

GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

Summer 2024
Vol. 115 - No. 1

SUMMER



ISSUE

COVER STORY
DESIGNING WITH CARE

ALSO INSIDE
KEEPING MEMORIES ALIVE

Path to the Pros



UPFRONT

This year, Gettysburg College athletic teams saw success from the court to the field.

The fall was highlighted by the volleyball team earning their first at-large bid to the NCAA tournament. Led by Head ***Coach Leah Bernier***, the volleyball coaching staff was named the Centennial Conference Coaching Staff of the Year.

This past winter, the women's basketball team claimed its third consecutive conference championship with Centennial Conference Player of the Year ***Alayna Arnolie '26***. The men's basketball team claimed the regular season title for the first time behind Centennial Conference Player of the Year ***Jordan Stafford '25***. The men's and women's swim teams also claimed four individual gold medals at the conference championship hosted at Gettysburg.

In the spring, ***Holly Ferrara '24*** capped her career with a third straight All-America showing at the NCAA Division III women's outdoor track and field championship, breaking her own school record. The softball team claimed the Centennial Conference championship behind conference Pitcher of the Year ***Paige Forry '25***. ***Daniel Suter '25*** (pictured) won the men's individual Centennial Conference championship on the golf course, while ***Jordan Basso '24*** finished her career as the all-time leading scorer for women's lacrosse.

Photo by David Sinclair Photography

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Path To The Pros

The Gettysburg Network is all about teamwork—especially within the competitive business of professional sports.

by Karen Hendricks and Molly Pavlovich

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Keeping Memories Alive

How Gettysburgians are preserving history for future generations.

by Megan Miller

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Designing With Care

Throughout history, spaces across the Gettysburg College campus have evolved to meet student needs, which, in turn, have established that sense of place all Gettysburgians know and love.

by Alex J. Hayes and Megan Miller



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ON THE COVER With the intentional design of campus, orange and blue Adirondack chairs are now scattered across Stine Lake, allowing students to maximize function and utility to meet their needs, including building connections with one another.

SIXTY-FIVE COMBINED YEARS OF SERVICE. COUNTLESS LIVES IMPACTED.

This Reunion Weekend, we celebrated two beloved Gettysburg College employees who have shaped our campus in profound ways and strengthened the bonds between us as Gettysburgians: *Gail Sweezey*, Dean of Admissions, and *Joe Lynch '85*, Executive Director of Alumni Relations.

Gail and Joe retired this summer (pg. 10) having devoted their life's work to our educational mission—and their legacy will endure for generations to come. Much like the remarkable alumni, faculty, and staff showcased in this edition of GETTYSBURG College *Magazine*, Gail and Joe have led lives of consequence in service to something greater than themselves. This is precisely what we want for today's students as well.

We discover the power of our education when we're given the opportunity to apply it. Student participation in such high-impact practices has long been a hallmark of a Gettysburg education and, in February, we announced that we will be building upon this institutional strength by guaranteeing a Career-Ready Experience for every student within our Guided Pathways—a defining element of the Gettysburg Approach (www.gettysburg.edu/gettysburg-approach).

A Career-Ready Experience can include at least one of the following Guided Pathways experiences:

- Off-campus or on-campus internship
- Working on a long-term Center for Public Service project
- Global study and travel through the Center for Global Education
- Campus leadership role
- Faculty-mentored research

In addition, every student participating in the Guided Pathways will have the opportunity to compete for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 that can be applied to their select Career-Ready Experience, including for housing, travel costs, professional conference registration fees, and more.

Why are we deepening our commitment to Career-Ready Experiences? Because they change how our students view themselves and the world around them—and these experiences matter more than ever.

When paired with a quality academic foundation, Career-Ready Experiences have consistently proven to positively affect student learning outcomes and success. Research underscores that these experiences are more effective in the aggregate than in isolation. They benefit all students, particularly those from historically underrepresented backgrounds, and they will help Gettysburgians stand out as top job candidates.

In fact, according to a 2023 American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) study, *The Career-Ready Graduate: What Employers Say about the Difference College Makes*, 97% of employers report that “hands-on application of ideas,” when coupled with classroom learning, helps to position college graduates to succeed in their careers.

We have a responsibility to prepare our students for the world that awaits, and this work begins by immersing our students—*every Gettysburg student*—in the world of today.

I'd invite you to learn more about our guaranteed Career-Ready Experiences and consider how you can get involved (opposite page). Like Gail and Joe before them, our students have the potential to uplift entire communities—and this work starts by learning how.

Sincerely,



Bob Iuliano
President

GETTYSBURG

College Magazine

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ENSURING CAREER READINESS

by Michael Vyskocil

Through their Career-Ready Experience, Gettysburg College students will connect what they learn in the classroom and across campus with the real-world environment of a professional workplace. The Gettysburg Approach guarantees our graduates enter the working world ready for their first job and every job after, throughout the entirety of their careers. This central commitment is why Gettysburg College ranks in the top 1% nationwide among liberal arts colleges for a 40-year return on investment, according to The Georgetown University Center on Education & the Workforce ROI Study: ROI of Liberal Arts Colleges.

“By bridging the readiness gap between college and career, the Guided Pathways program extends the reach and impact of a Gettysburg education,” said Associate Provost for Academic Affairs **Jeanne Hamming**. “The range and number of meaningful hands-on experiences offered to our students demonstrates our commitment to students during their time on campus and well beyond.”

PERCENTAGES OF EMPLOYERS WHO INDICATE THEY WOULD BE “MUCH MORE” LIKELY TO CONSIDER A JOB CANDIDATE WITH A CAREER-READY EXPERIENCE



The American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) | *The Career-Ready Graduate: What Employers Say about the Difference College Makes*

If you would like to offer a Career-Ready Experience to current Gettysburg students, please email alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu.

To learn more, please visit www.gettysburg.edu/guaranteed-experience.

SOCIAL MEDIA

ON SOCIAL MEDIA, MEMBERS OF THE GETTYSBURG COLLEGE COMMUNITY REMINISCED ABOUT THEIR TIME ON CAMPUS AND LOOKED AHEAD TO THE FUTURE, WELCOMING THE NEWEST GETTYSBURGIANS.



STUDY ABROAD

During the fall semester, 112 students across 33 majors studied abroad in 20 countries through the Center for Global Education and the College’s affiliated partners. When photos from Portugal, England, and more were posted on LinkedIn, the memories flowed:

“My January Term in Paris in 1982 and my January Term in Greece in 1984 [were] glorious and such wonderful experiences for me. Not to mention ‘easy A’s.’ I hope you all enjoy it to the fullest and come back safely to us!”

[in](#) **Beverly Stenberg '84**

“Studying abroad in Morocco and France for a year while I was at Gettysburg was the best decision I ever made!”

[in](#) **Sabrina Guzy '13**

In the spring, 130 more students studied around the world in 22 countries. During the 2023-2024 academic year, every major at Gettysburg College was represented in global studies.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

Students, faculty, and staff gathered on Stine Lake on April 8 to watch the solar eclipse as a community, complete with sweets and treats at an event organized by the Office of Student Activities and Greek Life. It was a partial eclipse with 91% of the sun covered by the moon. Some students and staff even traveled to the path of totality. As Gettysburgians await the next eclipse in 2044, alumni reminisced on social media:

“Was thinking about when we were celebrating the last one in 2017 on campus!”

[in](#) **Eby Buscher '19**

“I remember partial in '94 or '95!”

[f](#) **Chris Hart '95**

“Yup. May '94. It was [an] annular eclipse in a path not too different from this one (partial in G'burg as you say).”

[f](#) **Ian Clarke, Hatter Planetarium director**





WELCOME TO GETTYSBURG

Every year, the Gettysburg College Admissions staff dedicate their time to review and select the next great class of Gettysburgians from thousands of impressive applications. When the College announced that decisions were released, our social media community celebrated with us:

“One of the best offices on campus. I see some of my favorite people in the picture here. Yay for our amazing Admissions team! You are all wonderful!”

 [Meem Noshin Nawal Khan '24](#)

“A job well done. Thank you.”

 [Bill Schiff '73](#)

“A wonderful College filled with amazing students and staff. My daughter had such a positive experience. ❤️”

 [Nancy Smith P'18](#)

SPECIAL SHOUTOUTS

When Gettysburg College’s cover photo on Facebook featured the Class of 2024 flag during Commencement week, flying high atop the cupola of Pennsylvania Hall, the College community congratulated the newest class of graduates and included some special shoutouts:

“We are so looking forward to seeing our grandson Matt graduate on Saturday. Congratulations to the entire class and the parents who made it all possible.”

 [Mary Anne Mikulka GP'24](#)

“Congratulations to my son Emmanuel Villaseñor. I’m so proud of you.”

 [Oly Campuzano P'24](#)



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT ALUMNI DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT WINNERS!

Over the past six months, these alumni have demonstrated a deep connection to Gettysburg College by engaging with College communities on social media. Please join us in thanking them for their support and advocacy.

*Meredith Bowne Bove '97 Mary Gatterdam Folkemer '68
Pamela Jones Rothlisberger '72 Kasey Varner '14
Al Wilkins '06*

TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE ONLINE CONVERSATIONS, FIND AND FOLLOW GETTYSBURG COLLEGE ON YOUR FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your comments about what you read in this issue to alumnimagazine@gettysburg.edu, and we may print them in an upcoming issue.

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, TikTok, Twitter, and YouTube

 [Gburg.College](#)  [gettysburgcollege](#)  [gettysburg-college](#)  [gettysburgcollege](#)  [gettysburg](#)  [GettysburgCollege](#)

IN THE MEDIA



Inside Higher Ed featured Musselman Library's successful campaign to cut down on the costs of textbooks for students. Working closely with the Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning (JCCTL), library staff, including **Janelle Wertzberger**, Musselman's assistant dean and director of scholarly communications, have promoted the use of open educational resources (OER). The result of this work has been \$1.6 million saved in textbook purchases over the last decade.



In early March, the Gettysburg College women's lacrosse team landed a spot on ESPN SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays. After receiving a pass from **Caroline Sullivan '24**, All-American attacker **Jordan Basso '24** flipped a no-look shot behind her head for a goal against The Catholic University of America on March 6. The highlight cracked the ESPN list at No. 8.

IN A SECTION ON MODERN PARENTING, NBC NEWS NOW REPORTED THAT WHILE ABOUT 90% OF PARENTS BELIEVE THEIR CHILDREN PERFORM ACADEMICALLY AT THEIR GRADE LEVEL, LESS THAN HALF OF THOSE CHILDREN ACTUALLY DO. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE EISENHOWER INSTITUTE AND ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR OF LEARNING HEROES **TRACIE POTTS** EXPLAINED THAT PARENTS MOSTLY RELY ON REPORT CARDS AND GRADES TO TRACK THEIR CHILD'S PROGRESS WHEN INSTEAD THEY SHOULD BE RELYING ON YEAR-END ACHIEVEMENT TESTS.

*Gettysburg College President **Bob Iuliano** joined the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) "Higher Edification" podcast to discuss the importance of a liberal arts and sciences education and how best to prepare students to be successful in their lives and careers. Iuliano highlighted the purposeful integration of academic and co-curricular experiences and the power of reflection through the College's Gettysburg Approach.*

INSIDE HIGHER ED ALSO PROMOTED THE COLLEGE'S J-TERM COURSES FOR ITS INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO STUDENT DEVELOPMENT. "IT'S BEEN GOOD TO SEE HOW WE CAN DELIVER A PROGRAM THAT CONNECTS VERY INTENTIONALLY WITH WHAT WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO LEARN AND WHAT WE WANT OUR STUDENTS TO KNOW," SAID ASSOCIATE DEAN OF CO-CURRICULAR EDUCATION **JIM DUFFY**. "WE KNOW THAT THOSE ENDURING SKILLS ARE THE SKILLS THAT THEY NEED, WHETHER THEY GO INTO THE WORKING WORLD, TO GRADUATE SCHOOL—WHATEVER THEY MAY DO."

In an article by Forbes, former Gettysburg student-athlete **Katie McCarthy '20**, an organization and management studies major, discussed the rapid rise and success of her golf apparel, Kilo Tango. Since its start in 2021, Kilo Tango has expanded its reach to 42 pro shops ranging from the Bahamas to Napa Valley.



NEWS

Contributions by
Laken Franchetti '24



FILM FESTIVAL

A sold-out The Gettysburg Film Festival: The Art of Ken Burns was a success for its second straight year at the Majestic Theater.

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GROWING DEMAND

Gettysburg College is proud to expand its Master of Arts in American History program to community college instructors.

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CELEBRATING RETIREES

Joe Lynch '85 retires after 24 years as executive director of Alumni Relations, and Dean of Admissions *Gail Sweezey* also retires after 41 years at Gettysburg College.

P. 10

PAYING IT FORWARD

Trustee Emerita *Joan Fischer Schweizer '76* and *Rick Schweizer '76* made a \$5.5 million commitment to Gettysburg College.

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STAFF

NOT YOUR AVERAGE JOE

After 24 years as executive director of Alumni Relations, **Joe Lynch '85** retired from Gettysburg College. A history major who competed in both basketball and swimming, Lynch began his career working in athletic communications and later joined the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Tour as communications manager in 1993. He returned to Gettysburg in 2000 and has worked tirelessly on behalf of his alma mater and in service of more than 32,000 alumni across the world. Lynch closed his tenure by working his final Reunion Weekend on May 30-June 2, 2024, and producing his 286th consecutive edition of the monthly alumni newsletter, *Bullet Points*. His retirement plans include spending time with his wife **Kelly Woods Lynch '82** and dog Milo, cheering for Philadelphia sports teams, and riding his bike around his home in Delaware.



In honor of his contributions to Gettysburg, our gracious donors have established The Joseph W. Lynch, Jr. '85 Endowed Internship Fund. Earnings from this fund will be used to support internship opportunities for rising sophomores or juniors, with a preference for internship experiences that foster relationship-building and teamwork, hallmarks of his distinctive career at the College.

ON CAMPUS

KEN BURNS RETURNS

On April 5-6, The Gettysburg Film Festival: The Art of Ken Burns returned to Gettysburg, showcasing American history and identity on screen. Co-hosted by Gettysburg College and the Adams County Historical Society, the festival was sold out at the Majestic Theater, garnering attendees from 27 states across the country and Canada, underscoring the legacy that Burns has created.

Joining Burns were special guests, including film producer Sarah Botstein, actors Martin Sheen and Sam Waterston, Eisenhower Institute Chair Emerita Susan Eisenhower, and musicians Jay Ungar and Molly Mason. On April 5, Burns also visited campus for a special student event, during which he reiterated the lessons history can teach us about upholding the duties as American citizens during consequential elections.

STAFF

DIFFERENCE MAKER

This July, Dean of Admissions **Gail Sweezey** retired from Gettysburg College after 41 exceptional years leading in an ever-evolving enrollment environment. Over the years, she has changed the lives of thousands of students and staff, holding close the Stoles of Gratitude from Gettysburg graduates who have recognized her as a true difference maker in their lives. In addition to her service for the Common Application, Sweezey has represented Gettysburg College on the executive board of the Pennsylvania Association for College Admission Counseling (PACAC) and has been active at the national level in NACAC and the College Board. She has served five Gettysburg College presidents, three vice presidents, and one dean of admission over her tenure. But moreover, she has served the College, prospective students, and their parents exceedingly well.



ON CAMPUS

MASTER'S PROGRAM EXPANDED

Since its launch in April 2022, the Gettysburg College-Gilder Lehrman Institute MA in American History has become known for its affordability, flexibility, and exceptional quality. The MA program has been embraced by K-12 educators, district supervisors, librarians, museum professionals, and National Park Service employees associated with the GLI. In response to its growing demand, the College announced two expansions.

Starting in the summer 2024 semester, the College has expanded the master's program to community college instructors as well.

The program will also introduce a MA+15/30 offering, designed specifically for K-12 teachers who currently hold a master's degree. This offering allows them to take courses beyond their master's level, contributing to professional development while advancing salary schedules.

ON CAMPUS

STADIUM LIGHTS

Gettysburg College Athletics and the Orange & Blue Club are proud to announce the addition of new lights at Musselman Stadium. Construction begins this summer. All teams who use Musselman Stadium, especially men's lacrosse, field hockey, football, and track & field, will benefit from this significant campus improvement. They will now be able to host night games as well as morning and evening practices.

Thank you to the following leadership donors who made this enhancement a reality: *Jim Apple '58, GP'20; Kyle '96 and Jennifer Roberts '95 Betty; David '75 and Dorothy Brennan P'00; Chris '89 and Karen Wright '90 Bright; Dave Bright '60, P'89; Robert Bruns '88; Marjorie Burnett GP'27; Chris '90 and Julie Brickman '91 Carr P'20, P'23, P'27; Michael Delduchetto P'27 and Bassima Bashour P'27; Amanda Corroon Dolan '86; Braden Edwards '90; Christopher and Wendolyn Hearn P'27; Erik '91 and Cindy Hybels '91 Johnson P'28; Earl '88 and Katinka Van Varik '89 Kight; Christian and Kristen Limberg P'28; Scott Manniello '10; Charles and Jennifer Meyo P'27; Brock and Kirsten Myers P'27; Patrick Pendergast '99; Dan C. Polizzotti '89 and family; Stephen Raeder '98 and Renata Raeder II; Jim Railey '87; Josh Reichert '10; Craig Sabatino '78; Sandra Griffith '86 and Carter '86 Sackman; and David Tardio '99.*

"Gettysburg has impacted my life on and off the field. I met my wife, Cindy, at Gettysburg and our youngest son will be a freshman on the [men's lacrosse] team this fall. Cindy and I are avid fans and happy to support anything that makes the program more competitive," said *Erik Johnson '91, P'28.*

ALUMNI

ALUMNI AWARDED

This year's recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award are Veterans Affairs doctor *Tom Hardy '66*, fashion and television personality *Carson Kressley '91*, non-profit leader *Cheryl Ennis Self '73*, and longtime psychology professor *William Swann '74.*

Sara Harenchar Levinson '09, who serves as secretary for the Alumni Board of Directors and was a former member of the BOLD Council, and *Lauren Meehan Keefe '09*, who is a member of the Alumni Board of Director's Executive Committee and also a former BOLD Council member, are recipients of the 2024 Young Alumni Achievement Awards for Service. The 2024 Young Alumni Achievement Award for Career Development are international development and humanitarian leader *Aimee George '09* and award-winning lyricist *Kate Anderson Reynolds '09. Helen Hohman '75*, who served for 11 years on the Alumni Board of Directors, and *Fred Schumacher '69*, who was a member of the Orange & Blue Advisory Committee, and co-chair of his 50th and 55th Reunions, are the recipients of the Meritorious Service Award.

STAFF

NEW MAJESTIC DIRECTOR

After an extensive and competitive national search, **Brett W. Messenger** was named the next executive director of the Majestic Theater. He began his tenure in May.

Most recently, Messenger served as the curatorial director of live arts at the Morris Museum, a Smithsonian affiliate in Morristown, New Jersey. There, he conceived and curated innovative performing arts series that garnered widespread acclaim and attracted diverse audiences. Of note, he spearheaded a dynamic series that showcased world premieres of theater, music, dance, interdisciplinary projects, jazz, film, rock, and lectures. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the live outdoor performances he led appeared in *The New York Times*. Through this work, he elevated the institution's artistic profile and deepened its connections with the community.

Messenger was also previously the program administrator at PEAK Performances at Montclair State University, where he orchestrated major campus events, including one featuring the late Associate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

ALUMNI

\$5.5 MILLION COMMITMENT

Trustee Emerita *Joan Fischer Schweizer '76* and *Rick Schweizer '76* made a commitment of \$5.5 million toward several of the institution's top priorities, including the Gettysburg Fund, global study, academic scholarship, and student-faculty research.

"Gettysburg did a great job of preparing us for our careers and our experiences in our careers," Joan said. "Looking back, if it weren't for Gettysburg, I'm not sure we would have done as well as we have done. Gettysburg helped us get to where we are today."

The rewarding and impactful experiences they had at Gettysburg College, in addition to their trust in the College's Strategic Direction, led to the commitment, which is larger than any commitment made by a living donor during *Gettysburg Great: The Campaign for Our College* (2011-2018).



ON THE TOPIC OF GRIT

WHAT DOES GRIT MEAN IN TODAY'S WORLD?



Kaleigh Badecki

Assistant women's basketball coach and assistant strength coach

During my eight years at Gettysburg College, I've had the pleasure of coaching some incredible female student-athletes. I believe that athletes are problem-solvers, overcoming challenges that may arise. Winning and success have no loyalty. Thus, grit is built and, even more so, required from student-athletes to be successful on and off the field.

Grit is determination. It requires a growth mindset that gives student-athletes the ability to find solutions and not be held captive to circumstances. It's also the attitude to focus on the controllable. Some student-athletes are gifted with ability, and others work for every ounce of talent they have. Grit requires perseverance and focus on the process instead of immediate outcomes.

I love seeing our players truly challenge themselves for maybe the first time ever in their lives. It's my joy to help them find that grit to stay dedicated throughout their journey and fight a culture that says, "If it's not quick and easy, it's not worth it." It is worth it. Success is found when student-athletes discover what they are truly capable of.



Lawrese Brown '10

Entrepreneur

Most people hear the word grit and believe they don't have it because they haven't overcome an extraordinary challenge. But grit is more simple—grit is a willingness to adjust.

Take it from a business owner who is incredibly stubborn. My stubbornness enabled me to be among the 12% of women who crossed six figures in revenue. I stayed the course for eight years, endured rejections, and niched my services to focus on communication training—and it paid off. It's my willingness to change that's enabled me to transition to new services in an economy where training, learning, and development is experiencing a downturn.

Grit requires action. When I navigate change, I ask myself: Am I willing to have challenging conversations? Do I have the courage to let go? Am I willing to venture into new endeavors? Do I have the courage to continue without support? Am I willing to raise my hand and ask for opportunities I want? Do I have the courage to be visible, despite previous failures?

These questions have allowed me to change and remain gritty, and I believe they will help others, too.



Dave Powell P'23

Professor of public policy

"Grit" became a popular buzzword in education a few years ago because it called up images of persistence, perseverance, and determination in the face of difficult challenges. In the right context, those traits are definitely good ones to have, but persistence and perseverance can look more like obedience and compliance under the wrong circumstances.

When education is considered narrowly as a personal experience, not a social one, characteristics like perseverance get valued over traits like empathy, creativity, compassion, and risk-taking. People with "grit" may know they have a job to do, but may not know why they're doing it.

