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Cover design: Simone Larson Design
On the cover: Stevens alumni have served the military and our nation for generations.
Photo of Air Force veteran Angie Hankins ’95 by Jim Gensheimer
Photo of Air Force Brigadier Gen. (retired) John Cherrey ’88 by John O’Boyle
Patrick Alfonzo ’10 M.Eng. ’14, Trophy Room

“This stained glass dome is located in Esso Great Hall, part of the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto, known for where the Stanley Cup is displayed. While the crowds were focused on the trophy, I was fixated on the ceiling. I’m inspired by minor details or subjects often overlooked.” For more alumni photography, see page 32.
This past summer, July 1 marked the beginning of my ninth year as president of Stevens Institute of Technology. During my introduction to Stevens almost ten years ago — and as I became more familiar with the university, its history, its alumni, its strengths and challenges and its particular niche in the engineering, science and technology higher education ecosystem — I became increasingly convinced that the university had enormous potential. Eight years later, our progress has been nothing short of remarkable, and I am more confident than ever that Stevens has a very special role to play in the future of higher education and in society.

Early in my tenure as president, the entire Stevens community came together to develop an ambitious, ten-year strategic plan. Its goal was to become “a premier, student-centric, technological research university.” After seven years of implementation, Stevens has achieved the distinction of being one of the fastest-rising universities in the nation. We have worked to enhance the academic profile of students and increase enrollment, as well as increase the size and prestige of the faculty, and the scope and impact of our research enterprise. In addition, we have made significant infrastructure and technological improvements even while strengthening the financial foundations of the university. We have also made enormous strides in re-engaging alumni in Stevens’ mission and activities. Alumni have been pivotal to our progress in nearly every area of Stevens’ ascent. One tangible symbol of renewed alumni engagement is the success of Stevens’ most ambitious fundraising campaign in its history, The Power of Stevens, which has raised more than $166 million toward its $200 million goal.

As the “inputs” of Stevens have increased — including a 190% growth in applications and a 140-point rise in average SAT scores since 2011 — so have the “outputs.” The added value of a Stevens education is evident: 96% of undergraduates, year-over-year, have accepted employment (many with multiple job offers), entered graduate school or achieved other outcomes within six months of graduation. Preliminary employment reports from the Class of 2019 also indicate a new record average starting salary of $77,000, which is 50% above the national average. And, because Stevens is enrolling the highest caliber of students who are pursuing a rigorous academic program and who benefit from an outstanding support system, Stevens’ graduation rate continues to climb. Our graduation rate now stands at 87%, which is 27 points above the national average.

While much progress has been made, there is still much more to do. A key priority in the coming years will be to build our endowment and continue to improve operational efficiencies in order to make a Stevens education as accessible and affordable to as many talented students as possible. We are focused, too, on increasing the prestige of our graduate programs and recruiting students of the highest caliber from the U.S. and around the world. And, directly related to our graduate programs is our goal to grow our research enterprise. The size of our faculty has grown 36% since 2011; new faculty possess expertise in emerging fields from financial analytics and digital innovation to artificial intelligence and machine learning, to brain-computer interfaces to energy storage, wearable sensors, robotics, among many other technology-based fields. These faculty will be the catalysts for achieving Stevens’ preeminence in key research domains.

On college campuses across the country, fall is a time of renewal and reinvigoration. I start my ninth academic year at Castle Point with a profound appreciation for all who have enabled the tremendous progress that Stevens has experienced, and a sense of anticipation for what lies ahead.

Finally, as we mark Veterans Day later this fall, we will honor our country’s veterans and our active duty military, among them generations of Stevens alumni, some of whom you will meet in this issue of The Indicator. For their sacrifices, the sacrifices of their families and for their extraordinary sense of duty to our country, we offer our most heartfelt appreciation.

Thank you for your engagement and support of Stevens.

Per aspera ad astra,

President, Stevens Institute of Technology
president@stevens.edu
201-216-5213
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BRAVO TO TODAY’S STEVENS

I am delighted to see the issue (Spring/Summer 2019) dedicated to the Stevens women graduates. Our world society of 7.7 billion population needs to accept the equal status of women and men. Stevens can be among those leading the way! To top this off, our Stevens President Nariman Farvardin is probably one of the most outstanding persons of our age — in many ways. In the short eight-year tenure of his leadership at Stevens, it is amazing the growth and achievements that Stevens has achieved. Stevens is outstanding in every respect. There is no way to compare Stevens of my days in the 1940s to the Stevens today. The ability of Stevens’ graduates today is mind boggling. — Lou Shook ‘48

MORE WOMEN LEADERS NEEDED

The Stevens Indicator is one of the best crafted and comprehensive magazines that I have the pleasure of reading. The quality of the articles, the photography and artwork and the general flow are all exceptional. Besides interesting content, it is a publication with many “pictures of people” — yes, a world of faces versus our cellphones and electronics. Fantastic! Just a few points about the Spring/Summer ’19 issue: the new university center/residential towers will be outstanding; “Faces for the Future” — a clear focus on women with tremendous skills and accomplishments; and having a woman dean for the School of Engineering and Science is incredible, and it makes a fantastic statement about Stevens. We need to have more women in leadership and influencing roles. — Paul Fein M.S. ’90

SELMA ROSSEN’S PHOTO

Page 43 of the Spring/Summer 2019 Indicator wanted to know what Selma Rossen M.Eng. ’68 was working on in the photo. I believe the top unit is an ADT digital dialer receiver, used to receive alarm messages from premises that ADT protects. The bottom unit is a printer. I worked at ADT for 18 years and for Selma for a few years. — Bob Sheahan ’77 M.Eng. ’88

With regards to your question about the “machine” Ms. Rossen is working on, I feel the need to comment on your use of words. You can do a web search on the meaning of the word “machine” and on the word “instrument” and realize that she is very clearly not working on a machine. English is a rich language and many words have precise meanings. The precise meanings seem like something that a journalist should embrace. Stevens Institute is primarily an engineering college and, as such, an understanding of this distinction should be a central skill for their communications group. — Joe Dumais M.S. ’85

SOCIAL MEDIA

The caps at Commencement are always a hit on social media, as students across all disciplines display their creativity … and their disdain for student loans. Check out the full cap collection from Commencement 2019 at Instagram.com/p/Bx0Im-uni3W/ and more Commencement coverage on page 4.

Also, check out Atilla’s moves on our new Giphy account, @followstevens!

Has anyone else on campus made an impact on your day? Use #StevensFamily to show your appreciation to the people who make Stevens your home away from home!
CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2019

Stevens commemorated the graduation of approximately 1,700 undergraduate and graduate students during the university’s 147th Commencement ceremonies at the Meadowlands Expo Center in Secaucus, New Jersey, on May 22. Laura Bilodeau Overdeck, founder and president of Bedtime Math Foundation, gave the undergraduate commencement address and was awarded an honorary doctor of engineering degree. Three students were recognized as First in Class: Justin Barish, Matthew McCreesh and Carolina Velasquez. These students all graduated with a perfect GPA of 4.0. At the graduate ceremony, Frank Sorrentino III, founder and CEO of ConnectOne Bank, addressed the graduates, and professor Kishore Pochiraju, associate dean for undergraduate studies in the Schaefer School of Engineering and Science, was awarded an honorary master of engineering degree.

ZU NAMED AMONG CRAIN’S NOTABLE WOMEN IN TECH

Dr. Jean Zu, dean of the Schaefer School of Engineering and Science and Stevens’ first female and Asian dean, was recognized for her outstanding leadership and scholarship as a Crain’s New York Business’ 2019 Notable Woman in Tech. Zu, who joined Stevens in 2017, was instrumental in the creation of the Stevens Institute for Artificial Intelligence—Stevens’ first truly interdisciplinary research center. She is also committed to expanding the Schaefer School’s research enterprise by building a faculty with diverse perspectives. Of her 36 new hires in the last two years, ten are female and many are early-career researchers. Zu says that she will continue to pursue increased representation as she plans for the future. “It is important for students to have role models they can identify with,” she says.
STEVENs TEAM RISES TO NASA’S CHALLENGe
The Stevens team of Jonathan Bobkov ’19, Ann Collins ’19, James Furrer ’19, Arjun Krishna ’19, Dana Roe ’19 and Nicholas Sorrentino ’19, one of ten finalists to compete in NASA’s Moon to Mars Ice & Prospecting Challenge, placed second behind West Virginia University and ahead of MIT, which received honorable mention, in the final competition in Langley, Virginia, this past June. Along with the outstanding placement, the team’s prototype — a semi-autonomous drilling and water extraction robot capable of extracting water from ice deposits buried beneath simulated lunar or Martian soil — was awarded for having the “clearest water” and the most accurate “digital core.”

For the full story, visit stevens.edu/marschallenge

TOP NATIONAL RANKING FOR MID-CAREER SALARIES
Stevens alumni whose highest degree is a bachelor’s earn among the highest mid-career salaries in the nation, ranking No. 13 with a median mid-career salary of $139,900 after 10 years of experience in a field, according to PayScale’s 2019-20 College Salary Report. Stevens is ranked as the top New Jersey school on the list, which was published this past August. PayScale Inc., a provider of on-demand compensation data and software, sampled data from more than 3.5 million full-time, degree-holding employees. The sample included 1,736 schools for people with only a bachelor’s degree; of those schools, 305 were designated research universities. Stevens also topped a number of other lists based on mid-career salary potential, ranking No. 5 among top research universities in the nation, such as Harvard, Stanford and California Institute of Technology.
GRIST FROM THE MILL

DISCUSSING ENGINEERING EDUCATION’S FUTURE

Mike Murphy M.Eng. ’82 Ph.D. ’87, president of the European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI), and Stephanie Farrell M.Eng. ’92, past president of the American Society for Engineering Education, visited Castle Point this past spring to meet with Stevens academic leaders and to tour the campus. They also sat down with Stevens Alumni Association President Victoria Velasco ’04 for a conversation focused on the future of engineering education. Murphy is academic registrar and director of academic affairs, digital and learning transformation, at Technological University Dublin, and Farrell is a professor and founding chair of the Department of Experiential Engineering Education at Rowan University in New Jersey.

To view their video interview, visit stevens.edu/twopresidents

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Stevens alumni save 25% on StevensOnline graduate programs. stevens.edu/alumnidiscount
ZENG JOINS AS VICE PROVOST
Dr. David Zeng joined Stevens as Vice Provost for Academic Innovation and Faculty Affairs in August. Zeng had served on Case Western Reserve University’s faculty since 2000 and as chair of the Department of Civil Engineering since 2009, doubling department enrollment and raising the percentage of female department faculty from zero to 33%. He is a leading expert on soil mechanics and dynamics, contributing to NASA’s lunar and Mars exploration program.

BIG IDEAS, BOLD SOLUTIONS AT INNOVATION EXPO
More than 550 students exhibited 188 senior design projects at the annual Innovation Expo on May 3. A solar-powered boat, a smart contact lens for glaucoma patients, a school security system designed to detect active shootings and a space-bound rocket were just a few of the inventions showcased this year. Alumni played key roles at the event. Cryptocurrency expert Bill Barhydt ’90, founder and CEO of Abra, delivered the Thomas H. Scholl Lecture by Visiting Entrepreneurs, and Dawn Ortell ’77 and YouTube tech influencer Marques Brownlee ’15 served on the judges’ panel for the newly named Ansary Entrepreneurship Competition (formerly known as the student elevator pitch competition). Two teams — Castle Point Rocketry and LifeSkills Software — tied for first place, splitting a prize award of $15,000.

MAKING WAVES AT SOLAR SPLASH COMPETITION
At the world championship of intercollegiate solar-electric boating, the Stevens student team, comprising recent graduates Matthew Colacino ’19, Victoria Davis ’19, Megan Hand ’19, Justin Sitler ’19 and Melanie Valentin ’19, along with naval engineering junior Joey Lodge, garnered multiple awards at the 2019 Solar Splash competition in Springfield, Ohio, in June. They placed third overall; first for technical report; second in the qualifying event, the 300-meter sprint and for solar endurance; and third for visual display. In addition, they received recognition for outstanding electrical system design. The team’s participation marks Stevens’ third appearance in the international competition.

THE POWER OF A SINGLE VOICE
At the Provost Lecture Series on Women in Leadership held on Stevens’ campus in April, Dr. Menah Pratt-Clarke, vice president for strategic affairs and diversity at Virginia Tech, delivered a compelling talk about the power of a single voice to disrupt the status quo. Pratt-Clarke shared lessons she learned from her mother — a granddaughter of slaves who rose to become a tenured professor of social work — and spoke about the importance of living an impactful life as part of a wide-ranging talk titled, “The Power of One Woman’s Voice.”

