation. Donald, my favorite constellation is Orion, the hunter.

**Forrest Meader**, or Foe, as most people know him, and his brother Abbott, who recently retired as an art professor at Colby, had an art exhibit at the Inki Urpi Gallery in Damariscotta, Maine, last June. The theme of the exhibit was Flora, Fauna/Brother Brother, with art pieces showing real and imagined animals showing their strong connection to nature.

**John Andrews** worked in Connecticut for some time and then in several other electronic jobs before he came to Maine to work for Fairchild Semiconductor for 13 more years. He helped start Saco Bay Trails, and since retirement has become involved in a coalition called Healthy Trails for Maine. He is also working on trails at the Scarborough Marsh and a trail from Casco Bay to Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. All these trails are part of the Eastern Trail which will cost about \$14 million to finish. Among other pursuits he bikes, cross-country skis, and scuba dives in St. Martins. He has nine patents for computer chip designs. Like many of us people who move here, stay here, and love the outdoors, John advocates for the outdoors.

**Patty Grant Zarkower** is at: 1442 West Park Hills Avenue, State College, Pennsylvania 16803. She is now retired as a research technologist in medicine. Her husband, **Arian**, graduated from the University of Toronto, and earned a Ph.D. in immunology from Cornell in 1965. He was on the faculty at Penn State University until his retirement as professor emeritus in 1995.

**Joanne Keith Sullivan** retired and moved to Maine in October of 2004. For many years Joanne had a property management company in Duxbury, Massachusetts. She is living in Harrison, Maine, and is



active in community activities.

**Robert S. Sterritt** has retired from chemical engineering and lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in the summer and Tucson, Arizona, in the winter.

**Phyllis Hay Ayoob** resides in Florida and comes to Fort Fairfield in the summer. She has 14 grandchildren and is considering moving back to Maine.

**Ralph Pilsbury** has retired from his flooring contracting business of 19 years and lives in Damariscotta, Maine. He and his wife, Susan, have three children and five grandchildren.

**Prescott "Mike" Cheney** has retired to Pemaquid, Maine, from his medical practice in Concord, Massachusetts. He is on John River Drive and has a small cottage rental business. Mike has four children and four grandchildren.

**Robert E. Keane** and wife, Elizabeth, are in Old Town, enjoying retirement. They have five children and 13 grandchildren! Bob is doing "everything he likes to do."

**Eliot H. Rich** and wife, Judy, reside in Potsdam, New York. They have two children and one grandchild. Eliot ran a bagel bakery and restaurant for 17 years. He received a master's in English from Boston University, and is putting his knowledge to good use as a substitute teacher in the area high school and middle school.

**Robert F. Wood** resides in Vancouver, Washington. He and wife, Ingeborg, have two children and four grandchildren. He is working "solo" now, but worked in Germany and Switzerland before returning to the U.S.

**Sharon Ward Fuehrer** and husband, Bob '57, are living in Peacham, Vermont. They have four children, six grandchildren, and are world travelers.

**Robert Haight, Sr.** and wife, Betty, live in Newton, New Jersey. They have three children. He received his master's in forestry at William Paterson University and is retired.

**Donna Fritz Brunstad** and husband, Bill Sweeney, reside in Portland and summer in Harpswell. They spent the winter in Hilton Head, South Carolina. Donna is retired after a 33-year career in marketing. Donna and Bill have five children between them, and several grandchildren. Donna was critically injured on August 16 in Scarborough when her Saab airbags suddenly deployed and she miraculously survived and was not paralyzed.



**John '64 and Carol Wescott Peters '61 were among the attendees at the Naples alumni gathering on March 5. Carol is a retired teacher and John a retired banker. (Photograph by Lola Orcutt.)**

She suffered a broken neck and several ribs, and other internal injuries. Both she and Bill, who will retire likely in the spring, will be in Maine next summer.

**Marcia Patterson Lathrop** is also retired and living in Manchester, New Hampshire. Marcia is retired from Lucent Technologies. She has three children and one grandchild.

**Robert Norberg** and spouse, Katrina Lawrence Norberg '59, live in Southwest Harbor, Maine, and Florida.

**Gerhardt P. Kraske** is retired from Northrop Grumman Corporation. He received an advanced degree from Loyola University in management. The Kraskes have three children and five grandchildren.

**Thomas W. Moore** and wife, Shirley, are in Westerville, Ohio. They have three children and six grandchildren. He has worked as a sales rep in four states in children's wear. He enjoys hunting and fishing.

**Donald E. DeGolyer** and wife, Anne, reside in Southwest Harbor, Maine, and Northport, Florida. He is retired from Down-East Pharmaceutical Services, and also enjoys fishing and hunting.

**S. Clifton Ives** and wife, Jane Petherbridge Ives '61, live in Portland, Maine, and Winthrop in the summer. Cliff has a doctorate in ministry from Boston University and has retired after 43 years as a Methodist minister. For the last 12 years, he served as bishop in West Virginia. The Iveses have seven grandchildren.

**David Trefethen** and Janice are

in Hampden, Maine. He retired in 2002. He received an advanced degree in chemical engineering.

**David Morton** and **Anne Hastings Morton** both received master's degrees and both are retired from M.S.A.D. 43, Mexico, Maine, where David was a teacher and coach, and Anne a teacher and counselor.

**Debbie Arnold Parlin** and **Arthur Parlin '61** are in North Grafton, Massachusetts. Debbie and Art enjoy cruises and community work. Debbie is chairman of the board of trustees at Evangelical Congregational Church of Grafton and worked on the historical restoration of the church, which was built in 1833.

**Joan Canacaris Simones** lives in Waterford, Connecticut, and has retired as the secretary of the music department at Connecticut College in New London. She is presently working in her son's law office in Waterford.

**Donald Small** and his spouse, Shelly, live in Castine, Maine. He retired in 1996 from Maine Maritime Academy as professor of engineering emeritus. He and Shelly enjoy boating, traveling, and he drives an ambulance for Bagaduce Ambulance.

**David L. Sirois** and wife, Mary, reside in Ithaca, New York. They have two children and two grandchildren. David received a Ph.D. from Iowa State and is retired from Boyce Thompson Institute.

**C. Neal Trask** is also retired and lives in Carrabassett Valley, Maine.

**Constance Atherton Martin** lives in Scarborough, Maine, and works at Scarborough Floral. Connie and her late husband, Alphege '58,

have four children and one grandchild.

**Phyllis Warren-Briggs** and husband, Tom, are not ready to retire. She is director of development for Sister Cities International. They live in Fairfax, Virginia, but lived in Hungary for four years in the '90s, returning to the Washington area in 1999. They have two children and two grandchildren.

**Leo G. Martin** and wife, Priscilla, (USM) have two children and three grandchildren. Leo received a M.Ed. from the University of Maine. The name of his business is Leo G. Martin Associates in Kennebunkport, Maine. His proudest accomplishment was being Maine State Commissioner of Education.

As for me, I am a history teacher at Greely High School in Cumberland Center, Maine. Before that, I liked community service in Gardiner, Maine, where I lived from 1960-1987. I was chairman of the restoration of the downtown in the late '70s and served as a commissioner of the Maine State Museum in Augusta for 25 years, my last year as chairman of the commission. I have two children; Sarah, working for her father at Harvey's Hardware in Gardiner, and a son, Mark, who lives in Evanston, Illinois, and is an economist. Also, I have two grandchildren in Illinois. I have no intention of not working and live in an old warehouse on the Portland, Maine, waterfront in the Old Port. I have collected books and antiques and got Maine historian Bob York honored by the Maine State Legislature before he died over a year ago. Like all of you, we have fond memories of classes, football games, jam sessions, and Louis Armstrong. For all of us it has been and is a "wonderful world."

## 1961 45th Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**Judy Ohr Meader**  
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Big plans in the works for reunion this summer. Do plan to come. Don't say to yourself, "I won't know anyone" because that's wrong. You'll know me! Plus after 30 minutes in



the class lounge you'll know every-one else, too. Staying in the dorm and meeting your new best friends at 3:00 a.m. tromping down the hall to the communal bathroom is great fun. So set that weekend aside and be there or be square.

Here's an update on our class scholarship fund. Our scholarship is one of the best endowed of all class scholarships, which is nice to know. For the academic year of '05-'06, we gave our scholarships to Erin Wilkin-son, a sophomore majoring in ma-rine science. Erin is from Dayton. Crystal Fitts-Shorey, a junior major-ing in social work, received the second scholarship. Crystal is from Carmel.

Had an email from **Malcolm Hamilton** telling me that he has been elected to a two-year term as president of the Harvard University Retirees Association which has more than 1,000 active members and serves a total retiree population of 4,300 former faculty and staff. Malcolm writes that as with all of his past Harvard positions, he enjoys working with bright and creative people. He's living in Arlington, Massachusetts.

**Dick Dawson** spent a lot of the summer in Maine visiting friends and family before returning to Thailand where he currently makes his home. **Artie Zalkan** now calls Davis, Cali-fornia, his hometown. He moved west to be near his daughter. His boys are in Seattle and Florida. **Meg Thompson Villarreal** is on the international board of directors for the World Congress of History Producers which met in Rome in December. She is also working with the Banff World Television Festival as a member of their international programming committee. Meg is director of her own company, U.S. Independents. She moved from Virginia back to Brunswick, Maine, last fall.

**Etta Libby Davenport's** holiday note was filled with news of her trips to New York City for theater and her adventures cross-country skiing. Etta continues to enjoy retirement. Saw in the news that **Inez Kolonel Rudman's** husband, former Maine Supreme Judicial Court Justice Paul Rudman, was honored by having his portrait unveiled at the Penobscot County Courthouse. The portrait hangs next to the portrait of his late father, Abraham Rudman, who also served on the state's highest court.

You know the drill. There's the email address at the top of the column. Let me hear your news. Your classmates are interested.

## 1962

**Diane Ingalls Zito**  
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Hello, everyone,

You may be reading this as your tulips are poking their heads up through your garden, but I am writing the column while watching the first major snowstorm of the season. The front yard is piled high with snow and the neighborhood Christ-mas lights are shining brightly. It is beautiful.

**Don Ouellette** sent me a nice email to say that after a wonderful summer filled with visits from family and friends, he and wife, Betty, left on October 8th for a 21-day grand tour of China. The trip began in Beijing. Then they traveled to Xian, spent five days on the Yangtze River, four days in Tibet, and on to Guilin before ending in Shanghai. The highlights of this vacation were diverse—from the Great Wall to the Three Mile Gorge Dam; from the vast expanse of the Yangtze to the cosmopolitan city of Shanghai. Don said it was amazing to look at anti-quities that dated from 750 B.C. while seeing the major modern develop-ments that met them everywhere they went. Beijing is preparing for the 2008 Olympics, young people are migrating from the farms to the cities, and young students studying English are anxious to engage visitors in conversation. All the people that they met were warm and friendly. It was a wonderful vacation that will remain with them for a long time.

Another classmate who had a memorable trip this fall was **Gale Brewer**. She and her sister, Joyce, traveled to Greece with AHI Interna-tional Campus Aboard sponsored by the University of Maine Alumni Association. They started their experience with a few days in Ath-ens and then traveled to the island of Poros. From this base the group took day trips to Hydra, Mycenae, Epidaurous, and Aegina. While it was her first trip through AHI, Gale can-not say enough good things about the tour. She met many people who had taken several tours and they all felt the same way. Gale urges class-mates to check it out.

**William W. Harris** owns one of the oldest working farms in Maine. Bill grew up on the farm he now operates in Dayton, a little town

near Saco. The family raises beef cattle, grows vegetables, and sells dairy products in their country store. Super sweet corn, which Bill calls "addictive," is the farm specialty. To make a go of farming today, one has to be creative and find ways to make a living during all four seasons. About 16 years ago, the family started to offer cross-country skiing and now has 26 miles of groomed trails on their 440 acres. Above the store is a small ski lodge and rentals are available for skiing and snow-shoeing. There is also a public skating pond and sledding hill on the property. During the fall, a pumpkin patch is open for visitors and school groups. As Bill and his wife, Dixie, look forward to retirement they are glad that son, Clint '89 and his wife, Rachel '89, are beginning to take over some of the operations. While we can all appreciate the hard work involved in farming, I must say that the Harris family farm does paint a nice Norman Rockwell image.

This summer, the Maine Senate confirmed Justice **Carl Bradford** of Yarmouth for another term on the Superior Court. Governor John Baldacci '86 nominated Carl to serve as an active retired justice.

That is all the news for now. Keep in touch. Enjoy the spring weather.

## 1963

**Barbara Fowles Allen**  
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This has been a difficult month for me, so this column is not me at the "top" of my game. I had colon re-section surgery November 11th and have had several set-backs along the way. I was in the hospital for 10 long days—that's longer than most people get to stay!

In a letter from **Jane Parmalee Harmes**: "I have been serving as pastor of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church in Placitas, New Mexico, for nine years. We are located 20 miles north of Albuquerque. I have been an ordained Presbyterian minister for 22 years and am looking at retirement in a few more. My con-gregation has 160 members and was originally a Spanish mission church. We are involved with Habitat for Humanity and have established a sister church relationship with a congregation in New Orleans whose

building was damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

"Last May we dedicated a 4,000-foot educational addition to our building—southwest adobe style. In 2004 I enjoyed a sabbatical, funded by a Lilly Foundation Grant, and traveled to Ireland, Scotland, and England. My two children are grown, married, and both live in the Denver area. I have one grandchild and one on the way. I enjoy getting together with **Nancy Buckminster Lane** of Santa Fe every month or so."

**Alton Hadley III** had retired, but was selected to be Arundel superin-tendent for the next three years. **Gerry Dube** has retired as head of the UMaine System's Network for Educational and Technology Servic-es. He has been there for over 40 years.

**Robert "Bob" White** of Caribou is the newest inductee into the Maine Sports Legends Hall of Hon-ors. He has been an outstanding physical education teacher for 38 years.

Reverend **Barbara Clarke** is settling in with her new congregation at St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Ellsworth.

**Tom Austin** is back at Bridgton Academy where he began his ca-reer over 40 years ago. He went on to be Colby College's head football coach. He is now an assistant to the head coach and he and his wife, Faye, are living back in Edwards Hall as dorm parents.

## 1964

**Ginny Bellinger Ollis**  
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Good news for our classmate, **Richard Harris**, who has been inducted into the Maine Golf Hall of Fame. One of the premier golf businessmen in Maine, Richard owns three golf courses (Boothbay, Sunday River in Newry, and Bath), leases a fourth (Freeport), and is planning a fifth in Wells. Makes you wonder what he will do when he retires?

It is amazing to think that 42 years ago we were getting ready for our commencement. Some of us had jobs and lives for which we had already mentally left the academic cocoon, and some of us were



clinging to the last days of a fantastic college experience. But probably few of us saw where we would be 42 years later. And we would all like to know what you are doing. The news is very slow coming in. Please take a moment and write, call, or email. Let's not let our class be the least interested!

## 1965

**Sylvia A. Tapley**  
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Happy 2006!

While the attendance by our class at the fall reunion was very small, I have heard that everyone had a good time reconnecting with UMaine classmates.

**Sally Day Brown** wrote that she had a nice reunion at her home in Florida with her college roommate, **Bev Watson Sharp**, and her sister **Judy Watson**. It was a good chance to be nostalgic about their wonderful years at UMaine. Sally and Roger have been traveling: a Caribbean cruise that included Aruba and Grand Cayman, and a get-away week this summer at the Sebasco Harbor Resort in Maine. They made a very special visit to Connecticut in October to have "Grandma" baptize their grandson Christopher and celebrate his first birthday.

The big news from **Roberta Jones Mulazzi** was that as of December 1 she and her husband, Robert, have moved back to Maine—"the way life should be"—and reside permanently in Scarborough. They had been living in Glastonbury, Connecticut, where they brought up two daughters, Stephanie (30) and Allison (28). Roberta retired from teaching second grade and ESOL sixth.

A recent *Kennebec Journal* article "Veteran professor reflects on growth" featured **Rochid "Rocky" Elias**. Since receiving his master's degree from UMO in 1965, Rocky has been teaching at UMaine Augusta. Over 40 years he has witnessed the school's evolution from a fledgling, shaky beginning to the place for older students to pursue two-year and four degrees. Rocky is one of the longest serving teachers anywhere in Maine. A registered



Enjoying the March 7 alumni gathering in Ft. Lauderdale are (left to right): Allan '65 and Susan Arch and Priscilla Easter Missita '65. Allan is president of Southern Gear & Machine in Miami. Priscilla manages the bridal registry at Saks Fifth Avenue in Boca Raton.

pilot with his own float plane, Rocky owns a camp in Canada that he flies to each summer.

**Annie Rhodes Ross**, who graduated from Castine Normal School in 1935, proudly received her degree with us in 1965, and continued teaching until 1975. She celebrated her 89th birthday on December 15. Best wishes to you, Annie.

Christmas greetings from Art and **Roberta Roak-Foltz** came from the Rogue River valley in the beautiful Siskiyou Mountains in Oregon. They have decided to build a "barn house" on the five acres where they have been camping in their motor home, off and on for the past five years. In the meantime, they are moving into the house on their investment property just three miles from the site. Art wrote that, "Ro is happy as a clam painting and faux finishing the place, finally making use of all the hours she has spent watching HGTV design shows."

Joseph Murray '66 emailed that his Sigma Chi fraternity brother and our classmate, **Larry Hower**, completed a long career as a 747 pilot with Continental Airlines and JAL. He is now "retired" and living on Narragansett Bay where he owns and runs Red Dog Fly Fishing. Joe recently visited with him and several other UMaine alumni, and Larry is really enjoying life.

**Pris Easter Missita** has retired from the Department of Children and Families which covers Broward and Palm Beach counties in Florida, after 33 years. Pris began there as a

social worker, spent years as a supervisor, and then became chief financial officer. She is now enjoying a second career at Saks Fifth Avenue in Boca Raton as manager of their bridal registry, and a consultant for special gifts such as glass, crystal, dome, and art pieces. Pris is a Junior League sustainer who presently chairs the committee that provides free training to non-profit agencies for grant writing.

On January 1st, my college roommate and dear friend, **Caroline Fuller Hutchinson**, officially retired from the Maine Children's Home after 18 years. She was an adoption worker, an adoption supervisor for many years, and she plans to continue doing some contracted adoption work there. In June, Caroline's mother, Betty, celebrated her 90th birthday with all five Fuller siblings together for the first time since their father died. Betty still has a delightful sense of humor.

Last fall, the alumni association sent out complimentary copies of the *MAINE Alumni Magazine*. If you, or someone you know, would like to continue receiving this benefit of membership, consider joining the UMAA by calling 1-800-934-2586 or logging on to their secure website: [www.mainealumni.com](http://www.mainealumni.com).

I am especially enjoying the emails I have received.

Hope to hear from YOU soon.

## Go Blue!

## 1966

### 40th Reunion June 2-4, 2006

**Carol Jesraly Josel**  
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It's early Thanksgiving morning—cold, blustery, a bit of snow on the ground. My contribution to the meal, sweet potato pie, is now ready and waiting to be taken to my daughter's in-laws for dinner, so here I am getting caught up on "homework." As you read this, of course, the cold will be a thing of the past, trees and flowers will be budding. And with all that greening going on, I'm hoping that you, like me, will be making plans to return to Maine in June—this time for our 40th Reunion.

Definitely not to be missed. God, will we even recognize each other? Be there and find out! Please.

Meanwhile, making the news is Mayor **Joe Ferris**, who earned another three-year term on the Brewer city council. Joe practices law in Brewer, his life-long hometown. Kudos! I've also heard from **Gary Vincent** who wrote to say that he and his wife, Kathy, are now safely back in their condo in Jefferson Parish, outside of New Orleans. Fortunately for them, when hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck, the area where their condo is located was not flooded, and their home suffered only minor roof damage with many shingles blown off but no leaks. Thank goodness.

I recently also heard from my dear friend and sorority sister, **Carole Spruce**, who, at the time, was in the process of selling her Massachusetts home and moving to a condo in Naples. Needless to say, she's anxious to get back to Maine and plans to take plenty of trips around the state. In fact, she had just returned from a few days in such places as Machias, Jonesport, and Eastport, and reports that it is beautiful there, with few people and plenty of blueberries. I'm so jealous.

I've also heard again from **Joe Murray**, who now has a "little retirement gig." Head to Pearl Harbor for a tour of the battleship *Missouri*, which is permanently berthed there, and, if you're lucky, Joe will be your guide. He gives these tours a couple of days a week and says, "I'm very



much enjoying it and finally discovering that there IS something a history major can actually do with that major." It doesn't get any better than that, and I can't wait to see him again come Reunion time.

And finally, this time around, I must end on a very sad note. Although Katie Marquez Low '67 did not graduate in '66, she was a dear friend to many of us—and for me, also a Phi Mu sister. She reportedly passed away in May; she was only 59. We've lost two other classmates, as well. **Fred Everett Blanche** died in April, and **Raymond Dennis Foley** in May. To all their family and friends, please know that we share in your loss and keep you in our prayers and hearts.

