Maybe you’ve visited New Paltz every year since graduation. Or maybe you’ve been meaning to, but just couldn’t make it. Either way, make this the year you really do come back! We’ve put together a wonderful program with tours, activities, dinners and receptions. Finally, make this the year you reacquaint yourself with your classmates and with your alma mater.

Want to find fellow classmates, fraternity brothers, sorority sisters, teammates, club members, or simply a long lost friend? We can help! Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 1-877-HAWK-001 (option #1), alumni@newpaltz.edu, or visit us on the Web at www.newpaltz.edu/alumni.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Alumni, Faculty, Staff Luncheon**
Network over a family-style lunch.

**Campus Tours**
Don’t remember seeing that building when you were a student? Amazed at how much has changed? See firsthand just how much we have progressed and how much what you loved at New Paltz has stayed the same.

**Lantern Society Reception and Dinner**
Congratulations to the Class of 1956! Join them as they celebrate their 50th year reunion by being inducted into the Lantern Society.

**Departmental Receptions**
A chance to reunite with alumni, faculty and staff who share your major and/or profession.

**All-Class and Campus Luncheon**
Join alumni from all reunion classes for an “all-New Paltz” lunch.

**Class Events**
Enjoy sharing friendship, memories and conversations with your fellow classmates. Meet new people, get caught up and make plans to return next year!

**Alumni Dining Hall Breakfast**
Come see how students are dining these days in Hasbrouck Dining Hall.

**Regional Activities**
A hike at the Mohonk Preserve or Ashokan Field Campus, a bike ride along the Hudson Valley Rail Trail, winery tours, apple picking, the Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, or visiting on campus.
Letters to the Editor

I’m a 1969 graduate of New Paltz and just wanted to say that the Observer is a fantastic magazine. It makes me proud to see all the wildly successful and interesting graduates that I’m among. Please let all involved in this magazine know how much I enjoy reading it. The graphics, topics and look of the magazine are first rate. Although I’m a financial planner (with a degree in Anthropology, no less), I’m married to a journalist so I think I have a somewhat critical eye in viewing publications. Kudos!

-Wendy Wallis ’69 (Anthropology)

I received my copy of the Observer yesterday (Vol. XXII, No. 2) and was thrilled by it. The articles on the alumni abroad, the coverage of the president’s inauguration and many other articles were of interest to me. I’ve enjoyed the last two copies tremendously. You have turned this publication into a top-notch magazine. Keep up the good work.

—Mary Jane T. Ordway

Give a Gift that Gives Back — to New Paltz and to You!
Consider a Charitable Gift Annuity

If you are 60 or older, charitable gift annuity benefits can include:

- An income tax deduction
- Payout rates from 5.4% or more
- Quarterly payments for life
- Partially tax-free income

Sample Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

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A gift annuity is a contractual agreement between you and SUNY New Paltz in which you transfer assets to us in exchange for our promise to pay one or two annuitants payments for life.

For more information about charitable gift annuities, and how they can help you achieve your philanthropic goals, please contact Sally Cross at (845) 257-3238 or CrossS@newpaltz.edu.
Disasters do not happen to just one person, but the response to them can. Whether natural or human-caused, they are so widespread that a common link is created by one moment of catastrophe. A new sub-set of community is created with the sole purpose of restoring damaged areas and moving disaster victims forward emotionally.

For many it can be difficult to picture the first step toward recovery. The first movement is to help pick someone up, to lead them to shelter, to tend wounds. But as each movement brings healing, a chain reaction is catalyzed, healing branches reach out, spreading from the center, forming a web of healing.

The Institute for Disaster Mental Health at SUNY New Paltz was created to train those who take the needed first steps after a disaster – both community volunteers and professional first responders – by providing education, information and skill training on evidence-informed best practices for disaster mental health. The mental health community recognizes that advance preparation, early intervention, and appropriate follow-up can assist those whose lives are touched by disaster.
The Institute’s leadership draws upon many years of experience and integrates the latest empirical information about best practices into the many challenges associated with responding to disasters. The Institute’s programs include consulting, training, and an annual conference, “Helping in a Time of Crisis.” Since its founding in September 2004, the Institute has trained more than 150 mental health professionals and community members, as well as New Paltz students and faculty, in responding to disaster. More than 60 undergraduate students from New Paltz are now trained in disaster response and mass care following disaster, and have an overview of disaster mental health. These students are certified by the American Red Cross to offer assistance under Red Cross auspices.

The Institute uses a community-based focus to repair damage after events like Hurricane Katrina. Communities are the best source for support sought by people working to rebuild places damaged by disasters. SUNY New Paltz Psychology professor Phyllis Freeman, chair of the advisory board for the Institute, believes that the “Institute expands the circle of care and support community members can provide to neighbors in time of loss.”

Freeman believes that the Institute “fosters and models kindness and generosity,” thereby mirroring the crucial elements community provides but bringing them right to the people affected in a direct approach. More than simply educating individuals on how to be official American Red Cross volunteers, programs like those offered by the Institute can instruct every day people on what it is to be an active and helpful citizen. The idea of community is one that seems to be fading from modern life, but is important in the face of the potential disasters we face as a global community.

In addition to serving the director of the Institute, Professor James Halpern (Psychology) also developed an interdisciplinary undergraduate minor in disaster studies at New Paltz. (See sidebar). Halpern was among the first in his field to help people affected by the September 11 attacks in 2001. By working with the Red Cross, encouraging the development of similar programs, and bringing them to the college, Halpern has shown that New Paltz is taking disaster intervention seriously and sending an important message to the surrounding communities.

Please visit the following Web site for a video clip on Halpern’s CNN appearance: http://video.mww.com/clients/suny/cnn_americanmorning.wmv.

If You Volunteer…

We would like to hear from you regarding your involvement in volunteering:

With which organization(s) do you volunteer?
How do you help?
How often are you involved?
What do you get out of the volunteer experience?

Write us and let us know about your experiences as a volunteer.

Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs by writing us at SUNY New Paltz, 700 Hawk Road, New Paltz, N.Y. 12561-2441, emailing us at observer@newpaltz.edu, or faxing us at (845) 257-3951.
Training the Volunteers of Tomorrow

SUNY New Paltz has established an interdisciplinary minor in disaster studies. The minor focuses on events of natural, technological and human-induced origins and on how these affect individuals, communities, organizations and the nation. Those completing the minor become certified responders for the American Red Cross.

As executive director of the Ulster County chapter of the American Red Cross, Susan Rounds has also been closely associated with the development of the Disaster Studies minor. Working alongside James Halpern, a psychology professor at SUNY New Paltz, the Ulster County Red Cross has been “closely supportive” and greatly pleased with the progress of the minor. This kind of support is crucial in addressing the many needs in the community. In addition, the program will serve as a model for the creation of similar programs at other institutions. Once students have completed the minor, service organizations like the Red Cross can be assured of workers trained to appropriate standards and who already have hands-on experience.

Graduates of the program will not only help in their local communities but will also be available in more distant locations. Halpern and the Red Cross worked to take some of the program’s students to Mississippi over the winter break to assist for two weeks in rebuilding flood-damaged communities. (See story on page 6)

As a New Paltz student seeking a disaster studies minor, George Ramirez was excited about the program. Ramirez had seen the work being done to aid local residents who suffered trauma and damage from last spring’s floods having previously worked with the Ulster County Red Cross.