To read more, visit stevens.edu/expo2019
To read more, visit stevens.edu/solarsplash
For the full story, visit stevens.edu/pratt-clarke
Close to 300 Stevens alumni are believed to now be serving their country — men and women representing all five branches of the U.S. armed forces, military and civilian, at locations around the world. Others — spanning generations of alumni — are veterans of most of this country’s 20th- and 21st-century conflicts; and still many others served in peacetime. Among them: a Navy submarine commander, an Air Force brigadier general, Marine Corps officers and a survivor of the anguishing attack and sinking of the USS Indianapolis at the end of World War II. Those now serving their country hold many job titles: computer scientist, pilot, language analyst, naval architect, physician, cybersecurity expert. For generations, Stevens alumni have worked with military research laboratories and engineering centers across the country. And today, the university, with its long history of military research and training programs, continues to support students who are veterans through the Yellow Ribbon Program and the Stevens Veterans Office. We honor our veterans and active duty military, some of whom you will meet in this issue, for their sacrifices, for the sacrifices their families have made, and for their profound sense of duty to our country. Stevens military alumni have...
Air Force Major John Golden ’09 inside a HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter, Moody Air Force Base, Georgia. Read more on page 31.
A CONVERSATION WITH ONE OF STEVENS’ MOST COLORFUL CHARACTERS

ON THOSE WHO INFLUENCED HIM
He describes his grandmother, Filomena Lombardi, with pure adoration. “She was a human tornado. She went no further than the equivalent of second grade in Italy, and was the best Italian cook.” He explains that she came to the U.S. at 19, eventually opening her own yarn shop on Ditmars Avenue in Queens, New York. “She used to say when you close one door, knock another down,” he says, followed by his signature laugh.

He keeps his grandfather close, too. “They were from the same village in Italy, within a mile, but didn’t meet until they got here. I keep his naturalization (papers) in my day planner to remind me of where I came from.”

Then there’s Gunnery Sergeant Jimmy B. Shells. “He’s built like a 6’4” fire hydrant, with five rows of campaign ribbons, and he talked out the side of his mouth with a Philly accent.” Shells taught Lombardi two important lessons he’s carried with him: “No. 1, you don’t get time back, so don’t waste it; and No. 2, figure out what gifts you’ve got and how to use them to do good.

“Shells remains, along with my grandmother, the best teacher I’ve ever had and the smartest person I’ve ever met in my life.”

ON HIS MILITARY SERVICE
Having skipped his senior year of high school, Lombardi was an 18-year-old sophomore at Fordham University, coaching the Fordham JV football team and working as a janitor (“It kept me humble because the students would see me on the field and by the time they’re done washing up, they’d see me mopping the floors,” he laughs.) when he decided to follow in his father’s and uncle’s footsteps and join the Marine Corps.

Lombardi spent the next two summers at Quantico, Virginia, going through bootcamp and learning about military communications and intelligence. A week before that second summer was over, though, the Marine Corps had a proposition for Candidate Lombardi: If he took 24 credits so he could graduate in December, they would make him the youngest officer commissioned that year. He met the challenge and became 2nd Lt. Lombardi on Dec. 19, 1976, which is also his mother’s birthday. (At 20 years and 3 months, he would remain the youngest officer commissioned during the 1970s.)

It was during his service that Lombardi was able to nurture his love of teaching. He developed a program for court-referred Marines (those who had been in some trouble) to get further education, in many cases to earn their GEDs. “The Marine Corps paid for my master’s and Ph.D. so I extended my time, during which we had 14,000 Marines get their high school diplomas. This was Corps-wide, not just Lejeune (Camp Lejeune, where Lombardi was stationed),” he says, with pride. “I was also teaching basic English at Coastal Carolina Community College in the evenings.”

ON HIS CAREER
After completing his service, Lombardi landed at Cardinal Healthcare in Edison, New Jersey, as the area director of human resources for the Northeast. “It was difficult to transition back to civilian life because it seemed, at that corporate level, that many folks were more interested in politics than in getting things done. Don’t get me wrong, I enjoyed it, but I was teaching Psychology of Supervision at Middlesex Community College and I couldn’t wait to get to class. I looked forward to that more than what I was getting the big bucks for.”

From there he went to Bristol-Myers in Syracuse, New York, where he served as director of organizational development & education, but continued teaching night classes at Le Moyne College. “I finally sprung out of Bristol-Myers, did consulting for a while, went to Seton Hall for 15 years (where he taught business, communication and leadership) and have been here at Stevens for 13, and I love it,” he says. “But I’m glad I did the corporate thing, so I could

Continued on page 13
HELPING VETERANS AT THE HEART OF SUMMER PROJECTS

Always tuned in to the needs of others, School of Business Distinguished Industry Professor Don “Doc” Lombardi challenges his students to help those in need, whatever they need. Whether innovating the Heart-to-Heart Visiting Nurses Association Health Group-Stevens initiative during Hurricane Sandy, where Doc and several students distributed food and clothing to displaced victims of the storm, or developing the SATMax program, which helps high school students from underprivileged backgrounds prep for the SAT, the work embodies one of Doc’s many lessons: “If you take care of others, you take care of yourself.”

As a veteran of the Marine Corps, Doc takes a special interest in active duty and veteran students, as well as veterans’ issues. This past summer, two projects under the Stevens Summer Community Outreach, Development and Engagement (CODE) program directly benefitted veterans.

A continuing project helps Vets4Warriors, a national hotline for service people and their families to contact in time of need based out of the Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care National Call Center in Piscataway, New Jersey.

A Stevens team worked to re-engineer the Counselor’s Laptop Resource (CLR) System, which makes it easier for counselors answering the calls to track where the calls are generated and direct the caller to the best and nearest resource.

“This small team of counselors are taking about 7,000 calls a month and adding 13 more each day on average,” alumni leader Austin Cawley-Edwards ’18 says. “We started by meeting with [Retired Major] Gen. [Mark A.] Graham, a two-star general who is incredibly nice, and then began a dialogue with the counselors themselves.

“We’re researching marketing and advertising tactics in an effort to expand the LinkedIn community for more volunteers to actively participate,” Will Reed, Class of 2021, says.

On another project, students took up the cause of homeless veterans by helping on a project developed by the American Legion Post 107 in Hoboken, New Jersey. Destroyed during Hurricane Sandy, the Legion’s headquarters were rebuilt to include a community center as well as six private apartments and a common lounge and library. Residents, who are registered homeless veterans of Hudson County, moved in during July.

“We’re outfitting the library with books and computer equipment for the residents to use,” says Thomas Poklikuha ’20. “Along with that, we’re helping put on fundraisers for the shelter.”

One such fundraiser, a gala that took place in May, raised roughly $50,000 to put toward the home. “The students from Stevens were beyond helpful this year,” says John Carey, commander of Post 107. “We’re always looking for more veterans to join our Post and now that the project is up and running, we have a great space to offer our veterans the resources they’re looking for.”

While helping Lombardi is a major draw for the students involved in these projects, some have other connections. Cawley-Edwards saw many of his friends join the service after high school, while Reed’s grandparents and Poklikuha’s father are veterans.

“We’re a part of this community and we want to make it as friendly and comfortable as possible. This is good for the veterans we’re helping, but it’s good for us, too,” Poklikuha says.

— Rebecca Markley

Brett Kaliner, left, Colin Myles, center, both Class of 2021, and Thomas Poklikuha ’20 help decorated World War II and Korean War veteran Vincent Wassman up the stairs during a fundraising gala at the Hoboken American Legion Post 107 in May. Wassman, who has been the Post’s chaplain for more than 40 years, recently celebrated his 94th birthday.
use this as a basis in teaching, as they’re both Fortune 500 companies.”

These days, Lombardi continues his consulting business, focused on organizational psychology, which his wife Debbie, a former audit control specialist, helps run. He has 48 copyrights and has authored 12 books. (On his latest publication: “This one sold over a thousand copies and if you don’t believe me, check my mother’s basement.”)

ON HIS FAMILY
Speaking of Debbie, Lombardi refers to her as his “secret weapon.” Married 38 years, he says the marriage stays strong because the two have a common sense of humor, righteousness and happiness, all three working together. The humor part is big, though.

“I told her last week, ‘You didn’t get a husband, you got a mission.’ She said, ‘Yeah, mission impossible.’” He cracks up. “We really are buddies and I just can’t say enough about her.”

He tells the story of their honeymoon in Lake Placid, New York, on their $300 budget, almost in disbelief she stuck around all these years. “She’s fabulous.”

Between the two, there are 14 godchildren and a host of nieces and nephews, two nephews living just down the street.

ON WHAT YOU DON’T KNOW (AND PROBABLY WOULDN’T GUESS) ABOUT HIM
“I’m a model railroader.” Lombardi reveals he has a 13’x24’ room devoted to his model recreation of Queens, New York — his hometown, born and raised — in the late 1950s and ’60s. “On days when it’s time to depart from the world as we know it — which for me is a couple of days a week — I go up there, close the door and escape. It’s all computerized and it’s super sophisticated, and I tell you, when I’m up there, I couldn’t care what the hell else is going on. I’m lost in that world.” It’s complicated, he says, with six trains running at once. “They smoke and go bananas. It’s great.”

But, as with everything Lombardi, the models connect him to people he cares about. He picked up the hobby from his Uncle Nick, a Jesuit priest and educator at Fordham. “He looks like an Italian version of Neil Diamond. In the good days, of course.”

He’s also used the hobby to bond with his two nephews. Starting the project when one nephew was 2 years old, Lombardi recalled how a couple weeks ago that nephew, now 18, made an off-hand comment that he hadn’t seen the trains in a while. The two spent an hour that day escaping to bygone Queens.

Lombardi is also friends with Joe Piscopo. There’s a good story about a fundraiser … ask him when you see him.

ON HIS STUDENTS
Lombardi doesn’t mince words, especially when it comes to his responsibility as an educator. “Here’s my credo: ‘They don’t care about what I know until they know that I care about them.’ If that requires me being tough, I’ll do it because my job is to make them better. At Stevens, we don’t play to play, we play to win.”

He helps his students find their strengths and plays to them so that they build confidence and continue wanting to learn. Lombardi is also a big proponent of experiential learning, whether through Community Outreach, Development and Engagement (CODE) projects (see sidebar on page 12) or internships. “You learn leadership in the field, beyond the classroom,” he says. “You’ll also learn that managers do things right, but leaders do the right thing.”

And for as much as Lombardi gives to his students, they give back, many volunteering on projects close to Lombardi’s heart, others always reaching out to check in and stay connected. Being a student of Doc’s is a mutually beneficial relationship.

“I tell them, ‘If I write you a recommendation letter and get you a job and you become Doctor insert-last-name-here, that means free healthcare for Doc and Mrs. L.’”

It takes a lot of energy to be Doc Lombardi. It takes even more heart.

“If I can answer positively to three questions every day, it gives me fulfillment: 1. Did I do as much as I could today? 2. Did I learn something new today? 3. Did I work as hard as I could today? And that’s really the best I can do.

“For me, it’s family, faith, the Marine Corps and Stevens. Stevens has really lined up with those first three,” he says. “And if I can have one-tenth the impact on my students that Shells, my parents, my grandmother had on me, then I’ve done a hell of a job.”

— Rebecca Markley
Military officials huddled together in a war room, poring over real-time intelligence briefings beamed in from satellites. Airmen planning strategic maneuvers to thwart adversarial threats. Split-second decisions that could decide the fate of nations. Such vignettes sound like scenes from a summer blockbuster — but for Major Kaitlyn Roes ’08, it’s all in a day’s work.

As the director of operations for the Air Force’s 505th Communications Squadron, Roes leads a 53-person team charged with conducting realistic combat simulations. Roes and her team are stationed at Hurlburt Field on the Florida Panhandle, but advanced command and control communications systems enable officers to train remotely around the world. Technologies like these make it possible to virtually test tactics and weapons where they will be used rather than in labs, and safely train warfighters to respond to threats on their home turf.

Roes always knew she wanted to pursue a career in the military — her mother’s service as a Navy nurse strongly influenced her interest in the armed forces — but she never imagined that her role would be centered around communications. Curious and technically minded, she was interested in engineering. “I’ve always been interested in figuring out how things work,” she says. When the time came for her to choose a college, she found Stevens almost accidentally through a lacrosse recruitment visit. The university’s combination of rigorous STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)-focused academics and a respected athletics program made it an easy choice.

Roes cites several major influences that shaped her time at Stevens: “I found teamwork and friendship through lacrosse; sisterhood and leadership through Phi Sigma Sigma sorority; and hands-on learning in the biomedical engineering labs,” she reflects. Throughout her college career, Roes would also wake before dawn two days a week, reporting for duty with the Air Force ROTC (AFROTC) detachment at New Jersey Institute of Technology, which hosts cadets from Stevens and several other area schools.

