By Gerald T. Hansen, Headmaster

By now, you’ve noticed we have taken a new direction with the design and layout of our school publication. The new magazine will combine our popular alumni publication BeeHive, with our quarterly school newsletter, Beeline. The new BeeHive is our best effort toward providing you with a more sophisticated, content-driven school magazine geared toward all members of the Country Day family. In this publication, you’ll see feature articles about your favorite faculty members, alums and friends of the school along with all of the great stuff you always expect from our regular publications: news from the classroom and playing field, class notes, alumni news and more. BeeHive will be published twice each year – once in the winter and once in spring/summer. We hope you enjoy this, our flagship publication, the all-new BeeHive.

In this issue, we talk to the 42 faculty members on staff with more than 20 years under their belt here at Country Day. It’s impressive to measure their commitment to the school in years – there are nearly 1,070 years among them. But the true measure of the Country Day teachers’ commitment to the school is in the impact they have on their students and the environment they choose to create in their classrooms. These teachers find the true rewards of their careers here in the smiling faces of alums who return to visit them year after year, or former students who enroll their own children at the school. It’s more than just a job for these teachers; it’s their lives. They’ve made friends here; they’ve touched the lives of children and their parents. Just one testament of this far-reaching impact is the return of more than 200 alumni to campus this year for Homecoming. Past students joined us on campus to re-connect with their treasured faculty and to celebrate their years as students here.

One thing I’ve learned and treasured in my own 37 years at the school is that the Country Day experience does not end at graduation. Through our Alumni Relations office, our school community broadens as each new class leaves our halls. Whether we’re lending support to recent graduates at the university level or providing professional assistance through our Career Network, your Country Day family will never leave your side.
Bringing the Beach to DCDS

We're knee deep in snow, but Detroit Country Day School has found a way to bring the sun and fun a little early this year. Planning is well under way for Beach Bash: Auction 2004! As you know, the annual auction is not only a popular social occasion, but also our most successful fund raising event all year. The event raises hundreds of thousands of dollars that go directly toward the school's programs and capital investments. Last year alone, we saw a profit of more than $385,000 at Auction! Parents, alums, faculty and friends - please mark May 1, 2004 on your calendar for Beach Bash: Auction 2004! For more information about attending, volunteering or donating an item, please contact the Auction office at (248) 646-7717, ext. 1132.

Upper School Hosts Holocaust Speaker

On October 23, Professor Yehuda Bauer, a leading professor on the Holocaust, came to speak to Upper School students on an invitation from History teacher, Dr. Carl Westhoff. An Emeritus Professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, he is the former director of the world-renowned International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem, and is the author of numerous books.

In his presentation, Bauer emphasized the widespread ideologies which lead the Nazis to kill more than 27 million people total, and suggested the lessons of the Holocaust be taught extensively in the classroom today so that future atrocities can be avoided by the leaders of tomorrow. “If we do not learn it in schools, we only hide the truth from ourselves,” Bauer said.
If you graduated from Country Day within the last 20 years, it’s likely that much has changed since your high school heyday. But poke your head into classrooms at any one of our four campuses, and you’re sure to see a familiar face smiling back at you. That’s because more than 40 Country Day faculty members have reached the 20-year notch on their career ladder, with some nearing 30, even 40 years at the school. All told, these teachers and administrators alone have a whopping 1,069 years of Yellowjacket pride among them. We caught up with this elite gang of educators for a stroll down memory lane. Here’s what they said.

“F. Alden Shaw was still teaching at Detroit Country Day when I arrived in 1969. He drove in from the Ann Arbor area three times a week to teach Junior and Senior boys a class in his favorite authors, Emerson and Thoreau. Dressed neatly in a three-piece pinstriped suit, his Phi Beta Kappa key dangling on the gold chain he wore across his vest, Mr. Shaw taught even though he was in his 90s. Only when he fell off his tractor did he stop coming to the school he had founded.”

Beverly Hannett-Price, Upper School English, 34 years

“I had the good fortune to begin at DCDS as a fourth grade teacher. After several years, I became a Dean, and later, Director. In the summer of 1986 after the school purchased the Maple Road campus, it was my adventure to create an Early Childhood Education Center, refurbish the building, move in eighteen classrooms from three different locations, blend staff members and be ready for the first day of school in September. Those days are still vivid as an example of teamwork.”

Ruth Rebold, Lower School Director, 27 years

“The more things change...

“I taught in the Upper School when I first arrived at DCDS. I noticed three people in particular who took the time to be especially kind to me. One of them, Kay Slaughter, is no longer teaching here, but the other two, Glen Shilling and Beverly Hannett-Price remain special people to me. I asked Beverly what she thought was the most different about this place compared to public school. She thought for a brief moment and declared, ‘accountability’. I know now, after nearly 22 years, what she meant. Teachers and students are all held to a high standard that can be very demanding, but is always rewarding once it has been met. It is a remarkable place!”

Cynthia Goldberg, Middle School Director, 21 years

“One of my first memories at Country Day is of Margot Schlegel on her hands and knees weeding the flower beds at the Upper School. I believe she was head gardener at that time, but I never saw her mow! I also have fond memories of sharing a classroom in a portable with May Dodge and 24 busy four-year-olds and Dr. Schlegel coming to read or tell stories to our little ones. He always spoke with pride about his riding horses, and was enlightening. The years have flown past and I have many memories of my students whose smiles brought me joy.”

Sally Wisnieski, Lower School Dean, 25 years

“One Detroit Country Day moment that was most memorable happened in 1986 when I was still coaching football. The setting was the Pontiac Silverdome, where Country Day was playing Muskegon Catholic Central for the State Championship. Country Day was behind 12 – 14 with less than two minutes in the game. Charles Johnson (’87), our quarterback, had the team 80 yards down the field and threw the winning touch-down pass to Steve Mann (’88) with no time left on the clock. Final score: DCDS 18, MCC 14. The jubilation and celebration of an unbelievable effort and achievement will always be remembered.”

Joe D’Angelo, Junior School Director, 26 years

“The more they stay the same...

“I remember fondly the intimacy of teaching in the old Room 123, which looked out over the front circle. I remember when white chalk dust was everywhere instead of black marker dust, and when women didn’t wear ties on color day! I remember Shane Battier (’97) earning a 94 percent on an Algebra 2 test on the day the basketball team won the State Finals. I remember coaching JV soccer and playing goalie reluctantly for Varsity soccer when very pregnant. I remember the students who made posters and slope cheers that I still use today and fellow faculty who passed away and some who simply moved away – all fond and wonderful memories.”

Barb Becker, Upper School Mathematics, 20 years
I arrived in Birmingham in August of 1974 from Los Angeles knowing no one in the entire state of Michigan. As I began coaching soccer during the pre-season, I started to meet other faculty. With the total school enrollment of less than 400 students, nearly all the faculty coached, and many of us coached all three seasons. Many of us were single, and the school became our life; we hung out together both in and outside of school. Especially for the male faculty, the student waiter-served “family-style” lunch became our main meal of the day. From our time together we formed very strong personal friendships. Faculty volleyball games at night after practices, cookouts on the weekends, movies, concerts, and attending DCDS functions kept us busy and together and created a strong bond of friendship that lasts to this day. The best part of this special time still lives with me now – my wife of 25 years, Roberta Righter Gilman, who taught French, started the DCDS women’s basketball (at the time a winter sport) and softball programs, and assisted with the field hockey program. Did having rooms 104 and 105 in the former Middle School hallway influence our relationship?

“Does anyone know the name of the best man at our wedding in 1978? He, too, has a DCDS connection.” (answer below)

Brad Gilman,
Upper School Director, 29 years

On behalf of the Country Day School community, our heartfelt thanks and congratulations go to:

twenty+ YEARS
Nora Abello-Labiano
Paul Bartoshuk
Barbara Becker
Karen Burk
Pat Carmichael
Stan Chodun
Jackie Coleman
Don Corwin
Maggie d’Allemann
Joe D’Angelo
Charles Duggan
Cheryl Duggan
Linda Engler
Charles Fremuth
Brad Gilman
Cindy Goldberg
Beverly Hannett-Price
Jerry Hansen
Joe Hansen
Sue Janiczek
Nancy Jenkins
Gene Jurkiewicz
Mary Lou Jurkiewicz
Kurt Keener
Barbara Kroll
Chris Langley
Judy Leybourn
Marlenn Maicki
Kathy Mencotti
Gene Mencotti
Jim Oliphant
Frank Orlando
Jane Pohl
Jorge Prosperi
Toni Psaila
Ruth Rebold
Cathy Rudner
Glen Shilling
Tom Thompson
Rejean Tremblay
Barry Webster
Sally Wisnieski

five YEARS
Mary Ann Buckley
Jennifer Gabrys
Christine Gach
Valerie Greiner
Mark Hitchcock
Jacquelyn Jones
Sheryl Katzen
Michael Mencotti
Kristen Morse
Joan Mulligan
Chris Ridgell
Lyn Sieffert
Kelly Sprague
Karen Szostak
Gauri Vaidya
James Weak
Ronald Weiler
Cheryl Williams
Sandy Magnan
Gertrude May
Barbara McGowan
Kathleen Moeller
Lisa Morgan
Betsy Wagner
John Wilson

ten YEARS
BethAnne Bernacchi
Linda Cohen
James DeSantis
Cornell Foster
Denise Liberty
Katharina Ksoll
Linda Layton
David Wilson

fifteen YEARS

The more things change...
The more they stay the same

DON CORWIN
Welcome New Faculty and Staff

Upper School

Kim Arnold Kim joins the Detroit Country Day School development staff as Administrative Assistant, Auction and Parent Relations. Previously, she was employed by Kelly Services as a temporary receptionist. She also has worked at Adecco and AFLAC, Inc. as an administrator/recruiter. Kim earned a B.A. in Communications at the University of Michigan – Dearborn.

Donna Cronberger Donna was named Administrative Assistant to the Director of Development following the retirement of Scott Bertschy’s long-time assistant, Gwen Evarts. Donna comes to DCDS from Everfresh Beverages, Inc., where she was the executive assistant to the Chief Operating Officer and an Accounts Receivable processor. She also has been employed by Frito-Lay, Inc. and Coca-Cola Bottling Company as an administrative assistant. Donna studied business administration at Macomb Community College.

Alison Hofley 1991 Detroit Country Day alum Alison Hofley joins the school part-time as Upper School English tutor. Previously, she was a literature teacher at John Marshall High School in Chicago and Professor of composition, grammar and writing at Robert Morris College in Chicago. Hofley earned Bachelor’s degrees in English and Communications from the University of Michigan and Master’s degrees in English and Education at Depaul University.

Colleen Meyer Colleen teaches Upper School Spanish part-time. She previously taught Spanish and chaired the foreign language department of Milford High School for 26 years. She also has taught Spanish at the University of Michigan Dearborn for five semesters. Meyer earned a B.A. in Spanish at Illinois State University and M.A. in Secondary School Curriculum at Eastern Michigan University.

Barbara Mower Current parent Barbara Mower joins the school as Associate Director of Development and Parent Relations. In this capacity, she will oversee the school’s parent organizations and its annual Auction, as well as Annual Giving and other fund raising initiatives. She comes to Country Day from General Electric, where she was in finance for 18 years. She also has owned and operated her own consulting firm. Barb earned a B.S. in accounting at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her children are DCDS students Sarah (fifth grade) and Hannah (third grade).

Glen VanDerPloeg Glen joins the Upper School English department with a wealth of university-level English instruction experience. Previously, he was a lecturer in English and a writing consultant at the University of Michigan and at Eastern Michigan University. He also served as an adjunct English instructor at Pace University. Glen earned a B.A. at the University of Michigan, and Master’s degrees at the Harvard University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he also earned a Doctor of Philosophy.
Welcome New Faculty and Staff

Middle School

Theresa Weiler was named a forensics teacher of the Middle School after two years as a long-term substitute and assistant forensics coach. Previously, she was the director of several theatrical productions at the William and Mary Theatre while a student at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., where she earned a B.A. in literary and cultural studies. Theresa is the wife of Upper and Middle School vocal and music teacher Ron Weiler.

Lower School

Diane Primrose Farrug After nine years of teaching in North Carolina, Diane returned to DCDS this fall to teach Lower School French. A former faculty member from 1990-1994, Diane brings a love of Detroit Country Day and extensive foreign language experience to the school. Farrug previously taught French at Pamlico County High School in Bayboro, N.C., Ravenscroft School in Raleigh, Holy Trinity Catholic Middle School in Charlotte and Charlotte Country Day School. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in French at Eastern Michigan University and has studied abroad.

Andrew Piazza Andrew comes to Detroit Country Day Lower School as a computer science and reading teacher. He previously was an after-school tutor in the Lamphere School district, where he completed his student teaching. Andrew is a graduate of Saginaw Valley State University with a B.A. in elementary education.

Deborah Seneski Deborah joined the Lower School prekindergarten program as a pre-k 3 teacher after nearly a decade with Brace-Lederle Elementary School in Southfield, Mich. Seneski is not new to Detroit Country Day School though; she taught summer school here in 1992 and 1993. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in elementary/early childhood education from the University of Alabama and a Master’s of Education at Saginaw Valley State University.

For 13 years, he was the first smile that greeted us every morning at the Upper School campus. He was the gatekeeper, the man who would either let you park in the circle for some special circumstance or relegate you to the outer lots. For many of us, he was our first taste of Country Day. He was the man who told us where to go to drop off our kids as they began life as a freshmen at the Upper School, or the man who told us where to park when we reported for our first day of work here at Country Day.
He’s the man we know as Mr. Potter, the security officer who has stood his post at the Upper School gatehouse since he first arrived on campus in November 1990. Potter retired from Country Day this past October 31, bound for new adventures.