When JD Gonzalez signed up for the disaster studies minor, it was mainly because he had completed most of his required courses and thought the experience would help him on his path to becoming a social worker. It didn’t take long before he realized the minor was going to prepare him for a lot more. The required fieldwork was a welcome surprise for Gonzalez and his experiences have shown him he “has the right idea” of what he wants to do with his life after college. Gonzalez wanted counseling experience in disaster studies, and after he completes his local fieldwork his experience level will be increased exponentially. The minor has given him first-hand exposure – “it’s one thing to read about a disaster, but another to experience it for oneself. He said he feels that no matter what fieldwork students end up doing, they will be able to make use of it in anything they choose to do in life.

-Rachel Gande ’06
Psychology Students Visit New Orleans

Five psychology students from SUNY New Paltz arrived in New Orleans to work with the American Red Cross. They spent two weeks helping with the disaster relief from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Graduate student Jessica Walsh (Catskill), and undergraduate students Jemma Binder (Long Beach), Zachary James Joyce (Shoreham), Dawn Birk (Oceanside) and Nellie Afshar (Dobbs Ferry) all received special training from the Red Cross before being deployed to the Gulf Coast. Overwhelmed by the initial destruction, the students spent long days delivering meals, water, essential supplies and a warm smile to residents affected by the devastation. “These people are truly amazing—they lost everything and they still have hope,” said Birk. The students’ time in New Orleans was an experience that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

-Régina Martinez '06

Chabad Students Aid Rebuilding

A group of New Paltz students recently spent their winter break helping those devastated by Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Organized by the Chabad of New Paltz, the group headed off to join 49 other students gathered as part of Chabad on Campus National Foundation’s ongoing Hurricane Katrina relief effort and Lubavitch Rabbi Yochanan Rivkin, director of the Chabad Jewish Student Center at Tulane University. Students were shaken and amazed by the destruction, but together they spent their time scooping muck, carting out moldy furniture, and gutting waterlogged homes. Inspired by the optimism of the community, students forged on to help rebuild and restore peace in New Orleans.

-Régina Martinez '06
Red Cross Volunteer Visits Biloxi

At New Pultz, Jay Palen is the assistant director of telecommunications. But for 27 days in September 2005, Palen worked as a shelter supervisor in the D’Iberville Civic Center, in Biloxi, Miss. following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. He was in charge of tracking the 125 residents of the shelter and getting them meals.

Palen said that some days he felt like he did little work directly affecting the Civic Center’s maintenance, but in hindsight those were the days that the true nature of his job surfaced. Most of the residents needed to talk about the tragedy that had wrenched their lives from normalcy. While the details surrounding their escapes from the floodwaters varied, the people Palen encountered all had one thing in common: their amazing endurance.

The biggest role Palen played in these people’s lives was not providing them with food and shelter while they waited to get their lives back from the wreckage, rather it was listening to their stories. What people seemed to appreciate most was having a common bond with volunteers willing to help and listen.

Palen recounts several stories he heard. Members of one family, while attempting to sit out the flood in their attic, had part of their roof swept away by the current. The father clung to the top of a telephone pole for hours until he could be rescued. His arms and body were cut and bruised by debris and the powerful flow of the water. Another man in his 50s, one of Palen’s closest friends in the shelter, was confined to a wheelchair and had only one leg. He was alone when the water flooded his house and he had to pull himself up a flight of stairs to the second floor when the waters began to rise. It took three hours for him to drag his wheelchair, attached to his leg, up the stairs.

Palen explained that the rebuilding of homes will take years to complete. In the meantime, the best volunteers can do is bring in temporary housing, help clean up and listen when the survivors need to talk.

-Rachel Gande ’06
Finding the Courage to Play On

Senior Alexandria Cruse (Sociology) became one of thousands of unfortunate victims of Hurricane Katrina on Aug. 29, 2005. A native of the Poughkeepsie area, Cruse was supposed to be finishing up her last season as a top returning basketball player for the Lady Blue Devils of Dillard University in New Orleans. Instead, Cruse became the driving offensive force for the New Paltz Hawks women’s basketball team. After the initial shock of the hurricane, Cruse spoke about her experiences of living in one of the city’s emergency shelters for a week. “We were stuck at the shelter and couldn’t go anywhere. I wasn’t really scared for myself, but more for my friends, whose families lived in Louisiana,” she said. One of several students who spent a semester at New Paltz following Katrina’s afternoon, Cruse has since returned to Dillard University to complete her studies.

-Regina Martinez ’06
Building Homes, Building Communities

Habitat for Humanity assists families worldwide to create livable homes. Oftentimes this means lending a hand after a disaster such as a flood, earthquake, hurricane has struck. Other times they simply support a local neighborhood where living is sub-standard. Since its inception, the New Paltz Chapter of Habitat for Humanity has been focused in the Newburgh, N.Y. area, where almost three-quarters of all housing is inadequate.

The construction is paid for in part by “sweat equity” – normally 250 to 400 hours of work – from the family receiving the house. This policy ensures that the family is a part of building their home, and it involves the entire Habitat community in the process of building neighborhoods.

Pastor Paul Walley is the advisor for the New Paltz chapter of Habitat for Humanity and the director of the Student Christian Center. He first became active in this type of regenerative work in 1998 when he was involved with Economic Churches Helping Others. The organization was small, consisting of three students and a few of Walley’s colleagues. The aim of ECHO was to rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Hugo in North Carolina. Inspired by the work he did down South, Walley returned to New Paltz and helped to establish a Habitat for Humanity chapter as a recognized organization.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity, please visit www.habitat.org.
SUNY Students Learn Real Life Lessons as Katrina Volunteers

Tuesday, February 28, 2006—NEW ORLEANS—Last semester, they studied textbook disasters. Over their winter break, they helped feed and comfort disaster victims. Five psychology students from the State University of New York at New Paltz recently spent two weeks working as American Red Cross volunteers with the Hurricane Katrina relief effort in New Orleans. Each day, Nellie Afshar, Jemma Binder, Dawn Birk, Zachary Joyce and graduate student Jessica Walsh rose before dawn, helped load supplies, spent all day dispensing hot meals in flood-ravaged areas, and then pitched in to clean their vehicles afterward.

Their service fulfilled a field work requirement for a disaster studies practicum, part of SUNY’s new disaster studies minor, but the experience was more than that for these students. “You couldn’t get me up at 6 a.m. for any other reason,” said Joyce, 21. “I wouldn’t get up at 6 a.m. to make money. This is the best work I’ve ever done.” The students’ professor, James Halpern, founded SUNY’s Institute for Disaster Mental Health to prepare psychology students and others in the helping professions to care for people after disasters. The disaster studies minor, first offered in September 2004, was designed to mix real-world experience with traditional book learning. Halpern hoped his students could serve on national disasters for the field work component of a semester-long practicum but knew that timing the stints to fit the academic year would be difficult. “I was expecting they would be doing local field work this spring, but I’d always hoped we could figure out a way they could work on a national disaster,” said Halpern, whose textbook, “Disaster Mental Health: Theory and Practice,” will be published in June.