## 1967

**Carol Heber Lane**  
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Aaah the spring rebirth. The campus buzz is all about the new sports dome. The project got underway last fall. It's long been felt that UMaine was often at a disadvantage in sports with our weather. The 38,000 square foot sports area and pressurized dome should facilitate the baseball, football, soccer, and field hockey programs. The dome is located at the 15-year-old former Chester Bridge Tennis complex. Former UMaine Little All-American line backer **John Huard** stepped up to the plate with \$20,000 in extras and his artificial FieldTurf. The project was completed in January and UMaine sports teams began using the facility for practices.

**Susan Chadbourne** received holiday news that **Margie Furman Perry** has moved back to Maine—an undisclosed island? Probably **Patty Cochrane** is thinking of returning to Bangor from Florida where she's been living retirement to the max! **Karen Wessell Hull** has moved back to Kennebunk. She has agreed to become the next class correspondennnt. Watch for her column in the next issue.

I am moving on. Picked up this news column in the early '70s when most of you were entrenched in children and careers. I'm now doing different things with my life: engaging with the 20 grandchildren and their activities, archery with the



**Paula Sheehan Paradis '71**, director of alumni programs (left), enjoys the UMaine alumni reception in Hilton Head on March 16 with **Nancy Cook McDonald '68, '86G**. Nancy now lives in Hilton Head with her husband, **Richard**.

grandboys, and preparing for first great-grandchild, Annemarie, any minute. It's been a pleasure sharing endless good news, recognition, awards, degrees, and accomplishments with countless numbers of you for several decades. I'm proud of all of you. Farewell, '67.

## 1968

**Penny Robinson Blaisdell**  
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**Steve Rideout** writes, "I have recently retired from 30 years with the federal government, most with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and most recently as lab director of a U.S. Geological Survey research lab

here in western Massachusetts. I'm finally making some headway on my home 'office' and came across the fall issue of the *MAINE Alumni Magazine* with the class notes. Carol and I are remaining here in Shutesbury in retirement, but try to visit Maine as much as we can. Our son lives and works in Portland and we enjoy getting to Maine as much as we can. In fact, we're heading to Orono tomorrow as I'm going to be giving a seminar in the wildlife ecology department on research that we did at my lab."

**Jane Huard Richards** sent me some news about her college roommate, **Eveleen Severn Sass**. They were recently in Reston, Virginia, and had a chance to see some of Eveleen's photography at The Grace Gallery in Reston.

**Susan Stinchfield** of Southport has been elected Maine state second vice president for Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, an honorary society for distinguished women educators. She received a B.S. degree from Maine in 1968 and a M.Ed. from Maine in

1977. She taught middle school science in Belfast from 1968-1980 and Lake Region Middle School in Naples from 1980-2000. She currently teaches grades nine and ten science at Rockland High School. She is married to Reverend Robert Plaisted, rector of the Southport United Methodist Church, and has two sons, Chad and Tyler King.

**Dr. Thomas Farrell** serves as superintendent of S.A.D. 71 in Kennebunk. He has been a school administrator for over 28 years—12 as a high school principal and 15 as a superintendent. He has three sons; the youngest attends Colby College.

The *Bangor Daily News* recently had a write-up about Haley Construction Company in Sangerville. **Rob Haley** is vice president and general manager. Haley Construction is celebrating the 70th anniversary of being in business. Rob has been with the company for 33 years.

## 1969

**Bill and Andrea Hayes Lott**  
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As I'm writing this column we have just experienced our second snowstorm for the month of December. By publication time, we will be enjoying spring. There was not much news sent to the alumni office, so we are hoping you will send your latest news now.

**David Gautschi** has left his position as executive director of the Bagaduce Music Lending Library in Blue Hill to pursue his goal of establishing a technical laboratory. This laboratory will be at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York. There, Dave will be dean of RPI's Lally School of Management and Technology. **Michael McGuire** is principal of K-6 Southport Central School. Since graduation in 1969, Mike has been a teacher, coach, and administrator in every grade from kindergarten through high school post-graduate. In their November news to the alumni office, **Bill and Priscilla "Patti" Thomas Harding** wrote they are moving to San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, in April. They have lived and worked in the Silicon Valley of California and have looked carefully for a place to retire, reinvent themselves, and continue to see their travel business evolve.

## 1970

**Jean Willard Young**  
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We made it through another winter and now spring is springing! I'm sure our classmates are busy with important and wonderful things but unfortunately most of them are not letting me in on their doings!

Fortunately, **Gary Thorne** is easy to keep up with just by turning on ESPN. This past summer he was broadcasting the Little League World Series and one of the teams was from Westbrook, Maine! In his usual professional manner, Gary



was fair to both teams even though his Maine roots were cheering for Westbrook. **Linda Kirkpatrick Norton** was named chair of the English department at Brewer (Maine) High School.

In last fall's elections, **Gerry Palmer** was returned to the Bangor city council after taking a year off because of the city's term limits rule. Northeast COMBAT (a consumer mediation, advocacy, and educational agency) board of directors has selected Gerry as executive director of the agency.

**Margaret Ludwig Volock** is teaching chemistry at Bangor High School.

**Joyce Benson** has run the Village Green Farm in Maine's Waldo County for more than 30 years and at the same time analyzes data for the Maine State Planning Office. She is a proponent of small Maine farms and especially recommends farming for women. She provides produce to Hannaford supermarkets and also to area farmers markets.

Reverend **Linda Campbell-Marshall** was awarded the 25th annual Wilbur C. Ziegler Award last summer. It is given to pastors who reflect excellence in preaching the whole gospel for persons and for society within the United Methodist Church. She is the pastor of the John Street United Methodist Church in Camden, Maine. After graduating from UMaine, she attended Bangor Theological Seminary and also studied for a year at King's College, University of London.

**Stephen King** auctioned off the naming rights to a character in his new novel, *Cell*, and was able to raise \$25,100 for the First Amendment Project, a nonprofit that defends the free-speech rights of writers and artists. The character will be named after Ray Huizenga whose sister was the high bidder.

I had an email from **Bob Scribner** who lives in Charleston, South Carolina, with his wife, Lucy Levesque '71. They operate Charleston Harbor Tours which is a 300-passenger tour boat doing daily history tours in Charleston Harbor. Bob also is president of ActionEmco in New Jersey, a wholesale distribution business. He also finds time to follow his passion for sailing and competing in offshore sailing events. They have two grown children, Daniel (26) and Elizabeth (29).

## 1971

### Reunion at Homecoming '06

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It has been some time, and I sincerely apologize for having gone missing for a while. I have changed my e-mail address, please note, and I have been unwell, surgically repaired, and now should be good for another 3,000 miles or 36 months, whichever comes first.

I'm teaching, traveling, and enjoying myself and my family. My hope for all of you is that you are doing the same. For those of you who have retired, get back to work! If I don't get to play full-time, neither do you! I will let you know when it's time, but it's not now!

So now it's spring that we smell in the air, and I have old news from old news clippings and a few new ones, but truly hardly anything personal from any of you. Perhaps, since it has been a year, you were going to address me something at my old email address? Is that it? Well, now you know better! Jacques and Beau are my lovely little French bichons frises. Knowing that, you will never forget my email address, and they will be in the front window, waiting for your letter to land in my mailbox, electronic or U.S. Post Office approved. Both work, and I promise to be timelier with my responses.

To prove my sincerity, I would like to hide, right here in this column, an enticement of sorts. The first four classmates from 1971 who send me really newsy notes, something that will be of interest to your friends from the days of yesteryear, I will send you an honest-to-goodness Washington, D.C., souvenir. Sorry folks, you want something from Baltimore, you have to go there yourself! Send T-shirt size, please. There will only be four this time around, so you better hurry up and get in touch!

Okay, old news first. As those of you who are still in Maine know, we lost "loyal" Jane Muskie in December of 2004. She was still living in Washington, D.C. Mother of our classmate **Steve Muskie** and Edmund Muskie, Jr., she was known for her loyalty to her husband, Ed-



### Bruce McMillan '69 Earns Multiple Honors for His Latest Children's Book



Honors and accolades are nothing new for photographer/children's book author Bruce McMillan '69. But last year was something special—his latest work, *The Problem With Chickens*, made the *New York Times* Top 10 Best Illustrated Books and *Publishers Weekly's* Best Children's Book list for 2005. Only three other books made

both lists.

The year 2005 also saw the release of another highly acclaimed children's book by Bruce, *Gone Fishing*, which like *The Problem With Chickens*, is set in Iceland. His love of the people and rugged landscape of Iceland comes through in all seven of his books set in that country.

"If I can find an excuse to go to Iceland, I do," he writes on his web site. "I feel at home there."

*The Problem With Chickens*, Bruce's 44th book, marks a departure for the UMaine biology graduate turned photographer.

"Until now, I have not illustrated my own work with anything but my own photos," he explains.

The change came with the opportunity to collaborate with one of Iceland's premier artists, Gunnella. He says he was struck by the narrative quality in the artist's work. "People always smile when viewing her art," he notes.

Gunnella's illustrations and Bruce's words tell a humorous story of a group of ladies in a small Icelandic village who have no eggs for cooking and so decide they will get some chickens. But when the chickens stop laying eggs, the ladies have to hatch a very clever plan to solve the problem with the chickens.

Bruce is already working on a follow-up to *The Problem With Chickens*. He's also working on a new photographic book, for which he spent all of last June alone on a small island off Iceland with no electricity or running water.

When Bruce isn't traveling he makes his home in Shapleigh, Maine. He also teaches a course in writing, illustrating, and publishing children's books at the University of New Hampshire and is often asked to speak at schools and conferences.



mund Muskie, throughout his long political career. They stood by each other when the press heated up attacks on Mrs. Muskie and Senator Muskie heated up his own attacks on those journalists who attempted to harm his wife. They are buried together here in Arlington National Cemetery. Belated condolences to the family.

Hey, a personal card from **Tom Bausher!** He is retired (dirty word!) from teaching history and coaching at Conrad Weiser School District near Reading, Pennsylvania. He wants to continue to be active at Albright College and Reading Area Community College nearby, working in athletics and in continuing education activities until his wife, Carol, retires. Then they will try to spend more time in New England. Sounds to me like somebody's still homesick for Maine, like the rest of us are. Tom, send me your address and you get a Washington, D.C., something for your efforts which came B.E. (before the enticement!)

Local highlights—**John Stetser**, now of Keene, New Hampshire, is the town manager of Keene. He started about a year ago. Before that, he worked as a log and timber procurement manager, with 20 years of experience in the timber industry.

**Leslie Wight Grenier**, owner of the Mt. Vernon Country Store, was awakened last December '04 to the news that a dump truck had slid through the front of the store while trying to sand the ice-covered roads. Well, whoops—hope the repairs went smoothly! Maine has the most colorful news. **Gary Grady**, who retired from coaching cross-country at Gardiner Area High for 15 years, is now an assistant indoor women's track coach at the University of Southern Maine in Gorham. **Ron Lebel** is the 2005 recipient of the Ray Geiger Award, presented by the Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce in Auburn.

Sadly, last June, **Bob Bell** and his wife, Jane Bailey Bell '72, of Tide Mill Farm in Edmunds were shocked to find that a bolt of lightning during a freak storm had killed 14 of their 26 cows that had been grazing in a pasture. The Bell family has been working the Washington County farm since 1765. We all wish them well with their rebuilding. **Pamela Murphy White**, who served as a State Department foreign service officer in Mali, West Africa, was decorated by the Malian government with the Knight of the National Order of Merit, one of the highest awards ever given to an American. She now



**Lance '71, '73G and Martha Rice Weddell '91 in Thailand. They traveled to Thailand to attend the Back to Southeast Asia military reunion and also spent a week sight-seeing. During the Vietnam War, Lance was assigned to the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group. After leaving Bangkok they spent another two weeks visiting Rome and Paris. Lance will be running for the Maine House of Representatives seat for District 41 next November. He and Martha currently live in Frankfort, Maine.**

serves in Tanzania and was hostess to First Lady Laura Bush in July. Pamela's accomplishments with the foreign service are far too vast to list here, but let it be said that she has a career of tremendous distinction.

State Senator **John Nutting** of Leeds, who raises cows at Androscoggin Holsteins, hosted nearly 300 buyers representing farms from all across the United States as well as Holland, Japan, Brazil, and China who were in Maine for the Holstein Association U.S.A. convention, held in Maine for the first time. John has raised the cows to impressive standards, by focusing on breeding and genetics, taking 10 generations to reach some production levels, and it has paid off tremendously. Kudos, John! I remember you as a good friend who was always determined to succeed at farming, which I knew nothing about. Now, reading about you, I understand a bit more, but can't imagine the years of hard work, study, and stress that you farmers go through. We're all the richer for having smart farmers like John.

I have more, because I haven't done the column for such a long time, but I will include the rest of the news in the next issue. Again, send me an e-mail or a note and you will

be rewarded with a surprise from Washington, D.C. Also, think about visiting the nation's capital, which hosts some fascinating things to do. Check out the museums, too numerous to mention, or special activities such as the National Book Fair, just one of the many one-of-a-kind wonderful things to do! Let me know if you're coming to visit and we could possibly guide you around. Friends from Maine are a very special breed indeed!

## 1972

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If you are a golfer and find yourself near Plymouth, Massachusetts, stop at Souther's Marsh and visit the owner, our classmate **William Stearns**. After graduating from the University of Maine, Will went into the cranberry and irrigation business. In a newspaper interview, Will told how he made the switch from cranberries to golf. "Just prior to

2001 the price of a barrel of cranberries dropped from \$58 to \$8. I had 125 acres of bogs and wasn't making any money. In 1995 I built five holes on the Souther's Marsh property for fun and the family would play there and have fun. We had a family meeting to decide what to do. Everyone was to come back in a week with five ideas. A week later we convened and everyone had on his or her list—build a golf course. I had all the machinery from the irrigation business so we gave it a shot." Will attributes the success of the course's three growing leagues to "the camaraderie, the food is excellent, and you can play 18 holes after work."

On a beautiful October afternoon, I was delighted to receive the following email from **John LeShane**. "I thought I would send you my recent life circumstances for the *MAINE Alumni Magazine*. I retired in 2003 from 29 years working for the State of Connecticut as a mental health worker. As a graduate of UMaine's school of forestry, I never pursued a career in the environment but always volunteered or advocated for the earth through town commissions, non-profit organizations (land trust), and other volunteer activities. In 1998, I started the Meshomasic Hiking Club which currently has 300 members. Money from the club goes towards land acquisition and open space preservation. This year, at the tender age of 55, I got married and I now have a three-month-old daughter, my first child! I hope you are doing well and I hope to see some of my PKS fraternity cohorts respond and write in to you! Take good care." Anybody going to respond to John's challenge? It's so easy with email!

## 1973

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I hope the New Year brought happiness and good health to you all. We have just a tiny bit in our in-basket this time. Congratulations to **Phyllis Katzenstein Guerette** on retaining her seat on the Bangor school committee. Phyllis also serves on the board of the Southern Penobscot Regional Program for Children with Exceptionalities. **Rusty Atwood** has been named the new director of major and planned gifts at USM.



Please indulge the English teacher in me; below is the poem "Forgetfulness" by Billy Collins. "Forgetfulness" from *Questions About Angels*, by Billy Collins, © 1991. Reprinted by permission of the University of Pittsburgh Press and Billy Collins.

I believe it will ring true to many of us.

#### Forgetfulness

The name of the author is the first to go followed obediently by the title, the plot, the heartbreaking conclusion, the entire novel which suddenly becomes one you have never read, never heard of,

as if, one by one, the memories you used to harbor decided to retire to the southern hemisphere of the brain, to a little fishing village where there are no phones.

Long ago you kissed the names of the nine Muses goodbye and watched the quadratic equation pack its bag, and even now as you memorize the order of the planets,

something else is slipping away, a state flower perhaps, the address of an uncle, the capital of Paraguay.

Whatever it is you are struggling to remember, it is not poised on the tip of your tongue, not even lurking in some obscure corner of your spleen.

It has floated away down a dark mythological river whose name begins with an L as far as your can recall, well on your own way to oblivion where you will join those who have even forgotten how to swim and how to ride a bicycle.

No wonder you rise in the middle of the night to look up the date of a famous battle in a book on war. No wonder the moon in the window seems to have drifted out of a love poem that you used to know by heart.

## Go Blue!

## Jim Dowe '72 is New CEO of MPBN

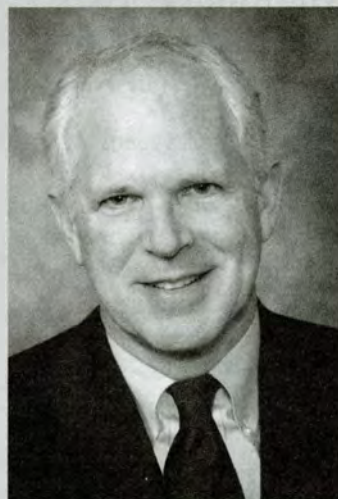
Jim Dowe '72, former president and CEO of Bangor Savings Bank, began his new position as president and CEO of Maine Public Broadcasting Network in April. Jim had actually planned to retire in June but the opportunity to lead MPBN was just too appealing to him.

"I've been in banking for 30 years, and I've loved every minute of it, but I wanted to do something different, something that stimulated another area of interest," he told the *Bangor Daily News*.

Jim had been serving on the board of trustees for MPBN (including a term as vice chair) and so is familiar with the network's operation and mission.

"This is an organization that I have been dedicated to for some time," he said. "I value the public radio and television programming and services that MPBN provides to people throughout this state."

Jim was president and CEO of Bangor Savings for 10 years. He's also served on Governor John Baldacci's '86 Creative Economy Council and as treasurer to the Nature Conservancy and University of Maine System boards of trustees.



## 1974

**Diantha Hawkes Grant**  
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Springtime in Maine—has the ice gone out on Moosehead? We are enjoying the azaleas here in Florida and hopefully everyone in the County is thawing out from the winter.

A couple of issues ago, we brought you news of **Bob Harkins** and his associates planning to produce potato vodka. Well, it has come to fruition. Cold River Vodka is alive and well in Freeport. They have a fantastic website: coldrivervodka.com. Bob partnered with Lee and Donnie Thibodeau, who grew up in Aroostook County. Lee is a neurosurgeon in Portland and Donnie owns Green Thumb Farm in Fryeburg. Hey, Bob, not a bad twist of fate for a skier and

physical education major! Salud! Cheers!

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Nesin Bickford**, a teacher at Matanawcook Junior High School. She received the Maine Association for Middle Level Education's Janet Nesin Reynolds Outstanding Middle Level Educator Award. What makes the award truly special is that it is named after her sister, Janet '76, '91, also a middle level educator who passed away a few years ago. Elizabeth is a veteran educator with more than 26 years to her credit shaping the lives of Maine children.

**Paul Weston** is the new town administrator in Farmington, New Hampshire. Previously, Paul held administrative positions in Holderness, Laconia, and worked in the Maine towns of Newport, Rockport, Gorham, and Camden. He and Bonnie Wolcott Weston '76 live in Meredith, New Hampshire, where she teaches first grade. Their children are Adam (24) and Amy (20).

The special education department at Scarborough High hired

Maine alumnus **John Fitzgerald**. He has both a bachelor's and master's degree from UMaine and has over 22 years of teaching experience.

**Andy Mellow** was recently interviewed by the *Sunday Valley News* (White River Junction, Vermont) as the new principal at the Hanover Street School in Lebanon, Vermont. He spent the previous six years at Plainfield Elementary School. Although he started out with a major in forestry, he turned to education and received a graduate degree in 1979. He and his wife live in Grantham, New Hampshire. Best wishes on your new assignment.

I'll also be a bit busier this coming year. I will be president of the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce Downtown Council for 2006. That and \$2.50 will get you a cup of Starbucks. Have a great spring and don't forget to send me updates for the next issue.

## 1975

**Nancy Pistaki Chard**  
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**Paul R. LePage** is in his second term as mayor of Waterville. **Richard Lyons**, superintendent of S.A.D. 22 in Hampden, Maine, spent three weeks in Japan studying how that country creates and assesses curriculum. He also was named Maine's 2004 Superintendent of the Year.

**Jessica Bailey Harrington** is teaching biology at Bangor High School. **Michael Grondin** was recently named the new business and cooperative services programs director for the U. S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Office based in Bangor. **Fred Greenwood** joined the RE/MAX River Cities team of real estate experts in Auburn. **Edward Dox** of Poland, Maine, has joined Union Trust Company in Rockland as assistant vice president and commercial lender. Most recently, Ed was an asset manager at AEW Capital Management in Boston.

**Tami Rawcliffe Campbell** earned a regional award from the National Federation of State High School Associations Spirit Committee, which governs cheerleading competitions in many states, including Maine. **Glenn Prescott** recently



received his doctor of ministry degree from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in Hamilton, Massachusetts. He is pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church in Ipswich, Massachusetts, where his wife serves as the director of the music program. They have two children: Jamie and Abbie.