In classroom settings, I like it when students ask a lot of questions, change their minds when uninformed beliefs are challenged, and try to come up with novel solutions to thorny problems. No doubt, it takes some grit to do all those things—but it also takes humility, self-doubt, and good judgment to know when to give up on one idea and move on to the next one.

A little grit is a good thing, but it's best to think of it as one attribute in the endless constellation of human traits that define who we are.



Jeffrey Rioux

Director of the Center for Public Service

We do not live in a meritocracy. There is a dominant narrative that says success is available to anyone who works hard. That is a flattering story to anyone who has achieved success but ignores factors such as wealth and luck. It is a demeaning story to those who work hard but lack equal opportunity, access to resources, and a network to connect them to a job, and, therefore, do not achieve success.

At the Center for Public Service, we know students and community members who have plenty of grit but still find themselves struggling against oppressive systems, such as unequal educational opportunities and false narratives, like drawing a connection between income and effort. I have no interest in responding to their struggle with adages about bootstraps or grit.

I like the idea of students and members of my community persevering in the face of obstacles. The fear is that if we emphasize the grit narrative too much, those who are unable to overcome those obstacles will be blamed for not having enough grit.



Christina Wade '25

Health sciences major, biology and chemistry double minor

When I arrived at Gettysburg College, I was overwhelmed by all the available student resources. However, I quickly discovered a community where I found my place through co-curricular activities. Working as a leadership mentor for the Garthwait Leadership Center and a residence coordinator in the Office of Residential Education—coupled with the ambition instilled in me from my mother—has prepared me to take on challenges. These experiences have given me the resilience and grit necessary for my future career plans as a physician.

In addition to the knowledge gained through my major in health sciences and minors in biology and chemistry, I have learned how to bounce back from obstacles in times of stress. I am embarking on a long journey through medical school, but I know that my continuous involvement outside the classroom has given me the skills to achieve my dreams. I owe my success to Gettysburg's focus on co-curricular activities and opportunities for student leadership. Thanks to these experiences, I have built the grit to reach my goals.

“GRIT REQUIRES ACTION. WHEN I NAVIGATE CHANGE, I ASK MYSELF: AM I WILLING TO HAVE CHALLENGING CONVERSATIONS? DO I HAVE THE COURAGE TO LET GO? AM I WILLING TO VENTURE INTO NEW ENDEAVORS?”

Latwrese Brown '10
Entrepreneur

THE KEYS TO A CONSEQUENTIAL LIFE CONNECT PEOPLE AND PETS THROUGH VETERINARY MEDICINE

by Michael Vyskocil

A newly triaged cat with a urinary blockage is whisked past the familiar guilty appearance of a Labrador who snatched a bowl of chocolates from the countertop. The ICU hums with activity from the symphony of chirping fluid pumps amid conversations among doctors, nurses, and even the patients themselves. It's all in a day's work for **Dr. Mike Karchner Jr. '19**, a veterinarian at BluePearl Pet Hospital in Cary, North Carolina. Karchner's busy schedule fills with opportunities to help animals while he pursues advanced professional training as a member of BluePearl's rotating internship program cohort.

Inspired by his grandfather to become a veterinarian, he eyed colleges encouraging introspection and personal growth, including Gettysburg College, which he learned about from two high school classmates, **Andrew Mahoney '17** and **Karl Segletes '18**. After applying his senior year and visiting during Get Acquainted Day, he witnessed the College's supportive community and knew he wanted to attend Gettysburg.

On campus, Karchner, a biology major with a double minor in music and business, encountered a rigorous curriculum. His coursework, professors, and classmates challenged his perceptions of the world, introduced him to a breadth and depth of knowledge across multiple disciplines, and built enduring skills he's relied on throughout his career.

He credits Biology **Prof. Michael Caldwell** and **Prof. Alex Trillo** with imparting their knowledge on vertebrate zoology and animal behavior. As part of Trillo's tropical terrestrial ecology course, Karchner participated in a three-week research trip to Peru. There, he explored the world of wildlife in the Andes Mountains and the Amazon River basin.

Participating in the Bullets Marching Band, Wind Symphony, and Symphony Band through the Sunderman Conservatory of Music allowed him to develop his collaboration, problem-solving, and teamwork skills. Performing in these ensembles prepared him to work with others outside the classroom as a veterinary assistant with Parkway Veterinary Hospital in Marmora, New Jersey, and beyond Gettysburg during his studies at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine.



Dr. Mike Karchner '19 holds his beagle, Hazel, whom he adopted during his first year of veterinary school.

In 2017, Karchner was awarded the Entrepreneurial and Social Innovation Initiative Fellowship for Pet-Viser, a startup proposal for a smartphone app that would provide an accessible, curated resource to answer pet owners' pressing questions: "What type of food should I feed to my pet?" "How do I keep track of all these vaccines and preventives?" "Should I take my pet to the ER now or can this wait until the morning?"

Karchner then teamed up with *Bill Heyman '74, P'13*; *Bill Huss '75*; and *Paul Nix '74, P'10*. These alumni mentors offered him real-world perspectives based on their entrepreneurial experiences building a fledgling business concept into a robust marketable product. While Karchner's Pet-Viser did not make it to market, he believes the fellowship experience allowed him to develop a systems-based approach to problem solving, which he's relied on in his career.

“It is easy to focus solely on the seemingly obvious fix; however, better quality or more practical solutions are often waiting to be found if you are willing to take a step back and see the bigger picture.”

“Building Pet-Viser as a product and business challenged me to think about a problem from new, often unfamiliar perspectives. In veterinary medicine, like business, you need to understand how things are interrelated. It is easy to focus solely on the seemingly obvious fix; however, better quality or more practical solutions are often waiting to be found if you are willing to take a step back and see the bigger picture,” he said.

Through the fellowship, Karchner discovered that his product couldn't match the quality of pet owners' trusted sources for information—their own veterinarians. “Now that I am that trusted advisor for so many people, I feel well prepared to make gold-standard medical recommendations that are practical, financially feasible, and emotionally informed.”

Karchner's Gettysburg education also provided the three C's that prepared him for veterinary studies and his career: communication, collaboration, and context.

“I learned how to take information, synthesize it, and present it in an understandable way for any audience—veterinarians, the scientific community, or a pet owner,” he said. “I owe collaboration to the team-oriented environments fostered through working in the labs and music ensembles. Veterinary medicine is a team job.

I'm working with paraprofessionals who are specialists and general practitioners. We're all trying to get to the same goal of offering the best treatment for a patient.”

He acknowledges Gettysburg's multidisciplinary approach for instilling new perspectives and making connections.

“That's where I credit a lot of my ability to communicate effectively, especially in scientific and medical topics,” he said. For example, even similar clinical cases he encounters can differ due to a pet owner's goals or resources.

“It's important to understand the context of those situations you deal with because you cannot take a one-size-fits-all approach,” he said. “When I got into my career, I was able to more easily identify patterns and explore them—not just in the context of my job, like diagnosing a disease or figuring out a treatment plan, but explaining the patterns and relationships to a pet owner.”

Reflecting on his passion for veterinary medicine, Karchner credits Gettysburg's consequential education for providing the roots and wings to help students like him pursue a life of purpose.

“It's education that opens doors and opportunities for you and guides you to where they are,” he said. “Your degree is like the key on a keyring. It opens those doors. It gives you the tools you need for a consequential life where you can make material change and do material good with the knowledge and skills you have built.” ■



TOP Mike Karchner '19 pauses on a nature hike with Biology Prof. Alex Trillo's Tropical Terrestrial Ecology class in the Amazon Rainforest region of Peru.

MIDDLE Mike Karchner '19 leads one last tour through the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine before graduation.

BOTTOM Graduation day for Dr. Mike Karchner '19, with Hazel participating in the celebration.

CONNECTIONS

AS UNDERGRADUATES AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE, *Fred '07* and *Martha Rysinski '07 Reimer* immersed themselves in the institution's unique and holistic approach to learning. When he wasn't helping the men's lacrosse team win four consecutive conference championships as a long-stick midfielder, Fred, an economics major and mathematics minor, was serving in leadership roles on campus as a member of the Student Senate and president of his fraternity, Phi Delta Theta. Martha, an economics major and French minor, studied abroad in France and served as vice president of the Class of 2007.

"WE ENJOYED MANY THINGS ABOUT OUR TIME AS STUDENTS AT GETTYSBURG, including making lifelong friends and, of course, meeting each other," said the Reimers, who reside in Bedford, New York. "We took advantage of the many opportunities to be active and involved across campus, including through athletics, Greek Life, study abroad, internships, and a variety of different experiences."

FOLLOWING GRADUATION, the couple used the knowledge and enduring skills they gained as undergraduates and applied them to successful careers. Fred utilized the Gettysburg Network to land a job in the trading risk management software space shortly after graduation, and used his leadership and entrepreneurial skills honed at Gettysburg to eventually start KWA Analytics Americas. After working for Verizon Communications for several years, Martha returned to school and received her law degree from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University in 2014. She is currently a director at Abide Consulting Group, a full-service consulting firm in financial compliance for registered investment advisors and broker-dealer firms.

FRED AND MARTHA HAVE NEVER LOST SIGHT of the foundation Gettysburg provided them to learn and grow, and they continue to support their alma mater through philanthropic means. They are members of the Loyalty Circle, which celebrates alumni who are consistent donors to the College, and support students through a host of funding opportunities, such as the Orange & Blue Club, Gettysburg Fund, Student Emergency Fund, and the Hank Janczyk Endowed Fund for Men's Lacrosse.

"We want to help students of all backgrounds have a great Gettysburg experience," said the couple. "When we have the opportunity to attend career fairs, fraternity events, or lacrosse events, we are always impressed by how well prepared the students are. We want to ensure that continues."

FRED '07 AND MARTHA RYSINSKI '07 REIMER

Loyalty Circle members and consecutive lifetime donors, with Fred serving as a member of the President's Advisory Council and earning the Young Alumni Achievement Award in 2017

Fred is the managing director for KWA Analytics Americas, and Martha is a director at Abide Consulting Group



FEATURES

DESIGNING WITH CARE

With the intentional design of spaces across campus, the Gettysburg College community thrives.

P. 28

PATH TO THE PROS

The Gettysburg Network is all about teamwork—especially within the competitive business of professional sports.

P. 18

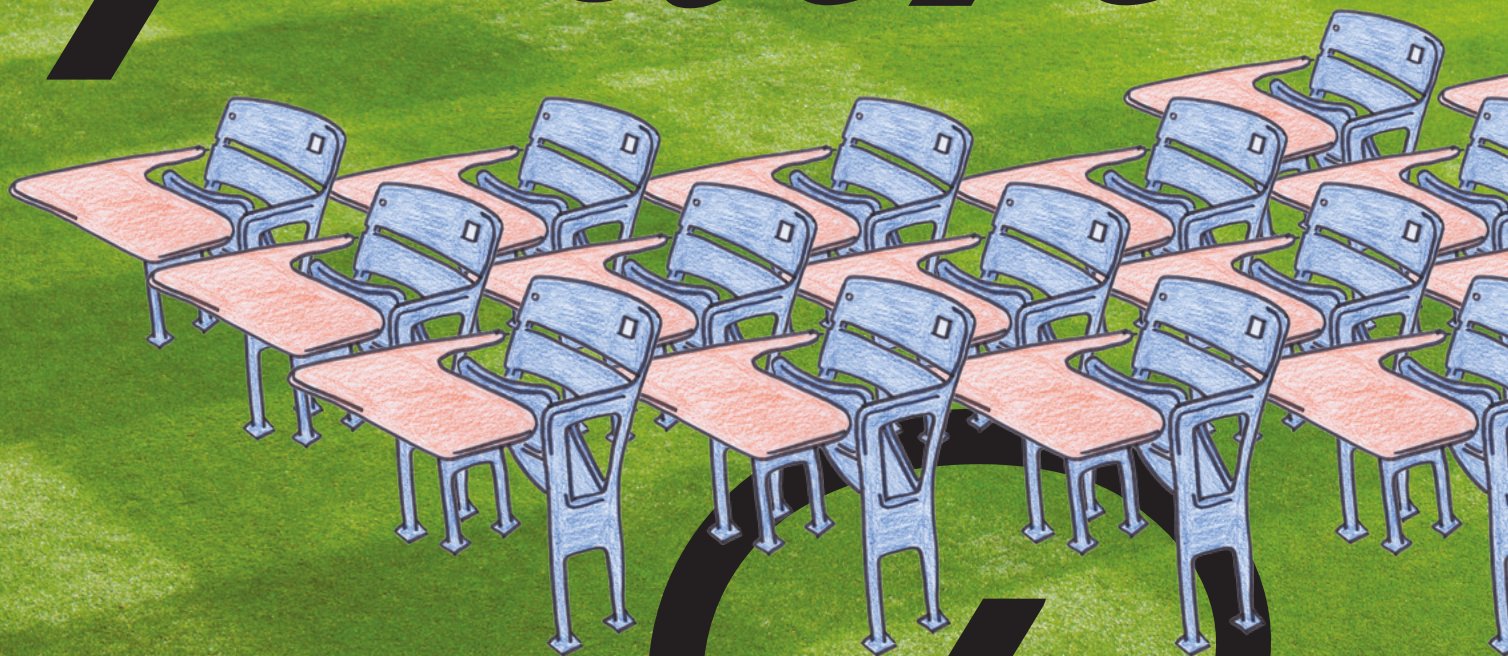
KEEPING MEMORIES ALIVE

How Gettysburgians are preserving history for future generations

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Path

TO
THE



*by Karen Hendricks,
with contributions
from Molly Pavlovich*



The Gettysburg Network is all about teamwork—especially within the competitive business of professional sports.

The Orange and Blue always had a place in the office of **Wayne Hasenbalg '76**. The traditional felted Gettysburg College pennant, photos, and other memorabilia have sparked conversations about his alma mater throughout his career. With pride in his voice, Hasenbalg took every opportunity to talk about his college experience.

“Gettysburg College completely changed my life,” Hasenbalg explained. “I grew up there, and in a way, I became the person I still am today completely based on my experience there—that’s something I have never forgotten, and it’s why I choose to pay it forward.”

That is also why, in the shadow of the Big Apple, from his former office at the Meadowlands, the retiree always took time to talk to Gettysburg College students calling for career advice.

“I always hoped that, at some level, I could provide somebody else with at least advice or steer them some way—whatever I could do to give them the ability to use their experience from Gettysburg in a way that got them in the door,” said Hasenbalg.

Hasenbalg’s career concluded with quite the swan song, bringing the Super Bowl and other world-class events to the Meadowlands as CEO of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority. But he never forgets his roots, always honored to have the Orange and Blue by his side.

IGNITING CONNECTIONS ON CAMPUS

The genesis of many Gettysburgians’ careers in the sports industry can be traced back to childhood sports and the opportunity to compete at the collegiate level. With peers, faculty, staff, and alumni cheering them on, the Gettysburg Network endures, extending well beyond the playing fields and classrooms.

ESPN production and business operations supervisor **Lindsay Hayden '19**, a former member of the Bullets swimming

team, gained the confidence to “keep swimming” through life thanks to the knowledge and enduring skills she cultivated at Gettysburg. As she sets her sights on climbing the ladder at ESPN, she continually reflects on how she developed her strong work ethic racing against the clock in the pool and challenging herself in the classroom as an English major.

“**Coach [Mike] Rawleigh** once said swimming is about discovering yourself. I think back to that quote a lot,” said Hayden. “You’re always trying to push yourself, and that’s what makes the best people once you get into the workforce.”

While **Charrisha Watkins '13** picked up a tennis racquet at the age of 4 and continued playing on Gettysburg’s courts, she never thought she’d be working for the United States Tennis Association (USTA). It was through several key Gettysburg connections that her dream was set into motion.

Inspired and motivated by her mentor, Management **Prof. Amy Hooper**, Watkins attended a Center for Career Engagement (CCE) career fair, where she connected with Gettysburg College Alumni Board of Directors member **Jack Duffy '79**, a vice president for AT&T. As Watkins’ network grew, she later completed AT&T’s rigorous training program and was hired as a sales representative, ultimately catapulting her toward the USTA.

“Because of Gettysburg and the AT&T program, having that sales background and competitive tennis background, merging the two was how I was able to land a job at USTA,” said Watkins, who now serves as a USTA community program representative for the Sacramento and Northern California region. “It goes back to Prof. Hooper—she saw something in me and believed in me.”

Watkins calls her return to the tennis world a “full-circle moment” that allows her to share the sport she loves with the next generation. But her career wouldn’t be possible without Gettysburg College, its holistic approach to education, and its expansive network.

“I appreciated the rigorous academic work at Gettysburg because I learned how to think critically. Critical thinking skills are so important, and sports give you a different kind of mindset, discipline, and grit to how you approach life,” Watkins said.

“[Gettysburgians] are taking the time to push you, challenge you, and support you in ways that I just don’t think you get at some bigger schools,” added Hayden.

BREAKING INTO A COMPETITIVE INDUSTRY

The professional sports industry, by its very nature, is highly competitive. The backbone of the big four leagues—Major League Baseball (MLB), National Basketball Association (NBA), National Football League (NFL), and the National Hockey League (NHL)—includes an intricate business model supporting the glitz, glamour, and grit exhibited by star athletes.

That makes connections all the more vital for those eyeing the leagues’ business careers, including connections in the vast Gettysburg Network of passionate thinkers and trailblazers across the globe.

Mike Luteran Jr. ’04, vice president of ticketing for the MLB, is extremely active within the Gettysburg Network. The former Bullets catcher frequently hosts externships and speaks on panels organized by the CCE. When current students or alumni call him—something that happens on a weekly basis—he’s happy to offer his insider’s insights. He often rattles off the names of several students he’s helped over the years, with whom he’s on a first-name basis.

“The alumni network is vast and strong, and I think people are always willing to give time,” Luteran said. “That’s a direct reflection of the kind of experience that people have at Gettysburg.”

As an advocate for the power of networking, something he wished he leveraged more as a student, Luteran



credits Gettysburgians for being “proactive” in gaining the edge within a competitive job market. With a Career-Ready Experience guaranteed for every student participating in the Gettysburg Approach, Gettysburg graduates enter the workforce ready for every job they pursue. In fact, a recent survey of 200 employers said that Gettysburg graduates, across all industries, possess and outperform their peers in what employers define as must-have career skills, such as teamwork, communication, and leadership.

“The environment at Gettysburg instilled networking in me—the ability to spark conversations, interact with people, and

take those chances,” said Luteran. “That’s why that part of my professional career came easy.”

Tapping into the Gettysburg Network is game-changing. For **Sean Smith ’14**, meeting **Ed Tapscott P’14**, vice president of player development for the Washington Wizards, at a CCE networking dinner his sophomore year led to a court-side job shadowing experience in Washington, D.C. It was during postgame conversations with Tapscott that Smith began to grasp the business model supporting professional sports and realized his potential for success in the industry.

“I knew I wanted to work in professional sports—that really was just the trigger,” Smith said.

Motivated by this Career-Ready Experience, Smith then completed two internships: one with the New York Islanders and another for **Eric Handler ’86**, vice president of communications with the YES Network. On the cusp of graduation, at another CCE networking dinner, Smith connected with **Ray Hopkins ’87**, who was transitioning from YES to CBS Sports at the time. Each of these connections paved the way for Smith’s first job after college with the Long Island Ducks, an MLB partner organization.

Acknowledging it can be challenging to break into the sports industry, Hayden enjoys talking to fellow alumni, sharing advice from “behind the curtain” on the importance of resilience, and encouraging Gettysburgians to be confident in

“The environment at Gettysburg instilled networking in me—the ability to spark conversations, interact with people, and take those chances.”

Mike Luteran Jr. ’04

their education and the power of the Gettysburg Network.

“Having Gettysburg on your resume is huge,” said Hayden. “A lot of people understand what it means to have gone to a liberal arts school. Gettysburg’s network is great—and I think that’s why we have so many excellent, high-level alumni throughout the business world—and that network is there to help you.”

When the COVID-19 pandemic shut down the sports industry, networking felt like a safety net for many, including Smith and Luteran. They were resources for each other, bouncing ideas off one another for support and guidance as businesses looked to reopen. Today, networking has become more critical than ever to connect and share information, or to simply share empathy, Smith said.

“I learned from someone early on in my career that you never know how helpful they might be to you down the road,” agreed Hasenbalg. “That advice has always stuck with me.”

PASSING THE TORCH

Members of the Gettysburg College community, inspired by those who came before them, are compelled to pay it forward. Helping the next generation of Gettysburgians is a win-win, sparking

nostalgia for alumni while opening new doors for students.

After four promotions in the past decade, Smith now serves as the general manager for the Ducks and makes a concerted effort to give back to the Gettysburg Network in a way that emulates what Handler did for him: “I’ve really never come across anybody associated with the College who wasn’t willing to help by any means they could,” said Smith.

“I remember Sean Smith—he was a great intern,” said Handler. “A good number of my former interns have gotten either promotions or new jobs in the past six or eight months. When they reach out to let me know they have a new job and say, ‘Thank you for everything’—that really, really makes me proud. I get a genuine sense of satisfaction from hearing from Gettysburgians I’ve helped along the way, now making their own names in the real world.”

Jessie Ken-Kwofie ’21, who was recently hired as an inside sales representative for the Boston Red Sox, often taps into her Bullets softball team’s tight-knit alumni network, as well as the Gettysburg Network’s “powerful” presence on LinkedIn. Since she was young, she always knew she wanted to connect with others through meaningful conversations and make a difference in their lives.

“I definitely want to give back and provide opportunities to students who might be interested in the sports industry moving

“Gettysburg’s network is great—and I think that’s why we have so many excellent, high-level alumni throughout the business world—and that network is there to help you.”

Lindsay Hayden ’19

forward,” said Ken-Kwofie. “There were countless times when alums came back to Gettysburg when I was still on campus and shared their experiences.”

Sparked through Gettysburg’s liberal arts and sciences education, these consequential connections within the Gettysburg Network speak volumes.

“People don’t forget the impact that other people have on them when somebody goes out of their way to help them, when there is no real gain to them—other than the desire to help someone who may remind them of a younger version of themselves. We all have those people in our lives,” said Luteran.

“Ultimately, if they do look back,” Luteran continued, “they’re going to realize that they probably wouldn’t have gotten to the place they would have as quickly or as easily without that person’s help—and they then want to pass that along. For Gettysburgians, that’s the power of the Gettysburg Network.” **G**



KEEPING

MEMORIES



ALIVE

How Gettysburgians are preserving history for future generations

by Megan Miller

Gettysburg College's history is intertwined with that of the Civil War and the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, during which Pennsylvania Hall served as a field hospital. The Gettysburg National Military Park sits just steps from campus and paints a picture for one of the greatest turning points in history. However, that is just one narrative for both the nation's history and for the College.