The months-long Red Cross relief operation in New Orleans provided the perfect opportunity. All five students took Red Cross training to prepare for their New Orleans service, but nothing could prepare them for the wide-spread physical destruction they witnessed as they delivered food and water in the city and its surrounding parishes. Walsh tried to capture the devastation in her journal, writing: “Homes abandoned. Water lines. Warped furniture. Piles of Sheetrock. Black mold. Blue-tarped roofs. Tent cities. Cars lining the streets. Desolation. Apocalyptic. Ghost towns. Lost souls. Faith enduring.” They had learned in class that acts of kindness can help disaster victims to recover from trauma. In the tradition of Red Cross disaster services, the students always offered warmth and empathy along with the food they handed out. Amid the devastation, they sometimes had to force back their own tears and consciously put smiles on their faces. Often people told them that, if not for the Red Cross, they wouldn’t have eaten that day. All were struck by the resilience of those who had lost so much. The experience made Afshar more grateful for life’s small blessings and reminded her not to take anything for granted. “Sometimes we overlook all we have and how easily it can be taken away,” she said. Mostly, they don’t want people to forget about those who survived Hurricane Katrina and are struggling to rebuild their homes and their lives. “The disaster is not gone,” Birk wrote in a dispatch from New Orleans to the Hudson Valley Times Herald-Record. “It is not all rainbows and butterflies. There are people suffering all over New Orleans and they still need our help.”

Janet Rae Brooks is an American Red Cross writer deployed to Louisiana.

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Did any of your family members (aunts, uncles, parents, siblings, grandparents, etc.) also attend New Paltz? The office of Alumni Affairs is beginning the New Paltz Generations Program and wants to recognize your family’s commitment to its alma mater. All Generations Alumni are asked to sign up now for your special Generations Package, which includes a free T-shirt, vehicle static cling, and lanyard key chain.

- Visit www.newpaltz.edu/alumni/generations
- E-mail us at alumni@newpaltz.edu
- Call us toll free at 1-877-HAWK-001 (option #1)
- Fax us at 845-257-3951
- Or stop by and visit us at: Hopfer Admissions and Alumni Center
  700 Hawk Drive
  New Paltz, NY 12561-2441
Educating tomorrow’s leaders … what gift can you make that will have a greater impact?

SUNY New Paltz Scholarships – Look at the Numbers

- **$14,500 = the cost of a year at SUNY New Paltz** for a full time, undergraduate New York resident ($5,350, tuition and fees; $1,700, books and supplies; $7,450, living expenses).

- **$19,500 = average loan debt of a SUNY New Paltz graduate.** Scholarship dollars supplement students’ and their family’s financial investment in a college education, and they help New Paltz attract and retain talented students, giving them more time to focus on their studies.

- **$160,000 = scholarships paid each year** by the SUNY New Paltz Foundation – from your generous gifts.

- **85% of SUNY New Paltz students receive some form of financial aid.** Many students take on large loan debt and work one or more part time jobs to help pay expenses. Scholarships let students work fewer hours or take on less debt.

- **100% of your gift to the SUNY New Paltz scholarship fund directly benefits a New Paltz student.** When you give, you have a direct and significant impact on the life of a SUNY New Paltz student today.

*Please use the enclosed envelope to make a generous tax-deductible gift today to the SUNY New Paltz scholarship fund.*
Wendell Van Lare ’67 (Sec. Ed.) made news when he was promoted to head of the Labor Relations Group at Gannett Co., Inc., an international news and information company.

For 28 years, Van Lare has combined his legal expertise with a passion for newspapers as vice president and senior labor counsel, and will continue to serve Gannett employees with this expanded position.

His appetite for newspapers was evident while at New Paltz, when during away games with the college baseball team, he insisted the bus driver stop so he could purchase a paper from whatever town the team was visiting. “I became somewhat of a team joke,” he says.

Van Lare enjoys the path he has taken, even if it wasn’t what he had envisioned. He arrived at New Paltz to study education, but as a junior his focus turned to law. He completed his education major – even student teaching at Arlington High School in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. – while participating on the student judiciary committee and co-founding a law society.

He credits New Paltz with providing him with a solid liberal arts education under the guidance of such professors as O. Lincoln Igou (Music), Gerald Sorin (History) and John Sherwig (History). “The college experience at New Paltz broadened my horizons,” he says.

After graduation and a two-year stint in the U.S. Army, Van Lare earned a degree from Albany Law School of Union University. He specialized in labor law at a Rochester-based law firm before joining Gannett. There he immediately felt the position resonated with him, and when the company moved its headquarters to McLean, Va., he followed.

Van Lare maintains a connection with New Paltz. When possible, he coordinates visits to Gannett-owned papers, such as the Poughkeepsie Journal, with cultural events at the college. He recently expanded his involvement when college President Steven Poskanzer asked him to join the SUNY New Paltz Foundation, where he looks forward to serving in a greater capacity.

This newsworthy alumus continues to work hard, but always makes time to enjoy the good life - filled with numerous musical and cultural events - with his wife of 18 years, Karen, their children, Jonathan and Allison, and step-children Andrew Giles and Lacey Roddick. His grandnephew, Mike Vanderbilt, is currently a sophomore at New Paltz.
Hello from New Paltz!

It is a lovely time to visit New Paltz as spring begins to work its way back into the Hudson Valley. The birds are chirping, the flowers peeking their heads up, and the trees filling with leaf buds. We hope that you will take time this year to come back and visit us...so much is going on these days at your alma mater!

The renovation of van den Berg Hall has now been completed, including the installation of the Clock Tower—chimes and all. Another big project on campus is the addition of the Athletic and Wellness Center to Elting Gymnasium. The new Center was dedicated earlier this spring and is already in use. More information about both the renovation of van den Berg Hall and the addition of the Athletic and Wellness Center can be found on pages 24-25 of this issue.

Also, the Office of Alumni Affairs has begun working on a new print version of the Alumni Directory, due out next year. Mailings and phone calls to all alumni will begin in the very near future and we hope you will participate. Basic contact information will be requested and the directory will be available for purchase both in print and on CD. If you should have any questions regarding this project, please do not hesitate to contact our office toll free at 1-877-HAWK-001 (option #1) or alumni@newpaltz.edu.

With that I wish you a very happy and prosperous year. And if you happen upon New Paltz at some point, we hope that you'll remember to stop by and visit us!

Best regards,

Rayna Wendell
Director of Alumni Affairs
Through the ongoing “Cage” series, Charles Lewton-Brain ’86 (Metals) presents his work, which ranges from performance-oriented body art to jewelry. His work, “Fork,” was juried into the 2005 Exhibition in Print, Metalsmith Magazine. Lewton-Brain was also nominated in 2005 for the Alberta Arts Award.

Dee Fontans ’86 (Metals) had her work at the BraVo exhibition and performance in TD Square, Calgary, Canada, in October 2005. She developed the course “Wearable Art Object/Body” for Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD).

Three alumni recently had their plays produced off-off-Broadway at the RAT Theatre Company as part of a SUNY Playwrights’ Fall Festival: RaeAnne MacMillan ’04 (English), “Number 27”; Jamie Gerardi ’04 (English), “Publisher’s Block”; and Laura Luciano ’05 (Theatre), “Striking Chords.” The writers are alumni of the English Department’s Dramatic Writing Program.
Equine artist Jean Haines '90 (Painting) has studied, drawn, painted, photographed, and sculpted horses since her earliest memory, and has exhibited extensively in Kingston and the surrounding area. In 1995, Haines became a board member of then newly-founded A.S.K. (Arts of Society of Kingston). Haines's horse artwork can be seen at her studio, "Little Shop of Horses," in uptown Kingston or at www.littleshopofhorses.com.