**Dr. Joel Evans**, choirmaster of the choir of St. Gregory's Orthodox Church of Wappingers Falls, New York, conducted the 40th anniversary concert of liturgical music in the beautifully decorated sanctuary of the Kimisis Greek Orthodox Church in Poughkeepsie, New York. **Paul Coulombe**, CEO of White Rock Distilleries, along with his company, has created a high-end vodka, Three Olives.

**Dale Duval Redmond** has been a very busy lady. She lived in Weld for 10 years, worked in Portland at UNUM, and then returned to college at UM Presque Isle, where she earned a lab technician degree. She then went to Greenville and worked at the Goodwill Veterinary Clinic until she became ill and moved back to Jackman. In August 1991, she received a liver transplant at New England Medical Center in Boston. She returned to Jackman in 1995, and then moved to Solon and has been with Dana Hall ever since. Dale loves to cook and has done a lot of catering. She now works at Williams General Store in Bingham. She is active in the Solon Congregational Church and serves as treasurer. She is a past Hospice worker and enjoys oil painting, gardening, reading, and cooking.

After 18 years in the gardening business, **Bill** and **Fran Cyr Mackowski** '73 hung up their hoes and pruning shears and sold their greenhouses by selling Dawn 'til Done just across the bridge on French Island. They opened the shop in 1985 as an extension of the vegetable stand they had run on their 100-acre farm. **Elizabeth Timm Greenstein** is president of Fleet Maine. **Mark Johnston** served as chairman of the 2005 annual fund-raising campaign of the United Way of Kennebec Valley. Mark is president of Kennebec Savings Bank and resides in East Winthrop with his wife, Judy Martin Johnston '76, and their daughter, Elizabeth. **Peter Williams**, a native of Mechanic Falls, was promoted to rear admiral (lower half) in the United States Navy. He is the assistant commander for aviation depots within the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) headquartered at Patuxent River, Maryland. **Peter**

## Judith Fletcher Woodbury '76 joins Friends of Casco Bay board

Judith Fletcher Woodbury '76 was recently elected to the board of Friends of Casco Bay. The South Portland-based nonprofit is the leading environmental organization working to improve and protect Casco Bay.

Judith is an attorney and a partner at Pierce Atwood LLP, the largest law firm based in northern New England. A graduate of the University of Maine School of Law, she was recently made a Maine Bar Fellow by the Maine Bar Foundation.

She currently lives on Orrs Island.



**Connell**, president and CEO of Oxford Homes, was appointed to serve a two-year term on the Citizen Trade Policy Commission. **Dennis Gallagher** is a Spanish teacher at Greely Middle School in Cumberland. **Martha Witham** is the superintendent of schools in Bath. **Sherrill Cantwell Parks** teaches seventh grade at Princeton Elementary School in Calais. Sherrill has been in education for 30 years. She enjoys reading, creating her own clothes, and following stock car racing. Sherrill and her husband, Wayne, have two children: Jesse and Steven.

It was good to hear from all. Keep the news coming. As for me, this is my 29th year teaching in Portland and my 15th year as the yearbook advisor. I just love taking all those pictures!

## Your Classmates Would Love to Hear From You!

New job? New residence?

Kids going off to college? Lunch with an old classmate? Why not email your class correspondent and share your news with classmates?

## 1976 Reunion at Homecoming '06

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Hello, fellow '76ers. I hope you had a great winter and are enjoying spring. Please take a moment to drop me a quick email letting me know what you've been up to. Your classmates will appreciate the update.

**Robert McDaniel** has been appointed as superintendent of schools of School Administrative District 70 in Hodgdon, Maine. **Jeffrey Raynes** has been selected as the new executive director of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers in Piscataway, New Jersey. Artist **Jean "Jeannie" Mooney** was featured in the *Bangor Daily News* for her unique artistic creations. You can see images of Jeannie's work at: [www.jeanniemooney.com](http://www.jeanniemooney.com).

The Old Town school board has selected **David Walker** as their new superintendent of schools. David lives in Milo where he previously served as superintendent.

That's all the news for now. It's up to all of us to keep the '76 column interesting and up-to-date. I look forward to hearing from you.

## 1977

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Hi again, everybody! I'm pleased to pass along word that **Gillian Manlove Jordan** is now several months into her new job as dean of the University College of Bangor. And that's all the news I have for now. Hope to hear from more of you soon.

## 1978

**Linda Card LeBlond**  
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Dear Classmates,  
Here's the scoop—You need to send me your life stories! No kidding! No stories—no column. Just please let me know what you've been up to. To break the ice, I will tell you what I have been up to. I have turned 50, just had my left hip replaced, and am wondering how long you highlight your hair before it looks unnatural and you just let it go all gray. I have retired from my first career, want a new career, and have absolutely no clue what I want to do when I grow up. My youngest son is seven and I can't give up the idea of adopting a child because I am scared to death of what it will be like to be an empty nester. I feel incredibly lucky that I still have both of my parents; as a matter of fact they have been living at my house taking care of things while I learn to walk with my new hip.

OK, I've told you how utterly mundane my life is, so anything you have to send me has to be more exciting than this. So write to me—please!

For UMaine news, Black Bear sports, alumni events, and more, go to:  
[mainealumni.com](http://mainealumni.com)



## 1979

Kim Marchegiani  
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Hi, everyone—happy spring! Now that the days are long again, please take some of that extra time to send me a message. You needn't master any amazing new skills, walk on water, or achieve best-selling author status to write. We'd love to hear your news—about your ancient car that managed to pass inspection, the skunk living under your porch, or your thoughts on approaching the big 5-0.

## 1980

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Hi, Class of 1980! I am still filled with fabulous memories of our 25th Reunion last fall! My sidekick was UMaine roommate, Barbara Brown Dalton '81. What a time we had! It was just great catching up with **Rick Knowlton** and his wife, Leslie, and son, Jay. Rick and Leslie have another son currently attending UMaine. At the president's reception, I visited with: **Anne Gosselin** and **Tina Fournier** (using maiden names here). What a nice surprise! Also spotted at the president's reception were: **Cynthia Peacock Gaylord**, **Ellen Augusta**, **Kim Randall McBride**, and so many other happy classmates! Thank you to all who attended and who supported the University of Maine through your attendance and financial gift giving! If you were not at Reunion, please email me to let me know what you are up to!

I'd like to say a brief word about our UMaine President Bob Kennedy. The hospitality and warmth so generously shared by President Kennedy and his lovely wife certainly made our Reunion weekend most enjoyable! A grateful thank you to you, President and Mrs. Kennedy!

And now, some class news! Reverend Dr. **John Danner** recently observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination. After graduating from

Deb '78 and Ken Holmes '78

## Everything You Want to Know About Old Houses

In their senior year at UMaine, Ken and Deb Strumello Holmes were college sweethearts and fellow journalism majors. They decided to apply together for the position of coeditors of the *Maine Campus*. Although it was the only application for the job, they were turned down.

"Yes, the selection committee rejected us, in part because of the intervention of then UMaine president, Howard Neville," Ken remembers. "Howard didn't really know Deb, but he knew me and pretty much wished he didn't."

When no other applicants came forward, the selection committee reconsidered and gave Ken and Deb the job. They've been a team ever since—working on newspapers together, restoring old homes, and raising two sons. They recently celebrated their 28th anniversary. (As Ken put it: "We've raised a couple of sons, run a couple of businesses, and generally had a blast!")

Since 1999 the couple teamed up to create [oldhouseweb.com](http://oldhouseweb.com), an Internet site offering a wealth of restoration advice for old home owners, lovers, and professionals.

Last fall Deb and Ken were featured in a *Maine Sunday Telegram* article. In that story they discussed the opportunity the Internet offered to provide and share information to an enormous number of people, worldwide.

The enterprise also had other benefits. They could



Paul Kerwoc photo

combine their love of writing with their love of old houses and perhaps most importantly, they could come back home to Maine.

In fact, Ken and Deb now live in the same Gardiner home they left when Ken took a job running the Washington, D.C., bureau for what was, at the time, the Guy Gannett papers.

Since 1999, [oldhouseweb.com](http://oldhouseweb.com) has grown significantly, now reaching an audience estimated at 25,000 to 30,000 people.

"That makes us, as near as we can figure, the second most heavily visited Maine-based site," Ken notes.

For the first three years after starting their web site Ken maintained another full-time job. In the past few years, ad revenues have grown to the point where that is no longer necessary.

[Oldhouseweb.com](http://Oldhouseweb.com) offers feature stories on a wide variety

of subjects including gardening and how to research the history of your house. There are also helpful hints on repairing and restoring every part of an old house.

One thing that Ken and Deb are especially pleased with is the site's bulletin board, where people working on old houses can share tips and ideas. The bulletin board has generated more than 40,000 messages.

"When you work on old houses as a contractor or home owner—you know somebody's already done what you're doing," Ken explains. "Now we have this wonderful opportunity to share tips."

When there's snow and they aren't involved with [oldhouseweb.com](http://oldhouseweb.com), Ken and Deb are usually skiing the Maine mountains with their sons. Deb is also a classically trained French chef.



UMaine, John obtained a master's degree in divinity from St. John's Theological Seminary and his doctorate from Boston University. Congratulations and blessings, John! From Rockland, we have news that Dr. **Denis Howard** was recently hired as interim superintendent in School Administrative District 5. The Lake Hebron Artisans of Monson recently sponsored an exhibit featuring Maine artist **Dan Falt**. At UMaine, Dan majored in business and mechanical engineering. He began his career as a Wall Street floor trader in New York. His career as a sculptor began in 1986 as a way to produce presents for family and friends. Dan has an impressive list of people who wish to buy his art.

Please send us your news. What you are doing is so important to your classmates! Keep in touch.

## 1981

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Twenty-five years! Can you believe it? Seems like just yesterday, doesn't it? I'd go back in a minute—how 'bout you? Actually, you can come back! And you can act just the way you did back in 1981! Homecoming 2006 is a time to relive those UMaine memories, rekindle friendships, and resolve to stay in touch a little better over the next 25 years! You'll be hearing more about our 25th Reunion through snail mail, but I strongly encourage all of you to drop me an email so that we can get the reunion message spread more quickly and make more personal contacts. We need input on what you'd like to do for class activities at Homecoming and I'm hoping that some of you in the area will volunteer to get together this spring to brainstorm a bit more. Traditionally, the 25th Reunion class has a post-game reception at the President's House. Beyond that, it's up to you! A Friday night social? A family affair? Tailgating? Send your suggestions and mark your calendars! The great Class of '81 is returning and you don't want to be left out!

You might recall in my fall column I reported on one of the Michael Welch's in our class and asked if

## Doug Hall '81 brings judgement to "American Inventor"

Doug Hall '81, "America's Number 1 idea man" has made it to television. Doug is one of the four judges on ABC's new reality show, "American Inventor."

On the show, would-be inventors pitch their idea to the judges. Those who are selected become part of a team guided by one of the judges in an effort to develop and enhance their idea. In the live finale of the show the public will vote on which inventor receives the \$1 million prize.

You won't have any trouble spotting Doug on the show—he's the barefoot guy with the casual shirt. He's also the one who will bring overly enthusiastic inventors back down to earth. "They needed somebody that, when the tears are flowing and there's a deep sob story, can still tell the truth," Doug explained.



anyone knew what the other one was up to these days. Well, lo and behold, **Michael A. Welch** showed up in my inbox not long afterward. Mike is the town manager in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, and has been since 2000. He and wife, De-Ann, have two children—Michelle is a sophomore at Fitchburg State College (Massachusetts) and Stan is a sophomore at St. Johnsbury Academy. They are also currently host parents for an international student, Akie Hashimoto. Mike worked for several years with **Bill "The Czar" Fraser**, who continues as city manager in Vermont's capital, Montpelier. Bill had the honor of presenting Mike with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns Municipal Person of the Year Award in 2005. When Mike emailed me, he copied Bill and, the next thing I knew, up popped a message from Bill! Love that email! Bill's been in Montpelier for 11 years with wife, Anne, and four kids! Can't imagine four little Frasers running around! He's playing some music on the side and his group was finishing up their first album last fall. (Anyone spotted it on the charts yet?) I can still see Bill clad in his DU jacket strolling down the mall, or, better yet, Bill in his DU shirt pouring some of that lethal punch at the DU bar while Disco Inferno blared on the stereo! Those

were the days! You done good, Mike and Bill!

An email from the west coast informs me that **Dennis Mitchell**, who was president of the Seattle



**Dennis Mitchell '81** has relocated to the San Francisco Bay area where he is region president of the Northern Trust Bank. Dennis had previously served as president of the bank's Seattle office. He and his wife, Linda, make their home in Mill Valley, California.

office of Northern Trust Bank since 1999, has relocated to their San Francisco office and is now region president. Dennis and his wife, Linda, make Mill Valley their home and enjoy the bay area weather!

The clipping service reports that **Kendall Sprague** is now an internal auditor for Damariscotta Bank and Trust Company. Ken resides in North Yarmouth with his wife and two children. **Blair Folts** of Effingham, New Hampshire, has been painting, printmaking, and sculpting since college. Last summer, she had a Twenty Year Retrospective show at the Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery in Center Sandwich. To the pro hockey circles we go and find the Tampa Bay Lightning have signed coach **John Tortorella** to a long-term contract extension through the 2008-09 season. And finally, it's great to see a couple of my fellow Sophomore Eagles around the Alford these days. **Kathy Littlefield Reynolds** joined me on the Black Bear board this year and **Peggy Seymour Kimball** can be seen cheering for the cheerleaders in the stands, as her daughter is now on the Maine cheering squad! Peggy still looks like she could be out there doing those stunts!

Okay, gang! Let's start that email campaign right now for our 25th Reunion! Send me yours, along with the addresses of any other classmates that you have. Note that I have a new home email address above, along with a change in my street address. I write this column well in advance of the print date, but I'm confident that Bill and I will be in our new home by spring! Have a great summer and I'll plan on seeing you at Homecoming 2006!

## 1982

**Scott Mower**  
231 Main Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605-1613

Greetings, Class of '82. Spring has sprung and it's a time of new beginnings. How about beginning something new by sending in some news? We'd love to have more news for this column, but without your contributions, this could be blank. Come on—pick up a pen and jot down a line or email the alumni association at [abigail.zelz@umit.maine.edu](mailto:abigail.zelz@umit.maine.edu). ! Your classmates want to hear from you.



# 1983

**Mary Ellen Matava Hackett**  
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**Molly Larson** joined the Rockport Public Library as its director last November. Molly worked at the Bangor Public Library for 20 years. She began in the circulation department the year after graduation and later moved to the reference department. She was also a supervisor for the Americorps contingent at the library from 1999 to 2002.

**P. Joseph Shumaker, Jr.**, who lives in Biddeford, invents games. He has invented hundreds of them, and eight are on the market. Most of his games are geared for children ages six and up. Recently, Joseph approached the Northern York YMCA and offered to have proceeds from several games benefit a children's program at the Y.

**Peter Webb** will be inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame on June 3 in Bangor. Peter received his graduate degree with our class and served as Maine's basketball commissioner for 16 years. He has been a certified basketball official for 42 years and has officiated more than 2,000 high school, college, and professional games. He also umpired baseball for 44 years. Congratulations!

**Deborah Ergas Schoepke** has joined the board of the Stowe Education Fund in Stowe, Vermont. Deb moved to Stowe in 2004 with husband, Phil, and children Sandra, Emmy, and Sam. Deb has worked in commercial banking for more than 20 years.

**David Moyse** has opened an office of Moyse Environmental Services in Presque Isle. He also has an office in Bangor. His services include wetland delineation, GPS mapping, wildlife management, and soil surveys.

That's all for now—have a great spring and summer!

Express your loyalty to  
your alma mater!  
Become a Lifetime  
Member of the Alumni  
Association.



## Dr. Peter Caradonna '84 brings much needed care to Maine's farm animals

Peter Caradonna '84 is part of a vanishing breed—a veterinarian whose practice is exclusive to what are called food-animals. In fact he is the last veterinarian in Maine with such a practice.

A recent article in the *Bangor Daily News* featured Caradonna's work and brought attention to the shortage of veterinarians who work with large animals.

Caradonna, who received his DVM from Cornell, works 12-15 hour days (with calls in the middle of the night) and is responsible for 350 herds—over 5,000 of Maine's dairy cows. And he's on call 365 days a year.

Despite the long hard days, he told the *BDN* he "wouldn't be doing anything else for the world." (Photo courtesy of the *Bangor Daily News*.)

# 1984

**Louise Soucy**  
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Hello, everybody! I hope you all made it through the winter okay. I am excited about spring and am eager to plant my garden. I have been planning it since January. (I actually received my favorite seed catalogues before Christmas!) I do not have much news to report but hope that you will all be inspired this year to send me an email with news of your lives.

I ran into **Tracy Harding** at a seminar in Bangor in November. Tracy is a principal at the accounting firm of Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker (BDMP) in Bangor. He has been at

BDMP since we graduated almost 22 years ago! He is married to Amy Smith '85. They have two cats and live in Hampden. Tracy serves as a UMaine mentor.

**Kenneth Libbey, Jr.** ran uncontested for a seat on the water district board of trustees in Hampden. His term is for five years. (That's quite a commitment!)

S.A.D. 41 has hired **Shirley Nason Wright** as its new superintendent. S.A.D. 41 consists of the towns of Brownville, Milo, Lagrange, and Atkinson. Shirley has spent 21 years in education, including teaching at Central High School in Corinth and working as adult education director for S.A.D. 68 and 41. She most recently served in S.A.D. 41 as part-time kindergarten through grade 12 curriculum coordinator, part-time elementary school principal for Brownville and Lagrange schools, and Title I coordinator.

The Reverend **Dr. Tracy Reeves** is the new pastor of the congregation at the North Brewer-Eddington (Maine) United Methodist Church. She earned her doctorate degree at Bangor Theological Seminary in 2003. She taught art education prior to entering the seminary.

I read a wonderful article about **Beth Hamilton Murphy** who coaches the girls' varsity field hockey team at Westbrook High School. Both of her daughters, Meaghan, who is 17, and Erin, who is 14, play on the team. Athletics seem to run in the family. Beth's husband, Mike, coaches the Westbrook girls' basketball team. Their son Sean played for the Westbrook Little League team that went to the World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, last summer. In addition to field hockey, Beth coaches track at the high school. Wow!

**Charlie Tryder** is a new high school English teacher in Gorham. From 1984 to 1986 he taught English at Massabesic High School. From 1986 to 2005 he taught English at Fryeburg Academy and also served as their athletic director.

The Charles C. Knowlton School has a new principal—**Amy Peterson-Roper**. Amy's background includes experience at the Montessori School of Bangor, literacy experience, and community involvement.

**Steven Phillip Bullard** was promoted to full colonel in the Kentucky Air National Guard. He was a journalism major at UMaine and went into the Air Force after graduation. His military career includes a Combat Ribbon from the 1980s and service in two conflicts.

Lots of exciting news! Send me an email and share your news with your classmates. I'm certain they would love to know what you have been doing. In the meantime, enjoy the spring and summer!

# 1985

**Suzanne Lynch Guild**  
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As I write this, it's snowing. As you read this, you're probably looking forward to your summer vacation. Please drop me an email. Our news is getting pretty scarce.

**Tamela Glenn** has opened the



Snow Lotus Thai Yoga Massage practice in Bangor, Maine. She is the first in Maine to be certified as a Lotus Palm Thai Yoga Massage practitioner after studying with Kam Thye Chow in Montreal. Her email is: SnowLotusTYM@aol.com.

**Deena Mayo-Bruns** is a literacy specialist in South Portland, Maine, after teaching seventh grade language arts at Falmouth Middle School. Deena also earned a master's degree in education from the University of Maine.

**Richard Roderick** is senior vice president and chief financial officer for Dead River Oil. He also serves on the board of directors for Gorham Savings Bank. He and his wife, Patti, live in Cape Elizabeth, Maine.

**Todd Lyford** is the police chief for Brownville, Maine, after serving 15 years as the chief of police for neighboring Milo.

While holiday shopping I ran into **Rob and Robin Hull Bowerman '86** and their beautiful children from Falmouth, Massachusetts. They were in Maine visiting Rob's family and were looking forward to spending some time at Sugarloaf over the winter.

All for now! Would love to hear from you!

## 1986

**Donalyn Blanchard Macdougall**  
**George Macdougall**  
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**Fairfield Center, ME 04937**  
**donymac@webtv.net**

Hi! By the time you read this, we'll be entering spring and getting ready to throw out the first fly of fishing season. I can't wait—last year I caught one fish! At least it was on the fly that my supervisor, **Joyce Noel Taylor**, gave me! Well, right now we just got the first snowstorm of the season so spring is looking a ways off.

In classmates' news—**Peter Loiselle**, a Surry elementary school teacher, has been recognized by the global financial institution, ING Group, as an innovative educator in its 2005 Unsung Heroes program. The award comes with \$2,000 for the educators to use in their classrooms. The Surry team will now vie against other winners for the top three prizes of an additional \$5,000, \$10,000, or \$25,000. The 2005 winners have been select-

**N**atalie Michelle-Rapp '85, '99G has found a niche by combining the knowledge and training she received in nursing and kinesiology at the University of Maine with the wisdom and traditions of her Native American heritage.