Shortly before graduation, Roes and her AFROTC classmates were honored with a special ceremony announcing their future military placements. With her fingers crossed for an engineering position, she stepped up onto the stage. When she heard “communications and information,” she was surprised — the career field seemed vague and potentially mundane.

“I wondered if I’d ever have an opportunity to get out and work in the field,” she admits. Disappointment struck again a few months later when she learned that she would be reporting to Robins Air Force Base in Houston County, Georgia — almost three hours away from any major city.

As her assignment approached that fall, Roes was determined to keep an open mind. Her family organized a road trip to drop her off at the base and she soon began training with a team in tactical communication (tactical comms). She was pleasantly surprised by the hands-on nature of the role, setting up satellite dishes that would serve as communication hubs in remote locations. Connecting routers, switches and servers in the wilderness posed satisfying engineering questions, and working outside with a strong team brought back memories of the lacrosse field.

After three and a half years in Georgia, her tactical comms team was called to put their experience to the test in Bahrain, where
they would dismantle an airfield communications station. The idea of deployment didn’t scare Roes; instead, she found the mission exhilarating — it was the chance she was looking for to get out in the field.

The five-month deployment led to her next assignment back in the States at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. Working with the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, she managed a unit tasked with operational testing of satellite ground stations for the Air Force, running tests to determine vulnerabilities in technologies and securing the network to combat outside manipulation.

Two more deployments followed: one to Afghanistan, where she was part of Resolute Support — a NATO-led mission to train, advise and assist the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces and institutions; and one to Korea, where she managed executive communications for leadership.

During the course of her ten-year career, Roes has been promoted four times — most recently to the rank of Major in 2018. When considering opportunities and compensation for women in the military versus women in civilian professions, she sees noteworthy differences. “Workforce equality may actually be easier to achieve in the military because of its structured pay scale and promotion schedule,” she says. “As long as objectives are met, no two people in the same role and rank can be paid differently.”

In her current role, Roes keeps a regular Monday through Friday work schedule and enjoys weekends and personal time. She has maintained a tight-knit group of friends from Stevens, and visits Hoboken often to celebrate life’s milestones. Together, the group has returned to campus to face off with current student-athletes in alumni lacrosse games. In Florida, she enjoys her favorite sport from a different perspective, coaching the Niceville Eagles, a local middle school girl’s lacrosse team.

Although she’s charged with protecting national security, Roes finds that the hardest part of her job isn’t the work itself, but rather saying goodbye to the friends she’s made in each of her placements when it’s time to make a move. “It’s about the people,” she says. Shared missions in unfamiliar places create deep bonds between those who take them on together, and Roes will always remember the first time she felt the power of camaraderie. “I came to Stevens as a shy little kid,” she recalls, “but meeting a strong group of women who were also interested in technology was really the defining moment of my life.” — Erin Lewis
As many Americans celebrated the Fourth of July this summer with barbecues and a long holiday weekend with family and friends, Navy Captain Kevin Buckley ’89 sailed off the coast of South America on a mission of mercy.

Migrants from Venezuela fleeing political and economic chaos in their country are overwhelming medical systems in several countries in the region and that’s where Buckley, an emergency medicine doctor, and his team come in, with their mission aboard the USNS Comfort. As commanding officer of the medical treatment facility on this Navy hospital ship, Buckley led about 320 medical professionals, in addition to his staff of more than 800 on ship, that came to treat patients and relieve pressure on national medical systems in the region. On their first stop, completed on July 3 in Ecuador, they cared for, astonishingly, 7,799 patients and performed 120 surgeries — in just six days. His medical staff — military and civilian personnel from the U.S. and six other countries — are providing free medical care to people displaced by the migrant crisis but also to people in need. Buckley quickly points out that anyone battling poverty — and there are many in this area of the world — can come aboard and receive care.

As in past Comfort missions he’s led, it’s often the simple procedures that change lives: cataract surgery for the visually impaired grandmother who needed constant family supervision and can now live independently, freeing family members to work; children receiving eyeglasses for the first time and seeing their ability to learn soar; mothers receiving post-natal care that most Americans take for granted.

“We don’t care where you’re from,” Buckley says, emphatically. “Medicine is the safe place. We want to know where it hurts…we are just here to help anyone in need.”

Ecuador was just the first stop on Comfort’s five-month deployment that left June 14 from Norfolk, Virginia, with scheduled stops in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Peru, Haiti, Jamaica, Panama, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis.

This was actually Comfort’s second mission to Central and South America in less than a year. Buckley also led an 11-week mission to the region in fall 2018, launched to relieve pressure on the region’s medical systems caused partly by cross-border migration. That time, his team treated 26,700 patients and performed 599 surgeries, with stops in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia and Honduras.

Reached via email in mid-July, Buckley, who has been to 40 countries over his 26-year Navy career, reflected that he’s helped to treat some 45,000 patients alone during his two-year tour with Comfort, affecting 45,000 families.

“We are neighbors helping neighbors, no matter where you are from or why,” he wrote.

In early June, several days before Comfort’s departure from Norfolk, Buckley anticipated serving patients both on ship for low-risk surgeries like hernia and cataract surgeries and in land-based clinics that will do basic medical evaluations, preventive medicine, dental treatments and optometry screenings, among others.

But his two-year appointment as Comfort’s commander was up in late July, and he left the ship on July 20 after its stop in Costa Rica to report for his next assignment: the Kingdom of Bahrain, where he will serve as the 5th Fleet Surgeon and medical advisor to a three-star admiral and his staff in the Persian Gulf.

In his Change of Command speech to his crew, Buckley remembered the 45,000 patients served, from the boy with the severe knee infection whose leg was saved to the Venezuelan migrant with the long-term lower leg fracture who could finally walk after a tibia nail placement. He was full of gratitude for his fellow service members and the extraordinary team effort aboard Comfort that made these patients’ lives and the lives of their families better.

“I have met sailors that joined Comfort because this ship or its sister ship came to their country when they were a child; they came to America to be part of this type of mission,” he said. “Lessons you learn and your experiences will shape you and multiply the impact of those 45,000 families to possibly millions of people. You are and represent the finest of human qualities making a difference.”

In a phone interview just several days before departing for his last Comfort mission in June, Buckley reflected on his long Navy career. His new appointment to Bahrain is a new challenge but also an opportunity to be closer — just a one-hour time difference and a quick plane ride — to his wife and their 12-year-old daughter in Sicily.

But Comfort was top on his mind, and he was quietly confident and refreshingly down-to-earth. (“I’m a Jersey guy,” he says.) His very long and impressive bio can hardly capture decades of accomplishments during his military career, with many years of caring for patients and in medical leadership roles from Guam to Spain, from Italy to Iraq and San Diego, to Central Africa and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

With Comfort, Buckley served as the head doctor on this ship that includes 12 operating rooms and more than 1,000 personnel on board. While its primary mission is supporting the military fighter, Comfort also provides disaster relief and
humanitarian relief. It is a teaching hospital, and while his job is to keep this complex medical facility operating, Buckley says that he particularly enjoys teaching residents.

“In that role, I can make a bigger impact,” he says. “My job is to help the people coming behind me.”

Buckley was often the face of this ship, in his Navy whites, helping to lead tours of Comfort for Vice President Mike Pence this past June in Miami, at the start of its mission, and for the U.S. Ambassador in Ecuador and other health ministry officials in host countries. But, when you see him in photos, Buckley truly looks most comfortable in his military fatigues, in the heart of a mission, holding an infant who couldn’t be more than two months old or smiling and carrying a young girl who had just received care aboard Comfort.

The best way to talk about these missions, he says, is to remember the people who sought help.

There was the 19-month-old whose family was convinced she was blind and who, with simple cataract surgery, clearly saw her mother for the first time. Or the 94-year-old man who never saw a doctor in his life, and the kids who couldn’t read because they needed glasses. On the last mission, they distributed 20,000 pairs.

“Siblings can see each other, and their personalities change,” Buckley says.

There was a boy who had six fingers and just wanted to be able to wear a baseball mitt. Or the man with a hernia the size of a basketball who held it in with a board so he could work to support his family. With simple surgeries, they walked off the ship, their lives changed.

His own life-changing event led Buckley, who grew up in Belleville and Livingston, New Jersey, to commit to a medical career. His mother suffered a heart attack when he was a child, and he watched the medical team come together to save her life that day. His determination to become a doctor was set.

He never planned for a military career, but the Navy offered to pay for medical school at Tufts University, and he was determined not to incur any debt. At Stevens, he worked in the lab with former chemical biology professor Donald DeWitt, a role model for how he would one day aspire to teach young doctors: patient, really taking the time to talk to his students.

“I loved my time there,” he says of Castle Point. “It got me where I wanted to go. I felt very prepared.” Buckley attended his 30th class reunion this summer — his first time...
back on campus since graduation — and still keeps in touch with several classmates.

Over his long career, one of his earliest and most memorable assignments was in Guam, where he was stationed at the U.S. Naval Hospital as head of the Emergency Department. Some 13,000 miles from home, he met his wife, Jamie, a teacher and fellow New Jerseyan. Guam would always hold a special place in his heart, he says — from meeting his wife to the many sick people he and his team helped to the village visits with tribal chiefs and the 500 scuba dives he completed.

Many other naval hospital assignments followed: in Rota, Spain, where he held important leadership positions as director of EMS, director of the Space Shuttle Launch Support Team and medical director for Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support for Armed Services Europe; director for medical services at the Naval Hospital in Sigonella, Italy; and as senior medical officer and faculty at Naval Medical Center, San Diego.

Buckley has also been deployed several times during his career, including as officer in charge of a surgical team to support anti-terrorism efforts in Central Africa and, in 2008, to Iraq. Buckley was the senior emergency medicine doctor and Officer in Charge of the Shock Trauma Platoon, a mobile emergency and operating room, in Al Taqaddum and Rawah, Iraq. “You get to the injured quickly in the golden hour,” he says. “It made a big difference.” Responding very successfully during the “golden hour” — the time from when a traumatic injury occurs and the medical response that can mean the difference between life and death — his group had a patient survival rate of 85%.

Throughout his service to his country, Buckley has met people and patients on what is often the best and worst days of their lives. But when he is asked about the stress of his work, he immediately identifies the greatest sacrifice (though he doesn’t use the word sacrifice) — time spent away from his family. Both of his parents died when he was on a mission, he says. He and his fellow service members miss milestones for their children and siblings.

“There’s a cost; an emotional cost,” he says. This late Saturday afternoon, as he speaks by phone from Norfolk, Virginia, in his apartment with rented furniture, he plans to go to the gym later and then do more planning for his upcoming mission, as his wife and daughter are 4,800 miles away in Sicily. His next assignment in Bahrain brings him four years from retirement, and he says that it is time soon to no longer be separated from his family.

But they have lived abroad and traveled extensively around the world, and Buckley sees a richness of experience there that has made a Navy career so attractive. “It’s more exposure to people in the world, a more global view,” he says. “These opportunities keep me in.”

And there is the work. During Comfort’s mission to Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in 2017, Buckley recalls a 21-year-old new mother suffering from post-partum pancreatitis that was untreated for several months and so severe that it was uncertain she would survive. But after receiving care on Comfort, she walked off the ship eight days later to her husband and baby.

“How can I make an impact?” Buckley says. “To me, it’s just who I am, it’s what I get up to do every day.” — Beth Kissinger

Buckley is shown inside Comfort’s casualty receiving area this past June.
n a wall just outside Colonel John’s in the Wesley J. Howe Center hangs an American flag in memory of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The flag was flown over Afghanistan from Bagram Air Base on September 11, 2003, by then-Lieutenant Colonel John Cherrey ’88 to honor those who lost their lives that tragic day.

Stevens was very much on his mind during that mission, he recalled. The World Trade Center was an ever-present backdrop of life at Castle Point for the 29-year Air Force veteran (now retired) who rose to the rank of brigadier general.

“Initially, I didn't want to follow my brother,” he revealed, “but Stevens was the best school for what I wanted to do. And when I was accepted, the Air Force provided a career path and motivation for me to succeed.”

At Stevens, Cherrey was a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity, vice president of the weight-lifting club and a resident assistant.

After graduation, Cherrey waited nearly a year to begin pilot training. He filled the time working as a quality assurance engineer at an IBM plant in Kingston, New York.

While he viewed his time at IBM as a positive one, he said the experience convinced him that he wasn't suited for working in an office setting.

A native of Dumont, New Jersey, Cherrey was not the first in his family to attend Stevens. Older brother James ’87 was already at Stevens when John decided to enroll through the Air Force ROTC program in pursuit of an electrical engineering degree. He would later change his major to engineering physics.