Diane L. Bradley '69 (Art Education) was selected for the juried Jacksonville Watercolor Society Fall Show 2005. Bradley sells her work at A Fine Arts Gallery in St. Augustine, Fla. She is an active board member of the St. Augustine Art Association, as well as a member of both the Florida and Jacksonville Watercolor Societies.

Ray Cellura ’60 (Education) recently published “The Genomic Environment and Niche-Experience” (Cedar Springs Press, 2006). Inspired by Cellura’s work in a large state psychiatrist facility, the book is intended for readers interested in the interconnections between biology and social sciences.

Jason (Jay) Gehlert ’98 (Comm./Media) has released his first novel, “Quiver: Terror in Lupine Valley” (Booksbybookends, 2005), it is the first installment of Gehlert’s heart-stopping trilogy. He has already written the sequel, “Quiver 2: Full Cycle” and is in the process of writing the final book titled, “The Colony.”

Alan K. Lewis ’83 (Ed. Admin.) has written a new children’s book called “I Grew Up on a Farm” (Keene, 2005). In his autobiographical sketch, Lewis shares his own childhood experiences as a true American farmer working on a small farm in Middletown, N.Y. during the 1950s. For more information visit www.MooPress.com.

Dennis J. Listort ’69 (Education) has written a novel called, “The Writing Box” (Xlibris, 2003), which proudly features the Hudson Valley and the town of New Paltz. The book recounts the destiny of two women during their time spent at SUNY New Paltz. “The Writing Box” is a combination of Listort’s personal experiences and imagination.

Jingguo Luo ’81 (English), a retired professor of English at Beijing University, has published a new English translation of the fabled 17th century anthology called, “Guwen Guanshi” (Foreign Language Teaching and Research Press, 2005). The work contains original Chinese texts and notes.
Rachel Raimondi ’03
(English) is the author of a new young adult novel, “A Week In the Life of Us” (Publish America, 2006). This is the first novel by Raimondi, which follows eight young girls’ first week as high school freshmen.

Jacqueline M. Newman ’53
(Education) has authored the book, “Food Culture in China” (Greenwood, 2004). Newman’s book is loaded with information on cuisine’s prominent role in Chinese culture. She is also an editor of “Flavor and Fortune,” an English-language Chinese food magazine in its 12th year. For more information visit www.flavorandfortune.com.

Amy E. Patera ’77


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Amy E. Patera ’77


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I graduated from New Paltz State Teacher’s College in 1967. In my freshman year I made friends with some “townies” at P&G’s. The Fiordilino family lived on Millrock Road and there were three handsome brothers who did not attend the college. I did, however, fall in love with one of the brothers and married him. We are still married and live out west, where we raised three beautiful, successful children. We still visit New Paltz and I am always nostalgic to return and PROUD to be a graduate from SUNY. I continue to do artwork and I substitute teach in the local school districts. Although I was offered a full scholarship at Fashion Institute of Technology as an illustrator in New York City, my father insisted on me going to New Paltz. In my junior year, my father passed away. The Fiordilino family helped me through these hard times. I feel my dad watched out for me by picking New Paltz, where yes, I did find my sweetheart, as well as get a great education. Recently, I had to give a lesson in history about Sojourner Truth. You can imagine my excitement and enthusiasm to claim this great American as a part of New Paltz.

-RoseMary Keppler-Fiordilino ’67 (Education)

As an alumna of New Paltz, Class of 1955, and the editor of the ‘55 Paltzonian, I am very flattered that you selected several pictures from that yearbook to be included in the reunion Memory Book and the reunion calendar of events. I am referring to the following pictures:

• the beanie on the step of Old Main building,
• the picture of the Delta Kappa members,
• the girls from Clio holding a volleyball
• and especially the picture of four ex-student teachers sitting on the steps of the Student Union Building.

I always felt that we had an outstanding yearbook! I do believe much of the credit belongs to Terry Pititto ’56 (Education). She was the artistic designer and photographer for the yearbook. I was sorry I couldn’t attend the reunion (we were busy watching hurricanes come and go). Thanks for making me feel a part of the weekend!

-Sandra (Cohen) Mendelow ’55 (Education)
The ’65 pledge class of Delphic fraternity included four guys with an interest and talent in music. As we inevitably grew very close during the typical “Hell Week” activities that spring, we decided to divvy up the roles that each one could fill in order to form a band. We found that there was still a need for a lead guitarist, so we went outside of Delphic to find him, although he, too, became a [fraternity] brother the following year. And so “the burden” was formed with Robert Santaromita (keyboard and vocals), Dennis Listort ’68 (lead guitar and vocals), Donald Kachmor ’68 (guitar and vocals), Charles “Pete” Watkins ’68 (drums and NO VOCALS!) and Timothy Millard ’68 (bass and vocals).

Donnie had befriended Father Hickey at the local Roman Catholic Church, and the good Father very graciously allowed us to use St. Joseph’s Center as our practice facility. After many hours spent at the Center, “the burden” opened there before a packed crowd of frat brothers and other interested parties.

During the next few years, “the burden” often played at Parker Dining Hall dances and had gigs at other local establishments. The band also sponsored events at “the Former Pantony’s.” Everyone was invited there to attend “A Goof,” an evening of dancing, fun and all the beer you could drink—all for the grand price of $1.50! After expenses, the band got to split a couple-a-hundred bucks, as I recall—a goodly sum for a night’s work in those days.

When I hear oldies by The Animals, The Beatles, The Stones, The Byrds, The Rascals—and so many other artists and groups of that era, I can still see Santo gliding back and forth behind the keyboard, Watty seriously and steadily banging on the snare and cymbals, and Donnie and Denny picking away at the strings on the waggling arms of their instruments. I can’t help but chuckle and even begin to sing out, “I’m gonna WAIT ’til the midnight hour…!” (Those lyrics hold a different meaning for me these days since my eyelids now begin to droop much closer to ten o’clock.)

Santo’s been gone over thirty years now, a victim of leukemia. He’s still missed. The rest of us have had long careers at various Hudson Valley school districts, and while we don’t see each other very often these days, the connection we made back then can never be broken. I invariably tell young people who are on their way to college, “You’re about to become fast friends with people you don’t know yet, and you’ll be closer to some of these people than anyone else in your life.” Ain’t it the truth!

-Tim Millard ’68 (Education)
Retired from full-time teaching in 2000 after 33 years in Elementary Education in the Hyde Park schools. He may be reached at timmillard@optonline.net.

If you’d like to share a special memory of your time at New Paltz, please submit stories and photos to Office of Alumni Affairs, SUNY New Paltz, 700 Hawk Drive, New Paltz, N.Y. 12561-2441, or alumni@newpaltz.edu.
An opening ceremony on March 28 marked the long-anticipated grand opening of the new 57,000 square-foot Athletic and Wellness Center. The celebration allowed the New Paltz campus community to view the facilities for the first time since the construction began. The building is just south and connected to the Elting Gymnasium. Students will enjoy two fitness centers located at the west and east ends, which are devoted to cardiovascular and weight training. The rooms supply 36 new aerobic machines and 11, 40-inch LCD flat screen monitors and a state-of-the-art sound system. Connecting the two activity rooms is an impressive track, which runs above the premium, competition wood gym floor. The entire center is air-conditioned.

Also as a part of the project, a new state-of-the-art 400-meter outdoor track was built. It encircles a new athletic field, which will be utilized for field sports. In addition, a west-side campus entrance was opened and 530 additional parking spaces were created. The Athletic and Wellness Center will serve more than 8,000 students, 1,600 faculty and staff and area alumni.