[THE NEXT CHAPTER]

Before his retirement, I had a moment to catch up with Mr. Potter and on this unusually chilly fall day, he speaks enthusiastically about his future as he huddles against the wind in his yellow windbreaker and trademark DCDS cap. With rain clouds looming, we seek shelter in the warm gatehouse. After we’re inside and he’s offered me the folding chair he brought out just for this interview, he tells me there are two things he wants to do:

He wants to help people. He wants to make a difference.

He also mentions spending more time with his wife of 39 years, Roberta, and traveling to visit his daughter Angela and her family in Oklahoma. He mentions real estate ventures with his sons David and Myron (’91), with whom he’s considered working on purchasing and renovating homes for future sale. He speaks of helping the infirm, keeping company to the elderly and aging members of his church community. It’s a commitment he feels strongly about – offering a hand to people in need of a friend.

He also talks about tinkering around the house, working on the basement he recently finished or other projects. A self-taught handyman, he chuckles as he recalls one of his influences. “Mr. Geiser was a plumber in our neighborhood back in Duluth, Minnesota. It was always so cold the
pipes were freezing and he would come out to fix them. Finally, one day, he says, ‘Potter, I can keep coming out here to fix your pipes, or I can just show you how to do it yourself.’

[**POTTER OPTED TO LEARN.**]

It seems his entire life has been a learning process for Mr. Potter. After a childhood in Minnesota and a career as a high school football and track star, he spent some time abroad in the U.S. Army. He says he learned a little German after 13 months stationed in the country. Later, he came to Detroit and hasn’t looked back since.

Potter worked with the U.S. Postal Service for 37 years. He began as a clerk, and then was a letter carrier. Later, he moved on to Special Deliveries and also became letter carrier foreman, superintendent and finally, manager. He spent most of his career working on Detroit’s east side and in Redford. When he retired, he knew he wanted to continue to work.

He wanted to help people.
He wanted to make a difference.

He just wasn’t sure where he’d be doing those things. Former Detroit Country Day finance manager, Jim Martin, helped him make the decision.

[**EXTENDED FAMILY**]

One day, as Potter stopped by the school to pay his son Myron’s tuition, Martin put the bug in his ear. “He asked if I had ever thought about working at the school,” says Potter. “He described the job and I told him I had to think about it.” Potter walked out the door, paused for a moment, turned around and came back in.

“I thought about it,” he said. “I’ll take it.” Potter became the school’s first security officer on staff that November day.

Initially attracted to the school’s family-friendly environment, Potter says it’s still the reason he loves Country Day. “It’s like a second family to me.”

And in fact, as we sit and talk, he gets up to greet someone entering or leaving campus every few minutes, leaving me to check out his workspace.

For those of you who haven’t been inside the gatehouse, it’s about 6’x6’ (and that may be a slightly generous assessment). The accommodations are spare, consisting only of an emergency radio for notices of severe weather, a clock radio, a heater/AC unit, a desk with permission slips and notices neatly arranged atop it and a newspaper folded nearby. There is no TV. There is no computer. No books, no photos, no calendar. When asked what he does in his downtime, Mr. Potter looks around, and then points to the windows on all four sides of his “office.” Sometimes he reads, he says. But at the rate people are coming and going during our 30-minute meeting, downtime surely is rare.

[**MAKING AN IMPACT**]

In his 13 years, Potter has been much more to the school community than just a security officer. He served as a Men’s JV Baseball coach for five years, Varsity Baseball coach for two, football coach for six years and Middle School flag football coach for one. His speaks proudly of the students he coached – JV baseball players who went on to win the State Championship as Varsity players and Middle School kids whom he sees now as sophomores on the Upper School campus.

Now that his work on the playing field has come to a close, Potter focuses on the relationships he’s formed with students in his day-to-day encounters. Not surprisingly, he knows every student’s name or face and the car they drive. He smiles as he tells of a handful of students who bring him treats when they go to lunch, saying ‘we’re getting you lunch, Mr. Potter, and don’t try to give us money because we won’t take it!’ (It seems everyone knows that when you
offer to buy Mr. Potter’s lunch, not only will he insist on paying for his sandwich, but he’ll also try paying for yours too.)

Potter seems most proud of a relationship he formed with a student in need of a little guidance years ago. The student was headed down the wrong road, and seeing this, Potter pulled him aside one day. “I said, ‘if you ever feel like you need to talk to someone, you come out here and we’ll talk.”

The student did come to talk, turning to Mr. Potter when he felt no one else would listen. Potter didn’t know just how much of an impact this small act of friendship had. Years later, the student came back to campus and thanked Mr. Potter, telling him what a difference he had made. That moment meant a lot to Mr. Potter, and stands out as one of his favorite memories at Country Day.

“I like making an impact,” he says. “Prospective parents ask me questions about the school and I often use my son Myron as an example.” He tells of Myron’s Country Day experience and says parents have come back and told him they were close to deciding on another school for their child, but that his input made the difference. “They said, ‘we’re glad we talked to you, Mr. Potter.”

In all that he has done and been for our school – security officer, coach, role model and friend – it’s clear that the people have always mattered most to Wilbert Potter. He’s a man with a simple purpose in life, a purpose he’s done a heck of a job fulfilling thus far.

*He helps people.*

*He makes a difference.*

He finished doing these things for the Country Day community one crisp afternoon this fall, but we’re confident his work will continue on as he helps people and makes a difference elsewhere.

*Good luck, Mr. Potter!*
There was non-stop action on the football field at this year’s Homecoming October 11. From the kick-off to a last-second play to steal the game, Country Day battled Brother Rice in a gridiron clash. The Yellowjackets ultimately were defeated 13-12 after a 33-yard quarterback sneak attempt was deflated by the Brother Rice defense. Here, in his own words, DCDS head football coach Dan MacLean takes you to the sidelines that day.

It was a game we could win. Coming off two road games against tough opponents (Redford Catholic Central and Liberty Center, Ohio), we felt we could right all that in an emotional Homecoming game against our neighborhood rivals, Brother Rice.

Everyone knows that the game is special for us at Country Day. And for me as coach, it carried extra weight. I am an alum of Brother Rice and my former coach, Al Fracassa, still coaches there. It is not difficult to get motivated. Our players know many of their players, and that adds a personal touch to the rivalry.

Our team came ready, and played very hard from the outset. We stopped Rice’s offense consistently in the first half and finally broke through in the second quarter and scored when Brian Young went ten yards on a bootleg. The key play in the drive was a long pass completion from Emie Jackson to Nate Lovett. Unfortunately, our extra point was blocked, and we led 6-0 late in the first half.
Brother Rice has an excellent senior quarterback in Doug Pickens. His strength is throwing the deep pass. We were prepared for it and set our defense for it, but Brother Rice connected on it with very little time left in the half. It was, very simply, just a great play. Sometimes even the best preparation is beaten by a well-executed play. Our defense rose up and blocked Rice’s extra point and we went to the half tied at 6.

**Gaining Momentum in Second Half**

In the second half, the game proceeded in the pattern set in the first half. Stifling defense kept both offenses from putting drives together. Brother Rice intercepted a pass and returned inside the Country Day 30-yard line late in the third quarter. The Country Day defense stopped Rice on the first two downs of the series but on third down, Rice successfully executed a screen pass and made a key first down. From there, Rice dove over for a short touchdown to start the fourth quarter. This time, Rice converted a meaningful extra point.

The teams exchanged possessions until late in the fourth quarter when Country Day put a drive together mixing the pass and run. Ernie Jackson and Hugh Johnson had key runs, and Ernie completed key passes to Adrian Martin on the drive. However, the drive seemed stalled when penalties and a couple of lost yardage plays moved Country Day out of scoring position. Then on fourth and long, Ernie Jackson, with excellent pass protection, reared back and threw deep to Deon Curry. The ball was right on target, and Deon used his body to expertly ward off the defensive back and make a fine catch. Touchdown Country Day!
Rice 13, Country Day 12

Now time for a crucial extra point. As coaches, we had talked about perhaps faking the extra point and going for two because Rice was bringing pressure with their extra point block. It is a decision I regret not acting upon. The players felt they could stop Rice and win the game in overtime. We lined up for the extra point and again Rice blocked it. Score: 13-12 with just two minutes remaining.

This necessitated lining up for our surprise on-side kick. Here, we don’t show an obvious on-side formation; rather we let our kicker David Litwin nub the ball so it just barely advances the ten yards necessary to make it a legal kick. David executed to perfection and E.J. Whitlow went high in the air to recover the ball. A huge play and you felt the momentum shift to Country Day. On second down, Ernie hit Deon again perfectly on a crossing route, and Deon snaked expertly across field for a 22 yard gain and got out of bounds to stop the clock – a big time play. Country Day then moved the ball eight yards on the next three downs which brought up the key play of the game – fourth and two yards to go. We called a time-out.

Decision Time

It’s easy to second-guess yourself about what happened next. At Country Day, even during my time as an assistant with Joe D’Angelo, the coaches felt strongly that if the players were confident about a specific play in a key situation, it’s probably not a bad decision to run it. Not to take coaches off the hook for the final decision, but we feel that the players are actually playing the game and have a real feeling for what will be successful. The players felt the quarterback sneak was there for a first down. John Wilson, our offensive coordinator, wanted a roll out pass/run option for our quarterback Ernie Jackson. As head coach, I knew with our problems kicking extra points, I didn’t want to kick the ball. Again, I thought about lining up for a kick and running our fake off it. I felt with Brother Rice coming hard to block our kick, we could surely sucker them with our wing reverse off our field goal formation. With these three options in my head I was sold by our players and opted for the sneak. We were unsuccessful, and lost 13-12.

Though we suffered a bitter defeat, I couldn’t be prouder of our team. We played the most competitive schedule in the state for a school of our size, and our players showed up every week to work extremely hard. They have nothing about which to hang their heads. In fact, they all laid it on the line and left their best out on the field. They are to be commended for their fine efforts.

Football is a game of inches. And although the game broke our hopes of a play-off run, it could not break our spirits or diminish our love of the game.
With more than 200 alumni on campus, spirits were high at the school’s Homecoming football game against Brother Rice. The day came complete with family fun runs, clowns, moonwalks, train rides, arts & crafts, a petting zoo and various events for children and alumni.

While the Yellowjackets suffered a disappointing 13-12 loss to Rice, the lively atmosphere and near-perfect weather made for a memorable afternoon.
1. The noisemaking “Thunder Sticks” were a hit with DCDS students and fans at the game.  
2. Damon Jones ’83 gives Pooneh Arnold ’83 a squeeze in the alumni tent.  
3. Headmaster Jerry Hansen and Nicholas Ferding ’83 take a moment to smile for the camera.  
4. The Hofley family takes in the atmosphere at Homecoming. L-R: Paul Hofley ’89; Andrea Hofley Yuhn ’83; Alison Hofley ’91 and Andrew Hofley ’79.  
5. It’s a race to the finish in the family fun run!
6. Alumni Council President Don Nystrom ‘88 with wife Tracy and one-year-old daughter Halen Mae.  
7. Headmaster Jerry Hansen and friends Jon Hanson and Junior School Director Joe D’Angelo.  
8. Terry (Dallas) Grunzweig ‘88 joins her children Matthew, Ryan and Emily in the craft tent. 
What do science, literature, art, music, cooking, math and costume-making have to do with one another? Everything. That’s why each year, the kindergarten classes at Country Day throw “Miss Spider’s Tea Party,” a wildly popular event with the Lower School set that blends teaching across the curriculum with a special way of saying thank you to the parents. Teaching across the curriculum is a concept through which children learn in a range of academic disciplines while working on a single project. With Miss Spider’s Tea Party, based on the popular children’s book by author David Kirk, children develop the skills to focus on a long-term project while learning about the biology of real spiders, as well as the role of authors and illustrators in literature. Visual arts are heavily involved, with kindergarteners making many of the classroom decorations and the costume pieces to be worn by both student and parent alike. They work as a class to learn the musical numbers that they will perform for the special parent guests, and even make all the food that will be served.

Parents are invited into the classroom, and treated to a range of entertainment such as “chit-chat” time, the songs that the children have learned, and even measuring how many “spiders” long their arms are (that’s the math part). Among the dainties that are served, discerning parents may find themselves tempted by “spider-cookies” or “ants-on-a-log.”

Apart from being a fantastic learning opportunity, as well as being extremely cute, the party has long served as a special thank-you to parents. As one teacher I spoke with put it, “we do two parties a year here in kindergarten, and both of them are very much a thank-you to our parents and all that they do for us, and all that they do for the school.”

For all of you parents moving up from the Learning Village next year – start watching for your invitation in September!

Name the Junior School Moose Contest!

Moose on the Loose

By Mary Ellen Rowe, Associate Director of Communications

Since massive structural improvements at the Village Campus began late last spring, Junior School parents, students and faculty have quietly “pardoned our dust” and adapted to their new surroundings during the renovation. Not so accommodating was the school moose mascot, whose summer was spent on the gym floor amidst heaps of classroom and construction equipment. After 26 years of hanging high in the school’s foyer stairwell, the moose was taken down, providing a rarely seen view of the gigantic nameless beast up close.

The five-foot-high moose head came to DCDS in 1977, leaving Junior School Director Joe D’Angelo baffled. “It was dumped on my desk by a parent and I didn’t want to decline any offer,” he said. “So I looked for an appropriate place to hang it.” It immediately found a home on the stairwell wall, where it remained unmoved until this summer, when renovations forced construction workers to haul the 150-200 pound head to the gym.