Natalie's natural healing products, Ukhomee Botanicals & Springmoon Extracts, also reflect her personal philosophy.

"Wellness is not a magic bullet," she said in a recent *Bangor Daily News* story. "It's a way of life."

That way of life was lived by her Indian ancestors. It honored the whole person—mind, body, and spirit.

Natalie, whose native name, Siqon, means Springmoon, grew up on the Penobscot Reservation on Indian Island, the 13th of 14 children. As a young child, she remembers roaming the island's woods examining plants.

Her interest in plants and her education in nursing led her to create medical remedies for



## Wellness as a Way of Life

"Coronary Heart Disease Risk Factors in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic Native American Women at Indian Township, Maine," is used as a planning tool for preventive health care programs in Native American communities.

For more information or to order any of Natalie's botanical healing products log on to: [www.uhkomeebotanicals.com](http://www.uhkomeebotanicals.com). They are also available at Hampden Natural Food, the Brunswick Green Store, and Maine Indian Basket-makers Alliance in Old Town.

family members. Word of the products eventually spread and in 2001 she began selling her line of skin-care balms, creams, infused oils, and teas. All of her products are free from chemical additives.

Her most popular product is an aromatic muscle rub made with birch arnica and yarrow flowers in an infused olive oil base.

Natalie is also a personal trainer and has extensive experience in fitness and wellness promotion. Her 1999 UMaine master's thesis,

ed from nearly 1,150 educators. The program that the Surry team used was called "Freaky Friday/Mentoring, Physical and Health Awareness." The program partners two middle school teachers with a nurse to provide a health and fitness curriculum for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders. The students in the program present nutrition and fitness lessons and complete hikes at Acadia National Park. Good work, gang, and good luck at winning the top prize!

**Wesley Williams's** family is into hockey in a big way. The family mini van has a license plate that reads "LOV HKY." Wesley and his stepson, Robbie Snow, and their friend, Lee Miller, are certified class five hockey coaches which means they are qualified to coach Olympic level teams. The three of them also just signed a year lease on the T.J. Ryan center in Brewer to keep it open for the upcoming season. The trio are leasing with the intent to buy. The

center had been put up for sale and was not going to open.

Governor **John Baldacci** was dishing out spaghetti along with Stephen King '70 at a public supper to raise money for the American Red Cross to assist hurricane Katrina evacuees. The supper took place at the Augusta Armory with over 500 tickets sold.

**Gary Groves** has returned to his high school alma mater in Westbrook. Gary was a star athlete for the Blue Blazes and now returns as the athletic and activities director for them. He has been the athletic director for Portland High School for the last five years. He lives in Westbrook with his wife, Laura, and daughter, Britney, who will be a sophomore at Westbrook. He also serves on the city council. Prior to the Portland High position, Gary was event manager at Anaheim Stadium in Anaheim, California.

Snail/email us with your class news so we can let your "old"

classmates know about it. Remember, please put "Class of '86" or "Univ./UMO Notes" or such in the subject line, just in case.

George

## 1987

**Andrew P. Nagelin**  
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**anagelin@verizon.net**

Hey, Class of '87, I had absolutely zero news from you this time around! Now I know that you're out there working, raising kids, walking the dog, watching movies—living—but I have nothing to report.

Please, I need your notes and emails!

## Go Blue!



# 1988

**Kristin R. Dane DiCroce**  
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zdicroce4918@gis.net

White is the absence of color, and blank is the absence of news. As you can see, blank is not interesting to read, so please, folks, send your news to me or to the alumni association! Even if you've had the same job, same address, and same family status since graduation day, we still want to know! I look forward to hearing from you.

# 1989

**Janis Broadbent Moriarty**  
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Happy spring to all!

News is very sparse this time around—what happened to those New Year's resolutions to keep us all informed of your news? Here's another try from your ever-optimistic class correspondent: Start the new season by sharing your news! Whether you've been at the same job or address for years, it's news to our class if you haven't let us know!

I did hear from six classmates: Former Senior Skull **John Kachmar** is president of Wilbur Yachts in Southwest Harbor, Maine, and also serves on the board of directors of Maine Built Boats, a new non-profit company whose goal is to build on Maine's boat-building heritage and reputation and to market Maine-built boats as a brand, both in state and nationally. John, take my word for it, I'd love to support your company!

**Clinton and Rachel Blanchard Harris** are in the process of taking over Clinton's father, Bill's '62 farm in Dayton, Maine. In addition to cattle, dairy, and vegetables, Harris Farm also offers cross-country skiing on 26 miles of trails across their 440 acres of land. Super-sweet corn is their specialty so if you're in the area later this summer, make it a stop!

Air Force Major **Cheryl Eyberg Law** was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel during a ceremo-

ny at Women in the Military Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. Lt. Col. Law is the chief of public affairs for the 436th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. She assumed her present duty in June 2004, and was named Air Mobility Command's Field Grade Public Affairs Officer of the Year in 2004. Congratulations, Cheryl!

**Catherine Reid** has written a new book, *Coyote: Seeking the Hunter in Our Midst*, which is about the survival skill of the species, as well as its elusive origin and outcast identity. Reid was recently featured in an article in *The Boston Globe*, and lives in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts.

Former All Maine Woman **Kimberly White Silsby** returned to an at-large seat on the Augusta board of education. She has held this position for five years. Congratulations, Kim!

Follow the lead of these classmates and don't be shy! Keep us posted on what's going on in your world—wherever that may be!

# 1990

**Melissa Brancely Burns**  
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Happy spring! My daughter, Kayla, just turned four years old and my son, Michael, turned two in February. It is amazing what they can do!

**Svyla Karageorge** is a seventh and eighth grade Spanish teacher at Scarborough Middle School. In addition to receiving her bachelor's degree at the University of Maine, she earned a certificate of Hispanic studies from the University of Santiago de Compostela. She has six years of teaching experience.

**Lisa Foley-Pellicani** and husband, Jeffrey '89, became proud parents of baby boy Max in July 2005. Thanks for writing, Lisa and congratulations!

**Judy Thorne Magnuson** is working as a speech/language therapist in the South Portland School Department. Previously she was a speech/language pathologist at Northeast Hearing and Speech Center in Portland. She earned her master's degree in communication sciences and disorders from

Syracuse University.

In June 2005, the North American Association for the Diaconate recognized **Peggy Gorriell Day**, an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church. She was recognized for her service, mentoring, and outreach as a deacon and especially for her focus on women's issues. She also works as a clinician at the Acadia Hospital.

In September 2005, **Bruce Crowder** was named an assistant coach for the Portland Pirates of the American Hockey League. Previously he was the head coach at Northeastern University for nine seasons.

**Rich Cleary** has his own law firm and recently moved to a new downtown location in Houlton, the former First National Bank. He provides legal services including real estate, civil and corporate law, and serves as the Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee for Aroostook County.

Air Force Major **Brian Roy** was decorated with the Bronze Star Medal for performing a heroic act in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He initiated an emergency evacuation of 30 Air Force members from inside his duty section building when a rocket landed unexploded four meters from the building. Brian, his wife, **Barbara Quine Roy**, and their daughter, Jessica, live in Yorktown, Virginia.

# 1991

**Lori Schlenker**  
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What's new in your corner of the world?

A number of classmates have new positions in education. **George Jones** was hired as a social studies teacher at Scarborough High School. **Melissa Kent Michaud** is a new kindergarten through grade 2 literacy teacher for the Gorham school system. Prior to this position, she taught kindergarten/grade one in Rumford and first grade in Harpswell. Before that Melissa had been employed by S.A.D. 51 as a K/grade one teacher and as a literacy teacher. **Daniel Lee** has been named as Brewer's school superintendent. He had been S.A.D. 3 (in

Waldo County) superintendent the past three years, and before that he was an elementary school administrator in the Bangor system for 19 years. Dan said that one of his goals is to understand the new type of students, the Millennial Generation, and help schools evolve to better serve them and future generations.

**Janice McManus** has joined Island Nursing Home and Care Center as the new director of social services. As part of an interdisciplinary team, she will coordinate admissions and discharges and build and expand the support system for the area communities. Previously, Janice was a supervisor for the state of Maine and worked for the Department of Health and Human Services as an investigator of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the elderly.

**James Nute** and Kim Fulhan '93 were married on October 8 in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. They reside in Dover, New Hampshire. Kim is the China program director for MAPS International, an adoption agency based in Portland. Jim is the executive director of New Hampshire's Mayhew Program, dedicated to helping at-risk boys. He received the 2005 Citizens Bank/WMUR-TV Champion in Action for Youth Support, a prestigious statewide award.

The UMaine men's and women's hockey programs have a husband and wife coaching team. **Campbell Blair** is in his fifth season as an assistant for the men's program and his new wife, Kate Fennessey, has become the new assistant for the women's program. Campbell and Kate were married June 1 at his home in Orono.

In August, **Brian Martin**, his wife, Krista, and their two children, Tim and Elizabeth, moved from Westbrook to Ocala, Florida. Brian started a new job with Jones Edmunds, Florida's oldest engineering firm. During the 10 years the family lived in Westbrook, they spent many hours organizing Westbrook's Together Days, rebuilding homes, volunteering in schools, and many other service activities. Their commitment to community service was highlighted in a nice article in the *Westbrook American Journal*.

With the help of **Linda Williams'** family, the T.J. Ryan Center ice rink in Brewer will be open this year for another season of skating. They have signed a one-year lease to manage the facility. Hockey plays a big role in the activities of the family; her husband and son are certified Class 5 hockey coaches and will be partners in the operation of the rink.



Robert Sypitkowski '90, '94G

## Helping Tsunami Victims Rebuild in Indonesia

For Robert Sypitkowski '90, '94G, the chance to travel to Indonesia last year to help communities devastated by the December 2004 tsunami fulfilled a lifelong desire.

Back in the 1960s and early '70s, Robert wanted to join the Peace Corps to help people in less fortunate areas of the world. But he had to set aside that desire when he and his wife learned they were having a baby.

Robert, an engineer with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, received his opportunity through Doctors Without Borders. His assignment was to improve access to safe drinking water as well as sanitation on the island of Simeulue.

That island was the closest land mass to the epicenter of the earthquake which caused the tsunami. Amazingly, the island had relatively few casualties—primarily, Robert says, because the people of the island recognized the signs of impending danger and fled to inland hills.

But the island's infrastructure was heavily damaged and later all but destroyed in the subsequent March 2005 earthquake which hit the region. Water treatment and distribution systems were gone, and the government water utility had very little technical capacity and no material resources.

Robert notes that the only bright spot in the situation was the fact that the Simeulue people had a cultural history of boiling all drinking water and of fastidious personal hygiene.

In spite of the limited resources, high water tables, and extremely difficult travel conditions (washed-out bridges and poor roads), Robert and his team of workers were able to build numerous small dams, dig wells, develop wash areas and latrines, and upgrade or improve several water treatment and distribution systems in four different island communities.

In a recent *Bangor Daily News* story, Robert said that while he was in Indonesia he missed his wife, his friends, music, quiet, a sense of order, and beer.

"I appreciate more, now, how lucky we are to be here," he told the *News*. He added that he has a renewed appreciation for amenities such as traffic lights, zoning setbacks, and noise ordinances.

But Robert adds that he made many good friends in Simeulue, both native Indonesians and fellow relief workers from around the world. He has even established a scholarship fund for two young Indonesians he became close to during his stay. The good will and respect he earned in Simeulue is reflected in the fact that one of them, his first assistant Roni Bintang, asked Robert to be his best man at his wedding. (To find out more about the scholarship fund that Robert has established, you can email him at: [sypit1@gwi.net](mailto:sypit1@gwi.net).)



During his six-month stay in Indonesia, Robert Sypitkowski (center) was asked to be best man at the wedding of his first assistant Roni Bintang and Roni's bride Syufra.

Are you near your computer? Now that you have finished reading about your classmates, why not send a quick message to me telling us what you've been doing so I can share it in the next column? Consider it your good deed for the day. See you next time!

## 1992

**Michelle Bouchard**  
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It's time for another update on how all your UMaine classmates are doing. I hope everyone is having a wonderful spring! **Steve Marquis** and brother Tim '99 report that they both ran in the New York Marathon this past fall. Steve was on the track team when he attended Maine. They both were able to complete the race, Steve at four hours and three minutes and Tim in four hours and 21 minutes. Congratulations, guys!

**Debra Fotter Pronovost** represented the state of Maine this fall in the Mrs. America pageant. She won the Mrs. Maine title in May '05 against 11 other married Mainers in their early 20s.

**Don DePoy** and his wife, Martha Hills, have been inducted into America's Old Time Country Hall of Fame. Don is an accomplished bluegrass banjoist and traditional thumb-picking guitar player.

In other news, **Kathryn Charest** will fill the principal position at Saccarappa School in Westbrook after the long-time principal retired. Besides taking on duties as the principal, she will continue to serve as the district's affirmative action director.

**Phil Richardson** is also taking on a new position as superintendent of the Rangeley Lakes Regional Schools and RLRS principal for grades nine-12. In other teaching news, **Karl Cousins** is the new high school social studies teacher at Lubec Consolidated School. He has previously taught at Millinocket and Dexter. Lastly, **Jason Simcock** has resigned his position as town manager in Monmouth to accept a position as Gardiner's director of planning and development.

That's it for news this time around. Please keep the notes coming and happy spring!



# 1993

**Pamela LePage Greb**  
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Hello, Class of '93! I recently took over as class correspondent and I'd love to hear from you! Drop me an email at: pamelagreb@yahoo.com with your news. I've been way out of touch with so many of you since we graduated. Hard to believe it's been almost 13 years! I would love to hear from those I knew (my Pi Phi sisters, classmates in engineering, cheerleaders, and football fans) and those I didn't know. So come on, drop me a quick email! I am currently living in Chicago with my husband, Peter, and two sons, Nikolaus (3 years) and Alex (1-1/2 years). I've lived in numerous places over the past 10 years (Nashua, New Hampshire; Birmingham, Michigan; Seattle, Washington; and now Chicago, Illinois). I've put my engineering management career on hold for a while to stay home with my boys. I look forward to hearing from you!

Let's start with the wedding news—**James Hassard** and Tania Gardiner were married on October 2 in Searsport. **Kim Fulhan** and Jim Nute '91 were married on October 8 in Cape Elizabeth. They reside in Dover, New Hampshire. Kim is a China program director for MAPS International, an adoption agency based in Portland, Maine.

**Pamela Feeney** has taken a position as a guidance counselor at Lubec Consolidated School. **Jennifer Cochrane Field**, a science teacher at Nipmuc Regional High School in Upton, Massachusetts, is one of 43 educators around the world who received a private grant to study glacier melting, deposits, and flooding of Iceland's massive ice sheets. In July, she spent two weeks in Reykjavik, Iceland, conducting the research. After graduation, Jennifer spent two years in Senegal in West Africa with the Peace Corps. She resides in Marlborough, Massachusetts. **Terry Towne** is the mid-coast steward for Maine Coast Heritage Trust. He oversees and maintains close to 3,000 acres of the Topsham-based land conservation group's holdings. He rides to work on a 22-foot boat. Terry lives in Lamoine. **Celena Ranger** is the new principal at T.W. Kelly Dirigo Middle School in

## Documenting the Flora of New England

Botanist Arthur Haines '92 was featured in a *Maine Sunday Telegram* article last January. Arthur is working on a detailed book for the New England Wild Flower Society, which will identify any plant growing in New England.

In describing Arthur's pursuit of flora, the *Times* noted that he sometimes needs to travel to out-of-the-way places where his experience and skill as a rock climber comes in handy. The project is expected to be finished in another three years.

In addition to working on the book at the wild flower society, Arthur curates herbariums, leads field trips, and teaches.

When he's not engaged in botanical work, Arthur likes to pursue his interest in native or primitive arts such as making his own bows and knives. He also competes as an amateur in a type of wrestling called Brazilian jujitsu.



Dixfield, Maine. She lives in Auburn with her eight-year old daughter, Ally.

**Brian Wilson** served with the Army National Guard's 133rd Engineer Battalion in Iraq. While he was away on duty, he was fortunate to receive a Maine moose permit, and his wife worked with officials at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to defer the license until he returned. Brian got his 500-pound bull moose just a few days before he left with his Guard unit to help with the hurricane relief effort in Louisiana. Congrats, Brian!

That's all I have for now. In case you didn't know, most of the news for this column is provided by the alumni association staff. They forward me newspaper articles and clippings from around the state mentioning your news and events. But I'd like to hear from you all personally. So send me your baby, career, and wedding news, or anything else you'd like to share! Have a great spring!

**Email your class correspondent and let her/him know what's happening in your life.**

## 1994

**Beth Watson Calhoun**  
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**Stacey Stump**  
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Greetings, fellow classmates! We hope you've survived the winter and are finally thawed out.

**Mary Colleen "Colley" Johnson Ward** writes that she and her husband, Andy, welcomed their first child, a son, on May 26, 2005. His name is Christopher Michael Ward. Colley and Andy live in the Washington, D.C., area, where she is director of marketing for NetScan. **Michael Taylor** also emailed us. He's living in Portland and is gearing up to work on next year's governor's race. (For which candidate, we do not know!) He's been keeping up with UMaine alumni events and sends his regards.

**Patrick Myers** has been hired as the first executive director of the

Center Theater for the Performing Arts in Dover-Foxcroft. The Center Theater is a historic movie house that had been abandoned before a group of concerned citizens took over the building to bring it back to life as a performing arts center.

**Jennifer Whitney-Dudley** has started her own business. Her company is called Water's Edge Gift Baskets and is run from her home in Old Town. **Terri Hewett** has been hired as a part-time substance abuse counselor at Yarmouth High School. Terri was most recently employed as an outpatient therapist for Bucknam Road Behavioral Health in Falmouth. **Brian Beal** is researching how to better raise juvenile lobsters in a hatchery.

**Cindy Charland** was featured in an advertisement for Eastern Maine Medical Center. Cindy works as a registered nurse in the palliative care program. **Deb Smith** has been hired as head softball coach at the University of Rhode Island.

## 1995

**Keri Sewell Seitz**  
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Hello all, glad to be writing this for spring review; it's early January and cold! I hope some sunny weather has found you, wherever you are reading this. I am so happy to report that several UM alumni have contacted me directly. Keep up the good work of keeping us informed!

I have heard from **Bonnie Foye McKay** via email. Bonnie and I were classmates in the natural resources program and she contacted me after my return to Maine. Bonnie is a special ed teacher at Boothbay Regional High School and she and her husband, Steve, who built a house in Woolwich, were expecting their first daughter at the end of January. Another fellow natural resources alum I got news on was **Marla Zando**. Marla has recently been hired as the stewardship director for the Scarborough Land Conservation Trust, which is the first position the trust has hired. Since graduating from UMaine, Marla has been busy. She volunteered for AmeriCorps, and then worked at the Museum of Science in Boston before heading to the University of Vermont to pursue her master's



degree in botany. Her most recent position was an internship with the Lake Champlain Land Trust. Marla's position primarily focuses on making the land of the Trust more accessible but also entails management of those properties.

**Alison Gwyther** is finishing up her first year as a Spanish teacher at Cape Elizabeth High School. After completing her master's degree at UMaine, Alison taught Spanish at UMaine and at Belfast Area High School. **Thanh Hue Thai**, a registered nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, is engaged to Paul Huibers, a financial analyst at Delphi Financial Group. **Tracey Cook** is engaged to Mark Sardella; both are of Old Orchard Beach. Tracey is employed by MNet Mortgage and Mark is employed by L.L. Bean.

I got an email from **Jason Wright** telling us how much fun he had as part of the Alumni Marching Band at Homecoming 2005. Though the reminiscing was fun, Jason also really enjoyed performing with his sister, Elizabeth Wright, who is a member of the Class of 2006. Jason lives in Howland with his wife, Carla Sylvia Wright '97, and works at Mattanawcook Academy in Lincoln. Anyone interested in participating in next year's alumni band should contact Yvonne Byther Mummé '93 at: ybyther@maine.rr.com.

On to the babies! My friend and our classmate **Brett Wolfgram**, and his wife, Pam, of Scarborough, welcomed a daughter, Madeline Eve Wolfgram, on October 18. Lastly, I heard from **Lynne Boothby** of Bethel, who reports that she and her husband, Chris Darling '96, welcomed a son on July 30, Jack Boothby Darling. Congratulations!

That's all I've got for now. I hope this finds you well and don't forget to drop us a line and keep us up to date on goings-on in your neck of the woods!

## 1996

**Leah McBreairey**  
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Greetings, classmates! Here's what we've heard from some of you lately—

**Beth Reynolds-Beutel** graduat-

## Andrea Cole '97: helping UMaine students stay focused

As coordinator for academic advising and support services at UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, Andrea Poole Cole '97, '04G helps students consider their choices and keep on track. She currently advises more than 300 education majors on academic expectations and procedures, as well as with personal problems.