Alumni are able to purchase a membership to the new facility for $200 per year. For more information or for images of the new Athletic and Wellness Center, please visit www.newpaltz.edu/recreation/awcmembership.html.
van den Berg Hall Is Back In Business!

by Regina Martinez ’06

On the first day of the spring semester, van den Berg Hall welcomed students and faculty into its beautifully renovated halls. The five-year rehabilitation doubled the classroom and lab space available for the School of Business and incorporated state-of-the-art classrooms wired with the latest educational technology, as well as offices for the School of Business and the Nursing program. Also completed were two classrooms with distance learning technology that will enhance two of the college’s new academic partnerships: the SUNY-YÖK Dual Diploma program with Turkey, and the Partnership for Higher Education with Sullivan County Community College (SCCC). The project also included the restoration of the clock tower that was destroyed by fire in May 1990, and a return of chimes at the hour and half hour between 8:00 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Originally built in 1930 as the Campus Practice School, the building is named after Lawrence H. van den Berg, the last principal of the New Paltz Normal School and the first president of the State Teacher’s College at New Paltz (1923-1943). A more detailed history of van den Berg Hall was included in the Observer, Vol. XXI, No. 2, available for online viewing in the Observer archives at www.newpaltz.edu/observer.

Work on exterior renovations, funded in part by a $100,000 gift from the Ulster Savings Bank Charitable Foundation, will continue throughout the year. A formal dedication and open house took place on May 16, 2006.
Looking for an old New Paltz friend? Looking for new New Paltz friends? Start by looking and listing here. Alumni of New Paltz live all over the world, and here is your opportunity to connect with them. The following are alumni and campus faculty/staff who have agreed to serve as a contact in their region or for their department. Call them to learn more about connecting with your fellow alumni and with the college!

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If you are interested in serving as a volunteer, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 1-877-HAWK-001 (option #1) or alumni@newpaltz.edu.

ALUMNI CAREER SERVICES

The following services are available to alumni:

- Alumni Career Network-linking students and alumni
- Skill and Interest Assessments
- Career and Job Search Workshops
- Individual Career Counseling
- Career Resource Library
- Job Interviewing through Campus Recruitment Programs
- Credentials Service
- Career Education and Recruitment Programs
- Posted Job Openings List
- Job Connection

Visit us at www.newpaltz.edu/careers for more information.

Are you a SUNY New Paltz scholarship recipient?

Where are you now?

Contact us at (845) 257-3957 or bastiene@newpaltz.edu.

Would you like to receive periodic e-mail updates from your alma mater?

Alumni Newswire is an electronic news service that delivers SUNY New Paltz news to alumni and friends via e-mail to keep you updated about what is going on at the college. To subscribe to this free service, e-mail the Office of Alumni Affairs at alumni@newpaltz.edu.
Pearl Wright ’29 (Elem. Ed.) taught for more than 47 years - mostly second grade in Mt. Kisco, N.Y. She recently celebrated her 101st birthday in December and now resides at Putnam Ridge in Brewster, N.Y.

Myrtle (Dabney) Porter ’45 opened the first nursery school for American children of U.S. Military and Civil Service personnel in the European theater in early 1948. For 18 years she taught in the Department of Defense dependent school system in Europe. She remains active in local community affairs involving culture, youth counseling, and women’s business development. She is a past chapter president of Soroptimist International, was a state and regional “Woman of Distinction” honoree, “Woman of the Year” honoree, and Maryland State Chaplain - Business Professional Women, Inc. She currently serves on the board of the Maryland Opera Society.

Victoria (Judge) Seymour ’56 (Elem. Ed.) states: “Next year is the big one—50. Is anyone coming back? Bill passed on in 1999.”

Valerie ’60 and Ralph Bartolacci have been married for 41 years, and have three children-all graduates of Bucknell University. They spent six years in Europe with IBM, four in Paris and two in Surrey, England. They welcomed both a daughter-in-law (U.K.) and a son-in-law (India). They divide their time between Upper Nyack (38 years) and Laurel (Mattituck), Long Island.

Carolyn Sisti-Sommer ’67 recently completed teaching in Pulawy, Poland, for the Koskiuscko Institute, a division of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). She’s currently working as program manager of Southwest Florida College in Fort Myers in their Early Childhood Division, and recently picked up a second full-time position as reading teacher in the Lee County School District.

Mary Yoblonsky ’67 (Elem. Ed.) and John Yoblonsky were married Jan. 4.

Nancy Fajman ’72 is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the Emory University School of Medicine. She also serves as a clinician in the Child Advocacy Program at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, program development specialist in the Child Protection Center at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and affiliate faculty member for the Center for Injury Control at the Rollins School of Public Health. She is a fellow in the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children.

Ellen (Dule) Wright ’72 (Theatre) is retiring from civil service employment in 2006. She has worked for the Internal Revenue Service in Phoenix, Ariz., since March 1979, the past 15 years as a human resources specialist in the Learning and Education Division. She currently lives with her partner, Raymond, in Chandler, Ariz. “I have precious memories of my life as a student at New Paltz…and hope old friends might get in touch with me—find me at the New Paltz group on Classmates.com!”

Charles Houser ’75 (English) has relocated from Richmond Hill (Queens), where he has lived for the past 20 years, to his pre-college hometown of Binghamton, N.Y. He will continue to serve his employer of 28 years, the American Bible Society, as the editorial and publications manager in their Eugene A. Nida Institute for Biblical Scholarship.

H. E. Freyer ’77 (Psychology) transferred to SUNY New Paltz in 1975 and met many of his college friends while residing in Gage Hall. Freyer met his future wife, Iris, while working in New York City, and they married in 1980. He moved his family to New City, N.Y. in 1985, and they have one daughter who is a college sophomore, and another daughter who graduated from R.I.T. this year with a bachelor’s of fine arts in Interior Design. Freyer has been a graphic artist for the last 27 years and is currently employed as a production manager by LAM Design in Pleasantville, N.Y. A photo can be seen on his blog at gfreyer.blogspot.com.

Tackling Immigration Laws

In 1998 Richard J. Block ’81 (Pol. Sci.), along with one other partner, formed the law firm Mirsky & Block, PLLC, in Tarrytown, N.Y. Since then, he has focused his practice on business immigration law, mainly serving U.S.-based subsidiaries of multi-national corporations. On a daily basis he helps those companies obtain temporary and permanent employment-based visas for key personnel. Block has represented a wide range of clients before the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Labor, the U.S. Department of State and federal Immigration Court. He frequently lectures on business immigration law to professional organizations. Block spent his junior year at Kansai Gaikokugo Daigaku (Kansai Foreign Language University), based in Osaka, Japan, with encouragement from one of his professors, Dr. Lin (Pol. Sci.). After completing his degree at New Paltz, Block lived and worked in Japan for eight years and is fluent in Japanese. Upon his return to the States, he earned his law degree from the Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center.
Frederick Hoffman ’78 (Printmaking) has settled in the Central Pennsylvania community of Lock Haven. The artist and gallery owner shares a home at the West Water Street Market with his wife, Dr. Patrizia Hoffman. Hoffman is involved with the Clinton County Arts Council, where he sits on the board of directors, and is involved with the now-monthly Art Walks. The Hoffmans’ enterprise, Temporary Contemporary, located on the second floor of a building on Main Street that houses the LHU Downtown gift store, provides an open, airy space to show off the creative endeavors of local individuals. Hoffman received his arts education in high school at the Art Students’ League in New York, and at the New York Institute of Technology (where he studied interior and stage design) before coming to New Paltz.