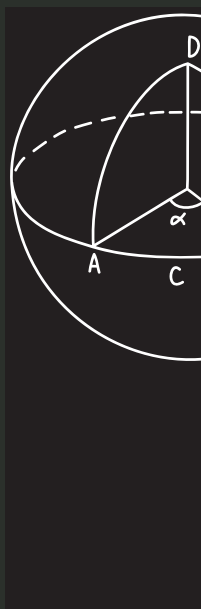
"There's a concept that we use as historians and archivists called institutional memory," said Musselman Library Archives Assistant **Devin McKinney**, who oversees the College's oral history collection. "It refers to the living memory of an institution—in this case, Gettysburg College—and it exists in the minds of everyone who's been through here in one way or another, as a student, staff, or faculty member."

"How do you save those moments in time?" McKinney continued. "You ask people to talk to you. Get it down on a recorder and into a transcript, and eventually you have an enormous repository—an infinity of stories told by the people who have made this place. That's institutional memory. It's the story of Gettysburg College."

Oral history is just one way to document our past to honor it and learn from it. As times evolve, what is documented and then taught shapes each generation's perceptions of history. To supplement the facts found in textbooks, primary sources help complete the picture, as some lived experiences differ from documented experiences.

"Memory is important," said McKinney, who is currently addressing gaps in the College's collection by seeking and adding the voices of African American and LGBTQIA+ staff and alumni. "The past has to be kept alive."

From conducting oral histories and hosting engaging classroom discussions to archaeological excavations and critical examinations of Hollywood cinema, members of the Gettysburg College community share how they continue to discover new ways to preserve memories throughout history.



KURT ANDRESEN

Ronald J. Smith Professor of Applied Physics, Physics Department communications lead

In physics, like any discipline, we tell stories—stories about amazing discoveries, stories about scientists persevering in the face of adversity, and stories about people getting things amazingly wrong. However, we found, like many disciplines, that despite being an incredibly diverse field with scientists from all backgrounds, countries, and gender identities, our stories were predominantly about white men.

In an attempt to expand the range of characters in our stories to more accurately reflect how modern physics is done, we joined the Scientist Spotlights Initiative. This initiative utilizes, among others, students and faculty to research and provide stories that may be missing from our textbooks. Spearheaded by Physics **Chair Bret Crawford** and former Visiting Prof. Ya-Wen Chuang, the Physics Department faculty and students went about researching stories about people like Lise Meitner, Marie Curie, and Jagadish Chandra Bose.

When the department first started doing this, the Scientist Spotlights Initiative did not even have a section for physics. We had to contact the Initiative to get them to add this category. Now, there are more than 50 scientists in the physics category—and Gettysburg College students and faculty continue to add to these every year. These stories are read as part of our classes throughout the Physics Department courses.

While there is a lot of work to do to continue to tell the hidden stories of physics, this is a small step in the right direction that we are happy to have been able to make.



MICHAEL J. BIRKNER '72, P'10

Professor of history

The emergence of scholarly history in the late 19th century was accompanied by what I would describe as “the cult of the document.” For generations, research for dissertations and published histories rarely deviated from an exclusive reliance on correspondence in private hands or archives, supplemented by printed materials. A turning point in research on modern history topics occurred shortly after World War II. Cognizant that in the age of the telephone and increasing mobility, candid, detailed correspondence was diminishing, historian Allan Nevins argued it was time to add a new dimension: oral history interviews, recorded and transcribed.

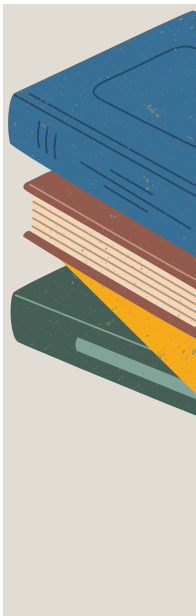
Nevins’ work establishing an oral history program at Columbia University inspired projects at presidential libraries and various universities. At Gettysburg College, initial steps in collecting interviews commenced in the 1970s in several January Term courses taught by English *Prof. Jack Locher GP'23* and one interview with a college elder by History *Prof. Charles H. Glatfelter '46*.

When I arrived in 1989 to teach 20th-Century U.S. History, the potential for oral history as a teaching tool and archival collection seemed obvious. I began assigning oral history projects to the Historical Methods course and courses focused on U.S. history since World War II. Over the past 35 years, the College’s collection has grown to more than 1,800 oral histories, roughly half of them relating to World War II. Other projects have examined individual presidential administrations since that of Gen. Willard S. Paul, the Lincoln Highway, “Making a Life,” Vietnam veterans, and African American students’ lives at the College. One ongoing project explores the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic at Gettysburg College.

The World War II interviews have also provided the foundation for two books published by Musselman Library: “Common Cause,” which I co-edited with Archives Assistant *Devin McKinney*, and “Democracy’s Shield,” which I edited in collaboration with two students, *Grace Gallagher '22* and *Rachel Main '22*.

It can fairly be said that Gettysburg College’s oral history collection is one of the most extensive—if not the most extensive—among liberal arts colleges in the U.S.

TURN TO PAGE 36 TO READ MORE IN FROM THE ARCHIVES.



CHELSEA BUCKLIN '10

Archives specialist, Library of Congress

As the collections manager for the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress, I am responsible for the physical preservation and security of our unique and irreplaceable collections. This includes managing our stacks both on Capitol Hill and at our state-of-the-art off-site storage facilities, picking up new collections, coordinating conservation treatments, ordering preservation housing supplies, and, in my spare time, processing collections.

It is my privilege to help preserve the written record of the American experience—the highlights and lowlights alike. History is often a narrative collectively agreed upon to help make sense of our past, who we are, and where we came from. As time and people evolve, that narrative can be altered to support individual ideologies straying from the truth. Preserving the accounts of what actually occurred through the correspondence, reports, photographs, and more is imperative to ensuring future generations understand the realities of the past—not only to learn from mistakes, but also to celebrate successes and take those forward into a brighter future.

In this day and age, we also suffer from an over-inundation of information. It can be incredibly difficult to wade through the sea of extraneous emails, social media posts, and cat pictures to get to the information we seek. Archivists and librarians are essential in this information age. It is our role in society to filter out the noise, preserve, arrange, and describe collections, ensuring discovery in a timely and accurate manner. Knowing the work that I do facilitates the work of historians, scientists, journalists, artists, and students alike is very fulfilling.



BETH DESROSIERS M'23

Arrowhead Union High School AP U.S. History teacher, Gettysburg College-GLI master's graduate

History is about stories. Storytelling sparks students' interest. Dates and names are difficult to remember, but an intriguing story is memorable.

When I set out to research antebellum Oberlin, Ohio, as part of my capstone project for the Gettysburg College-Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History (GLI) Master of Arts in American History program, I thought I would focus on Oberlin College's early acceptance of female students. Instead, I discovered a story even more compelling—the story of Oberlin's involvement in the Underground Railroad, culminating in the adventure and subsequent trial that became known as the Oberlin-Wellington rescue. This was a story of an entire community rallying to rescue a fugitive from slavery.

One of the most fascinating primary sources I encountered in my research on antebellum Oberlin was an 1850 petition by members of the Black community living in Oberlin to retain the president of the college, Asa Mahan. Eighty-seven “colored citizens” of Oberlin signed the petition imploring Mahan not to resign. Oberlin's founders hoped to create a utopian religious community during the 1830s. They succeeded and developed into a community whose actions spoke louder than words. Black students were allowed to enroll, and a thriving free Black community was welcomed and supported.

The current debate about critical race theory has attempted to apply political influence to what is taught in the classroom. No history teacher I know tells students what to think. Instead, we hope to inspire students to think for themselves. As a history teacher, I have a responsibility to tell the sad stories alongside the optimistic stories. The story of Oberlin's community was such a hopeful story, one in which a thriving free Black community challenged the founders of Oberlin College to live up to their ideals. The result was a symbiotic relationship between the college and the Black community, which in turn led to direct action against slavery.



MATTHEW JAMESON '12

Ph.D., Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology, Bryn Mawr College; Regional principal investigator, Chronicle Heritage Arabia

Traditionally, historical narratives were constructed from the top down with a focus on imperial interests and global events at the expense of the lived experience of everyday communities and the non-elite. Such teleological approaches offered an easy way to quickly synthesize thousands of years of human history to broad audiences. The picture, however, is never so simple.

I became an archaeologist because of my desire to explore our human history from a different perspective. Archaeology is the study of past groups and peoples through the analysis of material and physical remains. It can be carried out at different scales of investigation from reconstructing the diet of an individual to recognizing shared beliefs and practices across an entire region. What drew me to archaeology was its potential to shift our notions of history from the ground up through the excavation, recovery, and study of the past.

My research today focuses on the Arabian Peninsula, where Chronicle Heritage is currently engaged in several projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The stories we have told about the inhospitable Arabian Peninsula for centuries, perhaps essentialized in the film “Lawrence of Arabia,” are slowly being deconstructed by our ongoing fieldwork. The archaeological work that we are conducting in central and northwestern Arabia is revealing a complex landscape with evidence of human occupation from the Paleolithic Period to the Modern Period. During these 200,000 years of human history, communities adapted local strategies—including the domestication of the dromedary camel and the development of oasis agriculture—to meet their needs that were divergent from the neighboring regions of Egypt and Mesopotamia.

The stories we tell about the past matter because they can help us to understand the multifaceted lifeways of our modern world. Archaeology provides an avenue to give a voice to the voiceless past and thus tell a different kind of story.



KATIE LAURIELLO '25

English major, business minor

Traveling to England was an experience I'll never forget, especially the three-week London seminar with Art and Art History **Prof. Felicia Marlene Else**, Curating London: Using Objects to Tell New Stories. ... [It] asked us about our own biases reflected in the museums we look to for learning—the places where we go to field trips as elementary schoolers to learn more about the world around us. As children, we may not have realized that the very people who create these museums, as institutions of learning and collections of histories, are not free from bias and that the provenance of the objects displayed is often a story left untold or even deliberately concealed.

Prof. Else put us in a dialogue with each museum, asking how they are going to do better than their predecessors to reunite objects with their ancestors and cultures through repatriation. Such a dialogue could be no further demonstrated than our group presentations in the British Museum, the poster child of colonization and the figurehead of repatriation, in which institutions like museums are asked to return objects to their original owners. There, we analyzed objects on the “Collecting and Empire Trail” and other contested objects, such as the Elgin Marbles, Rosetta Stone, and the Benin Bronzes. Throughout the seminar, we noticed that the information gaps shared in the museums compared to their websites are wide and highlight our public perception of museums, history, and art. ... This information gap emphasizes how valuable our ability and motivation to search for the truth really is.

... [Prof. Else] challenged us to think critically about the way museums and similar institutions of education present their stories and information. She brought an infectious amount of liveliness and joy into each classroom lecture and museum visit.

VISIT WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU TO READ LAURIELLO'S FULL REFLECTION

CONNECTING HISTORY AND CULTURE THROUGH MUSIC

by Corey Jewart

Like words in a book or images on a tapestry, music plays an important role in how we share stories throughout human history. With the right combination of sounds, a musician can elicit emotional responses from listeners that transcend the here and now, allowing them to immerse themselves in the past and gather context for the future.

In late March, during a three-day residency in Gettysburg, renowned blues musician Corey Harris shared his personal history and that of his ancestors and the musicians who came before him. As he strummed his fingers across his guitar, he carried with each chord a message from the past—one he hoped would give people a greater understanding of the complexities of our world and the many ways we can work together to improve it. His artistry extended beyond traditional blues, incorporating reggae, soul, rock, and West African influences, to showcase an interconnectedness of history and culture.

As part of the programming supported by the Ann McIlhenny Harward Interdisciplinary Fund for Culture and Music, Harris visited seven Gettysburg College classes in the History, Africana Studies, Music, Peace and Justice Studies, and Art History Departments. Students and faculty listened attentively as Harris' words and compositions provided enlightenment about our global society.

Harris, a 2007 MacArthur Fellowship recipient, also conducted two guitar workshops to share his knowledge and passion with future musical storytellers, and performed locally at SpiriTrust nursing home and Vida Charter School. On his final night, Harris played for more than 600 community members at a free public concert at the Majestic Theater. His set list included songs of freedom and enslavement, of belonging and segregation, and of love and despair.

“Corey Harris' presence on our campus was transformative,” said **Michael Pires '27**. “His soulful music and thought-provoking lyrics really resonated with us all. His performances sparked conversations about culture, history, and social justice.”

VISIT WWW.GETTYSBURG.EDU TO READ MORE.



JING LI

Professor of Asian Studies

I am a folklorist from China, and I vividly recall the pivotal moment when I had to decide on a major for my graduate studies. After growing weary of poring over grand, abstract literary theories, the field of “folklore” seemed incredibly intriguing to me, thinking that I could finally study the real lives of people and their worlds. I am glad that I did choose folklore, even though I must admit, at that time, the concept of “folklore” remained somewhat elusive to me.

Over the years, being a folklorist has enabled me to take my students on a different journey when it comes to understanding China, whether exploring the metamorphoses of folktales, the historical transformations of beliefs and rituals, or the changing customs in everyday life like foodways, festivals, and travel practices.

In one of my courses, Travel Writing, Tourism, and Culture in China, I tasked my students with delving into travel accounts penned by Westerners from different historical periods. The aim was to juxtapose these narratives with the students’ own research on China’s history gleaned from textbooks. The results were eye-opening for the students, as they “re-lived” the lives of ordinary Chinese in each period as well as encountered vastly different portrayals of China, even from the same historical periods. China ceased to be a two-dimensional map but became a multifaceted Rubik’s Cube puzzle, with countless sides that students needed to decipher, understanding the “moves” that shape the composition of each side.

I often tell my students that they may quickly forget specific information they have learned in the classroom. But one thing I hope they take with them is that to understand a culture means understanding its people and their ordinary lives. To comprehend its history is to grasp their lived experiences, expressions, memories, and voices that may not always find their way into the pages of historical documents.



SALMA MONANI

Chair of Environmental Studies

Since the early 20th century, much of Hollywood cinema has shaped the world’s sense of American history, including that of Native peoples in this history. Many of us are familiar with the genre of the Western, and perhaps even familiar with its origins in the Wild West shows of the 1870s that celebrated the nation’s Westward Expansion and possession of Native lands. In the mid-20th century, more than a quarter of Hollywood’s output involved Westerns that demonized Native peoples as the enemy on the frontier. With the 1960s, a “revisionist” Western more sympathetic in its Native portrayals evolved. However, rarely have Native people had creative control over these portrayals, and Hollywood stories skew toward stereotypes like the “ecological Indian”—a noble yet primitive person living an anachronistic pre-modern existence. As a science-fiction fantasy of humans seeking new space frontiers, James Cameron’s “Avatar” franchise is a good example of a “revisionist” Western.

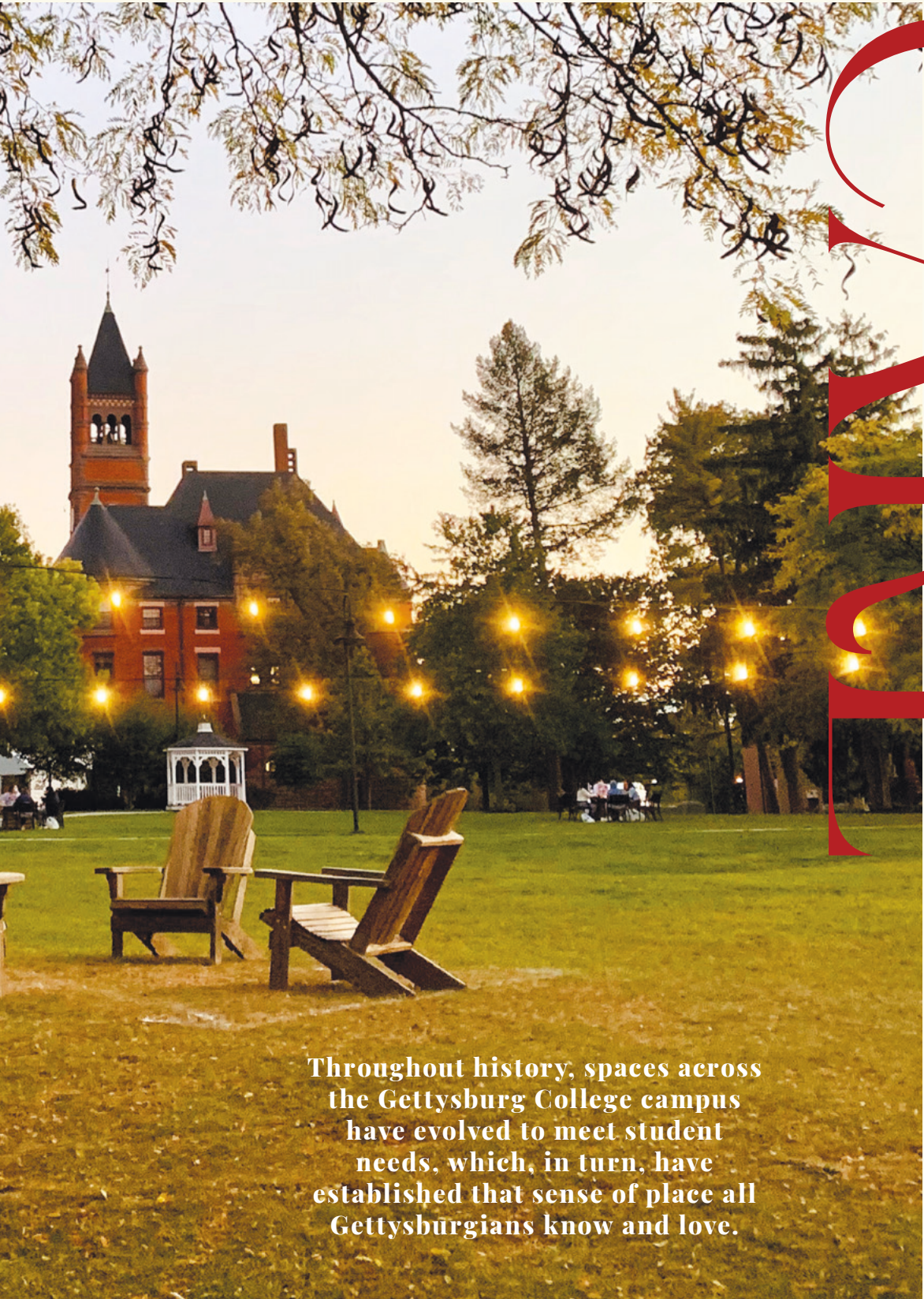
Recently, Martin Scorsese’s “Killers of the Flower Moon” (2023) received praise for doing better with its Native representations. Recounting the history of Osage murders in the 1920s when oil was discovered on reservation lands, Scorsese actively consulted with the Osage community, and he begins to fill a gap in how Hollywood documents Native histories. It’s not alone, as television shows written, directed, and performed by Native peoples, like the critically acclaimed episodic comedy-drama “Reservation Dogs” (2021-2023) and the crime thriller “Dark Winds” (2022-) are also complicating simplistic renditions of Native life on screen.

Native creatives bring experiences from working with their communities and within less visible Indigenous networks of cinema and media production to bear on these more mainstream productions. My research examines what we can learn about cinema by considering Indigenous participation. My forthcoming book, “Indigenous Ecocinema,” is particularly interested in how cinema made by Indigenous peoples expands our sense of cinema’s environmental practices and theories of ecocinema. ■

DESIGNING

WITH





CALENDAR

Throughout history, spaces across the Gettysburg College campus have evolved to meet student needs, which, in turn, have established that sense of place all Gettysburgians know and love.

*by Alex J. Hayes
and Megan Miller*

When Pennsylvania College grew to 98 students “without a house to put them in,” Thaddeus Stevens, a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, argued in favor of an 1834 bill that would fund the construction of Pennsylvania Hall—the home the College needed to sustain its expanding community. Built in 1837, in the Doric style of Greek architecture, the edifice sat on land provided by Stevens and housed students and College presidents, as well as a library, chapel, dining hall, classrooms, and other gathering spaces. It quickly became the “center of College activities,” History *Prof. Charles H. Glatfelter '46* later wrote. Affectionately known as “Old Dorm,” Penn Hall was, and still is, a symbol of the community’s spirit—of traditions and social life for Gettysburgians past and present, according to the 1931 Alumni Bulletin.

Today, Gettysburg College continues to foster that community by designing intentional spaces where students can build connections and grow their knowledge and enduring skills. While each space is unique, extending beyond classroom walls and into common spaces like the library and athletic fields, a common thread of bringing Gettysburgians together connects them all.

“It’s always great to see a campus respond dynamically to the needs of the students and to provide opportunities that continue to further its core mission,” said AICP-certified planner *Maggie Dobbs '08*, an assistant township manager and director of planning and zoning for New Hanover Township, Pennsylvania. “It’s always a juxtaposition between the old and the new—how do you embrace the change, and how do you adapt to modern needs and wants, while preserving that heritage and history?”

BLENDING FORM AND FUNCTION

Penn Hall has remained integral to student life, from Gettysburg’s earliest graduates to the most recent Class of 2024, where the time-honored traditions of Convocation and Commencement bookend their time on campus. As centuries passed, the College expanded greatly, now encompassing 225 acres that constantly evolve to support students’ needs.

In 1959, the College Union Building (CUB) opened as the new central spot for students, complete with a ballroom, barber shop, bookstore, bowling alley, snack shop, radio station, and swimming pool. In 2018, the addition of the Janet Morgan Riggs Student Center, named in honor of *President Emerita Janet Morgan Riggs '77*, brought more intentional spaces for students to gather, like The Junction, an open space for both studying and performing where the bowling lanes once stood. Four years later, students helped the College envision new spaces in the CUB, such as an area for commuters.





LEFT *Pennsylvania Hall, while it presently houses various administrative offices, was the original College building, affectionately known as “Old Dorm.”*

ABOVE *The Attic features two pool tables and a Skee-Ball machine, as well as a fully operational stage and ample space for any event or gathering.*

BELOW *Orange and blue Adirondack chairs adorn the College campus, always available for students to hang out around a fire pit, study together, or even be used as the seats for an outdoor classroom.*



“We took student feedback and expanded on it significantly,” said **Jon Allen**, director of student activities and Greek life. “We converted the game room into a student lounge with resources for commuters and moved the games into the lobby. This included the addition of a digital board game table, video game consoles, and a foosball table to go with the existing pool table and other games.”