"I see the potential in all students and want them to realize that they can do great things," Andrea says. "When we spend time talking with and listening to students, they are usually able to discuss their passions and concerns and find their niche on campus."

Andrea also trains student peer mentors within the UMaine chapter of Kappa Delta Pi and serves as cocounselor to that honor society.

She notes that she has gained a good deal of insight and perspective from her own mentors, including her late husband, Jeff Cole, a teacher and popular assistant Black Bear football coach who died in 2004.



ed from the Air Force Noncommissioned Officer Academy at Tyndall Air Force Base in Panama City, Florida. She is an information management specialist with the 53rd Aerial Port Squadron at Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Beth has served in the military for 17 years. **John McKenney** has been promoted to colonel in the Maine Army National Guard. He served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. John lives in Portland with his wife, Cathy. He enjoys swimming, running, climbing, music, and photography.

**Paula Spacco** is an R.N. in the post anesthesia care unit at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. She spent about 18 hours painting ceiling tiles that were installed in the operating rooms. The tiles are decorated with loons, dolphins, sunsets, and a lighthouse, among others, and are Paula's way of giving patients a nice image to look at to help them relax before undergoing surgery. Her coworkers were so impressed

with Paula's generous and thoughtful actions that they nominated her for a Splash Award, EMMC's highest recognition for employees who exceed expectations while caring for patients, families, communities, and one another. Way to go, Paula!

**Christine Nealey** is a family nurse practitioner at Katahdin Valley Health Center in Millinocket. She graduated from the family nurse practitioner program in 2003 at Husson College in Bangor. Christine has two adult daughters and one grandchild.

**Robert "Bob" McDaniel** was unanimously chosen as the superintendent of S.A.D. 70 in Hodgdon. Prior to that, Bob taught for 24 years and was principal for 10 years at Jefferson Village School. Bob and his wife, Peggy, have two sons.

**Khalil Habib** joined the faculty in the philosophy department at Newport, Rhode Island-based Salve Regina University. He also served as a lecturer in the writing program at Boston University and was an

adjunct faculty member at Metropolitan College and Brandeis University. Khalil received his master's degree from the University of Toronto and a Ph.D. from Boston University. He now lives in Wickford, Rhode Island. **Trisha Smith** is the state of Maine's recipient of the No Child Left Behind 2005 American Star of Teaching. She is the eighth grade language arts teacher at Holbrook Middle School in Holden. This is a great honor. Congratulations, Trisha!

**Robin Bennett** is the city manager of Barre, Vermont.

That's all for now. Please let us know what you've been up to. And remember, 2006 marks 10 years since we graduated!

## 1997

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Greetings, Class of 1997. Hopefully, this finds you all well and thawing out from winter. Things are pretty status quo in New Jersey. However, I heard from my old friend **Monique Gibouleau**, who recently got engaged to Andrew Bouchard and is now living in Old Town. Don't forget to keep us posted with what you've been up to by dropping a line at: Yolanda\_Sly@hotmail.com or contact the alumni office!

**Ricky Jones** won the Maine Mid-Amateur Championship tournament for the third year straight, reports the *Bangor Daily News*. His one-shot victory made him the first player in the 15-year history of the tournament to win three years in a row. Ricky lives in Thomaston.

**Kimberly Kissinger Feeney** has been named a speech/language therapist at the South Portland school department, reports the *The Forecaster*. Previously, Kimberly was in private practice in Windham and South Portland. She has her master's in communication disorders from UMaine and a bachelor's degree in speech correction and elementary education from the University of Maine at Farmington.

**Tara Piasecki** has been named a second grade teacher in the Cape Elizabeth school department, according to *The Forecaster* of Fal-



mouth. Previously, Tara was teaching primary special education at the Lyseth School in Portland. She holds a bachelor's degree in education from UMaine and a master's in education from Virginia Tech's Northern Virginia Center in Falls Church, Virginia.

Congratulations to **Dorene Torrance** and Timothy Paradis on their engagement. Dorene is employed as a sales person at Atlantic Awards in Bangor. Timothy is an accountant for Bangor Savings Bank.

## 1998

**CPT Robert E. Brewer**  
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Hearty Maine Hello! I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and good winter wherever you were. Now let's catch up with what everyone has been up to—

Captain **Rob Jones** is back at the University of Maine working on his master's, and completed his first semester this fall. He was selected to participate in the Army's Advanced Civil Schooling program following 14 months of command at Fort Hood, Texas. Rob writes, "If anyone makes it back this way in the next couple years, look me up and we'll get a cold frothy beverage." Be careful Rob, we may take you up on the offer!

I heard from Captain Ed Sleeper recently. Although Ed went to Husson, he attended the ROTC program at UMaine. Ed is currently deployed to Iraq for a second time with the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division. He writes, "I am enjoying it most of the time—command is a challenge but I am in the groove. All is well here and the elections are the big story." Stay safe, Ed!

This fall I bumped into Captain **Steve Miskinis** at Hohenfels Training Area in Germany and again in Heidelberg. We also got to see each other at the 1st Armored Division Artillery's St. Barbara's Day Ball at Ramstein Air Base. Steve is currently assigned as the S2 (intelligence officer) for the 1st Armored Division Artillery in Baumholder, Germany. As a lieutenant, Steve completed the armor officer basic course and was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division where he served as a platoon leader, company executive

officer, and a battle captain for the SFOR 8 rotation to Bosnia. He was promoted to captain on 1 December 2001 and transitioned to military intelligence with the Army's branch detail program. He completed the military intelligence officer career (MIOCC) and signal intelligence (SIGINT) courses at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, and the combined arms and services staff school (CAS3) at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He was next assigned to V Corps Germany where he served as a G2 (intelligence) operations battle captain with the main and tactical command posts, the latter position he held during Operation Iraqi Freedom, and a G2 planner until taking his current position in May 2005. While at Fort Huachuca he met his wife, Ramzan, and they were married on 29 November 2002. Steve writes, "Ramzan and I like to travel and have been to at least 12 countries together."

Navy seaman **Tricia M. Schnare** recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at recruit training command in Great Lakes, Illinois. During the eight-week program, Tricia completed a variety of training which included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, fire fighting, water safety and survival, and shipboard and aircraft safety. An emphasis was also placed on physical fitness.

**Belle Ryder** moved back to Maine after working in the paper industry in New York and is working as the operations manager for her family's business, Union River Boat, in Bucksport. Her responsibilities include everything from computer-aided design drawings to payroll. Her training in engineering comes in handy with projects of all sizes at the company.

This fall, Midcoast Recreation Department in Rockport welcomed **Seth Meyer** as tennis director. He spent the last six years managing and teaching tennis at the Tualatin Hills Tennis Center in Beaverton, Oregon.

**Peter Gallace** is the new grade 3 teacher at Jefferson Village School in Damariscota, Maine. He previously taught for several years in a middle school on a Navajo reservation in Chinle, Arizona, and grade 5 in S.A.D. 11. Peter is also a registered Maine Guide in kayaking.

Yarmouth High School's new social studies teacher and hockey coach is **Marc Halsted**. He started as a long-term substitute teacher at Hampden Academy in 1999, and has taught social studies at Central

High School (1999-2000), Orono High School (2000-2004), and Northfield High School in Vermont (2004-2005). He also coached baseball at Hampden Academy.

**Matt Haney** accepted the position as assistant principal at Mount Desert Island High School. He had been the School Union 96 athletic director since August 2003. Matt, as one of two assistant principals, works directly with juniors and seniors at the high school, which has an enrollment of 675 students. Some of Matt's responsibilities include overseeing discipline and attendance and serving as chairman of the school's computer technology committee.

Last October, **Andrew Howard** married Sara Hardiman at Oliver Lodge in Meredith, New Hampshire. Andrew is employed in biotechnology at Lonza Biologics in Portsmouth.

This winter I was able to fly home to the states to see family and friends over the holidays. I will deploy early this year with the 1st Brigade of the 1st Armored Division on my second tour to Iraq.

Continue to send in tidbits about what is going on in your and our classmates' lives and enjoy your spring!

## 1999

**Andrea Downs Quenneville**  
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Hello, Class of 1999! I hope all of you had a wonderful winter and are enjoying 2006. Here is some news from a few of our fellow graduates.

**Paris Calor** is teaching physical education and health classes at Lubec Consolidated School. He previously taught in Jonesport/Beals and Edmunds. **John McKechnie** is teaching fifth grade at Sedgwick Elementary School. He previously taught in Veazie and Old Town. **Mary Beth Coughlin** is teaching special education in Yarmouth. **Amy Luze** was recently appointed the head coach of the varsity boys' soccer team at Hermon High School. Amy teaches Spanish, English, and civics in Hermon. She's also the assistant indoor track and field coach and the head coach of Hermon's outdoor track and field team. Best of luck,

everyone, with your recent career moves!

**Amy Hamilton** graduated from Middlebury College's Breadloaf School of English program in August with her master of arts in English. Congratulations, Amy!

**Tim Marquis** of Orono ran the New York Marathon this year with his brother, Steve '92. Tim finished in four hours, 21 minutes. They also ran the Boston Marathon last spring with their older brother, Roger. Tim is a member of the Maine Air National Guard and is employed by the school of engineering technology at UMaine.

I only receive a handful of updates each quarter from the alumni association. If you have anything to share, please send it to me via email or snail mail. Your classmates would like to hear your news about marriages, family, new homes, recent vacations, a special accomplishment, or a new job. It's been nearly seven years since we graduated, so I'm sure some of you have updates!

## 2000

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I hope you all survived the craziness of the holiday season and are looking forward to the warmer weather of spring. I know I am. It has already been six years since we walked across the stage at Alford Arena. Time really flies.

Classmate **Valerie Paradise** was hired as a math teacher at Scarborough High School for the 2005-2006 school year. **Julie Morrison** is now a speech therapist for Union 107 of the Woodland school system in Maine. She was married in October and is now Mrs. McPhee. She will also finish up her master's in speech from Western Kentucky University in the spring. **Amanda Dieckmann Olsen** was awarded a master of fine arts degree at Southampton College's commencement ceremony on May 22, 2005. In order for her to complete the program, she wrote a 200-page novel that is currently being circulated for publication. Look for Amanda as author on your favorite bookstore's bookshelf soon. Amanda now lives in Middle Island, New York.

**Lance Boucher** is head of the



base redevelopment effort to keep Maine's military bases open. Lance has played a significant role in helping Maine's state government to fight the proposed military base closings. Lance lives in a farmhouse in Manchester with his wife, Rachel. We wish him luck in his endeavors to help the state of Maine.

Former UMaine hockey player **Ben Guite** has been signed by the Boston Bruins. During his time at UMaine he scored 47 goals and 49 assists. He was also part of the 1999 National Championship team.

The wedding bells will be ringing for classmate and former Black Bear hockey player, **Edward Washuk III**, as he weds Josephine Lauer later this year. Eddie is a stock market trader at the Chicago Board of Trade. Best of luck to them!

As our six-year anniversary approaches, it is a good time to reconnect with classmates and share the news that is happening in your life. Feel free to drop me an email or just a note to add to this column.



University of Maine president Robert Kennedy (right) visits with Adam '01 and Laura Middleton Henckler '00 at a reception at SeaWorld in Orlando on March 11. Adam is an engineer and Laura is a social worker. They live in Oviedo, Florida.

## 2001

**Bonnie Joy Dewkett**  
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Once again the holidays have come and gone and now the promise of spring is here. For many of us, that means warmer weather. With UMaine grads all over the country, and even the world, it's important to keep in touch. Here is what a few of our classmates have been up to over the past few months.

**Meredith Sullivan** joined the Center for Communication as a speech language pathologist and reading specialist. She will work with children and adults on speech and language challenges.

**Roxanne Miller** was recently accepted to a conservation leaders program. She and 19 other leaders in her field traveled to Florida to design an international conservation program. The program is designed to assist new conservationists with their careers and goals.

School Administrative District 27 just hired **Jennifer Haney Hanley** as Belgrade Central School's newest principal. She was unanimously voted upon and began her new

position this past September.

Indiana State University has a new tight-end coach. **Chris Binder**, who spent the last two years in Toledo as a graduate student, will join the football coaching staff at Indiana. He has previously worked as a kicking coach for the University of Maine.

**Jason Inman** will wed on May 20, 2006, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Rockland, Maine. Jason creatively proposed during the fourth inning of a Red Sox baseball game at Fenway Park. Jason currently works as a revenue agent for the state of Maine Revenue Service.

These are just a few of the life changes that our classmates have had over the past few months. Please take a moment and forward us your news!

## 2002

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Greetings. With the holidays and winter over, it's time to turn a new petal in spring. Over the winter, our classmates have been busy planning weddings, starting businesses,

and becoming more accomplished with their careers.

**Joseph Irace** and Julia Heard '03 are planning a September 2006 wedding. Joseph is currently employed by FairPoint Communications.

Navy Airman **Andrew Bessette** departed on a scheduled deployment in support of the global war on terrorism while assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 87. He embarked on the aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt*, home ported in Norfolk, Virginia.

**Jacquelyn Ritchey Flynn** started Flynn Home Inspections about a year ago. The inspection includes structural, heating and ventilation, and electrical systems. She made the choice so that she could remain close to family. **Brandon Portwine** works with his mother, Carla, at the family business, Portwine of Maine, making cheese spreads and granola snacks in Millinocket, Maine.

**Adam Meyer** was born in Portland but spent much of his youth in Beddington, the smallest town in Maine. After earning a master's degree in civil engineering, he returned to the Washington County town and started his own electrical engineering company, Engineering Technologies. **Cindy Violette Ault** has been welcomed to the March of Dimes Northern Maine Division. She planned a fall dinner auction on October 18th at the Bangor Elks

Club.

**Leigh Phillips** was hired as a biology teacher at Scarborough High School. **William Bell** was hired as the orchestra and strings teacher at Bangor High School. **Marcia Larochelle Diamond**, the principal of All Saints Catholic School in Bangor, with Dianne Hoff, University of Maine assistant professor, released a second edition of *Legal Issues for Maine Educators*. The expanded new edition of the book, first published in 2002, covers more than 90 topics with new sections on discrimination, use of school facilities, the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the 2004 reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Act, and even regulations and policy in transition or development, such as certification and assessment systems.

If you have any news to share, I would love to hear from you!

## 2003

**Sara Green**  
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This is a very short column this month as the news that is coming in is getting lighter and lighter! If you have any information please send it my way so that we can get it into the column!

Let's start out with engagements first. **Brandi Redding** was recently engaged to Christopher Chase. Brandi is working at Glenburn Elementary School and is planning a June 17th wedding. **Shane Ashe** has proposed to Meredith Hill. Shane graduated from UMaine with a B.A. in child and human development. An August 19th wedding is planned in Brunswick. And finally, **Will Bingham** will soon be marrying Kristan Tracewski. Will graduated from UMaine with a degree in business administration. The couple is living in Portland and is planning a September 2nd wedding. Congratulations!

The rest of the news I have to share has to do with the new jobs that people in our class are taking. **Megan Brown** is the new earth science teacher at Stowe High School in Vermont. She graduated from UMaine with a degree in biology and is currently working on a master's degree in teaching at Johnson State College. **James**



**Francis** is helping to teach fifth graders at Old Town Elementary School about Wabanaki history as part of a new law requiring schools to teach about the state's American Indians. James created the new curriculum and is currently field testing it. **Vanessa Smith** has opened her own business, Alpha Tutoring Services. Through her business she offers one-on-one and group tutoring sessions in most subjects at any level. Vanessa also works as an algebra teacher for the M.S.A.D. 5 adult education program.

## 2004

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Well this year certainly seems to be flying by! Before you know it summer will be rolling around and it'll be time for beaches and barbecues. I've received pretty light info from the Class of '04 these past few months, so keep sending those updates!

While last year's hurricanes in and around the Gulf Coast affected a tremendous number of Americans, one Black Bear had an especially harrowing experience. Twenty-eight-year-old **Blanka Peridot** barely escaped New Orleans the day before Hurricane Katrina struck. The University of Maine graduate turned New Orleans resident hastily packed a few bags, corralled her seven-year-old daughter, and hit the road.

Ten days and hundreds of miles later, her ordeal was largely over when she arrived at the Old Town airport. The flight was organized by Angel Flight, a group of volunteer pilots who provide free transportation in times of emergency. Blanka overcame many hurdles in various disaster shelters on her way back to Maine, and doubts if she will ever go back to New Orleans. Now she has settled for the time being in Old Town.

**Veronica Merrill** is now engaged to Harry Feigel III. She received a B.S. in microbiology, and is currently employed with AlerCHEK Corporation in Portland. Harry is a 2002 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a degree in mechanical engineering, and he is a naval aviator

flying out of the Naval Air Station in Brunswick. The wedding is set for this May in Sebasco, Maine.

**Stephanie Morin** is now engaged to Chad Wright '05. Stephanie received a degree in English with a minor in business. She is currently employed by Highmoor Farm, an agricultural research station of UMaine. Chad received his degree in elementary education, and is currently employed with Pollard's Construction.

A few of our classmates began teaching careers this past fall at schools around Maine. **Corinne Sewall** is now a sixth and seventh grade teacher at Sedgwick Elementary School. Corinne is also a Sunday school teacher, a member of the Seamark Community Arts board, and a volunteer at the Island Arts Camp. **Leah Cummings** is now a teacher at the Blue Point School.

**Aaron Webster** has joined the Cape Elizabeth Police Department. After graduating with a degree in business administration, Aaron worked with F.W. Webb before attending the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. **Cayce Lord** has also recently joined the staff of Golden Pond Wealth Management in Waterville as an administrative assistant. The Belgrade native currently resides in Portland.

Please let me know if you would like anything included in the next column, and enjoy the weather!

## 2005

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The alumni publications office is seeking a class correspondent for the Class of 2005. The only qualifications are a 2005 degree from the University of Maine, willingness to write a quarterly column, and the ability to meet deadlines. Any member of the class interested in this position may contact the alumni publications office at the above address. The successful candidate receives a free subscription to the *MAINE Alumni Magazine*.

## Go Blue

## Your Classmates Would Like to Hear From You!

We know you enjoy reading news from your UMaine friends and classmates. Well they'd love to hear from you too! Why not take a few minutes and send in your news to your class correspondent or the alumni office (address information at bottom of page). Or just email your correspondent at the address at the top of your class column.

Name:

Place of residence:

Occupation:

Spouse and children's names:

Other degrees:

Your news:

Send to your class correspondent or to Alumni Publications,  
P.O. Box 550, Orono, ME 04473. Email address:  
abigail.zelz@umit.maine.edu.



# Looking Back (continued from page 4)

drop in the temperature to 20-30 below zero.

Although there were no stringent requirements put on people who wanted to climb the mountain in the winter, we did have to notify park supervisor, Helon Taylor, that we would be at the cabins. He had to be there presumably to notify our next of kin and remove the bodies if we didn't come down off the mountain.

No, I did not tell my parents I was going. They would find out only after a successful trip on Monday or Tuesday. I guess I thought they would not give me permission to go if I told them beforehand.

After a good breakfast and a double check on the equipment we were off. Looking back I was really apprehensive—no, really scared. But being young and still macho, I could not show this to my “brothers.” They seemed so confident.

The weather was still bad (snowing) and the temperature was now 32 degrees below zero, or some such ridiculously low number. After all it was February 14th in northern Maine.

We were warm in our winter gear, however, and as we approached the Saddle Trail we took off our snowshoes, put on our crampons, and tied ourselves together with ropes for the walk up.

About two hours later and only halfway up, the wind picked up, and I bet the wind chill was about 50 below, and visibility was only a few hundred feet.

I was still warm but starting to panic. I hit my knees and declared I wasn't going another inch. Bud commented in his usual calm way, “Why not, we haven't reached the top yet.” He

said, “We will get to the top in a few more minutes. Anyway, you will know the top because you will start to go down.” The others laughed and I got up and went on. Hell, if they weren't worried why should I be? Well it was three more hours (or so it seemed) before we reached the top.

We fussed around and finally found the rock cairn with the box on top with the book to sign in with the time and date. I don't remember who had signed the

***The temperature was now 32 degrees below zero, or some such ridiculously low number. After all it was February 14th in northern Maine.***

book last but it was in the fall.

The view should have been spectacular but was only a few hundred feet with the blowing snow.

Now I felt better. We made it.

It was so simple now, just follow our tracks down. Well it wasn't. We walked back following, we thought, the way we came up, and started down.

After we had gone a while we got below the clouds and looked for the cabins which should have been visible from where we were. What!? No pond, no cabin. We huddled together and examined our maps and using the compass discovered we must have gone down the front side not the backside where we came up. The front side was the south side as I recall. Anyway it was a long way to any road.

We had no choice. It was getting late and if we didn't want to spend the night camped out in the snow we would have to go back over the mountain and then down the Saddle Trail. Up we went. The Saddle Trail was west of the summit as I recall. This time we used the compass and the maps. When we hit the top we rested.