“Stevens certainly has a reputation for a bit of a firehose effect in terms of how much you have to learn and how quickly you have to learn it. But even beyond that, the way Stevens approaches learning helped me both understand the physics and science of flying,” he noted.

Even with the Stevens advantage, pilot training was unlike anything Cherrey had ever experienced. He would have to apply his newfound knowledge almost immediately in an actual plane.

“When you’re in the air, or even in a simulator, you don't have the luxury to stop and recall all your book knowledge. On top of that, you needed the physical coordination and dexterity to be able to do it well. So there were plenty of times where I thought I may have gotten myself in over my head.”

The level of difficulty would only heighten as Cherrey moved on to advanced training to learn how to employ an airplane, an A-10 Thunderbolt II, as a weapon system.

“In pilot training, we’re typically flying by ourselves and, at times, flying next to another plane in formation. But in that case, the other plane is being cooperative. In advanced training, you were always in a duel with someone who’s trying to outdo you. And every sortie was that way,” he explained.

Cherrey would go on to be deployed to South Korea, Kuwait, Germany, Italy and Afghanistan. While deployed in Italy, he saw up close the Balkan wars of the 1990s and experienced what he described as his “first real combat mission.”

He was involved in Operation Allied Force in 1999, which involved strikes against Serbia and Kosovo, and earned the Silver Star for his critical role in the successful search and rescue mission of an F-117 pilot in enemy territory.

“Going into Serbia knowing that the Serbs were trying to shoot us down and had successfully shot down a stealth airplane like the F-117 certainly gave us a lot to think about in terms of how we were going to get in and out of that area unscathed.”

Cherrey’s heroism was saluted by President Bill Clinton in his State of the Union address.
in 2000. That year, his alma mater presented him with the Stevens Honor Award.

**NEW WORLD ORDER, NEXT CHAPTER**

As Cherrey looks back on his near-three-decade military career, he reflects on how different the current geopolitical landscape is from when he started with the Air Force.

“When I graduated from Stevens, there were two nuclear superpowers and the Soviet Union was our main threat. What you have now are multiple adversaries and conflicts around the world that are harder to define. The Air Force recognizes that and is trying to educate officers in terms of how to deal with all that complexity.”

Cherrey retired from the military in 2017, and now works as a corporate pilot for Verizon.

“The transition from military to civilian life isn't always easy and a military resume doesn't read the same way in the private sector. So I feel fortunate to have joined a company that is recognized for supporting military people.”

A father of two, Cherrey, who lives in Orange County, New York, credits daughter Jenna and son Andrew for making it possible for him to perform his military duties.

“My kids are extremely resilient. My daughter was born in Germany and my son in Las Vegas. They had to move every two to three years. And there were years where they didn't see a lot of me. Their acceptance and understanding of what I did made it a lot easier on me to serve the country in the way I was able to do.”

— Young Soo Yang
t was awkward, to say the least. Unpleasant, even. Jonathan Escobar ’16 had convinced his divorced parents to meet with him and an Army recruiter. Only 17 at the time, Escobar would need signatures from both his mother and father in order for him to enlist, a decision his father supported and his mother opposed. Add that disagreement to the already tense relationship — “they didn’t get along at all,” Escobar says about his parents — and it made for an unpleasant hour for the family, before it was clear that the recruiter was standing them up. “I was so upset; I’d gotten my parents in the same room and I’m finally trying to do something, and this guy doesn’t bother showing,” he says. “So I was talking out loud, thinking about what I could do to piss this guy off and my dad says, ‘Join the Marines.’ So that’s what I did.”

Growing up in Rockland County, New York, the youngest of three with two older sisters, Escobar jokes that he’s “the king of jumping rope.” He has no shame in this proclamation, maybe even wears it as a badge of honor these days. He was a good student, but by the time he reached high school, he wanted to branch out from the small, private school he’d been attending and venture to public school. Using football as his reason for the transfer — no football team at the private school — he ended up playing only one year.

Instead, he says, he made friends, having fun in school and excelling in math and science. He did well in his freshman and sophomore years, without even trying. With that, he never really bothered putting any effort into school, even when his grades slipped. “I knew I was intelligent and that I could get by without applying myself, so I didn’t,” Escobar says. “I got Cs and Ds, and my father and the truancy officer were tight.”

But the laissez-faire attitude wouldn’t last, especially during his senior year when all his friends were talking about college. Coming from a military family (his maternal grandfather was in the Navy and his paternal great-grandfather was a Marine, among others), the idea of enlisting wasn’t completely foreign.

So a few days after being stood up by the Army recruiter, Escobar had his parents back in the same room, this time with a recruiter for the Marines who actually showed, but his mother still wouldn’t sign. It would take two days after his 18th birthday for the recruiter to contact Escobar, who joined right away.

His desire to be on the front lines was thwarted by his aptitude on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, an exam the military uses to help determine career path. Instead, he was assigned as helicopter crew chief, responsible for pre-flight and post-flight inspections. “The pilots have the cockpit, we had everything else. I was on the CH 46 Echo helicopter; it’s old but I loved it.” Aside from serving as the on-board mechanic, “Cheese” (Escobar’s call sign and nickname, bestowed upon him by his fellow servicemen for his ever-present smile) also manned a 50-caliber machine gun set up on either side of the aircraft.

His missions trained foreign military (Philippine Marine Corps, Royal Thai Armed Forces and Republic of Korea Marine Corps) and provided humanitarian aid and disaster relief (assisting the Government of the Philippines during election times so terrorist groups couldn’t harass citizens and working with Japan after the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in 2011, among others). He visited seven different countries during his duty and has a soft spot for Okinawa, Japan, where he was stationed for three years. “It’s such a special place, I felt bad being there. And even when the citizens would protest the military’s presence, outside the base, they were always so respectful of us as individuals and would move out of our way coming and going.”

When his initial commitment of service was up, Escobar, a self-described “changed man” (“I was a completely different person coming out, more respectful and appreciative of everything,” he says), transitioned into college life at Rockland Community College. While the military helped explain benefits available through the GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Program, Jonathan Barnwell, the veterans coordinator at RCC, was the one who really helped Escobar find his path, taking care of him and the other hundreds of vets at RCC, but also by introducing Escobar to Stevens’ own Don “Doc” Lombardi (see profile on page 10). “I knew within five minutes of meeting Doc that I was coming here. He was the major draw.”

And though he was successful — he graduated with a bachelor’s in engineering — it wasn’t easy. He was a 24-year-old Marine veteran taking classes with freshmen. “I would hear some of the side conversations going on and it was hard to relate. Like, it was a culture shock. But I made a couple of friends and did my work and landed a job I loved at Picatinny Arsenal, so it was worth it.”

“I WOULD HEAR SOME OF THE SIDE CONVERSATIONS GOING ON AND IT WAS HARD TO RELATE. LIKE, IT WAS A CULTURE SHOCK. BUT I MADE A COUPLE OF FRIENDS AND DID MY WORK AND LANDED A JOB I LOVED AT PICATINNY ARSENAL, SO IT WAS WORTH IT.”
It was early 1942, in the dark days of World War II, and the U.S. Navy, under threat of submarine attack, needed a research facility that could test the maneuvering moves of a wide range of vessels. The only place in the world with this capability: an open-air pond in Germany.

Stevens’ own Experimental Towing Tank, known as Tank 1, was already devoted to the war effort, focusing largely on seaplane research. But professor Kenneth S.M. Davidson and his team answered the call from the Navy when the lab was selected to construct Tank 2, the world’s first indoor maneuvering basin, on Hudson Street. They built it in just four months.

Stevens would later build a third new tank — a high-speed towing tank — with two shifts of researchers and staff working day and night to help support the Allies.

This fascinating chapter of Stevens history — recalled in Davidson Laboratory and the Experimental Towing Tank: The History of Towing Tank Research at Stevens (1993) by former Schaefer School of Engineering and Science Dean and Davidson Lab director Michael Bruno — is just one of many in the renowned lab’s 84-year run.

The laboratory’s longtime testing of small ship models actually began in the Stevens swimming pool in 1931, led by Davidson, a former pilot in the Army Air Service.

Stevens’ original Tank 1 was housed in the old Navy Building, built by the U.S. government as a dormitory for the U.S. Navy Steam Engineering School during World War I. By 1936, the tank had become involved with the testing of racing yachts — the start of a long relationship with yachts competing in the America’s Cup that continues to the present day.

As war brewed in Europe, seaplane model testing began in 1938. Davidson and his colleagues had already been evaluating the “turning behavior” of ship destroyer models. But the Navy needed accelerated testing of seaplane hulls and looked to Stevens once again. The result was the construction of the 313-foot long High-Speed Towing Tank, or Tank 3, opening in November 1944, right next to Tank 2; it took nine months to construct. With young male test engineers and staff away in the service, women made up about one third of the laboratory staff during the war, many working in the key functions of model fabrication and testing.

In the post-war years and throughout the Cold War, the lab, renamed Davidson Laboratory in 1959 after Davidson’s death, expanded into testing of model torpedoes and submarines. Stevens researchers’ expertise led to their work in helping to design the Albacore, a forebear of the modern submarine.

Another pivotal moment in the post-war research era was the hiring of Dan Savitsky M.S. ’52 in 1947. Joining as a researcher focused on seaplanes and crafts for the Office of Naval Research, he would serve, incredibly, nearly 70 years with the Lab — as a professor, researcher, lab director and consultant, well into his 90s. In 1964, Savitsky published a seminal technical paper that developed the “Savitsky Method” for predicting the horsepower requirements for high-speed planing boats; it remains a key breakthrough today for craft design. He and his team also produced important designs for landing craft for the U.S. Marine Corps, advanced planing craft for the Navy and floats for converting a Lockheed C-130 aircraft to a water-based aircraft.

The Davidson Lab even had a role in the nation’s space program, as researchers in the 1960s evaluated the behavior of the proposed Apollo Command Module in regular and irregular seas and the lab’s transportation group conducted a later analysis of the lunar rover.

Indeed, an entire research group was created to work with the Army on the testing of road vehicles, amphibious vehicles and landing craft — research that continues today. That group actually helped in the development of the famed Bradley Fighting Vehicle tank, still in global use today.

Today, the Davidson Lab still works with military contractors and the Navy. But the lab’s work has diversified. Researchers work with New Jersey and federal agencies and industry partners on other marine systems including underwater autonomous vehicles and wave energy conversion, and on resilient/sustainable shorelines through studying long-term coastal evolution including the impact of climate change. The modeling and forecasting of wind, tide, current and wave conditions, to reduce loss of life and property, is also a focus area.

“For almost 85 years, Davidson Laboratory has evolved into a transdisciplinary enterprise with unique capabilities to address highly-specialized and more complex, integrated issues facing natural systems and human-made maritime activities,” says lab director and professor Muhammad Hajj. “We will make certain this legacy is continued through major research breakthroughs and contributions.”

Source: Bruno, Michael, 1993, Davidson Laboratory and the Experimental Towing Tank: The History of Towing Tank Research at Stevens.
When *The Indicator* last spoke with Air Force veteran Angie Hankins ’95 back in 2008, she had just made partner with Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, a prestigious New York law firm. Since then, Hankins has moved to Silicon Valley, where she’s now the general counsel and corporate secretary of the Samsung Strategy and Innovation Center in Menlo Park, California. There, she leads the legal team for a group that is responsible for corporate strategy for Samsung and invests in and partners with emerging companies to discover and develop new technologies.

**What areas interest your group, and what new technology excites you?**

We are looking into areas such as 5G, artificial intelligence, real world data applications, digital health, genomics, data center technology and quantum computing. I’m very interested especially in AI. But I want to see AI for good, where someone is addressing some of the biases that can be inserted by use of AI technology.

**After high school, you joined the Air Force, serving four years as a communications computer system control technician and rising to the rank of sergeant. How did this experience shape you?**

My stepfather, my biological father and three of my four brothers had all served in the military. I was a good student, and the direction would have been college after high school. But no one in my family had gone to college. So, the military seemed like an opportunity to continue to learn. I knew I was interested in engineering and science, and so I ended up in telecom, stationed at the Feldberg Radio Relay facility in Germany, maintaining digital and analog lines. I was later at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska. I think I’m a quiet introvert who does what she needs to do to get the job done, and being in the military helped me to develop my leadership skills and become more outspoken. Wanting to drive further and be ambitious — to take control and lead — I think it did come from that experience.

**What was your Stevens experience?**

It made me feel like I could do anything. I remember the people who helped me through the STEP program (Stevens Technical Enrichment Program). I majored in electrical engineering and did relatively well, and when I had a problem, they were able to help me through. There were teachers who were just really good. Going to Stevens taught me that if I applied myself to anything — and I really studied — I could do it. I think that a lot of the time, people (generally) think that things are supposed to happen through osmosis, and you’re supposed to know everything. But no one does. — *As told to Beth Kissinger*

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For the full Q&A, visit stevens.edu/ahankins

Angie Hankins ’95, at the Samsung Device Solutions America (DSA) Headquarters, San Jose, California.