In 2023, a Social Venues Taskforce, led by Vice President for College Life **Anne Ehrlich**, then reimagined The Attic as a 24/7 social space with a Skee-Ball machine and pool tables, as well as the basement of Plank Gymnasium as a hub for student activities with a creativity lounge, e-sports room, arcade room, and art desks.

“We have been successful in finding another way to help students build community with each other so they can have the memorable experience with their friends we all want them to have,” Allen added.

Additional student feedback during the COVID-19 pandemic led to a renaissance on Stine Lake, a grassy common area that frequently flooded before the construction of Musselman Library in 1981. With students craving connections, picnic tables, fire pits, orange and blue Adirondack chairs, and string lighting were added to encourage outside gatherings.

“The additions were so popular that the next summer they became permanent,” said Associate Vice President of Facilities Planning & Management **Jim Biesecker P’22**.

The ability to freely move Adirondack chairs, which students do every day, is rooted in a concept developed by sociologist William Whyte, who analyzed human behavior in public spaces, Dobbs said. It reminds her of a class she took her senior year about land use planning, which explored “the intersection of the built and the natural world” and how both human and environmental needs influence design.

“He wrote this book all about public spaces and how barren public spaces can be if you don’t provide people a place to sit,” she explained. “The fact that they were not fixed in place, little things like that, if you just provide people an opportunity to be creative about things that they can engage with, they utilize them in all sorts of ways that maximize the function and utility.”

That convergence also plays a role when considering public and private spaces on campus, such as the steps of Musselman Library.

“The intersection of the public and private sphere typically comes into play with front porches,” Dobbs continued. “Front porches are a really great way for someone to be in their private sphere of their home but also open to the public sphere of the sidewalk. ... Looking back, I always thought the library steps served as that public-private sphere, where a friend walks by, they’re coming in or out of the library, and you just stop to catch up.”



FINDING COMFORT AND CAMARADERIE

Whether it's a cluster of Adirondack chairs outside Penn Hall or the top of the climbing wall overlooking campus, every student finds their favorite space at Gettysburg College to build their own community, thanks to the care that goes into each design.

"When you're on a team designing a space, working with an architect, I've always appreciated all the nooks and crannies you could find," said Dobbs. "From a collegiate standpoint, those areas really create opportunities for people to have a space to call their own and feel that sense of safety, home, and belonging. . . . The spaces I engaged with at Gettysburg, and the spaces that I've seen built since on my returns to campus, have just been open and inviting. I never see spaces where people don't exist, which means the design is working."

With a "mishmash" of furniture on the lower level of Musselman Library, from moveable tables to whiteboards with wheels designed to encourage camaraderie, students can configure their own spaces. **Robin Wagner P'10**, dean of the library, is especially excited about the library's renovated Browsing Room.

"It has been reimaged with comfortable chairs, big tables, an array of board games and jigsaw puzzles, and a new collection of vinyl records with a turntable and headphones," said Wagner. "Students build the spaces that give them comfort."

The library also offers students a break from their studies when its Apsle transforms into a music hall for the popular Notes at Noon concert series and a gathering space for trivia night and student club activities.



Across campus, students are also supported in the new Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning, which opened last fall in the lower level of Glatfelter Hall. Funded by **Donna Brogan '60** and a grant from the George I. Alden Trust, the center provides students with a spacious and accessible 24-hour hub for quantitative learning. With wheels on furniture and whiteboards for tables, this functional space invites collaboration.

"It's a small change going from a static table to a table with wheels," said Dobbs, "but it really opens up opportunities for collaboration that utilizes people's creativity to design their own spaces to function for their particular purpose, and it can then be repurposed."

The space has since welcomed many peer tutoring sessions, including with mathematics major and chemistry minor **Ally Pancerella '25**.

"The comfortable environment is a great opportunity to get out of the traditional classroom setting and work together with your peers," Pancerella said.



TOP The Browsing Room is a renovated space on the first floor of Musselman Library open to all students and staff, offering a unique and welcoming area to gather.

MIDDLE The Browsing Room includes a collection of vinyl records that visitors can listen to on a supplied turntable and headphones. **BOTTOM** Ally Pancerella '25 and a group of friends study together in the new Donna Jean Brogan Center for Quantitative Learning.

In the John F. Jaeger Center for Athletics, Recreation, and Fitness, which opened in 2009 and was later named in honor of Honorary Life Trustee **John F. Jaeger '65, Colin Goodwin '26** also offers encouragement to his peers as the Climbing Club's outgoing president and a campus recreation coordinator at The Den. The Den, which is comprised of a climbing wall, donated by **Ron '72** and **Diane Werley '73 Smith**, and bouldering wall donated by **David Sites '77**, is visible from the outdoors through the Jaeger Center's intentional glass structure and soaring ceilings, which resemble the iconic Matterhorn climbing region in the Swiss Alps. It's a stark difference from the College's earlier athletic facilities, including Linnaean Hall, which was originally built to be a science center before it transformed into a gym in 1890.

"The glass spire is something you can see from all across campus and town," said Goodwin. "Because it is such an open space, it can be a common occurrence that, while people are climbing on the tower, their friends will see them while walking by, come into the gym, and cheer them on. While I think that can initially be intimidating to people, the openness of the space creates curiosity about climbing and hopefully invites them into the space."

Similarly, the surface of the climbing walls were designed to mirror that of the boulders at Devil's Den, Little Round Top, and Big Round Top on the nearby battlefields.

"To people who know the historic battles that took place around those boulders on the battlefield, these interior walls are a reminder of the place we occupy geologically and historically," added Major Gifts Officer **Dan Yates**, the club's advisor. "The community grows itself through this camaraderie of efforts, stewardship of the places we climb and grow to love, and the belief that one person's struggle feels just as hard as another person's."

Next fall, the community will also be able to enjoy night games together, thanks to lights that will be installed at Musselman Stadium this summer, which was made possible by donations from more than 25 Gettysburg alumni and families.

"Building and nurturing community has long been a core value, if not the core value, of Gettysburg College," said **Robert Bruns '88**, who played lacrosse at Gettysburg. "To see so many alumni, even generations after they attended, rally around the lights project with such generous donations is a testament to the arguably unmatched community of Gettysburg College."

From 19th-century buildings to the modern Jaeger Center, each era of change on campus is striking to the eye—but in a purposeful way to serve its students. Design with community-building in mind is "a movement," said Biesecker, and it will continue to be a central part of all design projects at Gettysburg College. "It's all about making sure what you create is inviting, so people crave that destination."

"That's really beautiful to see because a community is not just a place in time," Dobbs added. "A community is dynamic. It's always evolving, and the older structures develop this patina over time and really create that sense of place, which is a term we use very often in community planning. It's that *je ne sais quoi* of a place. You can't necessarily put your finger on it, but you know it when you feel it." ■



ABOVE The John F. Jaeger Center's glass spire, which houses the College's climbing wall, stands prominently on campus. **BELOW** A student ascends up the climbing wall, surveying what their next move will be.



JOSEF BRANDAUER

by Michael Vyskocil

White-clay mugs accented with flecks of iron and sculpturally shaped bowls beckon the eye to see and the hands to touch. Handcrafted by Health Sciences **Prof. Josef Brandauer**, these humble objects, like the clay that composes them, are forged with dedication and trust throughout their making. It's how Brandauer approaches his hobby and his profession at Gettysburg College, one that was inspired by first finding answers to his own questions about physiology.

Brandauer entered the University of Maryland for his graduate studies with the idea that he wanted to coach competitive cyclists. After receiving his doctorate in exercise physiology in 2005 and completing his postdoctoral research at Joslin Diabetes Center in Boston, he thought about how his professional passion for physiology intersected with working with undergraduate students. "I love teaching, and I receive so much professional satisfaction from being helpful," he said.

While in Boston, Brandauer discovered a faculty position had opened at Gettysburg College. He applied and was welcomed to campus for an in-person interview and teaching observation in 2008.

"I taught anatomy and physiology in two sections first thing in the morning and loved it," he recalled. "I met with [**President Emerita**] **Janet Morgan Riggs '77**, who was the provost at the time, and she laid out the mission of what we do and why we're here so clearly that I could identify myself with it immediately. I was sold on the job right there."

Today, with more than 15 years of teaching at Gettysburg, Brandauer believes Gettysburg has made him a better scientist because of the diverse breadth and depth of knowledge he and his students encounter in his courses.

"In anatomy and physiology, I'm there for my students during that discovery stage, and I see them make sense of how the human body works. It's a wonderful opportunity to be a part of that. I also teach an upper-level cardiorespiratory physiology class, and there we are diving deep and thinking in complicated, detailed ways," he explained.



Brandauer also recognizes the importance mentorship plays in the lives of students new to Gettysburg and whose families are new to higher education. Guiding students along their academic pathways reflects his philosophy of being helpful through his work. “I had almost no preparation going to college, and it was mainly so difficult because I didn’t have support from my professors,” he explained. “You cannot be an excellent teacher if you’re not genuinely opening your classroom to all your students, no matter where they’re from or their academic backgrounds.” Brandauer is especially proud to have won the College’s undergraduate mentoring award. He also directs the College’s Howard Hughes Medical Institute grant on Inclusive Excellence.

In 2020, Brandauer accepted the offer to direct The Johnson Center for Creative Teaching and Learning (JCCTL) at Gettysburg, a position he held for the past four years. Established in 2011 after Gettysburg received a challenge grant from

the Christian A. Johnson Endeavor Foundation, the JCCTL serves Gettysburg faculty by providing opportunities to develop their teaching skills, explore collaborative and experiential learning techniques, and foster innovative, inclusive, and evidence-based pedagogical instruction.

As the director, Brandauer supported his colleagues in confronting the challenges of academic instruction amid the COVID-19 pandemic and helping the College community navigate the ever-evolving nuances of generative AI (genAI). Brandauer believes that the way to promote teaching excellence is by advancing inclusive teaching.

Brandauer reflected on the JCCTL’s accomplishments and attributes his success to the strength of collaboration with colleagues from all areas of our campus community. To extend his gratitude to those who collaborate with him to lift up the JCCTL’s work, he gives them the clay mugs and bowls he handcrafts in Gettysburg’s pottery studio alongside students and under the guidance of Art and Art History **Prof. Tina Gebhart**. It’s a token of appreciation he extends to acknowledge the time and energy people invest in helping our students succeed.

For Brandauer, tokens of appreciation are delivered to him by students who have presented him with their Stoles of Gratitude during Commencement. These Stoles remind him of the many lives touched by those for whom he has served as a teacher, a mentor, and a champion for all that they are and for all they will become.



TOP Health Sciences Prof. Josef Brandauer and students study a virtual dissection image on an anatomage table. **BOTTOM** Handcrafted white clay bowls and Stoles of Gratitude remind Brandauer of his dedication to helping others succeed.

1

First-Year Seminar taught called Are You Smart? Science, Culture, and How We Learn. The seminar investigates the neurobiology of learning and how students can implement scientific principles into how they transition to and do their work in college.

7

languages he has learned and spoken (Danish, English, French, German, Italian, Latin, and Portuguese)

15

years teaching at Gettysburg College

3,000

miles biked throughout south central Pennsylvania and down to Washington, D.C., once or twice a year

4,270

miles from Gettysburg to Salzburg, Austria, where he grew up

FROM THE ARCHIVES

ANSWERING HISTORY'S CALL: CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

WORLD WAR II ORAL HISTORY PROJECT PRESERVES ACCOUNTS
OF THE GREATEST LAND AND SEA INVASION IN WORLD HISTORY

by Corey Jewart

*“You are about to embark upon the
Great Crusade, toward which we
have striven these many months.
The eyes of the world are upon you.”*

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower
commander of Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force

On June 6, 1944, when the future U.S. president and Gettysburg College trustee sent this message to the thousands of soldiers preparing to sail across the English Channel to Normandy, he wasn't sure Operation Neptune, the first phase of Operation Overlord and the campaign to retake Europe, was going to succeed. At the same time, he penned a letter taking full responsibility should those beaches on the coast of France not be taken by Allied forces.

The soldiers in the transports skidding across the waves and pilots flying high above weren't sure either, as they headed toward a fortified and dangerous foe that had overrun and ravaged the continent for four years. Through dogged determination, they pushed the Nazi forces back from the beachheads, setting into motion the final victorious campaign to free the European continent.

As we look back on the 80th anniversary of the largest amphibious assault in world history, we can share in those personal remembrances thanks to the impassioned work of Gettysburg College students, faculty, and staff, who have sought to preserve this consequential moment in history for future

generations. Since its launch in 1991 as part of the Historical Methods class with History **Prof. Michael Birkner '72, P'10**, the World War II oral history project has compiled first-person experiences from roughly 800 individuals representing the Greatest Generation.

Those audio recordings and transcriptions, safely stored in Special Collections in Musselman Library, have served as the foundation for several published works. These publications include the “Voices of D-Day,” a pamphlet of quotes and remembrances from the invasion of Normandy, and “Democracy's Shield: Voices of World War II,” a full volume of war memories at home and abroad edited by Birkner with the assistance of **Grace Gallagher '22** and **Rachel Main '22**.

“When reading through these oral histories, I often found myself laughing or crying,” said Main. “I could not fathom being able to sit and recount vivid horrors and brokenness with a stranger. In many cases, individuals could not bring themselves to either. Members of the World War II generation expressed conviction, character, and community; it is our job to make sure they are remembered with the same determination.” ■

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE



Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

"It was a struggle to get ashore, dodging the fire. The Germans had that beach zeroed in with artillery fire. Machine-gun fire was terrible. And I finally got ashore and on the sand and there were wounded everywhere."

Richard Dalrymple

interviewed by Andrew Douglas '06

on Oct. 20, 2004

On April 20, 2024, Gettysburg College's Eisenhower Institute and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Society co-hosted a symposium commemorating the 80th anniversary of D-Day, the invasion of Normandy, France. This event featured distinguished experts on World War II and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, including David Eisenhower, Susan Eisenhower, Dr. Craig Symonds, and Dr. John C. McManus. This event was included in C-SPAN's coverage of the June 6 anniversary.

JUNE-AUGUST

Welcome Gatherings for New Families

AUGUST 26

Opening Day

SEPTEMBER 20-22

Homecoming & BOLD Weekend

*Reunion Celebrations for
Classes of 2014 and 2019*

Young Alumni Awards

Hall of Athletic Honor Inductions

OCTOBER 4

*First-ever night football game
under the lights at Musselman Stadium*

OCTOBER 25-27

Family Weekend

Fall Honors Day

Dates are subject to change. Please visit www.gettysburg.edu for the latest event details.

CANDIDATES FOR HONORARY DEGREES

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2024,
FOR 2026 COMMENCEMENT

Honorary degrees are awarded to individuals whose achievements are well-documented, have lasted over time, and will have an inspirational impact on others, especially our students.

The nomination form and guidelines are available at www.gettysburg.edu/honorarydegrees.

If you have any questions, you may email HonoraryDegreeNominations@gettysburg.edu.

NOMINATIONS TO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DEADLINE: MARCH 1, 2025

Alumni Association Board of Directors share a close connection to the College and provide leadership and representation for all alumni. Send your nominations to Nicki West at nwest@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6508.

NOMINATIONS FOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 11, 2024

The Alumni Association invites alumni to nominate candidates for awards by November 11. Complete the form at www.gettysburg.edu/alumniawards or email alumni@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6508.

CLASS NOTES

© indicates photo available on page 58.

1953

Harry “Red” Hamer
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'54

Henry “Hank” Lush is a very active member of our class. In addition to keeping up with his 12 great-grandchildren, Hank is busy with church and community organizations in Galeton, Pa. One of his projects is with the Galeton Foundation, which provides \$2,500 per semester for further education for every Galeton High School graduate. What a great project! **Glenn Pannell** keeps busy trying to keep in touch with his five children, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren who are spread out from coast to coast. He also keeps in touch with classmates **Kearney Kuhlthau** and **Al Comery**. **Carolyn Hutt Hunt** is looking forward to spending summer days at her cottage on a lake in the Catskills. The cottage was built by her grandfather in 1923, and Carolyn has been going there during the summer all her life. Carolyn has two grandchildren, and she enjoys having them visit. Our condolences to the family of **Robert Dallas Brubaker**,

who died in February. After graduating from G’burg, Robert pursued an MBA and became a distinguished aviator. As a helicopter pilot, he flew more than 90 combat sorties in Vietnam and Laos. During the 1970s, he served as the U.S. Air Attaché to Poland. After retiring as a colonel, he edited articles for various publications and contributed to the operation of the Titan Missile Museum in Arizona. He is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Helen-Ann (Souder) Comstock
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'55

Spring is upon us in our part of Pa. here in the middle of April. Neighbors’ gardens are blooming with a variety of colors, the result of their patient planting last fall. Our garden pales compared to their gardens, but we enjoy what each of us offers in our cul-de-sac. Elsewhere, we somehow missed reporting the passing of **Joanne Reese Kick** of Estero, Fla., on Oct. 18, 2022. We apologize for that omission. Before retiring to Fla., Joanne was employed by Worcester, Mass., as coordinator of Retired Senior Volunteers and their various programs.

She was very active in Sweet Adelines International for more than 60 years, serving on the board that selected convention sites in the U.S. and the U.K., even serving as president for a term. For the uninitiated, SWI is an “international organization of 30,000 women singing a cappella, barber shop, and harmony.” Joanne is survived by her husband Ron, her daughters Allison Rich (Jim) and Lauren Kick, her son Ronald Jr. (Heather), and granddaughters Leslie Rich and Emma Kick. We were also saddened to learn of the passing of **Nelson Raymond Sulouff** on Feb. 14, in Oro Valley, Ariz. A native of Sunbury, Pa., Nelson knew of the impact of the Great Depression. His formative years were influenced by demands of the family farm in Northumberland. He was a bright student which was revealed in professorships at Princeton and at G’burg. Ordination to the Lutheran ministry followed, and he served 24 years in the U.S. Navy, earning a Bronze Star with “V” medal for his service in Korea (1951-1952). He retired as a senior chaplain. He and his wife, Kilja, celebrated nearly 50 years of marriage, “giving back” to their community, Resurrection Lutheran Church, and geological research. Nelson loved the “beauty of nearby mountains, desert wildlife, spirited games of bocce ball, and grooming plants and flowers on the patio.” In addition to his wife, Nelson is survived by his

daughter, Letha (Sulouff) Welch, and two sons, Nathan and David. Our belated condolences are extended to these families.

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'56

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'57

Since my last writing, there seems to be an easing of that “never-ending stream that bears us all away.” In the past six months, I have received death notices from only three of our classmates. The first is **John Bruce Heckman** of West Chester, Pa., who died Oct. 25, 2023. John was a proud veteran of the Third Infantry Division. He was the owner of Atlantic Gasket in Philadelphia and a dedicated gardener and Phillies supporter. John was predeceased by his second wife, Mary Ann, and survived by two sons, two stepsons, and two grandsons. **Jerry Kenneth Robbins** of Falmouth, Mass., died Oct. 30, 2023. After graduating from G’burg, Jerry earned a Bachelor of Divinity from Yale U Divinity School. After serving as a pastor in Baltimore, he became the Lutheran campus pastor at West Virginia U. There, he earned a Master of Arts degree in philosophy. After retiring from WVU, Jerry earned a Ph.D. from Hartford Seminary Foundation. He was a prolific writer and was the author of four books, 30 articles, and more than 100 book reviews. In 1998, Jerry received the Joseph A. Sittler Award for Excellence in Writing. In retirement, he took up the hobby of radio-controlled model aircraft. He enjoyed writing and editing for many model

aviation magazines and newsletters. Jerry is survived by his wife, Alice May; one son; and three grandsons. He was predeceased by one son. **George B. Wright** of Louisville, Ky., died Jan. 22. George attended Valley Forge Military Academy and College before coming to G’burg. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Air Force and earned the rank of captain. After retiring from United Catalysts, he enjoyed his love of traveling, music, reading, and photography. George is survived by his wife of 66 years, Joan, and two daughters. On a happier note, my wife, Phyllis Ball ’58, and I celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary in August 2023 with a family gathering at our home on Cape Cod. There were 17 of us from five different states. The weather cooperated, and we were able to enjoy a lovely dinner served outside on the patio in our beautiful garden. **Stuart Carswell**, my ever-faithful correspondent, sent a postcard with a picture of himself holding one of his paintings, “Misty Island,” from his photo gallery in Keene, N.H. Stu sends greetings to his ’57 classmates.

Don Helfrich
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'58

Hi, all. As I have just returned from Richmond, Va., where I attended my 70th high school reunion, I am reminded of all the friends we make over our lifetime—among some of my best are the ones from Gettysburg College. I hope all are well and enjoying their “senior years.” The only news to report is that **Abbie Pingitore** passed away in February. He came to G’burg after serving in the U.S. Marines in the Korean War. His career was as a teacher and coach for 35 years, and then he retired in S.C. to enjoy his passion for golf. Our sympathies to his five children, several grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. I hope you all got to see the solar eclipse on TV—lots of amazing events during our lifetime.

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'59

Our 65th Reunion! I look forward to seeing many classmates there and gathering news for the winter 2025 issue. I had a nice chat with **Ellen (Buchanan) Wilcox**, who mentioned her travels in Southeast Asia, Turkey, Australia, and New Zealand. She visited **Rosanna “Rosie” (Hallman) Steen** and is contacting friends to encourage attendance. **George H. Brooks** covered the entire time in one paragraph. “Hated economics at G’burg, flunked accounting, but passed comps. Gravitated to investment research—spent the next 56 years calling market turns, covering breaking stories, and discovering exciting growth companies. Frequent guest analyst [on] CNBC-TV. Past 16 years published stock market advisory released daily before the opening. Hobbies: golf, newspaper photography, photos—Time, People, New York mags, and foreign newspapers. Wife Linda and I moved to Raleigh-Durham, N.C., from Darien, Conn., 18 years ago. Five children, eight grandchildren. Beat alcohol, survived a host of surgeries.” I received notices of the passing of the following men: retired Col. **George F. Tracy Jr.** Lambda Chi Alpha, biology major. Service in the N.J. Air National Guard led to a full commission in the U.S. Air Force. He had a 28-year military career specializing in foreign military sales and training and served all over the world. He earned a Master of Education degree and had a second career as a middle school science teacher. He was survived by two daughters and seven grandchildren. **Lester Albert Potteiger** enlisted in the U.S. Navy and then majored in math and physics in college. He spent many years as a physicist for the Naval Surface Warfare Center. He was also an accomplished architect and home builder.