The lead man took one step to start down when we all heard a loud “crack” as the loose snow split across the slope in front of us. In the center of the trail, which was about 100' wide, there was brush sticking out.

Inch by yard we walked down still tied together. My panic was coming back, but I said nothing and just kept walking. It was a much shorter trip down but harder on my knees and legs.

When we finally reached our snowshoes, which we had stuck in the snow when we put on our crampons, we noticed a small (several inches deep) snow slide had just missed them.

It was getting dark now but the gentle walk to the cabin took only a few minutes, it seemed.

The stove was almost in the middle of the cabin. There were two small side rooms with slanted roofs where the bunk beds were located. As I recall there were springs but no mattresses. The chimney went straight up from the stove. The off rooms where we had slept the night before were filled with a very fine powder snow that was like ice. This night we would have to sleep next to the stove although we did manage to get the bunks out to use.

The food we cooked tasted incredibly good to me. I know it was colder than the night before because I took the corn

(canned) off the stove and placed it next to me on the bench. I had a few more mouthfuls of the other food and discovered the corn had frozen in that short time.

The wind was still blowing hard as I went to sleep in my mummy down-filled sleeping bag. I woke up at about 4:00 a.m. with a real bad earache. Luckily, it went away by the time we had breakfast.

We were supposed to meet the plane where we were left off and we did. But...the pilot said he could only take two of us because the weather was closing in and he would not be able to come back.

I volunteered to stay and walk out with one other (Walt Rule, I think). I wanted my feet on solid ground, even if it did mean a 13-mile walk down a flat road. The others took the plane and when they got back would start back to meet us.

The story got around that we got lost on the top of the mountain so we got our pictures taken by some newspaperman before we returned to Orono.

No big deal in the scheme of things, but for me, a hell of an adventure.

The next year in the winter, the others plus Ralph Keef went again. Not me. I should have though—the weather was beautiful; sun, no snowstorm, and I was told a truly spectacular view from the top.

Fifty plus years later from warm Massachusetts—20 degrees today—I still remember the mountain. That place where I learned it's OK to be scared but keep going and don't let it paralyze you. That and other crazy wonderful days when I was young and stupid.



# Weddings

1979

**Wendy Ellen Emerson** to Timothy H. Martens on September 17, 2005, in Putnam, Massachusetts. They honeymooned in Aruba and reside in Peabody, Massachusetts.

1986

**Troy Frost** to Stephanie Joslyn on October 15, 2005, in Hinckley, Maine. They honeymooned in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, and live in Fairfield, Maine.

1990

**Stacy Lynn Jensen** to Scott Coyne on December 26, 2005, in Acapulco, Mexico. They reside on Little Sebago Lake, Maine.

1992

**Carmelle J. Côté** to John E. Terborgh on October 8, 2005. They reside in Sterling, Virginia.

1993

**Paula Vaznis** to James M. Graham on June 25, 2005, in Bangor. They spent their honeymoon on Cape Cod and live in Brewer, Maine.

**Kimberly A. Fulhan** to **James D. Nute '91** on October 8, 2005, in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. They honeymooned in Costa Rica and live in Dover, New Hampshire.

1994

**Troy Brown** to Allison Davis on October 8, 2005, in Ellsworth, Maine. The couple honeymooned at Pemaquid Point and resides in Ellsworth.

1995

**Deena Albert** to **Barrett Parks '01** on September 3, 2005. They honeymooned on Prince Edward Island and live in Sidney, Maine.

1996

**Allison Dall** to Edwin Hall. Following a wedding trip to Mexico, the couple resides in Winthrop, Maine.

**Mari Huotari** to Daniel Eosco



**Kimberly Fulhan '93 and James D. Nute '91** were married on October 8 in Cape Elizabeth.

on August 27, 2005. They spent their honeymoon aboard their lobster boat along mid-coast Maine, and reside in Bath.

**Gary Camire** to Irene Mathieu on October 23, 2005, in Gardner, Massachusetts. The couple honeymooned at Disney World

**S. Andrew Smith** to Anne K. MacLeod on August 13, 2005, in Falmouth, Maine. They honeymooned in Bermuda and reside in North Yarmouth, Maine.

1999

**Scott Pelletier** to Andrea Cathey on July 22, 2005, in Fort

and lives in Lewiston, Maine.

1997

**Jeffrey A. Cary** to **Aimee M.**

**Turcotte '00** on July 16, 2005, on Pond Island, Maine. They live in Danvers, Massachusetts.

1998

**Stacey O'Brien** to Eric Whittington on August 13, 2005, in Poland Spring, Maine. The couple resides in Lewiston, Maine.

**Lisa Fleury** to Christopher Leavitt on August 27, 2005, in Hinckley, Maine. They took a honeymoon trip to Niagara Falls and live in West Gardiner, Maine.

Kent, Maine. They live in Fort Kent.

**Jonathan Thomas** to Kimberly Francis on September 10, 2005, in Scarborough, Maine. They spent their honeymoon on a cruise in the Mexican Riviera and live in New York City.

**Benjamin John Wasson** to Michele Kristen Blaney on September 10, 2005, on Ironbound Island, Maine. The couple honeymooned on Ironbound and Vancouver islands and resides in Ferndale, Washington.

**Chuck Pace** and Julie Doll on June 25, 2005, in Orrington, Maine. They spent their honeymoon on a Caribbean cruise and in Florida and reside in Glenburn, Maine.

**Heidi Lynn Kelley** to **Robert W. Lanigan-Potter '01** on October 9, 2006, in Hallowell, Maine. They took a wedding trip to Stowe, Vermont, and live in Gardiner, Maine.

2000

**Cortney Laura Nicholson** to John Dean Klemperer on October 8, 2005, in Northeast Harbor, Maine. They honeymooned in Maui and reside in Hampden, Maine.

**Susan Flagg** to Ronald Charette on June 25, 2005, in Orland, Maine. The couple spent their honeymoon at Niagara Falls and resides in Orrington, Maine.

**Marc Andrew Pantazis** to Anna Gaynor Jean in Manchester, New Hampshire. They live in Lincoln, Rhode Island.

**Michael D. Dwelley** to Tara C. LaPlant on September 3, 2005, in Baileyville, Maine. They spent their honeymoon in Europe and reside in Unity, Maine.

**Laura Roberts** to **William Morrison** on January 14, 2006, in Salem, Massachusetts. They

## Recently Married?

Why not share your happy news with your UMaine friends and classmates?

Send your information (date and location, honeymoon, place of residence, etc.), and if possible, a wedding photo to:

abigail.zelz@umit.maine.edu or mail to: Alumni Publications, P.O. Box 550, Orono, ME 04473.



# Weddings

honeymooned in the Cayman Islands and reside in the Salem area.

**Abigail S. Ring** to Douglas DiPasquale, on October 8, 2005, in Bethel, Maine. They traveled to Aruba for their honeymoon and reside in Maine.

## 2001

**Kelsie Ouellette** to **Jeffrey Lee '03** on September 24, 2005. The couple lives in Belgrade, Maine.

**Kristen Roy** to **Nathan Deleault** on August 6, 2005, in Allentown, New Hampshire. They honeymooned in Durango, Colorado, and live in Lyme, New Hampshire.

**Erin Chavarie** to **Charles Ingalls** on November 8, 2005, in Jamaica. They reside in Machias, Maine.

**Aaron John Economou** to Kari Anne Siviski on October 1, 2005, in Ocean Point, Maine. They honeymooned in Antigua and live in Kittery, Maine.

**Kathryn Marie Hamm** to **Marc A. Sawyer '99** on August 13, 2005, in Portland, Maine. They honeymooned in Aruba and reside in Limerick, Maine.

## 2002

**Christin Taylor** to **Ricky Dubois '97** on October 22, 2005, in Orrington, Maine. The couple resides in Bucksport, Maine.

**Kevin Jarvis** to Lindsay Hogle on October 8, 2005, in Highgate, Vermont. They reside in Essex, Vermont.

**Alexandra Henderson** to Eric O'Brien on November 11, 2005, in Atkinson, New Hampshire. They spent their honeymoon in St. Lucia and reside in Manchester, New Hampshire.

**Maryann Morin** to Nathan Keith on October 7, 2005, in Newcastle, Maine. They honeymooned in Costa Rica and live in Fal-

mouth, Massachusetts.

## 2003

**Jane McKinney** to Samuel Kaler on October 29, 2005, in Southport, Maine. They honeymooned in Vieques and live on Squirrel Island, Maine.

**Lyndsey Melvin** to **Robert Patton '04** on September 9, 2005, in Dedham, Maine. They reside in Fairborn, Ohio.

**Abbey Hodgman** to Brian Lafrance on September 17, 2005, in Jackson, New Hampshire. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and lives in Topsham, Maine.

**Rebecca Palmer** to **Shawn Bugbee** on September 1, 2005, in Mapleton, Maine. They live in Mapleton.

**Andrea Kane** to Andrew Ashton on October 29, 2005, in Ellsworth. They honeymooned in New York City and reside in Stoke-on-Trent, England.



**Carmelle J. Coté '92** was married to **John E. Terborgh** on October 8, 2005, in Shelburne, Vermont.

**Andrea M. Surette** to Shaun Ackerly on June 3, 2005, in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. They reside in Portland, Maine.

## 2004



**Aimee Turcotte '00** and **Jeffrey Austin Cary '97** (top step) were married on July 16 on Pond Island, Maine. In front of the wedding couple are fellow UMaine alumni (left to right): **Leeanne Warner Parks '97**, **Jill Flaherty '99**, **Travis Jacques '98**, and **Charles Allen '97**.

**Joshua Johnston** to Jaclyn Neil on July 2, 2005, in Farmington, Maine. They honeymooned in the Poconos and live in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

**Amanda Smith** to Darby Higgins on September 10, 2005, in Orland, Maine. The couple spent their honeymoon at Foxwoods and resides in Ellsworth.

**Renee Sanfacon** to Bradley Hardy on October 8, 2005, in York, Maine. The couple planned a honeymoon in Rome.

**Kati Richards** to Wayne Sawyer on July 3, 2005, in Bar Harbor, Maine. After a honeymooned in Hawaii they live in Trenton, Maine.

**Jessica Monroe Bulloch** to Matthew Page Damon on September 10, 2005, in Boothbay, Maine. They honeymooned in Mexico and live in Brewer, Maine.

**Adam Fish** to Kassandra Tewhey on July 23, 2005, in Acadia National Park on Sand Beach. The couple resides in Portland.

## 2005

**Elizabeth Ann Gillespie** to **Jonathan A. Bilodeau '03** on May 28, 2005, in Fairfield, Maine. They spent their honeymoon in New Hampshire and reside in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Robert Lightbody** to Meghan Collins on July 23, 2005, in Hinckley, Maine. They spent their honeymoon at White Point Beach, Nova Scotia, and live in Orrington, Maine.

**Stephanie Lewis** to Dean Nickles, on October 14, 2005, in Dedham, Maine. They took a honeymoon in the Bahamas and reside in Oakland, Maine.

**Amy Lee Hanscom** to Christopher Paul Warren on October 9, 2005, in Hinckley, Maine. They honeymooned in southern California and live in Fairfield, Maine.



# Deaths

For more complete obituaries log on to: [mainealumni.com](http://mainealumni.com)

**1926**

**Ethel Maude Andrews**, 101, from Old Town, on March 19, 2006.

**Helen Natalie Mayo**, 100, from Fort Myers, Florida, on March 1, 2006.

**1929**

**Herbert Eugene Sargent**, 100, from Stillwater, Maine, on April 9, 2006.

**1932**

**Roscoe "Ross" Chaney Masterman**, 94, from Glens Falls, New York, and San Antonio, Texas, on November 27, 2005.

**Philip "Doc" Manson Williams**, 95, from Oakland, Maine, on January 4, 2006.

**1933**

**Pauline "Polly" Anna Cohen**, from Bangor, on January 15, 2006.

**Mildred Corinne Brawn**

**Cookson**, 95, from Dover, Delaware, and Bangor, on February 19, 2006.

**Doris "Dot" Alberta Hutchinson Wiggett**, 93, from Northfield Falls, Vermont, on February 13, 2006.

**1934**

**Frank Rodwell Blaisdell**, 93, from Charlottesville, Virginia, on January 31, 2006.

**1935**

**Janet Brown Hobbie**, 90, from Allentown, Pennsylvania, in November 2003.

**Sidney Silverman**, 92, from West Palm Beach on July 24, 2005.

**1936**

**Selvin "Hershey" Hirshon**, D.D.S., 91, from Portland, on February 5, 2006.

**Donald "Don" Goodwin**

**Johnson**, M.D., 90, from Bar Mills, Maine, on December 11, 2005.

**Alice "Al" Gammon Crowell**

**Lord**, 91, from Falmouth, Maine, on January 3, 2006.

**Robert "Bob" Waldo Simpson**, 91, from Corinna, Maine, and Colonial Beach, Virginia, on October 15, 2005.

**1937**

**Wendall "Czar" Swanton Brewster**, 90, from Dunnellon, Florida, on January 1, 2006.

**Louise Eliza Hastings Eldridge**, 91, from Canaan and Salisbury, Connecticut, on December 19, 2005.

**Elizabeth "Lib" Marion Story Hoyt**, 89, from Easton, Maine, on January 20, 2006.

**George "Mac" William McLellan**, 89, from Durham, North Carolina, on February 9, 2006.

**Lawrence McLellan Noddin**, 91, from Topsham and Lamoine, Maine, on February 8, 2006.

**Paula Mercedes Vallely Stott**, 89, from Portland, on October 31, 2005.

**1938**

**Nelson "Nels" Bradford Carter**, 89, from Pittsford, New York, on December 28, 2005.

**Rose Frances Whitmore Germick**, 91, from Champions, Texas, on January 7, 2006.

**Ruth Alice Robinson Grant**, 88, from Hampden and Stillwater, Maine, on December 12, 2005.

**Ida Mae Hart Harding**, 88, from Rockland, Maine, on December 27, 2005.

**1939**

**Louis "Louie" Joseph Bourgoin**, 88, from Peabody, Massachusetts, on January 14, 2006.

**Edwin "Ed" Byer**, M.D., 86, from Oakland, California, on October 2, 2004.

**James "Jim" W. Cunningham**, 88, from Old Town, on February 6, 2006.

**Benjamin "Ugh" Walter Ela, Jr.**, 88, from Lemon Grove, California, on November 28, 2005.

**Kendrick "Ken" Yale Hodgdon**, 88, from La Vale, Maryland, on December 13, 2004.

**Richard "Ike" Holmes**, 89, from Presque Isle and Northeast Harbor, Maine, on January 16, 2006.



**Herbert Eugene Sargent**  
Class of 1929

Herbert Sargent died on April 9, 2006, at his home in Stillwater. He was 100.

After attending the University of Maine, Herb bought a gravel truck with his father and uncle and began his successful career in the construction business. Over the next 80 years, the company he founded, H.E. Sargent, Inc., grew into one of the prominent construction companies on the East Coast.

**George "Tuddy" Roberts**

**Sawyer**, 88, from Merrill, Maine, on December 8, 2005.

**1940**

**Marcia Jannette Finks Bell**, 87, from Portland, on January 4, 2006.

**William "Cookie" Sherwood Cook**, 86, from St. George, Maine, on February 13, 2006.

**Mary Esther Page Grindell**, 87, from Lincoln, Maine, on December 26, 2005.

**Emil Franklin Hawes**, 88, from Albany, New York, on March 2, 2006.

**George Coakley Swanton**, 90, from Dexter and Rockland, Maine, on December 22, 2005.

**1941**

**Kenneth "Ken" Deane Bell**, 84, from Stratford, Connecticut, on June 22, 2004.

**Winnifred Blanchard Oliver Dingley**, 84, from Farmington, Maine, on December 17, 2003.

**Arthur "Art" Louis Kelley**, 89, from Allagash, Maine, on March 19, 2006.

**Carroll "Morsie" Edwin Morse**, 88, from Brunswick and Woolwich, Maine, on February 3, 2006.

**Dorothy "Dottie" Hopkins Wing Nystrom**, 85, from Hendersonville, North Carolina, on November 29, 2005.

**Elsie Leilla Kierstead Paul**, 98, from Port Charlotte, Florida, on November 14, 2005.

**Frank "Franco" Price Shearer**, 85, from Daphne, Alabama, on July 17, 2005.

**William "Saint" Albert St. Germain**, 88, from Redmond, Washington, on February 27, 2006.

**Frederick "Ding" Foster Tracy**, 87, from Fort Worth, Texas, on December 7, 2005.

**1942**

**William "Bill" Richard**

**Beckmann**, 83, from Oregon, on May 15, 2003.

**Alton "Al" Grover Bonney, Jr.**, 85, from Ringwood, New Jersey, on February 25, 2006.

**Lois Mabel Southard Chute**, 89, from Portland on March 7, 2006.

**Carrol "Dav" Dwight Davis**, 85, from Fort Myers, Florida, on February 23, 2006.

**Ralph William Haney**, 87, from West Palm Beach, Florida, and Warren, Indiana, on November 3, 2001.

**Harris Linwood McLean, Jr.**, 86, from Sullivan Harbor, Maine, on March 13, 2006.

**1943**

**Robert Hartson Day**, 86, from Woodstock, Maine, on March 5, 2006.

**Gordon Pearce Smith**, 87, from



# Deaths

Bangor, on December 11, 2005.

**Wendell "Stick" Hayward Stickney**, 85, from Ligonier, Pennsylvania, on December 8, 2005.

**1944**

**Albert Clarence Brewer, Jr.**, 82, from Presque Isle, Maine, January 14, 2006.

**Alan Dodge Crockett**, 85, from Addison, Maine, on March 6, 2006.

**Richard "Dick" Henry Fuller**, 86, from Cumberland, Maine, on February 22, 2006.

**Harvey David Hillson**, 82, from Glastonbury, Connecticut, and Old Town, on January 12, 2006.

**Frederick "Boxcar" Sawtelle Jones, Jr.**, 83, from Honolulu, Hawaii, on May 17, 2005.

**1945**

**Clifford Warren Davis**, 81, from Springvale, Maine, on December 17, 2005.

**Richard "Dick" Carter Lord**, 81, from Malden, Massachusetts, on November 24, 2005.

**Raymond Elwood Neal, Jr.**, 82, from Marblehead, Massachusetts, on August 23, 2005.

**Ethel "Evvie" Ann Tarr Smyth**, 82, from Amherst, Massachusetts, on March 4, 2006.

**Robert "Sam" Nelson Varnum**, 83, from Edmonds, Washington, on December 19, 2005.

**1946**

**Fred Almon Basford**, 81, from Stockton Springs, Maine, on March 4, 2006.

**Richard Merry Haggett**, 80, from Stuart, Florida, and Boothbay Harbor, Maine, on January 5, 2006.

**Charles "Hal" Harold Jack, Jr.**, 81, from Lakewood, New Jersey, on November 6, 2004.

**1948**

**Chester "Chet" Allen Darling**, 87, from Denver, Colorado, on February 7, 2006.

**Merle Francis Goff**, 82, from Bangor, on March 17, 2006.



**Cynthia Nelson**  
Class of 1955

Cynthia "Cyn" Nelson died on February 14, 2006. She was 72. In addition to her UMaine degree, she received a master's degree from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. from the University of California. She went on to become a professor at the American University in Cairo. She will be posthumously awarded the 2006 Alumni Career Award at the University of Maine reunion in June.

**Clyde Robert Jones**, 79, from Bangor, on February 27, 2006.

**Freeland Jones**, 82, from Veazie, Maine, on January 13, 2006.

**Lucian "Doc" Odel Savage**, 90, from Palmyra and Stetson, Maine, on January 10, 2006.

**Joanne "Jo" Ruth Chellis Wilson**, 79, from Falmouth Foreside, Maine, on February 12, 2006.

**1949**

**Myer "Mike" Byer**, 74, from Palm Beach, Florida, and Bangor, on December 4, 1997.

**Albert "Al" Percy Cox**, M.D., 81, from Los Alamitos, California, on January 25, 2006.

**Joseph Wesley Dale**, 81, from Rockmart, Georgia, on January 10,

2006.

**Arthur LaFond Geary**, 81, from Westford, Massachusetts, on November 17, 2005.

**Donald "Bull" Chester Kinney**, 80, from Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, on January 29, 2006.

**Daniel "Rip" Elwood Sylvester**, 83, from South Portland, on March 5, 2006.

**Joseph Spencer White, Jr.**, 81, from Stanhope, New Jersey, on December 27, 2005.

**1950**

**William Francis Carrigan, Jr.**, 84, from Lewiston, Maine, on February 27, 2006.

**Jean Dennison Conley**, 82, from Bremen, Maine, on March 2, 2006.

**Robert "Bob" Henry Elliott**, 83, from Bucksport, Maine, on February 14, 2006.

**James "Jim" William Harris**, 84, from Mattapoisett, Massachusetts, on December 21, 2005.

**Donald "Bud" Hiram Hathorn, Jr.**, 81, from Bangor, on March 9, 2006.

**James "J.P." Palmer Libby**, 77, from Bangor and Brewer, on December 22, 2005.

**Robert Evan Marston**, 83, from Dover, New Hampshire, on November 28, 2005.

**Harry Milton Masters**, 92, from Bristol Mills, Maine, on January 7, 2006.

**William "Bill" Reed Miller**, 76, from Waldoboro, Maine, on March 3, 2006.

**Ralph Antonio Piscopo**, 82, from Oxford, Massachusetts, on March 9, 2006.

**Vinal John Welch**, 79, from Veazie, Maine, on February 12, 2006.

**1951**

**John "Polock" Raymond Conroy**, 84, from Portland, on March 12, 2006.

**Larry "Boleo" Knight Mahaney**, 76, from West Palm Beach, Florida, on February 12, 2006.

**William Burdett Moore**, 78, from

Stowe, Vermont, on January 29, 2006.