PHOTO: JIM GENSHEIMER
ew physical landmarks remain of those years when Stevens Institute of Technology was a World War II training ground for young Navy engineers — top technical minds who would help lead the Allies to victory.

There is still Palmer Hall, where Joe Schneider '46 and other Navy “V-12ers” kept their dorm rooms spotless, always anticipating an inspection. And Walker Gym, where they boxed to keep in shape and tread water in the old basement swimming pool, using their shirts as flotation devices.

But at 95, Schneider, a World War II Navy veteran, holds vivid memories of those days, so vivid that when he pulls out his 1945 Link yearbook, he easily identifies Ensign William Bailey, a former All-American football player who conducted those inspections. (“Bailey was a pain in the rear.”) He remembers how the field now near the Torchbearers statue became a dust bowl from all their marching, and the daily calisthenics at 6:45 a.m. that kept them in the shape of their lives.

“It kept us busy. It kept us out of trouble,” Schneider says. “I think it was a good life, and it was good for us. I think everyone stuck together.”

Stevens’ history is filled with moments when it answered the call to serve its country, whether it was the entire university transforming into a military camp for the war effort, researchers tackling engineering and science challenges for the military or individual students serving their country in all five branches of the armed forces. Indeed, this service to our nation by Stevens students and researchers continues today.

The number of Stevens students now enrolled in the Army ROTC and Air Force ROTC programs is relatively small — some 15 in all. But with the reactivation of the Stevens Veterans Office in 2009, the university is continuing its tradition of support for the U.S. military by serving our military veterans and their families. With Stevens professor and former Marine Don “Doc” Lombardi (see page 10) leading the effort, Stevens was the first school in the New York metropolitan area to receive the Yellow Ribbon designation from the U.S. government.

The Yellow Ribbon Program, along with the GI Bill, provides full educational benefits to selected military veterans and their dependents; since 2009, more than 170 veterans and children of active duty military members have been educated at Castle Point.

They walk the same campus that soldiers, sailors and airmen and women have walked for generations.

ON DUTY FOR TWO WORLD WARS

The 1919 edition of The Link yearbook recalls the year 1918 as a momentous one at Stevens — when World War I still raged and every student who was physically qualified enlisted in the Army or Navy. The U.S. War Department’s Committee on Education and Special Training selected Stevens as the site of the country’s only Navy Steam Engineering School, designed to train future engineers for the war effort. The cadet barracks, known as the Navy Building, is now the site of the Babbio Center.

“When it became apparent that we must take advantage of existing educational facilities not under government control, we naturally turned to Stevens for help,” wrote then-Assistant Secretary of the Navy Franklin D. Roosevelt. “Your response was immediate and most generous. There were no preliminary negotiations — nothing but an expression of sincere desire to help in every way in which you could be helpful.”

With Roosevelt as president a generation later during World War II when victory was uncertain, the Navy V-12 program was instituted at Stevens and other universities in 1943. The V-12’s mission was to provide officers for the nation’s fleet and train future engineers in technical skills the Navy needed for the war effort, to “make, maintain and manufacture sensitive machinery of modern naval warfare,” according to a Stevens 75th anniversary booklet published in 1945. Tuition was free; participants had to score well on an entry test to be admitted and received a commission as a naval ensign along with their Stevens degree at graduation.

Schneider, who had been attending Stevens on a partial scholarship, enlisted in the Navy on Dec. 8, 1942. Enlisting and joining the V-12 gave you a chance for more training and ultimately better assignments, he said. He came from a poor family in Fairview, New Jersey, and says that the biggest break of his life came when his high school teacher warned him to straighten up and study so he could attend college. His second break was joining the Navy and getting full tuition at Stevens.

With very few exceptions, everyone was V-12 at Stevens during those years. They wore tan uniforms or white uniforms every day, formal uniforms for officer inspections. Dorm rooms were bunk beds, barracks style. It was a regimented life of “marching, studying, eating,” Schneider says.

Photos from The Link show students...
marching everywhere, it seems: near the old Castle, past Walker Gym, all around the athletic field. Officers inspect the troops, and there are heroic portraits of sailors in uniform and the color guard raising the flag on what is now DeBaun Field.

But Schneider also remembers many moments of normal college life: playing lacrosse, performing trombone with the Navy band. He doesn’t recall much visible anxiety among the V-12ers. “I think the war was not on our minds because we were studying,” he says. It was the exams that made them worry. But, in the back of everyone’s mind, so did the prospect of flunking out, as that could mean being drafted into combat, he says.

Schneider would go on to graduate from Stevens and later serve as a deck officer aboard the USS Karin, and as an engineering officer on the USS Elkhart, during the final days of the war. He left active duty in 1946 and returned to run the family-owned embroidery factory in Guttenberg, New Jersey, where he started as a teenager and still works today.

Without the V-12, Schneider says he
never could have paid for college and likely would have been drafted into combat. His stepbrother Walter, who didn’t attend college, got a job with the Civilian Conservation Corps in Texas, he recalls. Walter was later drafted into the Army tank corps and killed in action in Italy.

THE COLD WAR, AND MEMORIES OF KOREA

The Cold War era and the Korean War saw Stevens students join the Army ROTC and the Air Force ROTC, and Frank Battista ’54 was as enthusiastic an Air Force cadet as they came.

In the early 1950s, about 40 percent of the campus was ROTC, and this shy kid from Richmond Hill, Queens, New York embraced the military’s regulations and structure. “I ran away with the thing,” he says. While some of his engineering courses were a challenge, he thrived in his ROTC classes — air science, tactics, meteorology. He dreamed of flying jets.

“ROTC classes carried as much weight as science and math classes, thank goodness! The pressure we lived under four years at Stevens — the military and North Korea didn’t pose that much fear in me,” he says. The day he graduated and got his gold officer bars was one of his proudest.

After Stevens, it was determined that his eyesight was too poor for him to become a pilot, so he became an Air Force maintenance officer, with the task of keeping aircraft safely in the sky.

Battista would spend 12 months at Kimpo AFB in Korea, ten miles from the DMZ, roughing it out in tents, with the North Koreans threatening in the nearby mountains. He would serve a total of seven years, with three years active duty, rising to the rank of captain. “I still feel proud,” he says. “It was a wonderful experience. I sweated out 12 months in Korea, thinking anything could happen at any time.

“It worked out. It was great practice for civilian life.” Battista went on to a successful career as a self-employed manufacturer’s representative in the electronics industry.

ANXIETY OF THE VIETNAM ERA

By the mid-1960s, enrollment in the Army and Air Force ROTC was about 20 students per class, there was a pretty high “esprit de corps” and students were proud to wear their uniforms to class, says retired Stevens history professor Silvio Laccetti. But after the Tet Offensive in 1968, Stevens’ ROTC students felt a little more pressure, as schools like Columbia and Harvard faced anti-war protests and later dismantled their ROTC programs. Back in the Vietnam era, Laccetti recalls several anti-war protests at Castle Point, but ROTC students were never a target.

“In addition to patriotic reasons, many students enrolled in ROTC because they didn’t have the money to go to Stevens,” Laccetti says. “This was a good way to start your life.” He remembers the ROTC students as structured, good students who worked hard.

Graduating ROTC meant you came out as an officer with a commission, with more options than those drafted. (Students owed the military four years of service after graduation.) Anxiety about the draft — and about flunking out of Stevens and facing the draft — was very real.

Mike Rinaldi ’71 M.S. ’73 recalls ROTC as having a strong presence at Stevens when he was a student. A full scholarship or tuition assistance, a commission and the draft — all propelled him and others to join, he says.

The ROTC stopped doing drills for a short time on campus after the U.S. invasion of Cambodia in 1970, and he recalls some protests, but never any hostility from his fellow students. Air Force ROTC extended his learning at Stevens, he says, as he studied not only physics but also radar systems and the technology of weapons and aircrafts.

Now a software engineer, Rinaldi’s favorite ROTC memory was broadening his knowledge of foreign and domestic affairs, including NATO and the politics of Southeast Asia, expanding his world beyond Castle Point. “It wasn’t just military drills and pushups… it broadened and deepened your intellectual horizon and augmented one’s humanities education,” he says.

“IT WASN’T JUST MILITARY DRILLS AND PUSHUPS ... IT BROADENED AND DEEPENED YOUR INTELLECTUAL HORIZON.” — Mike Rinaldi ’71 M.S. ’73
POST 9/11, AND AN AIR FORCE CAREER

In the post-Vietnam era, with the end of the draft and the start of the all-volunteer military, Stevens saw its ROTC numbers drop. Stevens would later launch joint agreements with Seton Hall University and New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), and officer training for Army ROTC now takes place at Seton Hall while Air Force ROTC takes place at NJIT.

Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Lady Noreen Santos Simmons ’04 got her start in the military as one of these “cross-town cadets” traveling to NJIT every Wednesday for drills and classes. She enjoyed getting to know students from other schools, and says that between ROTC and Stevens, she received full scholarship support that made all the difference. It not only gave her a good engineering education that would later lead to a successful military career, but also allowed brand new experiences, such as learning to fly gliders during an ROTC summer program.

“Being 19 years old, flying a glider and staying at the Air Force Academy, that’s cool,” she says.

Simmons never thought she’d stay in the military but every time she tried to leave, the Air Force offered her greater opportunities that she couldn’t turn down, she says. She earned two master’s degrees through the Air Force and has held many positions, from academic instructor to chief systems engineer.

Today, this electrical engineer, who was deployed to Afghanistan as a Special Operations Forces Air Program Manager, serves as a program manager in the F-22 Program Office at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, helping to oversee the life cycle management of Air Force weapons systems. A mother of three young sons with a fourth child on the way, she married a fellow Air Force officer, and she enjoys keeping in touch with ROTC friends. She was promoted to lieutenant colonel on June 1, 2019.

“I love my job,” Simmons says. “I really enjoy tackling challenging problems. I enjoy working on things that are helping our nation stay free.”

— Beth Kissinger
FACULTY, STUDENTS CONTINUE TO SUPPORT MILITARY, VETS THROUGH RESEARCH

The Stevens-led Systems Engineering Research Center (SERC), a consortium of more than 20 member institutions, has received significant support from DoD since 2008 for its continuing mission to train, ready and recruit systems engineers and develop complex defense systems, services and enterprises.

And the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) designated Stevens’ Maritime Security Center, which provides education programs and conducts research to enhance port and maritime security, as a National Center of Excellence in 2014.

Government defense agencies also support Stevens research addressing broader societal concerns, such as cancer therapy research performed by Stevens breast cancer expert Abhishek Sharma (funded in part by DoD); artificial intelligence research conducted by College of Arts & Letters Dean Kelland Thomas, which receives DoD Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) funding; and the wide-ranging cybersecurity research performed by Stevens professor Susanne Wetzel.

In addition, a host of other projects — many so sensitive they can’t be discussed — probe such wide-ranging challenges as improving sensors; identifying and classifying drones and small planes; detecting and warning of hazardous gas emissions; countering terrorism and biological warfare; and designing faster planes, rockets and military watercraft.

Student teams have also long supported military needs and veterans’ issues through their own research projects. Stevens’ 2019 Innovation Expo, for example, featured at least four student-team projects with direct potential applications for serving veterans or military personnel:

- The Mira Therapeutics project (previously known as MiraView) has for two years worked on developing a digital platform to treat and assist veterans and others with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), both during incidents and by transmitting information to associated healthcare providers.

- Another project, a combat boot-mounted monitor for soldiers, collects physical activity data from soldiers’ feet, then recharges its battery overnight to prepare for long, 17-hour days of training.

- A third effort, an automated ordnance-loading system for military tactical aircraft, has been in development for four years and promises to replace the labor of five naval aircraft carrier personnel with a device one person can operate. The student team claims its proprietary system is capable of handling, moving and loading ordnance configurations as heavy as two tons.

- And a fourth team designed a portable, lightweight ladder that can be expanded and deployed quickly in the field when obstacles are confronted — then compactly telescoped back down, retracted and stashed in a backpack.

Other student research at the university has involved such notable projects as the design of improved flotation vests for use in the sea; exoskeleton armor that protects personnel while allowing freedom of movement; and explosive-detecting underwater robots. — Paul Karr
When The Indicator first interviewed Air Force Major John Golden ’09, in the Summer 2015 issue, he was stationed across the pond in England, piloting his beloved HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter as part of the Air Force’s elite Combat Search and Rescue Squad. Some things have changed since then, but at least one remains the same: He is still happy to answer the call to serve.

The last time The Indicator caught up with you, you were in Lakenheath, England. What have you been doing since then?