Close-up viewing caused mixed reactions. Though the moose shed, Abby Matthews, a third grader at the Junior School was immediately drawn to it and greeted it with a hug. “It was sort of stiff and bristly like a toothbrush,” she said.

Like Abby, most children think the head is pretty cool. Over the years, the moose head has almost become a legend among Lower School students, who hear about it through their older friends. It’s become such a part of the Junior School culture; the moose is undeniably a focal point for the school. Strangely, the icon remains unnamed after all this time, prompting the first-ever “Name The Junior School Moose” contest. If you know just the name for the moose, please submit your ideas to Jackie Jones at the Junior School office or e-mail her at jjones@dcds.edu by February 20, 2004. Students will vote on the names and a winner will be announced on Monday, March 9. The lucky winner’s photograph will appear in the next issue of BeeHive.
Thanks to the Detroit Country Day Friends of the Arts and Middle School art teacher Melissa Parks, seventh grade students experienced a day with quilt maker/wall art artist, Cindy Cillick-Geist of Brighton, Mich. this fall. Geist showed the students how she incorporates hand-dyed silk fabrics and embellishes them with embroidery to create unconventional pieces resembling a collage of fabrics rather than patterns found in traditional quilts.

In preparation of her visit, students created self-portrait collages, which taught them manipulation of different media, patterns, textures and overlapped images to make a composition. They also began using a sewing machine in class with the help of parent volunteers. Prior to Geist’s visit on Nov. 4, all students had to pass a sewing test so that they would be proficient when it came time to create their own quilts. For most, sewing and quilt making was an entirely new experience!

1. Chase Kojaian ’09 learns the art of quilt-making with visiting artist Cindy Cillick-Geist. 2. Seventh graders Julie Winkelman, Raj Lingnurkar, Michelle Mrowka and Dalia Mammo display a colorful tapestry. 3. Visiting artist Cindy Cillick-Geist works on her craft.
In the beginning of the school year, a great deal of hype increased regarding the unknown person, place, or thing that no one knew about, also known as “Mykee.” Signs across the school read slogans, quotes, or questions that made no coherent sense, but indicated the unknown word, “Mykee,” which was a new word in the dictionary of even the most intelligent students. What was Mykee? Who was Mykee? On an enlightening morning in the PAC, on September 24, 2003, an event organized by the Diversity Council told the student body that Mykee was a powerful, artistic performer that touched lives and taught lessons to students and faculty at DCDS.

Mykee, or Dr. Michael Fowlin, performed a show that dealt with common school issues of discrimination, personal identity, suicide, gender equity, and homophobia. In a riveting and enthralling 75-minute performance, Dr. Fowlin portrayed several different characters that represented the values that the diversity council hoped to incorporate in our school’s ideals. “Our goal for Mykee’s presentation was to serve as an enlightening experience for both students and faculty to break down pre-conceived notions and respect each other without judging them right away,” senior Diversity Council executive board president Jaya Badhwar said. “We hope that DCDS students and faculty will try to incorporate these ideas.”

The executive board of the Diversity Council, which includes Jaya Badhwar, Ronald Towns, Matthew Card, Chris Daniels, and Freya Pitts, spent numerous hours during the summer working on marketing strategies for the performance of Mykee. The result was to make Mykee a mystery using posters and bizarre PowerPoint presentations during the Wednesday morning assemblies, to increase interest in the presentation. Without relating Mykee explicitly to the school, students became curious in what Mykee really was. “What we came up with, in my eyes, became the best way to get DCDS hyped about something - to not tell them anything,” senior Diversity Council executive board member Matthew Card said. “As a result, everyone became excited to see him on the day of his performance.”

Diversity Council’s main theme for the year, “Going Beyond Tolerance,” was the objective of bringing Mykee’s presentation to DCDS. His performance, called “You Don’t Know Me Until You Know Me,” incorporated the ideals that Diversity Council hopes to involve in our school this year and in upcoming years. Preparation for the presentation began six months prior to the performance, and the work paid off in a tremendous standing ovation from the audience. “Mykee’s performance incorporated our main theme for the year,” Badhwar said. “I think all the work paid off to a success. The challenge for us now involves incorporating the messages Mykee projected in creative mediums into our school for the rest of the year and following years.”

Compared to past performances at DCDS, Mykee was a unique show that included times of pin-drop silence and other times of great
addressed. Along with addressing many school issues, the show also brought the school together. Students wonder what else the Diversity Council may do to promote school unity in combination with promoting their theme. However, some students believe that Mykee only affected students for a short period of time and that the student body is still functioning the same way it did before Mykee’s performance. “I think that the Mykee assembly really brought the school together, but only for a time. The big question now is ‘What’s next?’ It seems that everyday things are going back to how they were before the assembly, and contrary to what Mykee might assert, I doubt that anything has really changed,” senior Ravi Kudesia said.

Mykee promoted the Diversity Council’s theme of “Going Beyond Tolerance” in an entertaining and powerful manner. Students wonder what might come next to promote this theme even further to influence the student body to a greater extent on current American issues. But contrary to other speakers, Mykee made a dramatic performance that touched the lives of students and faculty. “Mykee wasn’t a speaker, and Mykee wasn’t a forum or a discussion. We wanted Mykee because no one like him had ever come to our school. In my four years at DCDS, we’ve never had a dramatic performance like this one, where everyone was able to learn something and be touched at the same time,” Card said.

The overall audience reaction was a standing ovation and several conversations during the rest of the day about different issues that Mykee
Alumni Relations Message

By Kira Mann ’89, Director of Alumni Relations

The Alumni Relations office took the show on the road this year, as we expanded our schedule of regional receptions. 2003 brought us to Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orlando, Boca Raton, Washington D.C., and New York City. Classmates were reacquainted in their hometowns, and as Director of Alumni Relations, I had a blast facilitating these “mini-reunions.” (See page 28 for photos). I can’t express the great sense of pride I feel in knowing that our alumni span the globe and are keeping in touch in new cities.

In the upcoming pages, you’ll see many familiar faces from our various events and activities over the past year. Beyond the regional receptions, we held eleven reunions, numerous alum sports events and a festive Homecoming celebration. Thanks to all our active and involved alums who help make these events so successful. We encourage all our alum to come back to Country Day anytime, whether for a planned event or simply just to take a look at your alma mater and catch up with faculty.

And, as always, we’re anxious to hear how you’re doing! Drop us a line and we’ll report your news on our web site, www.dcds.edu and in the next BeeHive’s “Class Notes” section under your class year. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy this new format of BeeHive and the upcoming pages of alumni news and photos.

Keep in touch!

Kira Mann
New friends were made and old ones reacquainted at this year’s Detroit Country Day School class reunions. Members of the classes of ’71, ’73, ’78, ’82, ’83, ’87, ’88, ’92, ’93, ’97 and ’98 joined the events, celebrating the past and catching up on the present. Our Alumni Office was on hand to snap these shots.
It’s early on a Wednesday morning and Stefenie Sasson (’00) is run down. Between apologies for her raspy voice – a result of her packed days and nights – the 21-year-old describes her day. First, a meeting with an executive to discuss the Tribeca Film Festival, later, a class at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts at the Kanbar Institute of Film and Television where she’s a student and finally, a charity event this evening. Just another day in the life of this busy student slash independent filmmaker slash production company president slash philanthropist, slash, slash, slash. It’s no wonder she’s got a cold.

Still, it’s impossible to mistake her obvious enthusiasm for the life she’s creating as an up-and-coming New York filmmaker. After brief stints at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and UCLA, Sasson landed in New York City just two weeks before September 11, 2001. She was immediately immersed in an unfamiliar and somewhat intimidating setting, and now describes her first impression of New York as a “vast empire.”

“It’s a difficult place to make a name for yourself,” she says. “Especially in filmmaking, no one prepares you – no professor or internship can teach you what you need to know about the business.”

Today, she appears at home with city life – easily maneuvering through movie premieres and charity benefits with the likes of Robin Williams, Billy Crystal and Dustin Hoffman while cranking out independent films and hitting the books. It’s a far cry from your typical college experience.

In May, the president of Sasson Pictures celebrated the release of her second independent documentary film, As Daylight Breaks. Captivated by the story of a young boy afflicted with Canavan Disease, she was driven to tell Jacob Sontag’s story. The film follows the lives of a six-year-old afflicted with the severe genetic brain disorder for which there is no cure, and his mother as she struggles to save her son. Tireless in her efforts to further research and treatment options, Jordana Holovach’s love for her son is uncomplicated and palpable, and clearly understood by Sasson as the film unfolds.

“I surprised myself even at the extent of how captivating I found the story of Jordana and her son Jacob,” said Sasson. “It is supremely difficult to define something as abstract as a bond between two individuals – as formless and simultaneously indestructible as love. Another paradox is the potency of simplicity – a dying, six-year old, cherubic boy flashing a bright, brilliant smile which conveys and captures the essence of his and his mother’s story. His radiant smile is infinitely powerful – it has the capacity to uplift, to instill faith in places where there was none. It has the capacity to assuage – even if momentarily – his mother’s immeasurable fears and concerns.”

Inspired, Sasson immediately sought the help of partner and co-producer Daniel Kruglikov. “Daniel was quick to join me in producing a film which would not only become a foundation for our careers, but also a fundraising tool in saving the life of Jacob and other children affected with Canavan disease.”

Her motivation soon turned to creativity as Sasson began lining up funding for the project. A process she describes as the most challenging aspect of independent filmmaking, her clever approach to marketing to financiers enabled her to produce the $5 million film for around $35,000 instead. Working on a tight budget, Sasson coaxed the award-winning soundtrack for As Daylight Breaks from Clive Davis, music mogul and founder of J Records, who sweetened the deal with a cast of popular New York recording artists. With donated licensing rights and a commanding line-up including musicians Ben Lee, The Strokes, Interpol and Yo La Tengo, the film’s soundtrack struck a chord with the entertainment and music industries alike. “The contributions of the respected artists are a most valued asset to our project,” said Sasson. “I believe that with this music, the film’s vision is complemented and the true humanity of their sound is illuminated.”
When it was all said and done and 180 hours of filming had wrapped, New York’s social and political communities rallied behind the cause. "Through this project, I was able to meet Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Senator John McCain, both of whom supported the film and the fight against Canavan Disease," she said. “The response was overwhelming. We received many calls after the premiere – I feel like we’ve introduced a new cause to Manhattan."

The film is set to be screened to politicians in Washington D.C. in early February and at private screenings in Chicago and Los Angeles in March. All funds raised by the film, including sales of the soundtrack, will be donated to Jacob’s Cure, the non-profit foundation started by Jordana Holovach.

On the heels of a successful NYC premiere at the prestigious Lincoln Center (in which the film raised $200,000 for Jacob’s Cure), Sasson is now shopping the film to HBO for possible consideration in its documentary project, America Undercover, and to numerous film festivals. She rattles off the names as if they’re old hat by this point in her career – Tribeca, Telluride, Toronto, Berlin, Sundance, Cannes.

Not new to the film festival circuit, Sasson took her pioneer project On My Own to Cannes in 2001. She completed the documentary feature while still a student at Country Day. She says the cooperative effort set the tone for her career while solidifying her ambitions.

“It was a great experience. It taught me about the collaborative nature of filmmaking, and I’m so appreciative of the support of people at Country Day who helped make it work.”

“Most people don’t think of Detroit for filmmaking, but I found so many fabulous resources there. It helped me to be creative in my approach to getting the job done.”

What’s next for Stefenie Sasson? She and partner Kruglikov have acquired the rights to a coming-of-age drama set in Manhattan, tentatively called The Dreamer, and intend to bring it to life on film. In June 2003, the two also began development of the Anna Larina Story, based on the widow’s memoirs of the late Bolshevik leader, Nikolai Bukharin. Balancing her career with school isn’t easy, and Sasson is quick to point out that it’s certainly not glamorous.

“The truth is,” she says, “it’s very difficult to finish a project. But everybody struggles, no matter where they are or what they’re doing.” At this early stage in her career, Sasson says she is just trying to make her way. And her mark.

“I didn’t want to leave NYU without leaving something behind, without making a professional contribution.”

Judging by the impact she’s had on the Detroit Country Day School community, we’re resting assured Stefenie Sasson’s graduation from NYU will not go unnoticed.

For more information about the film, As Daylight Breaks, log on to www.asdaylightbreaks.com. For more information about Canavan Disease, please visit www.jacobscure.org and www.canavanfoundation.org. Sasson Pictures, Stefenie’s SOHO-based independent production company will soon be online at www.sassonpictures.com.
Regional Receptions

Whether you live around the corner or around the globe, Country Day’s got you covered with opportunities to just have fun. This year, we sponsored regional receptions in Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orlando, Boca Raton, Washington D.C., and New York City. Relocated classmates joined the action as we dropped in to their new hometowns to catch up. For information on a regional reception near you, contact Kira Mann, Alumni Relations Director, at (248) 646-7717 or e-mail kmann@dcds.edu.

San Francisco — 3/13/03 Chris Marcuse ’86; Jeff Jouppi ’90; Dave Garlic ’94; Chris Castillo ’92; James Hurst; Ashley Futterknecht ’99; Haley Futterknecht ’95; Mike Nicholas ’89; Heather Weyand ’88; Scott Sellers ’90; Alana Kaselitz ’95 and Kira Mann ’89 at Jillian’s in San Francisco March 13.

Boca Raton — 3/28/03 Howard Krass ’81; Aaron Alper ’92, Headmaster Jerry Hansen and Director of Development Scott Bertschy enjoy brunch at the Boca Raton Resort & Club on March 28.