**Galen "Gay" Helstrom Peary**, 68, from Stuart, Florida, on May 3, 1999.

**Theodore Malcolm Stackhouse**, 77, from Portland, on January 19, 2006.

**1952**

**Wilber Alvin Cooper**, 90, from Topsham, Maine, on January 16, 2006.

**1953**

**Vincent "Russ" Russell**

**DeCourcy**, 85, from Largo, Florida on December 4, 2005.

**Patrick "Pat" Henry Dionne**, 77, from Severna Park, Maryland, on January 13, 2006.

**Christine "Chris" Elizabeth Hurd LaFlamme**, 75, from Old Town, on December 29, 2005.

**George Lewis Mayne**, 75, from Sandia Park, New Mexico, on December 15, 2005.

**Robert "Bob" Edward**

**Ostreicher**, 75, from Westport, Massachusetts, on November 24, 2005.

**Richard William Pitman**, 74, from Portland, on December 2, 2005.

**Merton "Mert" Edward Poore**, 83, from Wells, Maine, on January 23, 2006.

**1954**

**Charles "Chuck" Knowlton**

**Hewins, Jr.**, 73, from South Bristol, Maine, on February 12, 2006.

**Leonard Donald McGinnis**, 73, from Wells, Maine, on December 7, 2005.

**Herbert Frank Morang, Jr.**, 81, from Bolivar, Tennessee, on December 12, 2005.

**Robert "Bob" Coffin White**, 74, from Danvers, Massachusetts, and Bangor, on March 14, 2006.

**1955**

**Alvin Jay Axley**, 68, from Teaneck, New Jersey, on September 28, 2001.

**Cynthia Nelson**, 72, from Cairo, Egypt, on February 14, 2006.



**Timothy Robert O'Donnell**, 81, from Manchester, New Hampshire, on January 7, 2006.

**James "Jim" George Sucy**, 75, from Hilton, New York, on January 14, 2006.

#### 1956

**Carl Russell Blake**, 74, from Old Orchard Beach, Maine, on February 20, 2006.

**Jessie "Jess" Eugenia Sargent Boivin**, 71, from Hampden and Old Town, on February 6, 2006.

**Harold "Buz" Rushton Gerry**, 73, from Medway, Maine, on January 24, 2006.

**George Francis Tillson**, 77, from Gilbertsville, Kentucky, on February 24, 2006.

#### 1957

**Bruce Redlon Burden**, 71, from Scarborough, Maine, on March 4, 2006.

**William "Bill" Myron Earle**, 70, from Damariscotta, Maine, on December 9, 2005.

**Kenneth "Hutch" Carlton Hutchinson**, 76, from Owl's Head, Maine, on December 31, 2005.

**Robert Hartley McLellan**, 74, from Portland, on February 21, 2006.

**James "Jim" Roy Nicklas**, 73, from Abilene, Texas, on April 19, 2004.

**Clifford "Tiff" Philip Tiffany, Jr.**, 67, from Brooklyn, Connecticut, on February 17, 2003.

#### 1958

**David "Dave" Windsor Jones**, 68, from Sunrise Skypark, Idaho, on June 28, 2005.

**Albert "Roge" Roger Legare**, 75, from Fairfield, Connecticut, on February 22, 2006.

**Allan Leroy Smallidge**, 73, from Winter Harbor, Maine, on March 4, 2006.

**William "Bill" Tarazewich**, 69, from Morgan's Point, Texas, on December 28, 2005.

**David "Dave" Arthur Waite**, 69, from Calais, Maine, on February 4, 2006.

## Remembering Lawrence "Larry" Mahaney '51, '55G

# A Life of Achievement and Generosity

University of Maine sports lost one of its most loyal and generous supporters in February with the passing of businessman and philanthropist Larry Mahaney '51, '55G. Larry died from a massive stroke while in Florida to celebrate his 76th birthday with his family.

Larry was born in Easton, Maine, and grew up in Fort Fairfield. He was an outstanding athlete in high school and college, serving as captain of the UMaine basketball team in his senior year while earning a degree in education. He would later receive a master's degree in education from UMaine.

After getting his undergraduate degree Larry served for two years in the Air Force, stationed in North Africa. After his discharge he taught and coached high school football and basketball. He achieved success as a coach and his 1957 Brewer High football team won the Maine State Championship.

One of the many young men who Larry had a big influence on at Brewer was Joe Ferris '66, who went on to star for the Black Bears in the 1964 College World Series.

"He was a smart guy, a tough guy who was demanding and confident," Ferris said of Larry in a *Bangor Daily News* story. Ferris added that Larry became a mentor and inspiration for many, in his commitment and support of athletics for young people.



In 1962, Larry brought that confident coaching approach to the world of business when he joined Webber Oil Company. In just seven years he became that company's third president.

Under Larry's leadership and innovative thinking, Webber grew and diversified into real estate, insurance, retail gasoline stations, and convenience stores. At the time of his retirement in 2004, Webber owned 40

gasoline stations and had more than 70,000 heating fuel customers. Larry was also a partner in a business that owned several hotels and restaurants in Maine.

Larry was well known as a civic leader. Among his many volunteer activities, he served as a director of the Bangor Chamber of Commerce and as chair of the local March of Dimes.

But nowhere was Larry's spirit of giving and service more evident than at his alma mater. His involvement at UMaine included serving as chair of the Development Council, chair of the Black Bear Association, and president of the "M" Club. He was also an important contributor and fundraiser for the Maine Center for the Arts and the Alfond Arena. He was the major contributor and supporter for the Mahaney Clubhouse, the baseball team, and just recently, with his son Kevin, provided \$1 mil-

lion for the new UMaine practice dome. The university's baseball facility is named The Mahaney Diamond in his honor.

Larry was awarded honorary degrees from both UMaine and Thomas College. He also received the alumni association's Back Bear Award and the 1995 Harold Alfond Award for Athletic Philanthropy.



Larry Mahaney as captain of the basketball team in his senior year at UMaine.



# Deaths

**1959**

**William Russell Currier**, 67, from Putnam, Connecticut, on January 3, 2006.

**Ray Stevens Edwards**, 72, from Hampton, New Hampshire, on February 18, 2006.

**Garfield Cyrus King**, 77, from Fort Kent, on January 20, 2005.

**Rupert Franklin Stafford**, 75, from Stillwater, Maine, on January 8, 2006.

**David Littlefield Wells**, 68, on October 3, 2005.

**1960**

**Jane "Janie" Carol Small Lord**, 68, from Brunswick, Maine, on December 12, 2005.

**1961**

**Michael William Evans**, 68, from East Hartford, Connecticut, on December 26, 2005.

**Rena Wheeler French Lowell**, 97, from Veazie, on February 25, 2006.

**Robert Ruel Shaw**, 66, from Punta Gorda, Florida, on February 13, 2006.

**1962**

**Joan Lee Guse Probert**, 65, from Searsport, Maine, on February 17, 2006.

**Timothy Marshall Rush**, 66, from Goldsboro, North Carolina, on August 20, 2005.

**Joy Keene McMore Smith**, 65, from Wells, Maine, on December 30, 2005.

**Lucy "Lucifer" Lee Smith Trial**, 66, from Waldoboro, Maine, on December 26, 2005.

**1963**

**Susan "Sue" Clare Edel Chase**, 64, from Willbrook Plantation, South Carolina, on December 2, 2005.

**Merton Adelbert Nickerson**, 64, from Scarborough, Maine, on January 12, 2006.

**David Edward Wilson**, 66, from Poland, Maine, on February 13, 2006.

**1964**

**Blanche Violette Daigle**, 82, from

Dexter, Maine, on January 4, 2006.

**Turner Dexter Gregoire**, 96, from Wiscasset, Maine, on March 15, 2006.

**Barbara Lewis Hermes**, 82, from Essex Junction, Vermont, and Stillwater, Maine, on December 15, 2005.

**Philip Hilton Soule**, 64, from Sutton, Vermont, on January 15, 2006.

**1965**

**Marshall "Marsh" Edward Hall**, 62, from Portland, on January 8, 2006.

**Eleanor Gray MacLaughlin**, 90, from Orono, on February 12, 2006.

**Elizabeth "Betty" M. Rea**, 83, from Southwest Harbor, Maine, on February 14, 2006.

**Charles "Charlie" Francis Washburn**, 61, from Perry, Maine, on December 14, 2005.

**1966**

**Mary Margaret Slavic**, 60, from Lexington, Massachusetts, on October 31, 2004.

**1967**

**Robert Richard McGillicuddy**, 61, from Scituate, Massachusetts, on February 14, 2006.

**Reginald Herbert McKenney**, 75, from Virginia Beach, Virginia, on February 13, 2006.

**Hazel Coffin Springer**, 91, from Bangor, on December 8, 2005.

**Norman Gerald Tardiff, Jr.**, 61, from Middleboro, Massachusetts, on January 25, 2006.

**1968**

**Sharon Laura Littlefield Kittredge**, 58, from Freeport, Maine, on February 1, 2006.

**1969**

**Arlueen Carman Clark**, 88, from Camden, Maine, on November 28, 2005.

**Rose Paterson Brogan Ricker**, 84, from Buckfield, Maine, on September 24, 2005.

**1971**

**Judith Esther Klain Haskell**, 72, from Bethel, Maine, on December 23, 2005.

**Patricia "Trish" Molly Towle Dow McCue**, 57, from Scarborough, Maine, on December 12, 2005.

**Arthur Cecil Woodward**, 83, from Gray, Maine, on December 16, 2005.

**1972**

**Karl Burke Colbath**, 55, from Augusta, on January 16, 2006.

**Margaret Rideout Hoyt**, 83, from Houlton, Maine, on March 21, 2006.

**Linda Faye Beckerman Lohman**, 55, from Winslow, Maine, on February 21, 2006.

**1973**

**Olive Rae White Gibson**, 87, from Surry, Maine, on December 12, 2005.

**Geneva Frost Laaka**, 86, from Venice, Florida, and Cushing, Maine, on February 15, 2001.

**Donna Marie Wilson Rogers**, 60, from Bangor, on December 31, 2005.

**1974**

**Garth Maynard Gooding**, 75, from Houlton, Maine, on January 6, 2006.

**Robert Johnson Smith, Sr.**, 67, from Greenville, Maine, on March 7, 2002.

**Judy Verna Nickerson Yori**, 53, from Searsport, Maine, on November 22, 2005.

**1975**

**Gail Reeves Darlington**, 52, from Saco, Maine, on February 13, 2006.

**Alan D. Johnson**, 52, from Lewiston, on March 4, 2006.

**1976**

**Daniel Steven Chasse**, 52, from Houston, Texas, on December 23, 2005.

**John Edwin Houghton**, 53, from Deltona, Florida, on December 11, 2005.

**1977**

**Mary Francis Simcock Lynch**, 51, from Waterville, Maine, on January 16, 2006.

**Richard Ken Roy**, O.D. 51, from Fort Kent, Maine, on February 6,

2006.

**1978**

**Robert Edward Dinsmore**, 78, from Eastport, Maine, on September 7, 1999.

**Clyde W. Sproul**, 54, from Waterville, Maine, on February 15, 2006.

**1979**

**Leroy Stanley Day**, 49, from Sullivan, Maine, on February 16, 2006.

**William Joe Lopez**, 64, from Tucumcari, New Mexico, on August 1, 2003.

**Randolph Brian Parker**, 49, from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, on December 16, 2005.

**1980**

**Cynthia Ann Holmes-Hoefel**, 47, from Columbia, South Carolina, on December 28, 2005.

**Martha Muskie**, 47, from Washington, D.C., on January 2, 2006.

**1981**

**Jacqueline Smith Edgren**, 82, from Bangor, and Syracuse, New York, on August 3, 2005.

**1983**

**Laurel Jean Dana**, 43, from Victor, Idaho, on January 5, 2006.

**Denise Liane Messier**, 52, from Warren, Maine, on January 2, 2006.

**1986**

**Mildred Jean Gass Spearin**, 74, from Baileyville, Maine, on January 29, 2006.

**1988**

**Tamara Kay Thurston**, 47, from Bucksport, Maine, and Tucson, Arizona, on January 6, 2006.

**1989**

**Diana McCurdy Russ**, 70, from Sun City Center, Florida, on December 13, 2005.

**1995**

**Leila Munson Dadmun**, 33, from Somerville, Massachusetts, on December 21, 2005.

**Complete obits online at: [mainealumni.com](http://mainealumni.com)**





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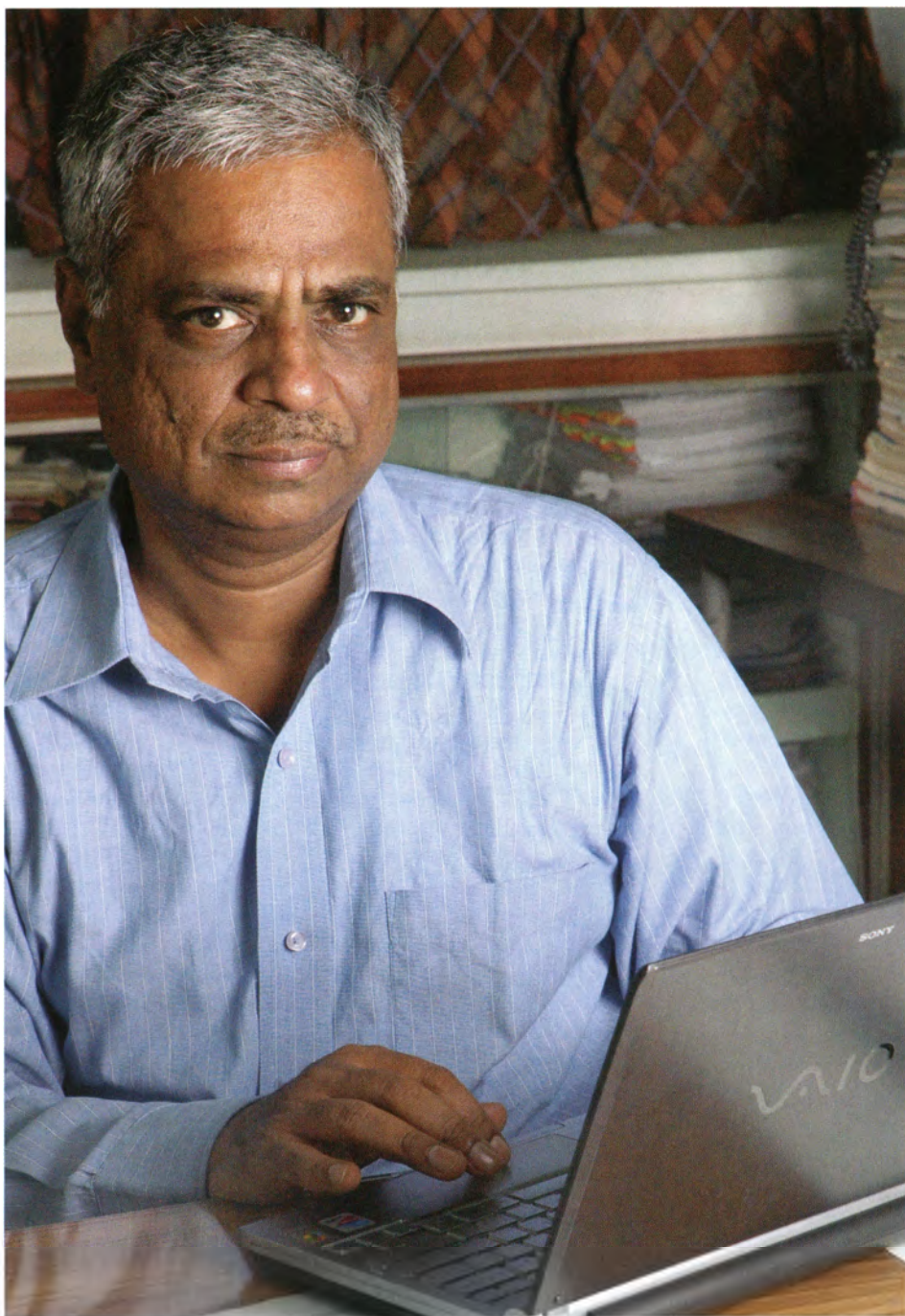


# Innovation with Compassion

That's what technology guru Ashok Jhunjhunwala '77G, '79 Ph.D. incorporates toward his goal of helping millions of less fortunate people in his native India.

By Douglas Allen

Photograph by R. Ranganathan



Engineer Ashok Jhunjhunwala '77G, '79 Ph.D. may be little-known in Maine, but he is considered a national treasure in his native India. One of UMaine's most distinguished graduates, Ashok integrates an exceptional level of innovative scientific creativity and accomplishment with a profound sense of moral conscience and commitment to serving the well-being of others. Not concerned with personal wealth, power, and privilege, he is motivated to use science and technology to serve the needs of the most disadvantaged, suffering human beings. With a Gandhian sense of simplifying one's needs, he lives simply with his family in a modest apartment on his university campus, has few possessions and little wealth, but still enjoys a very high quality of life.

In an emerging powerful nation of over one billion Indians and full of remarkable scientists and engineers, Ashok Jhunjhunwala's career stands out as a hopeful model for the survival and flourishing of India, the United States, and the rest of humanity.

To give only a brief overview of Ashok's accomplishments, he was honored with the Padma Shri Award in 2002 for distinguished service in science, technology, and telecommunications. In India, the Padma Shri Award is considered one of the highest national honors. Each year one

*Douglas Allen is professor of philosophy at the University of Maine and was the 2000 Distinguished Maine Professor.*



or two scientists are included in this very select group of about thirty distinguished Indians. In addition, Ashok received the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in 1998 for outstanding contributions in the field of engineering sciences. One award is given each year, and this is often considered the most prestigious science award in India. Ashok now serves as a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the prime minister of India. Only eight scientists from all of India serve on this influential body that meets regularly to help shape India's science, technology, and economic future.

While Ashok was at UMaine, from 1975 to 1979, I worked very closely with him on local, national, and international issues and struggles. We also worked with other Indians on issues of democracy and human rights in India during the crisis of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's "Emergency" rule. During the past two decades, Ashok and I have maintained a close relationship. I have visited him often at the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras and have frequently observed and marveled at his growing accomplishments.

### THE MAINE DIFFERENCE

Born in 1953 and raised in Calcutta, Ashok was an undergraduate student at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur. I always wondered why this brilliant student, with friends attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other elite science institutions, enrolled at the University of Maine. The story is instructive of Ashok's character.

Ashok had an Indian friend who was a graduate student at UMaine and encouraged him to apply. Professor John Vetelino of the department of electrical engineering saw Ashok's resumé and wrote him a very warm, personal letter in which he invited him to join the graduate program. Ashok immediately accepted. Later he got offers from other universities. Against the advice of others, he decided to honor his commitment to UMaine. As Ashok told me, he was touched by Professor Vetelino's kind offer, and for him integrity and personal commitment are values to uphold in one's life.

He never regretted his decision.

UMaine was an overwhelmingly positive experience for Ashok Jhunjhunwala. As he describes it, he found Maine to be an incredibly beautiful place, and he fell in love with it. At the department of electrical engineering, Vetelino was his major guide, but professor John Field and other faculty also were of great assistance to him. As a graduate student, he appreciated the fact that he got a lot of individual time interacting with the faculty. UMaine only had a master's degree in electrical engineering, and Ashok's original idea was to go on to a larger science university for his Ph.D. However, because of his positive experiences, he decided to stay. The university then created a new program in physics and electrical engineering, and Ashok was its

first Ph.D. student. He finished his M.S. and Ph.D. in just four years.

While at UMaine, Ashok emerged as a leader in the peace and justice movement. In my 32 years at the University, I have never observed any other international student who was as involved or as effective as a peace and justice educator and activist. When he came to Maine, Ashok already had a very sophisticated analysis of economic and political issues of oppression and exploitation. However, as he describes it, Maine really broadened him and changed his life. Mainly working through the Maine Peace Action Committee (MPAC), he was exposed to Scott Nearing of Maine, the singer Holly Near, Russ Johnson of the American Friends Service Committee, and other dedicated individu-

## Bringing Telecommunications to Rural India

Ashok Jhunjhunwala had long known that the key to a better life for poor rural Indians was affordable telecommunications. The problem was that traditional telephone systems use expensive copper wires. For India to go from one percent of homes having telephones to 15 or 20 percent would be prohibitively costly. The only solution would be to find a way to eliminate the copper wires. And with the creation of corDECT, a wireless loop system, that's just what Jhunjhunwala and his colleagues did.