Right after the article was published, I was deployed to Iraq for five months. I then moved back to the States and have been stationed at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. Recently, I attended USAF Weapon School and graduated in December. I was then deployed to Africa and just got back to Moody this summer. We’re currently in the process of moving to Las Vegas, Nevada, where I will be an instructor at the Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base.

Do you like the travel?

Yeah, I do. It would be easier if everything just stayed in one place, of course, but I’m used to moving so I wouldn’t know what to do if I wasn’t on the move.

It’s just my job. This past year, I haven’t been home for more than 60 days and that goes with doing the mission. That said, I get so much self-fulfillment out of it. And Erika (DeWan Golden ’10, Golden’s wife) knows that and understands it, too. There’s a reason for what I’m doing.

When you’re on missions around the world, are you with the same team or are the teams shuffled around?

For the missions to Iraq and Africa, I was with the same team from Lakenheath and Moody respectively. We always deploy with a team from the station, but those teams change as people move around. It’s still a small community that does these types of missions, though, so you just know a lot of people.

When we spoke to you in 2015, you said that you want to be in the Air Force “until [you] can’t fly anymore.” Does that hold true today?

Oh yeah. It’s not so much the flying for me that makes me want to do what I’m doing; it’s the rescue mission. And that I want to do until they tell me I can’t. ✨ — As told to Rebecca Markley
Through Your Lens

Over the past year, we’ve asked alumni photographers to share some of their favorite work — and the inspiration behind the work — for this special photography feature.
Nev Sachs ’63, Jasper, Day 4 on Maligne Lake, Alberta, Canada
“The inspiration was probably a result of my childhood days seeing Currier & Ives calendar reproductions of Hudson River School paintings. The image was the product of the mountains (Canadian Rockies) that we love, on a lake we’ve enjoyed paddling, and some good luck.”

Joe Giardella ’87, Shadow of A Father
“One of my favorite classes at Stevens was Paul Miller’s art class, which largely focused on abstract expressionism. I saw this large sculpture (Mon Père, Mon Père) in the sunlight and was inspired by how the shadows created powerful ‘Franz Kline’ strokes of black in the foreground. Professor Miller would have nodded his approval.”
John McDonnell ’72, Santa Margherita Ligure Lemon Terrace
“This is a view from a private villa on Via Rapellini in Santa Margherita Ligure, on the Italian Riviera, east of Genoa. It was shot on a warm early May afternoon in 2011. We were lucky enough to have some of the lemons, before most of the flowers had bloomed. (We had them over local fish for lunch.)”

Eduardo Fernandez ’75, WTC, Picture 2516
“Castle Point always had a privileged view of the New York City skyline. The Twin Towers were completed in 1973, two years before my graduation. Their commanding presence from the promenade caught my eye each and every time, gorgeous at night as well. This photo was taken in the summer of 1978.”

Richard Seeley ’66, Just Waking Up
“We sailed for eight days through wind, rain, fog, sunshine, calm seas, heavy seas, in fjords, bays, toward Svalbard, Norway, 800 miles south of the North Pole, in search of the elusive polar bear. Once spotted, we could approach as close as 25 meters. Here, a polar bear mother and yearling cub are just waking up to the evening light, from a long nap.”

Jonathan Gabel ’83, Untitled
“Taken during a photography workshop led by fashion photographer Lindsay Adler, on The High Line in New York City in October 2015, I was learning and trying different lighting techniques. Light, shadows, color and negative space for dramatic and artistic effects were used to generate this creative portrait, a favorite in my gallery.”
Alumnus Breaks Records

Vivek Patel M. Eng. ‘16
in New York City in July.

PHOTO: M. COOPER
HEN A SUICIDE BOMBER KILLED MORE THAN 40 INDIAN SOLDIERS IN PULWAMA, IN THE INDIAN STATE OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR THIS PAST FEBRUARY, STEVENS ALUMNUS VIVEK PATEL M.ENG. '16 WAS MOVED TO HELP AFFECTED FAMILIES ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD.

From India himself, Patel sought to make a donation, only to discover that there was no convenient way to make such a transaction. “There was an online fundraising initiative — Bharat Ke Veer — created by India’s Ministry of Home Affairs, but the website made it difficult for users to make a donation by requiring all kinds of information such as an Indian passport number and a PAN card, which is like a Social Security number in India.”

Making the task even more cumbersome, that government site was down frequently due to heavy traffic, according to Patel. “I thought to myself, if I’m having this kind of trouble, how many other people are having the same experience and just giving up?”

Rather than giving up, Patel turned his frustration into action by setting up a fundraiser of his own on Facebook so that anyone with a Facebook account could make a donation. “It doesn’t ask for your Indian passport or Social Security number, or anything like that. Anyone with a Facebook account can donate using just a credit or debit card number. And with the global reach of Facebook, you can reach out to so many people in just a short amount of time.”

Patel’s fundraiser caught the attention of high-level managers at Facebook, which led to some key changes on the fundraising page. A computer engineer by training, Patel knew the fundraiser could be improved with the addition of some user-friendly features that would allow for more functionality. “When they reached out to me, I let them know that I was only getting messages from India and that users from other countries weren’t able to donate. So Facebook added some features to my fundraiser page that enabled me to make a few changes in order to accommodate more than 100 currencies.”

The 11-day fundraiser collected $1.1 million from Facebook users in the U.S., Canada, Europe, India, New Zealand and Australia. “The Facebook team told me that it was the highest-grossing personal fundraiser in the history of Facebook,” said Patel.

Monies collected from the fundraiser were turned over to the American Indian Foundation, with guidance from the Indian Consulate in New York, so that it could be distributed through Bharat ke Veer to individuals and families of the affected soldiers. That’s not all.

Patel’s fundraiser inspired India’s Ministry of Home Affairs to make the government site more user-friendly by adding a U.S. credit/debit card and foreign currency options, Patel said. Patel’s deep dive into online fundraising came during a time of great change in his life. He had just moved to Richmond after accepting an offer to become a senior business analyst for the State of Virginia.

In addition to adjusting to a new job and home, he was also preparing for his wedding. He and his wife were married in Columbia, South Carolina, in April. “Creating and managing the fundraiser required a lot of time and commitment. I had to provide frequent updates to the community of donors, as well as connect with officials from India and Facebook to make sure that I was going in the right direction.”

And no matter how busy or hectic life gets — Patel recently relocated again to take a new position as a senior business analyst with Industrial and Commercial Bank of China in New York City — he remains inspired. He recently raised $15,000 for flood victims in Assam, India, and is working through the United Nations to build an English-medium school in Tanzania to accommodate nearly 250 children. “Creating this fundraiser and seeing the response to it taught me that with a little bit of hard work and determination, I can engage people who have a shared purpose and willingness to get involved,” he said.

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“Creating this fundraiser and seeing the response to it taught me that with a little bit of hard work and determination, I can engage people who have a shared purpose and willingness to get involved,” he said.

“I also learned that I can balance my personal and professional life with whatever social cause or community work that is meaningful to me. And I gained confidence in my leadership skills, which I doubted before.”

Looking back, Patel says his development as a leader was given a tremendous boost while he was at Stevens, where he pursued a master’s in computer engineering. When he was a newly arrived graduate student from India, he said the international diversity of faculty and graduate students helped him get over whatever shyness he may have initially felt.

“Students at Stevens come from all over the world and as a result there is a cultural exchange that goes on all the time. When I was there I was part of the Indian Graduate Association. And during Diwali, students of all backgrounds would also participate in our festival,” he recalled as an example.

“And as we engaged with one another, we would learn about each other’s customs and traditions, and connect with one another as human beings. The willingness to be open to different points of view and appreciate our differences while finding a common purpose is an essential part of leadership.”

— Young Soo Yang
Stevens’ annual alumni gathering — the 99th Alumni Weekend — welcomed reunion celebrants and all alumni, families and friends this past spring to a campus undergoing an extraordinary transformation. As early work continued on a future student housing and university center on Castle Point, and the new Gateway Academic Center approached completion, those gathered glimpsed the future while honoring the past, longtime friendships and memories of their time at Castle Point. Stevens honored Bruce Boylan ’63 with the prestigious Stevens Alumni Award for his enduring commitment to his alma mater, while Cristina V. Martinez ’94 M.S. ’96, Daniella Kranjac ’99, Brian Lalli ’04, Keith Cassidy ’09 M.Eng. ’09 and Emily Brandsdorfer ’14 were celebrated with the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award. Stay tuned for details on the 100th Alumni Weekend in 2020.

Clockwise from left: A scene from “Party with a View;” Suzanne D’Addio ’07 and team top a tower at the Beer Tasting; the golden anniversary Class of 1969.

Opposite page, clockwise from top: The Class of ’79 give a shout out at their 40th reunion; dazzling views from the plaza outside the Babbio Center attract generations of alumni; Cristina V. Martinez ’94 M.S. ’96, seen with husband Alexis and their children, received the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award; Class of ’59ers, from left, Leo Collins, Klaus Stanglmayr and Gene Anguil, mark their 60th reunion; a moment from the School of Business’ 15th anniversary celebration.

PHOTOS: JEFF VOCK

Bruce Boylan ’63, center, receives the Stevens Alumni Award, with congratulations from President Nariman Farvardin and Stevens Alumni Association President Vicky Velasco ’04.
A Cabinet Conversation

THREE CAMPUS LEADERS DISCUSS THE POWER OF STEVENS CAMPAIGN

On a regular basis, Stevens President Nariman Farvardin meets with a trusted cabinet of campus leaders who guide the university on academics, student life, facilities and more. Here are three cabinet members discussing the campaign’s successes and ongoing priorities of student success, faculty excellence and a vibrant campus.

CHRISTOPHE PIERRE
PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

On Adding Faculty: “Faculty are the core of the institution. We’re growing the faculty quickly, recruiting about 30 a year. It’s a mix of junior, younger talent and mid-career and senior talent, but the majority are younger and looking to build their careers with us.”

On Recruiting: “The academic world is competitive, and anything that gives us an edge in recruiting top faculty and research graduate students is important. Philanthropic support, whether for endowed professorship chairs and junior professorships or for Ph.D. fellowships, is absolutely critical to helping us attract and retain talent. Last year, two of our faculty received offers from other institutions, but we were able to retain them by awarding them special professorships.”

On Fellowships: “We’re investing more in the Provost Doctoral Recruitment Fellowships program that was created two years ago. In order to do the best research, faculty need the best graduate students. Doctoral students are the engines of the research enterprise — they work in the labs, write journal and conference papers and help faculty write proposals. Fellowships are fundamental in recruiting and supporting the best Ph.D. students.”

On Undergraduate Student Summer Research: “We provide summer research opportunities for a number of students, but we would like to increase our offerings. Our undergraduates have told us that they are eager to participate in meaningful research side-by-side with faculty. Expanded research programs could be directly funded or supported by an endowment, and because the cost per student is relatively modest, I think you would get a lot of bang for the buck and you can benefit a lot of students.”

On Graduate Education: “Working professionals need specific expertise for their jobs, which they can only get through a graduate degree. Our goal is for half of our undergraduates to earn professional graduate degrees at Stevens. And, with additional graduate fellowships, we would also attract more Stevens undergrads to pursue a Ph.D. and help grow our research enterprise.”

PHOTO: JEFF VOCK

1 Christophe Pierre, Stevens provost and vice president for academic affairs, speaks with members of the Castle Point Rocketry senior design team, from left, Ben Iofel ’19, William Skwirut ’19 and Monica Traupmann ’19.
2 Marybeth Murphy, far right, vice president for enrollment management and student affairs, with Stevens colleagues, from left, Vicky Ocasio, associate director of financial aid-student services and recruitment; former colleague Michelle Patron; and Susan Gross, assistant vice president for financial aid and undergraduate admissions.
3 Bob Maffia, far right, vice president for facilities and campus operations, is pictured with, from left, John Dalton ’60; Joe Del Guercio, president and CEO of the A. James and Alice B. Clark Foundation; and Tom Daly ’18, at the launch event for the A. James Clark Scholars Program at Stevens in 2017.
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MARYBETH MURPHY
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

On Scholarships: “Without scholarship support, most of our students would not be able to attend Stevens. The more funding we have to support students, the more diverse our student body can be. When students graduate with less debt, they have the freedom to pursue their passion. There is nothing like seeing somebody succeed because of the generosity of a donor.”

On Pre-College: “Students get a sense of what it’s like to be in college and explore different academic concentrations. This summer, we hit a record of 700 students, which is a huge amount of growth over time.”

On ACES (Accessing Careers in Engineering and Science): “ACES has two parts, pre-college and undergraduate scholarships. We’re trying to level the playing field so students from underserved communities can take advantage of the same benefits that others can at Stevens. In our first year, the success of ACES was remarkable. We increased the numbers of underserved students dramatically.”