Los Angeles — 3/12/03 Marie Snyder; Henry Rosenfeld ’73; Jeff Straus ’72; Brian Miller ’76; Brian Shapero ’82; Lori Champagne ’82; Dan Gilbert ’74; Chris Thomas ’74; Thomas Shiovitz ’74; Scott Smillie ’78; Ronnie Clemmer; Kira Mann ’89; Kathryn Lucas ’90; Dave Williams ’90; Katherine Keller ’76; Alice Dickens ’90; Paul Brodhead ’92 and Marlon Shows ’93 at the Los Angeles home of former faculty member Clemmer on March 12.
New York City – 6/19/03
David Underdown '96; Mridu Gulati '89; Anne Schlitt '89 and Jennifer Raymond '89 share DCDS memories at the New York City reception, held June 19 at the Park Avenue Country Club.

Boston – 10/10/03
Marion Mahone '02; Yang Lin '02 and Chris Radom '97 (with wife Aimee) at the Ritz Carlton Boston Commons reception on October 10.

Washington D.C. – 6/18/03
Rick Desai ’00; Varun Shetty ’00; Nikki Gohel ’00 and Lauren Wolf ’01 reunite at the ESPN Zone June 18 for the first annual Washington D.C. reception.

Orlando – 3/27/03
Headmaster Jerry Hansen shares a laugh with Fred Guindi ’82, Sheriff Guindi ’74, Steve LaBret ’73 and Ed Guindi ’79 at the first annual Orlando reception, held at Ruth Chris’ Steakhouse on March 27.
Alumni Sports

Alumni Golf Outing
June 9, 2003

First Place – Class of 1973
Gary Bachman
Steve Freebairn
Marc Eller

Second Place – Litwin Family
Richard Litwin ’76
Steve Litwin ’01
Dave Litwin ’05
Rob Zankl

Golf1 Kelly Mires ’91 takes a break from her game to pose for a photo.

Golf2 (L-R) Second-place winners
Rob Zankl, Richard Litwin ’76;
Dave Litwin ’05 and Steve Litwin ’01.

Alumni Senior BBQ

Alumni Lacrosse Game
June, 2003

Varsity won 9-8 in sudden death over our alumni players from the classes of 1973-2002. Senior award winners included:

Mike Bucci ’74 Award –
Brian Kegley ’03

Rob Ambrose ’78 Award –
Adam Kenney ’03 (Offensive MVP)

Bill Aliber Award ’79 –
Andrew Ritchie ’03 (Defensive MVP)

Burt McCandless ’75 Baggattaway Award – Jonathan Pohl ’04
(Little Brother of War)

Ted Adderley Award ’97 –
Jay Leybourn ’03
(Highest GPA)

Lacrosse1 Paul Fabré ’03 takes a shot in the Alumni Lacrosse game.
Alumni Baseball & Softball Games

Though the game was rained out, the baseball team still held batting practice as the women (who were participants in our first annual event for softball) waited out the rainy weather and played. Not wanting to miss the fun, a few of the baseball players joined in the softball game!

Above: Lauren Camp ‘04; Razili Stanke ‘04; Ellen Hector ‘02; Natalie Lockwood ‘02; Amanda Palmer ‘05; Jen Ferris ‘01; Rachael Prentice ‘03; Annie Thomas ‘06; Anna Levitt ‘01; Leslie Adkins ‘05; Ariel Kern ‘05; Carrie Hergott; Lauren Adkins ‘00; Colleen Sowislo ‘05 and Coach John Meyers.

Alumni Baseball 1

Jason Webber ‘95 slams it home in the Alumni Basketball game

Alumni Basketball 2

The ladies take a break after their game. L-R: Assistant Headmaster Glen Shilling; Marie Webster ‘99; Kristen Morris ‘05; Coach Frank Orlando; Referee Mrs. Duggan; Kerry Duggan ‘96; Pam Bierzynski ‘96; Kelley Mires ‘91; Amanda Fryzlewicz ‘03; Latrise Gotcher ‘03; Katherine Rhodes ‘02; Summer Smith ‘01; Carrie Moore ‘03; Stephanie Bonk ‘02; Mary (Bridges) Radford ‘87 and son.

Above: Lauren Adkins ‘00 keeps her eye on the steal.

Alumni Hockey

December 21, 2002

Below: Dale Garrett ‘82; Jimmy Boutin ‘82 and Ron Angell ‘79 (with his son) enjoy a cold one after the game.
**In Memoriam**

Clarence Jones '84 father, Clarence Edward Boyd, passed away on March 3, 2003, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 70 years old.

Guy Robert Tann '55, 65 of Manhattan Beach, Calif., died July 3, 2003. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Teresa Tann; sons and daughter-in-law, Evan Tann of Manhattan Beach, Steven Tann of Los Angeles, Michael and Joyce Tann of Hanford, Calif.; parents, Herman and Elaine Tann of Palmer Woods; brother and sister-in-law, James and Margo Tann of Monterey, Calif.; sisters and brother-in-law, Maxine Tann of Salinas, Calif., Nancy and Martin Zide of West Bloomfield. Contributions may be made to a charity of one's choice.

1946

Peter Enggass is experiencing a busy retirement, serving on four boards: Center for Maine Contemporary Art (ex-chair); Camden Conference on Foreign Affairs; Osher Map Library Associates, University of Southern Maine; and Common Cause/Maine (ex-chair). He is always traveling, and reported recent trips to the Netherlands, the Biennale in Venice, Morocco, Spain, France, England, Bermuda and Hawaii. This fall he visited New Orleans and Cuba. He also reports adding new grandchildren to his growing family and an uneventful 75th birthday. Says Peter, “I am obviously in good health.”

1948

Howard Dickey writes, “I am three times retired. I trained Americanbred Saddle Horses and retired. I then went to work for the Commonwealth of Kentucky Prison System and retired. After that, I taught school for the Woodford County School Board and retired. Now, I live in a 120-year-old house, do some traveling and woodworking. I would like to find some other 1948 grads so we could have a reunion. In any event, I hope to visit Detroit Country Day next year.”

1952

Tom Johnson was named Distinguished Alumnus of 2003 by the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. Tom earned his undergraduate degree there before going on to Northwestern University for medical school. He received the award for his lifetime role in medical education. He was involved in the start up of four new medical schools, and has devoted considerable time and energy into both education for, and the delivery of, healthcare to underserved populations.

1954

Bill McCoy reported that Bob Webster passed away on October 1, 2002 at his home on Long Lake after a lengthy battle with cancer. Bill and Bob had been best friends since their days at DCDS.

1955

Guy Robert Tann, 65 of Manhattan Beach, Calif., died July 3, 2003. He is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Teresa Tann; sons and daughter-in-law, Evan Tann of Manhattan Beach, Steven Tann of Los Angeles, Michael and Joyce Tann of Hanford, Calif.; parents, Herman and Elaine Tann of Palmer Woods; brother and sister-in-law, James and Margo Tann of Monterey, Calif.; sisters and brother-in-law, Maxine Tann of Salinas, Calif., and Nancy and Martin Zide of West Bloomfield. Contributions may be made to a charity of one’s choice.

1958

Howard Dickey writes, “I am three times retired. I trained Americanbred Saddle Horses and retired. I then went to work for the Commonwealth of Kentucky Prison System and retired. After that, I taught school for the Woodford County School Board and retired. Now, I live in a 120-year-old house, do some traveling and woodworking. I would like to find some other 1948 grads so we could have a reunion. In any event, I hope to visit Detroit Country Day next year.”

1963

Spence Rogers is the founder of an educational consulting company (Performance Excellence for All Kids - Peak Learning Systems). He writes, “We provide consulting services for k-12 educators around the world in effective classroom instruction and assessment. In addition, we have produced six books to support our consulting. We also conduct a series of week-long institutes and academies in these areas.”

1965

Henry Sobell writes, “I have been married for 21 years to Julia, who runs Yardscape, a garden maintenance business. I have worked in the auto supplier arena for more than 20 years. We have five children – four sons and a daughter. One son is out of school, one is becoming a watchmaker, one is at Northern Michigan University, one is a high school junior, and our daughter is in third grade. We have three dogs, two cats and one bearded dragon. We live in Lexington, Mich. on a beautiful lake.”
1966

Gary Hourihan currently is president of Korn/Ferry International's Leadership Solutions business, which focuses on assessing corporate executives and providing executive coaching and development. His oldest son Kevin recently graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles with a degree in mathematics and his younger son Ryan will be a sophomore at the University of Southern California. He writes, "My wife Debbie and I are enjoying life in Laguna Beach, Calif."

1967

Chris Angle writes, "I'm a broker for Gemini Financial in New York City and trade for investors interested in the futures markets. My telephone is (800) 758-0213 and I would love to hear from DCDS grads."

1968

Tom Kerr writes, "My wife Mary, daughter Emily and I are still in Omaha, Nebraska, and I continue to work with the Omaha World-Herald as a business page designer and illustrator. My freelance illustration continues to be a soul-saver, and I have branched into painting children's portraits over the last couple of years."

1969

Dale Frenkel's son, Mark Frenkel '03 recently graduated from DCDS and his twin sons Warren and William entered seventh grade at the Middle School in the fall.

1970

Paul Cullis' daughter Emma is in eighth grade and his son Jonathan is a senior. Both children attend DCDS.

Michael Schlegel reports, "After 33 years of silence, I am alive and living in New York City with a wife, who has tolerated me for 22 years, and sons, Drew (17) and Ben (eight). After college, I cut my hair and came to NYC as a boring banker. The last eight years were spent building a marketing research firm and selling it to an advertising conglomerate (WPP). I recently started an online management training company to develop skills not taught in school but most needed in job performance. Our mantra is to help companies attract, retain and enable the best talent. I continue to coach youth baseball and soccer, which I enjoy immensely. My son Drew is playing in the NY State Empire Games for the NYC regional team this summer."

1972

Thomas Brock is married to Carol Fast and has two kids. He writes, "My wife is a speech pathologist who works with autistic children, and my kids and I sometimes help out. I had fun at last year's 30-year class reunion, but wish more classmates had shown up."

Alain Frene reports that, "After almost 30 years in the advertising business (22 years on my own), I am going to open a health and spa center called Royal Sport & Spa in Noisy le Roi, near Versailles." The center is slated to open in early 2005.

Matthew Schlegel writes, "While my youngest daughter, Allison (seven), is into her fifth year at DCDS as a second grader, my oldest daughter, Hannah (19), was activated in the Reserves last spring during the middle of her second semester at the University of Texas and currently is somewhere outside Baghdad serving in the Army. She says it is hot, hot, hot."

1973

Gary Bachman recently joined the faculty at Illinois State University as professor of horticulture in the Department of Agriculture. His wife Kate is a consultant for IBM. Their two daughters attend Tennessee Tech University; Ann is a senior in fine arts and Rachel is a sophomore in education with a concentration in chemistry.

1974

In 2002, Bob Castle was named General Manager, E-commerce Group and Group Director of Information Systems and QS/ISO Corporate Compliance at Global Accessories, Inc. Bob also currently serves as Chairman of the E-Commerce Committee of the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association.

Marty Gargaro writes, "All is well in Northern Michigan. My kids, Marty (eight) and Elizabeth (five), are doing very well. Marty was on the honor roll - he doesn't appear to be following in his Dad's footsteps! My real estate appraisal company is prospering. I opened an office in Ann Arbor in January 2003."
Michael Zason writes, “I took my seven-year-old daughter to a Columbus Crew soccer clinic wearing a DCDS shirt I recently purchased. At the first skills station a Crew player spotted my shirt and said he was from Warren DeLaSalle and asked if I knew Mike Clark ’91, who also plays for the Crew. At the next station Mike spotted my DCDS shirt and the rest is history. We hit it off and had a nice chat. You never know where your fellow alumni are lurking.” The Zazons also welcomed son Matthew, their sixth child, in August 2003.

1975
Ken Phillips’ company, KJP MED, operates sleep laboratories in the metro Detroit area.

1976
Susan Bachman is the Art Director at Market Arts, a Creative Agency in Ann Arbor. She was delighted DCDS hired her company to redesign the BeeHive and hopes that everyone enjoys the new format. “It was really great to visit the campus after so many years. So much has changed!”

1977
Glenn Alexander recently spent a vacation weekend with fellow Class of ’77 classmates Dave Phillips, Lou Schmidt, Doug Menzies and Tom Shafer. Glenn writes, “A good time and many beers were had by all! I also teamed up with PGA Champion Rick Beem to win the Wendy’s National Pro-Am Golf Tournament in Las Vegas. Jerry Hansen’s coaching is still paying dividends!”

Ron Boraks has relocated to Denver, Colorado with his wife Julie and three-year-old daughter Ellie.

Dewey Etra Smith-Woodson, the mother of Johnnie Woodson, passed away on September 2, 2003.

1978
Kimberly Holt-May recently ran into Suzanne Milad at the Detroit airport, making a six-hour delay there much more palatable. She also has seen Silvia Acosta and Susan Fincham in recent months.

Victoria Kirschner-Bromley and her family are currently living in Germantown, Tennessee. Her first novel is at two different print publishing houses for consideration.

Jeff Modell is president of New Century Investment Management, Incorporated, a registered investment advisory firm managing equity portfolios for individuals, pension plans and charitable trusts and foundations. He is a second degree Black Belt in Isshinryu Karate. In his spare time, he teaches Isshinryu Karate to children (ages seven to 14) as a volunteer instructor at Grand Master Willie Adams’ Southfield Martial Arts Institute. He believes Isshinryu Karate training is important for kids because it teaches the ability to focus, self-discipline, self-confidence, self-defense (including how to be more aware of what is going on around you, how to avoid a fight and how to do the job right if you must), gets kids in shape and is fun! Mark Lahti, Esq., also a DCDS alum, is a third-degree Black Belt in Isshinryu Karate and also works at New Century. Jeff, Mark and both of their wives are lawyers, too!