Stuart Krohnengold ’78 (Pol. Sci.) was promoted to vice president at the New York Life Insurance Company. He is now responsible for certain corporate services in the home office and Westchester campus, including mail, print, and copy programs, and the travel, procurement and dining programs. Krohnengold joined the company in 1988 as assistant vice president, and was promoted to corporate vice president, and was promoted to vice president in 1990.

Margit Kaindl-Richer ’80g was one of 200 educators across the United States selected to participate in a highly competitive program, paid for by the Japanese government under the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund. The goal of the program was to educate American teachers about Japan’s culture.

Edward Renehan ’80 (Pol. Sci.) has been a member of PEN American Center. The standard qualification for a writer to join PEN is publication of two or more books of a literary character, or one book generally acclaimed to be of exceptional distinction.

Maria Zemantauski ’83 (Music) is a well-known flamenco guitarist and was the featured performer at the Nov. 20, 2005 concert sponsored by the Newburgh Chamber Music Series. She was joined by the Hudson Valley Philharmonic String Quartet. She’s a frequent lecturer at schools and colleges, and her CDs, “Mrs. Laughinghouse” and “Seeing Red” have won national acclaim.

Lisa Hoeschele ’85 (French) was named director of development and gift planning in the Office of Gift Planning, in the Division of Institutional Advancement at Syracuse University. Previously, she was responsible for initiating major and planned giving programs at WCNY-TV and Classic FM as vice president/development and government relations.

Stephen Hedderton ’86 (Comm./Media) was appointed to the integrated marketing communications faculty at the Perley Isaac Reed School of Journalism at West Virginia University. He will serve as an adjunct instructor.

John Hoeschele ’86 (English) has been appointed as the executive creative director at Latorra, Paul & McCann (LP&M), a leading advertising agency in Central New York. Hoeschele brings more than 25 years of experience to this position, most recently as founder/president of a Cortland-based communications company. Hoeschele is an award-winning creative director and published feature writer for several trade and consumer publications. In 1999, he was among the winners of the Central New York “40 Under 40” awards.

Pedro Gonzalez ’87 (Sociology) has been appointed as the new director of MBA Career Resources at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He has written two articles that will appear in the 2006 Encyclopedia of Career Development. He was invited by the editors to write an article on informational interviews and another on resume writing that would appeal to a broad population of job seekers.


Regina Calcaterra, Esq. ’88 (Pol. Sci.) joined the nationally recognized securities litigation firm of Barrack, Rodos & Bacine as a senior associate in January 2004.

Trishka Dargis ’88 (Sociology), a teacher at Pacific Middle School in Des Moines, Wash., has earned the prestigious National Board Professional Teacher Certification for Social Studies (Early Adolescence). She served as department head for five years and has been both a building and district union representative. She has also earned several grants such as the Highline Grant for Excellence and a grant from the Colonial Dames of Washington. She received a scholarship from the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia for a three-week study tour of China in 2004. She currently lives in Seattle, Wash., and is in her sixth year of teaching.

Barbara Duffy ’88 (Elem. Ed.) and Michael Duffy were married May 6 at the Gardens on Catlin Creek in Slate Hill, N.Y.

John Cinulli ’89 (Bus. Admin.) says, “Hi all. Just very fond of my school days (daze) in Lefevre Hall and off campus and the friends I have made along the way. Hope all is well.”

Joy (Kirschenbaum) Gaine ’89 (Elem. Ed.) was married to Edward (Ted) Gaine on Sept. 17, 2005


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“Lights Out”

Arthur Streeter ’97 (Comm. and Media) recently released his premiere film titled, “Lights Out.” Streeter produced and directed the film, which is being considered for distribution by Windline Films in San Francisco. The film depicts the struggles of everyday man as he learns to accept the harsh realities of life’s dilemmas in American society. Streeter has also produced and directed a PSA for the Alcohol/ Drug Treatment Referral Service titled, “Drinking and Driving Don’t Mix!” His career achievements include work for KGTV-ABC and PBS in Honolulu as master control operator and WOR Radio’s “The Joe Franklin Show” in New York City.
Class Notes

Student Highlights

As a political science major, with a particular interest in law and government, Brandon Waterman ’06 has arguably landed the best possible internship available. Last fall he was selected to be an intern at the U.S. Supreme Court for the spring ’06 semester. Waterman, who has minors in philosophy and communication, has been on the Dean’s list for seven semesters, maintaining a 3.78 GPA. In addition, he is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha: National Political Science Honor Society; Phi Eta Sigma: National Honor Society; and the National Residence Hall Honorary: Phi Psi Chapter. He is also a resident assistant and serves as the vice president of the Resident Hall Student Association. Waterman will attend law school next fall at Georgetown, George Washington, Duke, William and Mary or the University of Virginia.

Alyssa Weiss ’06 (Creative Writing) was selected as one of four finalists from Region 2 (which includes New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Washington, D.C.) for the Kennedy Center for American College Theater Festival for her one-act play titled “Waiting for the Boys.” If she wins the next round, she will go on to have a performance of her play at the Kennedy Center, where the national finalists compete. Weiss’s play centers around three elderly women who are eating lunch at a cafeteria in Boca Raton, Fla. in the late 1990s. Weiss hopes to get accepted into a master’s program at either Emerson College or Boston University when she graduates this spring.

Jeffrey Armstrong ’90 (Music) is a music instructor, composer and arranger, as well as a performer of classical, flamenco, jazz, and blues guitar, bass and keyboard. He has taught at Dutchess Community College since 1995, and also teaches at Bard College and Marist College. Armstrong has released several CDs, and his compositions have been published by Soundspeels Production. He also serves on the Board of Trustees for the Edwin A. Ulrich Charitable Trust, which provides scholarships to both music and business students at DCC, New Paltz and other local colleges.

Roger Sala ’90 (Elem. Ed.) has relocated from Newburgh to Wilmington, N.C. He and wife, Ginger, are realtors with Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Realty. “We love coastal living; it is a dream come true!” Contact Roger at rogersala@seacoastrealty.com.

Reverend Erik Alvarez-Lehtinen ’91 (Psychology) started a partnership as an agent with New York Life, the 160-year-old, top rated, mutual insurance company based in New York City. He is interested in networking with other New Paltz alumni in the legal, accounting and real estate fields.

Allison Connor ’91 (Psychology) was married in 1995 and bought a house on Long Island. She has two children, ages six and three. She currently works as a therapist for adolescents and their families. She said, “I would love to hear from former classmates!”

David Gori ’91 (Sec. Ed.) left his position as corporate trainer for a large bank and went back to school in 2000. He student-taught at Cairo-Durham High School and recently joined the faculty. He works in both the high school and middle school resource rooms, as well as co-teaching English and applied science.

Alice Kenly ’92 (Women’s Studies) is a licensed massage therapist and recently participated in a lymph drainage therapy workshop offered by the Upledger Institute, Inc. Kenly is licensed by New York State and is trained in massage for life-altering illnesses and for cancer patients before and after breast surgery, as well as Swedish, sports massage and craniosacral therapy.

Joshua Cohen ’93 (Pol. Sci.) moved back to the United States after three years in Europe.

Joseph Rabito ’94 (Pol. Sci.) has been appointed Albany’s new development chief. He is president of the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors and senior staff to the Albany Industrial Development Agency.