On Athletics: “We’re focused on taking care of our athletes’ physical and mental health. Our most pressing need at the moment is to expand our sports medicine facilities. That’s an area where alumni and donors can really make a difference, and it will impact every single student-athlete.”

BOB MAFFIA
VICE PRESIDENT FOR FACILITIES AND CAMPUS OPERATIONS

On the new Gateway Academic Center: “A game changer. It’s almost 90,000 square feet, with 45 faculty offices, 13 labs and 11 classrooms, and that opens up so many possibilities for scheduling classes and attracting faculty and researchers with new labs.”

On the future Student Housing and University Center: “When more students are living on campus, there’s more of a community feeling. We’re trying to attract the best and brightest, and when we do campus tours, students want to see the latest amenities and their dining options. It’s going to be wonderful showing them a beautiful center and suites with an incredible view of Manhattan.”

On Campus Renovations: “We’ve performed finish upgrades and fitted every classroom with new technology, and every room is now one people can be proud to teach and learn in. Completing the Babbio Garage was huge. It added 266 parking spaces, and the plaza it created overlooking the Hudson River is a terrific event space.”

On Unfinished Business: “There’s still a lot of mechanical and electrical equipment and other infrastructure in machine rooms that need our attention. With new equipment, we can more reliably service the campus while allowing us to monitor and control it remotely. What we’ve done on campus the last few years has been remarkable, but there’s still work to be done.”

— Alan Skontra
COMEBACK KID

HOOPS STAR BEATS INJURY TO FACE NEW SEASON

Senior Spencer Cook is a threat both on the court and in the classroom. A gifted scorer, the Washington Township, New Jersey, native totaled 737 points over his first two seasons at Castle Point, and his 16 points per game scoring average over his freshman and sophomore years ranks sixth all-time in men’s basketball program history. He also picked up multiple honors for his play on the court over his first two seasons, including the Empire 8 Conference’s Rookie of the Year award in 2017.

While Cook was busy piling up the points on the court, he was also scoring in the classroom, earning Honors Court recognition from the National Association of Basketball Coaches one year after becoming only the third member of the men’s basketball program to earn Google Cloud Academic All-District accolades as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America. Cook, who has a 3.82 GPA, has secured internships after each of his three years at Castle Point; this past summer, he worked with Morgan Stanley in its Institutional Equity Sales and Trading Division.

Indeed, this finance major’s junior year was poised to be a breakout one last winter, but Cook’s season came to an abrupt end last November when he suffered an injury in the opening game of the William Marshall Tip-Off Tournament in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

This summer, The Stevens Indicator caught up with Cook as he was eyeing a comeback for the upcoming season.

SI: How’s the recovery process going and what are your expectations for both yourself and the program this season?

SC: I had surgery to repair a torn ACL about seven-and-a-half months ago. The recovery was tough at first, but I kept attacking it every day with a positive attitude and right now, I feel pretty good. I am hoping to be cleared within the next month by my surgeon. The expectations are high for the team going into this season. There are a lot of returning players who gained valuable experience last year. I know it might take a minute for myself to get back into the groove of things, but I’m confident with the work I’ve put in that I’ll pick up right where I left off last season. We have a great group of guys on the team this year and know the sky is the limit for us.

SI: How have you managed to balance the rigorous academic course load at Stevens while having a successful athletic career?

SC: I think just being disciplined with time management is needed to be successful in athletics and academics. The coaching staff is very understanding if you need to be late to a practice because of a test or project, so it just comes down to finding down time to study and get your work done off the court.

SI: You have a chance to finish your career among the top 10 scorers in Stevens men’s basketball history. What would closing your career as an all-time great mean to you, for a program that’s been at Stevens since 1916?

SC: Finishing as an all-time great would be something to be very proud of, although winning a conference championship and making a run in the NCAA tournament with my team is the main goal. If the other statistics come along with that, I will certainly be happy, but winning is the main focus going into the coming season. — Charles O’Brien

For information on the Ducks’ 2019-2020 sports seasons, visit stevensducks.com
Time Well-Spent

“Along with everyone else, my time — both career and personal — is incredibly valuable. I am careful to parcel my time out in ways that are both meaningful and fulfilling.” Dawn’s strategic use of her time for Stevens has led to tremendous impact. This past year, Dawn helped her classmates achieve 23% annual giving participation and raise nearly $70,000 in celebration of the Class of 1989’s 30th reunion. The passionate giving of time creates real results, including gifts to the university that directly impact the volunteer leaders of tomorrow: our current students.

Talents Shared

Dawn speaks with pride that, “through ups and downs, Stevens grads all manage to come out on the other side with an uncanny ability to identify, diagnose and solve problems regardless of academic disciplines. This is what ties us together and sets Stevens graduates apart. Staying connected with others who both understand and practice these skills fulfills me in a way that is unlike most of my other relationships. It’s an instantaneous connection!”

Treasure Given with Purpose

“We make a living by what we get. We make a worthy life by what we give. Giving ‘treasure’ is a natural extension of the joy I have experienced while taking part in all that is Stevens over the last 30 years.” As a member of multiple recognition societies, Dawn and her family provide important annual funding and inspire others to give back so that current and future students can have a transformative education.
Imagine a world in which installing solar panels is as easy as painting them on your roof. That’s a world my students and I are working to create every day."

— STEPHANIE LEE

Stephanie Lee is developing a low-cost, high-efficiency method for harvesting energy through printable solar cells.

The NSF CAREER award recipient and Stevens professor has advanced the performance and stability of organic polymers and perovskites, allowing these compounds to be printed onto lightweight, flexible platforms. Solar cells produced by Lee and her team are viable for commercial manufacturing, and have the potential to meet global energy demand and combat climate change. Research like this continues to propel Stevens forward as we seek solutions to the most challenging problems of our time.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE.
THAT’S THE POWER OF STEVENS.
power.stevens.edu
CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE STEVENS SAILORS AND THE ERA? IF SO, EMAIL EDITOR@ALUMNI.STEVENS.EDU

Photo: Archives & Special Collections, Samuel C. Williams Library, Stevens Institute of Technology
The Class Leadership Committee will assist undergraduate classes in identifying motivated persons to stand for election as class officers, who will facilitate class engagement and involvement with the Association and Stevens. The Committee shall be responsible for selection of the award recipients of the Harold R. Fee 1920 Alumni Achievement Award and Outstanding Teacher Award.

Dear fellow alumni,

As our country marks Veterans Day later this fall, we salute all military veterans and active duty service members — among them, generations of our Stevens alumni, some of whom you will meet in this issue of The Indicator. To them and to their families, we give our deepest respect and gratitude.

And as fall begins, so does the new academic year at Castle Point. It is, indeed, a special time. An energetic sense of renewal sweeps over campus as we welcome the newest class alongside returning students fresh from internships, study abroad, summer jobs and vacations. The sense of purpose that students feel mirrors the pride that Stevens alumni feel across the globe. Stevens continues to rise because of the numerous alumni, as well as parents and friends, who diligently and enthusiastically give back to this university through their networks, philanthropy and volunteerism.

In the role of president of our Alumni Association, I have the privilege of working with volunteers who are partnering with campus leaders to provide our alumni with diverse and meaningful ways to help students and continue our lifelong relationship with our beloved school. This shared leadership and collaboration is pivotal to our ongoing growth. In this spirit, I would like to welcome the new executive director/executive secretary of the SAA, Matthew Gwin. Also serving as the assistant vice president for annual giving and alumni engagement, Matt joined the Division of Development and Alumni Engagement this past May. He brings more than 11 years of experience and leadership in the education and nonprofit sectors, most recently serving as the senior director of engagement initiatives at Villanova University. The SAA Board of Directors is excited to work with Matt to expand and promote alumni connections with one another and with the university.

Throughout this year, I would like to highlight the work of our SAA standing committees. Each is dedicated to alumni volunteer efforts to create and strengthen pride and camaraderie among the university’s more than 46,000 graduates through expanded and diversified engagement with Stevens.

The new Class Leadership Committee aims to connect undergraduate alumni throughout one of the most formative bonds at Stevens: the affinity that alumni have for their class years and the classmates with whom they share lasting memories. Under the leadership of chair Michael Cahill ’15, the committee works to recruit, develop and recognize volunteers from each class to serve as active ambassadors in myriad ways, including:

Generating an affinity for one’s class, especially leading up to and through milestone reunion years;

Inspiring classmates to support Stevens on an annual basis and in the spirit of friendly competition through initiatives such as the annual Class and Greek Challenge;

Encouraging classmates to attend Stevens events on-campus and wherever they are in the world; and

Keeping fellow alumni and the university up-to-date by gathering class log submissions for this very magazine!

As we gear up for Stevens’ 150th Anniversary, as well as our 100th Alumni Weekend, in 2020, we hope you will not only stay informed, but also get involved with your class. To learn more, I invite you to email Michael Cahill at ClassLeadership@alumni.stevens.edu.

Per aspera ad astra,

Victoria Velasco ’04
President, Stevens Alumni Association
SAA.President@alumni.stevens.edu
to Seattle made a whistle stop at Roundup, Montana, to pick up a little cutie named Helen Waters, whose photo I will share. After my precious wife Bettina died in 1998, I tried to find Helen Waters, only to learn that she, too, had passed away. As to the secret of my longevity, it has been no smoking since age 40 and no drinking of scotch before dinner. — R.M. “Andy” Andersen, 20 Valley Drive, Orinda, CA 94563; 925-254-3816; rmandyandersen@comcast.net

July 15, 2019 — The good news is that the following ’46-ers are still “among the living”: John Peeples, John Misteli, Fred Schneider, Joe Schneider, Dick Easterlin, David Jaroff, Onnik Tashjian and your secretary. Suitable flowers and condolences are being sent out to the remaining 23 classmates who appear to have left us. Any news of their “resurrection” will be welcomed and prominently celebrated in these columns.

Regarding that long-missing name in the above list, in July I was delighted to find in my snail mail an update from our affable Armenian alum Onnik, a longtime resident of Richmond, Virginia. His opening line was most apt — “Yes, I’m alive!” To make up for the lengthy period of silence between contact — covering over seven decades, he advises that “this letter will make up for two Stuters, Dietrich Reimann ’45 and myself ’45, which represents possibly another variation to the ’44, ’45, ’46, ’47 confusion to which one of your recent articles referred.

“Dee and I were East Orange High ’43 classmates. During the winter of ’42/’43, our high school guidance counselor advised that the Navy was organizing a college program to create naval officers, but that the requirement was that you must have first completed certain college credits — which, of course, we had not. The counselor’s solution: (1) leave high school — physically — right away; (2) complete at home certain required course work to qualify for graduation in June 1943; (3) immediately take Stevens Tech entry exams; (4) if accepted, start right away with the Stevens Class of 1945.

“By the summer of ’43, we were high school graduates accepted for the V-12 naval officers’ program in the Stevens sophomore year class of 1945. Dee graduated in the summer of ’45, went on to midshipmen’s school, commissioning, and LST service on the West Coast. As for me, I was discharged from V-12 even before really getting started since I failed the Navy’s color perception test. I then signed into the regular Navy and was sent on to boot camp. After boots, I was called before a review board where I was assigned to ‘Guess where?!’ … an officer training program called V-12. I passed the color test this time and found myself back at the Stute (Palmer Hall barracks), having lost just one semester. How lucky can one get?

“For two or three years following discharge from the service, Dee and I — separately — had several jobs. My then-new father-in-law commented ‘This young man can’t hold a job!’ We both finally found our lifetime careers at the Reynolds Metals Company, at first in the same unit in the U.S., but winding up in the Reynolds International unit. (Reynolds was the third-largest aluminum company in the world before being acquired by Alcoa in June 2000. — ARB) Dee passed away some time ago, leaving a good reputation and a host of business friends across the U.S., Europe and South America. I remain at home…almost upright, but active.

“The only other Stute man from Virginia that I spent some time with was the late Dick Pigeon ’45. We had neighboring summer homes and, with our wives, enjoyed sailing on Chesapeake Bay.”

As in the cases of John Misteli, John Peeples, and presumably many others in that group that graduated late in 1945, Onnik was commissioned without experiencing the “joy” of sweating through four months of midshipmen’s school. After limited sea duty based in Guam, he was discharged in 1946.

In our yearbook, The Link, the write-up above Onnik’s photo mentions that he “hopes to get his commission before that certain cadet nurse gets hers.” In our recent telephone follow-up, I learned that he and his bride of 72 years, Dorothy, did in fact “merge,” resulting in three children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grands. Sincerest congratulations, Onnik (and Dorothy, of course)...and thanks for writing! It was also interesting to learn that we will be mutually celebrating Theodore Roosevelt’s birthday (and Navy Day) in October — his 161st, our 94th.