1979
John Genga and his wife of 16 years, Hilary, live in Sherman Oaks, California, with their two-year-old son, Jacob, and their six-month-old daughter, Emery. From time to time they see former DCDS Upper School English teacher Ronnie Clemmer, who lives “right next door” in Encino and has hosted local DCDS alumni events. John is a Los Angeles-based partner in the international law firm Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP, where he chairs the firm’s entertainment group and represents motion picture studios and other entertainment and technology companies in intellectual property and business litigation.

Desiree Mehrabian and her husband Mark adopted a baby boy from Stavropol, Russia. Albert Edward was born on October 11, 2001 and came home on October 28, 2002. Desiree writes, “I’m taking a break from my diabetes education job to be with him. I would love to hear from my classmates.”

Ken Stein is still the owner of a thriving party planning and food styling business. He was recently named special style consultant to the Mayor’s office of special events.

Phillip Stern creatively submitted his notes in the form of a journal entry. He writes, “June 29, 2003, Sunday - day of rest? Woke up at 5:30 a.m. and relaxed over coffee and Super G (Julie’s homemade granola). Met Jay at 6:00 for a bike ride past The Fruitlands in Harvard. Rode 78 miles in four and a half hours, and then stopped by Jay’s house to see the recent renovations. Got home wanting to take a shower and lie down, but helped clean house instead (all five of us vacuum, scrub, and dust for an hour each weekend). Then I took a quick rinse and ate lunch with the crew. Wanted to plop down and watch the Red Sox on the tube, but went with Julie and the boys to Mahoney’s Garden Center instead. We came home and weeded, planted, and transplanted for three hours (while listening to the Red Sox on the radio and baking hamburger
buns). Ready to sit back with a beer in my hand and enjoy our beautiful yard and garden, I went for a hike instead. Our gang plus Chichi (our Chihuahua), Grammy and Grampy, hiked up Horn Pond Mountain and clambered over the rocks in the old reservoir for an hour or so. Came home and finally got my beer while burning veggie burgers on the grill. Enjoyed an excellent meal on the patio with a pleasant breeze keeping temperature and bugs down. When the first mosquito of the night took a bite out of Julie, we moved into the E-Room and discussed child rearing for a couple of hours (with the kids eagerly listening in) before we all headed for bed about 10:00 p.m. An excellent day that started and ended with rest and relaxation.”

Tom Stulberg writes, “My thanks to Ronnie Clemmer for introducing me to theater, which has led to my new venture: www.stratfordlodging.com.

Dewey Etta Smith-Woodson, the mother of Shelley Woodson-Corley, passed away on September 2, 2003.

1980

David Barenholtz lives in the Hollywood Hills and owns an art gallery in Los Angeles specializing in 20th Century photography. He lived in New York City for 12 years after college and moved to Los Angeles in 1995.

Ada Kusnetz still lives in Keego Harbor, Michigan. Her son Al is now eight, daughter Claire is six and Ellie is 18 months old. “Life is busy with three kids!”

Lisa Padzensky reports, “I’m currently living with my partner in Adelaide, South Australia. We have four lovely pussycats: Xena, Gabrielle, M’Lila, and our newest edition, Baxter. I have just started a new job in an old profession as a croupier at Sky City Adelaide and loving it. I miss the snow and Taco Bell but certainly not the politics.”

Roger Trunsky is living in Birmingham, Mich., with his wife Barbara and children Jacob (11), Zachary (six), and Leah (three). His children are students at Cranbrook.

1981

Stephen Caplan lives in Orlando, Florida where he owns a law firm. He was married in April of 2000 and reports, “No children yet.”

Susanna Francis writes, “I was married to Walter Kuhn on October 19! I had a busy fall that included co-directing a flamenco group, Azafran, which performed at the White Rock Theatre September 19-20 after two years of repertoire development. My IT work with the Provincial Government still involves travel between Vancouver and Victoria and the constant change keeps it interesting. While many Vancouverites are concerned about the financial commitment of preparing for the Winter Olympics in 2010, perhaps some DCDS alumni will use that as an opportunity to see this beautiful city.”
1982

Tab Ahmad is currently working as an IT Analyst for Lear Corporation in Southfield, Mich. He would love to hear from old classmates and can be reached at Tahmad@Lear.com.

Stacie Bahle lives in Suttons Bay, Mich., with her husband Karl and is the rabbi of Congregation Ahavat Shalom of Traverse City. In January, she will receive a second rabbinic ordination from the ALEPH Alliance for Jewish Renewal. She is also director of the Ahavat Shalom Retreat Center.

Susan Douglas writes, "Most of my life is pretty stable - married, kids are doing great, same job for five years. I'm still doing adventure racing. Recent big events were a 36-hour race in the Keweenau Peninsula and the "Dances With Dirt" 50K ultra trail marathon in September at Pinckney Recreation. One of my sisters did that race also; she likes to race hydroplanes but has found out running races are fun too. Balancing family and work with my sport is important, so it's like I'll always be a "middle-of-the-pack" person in races, and that is fine by me."

Lisa Mancini writes, "My husband Arvin Yaple now joins older brother Anjay. We're still living in Philadelphia and I look forward to hearing from any alums in the area.

1983

Dawn Schluter welcomed her second daughter, Mia Corrina on November 6, 2002. Dawn is a senior principal and co-group leader of the Personal Services Group at Miller Canfield.

Elmos Woods writes, "On November 4th, my wife and I welcomed our precious daughter Onnie Louisa Woods into the world.

Dave Albrecht writes, "Although a member of the DCDS Class of 1983, I graduated from high school in Minnesota. Today, I live in Minneapolis with my wife Cheryl and two kids Henry (seven) and Kratrina (10). After graduating from the University of Minnesota, I became a chemical engineer and now work for a company called Entegris in the semiconductor industry. My schooling at DCDS prepared me well for engineering. My first two years of college were nearly just a review of what I learned in high school! I was on Coach Bartoshuk's first soccer state championship team in 1981. I still coach and play two or three times per week (even at 39 years old)! Hats off to Coach Bartoshuk - he has had a lot of success in Michigan and one of his students is still at it!"

Ed Anderson writes, "I won't even start with the clichés about it being 20 years, but I do find it hard to believe that we left DCDS over half our lives ago. But aside from my relative lack of hair, life has proven to be a grand ride. And the weather down here in Austin is just becoming beautiful again as the summer cools down into fall. Lord help me, I became a professor, and every day when I stand up in front of 70 blank little faces, I try desperately to channel Mr. Morrow. It's actually a wonderful job, but unfortunately it means that I'm teaching four classes this semester, and my wife, Mary Ann, is teaching another two. But Mary Ann, Ted, Katie, Billy and I would always love to see anyone who pops down this way. My home phone number is (512) 263-8379. Although I may be moving next summer, I can always be reached at edanderson@alum.mit.edu. For anyone interested in the various meanderings of the Andersons, our family web page is at www.edanderson.com."

Pooneh Mohajer-Shojaae Arnold was married on April 13, 2002 to Ivan Arnold.

Nicholas Ferding was married eight years ago and is the father of two daughters who are three and six years old. He is a marketing director for a Swedish industrial company with subsidiaries in many countries. He still enjoys sports although hockey has changed to golf and singles tennis to doubles.

Michael Gordon lives in New York City and does public affairs and advertising for Shepardson, Stern & Kaminsky, a firm partially owned by the CAA talent agency. He worked in the Clinton Administration for many years, including as a spokesperson for Attorney General Janet Reno. He recently visited DCDS and had a wonderful time catching up with Mrs. Hannett. He has the fondest memories of Mr. Morrow, Mrs. Slaughter, Mr. Schwarzer and Mr. Shilling. He can be reached at MichaelGordon@aol.com. Discussing his twentieth reunion, Michael says, "To me, it feels like 20 years. I haven't lived in Michigan since high school, although I do make it back a couple times per year. I am getting married on April 3! It's a very exciting time. Khaled and Ramin have said that they are flying in for my wedding. I worked in Democratic politics for many years and am now at a cool advertising and public affairs firm. Our website is www.ssk.com."

Eliot Kusnetz writes, "Wow, it's been 20 years? Regards to everyone, and hope you are all healthy and well. I'm in central New Jersey practicing occupational and environmental medicine. Happily exhausted from balancing work and family (three kids). Anyone who's in the area is welcome to drop in or call."
Kirsten Ryan writes, “Hi classmates, I’ve had so much fun reading your e-mails - what a diverse and far-flung bunch we are - San Francisco, Sweden, France! I’ve been in Connecticut nearly 14 years now. I’m an actuary at Hartford Life, and truly enjoy being a professional geek. I’m juggling work and family and have gone part-time since my husband Mike and I had our son James almost two years ago. I visit Boston and NYC a couple of times a year and would love to catch up with any of you in the area.”

1984

Keith Duncan reports, “I’m living with my girlfriend in Wilmington, Delaware where I am a biologist for DuPont. I’m also the goalkeeping coach for the University of Delaware Men’s soccer team, and am a Doctoral candidate in science education at the University of Delaware. I’m online at Keithkcd@aol.com.”

John Fushman continues to play hockey and frequently sees Brian Shapiro and Tom Budnick who also play in the League. John continues to reside in Manhattan Beach enjoying the single, active Californian lifestyle. He writes, “I’ve been here since 1991 and I can’t imagine anywhere else I’d rather be!” Also, John would love to hear from any classmates living in or planning on visiting L.A. “I was at Tommy D’Angelo’s wedding in Palm Springs and had the opportunity to visit with many of my ex-classmates. The wedding was beautiful and having the opportunity to play golf with my high school buddies was incredible. Thank you Tommy!”

John enters his third year as director of hockey operations at the Healthsouth Training Center (HSTC). The HSTC is the training center for the Los Angeles Kings, Lakers and Sparks. HSTC also operates one of the largest adult, high school and youth ice/inline hockey leagues in California. There are more than 25 Divisions, 160 teams and more than 2,500 registered players at the HSTC. In addition to his director of hockey operations duties, John has been the head coach for the Los Angeles, Jr. Kings (formerly the El Segundo Regents) for the past five years. This past season (2002-03), John’s team won the Southern California Championship and the California State Championship. Check out the Jr. Kings website at www.lajrkings.com

Clarence Jones’ father, Clarence Edward Boyd, passed away on March 3, 2003, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 70 years old.

Jennifer LaRiviere is a member of the DCDS Alumni Council.

David Murray proposed to his fiancée Julie Cuts in March as the sun set over Wanaka Lake, on the South Island of New Zealand. Fortunately she said yes, and the wedding was in England in May.

Betsy Thomas writes, “Things are busy here in Los Angeles. I’m doing a new show called ‘Run of the House,’ which airs on the WB network at 9:30 EST Thursday nights. I created the show and am executive producer. It’s about a 15-year-old girl who is being raised by her three 20-something siblings in Michigan. Please tune in!”

1985

Colleen Quinlan Collins writes, “I recently moved to Alabama. I’ve been married for 14 years and have a 12-year-old son named Patrick.”

Chris D’Angelo welcomed his fifth child, Nicholas in December 2002. Nicholas is the seventh grandchild for Joan and Joe D’Angelo, and was a wonderful Christmas blessing for the entire D’Angelo family.

Brian Small and Kelly celebrated their twelfth anniversary this August 2003. Brian writes, “We have two beautiful children, Eliana (seven) and Jared (four). The kids really enjoyed the Alumni Day last year and I hope to see some Class of ‘85 members there this year.”

1986


Christa Alessandri-Howley ’86 with family.

Javed Ali continues to live in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area with his wife, Iram. He recently accepted a Senior Intelligence Officer position with the Department of Homeland Security. He was previously employed with the Department of Defense. When Javed and Iram aren’t busy at work, they enjoy traveling to Europe and back home to Michigan for vacations.
Karla Kellam eloped last December with Hosam Attia, three years her junior. Contact lenses brought them together, as Karla is the Manager of Worldwide Business Intelligence for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care (maker of ACUVUE® Brand Contact Lenses) and her husband is an Ophthalmology Pre-Residency Fellow. Their first son was born in mid-October. They plan to raise their child bilingually (Arabic and English), so if there are any DCDS alums out there who have any tips, please e-mail Karla at karla.k@mindspring.com.

In 1994, Cornelia Nicodemus married engineer Wolfgang Rieß, a specialist for technical ceramics who works at the University of Bayreuth’s research center for new materials. Cornelia attained her Master’s degree in cultural anthropology in 1993 and went on to graduate with a doctoral degree in cultural anthropology from the University of Bayreuth in Germany in 1998 after having spent an extended research period in sub-Saharan Africa. After leaving the university she did a formal two-year apprenticeship with a regional newspaper. Since the birth of her daughter Clara in March 2001 she has worked as a freelance journalist for several regional and national newspapers and news agencies. She is also a press campaigner for small-scale cultural institutions in Northern Bavaria. Cornelia made her first successful steps as an agent for several world music bands working as the director of the world music festival “Border Crossings” in Bayreuth for the past two years. The festival will celebrate its re-launch with a new concept and new state funding in October of this year (please visit the festival’s website www.grenzueberschreitungen.de.) Cornelia happily reports that her friendship with Farida Bora has also experienced a re-launch this year. The two plan to see each other spring of 2004 in Europe.