He traveled the U.S. in an RV with his wife Jean. They had four daughters, 16 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. **Richard “Dick” Simpson**, husband of **Dorothy “Dottie” Lloyd**, was a Phi Gamma Delta and a chemistry major. He started the men’s lacrosse program at G’burg, was an All American in 1959, and a member of the Hall of Fame in 2013. He served in the U.S. Army and worked at Rohm and Haas Chemical Manufacturing Co. for 37 years. He did much volunteer work in his communities and received the Circle of Hope Award by the Inter Parish Ministry. Dick had three daughters, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

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1960

Tom Johnson recalls walking to Gettysburg National Cemetery during senior year to hear American poet and biographer Carl Sandburg read the Gettysburg Address. A few years later, he recalls, “JFK was the scheduled speaker, but he was replaced by Ike as JFK had to go to Dallas for political reasons.” He attended the 160th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address in 2023. Tom sent a flyer about Vickie’s Angel Foundation, a 501(c)3 started by classmate **Mickey Minnich** in memory of his wife Vicki, who died in 2003 after a courageous battle with cancer. The foundation serves a nine-county area in central Pennsylvania, financially helping people who cannot work due to cancer. Korean War veteran **Ray Aldridge** had a long career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Huntsville Center and a post-retirement career with VW International. He died in Dec. 2023. Our sympathies to Marian and their children and grandchildren. **Del Boutwell** came to G’burg from service in the U.S. Navy as a hurricane hunter. A physics and mathematics major, he pursued a career in the technology of mainframe computing. He and Elizabeth surrounded themselves with dogs and cats, showed their registered

breeds, and spent free time sailing their Alberg sloop from their Annapolis, Md., homebase. He was a photographer, gourmet cook, ham radio operator, and musician. He passed away peacefully in Feb. 2024. **Ralph Dendler** went on to dental school at U of Pittsburgh and practiced for 34 years. He was an avid golfer in Wilson, N.C. He died in March 2024 and is survived by his wife Gloria, children, and grandchildren. **Judy Haldeman McGovern** died in Nov. 2023. Judy taught music in Baltimore and later established St. Mary Child Care Center. She finished her career running the nonprofit William Penn Center. She loved her beach time in Ocean City, N.J. **John Applegate** served four years in the U.S. Navy before his career of more than 40 years in insurance claims. He restored his classic Lincoln and was an active member of the Nifty Fifties Ford Club. Recently, he enjoyed tracing his ancestry back to the American Revolution and relaxing with family. He died in March 2024. **Barry MacGibeny** died in Dec. 2023. During his service in the U.S. Army, he was assigned numerous administrative and teaching positions, which became his passion and future career. He was a high school teacher, coach, counselor, and administrator. After retiring from public schools, he was a full professor at Holy Family U. He designed a lakeside home in Maine, where family and friends enjoyed summer vacation. He was an avid runner and Philly sports fan. **Jean Nissley Grzelecki** died March 13. She and Frank raised their daughters in R.I. before settling in Conn. She spent nearly 30 years on the New Canaan Planning & Zoning Commission and was commemorated by land use attorney David Rucci, who said, “She would ask tough questions, but she would always kind of give a little smirk and smile, and I used to love to watch her on the board...”

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'61

Thanks to all who sent info—now let’s hear from more of you! We all have a story to tell. So, very briefly, here’s mine: As you probably guessed, John and I moved in Dec. 2023 to the Ann’s Choice community. The toughest part was downsizing a home we lived in for 49 years. We are very happy where we are and sorry we didn’t do it sooner. **Ardith (Ardie) Sebulster** wrote that though now a widow, her life is still busy. She serves on two nonprofit boards involving low-income housing and social services. With her hiking group, she has challenged the Rockies and has found camaraderie with a group of women “of a certain age.” Her most recent international travels have taken her to the capitals of the Baltic Sea, all of which seemed thriving and prosperous; however, St. Petersburg seemed to need some care. Addie’s domestic travels take her to both coasts where three kids, six grandkids, and two great-grandkids reside. It sounds like the Ardie we knew! A note from Tom Johnson ’60 let us know that **William M. Wright** has been chosen to receive The Great Communicator Award by the Alumni Brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa. For 16 years, Bill has provided timely news to the entire brotherhood and to their families. He has also arranged periodic meetings in Pa., Fla., and Calif. Congrats to Bill! I received a note from **Gianna (Ginny) Marcks Ellington** letting me know that the last issue of GETTYSBURG College Magazine was the first one that she happily received. Gianna is living in Central Florida after extensive U.S. and world travels. She lived and worked in Southern Calif. for 23 years with her three boys who are happy, healthy adults with children of their own. Gianna has seven grandchildren. She has been married to her present husband for three years. She and her husband are blessed to be in good health. **Richard Holzer** is still practicing law in Dayton, Ohio, and expects to be doing so for quite a while. Dick and his wife, Charlotte, have two sons, both married. Their oldest, a lawyer too, is practicing IP law in Denver. And one of their sons in Denver is also a lawyer. I’ll bet discussions at that dinner table are interesting to say the least! Dick wrote that

he came across newspaper articles from 1961 about Warren Unger, an old friend of his, who entered Gettysburg in 1958. Warren was killed in an automobile but would have graduated in 1962. Dick sent the articles to me and was wondering if anyone might want them. Our sympathy to the families of *Nancy Flemming* and *Robert D. Hershey Jr.* If you would like more information, I have obituaries.

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'62

Recently, I received a call from *Karin* and Gary '63 *Church*. They were with *Carol (Rotunda) Christ*, who lives nearby in Pa. They brought me up-to-date on their active lives. They bike, both teach yoga, travel, and spend time in their cottage in the Adirondacks. Carol and her husband, Bob, have lived and worked their farm with horses and sheep for 30 years but have recently given up farming due to age and mobility issues. Carol has been very instrumental for 26 years in saving a 1742 iron furnace in Cornwall, Pa., from demolition. It is now owned by the state of Pa. Carol's husband was the head of Hershey's international division, and they have traveled extensively over the years. *Jack Snow* of Ridley Park, Pa., passed away in Sept. 2023. He had a successful career with the Bank of New York Mellon Corp. and loved sports and fishing. *Virginia Botsis* of Ardmore, Pa., passed away in March. She had a long career in music education and was very active in her Greek Orthodox Church and the Hellenic Club in Philadelphia for 70 years.

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'63

Classmates, I hope you are all well and managing to continue living your best life. I am doing well but moving a bit more slowly than I would like! However, the birds outside are reminding me that spring and summer are near and that is most encouraging! *Don Burden* wrote that he and his wife, *Mary Lea* '64, have been traveling to Italy, Greece, and cruising through the Panama Canal. Don said, "Old folks like us continue to enjoy all the benefits of cruises." *Oz Sanborn* called to check up on my knee replacement recovery, and we had a delightful conversation about Gettysburg College, past and present. Oz and his wife Ruth have also been traveling, visiting London, Ireland, Scotland, and Iceland. He said they were leaving Iceland when a volcano was just beginning to awaken and spew ash—quite a remarkable experience. Another sad loss to our class: *Kathleen (Koob) Wittenborn* passed away March 11. Kathleen was a teacher who lent support to many church ministries in her life. She and her husband Andy were often seen riding in their vintage automobile, the Franklin, extending a "devoted" hand to those in need of just about anything. The Bible was Kathleen's great love. Kathleen also enjoyed spending time with her nephews and their wives and children. She was kind and loving with the children since their birth, saying she loved being a substitute grandmother since her sister never had the opportunity. Bowling and pinochle were her pastimes, while she splurged on one Coke a week. Over the years, Kathleen and Andy often traveled to England to attend jazz festivals. Kathleen is survived by her husband, Andy; her nephews, Vinnie (Debbie), Harry (Melissa), and Erardi; six nieces and nephews; and two great-grandnephews. Kathleen's motto was: "Faith without works is useless." A life well-lived, dear Kathy. I send all of you my wish for continued joy and gratitude. I will close with a quote attributed to Aldous Huxley: "After 45 years of research and study, the best advice I can give to people

is to be a little kinder to each other." Well said, Mr. Huxley. 'Til next time — Susan.

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'64

By the time you read this, several of our classmates will have enjoyed our 60th Reunion at the College! We will have missed you and hope that our 65th reunion in 2029 will include you. At 87 years old, this will be a "piece of cake" to return! *Lance Valt* who hailed from Flushing, N.Y., and was an economics major, Kappa Delta Rho fraternity member, and most recently lived in Long Beach, Calif., passed away Feb. 15. *George C. Burghardt* from New Rochelle, N.Y., was a business administration major, a Phi Kappa Psi member, and a Booster Club member, who passed away in Ashburn, Va., after a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's and multiple myeloma on Feb. 28. His Gettysburg wife was Nancy Botbyl Burghardt. George started off in banking, but during the Vietnam War, he joined the U.S. Air Force, and as a U.S. Air Force captain, he flew KC-135s all around the world. That experience led to a 30-year career in flying with Eastern, Air Jamaica, and others—all before his retirement in 2002. He enjoyed boating on the Chesapeake Bay, genealogy, and making stained glass. *Karen E. Rebert Sioberg* from York, Pa., was a math major, an Alpha Xi Delta member, a Booster Club member, and affiliated with the Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA) and National Education Association (NEA). She passed away on March 9. Karen started teaching in York, Pa., and then transitioned to become an economist at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City, then onto British Petroleum in London before transitioning back to Chambersburg, Pa., spending 30

years as a bookkeeper with Martin and Martin, Inc. She had three children (Amy, Alan, and Andrew). Karen was active as a deacon with the Presbyterian Church as well as serving on the board of the Chambersburg Council of Arts and supporting the Cumberland Valley School of Music. Karen was a gourmet cook, loved music, and was a “committed” mother. Please let me know how all of you are doing, what are or were your careers, what your family is doing, and whom you have seen or are in touch with from our Class of 1964. We are the Class of Substance and Sizzle, so I expect many of you have had fabulous careers, wonderful families, and outstanding experiences! Please let me know so that I can update our classmate friends, roommates, and sorority and fraternity sisters and brothers! May you be in good health!

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'65

Louise (“Boodie”) Vinson Mitchell died on Jan. 14. At G’burg, she earned a B.A. degree with honors, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, served as president of ADPi sorority, and president of her dorm. She earned a master’s degree in Spanish from Penn State. She lived in El Paso while her late husband, Jack, taught at UTEP (the U of Texas at El Paso). The family relocated to State College, Pa., where Louise spent more than two decades helping hundreds of children improve their reading skills. She wrote and illustrated books for her students that the school system continued to use after she retired. She was active in her church, an incredible gardener, and a gifted singer. She is survived by two sons and six grandchildren. **Mara “Marcia” Lynn Keller**, professor emerita of philosophy and religion at the California Institute of Integral Studies, died in Dec. 2023. After earning a B.A. in religion from G’burg and a Ph.D. in philosophy from Yale U, she had a 51-year career in academia full of inspiration, mentorship, scholarly articles,

and symposia presentations. She was a distinguished spiritual feminist philosopher, scholar, goddess theologian, and passionate advocate of embodied spirituality and multicultural eco-social justice. She loved friendship, feminism, family, and Greece, which she often visited. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bob Spurgeon. **Charles Sakin** retired from teaching in 2005 and from ministry this past year, 55 years after his ordination. He and Kathie spend the summer and winter in Fla. and spring and fall in Henderson, Nev. Travel and family visits consume a lot of time. Charles’ LXA roommate, **Larry Lees**, died in July 2023. A psychology major, he was commandant for the AFROTC program and served in the Student Senate. He served as a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. After retirement, he and his wife Ginny worked summers at national parks as part of a seniors program. **Ronald Race** died on April 2 after a courageous battle with acute myeloid leukemia. He was surrounded by his longtime partner, Linda Walters, and three daughters. At G’burg, Ron played soccer and joined the ROTC program. He later enlisted in the U.S. army as a first lieutenant and spent a year in Vietnam. Upon his return, he attended The U of Va. Darden Graduate School of Business, graduating in 1974, and he went on to a successful 40-year career in commercial real estate. Ron married Susan (Woodruff) Race in 1981. He later met his companion of 20 years, Linda, and together they traveled, spent time with family, and built a wonderful and supportive community of friends and extended family. For more than 30 years, Wayne Presbyterian Church was central to his life. So much more information about these friends can be found online. Our 60th Reunion is a year away. **Dave Radin** and I are already planning for a super (not muted) event! You know what fun we’ve had in the past. This one will be no different, and we look forward to you being present!

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'66

Dr. Tom Hardy received the College’s Distinguished Alumni Award at Spring Honors Day. Tom joins **Jim Madison** as a member of our class who has received this award. Well done, Tom. On a personal note, I sadly report the passing of my Theta Chi roommate **Richard “Mole” Myers** on March 7 in Washington, D.C. A history major at G’burg, he received an M.A. in history from the U of Maryland. After serving with the U.S. Army in Vietnam, Dick worked for the May Company, becoming a manager with their Hecht’s department stores in Washington. He was an avid golfer and long-distance runner, exhausting many of his fraternity brothers who tried to keep up with him. He was great company. He is survived by his wife Terri and many friends who will never forget him. **Graham “Jim” Andes** died on Nov. 9, 2023. After G’burg, Jim went to law school at Georgetown U. He became the first full-time director of Legal Aid of Chester County, representing people who could not afford a lawyer in matters of civil justice. In 1984, he became assistant public defender, a position he held until his retirement in 2004. While representing the poor charged with crimes, he became a well-respected trial lawyer who tried numerous cases before the Chester County Court of Common Pleas. **Father Lee Gross**, a long-time professor at Mount St. Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Md., died on Oct. 27, 2023. He was ordained a Lutheran pastor in 1970. He joined the Episcopal Church in 1974 and served in several Illinois churches until entering full communion with the Catholic Church in 1985. He became a priest through pastoral procession, which enables Episcopal priests to become Catholic priests. Lee was grateful God had brought him to the Catholic faith and that he was able to impact the lives of so many lay Catholics through the men he taught. In the late ’60s, **Phil Howard** had the honor of living on a reservation in Montana, where he regularly interacted with Cree elders and leaders. In the 1980s, he slept in refugee camps in the jungles of Guatemala as a volunteer for Witness for Peace. In December 1989, he was fortunate to join revelers atop the

Berlin Wall and was among the first Westerners to walk through the Brandenburg Gate. He crewed in the Great Chesapeake Bay Schooner Race in a gale. He has worked as a preacher, farrier, carnival barker, house carpenter, storyteller, and teacher. **Rob Morrison** reported that he has retired as the interim pastor at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Middletown, N.J. He now teaches Sunday school and an evening course on the Bible and Vincent van Gogh.

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'67

I have received word of the passing of retired U.S. Army Col. **James Glenn Snodgrass** on Dec. 9, 2023. Glenn, a Pa. native, graduated in 1967 as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the ROTC program at Gettysburg College and was commissioned into the U.S. Army as an armor officer. He earned a Master of Science degree from Temple University in Philadelphia in 1975. A superb leader and professional, Glenn generated great loyalty from those who served under him, and he had great respect from those who served with him. His calm demeanor and cheerfulness were cherished by all who knew him. His military awards include two Legion of Merit recognitions, the Soldier's Medal, the Bronze Star, three Meritorious Service medals, and three Joint Service and Army Commendation medals. Upon retirement from the Army, Glenn worked 15 years in the defense industry—10 with Science Applications International Corp. as a program manager and division manager) and five with DynCorp International as the senior program management trainer). In Williamsburg in 2012, he was elected president of the Blackhorse Association, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization

representing troopers, veterans, and friends of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (Blackhorse) and served in that capacity until June 2016. In 2006, he was named to the board of directors of the National Armor and Cavalry Heritage Foundation. In January, my wife Lynn and I met up with **Bill Cannell** and his wife Anne for lunch halfway between Orlando—where we were staying—and their home in Port St. Lucie, Fla. Both are doing well and remain active golfers. I've also traded emails with **Scott Higgins**, **Bud Manges**, **Jay Rockman**, **Lee Cummings**, **Dave Roth**, and **Chuck Widger**. For "older folks," they're also all doing well. **John Tecklenburg** wrote that he and his wife Dorothy, were recognized as 2023 local Philanthropists of the Year by the Washington County, PA Community Foundation. John was also recognized as 2023 Humanitarian of the Year by the Washington County, PA Bar Association. Congratulations John!

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'68

Al Strunk wrote that he continues to practice office cardiology at First Health of the Carolinas in Pinehurst, N.C. As of Jan., he reduced his workload to a three-day week. He enjoyed seeing his FIJI brother, **Mike Mercer**, who was in town in the fall of 2023 and joined Al for golf and dinner before Mike headed back to Del. **Phil Klemmer** commented that after he retired from the renal division at the U of N.C. at Chapel Hill, he began research at the nearby Duke Medical Center. His group is investigating the effect of the Duke Rice Diet Program on the most severe form of hypertension, malignant hypertension, the disease that caused the death of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The research group is using AI

and machine learning to understand abnormalities in the retinas of these patients. The researchers have been fortunate to have a collaboration with a young group of bioinformatics researchers from the Hasso Plattner Institute in Potsdam, Germany. They seem bewildered whenever Phil speaks German, as their English is better than his! **Steve Wibberley** commented that he has been busy writing on his farm in Conn. He just finished his 13th and 14th books. The 13th is "Canterbury, Connecticut: Characters of the 21st Century, Volume 2," which has 51 short biographies of interesting people in his small hometown of 5,000. The 14th book is *The Question: What about Those Who Have Never Heard?* Both books may be purchased from Amazon. He also said that he and his wife, Barbara, do not get to see their grandchildren very often as their sons' families are in Germany and the Middle East. It is my sad duty to report the death of **Van Hendrickson** in March. Van taught English at Milford Academy in Milford, Conn., where he also served as dean of students. He also taught at Quinnipiac U, Housatonic Community College, and the U of Bridgeport. In his retirement, he continued with his love of baseball, of which he was a faithful Yankee fan, and gardening, which his neighbors enjoyed as he always had more vegetables than his family could eat. We mourn with this classmate's family and friends.

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'69

By the time you read this, our 55th Reunion will have come and gone. If you attended, send me some tidbits about what you did, who you saw, or anything else. I do have good news to report this time. In 2023, **Donna Osterhoudt Schaper** celebrated her 50th anniversary of

ordination in the United Church of Christ, thanks to John Vannorsdall, who served as Gettysburg's chaplain from 1962 to 1976. **Fred Schumacher** was notified by G'burg President Bob Iuliano that he is the recipient of the 2024 Meritorious Service Award, scheduled to be presented on June 1 during Reunion Weekend. Congrats, Fred, on a great honor! Once again, I am sad to report the loss of two more of our classmates. **William J. Calderone** died in Nov. 2023 in Scranton, Pa. Born in New York City, he attended New Milford High School and G'burg College and worked as a banker for PNC Bank before his retirement in 2005. Bill then worked as an usher for more than 10 years for the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Rail Riders. He was a huge sports fan and a longtime fan of the New York Jets and the New York Mets. **William H. Payne** died in Dec. 2023 at his home in Dallastown, Pa. By his side was his wife of 52 years, Alice (McCall) Payne. Born in York, Pa., he was a 1965 graduate of Dallastown Area High School and a 1969 graduate of G'burg College. Dr. Payne earned his dental degree from Temple School of Dentistry in 1973. He practiced dentistry in Red Lion for 45 years, retiring in 2018. Dr. Payne was an active member, treasurer, and president of the York County Dental Society. He also served as chairman of the board of the WellSpan Health Hoodner Dental Center, which provided low-cost dental care to those in need. An avid reader and student of history, he loved golf and enjoyed the outdoors in all seasons. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, a son, and 14 grandchildren.

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1970

I hope everyone had a good winter. Things were mild in Md., with a few small snows—my kind of winter! The College informed me of the passing of **Mary Lou Seamens** on July 9, 2023, after a short battle with cancer. Mary Lou worked in fundraising at the College after graduation and went on

to become the director of the G'burg YMCA. Later, she became the director of the Adams County Red Cross, a position she held for more than 20 years. She led disaster relief, blood services, and taught CPR classes. Mary Lou was a proud and energetic member of the G'burg Presbyterian Church for 56 years. She was a member of the choir and sang with the G'burg Community Chorus. She is survived by Howard Seamans and Charlene McCartney, Patricia Filius and her husband Steve, John Seamans and Susan Herring, 10 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren. Thanks again to **Jim Yonai** for sending me the Yonai Holiday News! He and his wife Bobbi celebrated 50 years of marriage. Congratulations! Bobbi also celebrated 15 years of a successful kidney transplant. Jim and Bobbi were able to go to their “camp,” 160 miles from Syracuse, N.Y., where they hadn't been since closing it in 2019. They had hoped for the best and didn't get it. They found people to do repairs and stayed overnight on two occasions before closing the camp for winter. They're looking forward to a better experience in 2025. **Joann (Hess) Grayson** and her husband, Phil Grayson '69, sent me their “North Country News.” They have a house in upstate N.Y. Jo said that mice had taken over! Jo and Phil volunteer with The AARP Tax Aide program, help with food distribution to vets, and check in on people through a Friendly Visitors program. I'm sorry to write about the passing of Sigma Kappa sister **Barb (Schneider) Tuceling**. Barb studied English and history, sang in the College Choir, and worked in the library. After graduation, Barb attended the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vt., worked for the All-India Women's Conference in New Delhi, and became the third staff member of the Smithsonian Institution travel program in 1975, where she led tours to more than 100 countries and served as the program's manager until 1994. Barb retired from the Smithsonian in 2013. Barb met her husband, **Bill Tuceling**, in 1976. She returned to campus to perform in the final concert of the choir. Her mom drove to G'burg to attend and sat next to Bill, who was living in town at the time. The rest, as they say, is history.

They married on July 19, 1980, and bought their first house in North Springfield, Va., by Christmas. Another house and 13 years later, Barb and Bill became parents of an 8-week-old baby born in China. Barb passed away on March 8 in Annandale, Va., and is survived by her husband, her daughter Caitlyn, her brother Ron, her sister-in-law Carolyn, and her niece Becky. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. Stay well and please write!