Koren (Torres) Cunningham ’95 (Psychology) was married to Joseph Cunningham on May 6, 2005 at Anthony’s Pier 9 in Newburgh, N.Y.

Frank Georgiou ’95g (Comp. Sci.), and wife, Helen, welcomed their first baby, Lucas, on May 29, 2005.

Brian Scolaro ’95 (Comm./Media) is currently one of the lead actors on the hit series “Stacked” on Fox.

Robert Smrek ’95 (Econ.) married Jacqueline Zore on April 24, 2004.

Timothy Hoppe ’96 (Bus. Admin.) was married on April 2, 2005, at the Stone Church in New Paltz.
Sean McMann '96 (Journalism) has been a sports reporter with The Poughkeepsie Journal since 2000. He received an Associated Press award for both top sports columnist and top sports feature writer in New York State in 2005. His work has won numerous awards from Gannett, the Associated Press, and the Associated Press Sports Editors (APSE). He covered the New York Yankees, Mets, Giants and Jets, and New Jersey Nets—among others—Sean covered the 2003 World Series, for example, writing stories for Gannett’s newspapers across the country.

Louis E. Bell '97 (Sociology) has been playing professional basketball for the Tromso Storms in Norway. Bell is one of two American players allowed on the team. Following his graduation from New Paltz, he was signed to a contract as point guard for the Danish team Skovbakken, in Basketligan’s first division and moved to Denmark. In 2000 Bell won Most Valuable Player and was named as runner-up MVP in 2001.

Colette M. Plasman '97 (Sec. Ed.) teaches earth science and is also co-advisor of the Science Olympiad team at Van Wyck Junior High School. She helps local charities and has been the Van Wyck team leader for March of Dimes fundraisers for about seven years. She also participates in Paws in the Park, the Dutchess County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals annual pet walk fundraiser.

Heather L. Sustack '97 (Comm./Media) and Joseph Sustack were married April 30, 2005, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church.

Allison ‘97 (Visual Arts) and Spencer ‘99 (Accounting) White had their first child, a daughter, Kaitlyn Elizabeth White, on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24, 2005, at 9:29 p.m., weighing 8 lbs., 8 ozs., and measuring 20.25 inches.

Timothy J. Duffy ’98 (Comm./Media) and Patricia Fisher were married July 3.

Arlen W. Harris ’98 (Journalism) professed Perpetual (Final) Vows with the Capuchin Franciscans, a Roman Catholic religious order. The profession took place on Sept. 10, 2005 at Sacred Heart Church in Yonkers, N.Y. The Capuchin Franciscans are the same religious order that staff St. Joseph’s Church in New Paltz. Harris is presently a master’s of divinity student at Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge, Mass.

Suzanne Sheridan ’98 (Painting) and Rozanne Gates affirmed their partnership on October 30, 2005, in a civil union at the Unitarian Church in Westport, Conn.

Wendy (Ginsburg) Macomber ‘99 (Visual Arts) and Luke Macomber ‘95 (Philosophy) met at Snugs in 1997 and were married on Oct. 1, 2005 on Huguenot Street in New Paltz.

Jennifer Smirnoff ’99 (Elem. Ed.) graduated from the University of Dayton on Dec. 17, 2005, with a master’s in literacy. Smirnoff and her husband, James, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Evan James Patrick, on March 17, 2005. Evan (EJ) weighed in at 7 lbs., 13 ozs., and was 20-1/2 inches long. They currently reside in Los Angeles, Calif.

Elizabeth (Pierre) Spencer ’99 (Black Studies) and William N. Spencer, Sr. were married July 30 at Holy Cross Episcopal Church.

Demetris Barrett ’00 (Elem. Ed.) and his two-year-old son, Raion, celebrated the opening of their first child care center, Infinite Care on Oct. 22, 2005.

Greg Moore ’92g (Printmaking), featured in the Vol. XXIII, No. 1 issue of the Observer in the “Profile of an Alum” section, returned from Iraq after being deployed for a nearly two-round tour with the New York Army National Guard, C/2/108 division. In a ceremony at Gloversville Armory, northwest of Albany, Moore was awarded the Bronze Star for his courage, bravery and commitment to his men during an incident on May 26, 2004, near Samarra, Iraq. In September Moore opened Bear Essentials Screen Printing and Embroidery, a retail clothing store in Saranac Lake, N.Y. He is also the co-chair of the local Merchants’ Association.

Jacob C. Bogaczyk ’00 (Elem. Ed.) was married to Kristi Fiumarello ’01 (Spec. Ed.) on Aug. 27, 2005.

Shawna L. Bonito ’00 (Accounting) and Eric Bonito were married June 10 at Pearl River United Methodist Church.

Vanessa M. Boyd ’00 (Elem. Ed.) and Michael Boyd ’03 (Marketing) celebrated their five-year wedding anniversary on July 14, 2005. They celebrated with their one-year-old son, Andrew Michael, and family and friends.

Derrick Secor ’00 (Bus. Admin.) married Roseanne Liardi on April 10, 2005 at the Church of the Sacred Heart.

Diana (Greenut) Chauvet ’01g (Spec. Ed.) and Paul Chauvet ’03 (Comp. Eng.) were married on June 4, 2005 at the Best Western Nyack in Hudson, N.Y.

David J. Wolfe ’01 (Psychology) was appointed resident director at Potomac State College of West Virginia University. Wolfe will work with a team to develop a healthy, safe and productive learning environment for the students. He facilitates the Residence Hall Association, leads a few resident assistant committees and is currently working on a recycling program.

Following an Alum

Greg Moore ’92g (Printmaking), featured in the Vol. XXIII, No. 1 issue of the Observer in the “Profile of an Alum” section, returned from Iraq after being deployed for a nearly two-round tour with the New York Army National Guard, C/2/108 division. In a ceremony at Gloversville Armory, northwest of Albany, Moore was awarded the Bronze Star for his courage, bravery and commitment to his men during an incident on May 26, 2004, near Samarra, Iraq. In September Moore opened Bear Essentials Screen Printing and Embroidery, a retail clothing store in Saranac Lake, N.Y. He is also the co-chair of the local Merchants’ Association.
Alisha N. (Favorito) Capicchioni ’02 (Psychology) and Richard Capicchioni were married June 10, 2005 at St. Mary’s Church.

Jeffrey H. Orphal ’02 (Marketing) was married on April 29, 2005 at Sacred Heart Church.

Amanda Hoover ’02 (Sociology) and Joseph Pidgeon, Jr. were married July 1, 2005 at the Gardens at Catlin Creek.

Morris A. Sachs ’02, ’05g (Anthropology) has completed the first semester of her master’s program in education at Mercy College in Yorktown, N.Y.

Robyn L. Thurston ’02 (Comm./Media) recently accepted a position at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) as an associate advancement officer.

Heather J. Downey ’03 (Psychology) announces her engagement to Warren Sherman. They plan to wed in Spring 2007 in Virginia.

Kristopher Pearson ’04g (Human. Ed.) married Jennifer Taft on July 16 at the Hotel Si Como No.

Faculty/Staff Authors


Howard Good (Comm./Media) has had his book, “The Theory of Oz: Rediscovering the Aims of Education,” published by Rowman & Littlefield Education. Good’s book explores the metaphoric connections between education goals and the four travelers in “The Wizard of Oz.” Good examines the desires of Scarecrow, Tin Man, Cowardly Lion and Dorothy, and suggests activities to help teachers develop in their students a love of learning, empathy, moral courage and a sense of belonging.