"Wireless, in loop technology, is basically replacing the wires or copper in the local loop with a wireless system," he explained in a 1997 interview. "We have our own exchange, a 'compact base station' which can be mounted either on the rooftop of a building or poles in the street. Each of these base stations transmits on a wireless medium to offices or houses. At homes or offices, you have a subscriber access unit consisting of either a portable subscriber unit known as a handset or the fixed subscriber access unit known as a wallset. From here you can connect to a regular telephone, fax, or modem. Each of these base stations can serve up to 150 subscribers."

The new system costs just a fraction of traditional wire technology and one-third of existing wireless technology. The goal of providing telephone service to India's 700,000 villages was achieved, as was the goal of providing 100 million telephone connections. Now Ashok Jhunjhunwala and his colleagues are involved in various projects that are going beyond minimal telecommunications to providing such things as internet services, medical technology services, ATM services, and more.





als. Through MPAC he was challenged to develop his analysis of issues of violence, war, and imperialism. And while in Maine, he became aware of environmental issues.

As an Indian, he personally encountered racism for the first time. He was also exposed for the first time to others focusing on gender oppression and feminism. One of his closest friends was a lesbian and a student leader on campus. She and others continually challenged his preconceived ideas and judgments.

In short, Maine made a huge difference in the kind of person Ashok would become. When he left Maine in 1979, Dr. Ashok Jhunjunwala was very different from the young student who had entered the graduate program.

### LESSONS FROM MAINE

Many lessons emerged from Ashok's experiences in Maine and the U.S.A. It was in Maine that he developed his remarkable self-confidence. The elite IITs provide a level of unsurpassed scientific and technology preparation. However, partially resulting from the history of colonial domination and status of India as an underdeveloped "Third World" country, there was a general assumption that the West is always best. Even talented IIT professors felt the need to have Western scientists acknowledge and confirm the value of their work, as if this were a necessary scientific method of verification.

What Ashok and numerous other Indian students found when they came to the U.S. is that they compared favorably with American students and that they were capable of doing excellent work. Ashok handled his graduate studies with relative ease and his work was at the very highest level.

This lesson has had a profound effect. Ashok developed self-confidence that he and other Indian scientists can do work at the highest levels of scientific achievement. There is no need to feel inferior or be intimidated by the West.

"We do not want the United States to dictate to us or dominate us," Ashok explains. "We want equal relations of mutual

respect and cooperation."

Indeed, Ashok states that the best thing that has happened in India in recent years is a growing self-confidence, mainly in the urban areas—he hopes that confidence will spread to rural India.

In Maine Ashok also discovered that he is a natural leader. Among the international students and in the department of electrical engineering, he became a leader, mentoring and helping other students to succeed. In MPAC and his other peace and justice work, he was recognized as a leader who cared deeply about others, had brilliant analysis, and exhibited a strong will, courage, and perseverance.

Today, in India, Ashok Jhunjunwala is widely recognized as the leader and catalyst for numerous innovative science and technology projects.

In addition, he believes that Maine really expanded his views. Ashok grew up with a strong commitment to the Indian concept of *dharma* that involves social and moral obligation and duty. In Calcutta, he understood this sense of social and moral service in terms of obligations to the large, extended, joint family. As a student in IIT Kanpur, this came to include service to the nation. And at UMaine, his new experiences broadened his consciousness so that it included service internationally. In this regard, Ashok's start-up projects involving scientists and companies are directed at improving India, especially the most disadvantaged villages.

He also works internationally on joint ventures with other dedicated scientists and companies. He is even willing to share his technology with scientists in other countries who are dedicated to improving the lives of their own citizens.

While in Maine, Ashok also came to realize the need for tolerance, diversity, and complexity. They were important values for him when he returned to India. Ashok recognized the necessity for tolerance of diverse approaches and viewpoints and for humility when struggling with the complexity of contemporary India. Such values have been essential in allowing him to be so successful in formulating and ap-

plying science and technology for social good.

### A REMARKABLE ATTITUDE

Ashok Jhunjunwala is professor and former chair of the department of electrical engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras in Chennai, India. He joined the faculty at IIT Madras in 1981, shortly after he returned permanently to India.

Ashok leads the Telecommunications and Computer Network Group (TeNet) at IIT Madras. TeNet has a vision of "World-class Technology at an Affordable Price." It has developed a number of telecommunications and computer network systems and has incubated a number of technology companies aimed at the betterment of rural areas and emerging markets.

For some years, TeNet had the ambitious goal of enabling 100 million telephone and Internet connections in India. Having now achieved this, present goals include doubling the rural per capita gross domestic product of over 700 million Indians; enabling 50 million broadband connections; developing one or two billion-dollar socially-conscious product companies in India, and driving the next generation of international wireless standards specifically for India.

Ashok tells a remarkably revealing story about a conversation with his grandfather, who was a dedicated follower of Mahatma Gandhi. When Ashok first decided to go to the elite IIT Kanpur, he visited his grandfather in his village. He was told a story with this advice: "Never ask, 'but what can I do?'" Ashok had no idea what this meant. A decade later, after returning to India, he once again visited his grandfather and asked him about his earlier advice.

His grandfather retold the story. In the 1950s, when Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru decided to establish the elite and expensive Indian Institute of Technologies around India, the Gandhians did not know how to respond. How could egalitarian Gandhians support such costly education for the few? After nine months of debate, they concluded that such elite institutions were not necessarily in conflict with an



egalitarian society. Going back to ancient times, India had always supported the Nalandas and other institutions with the best teachers, students, and resources, even in the most difficult of times. The key point was the justification for such institutions in turning out the best-educated and most capable leaders. Such institutions would be judged solely on whether the society flourished.

Therefore, Ashok's grandfather repeated that Ashok, in receiving such a privileged education made possible by the support of society, could never ask: "but what can I do?" If you could not do it, who else could? Do not look for excuses. Giving up is not an option.

"We scientists have many answers, and most of them are wrong," Ashok says. "This does not matter. What matters is that you keep trying until you succeed and contribute to the well-being of society."

For Ashok, this is his *dharma*, his social obligation, using his privileged education and special scientific knowledge for the benefit of others.

This attitude of service is reflected through Ashok's impressive work, especially in his commitment to rural India. In each of his innovative, challenging, and exciting projects, he evaluates success not in terms of the usual standards of maximizing profits from investments or obtaining greater technological control and domination.

By his standard, a successful science and technology project is one in which the livelihood and well-being of rural Indians is improved; the villagers become more self-confident, more empowered, and more in control of their lives; the usual flow of wealth and resources is reversed, not from cheap labor and resources in villages to the wealthy and powerful, but instead from those with privilege and power to those in villages in greatest need.

I have also observed how this attitude is reflected in the remarkably effective relationship Ashok has toward talented young Indian scientists. Typically, Ashok sets up numerous groups of young Indians working on specific science and technology



**"What matters is that  
you keep trying until  
you succeed and  
contribute to the  
well-being of society."**

projects.

Ashok is a no-nonsense leader, who can be very blunt and does not accept excuses for failure. His demanding style can be very intimidating until you realize what a caring and compassionate person he is. Young Indians are given tremendous freedom to work on challenging projects. Ashok instills in them a confidence that they are very capable of finding solutions and that they must succeed. They will usually fail, but that is not a problem. Learning from the failures and working together cooperatively with maximum freedom, you will eventually be successful. There is quick verification and gratification, since the technological innovations are rapidly applied to determine their value.

Repeatedly I've observed the tremendous motivation and excitement among these Indians and their impressive technological breakthroughs. Ashok has created an atmosphere in which they feel that their work is significant. They are working for a greater purpose, and their special knowledge and skill will contribute to the well-being of India.

This attitude is also reflected in another of Ashok's innovative and inspiring conceptions of science and technology.

For Ashok, most of science has the potential to become destructive and dangerous because it can involve a one-way application of knowledge. This scientific model often involves control, domination, and exploitation of nature and other human beings.

By way of contrast, Ashok emphasizes that each of us sees only part of the picture, and when we work together, complementing what each has to offer, we have a fuller, more adequate, scientific understanding. While scientists have specialized scientific knowledge, Indian villagers also have knowledge of local agriculture, traditional practices, and other important information from which scientists can learn. When scientists ignore such information, as well as the need for villagers to become involved and take responsibility for scientific developments, their technological projects can result in failure.

For Ashok, successful science is a two-way process that involves humility, tolerance, interaction, and mutual learning and development.

In conclusion, even without describing Ashok Jhunjhunwala's remarkable science and technology projects that are having such a profound effect in India, it should be clear that he is a brilliant innovative scientist with a deep conscience. Those of us in Maine can feel pride in the fact that the University of Maine played an important part in the development of such an exceptional scientist.\* I would like to thank Alankar Bandyopadhyay, associate of the Telecommunications and Computer Network Group (TeNet) at IIT Madras, for her assistance.



*Two UMaine alums are among the partners in Freeport's Cold River Vodka*

# A Brand New Maine "Spirit"



*By Jim Frick*

A neurosurgeon, a ski coach, a farmer, and a brewer—there's no question about it, it's a strange combination for a business partnership. What they all have in common is a commitment to develop a value-added product using all Maine resources that in some small way can help the state economy and at the same time preserve Maine's open spaces.

The result of their commitment is Cold River Vodka, a Freeport-based operation that produces a high-end vodka using Maine potatoes, Maine water, and Maine workers.

Why vodka? The seed for the idea was actually planted by the father of two of the partners, Donnie and Lee Thibodeau '74. The brothers grew up on the family potato farm in Presque Isle. Their father, who worked closely with the agriculture department at UMaine and was a close friend of former president Win Libby, used to tell the boys about the potato alcohol plant that operated during World War II.

"He used to talk about the idea of making a special vodka from potatoes," Lee Thibodeau (the neurosurgeon) remembers. "About three and a half years ago my brother Donnie (the farmer) and I were driving out to see Dad and Mom and he was talking to me about how, as a potato farmer, his value-added opportunities

were very limited. Then he brought up Dad's old vision of a potato vodka. I said, 'Donnie, that's a great idea!'"

Lee encouraged Donnie to pursue the possibility of a potato vodka. It just so happened that at the time, a good friend, and Lee's fraternity brother at UMaine, Bob Harkins '74 (the ski coach) had just left his position as a vice president at Sunday River Resort. Donnie gave Harkins a call.

"Donnie told me the potato industry in Maine was struggling," Harkins recalls. "He explained his idea of potato vodka and asked if I was willing to do some research and maybe enter into a partnership. I had just left my job and had some time so I agreed."

Harkins's research led him to the conclusion that there was a "real niche opportunity" for a high-end potato vodka.

"It was clear that vodka was growing in popularity and there was only one other potato vodka maker in the U.S.," he notes.

So the ski coach, the neurosurgeon, and the potato farmer started getting together to talk about how they could make the concept a reality. They quickly realized that they needed to know much more about the distilling process that would be involved.

Lee, as it happens, works with a woman at the hospital whose husband, Chris Dowe, was a consultant to microbreweries. Dowe joined the partnership and after two more years of research and preparation the distillery opened. The first bottle of Cold River Vodka was sold in November 2005.

Because it made for an interesting story, and the fact that they were introducing an all-Maine product, Cold River Vodka received a good amount of publicity and

initial sales exceeded expectations.

"Basically, we're a bunch of Maine boys trying our best to do something to create some job opportunities in the state and at the same time maybe do a little something to preserve what we love about the state," Lee Thibodeau says. "We're off to a good start. But in a start-up situation like this, the first year is critical. If you aren't successful, you run out of opportunity very fast. But we're very hopeful—we have a great team and a great product."

At \$32 a bottle, Cold River Vodka is what Thibodeau calls "an affordable luxury." He explains that everything involved in the product is of the highest quality. The potatoes are cultivated on Donnie's Green Thumb Farm in Fryeburg. And, true to its name, the water for the vodka comes from the pure aquifer of Maine's Cold River.

At the Freeport plant, the distillation is closely monitored by Dowe and the three other brewers. This, along with the fact that Cold River uses an all-copper distilling system, is part of what separates this vodka from the bigger name, high volume varieties.

"Most vodka distilling systems are stainless steel, which are less expensive," Harkins explains. "What copper does is remove unpleasant flavor characteristics."

Of course, the fact that Cold River uses potatoes for its vodka is its major distinction. Ninety-eight percent of vodkas consumed in the United States are grain-based products. And Lee Thibodeau says that folks who haven't tried a fine potato vodka don't know what they're missing.

"Grain vodkas give you much more of





a bite," he says. "There are some unpleasant tastes involved, which is why people generally freeze them before serving. A fine potato vodka, on the other hand, has a subtle sweetness and is much smoother. The taste is delightful—and because of that, people generally prefer to serve it at room temperature."

It's clear that Lee Thibodeau knows a lot about vodka, but as chair of the company, he isn't involved in the day-to-day operations. And of course, how could he be—he has a very demanding schedule as a surgeon.

Thibodeau has been practicing in Maine since 1988 when he finished the six years of study and training necessary to enter his field of medicine.

The decision to pursue neurosurgery came somewhat late. At UMaine, Thibodeau was in the agriculture college, but he says he might have put more time into the ski team, horseback riding, and

fraternity life than his studies. ("I got a 'complete' education," he says, adding that he loved his time at the university.) According to Phi Eta Kappa roommate Harkins, Thibodeau was a gifted athlete. In fact, he left the university in 1975 to join the U.S. Equestrian Team and was actually chosen to be first alternate at the 1976 Olympics.

When he returned to UMaine, he was set on becoming a veterinarian, in particular, an equine doctor. UMaine's agriculture dean advised him that he might be better off transferring to Cornell to pursue that career and assisted him in contacting the right people at that university. After Cornell, Thibodeau went on to veterinary school at the University of Pennsylvania. But after two years of study, he realized that there would be little call for a horse doctor in Maine (where he was determined to return) and so refocused his career on neurosurgery.

Bob Harkins's career after UMaine took

**The four Cold River partners, front to back: Chris Dowe, Donnie Thibodeau, Lee Thibodeau, and Bob Harkins.**

him to a place with which he was very familiar and comfortable, the ski slopes of western Maine. He had worked at Sunday River Resort all through high school and college. When he graduated, the ski resort offered him a full-time job. Harkins thus embarked on a coaching career that culminated in his working with the U.S. Ski Team for eight years.

Now the two good friends, along with their partners, are putting their impressive backgrounds to work to make Cold River Vodka a success.

Currently Cold River can be purchased at Maine and New Hampshire liquor stores as well as at fine restaurants in those two states. To find out more about the product, the philosophy, and the people involved in Cold River Vodka you can log on to: [coldrivervodka.com](http://coldrivervodka.com).



*French, I sing it by “heart.”*

# Le Français, Je l’chante Par “Coeur.”

At UMaine’s Franco-American Center, Quebec-born Josée Vachon ’84 found “her voice” and a sense of belonging. Now she uses her musical talent to help keep her language and culture alive.

*By Jennifer Hoyt Huerth ’01, ’03G*

Attending college can be a life altering experience. Whether you’re there for one semester, or continue on to earn a doctoral degree, it’s generally a time of uncertainty, of self-discovery, and most of all, a time of growth. Just ask singer, songwriter, activist, and educator Josée Vachon ’84. Her four and a half years at the University of Maine, and her connection with the university’s Franco-American Center, had a profound impact on her life, including coming to understand that she could be a full-fledged American while maintaining and celebrating her heritage and its traditions.

Josée was born in a small, French-speaking town just south of Quebec, Canada. The eldest child of a railroad worker and a homemaker, she and her family became first generation American immigrants when they moved to Brownville Junction,

Maine, so her father could be closer to work. It was a difficult transition for seven-year-old Josée, who didn’t know any English.

“My brother and I were the only French-speaking kids in town,” she says. But it didn’t take her long to learn the new language. She recalls one particular morning, only a few months following their move, when she ran down the stairs to tell her mother that she had dreamt in English. “I remember that school was easier from that day forward. It was as if the dream released something inside of me.”

Even so, Josée never truly felt as though she fit in. Living in a small rural town, she found it difficult to make friends. An exceptionally shy girl, she lacked confidence and avoided drawing any kind of attention to herself.

“My heart would pound at the very

thought of being called on in class,” she said. It was in a speech communication class in her first year at UMaine that things began to change for Josée. A young man in class saw her name on the cover of a textbook and asked her, in French, if she spoke the language. “Oui!” she exclaimed, and then she asked him if he was from Quebec. When he replied that he was from Van Buren, a town in northern Maine, she couldn’t understand how he could possibly know French.

“Having grown up in a small railroad town, we had no way of knowing that there were other French-speaking people in Maine,” she explains. At the end of class that day, her classmate told her that she should visit the Franco-American Center, a department on campus devoted to the education of the Franco-American student population.

Out of curiosity, she decided to take his advice, and she stopped by the Center after class the next day. “It was like coming home,” she says, “to a place filled with people like me.” Josée finally felt as though she belonged.

It was at the Center one night around the holidays when Josée’s talent as a musician was exposed. Growing up, she often sang for family members at small gatherings, and she even won a talent contest as a senior in high school, but she never even considered music as a possible career choice. Unbeknownst to her, after hearing Josée play the guitar that evening, a friend signed her up to sing folksongs at several Franco-American festivals around Maine.

“I was going to be a French teacher but I began to sing because of the people at the Franco-American Center,” she says. “They





knew my strengths and pushed me to try even though I didn't believe I could do it. They brought out the best in me."

During her first few performances, Josée could easily fit in 15 to 20 songs during the first set. Now she is lucky to squeeze in 10.

"Back then," she explains "I would just sing with my head down and barely look at the crowd. I never spoke to the audience, I just sang the songs that I knew from childhood." But she could feel the response from the audience. She remembers older Franco-Americans approaching her with tears in their eyes and telling her that the songs she sang brought back so many memories. They laughed with her, and exclaimed how refreshing it was to see a young person carrying on their tradition through music. "I was able to see the emotion that could be elicited by being on stage," she says. "That was it for me. I knew what I was supposed to do."

Her debut album, *Josée*, was released in 1983, with the assistance of a music producer who happened to be in the audience at one of her performances. While the release did very well, selling over 1,000 copies at local festivals that year, Josée was ready to try something different.

"I couldn't say anything new by singing the traditional songs of Quebec people," she explains. "I decided to try writing my own songs, and I found that it released so much from within me."

Much of her original material addresses feelings she has about her identity.

"It is best to write about what you know," she says. "For so many years, I was unsure of where I fit in. I did not feel at home in Quebec, because I left when I was so young, but I did not feel Franco-American either, because I was not born here." But there was one thing that Josée was sure of, and that was how to make her audiences feel connected to her music. "I am not the best poet," she admitted with a laugh, "but if I choose music that I know my audience will relate to and love, they will listen to the lyrics more closely, and understand what I am trying to say."

Josée Vachon is keeping her culture alive through her music. She loves to perform at



assemblies, educating students about her Franco-American heritage. Many times, children will not have any knowledge of their background, and during the course of the show, they will remember that they have a grandmother or grandfather who is French-speaking, or that their last name is French.

"I am often surprised to see how many children raise their hands when I ask how many of them know of or are related to a person of Franco-American descent," she said.

Josée loves to share stories from her own life. During a recent assembly, the theme was immigration, and she was able to share her personal childhood experiences of coming to the United States from Canada. She also speaks about the fact that her husband is Spanish, and how she has raised her two children, ages 10 and 13, to be trilingual and to be proud of their multicultural heritage.

"I have tried to keep my language alive in my home," she explains, "but as they grow older, it gets increasingly more difficult to keep up with it. I find myself searching for words to explain science or politics that are not within my mainstream vocabulary."

Many people feel that when their language is lost, their culture is lost as well.

"We talk a lot about the loss of language," Josée says. "Language is a part of us, and without it something is missing, but at the same time, maybe when language is lost, people are able to see their culture in ways that we don't."

In a song Josée wrote called "French in America," the English words say, "The borders...we have crossed / Now, we must be taught the language / That our mothers lost." Living in Pennsylvania, she finds that many people are fourth and fifth generation Pennsylvania Dutch, and are struggling to maintain their language and

culture. "These are issues that everyone can relate to," Josée explained. "People identify with the things I write about—there are similarities in every culture."

Presently, Josée has recorded 11 albums. Her latest is a Christmas recording that was released in 2005. She also sings with her band, Chanterelle. Josée credits her success to her years at UMaine, and to the people at the Franco-American Center who encouraged her and supported her. She still keeps in touch with them, to stay current on issues in the Franco-American community. She now lives in Pennsylvania with her husband, Javier Cevallos, the president of Kutztown University, whom she met while attending UMaine.

"I love living in a college town," she says. "It keeps me young. My house is on the main street in town and students walk by all the time. It feels a lot like being back in Orono. It feels a lot like home."

### INTRODUCING HISTORIC LIVING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE HIGHLANDS

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