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'71

The past year seems to have been a busy travel one. **Dave Good** wrote, “Becoming a full-time Texan this year, with only my motorhome to escape the summer heat in the Rocky Mountains...doing a lot of karaoke and motorcycling. Be 80 on April 22...still fully functional and grateful. TTFN.” At the next reunion, Dave, you will be the entertainment chair! **Barb Eames Price** also wrote, “I am catching up on travels and in-person Encore Chorale events in 2023 and 2024. There was a fun spring 2023 mother-daughter trip to Athens, Santorini, and Heraklion, Greece. Then Scott '69 and I celebrated our 50th anniversary in the fall of 2023 with a voyage from New York City to Quebec, with adventures in the Vancouver area and a visit with daughter Sarah in Oakland, Calif. We are also members of Home Exchange and enjoy the cultural (and financial) benefits of exchanging homes instead of staying in hotels. Traveling while we are still physically able is a major goal.” **Nancy Sellers** traveled to Vietnam to visit her son Bi and granddaughter Bella; she downsized and moved into a vibrant community, which she is still exploring. On local soil, I was delighted to join **Lois Coulter Kelberman**, **Donna Collinson Fulton**, **Carolyn Forster Lauer**, **Jane Engel Gallagher** and **Kelly Alsedek** for a laughter-filled long lunch in Westminster, Md. Sadly, we have lost another classmate—**Ivan J. Punctatz** passed away in April.

From his obituary, “A lifelong lover of music, Ivan was accepted to Gettysburg College for trumpet performance before switching his studies to political science and history. While at Gettysburg, he was a member of the KDR [Kappa Delta Rho] fraternity. Throughout the remainder of his life, Ivan was a dedicated alumnus of the College. Ivan practiced healthcare law for over 40 years and served as deputy attorney general for N.J., where he represented the state Medicaid program, state psychiatric hospitals, and intermediate care facilities.” As so many of us continue our connections to each other, the College, and the town, I am grateful that **Lois Ehrhardt Stevenson** wrote regarding our classmate **Jim Stevenson**, who passed away in Sept. 2023. After noting his lifelong relationships with Sigma Nu fraternity brothers and his passion for long-distance running cultivated under the guidance of beloved coach Ned Brownley and biking (only after his legs gave out from running), she said, “Jim was an elementary school teacher for 36 years, most of which were spent in the Methacton School District. It’s difficult to measure the impact his caring instruction had on his students. For many years, Jim took his fifth-grade classes on a field trip to Gettysburg for a personalized tour of the battlefield. These trips nearly always included a drive around ‘Mr. S’s’ college campus and a visit to Pennsylvania Hall. He always considered Gettysburg College his home. We returned often. Who knew that a chance meeting on a walk to town many years ago would bring such a fulfilling life!” Our sincere condolences to the families of our classmates.

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 **Gettysburg College Class of 1971**

'72

It was good to get an update from **Dick Boak**, who reported, “I am actively building acoustic guitars with my remaining stash of precious tonewoods in my home shop. I recently sent one to John Mayer and another to Steve Miller. I love to play, so I am hoarding the rest.” We remember the life of **Dennis Wagenblast**, who died on Feb. 4. Dennis met his dream girl, Meredith '71, at Gettysburg College. Both were history majors. They got married in 1973. Dennis graduated from G'burg with high academic honors and was inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Alpha Theta honor societies. His academic journey continued to the U of Va., where Dennis earned a master's degree in history. Dennis went on to earn his law degree from Rutgers Law School in 1976. He worked as an attorney for more than 40 years, most of which at his own practice. His mission, which he delivered on, was to provide excellent legal services at affordable prices for his clients. Above all, Dennis was a family man. He is survived by his wife, Meredith; his children, Scott, Katie and her husband Nick, Megan and her husband Tom, and Craig and his wife Thynna; and four grandchildren. **Judy Henning Stratton** passed away Jan. 19, 2024. Judy was born and raised in N.J., graduating from Westfield High School. She was a history major at Gettysburg and earned her master's degree in counseling at Lewis U. She married Tony Stratton in 1975. Judy worked for Sargent & Lundy in Chicago as an administrator and subsequently as a teacher and counselor for Addison Trail High School and Hiawatha High School. Throughout her entire life, Judy was sincerely committed to the Lutheran Church and actively participated in the life of a local congregation wherever she lived. Judy is survived by her husband, Tony; two children, Aaron and Nathan; and a granddaughter, Hazel.

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'73

Bruce Matthews wrote, “Just a quick note to share the news of the release of our first single, ‘Dancin’ in the Kitchen,’ off the new EP ‘Holding Fast.’ Here’s the link to most of the streaming platforms (brucematthewsband.hearnow.com/dancin-in-the-kitchen) or you can email bruce@paintedtrilliummusic.com. **Beverly Ann “Bev” Harris**, of Gettysburg, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 28, 2023, at her home in Gettysburg. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Gettysburg College. She worked as a caregiver for Visiting Angels. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in New Oxford, Pa. In her spare time, Beverly enjoyed genealogy research. **Juanita “Juan” Mary Scott Gobel** of Hanover died on Dec. 19, 2023. Juanita married Dr. Reginald T. Gobel and was active in church activities, such as Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Legion of Mary, and as a Eucharistic Minister, making hospital and home visits. She earned a Bachelor of Science in psychology at Gettysburg College. In the 1980s, she worked five years at Hanover Hall for Nursing & Rehabilitation.

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'74

It was great to hear from **Dean Rohrbaugh** recently. Originally from the York, Pa., area, Dean lived in Reston, Va., before relocating to Hillsboro, Va., in

2021. Dean retired in 2020, after spending 40 years as a tax professional at The Washington Post and six years “post-Post” consulting with Bloomberg. He loved his time at the Post and said he could write a book about his adventures and the people he met over the years. Dean and his wife enjoy visiting G’burg, riding bikes on the battlefield, and enjoying the natural beauty, especially the fall foliage. During one recent visit, he stopped at the Sigma Chi house. Dean has spent a good amount of time planting trees and shrubs on his property, and he appreciates the beauty of the landscape he has created. His six grandchildren love to visit. Dean saw **Melanie Heller** at his high school reunion in 2021, and he is in touch with **Curt Deardorff**, a retired dentist in North Wales, Pa. I also heard from **Karen Damm Strickle**, who moved to Omaha, Neb., after college. In 1978, she formed her own vocational rehabilitation consulting practice, which she still runs today as president. She married Patrick Strickle, who had two children. Together, they had a third child and were married for 41 years. Unfortunately, Patrick passed away last year at age 80. She is now retiring from the company she founded; her very capable stepson and stepdaughter will take over. Her youngest son and his wife have a new baby girl. Karen knows her retired life will consist of time with family, babysitting her new granddaughter, horseback riding, exercise, time with friends, and travel. She will spend January through March in West Palm Beach, Fla., where she and Patrick wintered for a few years; during other years, they spent time in Ariz. Karen is sorry to miss the reunion but looks forward to reconnecting with her G’burg friends. **Carolyn Hand McGarvie** and Paul McGarvie ’73 are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 17. It’s a Saturday this year, just as it was in 1974. Carolyn and Paul have three grown daughters who live with their families in Haddonfield and Glen Rock, N.J. The McGarvies have eight grandchildren—seven boys and a girl! I received a note from **Marc O’Mara** of Albuquerque, N.M., who told me about the passing of our classmate, **Craig Driver** of Thurmont, Md. Craig died on Dec. 19, 2023, after a

lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Michele, and their two children—a daughter, Megan, and a son, Jason. Marc also had four grandchildren. We send our condolences to Marc’s family. Please email me at any time with news or just to say hello. And look for news from our 50th Reunion in the Winter 2025 issue!

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'75

Tony Elar sent an update noting that, after 40 years in direct marketing, he has finally retired for good. He now tends cows on his Va. farm and enjoys re-enacting, specifically re-enacting the French and Indian War on the Va. frontier. **Doug Gordon** wrote in from Portland, Ore., where he has lived for more than 20 years. While geographic distance makes visits to G’burg difficult, Doug was excited about the opportunity to connect with former swim team members, who have provided class updates recently. Doug’s email address is doug.h.gordon@gmail.com. **Bill Huss** wrote in from his Cape Cod home in Wellfleet, Mass., noting that they are fortunate to have a home which is away from the crowds featuring dirt roads, secluded beaches, and a bridge covered with water at high tide. Paul (Rocky) Hetrick ’74 reported that nine Harrisburg-area Phi Gamma Delta fraternity brothers gathered for a fall 2023 golf competition, which was won by **Dave Reese**. Other participants were George (Sam) Huff ’74, Michael Haas ’76, Phil Dolson ’76, Rich Merker ’76, Frank Hilton ’77, Ed Riggs ’77, and Bill Walsleben ’77. Finally, I am sad to report the death of two classmates: **Robert G. Sorger** passed away peacefully on Nov. 11, 2023, in Indialantic, Fla. Bob grew up with his eight siblings. In high school, his favorite pastime was wrestling, which led him to join the collegiate team at Gettysburg. He was an active member of the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and he earned his degree in physical education. After college, Bob left the Northeast for sunny Florida, where he pursued a career in industrial pressure

cleaning, eventually opening his own businesses in the industry: Wash on Wheels and Wash America. He loved sports and music, particularly singing and spending time with his men’s group at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Community. **Robert “Skip” Miller** of Traverse City, Mich., died on Nov. 29, 2022, following a hard-fought battle with leukemia. Following completion of his studies at G’burg and the U of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 1978, Skip began a career in public service, first as a dental officer in the U.S. Air Force and later as a public health service officer with the U.S. Coast Guard. In 1996, he began working at the Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he would remain for 20 years. Skip married Carol Wagner on July 4, 1981, in a double wedding with Carol’s sister. The Millers welcomed two beautiful boys to their family while living in Traverse City. In Sept. 2023, the Cherry Capital Cycling Club and the board of the North American Vasa sponsored a bike ride and picnic as a tribute to Skip.

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'76

Generous members of our Class of ’76 have made significant contributions to our College. **Daria Lo Presti Wallach** has made an unrestricted \$10 million gift, the largest contribution by a living donor in the College’s history. Trustee Emerita **Joan Fischer Schweizer** and **Rick Schweizer** have committed \$5.5 million, including an Endowed Scholarship Fund awarded to deserving students in economics or management. After battling multiple sclerosis for decades, **David Carr** passed away in Santa Barbara, Calif. He is survived by his wife, four children, and four grandchildren. **Mary Ellen (Krompasky) Nasser** has enjoyed a fun year traveling throughout the south of France and Greece. When not traveling, she enjoys time with her seven grandchildren. I have four grandchildren in college, one each at the U

of Southern California, Notre Dame, Oregon, and Princeton. My husband Clark and I make it a priority to take them on international adventures each summer. Our last trip was to Israel and Greece, and we are grateful that we had the opportunity before the turmoil. As the new class correspondent, I hope to hear from all of you so that we can all catch up in future issues. After leading a full life as a teacher, sports coach, and entrepreneur, **Carol (Brown) Murray** lost her five-year battle with cancer in Dec. 2023. Remembered for her athletic talents at G'burg, she excelled in sports throughout her life. She left behind her devoted husband, Jim. We sadly lost avid sportsman and athlete **Craig Rineman** on Sept. 11, 2023. He enjoyed a successful career in the printing industry, including 15 years as the vice president of The Sheridan Press. He coached the Hanover High School girls softball team to the state championships. He is survived by his loving wife Ellen, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

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'77

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that I share the passing of my friend and our classmate **Ann Thornburg Weiss** on Dec. 17, 2023. Following graduation, Ann went on to receive her Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Temple U Beasley School of Law. She then clerked for Judge Donald E. Wieand Sr. of the Pa. Superior Court and proceeded to join the law firm of Timoney Knox LLP in 1984, where she handled complex civil and environmental litigation matters and was the first woman invited into the firm's partnership. Ann was also a committed public servant, serving as Upper Dublin Township commissioner for six years and Montgomery County clerk of courts for 12 years. A self-described

"Democratic warrior woman," Ann was proud to support the Montgomery County Democratic Party. She also served on the board of directors of the Community Ambulance Association of Ambler, Pa.; as council member and council president of Upper Dublin Lutheran Church; as a volunteer with the Interfaith Hospitality Network; and as a first grade Sunday school teacher. Ann frequently gathered with her family and their golden retriever Billy at their cottage on Lake Wallenpaupack in Northeastern Pa. Ann is survived by her husband of 44 years, John '76; their son John Jr., married to Kristin Marie Kopec; her sister, Mary Jane Thornburg Brochu '80; and a host of nieces and nephews. Ann's sense of humor, laugh, wit, and brilliant mind will be forever remembered. June 2024 will mark **Stan Schoonover's** 25th year as the founding conductor of the Fairfax Wind Symphony, a community band comprised of many music educators from around the Washington, D.C., area, as well as other interested musicians. The group has been featured at two Midwest International Clinics, 15 Va. state music conferences, the Association of Concert Bands National Convention, numerous times at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and countless concerts in the Washington, D.C., area over 25 years. Stan shared that he often used the teaching and music choices of beloved Music Prof. Emeritus Bob Zellner when leading this talented group, and it has been a joy to be their conductor. He currently lives off the second fairway at Heritage Hunt in Gainesville, Va., making playing golf a favorite pastime. **Karen Eaken Peter** and Tom '75 recently hosted a small gathering of fellow G'burg alums who all happened to retire to the same community in Travelers Rest, S.C. In attendance were Rick '76 and Joan Fischer Schweizer '76, Mert Gilbert '72, and Dennis Winkleman '72. There was a fair amount of orange and blue sighted that evening. We would love to hear what you've been doing lately. Please send me an email.

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'78

Did you know that **Mike Sharrett** is known as a "circuit rider"? That's according to the note I got from his wife, **Janice Beechwood Sharrett**. It is what one is called who serves as a part-time, transitional pastor. Right now, Mike is serving the Williamsburg and Chesapeake areas of Va. However, in 2023, he also managed to be in Lynchburg, Va., and Louisville, Ky., and got the added benefit of being near some of their children and grandchildren. In between family and work, Janice spent 2023 recovering from a crushed ankle, and Mike worked on his model railroads. I hope the crushed ankle wasn't the result of a runaway train from the Sharrett Express! Since **Beth Carnahan** ratted out **Donna Crudeli** and spilled the beans about Donna's retirement, Donna wrote to confirm that her fun career as vice president of underwriting for a national insurance broker was over. Even more fun has been learning Italian and how to play the piano, taking time with her six grandchildren, and falling in love with travel, which is a favorite activity of our G'burg retirees. And finally, the elusive **Greg Farno** has been spotted (by a 1980 alum) on the Instagram feed of Notre Dame Prep as they welcome him as the new chancellor of education for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Way to go, Greg! Please send me updates about where you've been around the world.

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Congratulations are in order for **Pastor Harold “Jake” Jacobson**, who was honored by the Clarion Chamber of Business & Industry with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Community Service. Jake has been the pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Clarion, Pa., since 1983. After more than 40 years, **Jill (Fausold) Baroni** caught up with our Chi Omega pledge trainer, Alison (Echard) Vallejo '78, out in Park City, Utah. They had a great time evening snowshoeing, enjoying dinner and drinks, and spending a day rippin' up the slopes on the ski trails. Park City skiing is also a favorite of **Sue Saxton**. In addition to spending time there throughout the year, Sue annually spends her birthday there getting in some spring skiing with her brother and his family. **Hope (Dyer) Luken** recently had a wonderful conversation reconnecting with **Stacie (McGivern) Colbeth**. Stacie is living in Mass., as is **Gloria (Dutton) Carlson**. Gloria was the chaplain at the South Shore Hospital and is now retired. Her son and his wife have two children and live north of Boston. **Mike** and **Connie (Meissner) Henrich** celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary on Dec. 6, 2023. They have lived in Aiken, S.C., for 35 years and love the small city charm. After working for IBM in the Washington, D.C., area, Connie spent 23 years as the executive director of a Lutheran senior living community in Aiken and retired in 2021. Mike was able to take an early retirement from Lowe's and has had his own remodeling business for years. They love retirement living, especially going to Washington, D.C., to spend time with their daughter Airlie and grandson Elliott, spending time on the beautiful South Carolina coast, and enjoying time with dear and wonderful friends. Connie concluded, “Life is good!” Along with being a busy grandmom of four, **Cindy Eni Yingling** has created a new business venture, “The Farmstead at Medford.” It's an upscale independent living community for seniors in Medford, N.J. Visit farmsteadatmedford.com. It's hard to believe that by the time this issue is in print, our 45th Reunion will have already taken

place. Many thanks to **Anne (Hanley) Casillo** and **Paul Welliver** for their efforts to organize yet another great gathering for the Class of '79! I'm hoping to hear from more of our classmates about what you've been up to so I can include it in our next Class Notes column. Thank you in advance.

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f Gettysburg College Class of 1979

1980 ©

Brian Hoke and **Debbie Hatton Hoke** retired to the Finger Lakes and enjoy life on the water, boating, golfing, and winery hopping. Brian has spent the last 10 years involved in childhood literacy programs at the local elementary school. Debbie pursues an interest in writing, celebrating a recent publication of one of her essays. (see thebookendsreview.com/debbie-hoke). They have two children—both are married and have one grandson (so far). They still see the old AXP crowd periodically, with a recent visit from the **Rich Klemm** family, who shared their love of birdwatching. **Sara Cory Aikman** served as the assistant director for an area agency on aging prior to her retirement in 2020. She lives in Michigan in the East Lansing area. Her two sons live on the West Coast, so vacations and travel center around seeing them and her two grandchildren. When at home, she focuses on fitness, cooking, reading, and gardening. **Karyn deFries Haasen** is happily married and has two sons, ages 37 and 34, each who have two children ages 6 to newborn. She and her husband Don moved from the suburbs of Baltimore into Baltimore City once they became empty-nesters and are enjoying all the perks of city life. After a career in market research, Karyn now spends her time volunteering in the neighborhood school and pursuing creative hobbies such as painting hubcaps and learning to play the ukulele. She is a proud member of “The Ukulalas.” Karyn reported that she's looking forward to an upcoming trip with

G'burg friends to Portugal this fall. Dr. **Carlin McLaughlin** said this is the first time in 44 years he has provided an update: He retired from his career at Penn Medicine as a hematologist-oncologist and Philadelphia “Top Doc” for the past five-plus years. Carlin and his husband have moved to their beach house in Rehoboth Beach, Del. **Robert Hart**, who provided a photograph of himself and several TKE fraternity brothers, is married with two children and one 2-year-old grandson. He retired after 35 years in the mortgage industry and is enjoying traveling, biking, and golf. The Harts currently reside in New Hope, Pa., and send cheers to all. **Thomas Shaw**, who is in the photo Robert provided on page 58, is married. He has two married sons with one grandchild each. He is semi-retired and lives outside Athens, Ga., where he is still doing some consulting after 42 years in manufacturing management for paper packaging product companies. I'm still hoping for updates from **Bruce Weed**, **Steve Morro**, **Robert Richlin**, **Hal Michels**, and Steve Cloeting '81. Have you recently retired? Please send updates! I retired in February and hope to travel to a few places this year to celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary. We are also looking forward to our first grandchildren (twins) who will make their debut in June. Thanks, Madeleine Mulderrig '11!

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'81

Hi, everyone. I hope you are all doing well. I wanted to pass on the sad news that **Peter Campbell Brown**, age 65, of Phoenixville, Pa., passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 17. Following his graduation from Gettysburg, Peter worked for many years at Vanguard before beginning his most recent career as a real estate agent for Berkshire Hathaway in Exton, Pa. Peter was a champion for historical preservation, and he was a member and served as past president of The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area. He was a supporter of the arts and

had a fascination for architecture and nature, often attending lectures and nature tours. Peter received his certificate as a Master Gardener from Penn State U and cultivated plants. Through his recycling and composting, he was conscientious of the world around us. He enjoyed vacationing in Canada at the family's cabin on Lake Weslemkoon and frequently took trips to Ocean City, N.J. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his name to The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area, 204 Church Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460. Condolences may be offered online at phoenixvillefuneralhome.com. This announcement just came in as I was submitting our Class Notes. Rest in peace, **Mark Seigel** (see more at hancockfuneralhome.net/m/obituaries/Mark-Seigel/memories). If you are reading this column, my next deadline is soon. Send a quick email, text, or give me a call. Your classmates would all love to hear what you have been up to. Also, I'm still looking for someone willing to take over the column. Let me know if you might be interested. Stay well.

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'82

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1982](#)

'83

Dear classmates, we are happy to be your new class correspondents for the Class of '83. We would love to hear from you and encourage you to send us an email. In your email, please let us know what, if anything, you want us to publish to our classmates, and the wider Gettysburg community, in

these Class Notes. As for us, we find joy spending time with family, especially our two children, son-in-law, and our first grandchild, who was born this past July. Betty, our 3-year-old yellow Lab, keeps us on our toes. New Jersey has been home for the last 31 years. Amy works as an assistant vice President at Rowan U, and Andy continues his work as an attorney with the federal government. We often reminisce, with great fondness, about our separate memories of G'burg. We are excited to utilize this space to facilitate a greater connection among all of us, the Class of '83. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your journeys, news, and memories. Be well and warm regards, Amy (Rowe) and Andy Ruymann

Amy (Rowe) and Andy Ruymann
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'84

Hello, fellow Class of 1984 alums! By the time the GETTYSBURG College Magazine arrives, our Reunion will be part of history. What a great time to enjoy renewing friendships made 40 years ago. Thanks to the Alumni Office and to our class planning committee! We received word about our classmate **Debra Sue Hess**, who passed away Dec. 4, 2023. Sue was born on Nov. 2, 1961, at Seidle Memorial Hospital in Mechanicsburg, Pa. Sue was the daughter of James Hess of Mifflin, Pa., and Patricia (Wenrich) Back (husband William) of Lake Havasu City, Ariz. In addition to her parents, she is survived by her brother, James Hess Jr. of Fallsington, Pa.; her sister, Stefanie McGill and husband Robert of Acworth, Ga.; nephews Benjamin Hess, Alexander McGill, and Steven McGill; and niece Abigail Hess. Sue was a graduate of East Pennsboro High School (1980), Gettysburg College (1984), and West Virginia U. She had a successful career in retail management, particularly with Hess's Store, and later worked as a vocational rehabilitation counselor. She was a lifelong fan of the Pirates, Steelers,

and Pitt Panthers, along with Beavis and Butthead. Throughout her 30-year battle with multiple sclerosis, Sue maintained her determination, intellect, and fun sense of humor. There was no service. Memorial contributions can be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at donate.nationalmssociety.org/campaign/flowers-for-Sue. Please keep me up-to-date with what's going on with you and what you want our classmates to know. I hope you are having a great summer of 2024!