Ron Knapp (Geography, Emeritus) is the author of “Chinese Houses: The Architectural Heritage of a Nation” (Tittle 2005), a coffee-table-type book focusing on his 20 ‘favorite’ old Chinese houses. Two lengthy introductions lead to the individual essays on each house, placing each in their cultural, historical and geographic contexts. Large format color photographs by A. Chester Ong complement Knapp’s own photographs taken during the past 40 years, archival photographs and artwork. Jonathan Spence, president of the American Historical Association for 2004-05, contributed a forward.

Faculty/Staff Notes

Rimer Cardillo (Printmaking) displayed his installation, “Cup and Birds of Clay Oil and Ashes” at Proyecto’ace, an international art center in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The show deals with the concept of the Northern and Southern habitats of the Americas.


Heinz Meng (Biology, Emeritus) was recognized with the Seventh Annual Thom Scheuer Land Stewardship Award from the Mohonk Preserve on Oct. 15, 2005. A SUNY Distinguished Professor, Dr. Meng is an internationally-recognized ornithologist who led the effort to bring peregrine falcons back from the edge of extinction nationwide. The award was presented at the Seventh Annual New Palz Climbing Film Festival, held on campus.

Sheila Schwartz (Sec. Ed., Emerita) participated in a panel discussion on “Broadway and the Blacklist” on May 9, 2005. Schwartz wrote the conclusion of an article, “A Star is Born,” by her late daughter, Nancy Lynn Schwartz, that appeared in Written By, the magazine of the West Coast Screen Writers Guild.

Corrections

In the Vol. XXIII, No. 2, issue of the Observer, Larissa Branin was incorrectly listed as having graduated in 1999 rather than her correct graduation year, 1991.
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In Memoriam

Professor Emeritus Irving Barnett passed away on March 22. Dedicating a career of 22 years at SUNY New Paltz beginning in 1966, Barnett served as a professor in the Division of Area Studies and Geography, then Asian Studies and finally in Economics. Prior to coming to SUNY New Paltz, Barnett taught at Washington College (1955-1966), and he also served while at New Paltz as dean of two units of Empire State College (1968-1971), an alternative higher education program associated with SUNY.

During his tenure, Barnett was well known for his pursuits in international development, primarily his devotion to China and its leadership role in the changing world order. He taught and conducted research while associated with Beijing University, the Institute of International Management, Beijing Foreign Studies University and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in China.

Irving’s legacy lives on in the influence he had on his students, his contributions to progressive education and international understanding, and the love and inspiration he gave freely to friends, colleagues and family. His contributions to the Asian Studies Program at the college are substantial.

Mr. Barnett is survived by wife, Kerttu Kay Barnett, as well as six children and seven grandchildren.

Photo courtesy Kerttu Kay Barnett

Barnett in China in 1946 while working for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Agency, aiding famine relief
In Memoriam

Faculty/Staff
Frederick Attanasio (Speech Comm.)
Marta Bermo (Custodial Srvcs.)
Matilda Bernard
Alfred Bloch (Political Science)
Madgeline Boland (Custodial Srvcs.)
Mary Boylan
Harold Fleisher (Physics)
Dorothy T. Hayes (Education)
Lila Howard
Margaret Kingman
Betty J. Marks (Bookstore)
Alfred E. Milligan (Facilities Mngmnt.)
Martinus Moerbeek (Facilities Mngmnt.)
Salvatore Paterno
Raymond Rutherford
Donald Walker (Physics)
Barbara J. Weidner ’76 (Administration)
Philip Wortas

Alumni
1920-29
Alouise E. Doern ’29
Lillian S. Palmer ’29
Frances B. Wilkins ’29

1930-39
Ethel Graham ’32
Hazel (Bennett) Verdi ’32
Catherine Bailey ’33
Louisa H. Brunning ’33
Helen House ’33
A. Irene Bartal ’34
Eunice M. Gunnison ’35
Kathryn B. Kaney ’35
Anita E. Koertge ’35
Estelle M. Muller ’35
Ruth Schuyler ’35
Arylene (Depew) McDonough ’36
Julia (Rosen) Bollt ’37
Edward Doolan ’37
Ruth A. Hoffman ’37
Doris (Russell) Leggat ’37
Loa (Brown) Sneider ’37
Elma E. Hanley ’38
Marie A. Mataraza ’38
Wanda (Korol) Romansky ’38
Mae Amato (Chardavoyne) Larsen ’39
Marjorie Rice ’39

1940-49
Dorothy A. Clark ’40
Antoinette (Powell) Graham ’40
Edith A. Park ’42
Adrian Maloney ’43
Amy W. Brooks ’45
Jacqueline M. Conn ’45
Edward L. Hoder ’46
Mary (Carpenter) Hults ’46
Helen L. Kennedy ’46
Veronica C. Rafferty ’48
Marie C. Arena ’49

1950-59
Frances (Baxter) Edwards ’50
Myra Rinkler ’50
Margaretha (Turksma) Vanhage ’50
Elizabeth H. Thayer ’52
Mary (Lenney) Pavero ’52
Marilyn L. Blasch ’53
William D. Donoghue ’53
Barbara (Frick) McElroy ’54
Adrienne (Cooper) Smith ’55
Terence Kennedy ’56
Milton Lachterman ’56
Jay Trowbridge ’56
Mary M. Doerler ’57
Joan H. Enckvist ’57
Helmy E. Butts ’58
Julius L. Hoyt ’58
Raymond L. Monfette ’58

1960-69
Ann Muffly ’60
Thomas Mulvany ’60
Trudy H. Briggs ’61
Patricia Simonian ’61
Roberta G. Bergman ’63
Frances Byrwa ’63
James A. Chamblee ’63
Dorothy Wicher ’63
Donald Bentzen ’64
Billie Bongiovanni ’64
Virginia Ebersole ’64
Daro P. Beninati ’65
William O. Fisher ’65
Lewis F. Lottridge ’65
May Scholer ’65
Mary E. McCandless ’66
Sally L. Scofield ’66
James A. Bartman ’67
Margaret M. Warren ’68

1970-79
Andrew J. Desidoro ’70
Edward M. Fredrickson ’70
Joan A. Mayer ’70
Maria Schwander ’70

1980-89
John Uitto ’80
Eugene Reilly ’82
Jonathan VanVlack ’82
Amanda Healey ’83
Brenda B. Lewis ’83
Craig S. Getchonis ’85
Valdemara Aldag ’88
Ruth W. Demont ’88
Belle Greenblatt ’89

1990-99
Patricia (McCue) Manzi ’91
Barbara Vashel ’92
Barry D. Morell ’94
David C. Thibault ’94
Keith P. Frank ’97
John Molina ’97
Jacqueline Undello ’98

2000-present
Patrick O’Brien ’00
Christopher Kulaga ’01
Elizabeth E. Lockard ’02
Jennifer (Swart) Demarco ’03
Kevin R. Pilz ’04

Phyllis A. Thompson ’70
Carolyn Barax ’71
Barbara (Vitale) Chleek ’71
Mitchell A. Climan ’71
George E. Wirsing ’71
Turner L. Clark ’73
William M. Young ’73
Jan M. Bourke ’74
Mariapat D. Brady ’76
Paul H. Sullivan ’76
Barbara Weidner ’76
Anne Lien ’78
John P. Collins ’79
Robert D. Miniger ’79

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1980-89
1990-99
2000-present
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