Bill Passer and his wife are the proud parents of their second daughter, Rachel Eri Passer, born December 15, 2002. She was 7 lbs., 7 oz. and 20 inches, with a fair amount of hair. Bill writes, “Rachel is doing great, although our older daughter, Carly, who is three years old, isn’t so thrilled about the apparent revocation of her attention exclusivity privileges! We are enjoying living in South Florida, having moved to the Hollywood area from New York City at the beginning of 2002. We are becoming regulars at Disney World, Lion Country Safari and Miami Dolphins games. And, my golf and tennis games are markedly improved, to say the least – not yet PGA and USTA caliber (sorry, Mr. Gilman) – but much improved. On the work front, I started my own company last year, P3 Partners, as a private investment and boutique mergers and acquisitions advisory firm. P3 Partners was involved with three successful transactions in 2002, which was good given the softness in the financial services sector. All in all, things are good.”

Nimit Aggarwal was recently married to Manjot Gill in Vancouver, Canada. Nimit is a practicing critical care physician in Chicago while his wife Manjot is an ophthalmologist. DCDS guests at the wedding were Kendall Drake ’87, Nikhil Shah ’87 and Niraj Sarda ’87.
Alice Chen joined a group practice as an interventional physiatrist (sports and spine medicine) at the Spine Institute of Beth Israel Medical Center where Alex Lee ’86 is a colleague. She reports, “Eric and I moved to Weston, Connecticut two years ago and really enjoy the local community. Our daughter Audrey turned two in March and baby number two is due in November. I’m enjoying the mix and it’s definitely never boring.”

Kerry Keener and his wife Dawn celebrated their seventh wedding anniversary this past June. Their daughter Katie Rose (four) and son Braeden Charles (16 months) keep them very busy. For the first time in thirteen years, Kerry will not be coaching basketball. Kerry is the principal at Harwood Elementary School in Sterling Heights, Mich.

Kevin MacKenzie’s wife, Lee Thompson-MacKenzie writes, “Kevin and I had a baby boy named Michael Thomas on March 30, 2003. Taylor, our daughter, is now three years old. Kevin is a patent attorney with Clark Hill in Detroit and I am a kindergarten teacher with Detroit Public Schools.

Pam McCree writes, “I’m living in a high rise in downtown Detroit, loving life more each day. I’m an editor of corporate communications for Kelly Services, putting Ms. Hannett’s AP English to good use! I’m also currently writing my first novel. Whew! What a process! Other than that, I’m still singing in church, and getting stronger in sign language on the church’s deaf ministry. God is awesome!”

Niraj Sarda and Victoria Sarda celebrated the birth of their second daughter. The family currently lives in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. After retiring from Microsoft in 1999, Raman Sarin spent some time traveling with his wife Tina, managing to enjoy trips all over the world, including a most memorable Safari in Kenya and Tanzania. He also spent some time pursuing his hobby of racing and managed to lock up his class for the regional win that year. After spending more time traveling and much time designing and building their house in Washington, Raman and Tina have started a family with the addition of their daughter Audrey Lal in September of 2001. In November of 2002, Raman rejoined Microsoft in the Research division where he explores new ways to conquer the world, or, develop technology. Currently, Raman and Tina spend their time playing with Audrey, taking photographs, doing house projects, and continuing to race whenever possible.

Lee Thompson-MacKenzie writes, “Kevin (MacKenzie) and I just had a baby boy named Michael Thomas on March 30, 2003. Taylor, our daughter, is now three years old. Kevin is a patent attorney with Clark Hill in Detroit and I am a kindergarten teacher with Detroit Public Schools.

Norman Villamin and his wife Dinah welcomed their third child, Nathaniel Jay to their family on July 15. He writes, “Though one month early, we’re already preparing Nathaniel Jay and his two brothers, Dominic (seven) and Zachary (four) to attend DCDS upon our return from our ten-year (and counting) tour of Asia. Before we return, though, we’ll be doing our third posting in Hong Kong having transferred to Morgan Stanley’s global strategy team as the head of Asia-Pacific Equity Strategy. We expect to relocate from Singapore to Hong Kong in early-2004.”

1988

Todd Christy writes, “Beth and I have two sons. Will was born on December 31, 2001 and Andrew was born on February 19, 2003. They keep us moving around the clock! I still practice dentistry in Berrien Springs, Mich. My sister, Lisa Christy ’91, still works with me. My time outside of the office is busy, serving as the Trustee from Southwest Michigan to the Michigan Dental Association Board of Trustees. This past May, I received the New Dentist Leadership Award from the Michigan Dental Association at its annual session. Beth and I hope to make it back with our sons some year for homecoming. Right now, it is a little chaotic to travel with them.”

Sulee Clay and her husband Khari welcomed baby Skyler on January 15, 2003 at 10:49 p.m. She weighed 8lbs., 7.6 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Sulee writes, “Skyler is in perfect health and when she’s not sleeping she’s being an absolute sweetie.”

Dave Curtis started his own business with a partner in 2002. He’s back in Birmingham, Mich. full-time. Dave writes, “It’s good to be home.”

Dan Grand works as a real estate attorney at a commercial real estate company in downtown Chicago. He performs legal work in conjunction with existing and prospective tenants, in addition to heading up the acquisitions department. Most exciting of all, Dan was married in April 2003.

Eric Hersback moved back to the Detroit metro area last April and is working as a test development engineer for Gates Rubber Co. He and his wife Jennifer had a baby girl, Kayden Garner Hersback on April 18.

Dr. Lara Honos-Webb and her husband Kenneth are the proud parents of Kenneth Anthony Webb, III, born on March 25, 2003. Lara, Ken and Kenny live in the San Francisco Bay area, where Lara is a clinical psychologist and in a tenure track assistant professor position at Santa Clara University in the Counseling Psychology Department. Lara and Ken celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary on July 31, 2003.

Albert Klempner and his wife Debbie have two children, Ryan, who started kindergarten this year and Emily, who is three.
Scott Matasar reports, "Since coming to Cleveland four years ago, I've been fortunate enough to have been asked to join the boards of trustees of several non-profit organizations in which I have become involved, including the Board of the Cleveland chapter of the American Jewish Committee (where I co-chair the young leadership group), the Board of the Young Leadership Division of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, and the Board of Trustees of both Congregation B’Nai Jeshurun and the Solomon Schechter Day School, the largest Jewish day school in Cleveland. I also was recently honored at the AJC annual dinner with the Max Freedman Young Leadership Award, given to the outstanding young member of the local AJC chapter; the award comes with a stipend that I am planning to use to attend the national AJC in December of 2003."

Mark Wisnieski and his wife welcomed Noah Alan Wisnieski on January 18, 2003. He joins his brother Maxwell and all early indications point to him being a redhead.

1989

Keith Albertie reports, "The twins are doing great. They celebrated their first birthday September 13, 2003 and Jackie and I finished building a house in Birmingham. RKA Petroleum is doing very well, and growing in a poor economic market." Keith and Jackie celebrated their fourth anniversary on September 4, 2003. Jackie still enjoys working at Mars Advertising.

Ed and Chrissy Honos welcomed the birth of their first child, Grace Knutson Honos, on July 4. They are moving to Boston where Ed will be joining Coppermine Capital as a managing director. Coppermine Capital is a Boston-based private equity firm.

Gregory Johnson’s daughter, Madison Brandt Johnson was born May 9, 2003 at 1:43 pm weighing 8 lbs., 11 oz. She was 20 inches long. She joins brother Spencer Carl Johnson (now three years old).

Sarah Kafi is now living in South Beach (Miami), Fla. after marrying in June 2002. She is in her first year of anesthesiology, after completing a general surgery internship.

Andrew Park writes, "My wife and I are now settled in Dallas and I am starting my practice in spine surgery at Baylor Medical Center. My group's web page is www.ntspinecare.com. My wife, Betty, is doing her residency in dermatology at UT-Southwestern."

Amy Schlussel and her husband Jeff became the proud parents of a baby boy, Jacob, on April 17, 2002. Amy is back to work now, practicing law at Carson Fischer in Birmingham, Mich.

Anup Sinha has taken a job scouting for the San Diego Padres and moved to California in November.

Amara Surakomol writes, "I'm living in Ypsilanti, Mich. and have been working at J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency for almost two years now. I'm a copy writer in the digital web development department where we produce web sites for clients such as Ford and White Castle."

R.J. Thompson and his wife Jill were married in 2003 and spent two weeks honeymooning in Fiji and New Zealand before settling back into their home in Singapore. Ed Honos ’89 was a welcomed part of the wedding party. R.J. has recently been promoted to Global Head of Structured & Alternative Investments for ABN AMRO Bank and will likely be moving to Zurich within the next year to manage the department.

1990

Kurt Bloomhuff and his wife Suzanne are both doctors and have a new baby, Natalie. Natalie is their first child. Kurt recently attended Brian Feldman’s wedding in Michigan.

Joy Chang writes, "After graduating from Harvard Business School in 1999, I moved back to New York City. Since then, I’ve been in marketing at L’Oreal. (Why? Because I’m worth it, of course.)"
On April 23, 2003, Chris Cheatham and his wife Annemarie welcomed their first child into the world. Grace Isabelle Cheatham weighed 7 lbs., 9 oz. They moved back to Michigan this summer where Chris has accepted a professor position at Western Michigan University.

Bela Mehta and her husband, Adhir Shroff, are really enjoying a recent addition to the family. She writes, “On March 23, 2003 we had a baby girl, Maya. We are learning so much from her everyday. We are enjoying living in Boston although we visit Michigan quite often. Our Maya is looking forward to visiting Chicago to play with her new friend, Riya, daughter of classmate Vishali Aggarwal. She also enjoyed celebrating the fall wedding of classmate Aarti Malik to Chirag Shah. Hope all fellow DCD’ers are doing well and enjoying life.”

Shahid Murtuza reports, “I’ve been living for the last two years in Albany, New York, where I’ve been working as a product development chemist for GE Specialty Materials. With me are my Dad and Noma, my dear wife of seven years.”

Bill Ogden recently announced his engagement to Melissa Meiner, a certified athletic trainer at Lapeer West High School. The couple met at the school, where Bill is baseball coach. Bill writes, “Melissa is originally from Nebraska where she graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan in undergrad and the University of Nebraska at Omaha for her master’s degree. To all of the University of Michigan fans, yes, she is an avid Husker fan but she tries to avoid the ’97 debate over the true national college football champion.”

Iris Orbuch writes, “I’m in New York finishing a residency in OB/GYN and will start a fellowship in laparoscopic surgery this fall. My daughter Alexandra just turned one this September. Jennifer Passer Stauber and I have been spending time together.”

Josh Otting was married in May 2002. He is the owner of Apartment Realty & Management, which brokers apartment buildings.

Meena Ramakrishnan recently graduated with her Master’s in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University after finishing her pediatric residency. She recently got engaged and is planning to marry next year. She currently lives with fellow 1990 alum, Monica Gupta, in Baltimore, Maryland. Meena writes, “Anyone in the area is welcome to visit!”

Jennifer Schraut writes “I live in Hamburg Germany with my German/French husband Nils, to whom I’ve been married almost four years. I’m still searching for the perfect career. I worked in construction management & real estate consulting for five years, briefly dabbled in web design and am now studying psychology. Although I love living in Europe, I do get homesick and nostalgic. As time passes, my affection for the people I met and friends and memories I’ve made at DCDS grows. I hope everyone is doing well. Come visit us in Hamburg!”

Scott Sellers writes, “I was passing through Neenah, Wisconsin recently and visited Kurt Bloomhuff. Kurt and his wife, Suzanne, are both doctors and have a new baby, Natalie. Natalie is their first child. Kurt had recently returned from Brian Feldman’s wedding in Michigan.”

Christoff Sjoholm is first Secretary at the Swedish Embassy in Belgrade. He lives in Pristina, Kosovo where he is head of the Swedish International Development Agency, which is financed by the Swedish government to rebuild countries’ infrastructure, power, transportation and telecommunications systems and to rebuild schools. Christoff loves his job and doesn’t know where he will be next.
1991

Erika Butler-Akinyemi was this year’s recipient of the Wolverine Bar Association’s (WBA) Margrette A. Taylor Distinguished Young Lawyer Award, awarded annually to a young WBA member for his or her spirit, dedication, and commitment to excellence in the community and within the legal profession.

After spending a year in Toledo doing a General Practice Residency at the Medical College of Ohio, Lisa Christy relocated to St. Joseph, Mich. and joined her brother Todd Christy’s dental practice. She writes, “Currently I am a member of the Special Committee for the New Dentist for the Michigan Dental Association. I also serve as the Continuing Education Chair for our local Dental Society.”

Wendy Goldberg has been the Artistic Associate and Resident Director at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. for three years. She has directed three mainstage productions for the company (including the recent Book Of Days) and oversees the new play development program called Downstairs@Arena where she has worked with over 50 playwrights (many of whom have garnered the prestigious Pulitzer Prize for Drama as well as Tonys and Obies) developing their newest plays. Her production of Oleanna was voted one of the top five productions in Washington last season by the Washington Post, who, along with CultureFlux, D.C.’s online cultural magazine, also voted her one of the top ten influential cultural figures in Washington. She has traveled throughout the country for her work, directing plays and serving as an artistic advisor/guest lecturer at graduate-level directing and playwriting programs including UC-San Diego, Brown and The Yale School of Drama. This fall she will direct Proof for Arena Stage and travel to L.A. to assistant direct on TV’s Frasier. She finds that being voted “class clown” in form IV has helped her understand comedic timing immeasurably.

In February 2004, Random House will publish Aaron Hamburger’s first book, a collection of short stories titled “The View From Stalin’s Head.”

Myron Potter graduated from Wayne State University Law School in May 2003. He will be moving to Washington, D.C. to take a job with the FBI.