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'85

The big news I have to share is that our fearless leader of Alumni Relations retired at the end of last school year. In fact, **Joe Lynch** has already relocated to Lewes, Del. Hopefully, Joe made arrangements to reserve the best places for our 40th Reunion next year. I'm assuming he is not the only recent retiree, so reach out and let me know who else is or has recently retired. You can even make plans to join our Reunion committee. In other news, **Adam Sherman** is spending winters away from the Philly cold in Florida. I'm assuming he is still working and has expanded his client base into Florida—nice way to write off the travel expenses, Adam! For those who need help rolling over their 401(k)s when you retire, reach out to advisor **Pam Marler**, who is now with First Trust Financial Services in Philadelphia. I had fun catching up with Pam in December while traveling for business. Be sure to send some news as soon as you read this issue. Let's see if we can find out who has the most grandchildren.

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'86

Greetings and lots of exciting news to share! A big thank you to all who wrote in with updates. **John Harris** married Jackie Vacca Muller on March 23 in N.J. In attendance at the wedding were a few Gettysburg alums: Ned Hughes '18, John's nephew; Julia Abbazia '22, John's niece; **Jeff Lakin**; Andrew and Kipp Good '87; and Paul Garbe '87). Congrats, John! **Marshall Welch** married Erin Plocinski in Dec. 2023. Marshall wrote that his daughter Abigail graduated from TCU with a degree in biology. His son Marshall graduated from Asheville School in North Carolina and will attend High Point U in the fall. Marshall and **Todd Gothberg** have been able to connect in Asheville. Congrats, Marshall! There are a few grandbabies to announce. Speaking of Todd Gothberg, he and his wife Antje welcomed their fourth grandchild in May—a baby girl! **Elizabeth (Wintsch) Shoudy** and **Peter Shoudy** are spending lots of time with their two grandchildren—Oliver (2) and Charlie (1). Elizabeth is happily retired after 25 years in public special education, and Peter is senior vice president of sales with Red Line Freight Systems in Taunton, Mass. It was fantastic to hear from **Mary Dougherty**, who let us know that she loves living in Mt. Gretna, Pa., where she recently adopted a rescue pup, Scarlett. They spend time running the trails and enjoying the outdoors. Mary also took a new job with an all-woman-owned company, The O'Connor Group, an HR consulting and recruiting firm. Well done, Mary! **Sandy (Griffith) and Carter Sackman**, **Tom Azelby** and his wife Renee, and **Bill Bridgen** and his wife Laura spent an amazing weekend in Charleston, S.C., celebrating the wedding of **Steve Geiger** and his wife Maggie's daughter, Emily. Congratulations Steve, Maggie, and Emily! Until next time, and for now, cheers to good health, happiness, and nothing but blue skies.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1986](#)

'87

Our classmates must be busy with March Madness or spring break as we received only a few updates. **Jennifer Carfrey Abrens** gathered with **Katherine (McCaw) Gordon**, **Mary Anne Sacco**, and **Karen Petren** in July 2023 for the Napa, Calif. Porch Fest. It was a nostalgic trip sharing fond memories of G'burg with their yearbooks. They celebrated their 40th anniversary of meeting their first year in the fall of 1983. What a blast! From keg parties to wine tastings, cheers to strong friendships! **Anne Swigart** visited **Jeanne McLellan** last fall for a New York City weekend. Jeanne lives in Brooklyn, and they enjoyed walking through Prospect Park, grabbing dinner in Park Slope, and spending an afternoon at the Museum of Modern Art. The two were roommates during their first year in Stevens Hall, in a quad room with a pay phone in the hallway. Anne works as a writer and editor and lives in West Chester, Pa., with her husband, John Shetron, a professional photographer. They celebrated their wedding anniversary last fall on Nantucket, where they were married on the beach 15 years ago. Jeanne lives in Brooklyn and continues to work at HarperCollins Children's Books in the rights and licensing department. She recently received a lifetime achievement award from the HarperCollins sales department for fostering and nurturing customer relationships. Jeanne, **Andy Stoner**, and his husband Damon reunited in New York City last July before Andy and Damon left for a transatlantic trip on The Queen Mary. **Clare Marino Girton** recently shared that Fiji brothers **Dwight Powers**, **Eric Monheim**, Darrin Girton '86, Gerry Paulson '86, Tim Houser '88, and Chris Johnson '88 gathered near Charlotte N.C., for **Joe Reich**'s last game as the head coach for the Wingate Bulldogs. Joe has been the head coach at Wingate for more than 20 years and holds Wingate's record for career football wins. Joe has been officially named Wingate's athletic director after serving as interim athletic director. **Ted Helwig** and **Laura Harris Helwig** were blessed with their first grandson, Oliver, in Nov. 2022. Who else in our class joined the ranks of grandparents?

Ted and Laura reside in Warrington and both continue to work. Grandmom Laura is fortunate to babysit two days a week. Oliver is already a Philadelphia Sports fan! Grandad and Grandmom are definitely living the "grand" life! **Hope Carter Kowalewski** reported that she retired. She spent 34 years teaching for the Northeastern School District in south central Pa. and more than 30 years coaching high school and age group swimming for the Northeastern and York Suburban school districts. Retirement is definitely a jolt to the body and mind, but she is starting to get the hang of it. Hope suggested that **Caroline Roos Sergison** also recently retired. Maybe there are other classmates who would like to share news of their retirement? **Gloria Hamilton Griskowitz**, co-owner with her sister of Putnam Market in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., prepared the community for the solar eclipse in a fun celebratory way! We know there is so much more than this to report from our fellow classmates. Please send us your updates for the Winter 2025 issue.

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'88

Allison Woodruff shared a nice update with me. It was a first quarter of great visits for her. She was so glad to see so many classmates and ADPi alum. In January, she got to see **Margi (Humrich) Myers** who traveled up to Richmond, Va., to see her nephew and nieces who live close by. While there, they got a chance to hook up and go hiking with fellow ADPi **Caroline (McClintic) Walters** '89. In February, **Betsy (Robland) Mosmiller**'s oldest daughter and Allison's goddaughter, Grace, married a naval officer at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. They got some good visit time with Betsy and her family over that very fun and festive weekend. In late February, **Chris (Lynch) Eberhart** came up for the weekend from her home in Virginia Beach, Va. They had

a great time, just impromptu hanging out with wine and good food. I'm sure many of us have the same sentiment Allison ended with: "I feel very fortunate to have made all of these fantastic lifelong friends and more from our time at G'burg." Take care everyone, and remember to send me updates!

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'89

I hope everyone is doing well, and you were able to attend our 35th Reunion. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, but I'm certain that catching up with old friends and even meeting new ones made for an exciting weekend. Having said that, I should hear from many of you with an update for our column. I do have some news to report this time, however. I recently had dinner with *Claudette (Berger) Kim* and *Eleni (Georgilakis) Gianoplus*, and they shared that the Delta Gammas from the classes of 1988 to 1997 had their first annual reunion weekend in Annapolis, Md., in Nov. 2023. It was a beautiful weekend filled with laughter, great food, and G'burg memories, celebrating 35 years of friendship. In attendance were the following people: from the Class of 1988: Monia L'Tainen, Beth Patton Mulholland, Jane Reeder Padgett, Lori Butterworth Kerpius, Julie Buoy Whamond, and Tricia Cerreta Gordon. From the Class of 1989: *Julie Anderson*, *Claudette Berge Kim*, *Eleni (Georgilakis) Gianoplus*, *Kirsten Frank Johnson*, *Ellen Holland Seaver*, and *Holly Schauer Price*. From the Class of 1990: Dara Henry Hubbard, Heidi Scholten Franchetti, Lina DiOttavio Murray, Kristin Condit Wenger, and Karen Tramont Altobello. Stephanie Schauer Freitas represented the Class of 1991. Thank you for this update, Claudette and Eleni. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1989](#)

1990

Hi, all. As you may have heard, dear classmate and friend *Troy Datcher* died on Feb. Here are excerpts from his obituary. Turn to page 60 to read more. Troy held family in the highest regard, always aiming to set a positive example and take on a leadership role for his loved ones. He often said, "I'm the oldest of Big Mama's grandkids, so I must be a success to show our family what we must do." Troy's experience at Gettysburg was transformational. He became one of the first African American student body senators and eventually rose to the position of vice president. He was also the president of the Black Student Union and led efforts to create the annual Black Greek step show, which became one of the biggest celebrations in the area. Troy was a DJ on the campus radio station and was the youngest student at the time to be hired by a major corporation for a summer internship at Procter & Gamble. He left Procter & Gamble after more than nine years of service. He joined The Clorox Company in 1999 as a sales merchandising manager, responsible for sales and share growth for the Northeast region of the U.S. grocery market. Later, as regional sales manager for Science Technology Performance (STP), Troy was introduced to NASCAR and fell in love with the sport. Upon his return to Calif., Troy rejoined Clorox, and his career flourished. During his 20-year combined tenure at Clorox, he served in multiple roles. Troy leveraged his passion for sports marketing to provide strategic direction and management of Clorox's multimillion-dollar annual MLB, NASCAR, NBA, NFL, and college football investments. Troy reached the pinnacle of

his career at Clorox in 2019 when he was named senior vice president and chief customer officer responsible for the company's worldwide sales organization. In 2021, Troy made history and became the first Black CEO and chairman of a major publicly traded cannabis company. As CEO of The Parent Company (TPCO), Troy was honored to be at the forefront of shaping the future of the cannabis industry and to partner with cultural powerhouses like Jay-Z to create a new cannabis infrastructure rooted in diversity, equity, and justice. In addition to being an accomplished executive, Troy gave back to his community. Before his passing, he served as secretary and a member of the Board of T trustees for his beloved Gettysburg College. While on the Board, Troy also chaired the Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee and was on the search committee for the new college president. Troy leaves to cherish his memories a loving and devoted wife, Shannon, and their daughter and the apple of his eye, Nyah. A celebration of life was held in March at Liberty Christian Church in Harpersville, Alabama. Please take care of yourselves, everyone.

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'91

Amanda Yanuklis wrote that her oldest will be a first-year student—Class of 2028—in September. He is looking forward to playing baseball and majoring in health sciences. Amanda is looking forward to the next four years!

Michelle Lynette A. Hughes P'18
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 mhughes1969@yahoo.com

'92

Dan McGill is currently working as the staff director in the Office of the Command Surgeon for U.S. Army Europe and Africa. He and his family live in Wiesbaden, Germany (outside Frankfurt), where he helps supervise medical and health systems for all Army forces on our two continents (yes, going from COVID-19 to Ukraine was an interesting professional challenge). Dan was recently selected to attend the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., for a one-year graduate course in military strategy for senior leaders. Congratulations, Dan!

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1992](#)

'93

Dion Liverpool was honored with the 2024 President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Volunteer Service to Community. He dedicated it to Troy Datcher '90, who passed away in February. In 2023, **Christy Folz** launched a freelance editorial business for association clients, which continues to grow. This year, she also started a part-time technical writing role with a consulting firm that contracts with NASA. In August 2023, she spent a lovely evening with **Stacey Benseler** at the "better" Ocean City (in N.J.). Stacey has left CVS Health and is now chief compliance officer of Geisinger Health Plan in Pa. She currently lives in Unionville, Pa., with her husband Gary, three Australian shepherds, and a rescue horse. She met up with Laura Kozlowski '94 this March in Weekapaug, R.I., to celebrate Laura's engagement. She continues to volunteer her time to advocate for gender equality, women's health, and research. **Marc Muher** lives with his family in downtown Baltimore, works in cybersecurity for the Baltimore city government, and goes to a lot of O's games. **Bryn Dolan** was just promoted to assistant vice president of development at Georgetown U, where she leads all the

fundraising in the Northeast and internationally. She lives in Greenwich, Conn., with her husband after their 2020 COVID-19 wedding. **Jon Cathcart** lives in Conn., working for Atlas Fence and teaching skiing at Bromley Mountain in Vt. He has seen **Brent Hoffman** recently. While at a fencing convention, he also ran into **Erin Sonn** who was there with her husband celebrating a birthday. His most recent trip to Gettysburg was April 20 for the 21st annual Dougie Black golf tournament, celebrating the life of a fellow fraternity brother lost to cancer. **Christina Adams** just announced that "Setting the Table in the Age of Reason," a collection of her poetry, is scheduled for release in May. The work explores the divine in seemingly mundane aspects of ordinary existence. Erin Sonn remains the owner and lead instructor of Eat.Yoga.Drink in the Washington, D.C., area. She hosts international yoga retreats (yoga complements cultural, culinary, and craft beverage experiences) and would love to have some G'burgers explore the world with them. **Lisa Geltz-Perri** has been living in Naples, Fla., since 2013, but recently started a new job, working for the Florida Panthers organization as the assistant director of figure skating at the IceDen. She continues to work with the Professional Skaters Association as a coach mentor and ratings examiner. I also hear that she had a mini reunion with **Jennifer (Pontz) Slocum** while in Naples this past year. **Amy (Duncan) Tremblay** has a daughter finishing her first year at Elon U and a son who is a high school junior. She is currently on sabbatical from her job looking for her next biotech opportunity in the training field. **Virginie (Ginie) Daguise**, Ph.D. has been the director of the Bureau of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention for S.C.'s Department of Health and Environmental Control. She lives in Columbia with her husband and three children.

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'94

Dear Class of 1994, Time flies! It's hard to believe it's been 30 years since we graduated. Special thanks to our Reunion planning committee members **Sean Barrett, Cathleen Bonner, John Comegno, Gretchen (Fox) Henry, Matthew Haag, Marsha (Hoffman) Comegno, Kirsten (Kallen) Davis, Megan McCollough, Stacey (Seltenheim) Hardin, Patricia (Taylor) Hertzbach, Amy (Troutman) Layman, Scott Webster, Leah Wojda,** and **David Zapata** for all of their amazing efforts in planning our Reunion Weekend. Check out the Gettysburg College Class of 1994 Facebook page for highlights and consider supporting our class gift if you haven't already. And, as always, please share any news you'd like to see in this column. Take care!

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1994](#)

'95

Cara McClintock recently accepted the position of associate director of the Program for Community College Engagement at Princeton U. Before Princeton, she was a professor of English and women and gender studies at Northampton Community College for 19 years. She looks forward to bringing her knowledge of and enthusiasm for the work being done at community colleges to her new role.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 1995](#)

'96

Hello, Class of 1996! I continue to reside in West Chester, Pa., with my husband **Justin Bruton**, our son Quinn (20), daughter Jillie (17), our dog Poppy, and two cats, Rosie and Ernie. Both our kids

are interested in international travel. Jillie, a rising high school senior, will be spending two weeks in Europe (the U.K., France, and Italy) with her art history class. Quinn is a rising junior year at Penn State and will be studying abroad next spring in Maastricht, Amsterdam. I am excited to report I heard from many of our fellow classmates. **Sean Burpee** and his wife Jamie reside in Nantucket, Mass., where he is the managing director of The Wauwinet resort. **Britt-Karin Oliver** recently began a new role at the London Stock Exchange group and caught up with fellow classmate **Jon Chango** and his wife Sabrina while in London. Jon was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel and is currently stationed in Germany with the U.S. Air Force. **Scott Abrahamson** left teaching in June 2022 to start a small business in North Attleborough, Mass., called The Music Wagon, a full-line music store. His kids are now grown with careers, and he and his wife Karen celebrated their 26th anniversary in April. **Melissa Curtin** has been an award-winning freelance travel and food writer for more than 10 years. She joined Fora Travel recently as an advisor, booking client cruises and hotel stays. When not traveling, Melissa splits her time between Malibu and Palm Springs, Calif., with her husband. **Beth Darlington** has lived in Ind. for the last 13 years with her husband, Kevin Silcox, and their three kids. After spending five years building a catering and event planning business called Dragonfly Custom Catering, Beth recently sold the business but continues to work there as an event and catering coordinator. **Evan Davis** runs a real estate holding company. He lives in Cape Cod with his wife Kristina and daughters Emma (10th grade) and Hanna (seventh grade), and he enjoys coaching Emma's high school volleyball team and caddying for Hannah. **Margaret Crow Rogers** is a stay-at-home mom of two who plans to move from Eastern Long Island to Berkeley, Calif., this summer. She'd love to connect with anyone in the San Francisco Bay area. **Emily Flagg** recently adventured for two

weeks in New Zealand's South Island and had an incredible time. Sadly, she had to put down her dog Luna in January. Thanks to those who reached out. Your classmates appreciate the updates!

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 Gettysburg College Class of 1996

'97

Randee Gagné

'98

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 Gettysburg College Class of 1998

'99

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2000

Richard Lukas reported that, for a third year in a row, he was selected by The Hill as a top lobbyist for advocating on behalf of the nation's governors to support infrastructure investments and economic development.

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 Gettysburg College Class of 2000

'01

Lisa Routel is now the chief strategy officer at the biotechnology company BioOx. This role provides her the opportunity to marry her business strategy and scientific research skills.

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'02

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'03

Jennifer O'Hara Roche
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 Gettysburg College Class of 2003

'04

Rebecca (Daull) Markham and her husband Pat welcomed Patrick James Robert on April 27, 2023. They reside in Allentown, Pa., where Rebecca works as a social studies teacher at Northampton Area High School. After nearly a 20-year career in marketing, **Liz Carroll** decided to pursue a career in her lifelong passion: fitness. In 2023, she received her certification as a personal trainer and nutrition coach and opened her own business, Carroll Fitness LLC. On April 1, Liz celebrated the first-year anniversary of her new business. Congrats, Liz! Keep your updates coming.

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 Gettysburg College Class of 2004

'05

Darian (Murtagh) Leader '08 wrote that she and her husband, **George Leader**, welcomed their second daughter, Sutton Penn Leader, on Feb. 8, 2023. Sutton joins her sister, Everett Mea Leader, who will be 4 in August. George published his first book: "Artifacts of Mourning: Archaeology of the Historic Burial Ground of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia." You can find it on Amazon. Darian and George's girls come from quite the Gettysburg family. Everett and Sutton are the granddaughters of Dean Murtagh '70 and Karen (Chronister) Leader '69 and the great-granddaughters of Carol Chronister '35 and George Michael Leader '39, a past Pa. governor who attended Gettysburg for a time.

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'06

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'07

Hello, Class of '07, and happy summer! As you read this column, I hope life is treating you well and those you love most are happy, healthy, and thriving. Congratulations to our fellow classmates who have some wonderful news to share. **Nicole Santos** married Sanket Gandhi on Feb. 24 in Mumbai, India. Nicole now works as a major gifts officer at the Friends Committee on National Legislation, a national nonpartisan Quaker advocacy organization, and lives in Arlington, Va. **Meghan (Howlett) Wilson** welcomed a baby boy, Kenneth Malcolm, on March 7. Meghan is a territory sales manager at Phathom Pharmaceuticals in N.J. And finally, I'm sending lots of well wishes to my fellow Chi O sister **Catherine (Manners) Bucolo**,

who, along with her husband Tim and big sister Diem, welcomed a son, Roman Wilder, in Aug. 2023. The Bucolo family resides in sunny Fla. As exciting changes happen in your life, please let me know! Send me a text or an email sharing the details and I will be sure to include it here. Your fellow alums want to hear from you—I promise! All the best to you and yours as you carry out what's left of our 17th year out of college. Can you believe it?

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'08

Darian (Murtagh) Leader wrote that she and her husband, George Leader '05, welcomed their second daughter, Sutton Penn Leader, on Feb. 8, 2023. Sutton joins her sister, Everett Mea Leader, who will be 4 in Aug. George published his first book, "Artifacts of Mourning: Archaeology of the Historic Burial Ground of the First Baptist Church of Philadelphia." You can find it on Amazon. Darian and George's girls come from quite the Gettysburg family. Everett and Sutton are the granddaughters of Dean Murtagh '70 and Karen (Chronister) Leader '69 and the great-granddaughters of both Carol Chronister '35 and George Michael Leader '39, a past Pa. governor who attended Gettysburg for a time.

Ellen Furnari
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'09

Andrew Goldstein has joined the Kleinbard LLC law firm as Of Counsel in the litigation department. Andrew focuses his practice on civil and commercial litigation, representing companies and professionals across a vast range of industries. He has significant experience with casualty litigation, where he defends insured and self-insured entities in matters involving personal injury claims. He has also been named by Pennsylvania

Super Lawyers as a Rising Star in the field of general litigation since 2021 and featured in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch (Insurance Law) designation since 2021. Please share your news for the next column!

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2010

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'11

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'12

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'13

Happy summer, Class of 2013! Congratulations to **Greg Scheiber** and Kate Gulden '15, who were married on Oct. 7, 2023. In attendance were Steve Hnath '12, Steve Krzyzanowski '12, Emily Francisco '14, Rachel Martinelli '15, Liz Zorzopian '15, Warren Zorzopian '15, and Mairead Kress '18.

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'14

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'15

Kate Gulden and Greg Scheiber '13 and were married on Oct. 7, 2023. In attendance were Steve Hnath '12, Steve Krzyzanowski '12, Emily Francisco '14, **Rachel Martinelli**, **Liz Zorzorpien**, **Warren Zorzorpien**, and Mairead Kress '18. **Lukas Joseph Marker** left this world a little darker, when he passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 18, 2023, at St. Clare's Hospital in Denville, N.J. Lukas was an All-State First Team Linebacker for the Mountain Lakes Herd and was working as a financial analyst for Riker Danzig LLP of Morristown. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

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'16

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'17

Greetings from Gettysburg! **Taylor Tims** graduated with a Doctor of Nursing Practice: Family Primary Care Nurse Practitioner degree. **Brittany Barry** is beginning doctoral study this fall in Performance Studies for Wind Conducting (D.Mus.) at McGill U in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. **Alexandra Flood** and Alec Posner '18 got married in June. Please keep your contact info and address up-to-date by visiting the Alumni section of gettysburg.edu and clicking "Update Your Alumni Profile." We don't want you to miss out on invites to local alumni events.

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 2017](#)

'18

Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.

'19

Interested in volunteering as a class notes correspondent and catching up on all the latest news with your classmates? Contact Laura Carr in Communications and Marketing (lcarr@gettysburg.edu; 717-337-6800) for more information.

2020

Hi, everyone! **Michaela Brunnabend**, a rising third-year student at Widener U Delaware Law School, has accepted a staff member position on the Widener Law Review (WLR). WLR is one of two law journals that are considered honor societies at Delaware Law School, and it publishes scholarship that pertains to current legal issues on a wide range of topics, including civil and criminal law, constitutional law, environmental law, public interest law, professional ethics, health law, and corporate law. Michaela hopes to utilize her experience to practice civil rights law or criminal defense work post-graduation. She said, "This, along with other experiences, has allowed me to grow exponentially as an individual and professional. I would not be in my current position without Gettysburg College. The experiences I had at school and the lifelong friends I made truly propelled me to where I am today." **Rebekah Grimes** has started a new full-time job as an archivist at the City of Philadelphia Department of Planning and Development (DPD). This is a new position within the DPD, and for the first time in more than 50 years, the department has its own archivist. We love hearing from you, so please don't hesitate to send me updates about you and your friends!

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 2020](#)

'21

Taylor Rush is currently a 3L at Vermont Law and Graduate School. She competed in the 2024 National Animal Law competitions. Taylor won the Appellate Advocacy Competition and was awarded Best Brief and Best Oral Advocate.

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'22

Hi, Class of 2022! We have updates from two educators doing great work in their communities: **Britney Brunache** just wrapped up her second year of teaching high school English at Simon Gratz Mastery Charter School, a public charter school in North Philadelphia. During this time, she's been teaching a diverse group of students—primarily Black and Latinx—and received the "My Teacher's Got My Back" award from the school's Gratz Student Choice Awards. She finds that while teaching high school can be tough, she's building her confidence and will be working toward getting her master's degree. **Ana Geddes** has spent the past two years living in Kansas City, Mo., teaching sixth grade math through Teach for America. She's almost done with her master's program in middle school education and will be living in Kansas City next year as well. Keep it up, Ana and Britney, and keep the updates coming, '22 grads!

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 [Gettysburg College Class of 2022](#)

'23

Ziv Carmi
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'24

To the Gettysburg College Class of 2024: Congratulations and Well done! You all have made it through this beautiful milestone of matriculating from Gettysburg College that will forever be who you are and shape your future. As we progress into the workforce, graduate school, or travel, I wish you the best not only as a fellow member of your class, but as a member of the Gettysburg family. When beginning this next chapter of life, be steadfast and confident in your achievements and ambitions. You're a Gettysbugian for life, and that's a pretty amazing accomplishment. Wherever you are or whatever you are doing, remember your Gettysburg family and that home that you always will have here waiting for you. Now, rock on!

– *Andrew Lemon '24*

Drew Lemon
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**CLASS NOTES
CORRESPONDENTS'
DEADLINES**

10/15 for Winter
4/8 for Summer

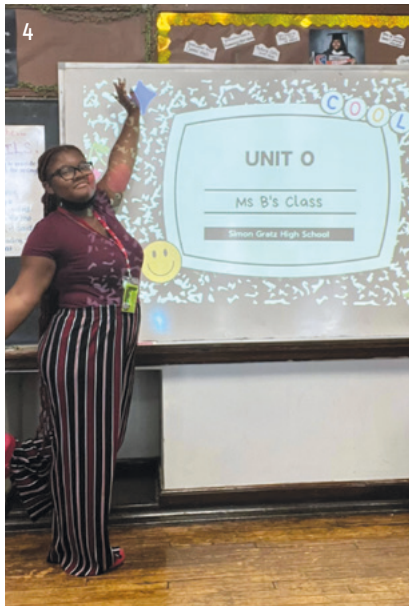
Disclaimer: All class notes are compiled by class correspondents, who are responsible for confirming the accuracy of the information submitted to GETTYSBURG College Magazine.



CLASS PHOTOS

- 1 *Orofino-Sack wedding (left to right): Thomas Neufeld '13, Katherine Rodda '10, Jordan Fremuth, Molly Beyer '10, Emily Orofino '10, Sam Sack '09, Leah Sigle Holz '08, Ryan Dwyer '10, Claire Williams '10.*
- 2 *Ana Geddes '22 (center, front row, in black shirt and black and white skirt) with her fellow staff at the school where she teaches sixth grade math in Kansas City, MO.*

- 3 *Robert Hart '80 and several TKE fraternity brothers.*
- 4 *Britney Brunache '22 in her classroom at Simon Gratz Charter School.*



IN MEMORIAM

ALL DATES ARE 2024 UNLESS NOTED

- '1945 Harriet Siegmund Bennett,
Sept. 20*
- '48 Marilyn Schneider Herrick,
Jan. 31*
- '49 Dorothy Brua Fraser, Oct. 4*
Hazel Trexler Hammond, Feb. 15
Marian Menchey Smith, Feb. 3
- '50 Carl H. Greenawald, Oct. 1*
Emily Morse Palmer, March 30*
Alden L. Snyder, Dec. 29*
- '51 Bertha DeMoch Fricke, Dec. 16*
Richard L. Holler, April 24, 2022
William J. White, March 2
- '52 Robert D. King, Feb. 1
Milan Resanovich, March 29
Priscilla Fausold Weir, March 24
- '53 Donald S. Faust, Nov. 19*
Gladys Hick Nigro, March 7
W. Raymond Siegart, June 30*
- '54 Robert D. Brubaker, Feb. 13
- '55 Harrie G. Burdan, Jan. 7*
Nelson R. Sulouff, Feb. 14
- '56 Elizabeth Lott Bair, April 10*
Donna Whitsel Hardy, March 12
Joan Ehlert Lusk, Sept. 3, 2022
- '57 J. Bruce Heckman, Oct. 25*
Jerry K. Robbins, Oct. 30*
George B. Wright, Jan. 22
- '58 John E. Henshen, Aug. 8, 2022
Albert J. Pingitore, Feb. 27
- '59 Lester S. Potteiger, Feb. 14*
Richard M. Simpson, Nov. 6*
George F. Tracy, Dec. 25*
- '60 Raymond D. Aldridge, Dec. 19*
R. John Applegate Jr., March 14
Delbert Boutwell Jr., Feb. 5
Ralph E. Dendler, March 21
D. Jean Nissley-Grzelecki,
March 13
D. Barry MacGibeny, Dec. 10*
Judy Haldeman McGovern,
Nov. 23*
- '61 James Comas, Oct. 23, 2022
Nancy Thomas Flemmin, Dec. 12*
Robert D. Hershey Jr., Jan. 15
- '62 Virginia Botsis, March 3
Ernest J. Snow, Sept. 24*
- '63 Dorothy Hill Corbett, Jan. 5
Kathleen Koob Wittenborn,
March 11
- '64 George C. Burghardt III, Feb. 28
Samuel C. Graci, Dec. 29, 2022
Karen Rebert Sioberg, March 9
Lance Valt, Feb. 15
- '65 Marcia (Mara) L. Keller, Dec. 23*
Lawrence E. Lees, July 29*
Louise Vinson Mitchell, Jan. 14
Ronald L. Race, April 2
- '66 J. Graham Andes, Nov. 9*
Lee W. Gross, Oct. 27*
Peter J. Thompson, April 14
- '67 J. Glenn Snodgrass, Dec. 9*
- '69 William J. Calderone, Nov. 18*
Elaine Billage Langford, Oct. 4*
William H. Payne, Dec. 2*
- '70 Matthew C. Rosendahl, Jan. 30
Barbara Schneider Tuceling,
March 9
- '71 Gregory E. Grybowski, Oct. 28*
Ivan J. Puchatz, April 1
Lawrence E. Rodes II, Feb. 14
- '72 Kathy Dixon Burmaster, Oct. 8*
Marian Menchey Smith, Feb. 4
Judith Henning Stratton, Jan. 19
- '73 Beverly A. Gageby, Dec. 28*
Juanita M. Gobel, Dec. 19*
- '74 Craig L. Driver, Dec. 19*
- '75 Robert R. Miller, Nov. 29, 2022
Robert G. Sorger, Nov. 11*
- '76 David B. Carr, Dec. 27*
- '77 Ann Thornburg Weiss, Dec. 17*
- '80 Mark D. Seigel, April 18
- '81 Peter C. Brown, Jan. 17
- '83 G. Guyer Young, III, Dec. 2023
- '84 Debra Sue Hess, Dec. 4*
- '88 Gerald E. Bloom, III, Dec. 18*
- '90 T. Troy Datcher, Feb. 26
- 2015 Lukas J. Marker, Dec. 12*

* denotes 2023

HONORING THE LEGACIES OF SHERRIN HILBURT BAKY-NESSLER '65, P'01 AND TROY DATCHER '90

by Michael Vyskocil

TRUSTEE EMERITA SHERRIN HILBURT BAKY-NESSLER '65, P'01

Gettysburg College Trustee Emerita *Sherrin Hilburt Baky-Nessler '65, P'01* died April 26. Baky-Nessler served on the College's Board of Fellows and was elected to a three-year term of service on the College's Board of Trustees, beginning in 1997. The College awarded her emerita status in 2010. During her service to the Board of Trustees, Baky-Nessler participated on the Commission on the Future in 1998, the Science and Psychology subcommittee, and the Sunderman Conservatory of Music Oversight Board.

In her professional career, Baky-Nessler was a scientist with Squibb Pharmaceuticals, where she worked in research and development of the drug Verapamil used to treat high blood pressure and control angina. Her experience in pharmaceutical-related research promoted a professional partnership with The Hardardt Group. There, her contributions helped enhance the process hospitals and laboratories follow to get their research protocols through the FDA's regulatory approval requirements. Later, she served as executive director of the Association of Clinical Research Professionals.

Her philanthropic support of Gettysburg College and its faculty was as multidisciplinary as the liberal arts and sciences education she received as a student here. "Sherrin was an active and engaged Gettysburgian who embodied dedicated volunteerism and philanthropy," said *President Bob Iuliano*. "Her generosity encompassed a variety of programs, in addition to the Gettysburg Fund, that represented her multifaceted passions and commitment to faculty support."

During her lifetime, Baky-Nessler endowed funding to support the health sciences, the Sunderman Conservatory of Music, and the Eisenhower Institute at Gettysburg. This endowed funding has continued to foster professional development opportunities that have enabled Gettysburg's first-class faculty to acquire fresh insight and creativity to enrich the learning environments for all Gettysburg students.

"Gettysburg gave me the knowledge and strength to pursue my 36-year career in the medical field and the tools to achieve

enough success to be able to give something back," she said in a 2018 interview for *GETTYSBURG College Magazine*.

Her appointment in 2021 as one of three tri-chairs of Gettysburg's Loyalty Circle recognized her perfect record of contributions to the Gettysburg Fund every year since graduating from Gettysburg in 1965.



"I have always been grateful for this experience and wanted to continually and routinely support the College's learning environment to enable current students to realize their goals as well," she said upon her election to the Loyalty Circle. "Such support should be considered a never-ending responsibility for all alumni to ensure Gettysburg College is in the forefront of the best liberal arts colleges in the nation."

In addition to her service to the Board of Trustees, Baky-Nessler served on the College's Board of Fellows and Class of 1965 reunion planning committees. In 2010, Gettysburg honored her longstanding commitment to volunteerism by awarding the Meritorious Service Award to her and posthumously to her late husband, Trustee Emeritus *Bruce A. Baky '65*, who passed away in 2007. They were welcomed into the College's Benefactors Circle, and their names were added to the College's Benefactors Wall in 2018 to honor their extraordinary devotion to Gettysburg College.

Baky-Nessler is preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Mary Hilburt; her aunt, Kathrine Kresge; her first husband, Bruce A. Baky; and her second husband, *William E. Nessler III P'01*, who died in 2023. She is survived by her brother-in-law, *John S. Baky '69*; a stepson, *Kristoffer W. Nessler '01 (Katie Havens '02)*; three stepdaughters, Kathryn I. Kelly (Sean), Sarah E. Rimmele (Zack), and Bethany L. Golebiewski (Brian); and 11 grandchildren.

TRUSTEE EMERITUS TROY DATCHER '90

Gettysburg College Trustee Emeritus **Troy Datcher '90** died on Feb. 26. Datcher was elected to the College's Board of Trustees in 2015 and began serving as secretary in June 2023. During his service to the Board of Trustees, he chaired the Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee. He contributed to several Board committees that have elevated the work of Gettysburg College within higher education, including College Advancement, Enrollment and Educational Services, and Finance and Administration.

Datcher ultimately chose to attend Gettysburg through the encouragement of his mother, Margaret (Frederick) Kidd, and cousin Diane Datcher, and he received a transformational education here. He was one of the first African American student body senators and eventually became vice president. He also led the Black Student Union as president.

After graduating, Datcher applied the breadth and depth of knowledge and enduring skills he gained at Gettysburg to his career development. His more than 20 years of service to The Clorox Company included several leadership positions, including senior vice president and chief customer officer. In late 2021, he transitioned to a career in the cannabis sector and served as the CEO of The Parent Company and board chair of The Gold Flora Company.

Datcher was also an ardent NASCAR fan. His love for racing took him to Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2006. There, he served as the sponsorship and marketing director for the famed No. 21 Wood Brothers and JTG Daugherty Racing.

Datcher's numerous professional achievements include being named to the Executive Leadership Council (ELC) in 2016, the foremost organization supporting Black executives worldwide. He was a two-time *Ebony* magazine Power 100 honoree and was named among the top 100 Black executives for four consecutive years by *Savoy* magazine.

Amid the responsibilities of his professional work, Datcher always committed himself to generously sharing his time and expertise with Gettysburg students. It was his way of expressing gratitude for all that Gettysburg had given him.

"The lessons I learned through my College experience are keys to my personal and career success," Datcher said in an interview for GETTYSBURG College *Magazine* in 2018. "The leadership traits I developed there are the foundation of my leadership approach today. As a member of the Board of Trustees, I know how important it is to have the appropriate resources for the College to remain a relevant first choice for prospective students."

As a champion of Gettysburg's liberal arts and sciences education, Datcher frequently connected with students through the Office of Multicultural Engagement and shared his insights on choosing



careers and supporting first-generation college students. He attended and spoke at marquee campus events, including as keynote speaker for the 37th Annual Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 2017.

Today, Datcher is remembered by the Gettysburg College community as a friend, leader, and advocate for all that is great about Gettysburg.

"We were classmates, graduating together, and friends for many years. He also had close relationships across the Board," said **Lauren Wise Bright '90**, chair of the Board of Trustees at Gettysburg College. "Troy's connection to this College community ran deep. He was committed to the College, the efforts of the Board to strengthen the institution, and the students being served, those currently on campus and those yet to come."

"A few years back, I had the opportunity to ask Troy what advice he would give to today's Gettysburg College students," said **President Bob Iuliano**. "He responded, 'Take chances. Don't look back. Reinvent the box.' May we all honor Troy's inspiring legacy by heeding his timeless advice as fellow Gettysburgians and by living the values he embodied of activism, hard work, creativity, generosity, and kindness."

Datcher is survived by his wife, Shannon; his daughter, Nyah; his brothers, **Kelvin Datcher '92** and Wayne Hamilton; his sisters, Phyllis (Pastor Thomas) Kelley, Clayandria Marie Jews, Zaneta (Richard) Harrison, Tammy (Daryl) Dark, and Arkell Kelley; his mother, Margaret (Frederick) Kidd; his father, Earnest (Cherry) Hamilton; special cousins raised as siblings; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

BEHIND THE SCENES

WITH A GETTYSBURG GREAT

HOW A SEA OF OPPORTUNITIES LED TO COMMUNICATING
SEA TURTLE SCIENCE WORLDWIDE

by Bethany Holtz '16

'JUST

KEEP

SWIMMING'

HOW DO YOU GO FROM STUDYING AT A LAND-LOCKED COLLEGE IN SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA TO THE AZURE WATERS OF THE CARIBBEAN SEA AS A SEA TURTLE RESEARCHER? YOU JUST KEEP SWIMMING!



Inspiration can spring from unexpected places. On a balmy evening many summers ago, as I looked up at a drive-in movie screen framed by the night sky, an animated blue fish named Dory spoke three words that sum up my personal journey: “Just keep swimming.” Through a sea of personal discovery, my career as a published sea turtle researcher and outreach and social media manager for SEE Turtles, Inc., an international sea turtle conservancy organization, was spawned.

I dove into dual majors at Gettysburg College with a marine ecology concentration in environmental science and a photography lens in art studio.

My internships featured stints at the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, New Jersey, and the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland. I hand-fed

watermelons to hungry hippos, administered antibiotics to sharks (without getting bit!), and even watched a baby penguin greet the world for the very first time at the Adventure Aquarium. In Baltimore, I befriended a pod of dolphins and learned the behind-the-scenes work involved in training and enrichment.

My career fate was sealed while working with a particularly ornery sea turtle named Tortuga, a loggerhead sea turtle destined to be released back to the ocean after rehabilitation. One morning, I found myself wrestling with Tortuga for the hose I was using to siphon sand. Because rehabilitation protocols require limited caretaker contact, I played a careful game of tug-of-war. After winning the match, I hopped off the ladder into a pool of water from the hose that broke free during the tussle. As I slogged around in soggy sneakers the rest of the day, I was energized!

Continuing my studies under the tutelage of former Gettysburg College sea turtle biologist **Dr. Wendy Dow Piniak '03** opened my eyes to the world of animal behavior. My capstone thesis centered on the significance of environmental acoustic cues of sea turtle hatchlings as they orient from nests to the ocean. Presenting my research at the International Sea Turtle Symposium in Lima, Peru, in 2016, I came to appreciate how every experiment contributes to a larger body of knowledge that can be used to develop management and conservation plans.

Dr. Piniak also sponsored my initial field excursion, where I met my first “bucket of best friends,” loggerhead hatchlings. There’s nothing more magical than watching hatchlings boil over from sand-buried nests to scurry on tiny flippers toward the horizon. Leatherback, green, loggerhead, and hawksbill hatchlings have all crawled through my self-built mobile research lab spanning beaches from North Carolina to the Virgin Islands. I’ve spent many sleepless nights keeping vigil alongside remote sea turtle nests. The rewards include publications in scientific journals and presentations at international conferences.

I discovered my swim lane: sea turtle conservation and habitat protection.

My love for learning instilled at Gettysburg College led to a Master of Science in biology, my pursuit of a Ph.D., and my current passion for communicating science.

At SEE Turtles, my outreach and inclusion efforts help bring sea turtle science and conservation to the global community. My signature project is the organization’s annual Sea Turtle Week programming. These collaborations included 50-plus beach cleanup projects in 19 countries, with 3,100 volunteers collecting 44 tons of trash. We recognized a Ghana scientist whose research measurably expanded sea turtle conservation, and posted sea turtle photos from 249 worldwide photographers. We inspired young artists through a children’s art contest that attracted entries from 22 countries. I directed and produced Sea Turtle Week: The Mini Series.

I am just getting started, and Gettysburg College helped me make a splash in a big pond! 🐢



*Bethany Holtz '16 works with sea animals as part of her career. Please note handling wild animals should only be done by professionals. Sea turtles are a federally protected species. Do not handle or approach turtles in the wild. Images depicted here were taken by trained biologists conducting permitted and authorized research. **Upper left photo:** Marine turtle research conducted under FWC MTP 204. **Above photo:** Images were acquired with biologists conducting authorized research activities for the Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center pursuant to FWC MTP-22-154. The turtle was not approached until she was finished laying and covering her eggs.*

FROM CAMPUS TO CANBERRA

WHEREVER YOU GO, GETTYSBURG STAYS WITH YOU.

by Liz Williams '13

When I first set foot on Gettysburg's campus as a student in 2009, I had a vague idea of what my career path might look like. But I never could have envisioned the journey after Gettysburg, which eventually led me to put down roots in Australia.

For many who attended Gettysburg, being on campus was a distinct point in time when you are immersed in the college bubble for four years. But for me, being "on campus" has been a constant in my life—it's an environment I have actively sought out.

Some of my earliest memories are from growing up on the Hamilton College campus in Clinton, New York, where my grandparents were both professors. Since graduating from Gettysburg, I have been drawn to working in higher education, first in Pittsburgh and later in Australia. I love the swell of activity that is found on college and university campuses—the drive to get involved, to contribute to broader change, *to make a difference*.

While at Gettysburg, I was a Presidential Scholarship recipient and am incredibly grateful for the doors that higher education opened for me. It is because of the generosity of Gettysburg donors and the opportunities I received that I am deeply passionate about my philanthropy career.

Today, I lead the donor relations team at The Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, where I regularly draw on the experiences I had at Gettysburg, such as interning in the Communications and Marketing Office, serving as managing editor of *The Mercury* literary magazine, and learning to write on a broad range of topics. Like in the United States, many universities in Australia depend on private donor support to fund scholarships, research, and other programs that have a direct impact on society. My team regularly communicates with donors, from connecting them with scholarship recipients to sharing the value of a research area that alumni have banded together to support.

Part of what prepared me to navigate diverse work environments after graduation, whether in the United States or Australia, was the breadth of disciplines I studied at Gettysburg. Although I was an English major, I could also explore subjects like the history of jazz, the American Civil War as depicted in film, chemistry, and the philosophy of religion. In every class, we were encouraged to make connections across disciplines. This taught me to think creatively, seek out commonalities, and retain my thirst for knowledge in diverse areas. I also improved my writing and communication skills, which have been invaluable in my chosen career field.

My time outside of the classroom was equally beneficial to my development, as I gained leadership opportunities and learned to work collaboratively toward a common goal. I felt prepared for the future by participating in job shadowing and internship opportunities organized through the Center for Career Engagement, including at Franklin & Marshall College, Villanova University, Lebanon Valley College, and *Celebrate Gettysburg* magazine. Each of these experiences provided insights into working in an office setting, building relationships, growing my own network, and presenting myself professionally.

Perhaps one of the most life-changing opportunities during college wasn't on campus at all—it was my semester abroad in Bath, England. This experience showed me how to live independently, embrace other cultures, and apply what I learned in the classroom to a new environment. I truly believe if I had not studied abroad, I would not have been open to moving overseas when the opportunity presented itself.

After getting my first job out of college through the Gettysburg Network, I continue to benefit from the life skills, learning, and longstanding relationships I developed at Gettysburg College. Those four transformative years on campus will stay with me forever, wherever in the world I may be. **G**



Liz Williams '13 at the annual Canberra Balloon Spectacular

Homecoming & BOLD Weekend



September 20-22, 2024

We are excited to welcome you back to campus this fall! Homecoming Weekend is right around the corner, and we hope you will celebrate with us. Visit www.gettysburg.edu/homecoming to see a full schedule of events and to register.

BOLD ALUMNI

All young alumni from 2014–2024 are invited to BOLD Weekend. Join your classmates, meet new friends and reconnect with faculty and staff at campus events!

Questions? Contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni@gettysburg.edu or 717-337-6518.



- **1ST REUNION FOR CLASS OF 2024**
- **5TH REUNION FOR CLASS OF 2019**
- **10TH REUNION FOR CLASS OF 2014**
- **110TH ANNIV. OF OWL & NIGHTINGALE**
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