Namratha Ravikan enjoys being a member of the Habitual Offenders Unit in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office.

Lisa Slovis visited DCDS last spring as a visiting artist. Her metalwork is shown in over 35 galleries across the country and in the American Airlines in-flight catalog. You can see Lisa’s work at www.lisaslovis.com. Lisa was married in San Diego on July 27 to David Mandel.

Lori Stec writes, “I am enjoying my residency at Beaumont Hospital. Give me a call if you need an eye exam!”

Dewate Sumetanon writes, “I am in my last year of medical residency of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Loma Linda University in California where I assist in basketball camps and was happy to have DCDS alumni Todd Moore ’91 and Amit Batra ’91 as my students.”

Dr. Abha Gupta Varma completed her residency at U of M where she met her husband Dr. Manish Varma. The couple has since moved to Honolulu, Hawaii, where Abha is a practicing hospitalist. They welcomed their son, Siddharth, in June of this year and are enjoying life in paradise.

1992

Paul Brodhead writes, “I just got married on June 21. I’m beginning my second year of business school this fall at the Peter E. Drucker Graduate School of Management in Claremont, Calif.

The Marginal Prophets, the band I manage, will release its “Bohemian Rap CD” this fall. We’re getting some interest from labels in Europe and Japan. I’m also managing a new guy named MC Lars. He is a 20-year-old rapper, an undergrad at Stanford and a history major. He is signed to Truck Records, a record label in the U.K. Basically he’s a younger, musically talented, West Coast version of yours truly. At this very moment, I am studying Global Strategy and Trade at St. Peter’s in Oxford. It is very exciting and has challenged a lot of my preconceptions about globalism and the future of international trade.”

Michelle Brown and husband Michael D. Brown are the proud parents of a healthy baby girl. Madison Charann Brown was born April 12, 2003 in Royal Oak, Mich. She is the light of her parents’ lives.

Proud and grateful parents Bradley Dock and Julie Dock and big brother Gedalia Avrohom Dock welcomed Elie Meir Dock into the world on April 10th. He weighed in at a healthy 7 lbs., 9 oz. - a new Dock family record! Bradley writes, “We are all doing well, but a bit sleep deprived.”

Mary Beth Dykstra lives in Grand Rapids with her husband Mike. Mike is a teacher and a coach at East Grand Rapids High School. Mary Beth works part time as an Emergency Room nurse. Mary Beth and Mike love every moment with their infant daughter, Jenna Elise.

Chris Goll writes, “I am currently a software developer for the world’s second largest IT company. For the past three years, I have been participating in competitive triathlon events. I am happily married and celebrated my first wedding anniversary in September of 2003.” Congratulations to Chris and his wife, who welcomed the birth of their first child in December of 2003.

Eric Ledieu and his wife, Holly, and children Nicholas (two) and Madeleine (eight months), have returned to Michigan and have settled into Rochester Hills. Eric is celebrating
seven years with Ford Motor Company's Marketing and Sales Division. He is currently the marketing manager for Grand Marquis, Marauder and Montego. He writes, "See you all on campus. Go Jackets!"


Matt Marsden owns his own company, MSM Consulting, an event management and consulting firm. Through this venture, he has worked as lead advance on the Bush/Cheney 2000 campaign, as well as head consultant to the 2000 inaugural balls, the Detroit G-8 Energy Summit and several charity events, local political campaigns and professional sporting events.

Sean Rhyee writes, "I've started my residency in emergency medicine at Cook County Hospital in Chicago and was married to Diane McCartney in October, 2003. I'm still playing bass guitar in local bands."

Joshua Schare defended his thesis in April 2003 and graduated in May 2003. He will be working at Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico, "with widgets that make things go bang."

Rebecca Warkol lives in New York City and is a fourth year medical student applying to do her residency in Internal Medicine. She has been married for three years to Craig Warkol, whom she met on the first day of class freshman year at the University of Michigan. Craig is an attorney for the Securities and Exchange Commission. The couple plans to stay in New York City and writes; "We had a very nice time at the reunion and were sorry that the whole class was not there."

Nikia Williams recently completed her Master's in engineering management from Oakland University.

1993

Tania Couvillion was recently married and moved back to Michigan from Los Angeles.

Matt Currie is a law clerk in Kodiak, Alaska.

Makyha Holt writes, "It has been a busy year. In June 2002, my husband and I both graduated from Harvard Business School, got married at the Ritz-Carlton in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and moved to New York - all in the same month! We wanted to pack it all in to be able to enjoy our last summer of freedom together in Bali, Indonesia before jumping back into the working world again. I find it hard to believe that a year has passed since I started my Marketing Fellowship with WPP."

After five years of engineering, Craig Nastanski got a little bored and went back to school for an MBA. He is in the second year of the MBA program at the University of Michigan and is interning at Intel in the San Francisco area. There are three DCDS grads in the MBA program: Matt Tucker '93, Nick Hailey '92 and Lilly Epstein '96, and all three are strangely in the same class section.
Yamini Nayar writes, "I’m starting my Master’s in the fall at the School of Visual Arts in Photography and Related Media in New York, N.Y. My work is also in a show at the Bose Pacia Modern Gallery in the Chelsea district of Manhattan, which opened August 1 and continued through the month of August."

Mark Peters ’93 daughter, Sara.

Mark Peters writes, “We’re still living in Utah and enjoying it as well as being still in the Air Force working with the 4th Fighter Squadron, ‘The Fightin’ Fuujins’. We did not deploy for the current Iraqi Freedom operation but I was in Kuwait last summer for “Operation Southern Watch.” On the social side, I’ve been competing in some of the local Highland games and learning how to throw a caber (A 14-17 foot, 70-110 pound wooden pole). My wife still insists the best part of these games is that I have to wear a kilt.”

Daniel Pontes writes, “Aloha, long lost DCDS alumn! After graduating from the Bates College in 1997 with a Bachelor’s degree in history, I came out to San Francisco with my wife Jillian. We were married in June 2002. After a few mind-numbing dot.com jobs, and the subsequent dot.economy implosion, I took a job at a video game publisher and have been working here happily for a couple of years. I’m also in my first year of law school at the University of San Francisco’s night program. I keep busy by surfing and training for my first marathon. Drop me a line if you’re ever out here in the bay area.”

Heather Shenkman was married in May. She now resides in Rochester, N.Y. where she is completing a cardiology fellowship at University of Rochester.

Tom Shin is in the first year of his radiology residency at the University of Virginia.

Scott Wallace and his wife Kathryn had their first child on April 29, 2003. Jackson Scott Wallace weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz., and was 20 inches long.

1994

Berge Avesian writes, “I am currently working at Northwestern Mutual as a financial representative after finishing my Master’s in finance. I am living in Berkley, Mich., and still a reserve Police Officer for the City of Birmingham.”

Jessica Becker and her husband Jaramia recently moved to Holland, Michigan to partner in a Quizno’s franchise in downtown Holland. Jessica writes, “If anyone comes into town, stop in. It’d be really nice to see a familiar face. Jaramia left his engineering position to run the store. I found a position as a customer development engineer at Autocam in Kentwood, Mich. Our first child was born in September 2003, and we built a new home in time for the arrival. There’s a lot going on for us right now, but it’s all very exciting. We look forward to what each new day brings.”

Cherie Darnel writes, “Hello from Colorado! I’m working for Research Systems, Inc., a software company in Boulder. I work as a Remote Sensing Specialist in the Technical Support Engineering department. My husband, Eric, works for Ball Aerospace as an Antenna Design Engineer. We just bought a house this past spring and are looking forward to seeing how well our garden fares in this dry climate. We also have two cats, one rambunctious puppy, and one dwarf hamster to keep us busy when we’re not out hiking, biking, or running. We both ran the Bolder Boulder 10K this past spring, and Eric ran the Pike’s Peak Marathon in August. Please feel free to say hello at: cherie_darnel@yahoo.com.

Naim Farah graduated from the Kellogg School of Management and recently became engaged.

Philip Higuera writes, “I was diagnosed with testicular cancer in late February 2003. I underwent surgery and radiation treatment, and the outlook is good. I am back exploring and skiing again in the Cascades and I give my deepest thanks to all in the DCDS community who have contacted me and given me words of support!”

Skillman Scholar alum, William L. Johnson II, ’94, earned Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan.

After graduating from The University of Michigan with a Bachelor’s degree in English, Aruna Khilanani received a Master’s in English from the University of Chicago, where she focused on critical race theory, gender theory, Marxist critique, and post-colonial studies. She is currently attending Medical School at the University of Illinois at Chicago as well as working at the show “Odyssey” on National Public Radio, a show that investigates the production of academic ideas and attempts to make them accessible to a mainstream audience. She hopes to pursue academic work at the juncture where medicine intersects race, gender, politics, sexuality, and class. She is heavily engaged in leftist politics and says she is glad and excited to run into DCDS alumni at various talks and protests in Chicago, Washington D.C. and New York!
Jason Najor resides in Commerce Township with his wife and two daughters. After graduating from Wayne State with a marketing degree, he became owner of Super Fair Cellular, a wholesaler of cellular phones that distributes worldwide.

Rachel Tiemey Brown writes, "After attending NYU for undergrad and graduate school and receiving a Master’s in social work, I continued to live and work as a psychotherapist in New York City until 2001. After my marriage to Matthew Tierney in September of 2001, we relocated to Ann Arbor, Mich. to live closer to my family. We welcomed daughter Ruby into our family on Halloween, 2002. I am thoroughly enjoying life as a stay-at-home mom, and look forward to re-entering my field sometime in the future."

1995

Elizabeth Khalil writes, "I’ve had a few DCDS-alumni encounters in recent days. I went to Denver for the wedding of Samantha Stallos ’90 in September. When I started my job at the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, one of the other lawyers I met was Saumya Bhavsar ’94. We both work in the Enforcement & Compliance division."

Abby Marsden is working as an account executive at Campbell and Co., an event marketing firm located in Dearborn, Mich., where she plans and executes events for Ford Racing at various motorsport events across the country.

Chris Nogoy will be receiving his master of architecture degree from the University of California, Berkeley in the spring of 2004. He is currently developing his own furniture design and fabrication studio called Speedwobble (www.speedwobble.com). However, he says the real reason he is in California is for the snowboarding and surfing in the winter as well as the rock climbing and backpacking in the summer.

Rachel Tiemey Brown ’94 with husband Michael and daughter Ruby.

Kristen Swan lives in Chicago and attends graduate school at the University of Chicago. She plans to graduate this spring with a Master’s degree in social work. Kristen was married in August 2003 to Nick Swan.

Torri-Ja ’Net Trice recently graduated from medical school and is an OB-GYN. She was married to Leon Kirk Pierce on May 31, 2003 in Gainesville, Florida.

1996

Kevin Berger writes, "After graduating from the University of Virginia in May 2000 with a Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering, I moved to Florida to pursue an airline pilot position. After eight months I returned to Washington, D.C. to perform engineering consulting for US Airways and I enjoy traveling to all of their cities for projects. I am currently pursuing a Master’s in urban and regional transportation planning at Virginia Tech. I was married this past July 2003 in Charlottesville, Virginia to my wife, Katie, and we reside in Alexandria. Hope everyone is doing well."

Andrea Desy writes, "Upon graduation from New York University in 2000, I have continued to work for ABC in New York, where I am also the chairperson of the Elderly Committee for our Volunteer Initiatives program. I got engaged to Jonathan Straub of Haverford, Penn. on December 14, 2002, and we were married on August 30, 2003 in Bermuda. Hope all my fellow alumni are doing well!"

Amit Doshi graduated from Harvard University in June 2000 with an A.B. in economics. He worked for two years in investment banking at Goldman Sachs in New York City and now works in private equity investing at Madison Dearborn Partners in Chicago.

Sara Garn writes, "Alex and I absolutely love married life! After a short 11 months in O’ahu, Hawaii, the U.S. Army Rangers hired Alex and we moved to Savannah, Georgia. I am currently in search of a teaching position and a Master’s program in education. We have met and made some great friends and are enjoying living in the historic district of Savannah. We are looking forward to many of our friends and family coming to visit us. Best of luck to the class of 1996!"

Amber Hassan was married in June 2002 and relocated to Cincinnati.

Amar Katranji writes, "I’m graduating from University of Michigan School of Dentistry in the spring. I am engaged to be married to Nour Abdel-Baki, a beautiful French woman from Paris. I will be applying to residency programs in the field of periodontics (gum disease) and miss the good ‘ol days at DCDS."

Ajay Khilanani graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor’s degree in English in 2000 and has been working as a consultant since. He began medical school in the fall and continues to keep in touch with many of his good friends from Country Day.

After graduating from Denison University with a degree in environmental studies and a concentration in communications, Julie Jones moved to Washington D.C. for an internship with a congressman from Ohio. After her internship, Julie worked as a project manager for an environmental law firm that promotes sustainable agriculture. Since moving to D.C., she has run two marathons - the first in D.C., which qualified her to run the Boston marathon last spring. Other than running, she is gardening behind her house on Capitol Hill, and spending time with her boyfriend, Peer Stein.

Sneha Madhavan-Reese writes, "I’m still at U of M studying for my Ph.D. in mechanical engineering. My husband and I are enjoying life at our new home in Superior Township."
Jaunique Sealey graduated from Harvard Law School in June and now resides in Washington D.C. where she is currently employed as Vice President of Business Affairs at Three Keys Music – a D.C.-based record label co-owned by Robert Johnson, the CEO of Black Entertainment Television. She writes, “Our first major release was on September 23 - the artist’s name is Yahzarah and she is a former background singer for Erykah Badu. We’re very excited and hope for much success.”

Stacy Shapiro writes, “I have been living in Denver, Colo. for the past two and a half years and loving it. In May, I received my teaching certificate in Elementary Education at the University of Denver and currently am finishing up my Master’s degree. I only have six more credits until I have my Master’s in education with a focus strand in aesthetic education. I am also staying very active playing soccer, volleyball, hiking, mountain biking, skiing (in the winter of course) and anything else I have the opportunity to participate in.”


1997

Emilie Brion has returned to her homeland of France, where she is teaching English in a private Parisian school. Her students are between eight and ten years old.

Autumn Collier-Fleming writes, “I am now working as a first officer at Chautauqua Airlines, a prosperous regional airline for Delta, U.S. Airways and American Airlines. I don’t know where I am going to be based yet, but we fly throughout the Midwest and East coast.

On Saturday, August 2, 2003, Gina Dawson wed Sean Patchell at St. Hugo of the Hills in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Sean and Gina met while students at Michigan State University, where Sean was a member of the Men’s Hockey team. Korbi Ghosh ’97 was Gina’s maid of honor, while Nikki Karchon ’97 and Juliana Khalifeh ’97 were also in the wedding party.

Erin Eisenberg writes, “I am still living in Seattle and absolute love it here. Currently, I’m managing a software library for one of the larger companies here in town and I’m working on my novels. If anyone’s in town, I’d love to hear from you!”

Hilde Heremans and Albert Leija were married on June 28, 2003. They are happily living in Dearborn, Mich.

Kris Richardson writes, “I graduated from Princeton University in June 2003 and entered a Ph.D. program in Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan in the fall.

Christian Sparling writes, “I just finished a two-year commitment with Teach for America, teaching first and second grade in the South Bronx, New York. The experience was very challenging and truly rewarding. Currently, I am drumming in a rock band called Hello Nurse and moved to Brooklyn in August.”

Walter Ward writes, “I graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's degree in advertising and an emphasis on public relations. I am currently an advertising sales rep with SBC Ameritech. I am the number one sales representative in my office and am twelfth company wide (in the five-state Ameritech region) out of 414 reps. I also do business and marketing consulting on the small-business level. I conduct a free workshop once a month on how to advertise the small- to medium- sized business. My workshop takes place at Fairlane Mall. For more info, classmates can call me at (313) 461-6181 or e-mail me at wward17@sprintpcs.com. Tell everyone I said hey! Class of ’97 forever!”

1998

Rachel Avesian recently received her degree in apparel and textile design from Michigan State University and is currently working in retail sales.

Val Howard graduated from the University of Michigan in April 2002 with a Bachelor's degree in economics and organizational studies. She is currently working for Citibank, but will be moving to Miami in late 2003 to pursue her singing, songwriting and modeling career. She will attend the MBA program at the University of Miami Graduate School.

Divya Jain graduated in December 2002 from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor's degree in biology and economics. She writes, “I’m headed off to the Chicago area to go to medical school at Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (CCOM), part of Midwestern University. Other than that, I’ve been enjoying my time working, vacationing, and hanging out.”
Diana Mottram writes, "I graduated from King’s College, University of London on July 22 with a First Class Honours Degree in English Language and Literature. It was a wonderful day on the South Bank with the sun shining (for once) across the Thames, which made all the hard work seem worthwhile. The whole family is living in England for a short while, (until my parents return to the U.S. to live a life of leisure). It is so great to hear that everyone is doing so well, and I sincerely hope that you are all happy and healthy. I just wish I could return for the reunion! Oh well, have a drink on me!"

Joe Talia writes, "I am now working as an analyst for Credit Suisse First Boston's Global and Industrial Services Group in its Investment Banking Division in Chicago. The hours are long, but I'm learning a lot."

Kate Talierday reports, "I am currently serving as a Peace Corps Trainee in Mongolia. On August 23, I swore in for two years of volunteer service. I am living in Nairamdal Zuljan, a community situated in the beautiful Byangol Valley, 30 minutes north of the capital of Mongolia, Ulaan Baatar. My main assignment is to develop and help implement an environmental ecology curriculum for the International Children's Center located here."

Elizabeth Wilkie recently moved to London for six months. She hopes that after her stay in London, she'll be moving to Ireland.

Angela Yu is pursuing her Master's in architecture at the University of Michigan. She writes that she is loving life, and is currently engaged to her childhood sweetheart, Kermit the Frog.

1999

Mike Cartwright graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in computer engineering. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and captain of the varsity cheerleading squad as an undergraduate. He returned in the fall of 2003 to pursue a graduate degree in the same course of study.

Skip Dise writes, "Right now is actually a pretty dynamic time! I recently graduated with a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from MIT, where I served as the team captain of the 11th ranked (nationally) MIT Men's Varsity Lightweight Crew Team. This year, I'll be driving across the country to San Diego, where I will attend graduate school at UCSD. Until then, I'll be finishing work on my first patent disclosure from my research project in the Department of Orthopaedic Research at Bringhman and Women's Hospital. Overall, I'm excited about the prospect of living in southern California.

Ryan Gittelman transferred from Eastern Michigan University to a specialty school of Recording Arts for Audio Engineering and Production in Orlando, Florida. He currently produces music as an artist and engineer.

After graduating from MIT with Bachelor's degrees in chemistry and biology, Andrew Goldsweig moved to New York City. He now spends his time playing Ultimate Frisbee while setting aside a few moments to work on an M.D. at NYU Medical School. Andrew is also active in his synagogue, Adereth El, of 29th Street.

Danielle Haggins graduated from the University of Michigan in April and will be moving to Columbus, Ohio this fall to begin working on her Master's in psychology at Ohio State University.
Heidi Herrgott writes, “I graduated from Michigan State University in December with a degree in child development and early elementary education. While a student at MSU, I worked for Governor Granholm.”

Paul Hudson writes, “I graduated from Cornell University this May. On June 28, I got married to Jennifer Roberts (whom I met at Cornell), and we have since moved to Arlington, Virginia. Jen is working for a defense consulting company and I attend law school at George Washington University.”

Darren King took time off before his senior year at the University of Michigan to pursue his first love – missionary work – among the Ainu of Hokkaido. He recently returned to Ann Arbor as a senior to finish his degree in cell and molecular biology.

Rebecca Lewis graduated from law school in the United Kingdom, and is now considering taking either the New York or California bar exams. She hopes to practice in the U.K. in the immediate future, but is considering applying for positions in Malaysia and Mauritius.

Rajeev Mahajan graduated from Johns Hopkins University in May 2003 with a Bachelor’s degree in biology. He is co-captain of the varsity track and field team at Hopkins. He also bicycled across the country to raise money to fund cancer research. He participated in the trip, called the Hopkins 4K for Cancer, as a team leader. There were 24 riders biking to raise money for the American Cancer Society and to raise cancer awareness. For more information go to the group website at http://www.hopkins4k.org.”

Zachary Myers recently graduated from Stanford and is currently attending George Washington University’s Graduate School of Political Management. He writes, “I’m studying all sorts of cool political stuff, and working on the Hill in Rep. Julia Carson’s (D-IN) office. Hope everyone’s doing well.”

Anuja Tolia graduated from Michigan State University in May 2003 and is now moving to New York City. She is applying to the Fashion Institute Of Technology and Parsons to receive her associate’s degree in fashion design.

Logan Wert is in his fourth of eight years as an Oakland University Golden Grizzly, majoring in food science. He considers himself the “social director” on campus, and can be found at many of the local pubs. As an entrepreneur, Logan and fellow Country Day grad Michael Runyan ’99 have opened a muffin store in East Lansing and are hoping to expand as far as San Francisco. Logan writes, “look out for a Luvin Muffins near you.” Logan was recently engaged to Brianna Levin and the couple hopes to wed this spring.

Kevin Zanjani writes, “in December 2002, I graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan. Engineering in general is pretty rigorous, but you manage to pull through. The initial transition to a large university can be challenging - but in hindsight U of M was a great experience in terms of the programs and camaraderie amongst students. After graduation, I took a position as a system engineer with RF Technology Group, LLC in West Bloomfield, Mich., where I spent about six months working on RFID-related (radio frequency identification) technologies. These devices are being used in manufacturing, process, and retail industries for traceability, process control, logistics, and supply chain management applications.

2000

Rebecca Allen began her senior year at Spelman College this fall, where she is a psychology major. Rebecca is a Dean’s Academic Scholar, a member of the college honors program, the psychology department honors program and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She is a Morehouse College cheerleader and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

B.J. Hamon writes, “I am graduating from Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Sciences in May 2004, and applying to law school in the fall. At Columbia, I served as two-year president of Black Students Organization, was a two-time King’s Crown exceptional leader award recipient, president of Omicron Chapter Kappa Alpha Psi, and national representative for fraternity.” B.J. also was noted as one of the top 20 senior leaders at Columbia. He currently works for Dewey Ballantine LLP as a training and professional development intern.

Ciara Jackson is a senior at Xavier University of Louisiana University, in New Orleans, and is a biology and pre-med student. Currently, she is involved with the Senior Class Executive board as secretary. Ciara also holds the position of parliamentarian/historian in the club, Minority Association for Pre-health Students (MAPS). She is currently pursuing a medical career.

Wes Kania is in his fourth year at Oberlin College, majoring in applied mathematics, computer science and philosophy. He is a senior resident assistant and is starting his third season on the varsity baseball team. He is also working on starting a magazine that encompasses all aspects of literary and visual arts, and hopes to start a mock trial team.

Seema Kaura is in her fourth year at Johns Hopkins University and studied abroad in Paris this fall.
Patrick Kim is a senior at Columbia University, majoring in engineering management systems and minoring in economics. He is a member of the Psi Upsilon fraternity.

Michael McGavin will graduate in the spring of 2004 with a Bachelor’s degree in accounting and math at Hillsdale College. He finished his junior year making both the fall and spring Dean’s lists and is also the vice president of the accounting club. He helped lead the Hillsdale baseball team to post-season play and one of the best seasons in school history by playing all 48 games at second base and finishing the season with a .311 batting average. Currently, he is working toward 150 credit hours so he can sit for the CPA exam next year. He writes, “my e-mail is mwmcgavin@hillsdale.edu and I would like to hear from some former classmates.”

Stephanie Sasson’s new film, “As Daylight Breaks” premiered on May 19, 2003 in New York City at a benefit for Jacob’s Cure, which supports Canavan disease. Stefanie’s involvement in the project is profiled on page 26 in this issue of Beehive.

Crystal Talia is a senior at Michigan State University, majoring in merchandising management.

2001

Mason Duke is doing very well at Indiana University. He was admitted to the Kelley School Business Honors program, and recently won a business plan competition for Steak ‘n Shake restaurants. The summer was very busy. He completed an internship at Metrobank, a small bank in Farmington Hills, Mich. He then studied architecture and history in London for part of the summer.

Jennifer Jackson spent the summer studying in Paris. This fall she entered her third year at the University of Michigan.

Jamie Ormond is pursuing a degree in political science at McGill University in Montreal. She finds specializing in Middle Eastern, African and United States politics from a non-American vantage is truly enlightening. She decided not to partake in the Quebec National Sport of Moving Day this July, instead opting to remain in her apartment for another year. She recently began her second term as the publicity director of the McGill Outdoors Club where this spring she produced the first-ever MOC yearbook recounting many of the shenanigans of the 2002-2003 school year, as well as her third year as a councilor for the Women’s Union. Due to the extreme Montreal cold, which lasts most of the school year, she has taken up snowboarding and hopes to become awesome.

Laurel Roberts is having a great time at Stanford and has fallen in love with the warm weather and California lifestyle. She enjoyed being a summer R.A., president of the Stanford Craft Guild and a member of Chi Omega sorority. Laurel looks forward to spending a month in Nepal, a quarter studying in Australia and a quarter studying in Monterey. She is pursuing a major in Human Biology and a minor in Creative Writing.

Mike Tsimis writes, “I began my junior year at Johns Hopkins University this fall, where I am a member of the American Mock Trial Association and have been involved in a tutorial project for elementary school students in Baltimore. I am also a member of the Rugby Football Club, which qualified for playoffs twice last year. I am working at Johns Hopkins medical center/department of Neurology doing research for the last year and a half. The JHU department of Neuroscience (undergraduate division) inducted me into the Neuroscience Honor Society Nu Rho Psi, in March 2003. This summer I worked at the University of Crete in Greece in the medical center for the department of endocrinology doing research for one month.”

Lauren Wolfe spent her summer interning in Washington D.C. She currently serves as president of her house and as president of the Smith College Democrats.

2003

Adam Kenney finished his stellar DCDS lacrosse career by competing in the National High School All-Star game, held in conjunction with the National Youth Festival sponsored by U.S. Lacrosse in Binghampton, New York in June. Adam, who holds nearly every single career offensive record in DCDS lacrosse, as well as numerous season records, continued to display his scoring prowess by leading the West team to an 18-9 victory over the South team. Adam recorded two goals and two assists, exhibiting his trademark offensive balance. A captain of the 2003 State Championship team, Adam also garnered All-American honors for his 2003 season and is the third DCDS “LAXer” to be selected to the prestigious All-Star game. He joins his brother Nathan Kenney ’01 and Lee Skandalaris ’00. Adam attends Penn State on a lacrosse scholarship.

Last spring, Garen Wolff was one of ten high school seniors in the country selected to receive the Yoshiyama Award for Exemplary Community Service. As part of her award, she participated in four days of intensive leadership training at a resort in Washington, D.C. She also was a regional winner of the Kohl’s Kid’s Who Care Award and was selected by Wellesley for the Howard Hughes Scholarship. Don’t forget to view Garen’s website at: www.cityprepilisitas.com.
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