Here’s a filler item for the column — cum postcard reproduction — for those with long memories. The ancestral home of the founding Stevens family, the focal point and highest point of the campus in our time was Castle Stevens...appropriately located on Castle Point. It served at times as a dormitory for Army cadets (during WWII), a cafeteria (during our time), and as office space.
An earlier edition of The Indicator cited the “architectural beauty of the rotunda, circled by a balcony at the second-floor level, and crowned by a stained-glass window atop the dome; it belonged to a bygone age. The unsupported cantilevered staircase with its elegant hand-carved balustrade was one of only two ‘floating staircases’ in America. Social events at the Castle were notable affairs.” Due to its increasingly high maintenance costs and the Stute needing space for a student center and administrative offices, the Stevens Board approved its replacement, and the Castle was demolished in 1959. I doubt whether any of us ever ventured to the second level — either by invitation or stealth; throughout our V-12 years, it was Ma Pratt’s domain, where we risked Ptolemy’s Art of constructing meatballs literally hit the fans — weapons in an impromptu meatball contretemps. A belated “Thank you, Ma!” for putting up with us, Ma! For putting up with us… In the next log you will see another view of the Castle, a pen-and-ink Christmas card rendition in 1944, the artwork of commercial artist Frank A. Taggart, whose artistic talents were shared freely in campus publications.

When you send in your next check to the Stevens Fund please follow Onnik Tashjian’s example; don’t forget to include some words about yourself and your family, your hurts plus your better news. For now, “Th-Th-Th-The, Th-Th-Th-The, Th-Th… That’s all, folks!” — A. Richard (and Julie) Boera, Allenwood, 90 Allen Road-Apt.16, South Burlington, Vermont 05403: 802 495-5815; arbjl@comcast.net

Dick Boera ’46 shared this photo of himself and fellow Navy V-12ers, at their River Street barracks at Stevens during World War II.

Fall 2019 — Best wishes to all of you, Sally and I are alive and well. We’d love to hear from you. We’re both quite active — Sally with many friends, gardening, playing bridge, enjoying grandchildren, etc., and me (Lou) walking miles, writing books (six published, with another 20 or so to go). Please drop us a note. — Lou Shook, 220 Bay Colony Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451; loushook@cox.net; sgshook@att.net

Alumni Weekend reunion, June 5–6, 2020

July 17, 2019 — Walt Carow here in Tennessee in July. Got two articles and three interviews. Made a bunch of calls per the Alumni Office phone list of 45 but, unfortunately, got a lot of “out of service” messages or no number. So, if you have a new number or someone knows your status, please send me an email. R Bogardus, A Busch, L Cooper, P Faunleroy, R Fredericks, W Graf, R Hanington, E Huntman, J Herman, F Kleiner, W Lawrence, G Ort, G Rosenberg, W Quigley, M Smith, C Volkert. Total 16. Also left messages for H Davis, R Ellis, L Hamen, J Rideout, L McLaughlin, R Meyer. Total 6. So 22 out of 45 no good so far. According to the Registrar’s Office, there were 359 in the February and June classes, with 101 still alive and a phone list of 54. I will try to reconcile this in the next issue.

Talked to Wally Cacho who retired 25 years ago and says he is just sitting around doing nothing. He is not that well at 90; his legs are not good. He started out working for a defense contractor on inertial guidance systems for 16 years. Then NASA, until he retired. Worked on the lunar module. He had two daughters and a son who went to Stevens, and has seven grandchildren. Lives in Virginia in a retirement village, Ashby Farms. His wife, also 90, lives there but needs a wheelchair.

Lindsay Hamon, 96, lives in Reading, Pennsylvania. He lost his wife seven years ago. He worked in steam power for Con Ed, American Electric Power and Gilbert Associates. Does stained glass for a hobby. Still drives, has a good memory and no medical problems. Does use a walker. He was in the service for three years before starting at Stevens.

Herman Gehrlich, 92, of the February class lost his wife Anita, remarried but lost her also. Worked in a private company—heating (drying) equipment. Retired 30 years ago. Served on the local school board and a museum board. Got involved with rhododendrons via his wife and was president of the American Rhododendron Society (a worldwide group). He has no new parts and his memory is good. Has diabetes but it is under control. Lives in Huntington, Long Island, New York.

“Frank Seiden MSME ’57 greeting you from Southern California, after many years of silence, to let you know that I am still alive at 90 (as of October 2018). I am of the Class of February ’50. 90 percent of the class was returning veterans from World War II, and I was five months past my 17th birthday, so I was the baby of the class. Sitting next to me was Martin Selling, 27, the oldest in my section. About a month into that first semester, I was out sick for a couple of days and Mr. Lucas, our math teacher, asked, ‘Where’s Junior today?’ That was my name for the next three years. In the senior year, while some of the men started calling me Frank, many had never heard my name before. Because wartime production was abruptly cut off at the end of World War II, engineering jobs were not plentiful and I couldn’t compete with the veterans. I got a clerical job, which I quit after four months. The Korean War started that June, and I got my draft classification before I could enlist in the Navy to get a commission. I got a fellowship at the Stute as a chemistry lab assistant taking Industrial Engineering, but got drafted in November. I spent two years in the transportation corps as an aide to the captain in charge of a locomotive repair shop, which included being in charge of a drafting room where we traced blueprints to make copies for the shop. (Of course that kind of job wouldn’t exist today.) I reached the rank of sergeant. When I left the Army, I worked at
Warren for almost two years, getting good hands-on experience in their R&D lab. However, raises were slow in coming, so I went to Sperry on Long Island which was much closer to home and offered much better pay.

“I found it necessary to change careers from mechanical to control systems engineering to make progress. I wound up working on inertial navigation for the FBM submarine program for 31 years, retiring in December 1991. No matter what I was working at, I always appreciated the broad, interdisciplinary education Stevens gave because there was seldom a job that didn’t involve interfacing with other disciplines.

“After retirement, I chose creative writing as my hobby. After 8 years of workshops, I was given a workshop to lead. We moved to Leisure Village in Camarillo, California, in March 2008. The writing club in existence didn’t include learning, so a few of us organized a workshop which I have been leading for about six years. I have a large file of poems to organize and publish. I hear from David Kohn (June ‘50) every so often. He lives in Israel with his wife, Sarah, and a large family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.”

From Charles A. Macaluso. “Dear Walt, Do you remember when we would get together with our new brides for a social evening at one of our humble apartments in Clifton, New Jersey? I have been hesitant to supply information about myself for the class log out of a general sense of humility. But, I did want to support you in your recent valiant efforts to get some class news. My career started with Worthington Corporation. I was on a rather fast track, designing and developing advanced-technology turbo compressors. By the mid-sixties, the machinery industry’s vigorous post-World War II growth rate had begun to decline. Company politics eventually became a troublesome matter to me, and I decided to leave the company. A very shrewd attorney had rather cleverly wrested control of the board of directors from the Worthington management. Within a relatively few years, the world-famous company had been largely liquidated. I had taken a job as a vice president with a newly listed much smaller company, Ecological Science Corporation. The company positioned itself to benefit from increasing environmental concerns. Working closely with the CEO, I learned much about mergers and acquisitions. The company grew through acquisitions much too rapidly and soon ran into operating problems. As a result, I was put in charge of a number of medium-sized recently acquired companies. These companies were later merged into a subsidiary corporation, for which I was the CEO. I had no in-depth operating experience, but I learned quickly and with some success. In the next four years, I increased the sales four-fold and increased the earnings five-fold. At age 47, I was hired by Goulds Pumps Incorporated as vice president of Operations and member of the board of directors. The company was very highly respected in the chemical and pulp-and-paper process industries. In 1975, Goulds Pumps had annual sales of $100 million. I reorganized the previously centralized company into several operating divisions, corresponding to different markets and products, and implemented comprehensive financial and operating planning. Over a 10-year period, I approved over $200 million of cost-saving capital expenditures. Between high internal growth and a number of acquisitions that I made, the company grew quite rapidly at a return on capital of over twenty percent. I had become the chief operating officer of the company. By 1986, Goulds had annual sales of one billion dollars, and had propelled itself into the Fortune 500. As a result of internal politics, I resigned and retired at age 57. For the next five years, I did some rewarding management consulting work. Along the way, I received my master of science degree from Stevens and an executive MBA degree from Columbia. I was elected a Fellow of the ASME. However, my 33 years of retirement have been the best part of my life. I had an abiding interest in art since my childhood. A few years after retiring, I began to study oil painting under a gifted artist-teacher. I had not previously held a paint brush in my hand. Very soon after starting instruction, I began to produce some truly beautiful large oil paintings of varied subjects.

“I also had a lifelong passion for playing the trumpet and big band music. After playing trumpet in a big swing band for several years, I founded a 17-piece band, FOR DANCERS ONLY. I played trumpet in the band for about 25 years until the present. Recently, I produced a high quality studio recording of the band, from which CDs will be created. About 20 years ago, I began the study of brass wind instrument internal acoustics. Eventually, I mastered the rather complex unfamiliar technology. I wrote a paper that described a mathematically designed trumpet wall shape that exhibited near-perfect intonation. The paper was co-authored by a highly published French physicist. He is affiliated with the prestigious Laboratoire d’ Acoustique, de l’ Universite’ du Maine, in Le Mans, France. The paper was published in the Journal of the Acoustical Society of America in 2009. Since then, I have continued to conduct leading-edge research regarding the design of an acoustically ideal trumpet. I am currently working with Kelland Thomas, dean of the College of Arts and Letters at Stevens, in a collaborative acoustic measurement project. A mathematically-designed research trumpet is to be acoustically compared to a leading professional model trumpet.

The Stevens Alumni Association Board of Directors welcomes aboard the newly elected directors-at-large: Michael Cahill ’15, Paul Caplan ’18, John Dalton ’60, Lauren Mayer ’12 and Kirit Sarvaiya ’97. In addition, we thank Matthew Hunt ’17 for serving as an appointed director, and welcome Cristian Collado ’19 as his term begins!

Congratulations to our newest directors and thank you to all who participated in the election process!

All alumni are invited to join the Association Board meetings to stay up-to-date with Stevens alumni matters. This coming year, these meetings will take place at Stevens on:

- Sept. 9, 2019
- Feb. 12, 2020
- April 20, 2020
- June 6, 2020

In addition, our Association Annual Meeting will take place on June 6, 2020, during Alumni Weekend.
Edward L. Fischer, 95, of Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, died peacefully at home on June 15, 2021. He was born on March 22, 1926, the son of the late John and Anna Fischer. He grew up in New York City and later moved to Pompton Lakes, where he lived most of his life.

Edward was a graduate of the Stevens Institute of Technology, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1948 and a Master of Science degree in 1961. He served in the Army during World War II, and after his military service, he began his professional career as a member of the national staff, National Council, Boy Scouts of America. Did the BSA really need an engineer? I imagine so, since my work included physical arrangements for the national scout jamborees and working with local councils across America in support of their outdoor programs. That involved feasibility studies on acquisition of camp acreage, master planning outdoor facilities and structuring capital campaigns. I also did engineering work for the BSA’s high adventure bases including Philmont and the Florida Sea Base.

Edward had three children, six grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Sadly, our daughter Nancy died in an automobile crash at age 43. Edward had traveled quite a bit since retiring (Europe and Canada) but now, in my nineties, the wind is out of my sails. However, a visit to the World War II Museum in New Orleans is planned. I am anxious to do this since I served in the Army statewide during the waning years of World War II and was a member of the Second Armored Division in Camp Hood (now Fort Hood) as it was being redeployed from Europe. Then on to Stevens for the vets refresher course before being admitted as a freshman in September 1947.

“I left Public Service Electric and Gas Co. in 1970 and spent the remainder of my professional career as a member of the national staff, National Council, Boy Scouts of America. Did the BSA really need an engineer? I imagine so, since my work included physical arrangements for the national scout jamborees and working with local councils across America in support of their outdoor programs. That involved feasibility studies on acquisition of camp acreage, master planning outdoor facilities and structuring capital campaigns. I also did engineering work for the BSA’s high adventure bases including Philmont and the Florida Sea Base.

“Of the approximately 330 members of the combined February and June ’51 classes, statistically there are only about one-third of us remaining. Perhaps the Alumni Office can update us on this, but we all need to keep in touch. I would like nothing more than to be able to attend Alumni Day and see all that has transpired on the campus since our graduation. Charles “Charley” Wetter, 817-348-0509, (cell) 817-944-8383.”

Frank Semcer ‘65 shared this inspiring story about Ed Fischer M.S.’61 and his close friendship with his neighbor Loretta Houlis-Ward and her family. Ed passed away on June 26, 2019, and had a powerful impact on the Houlis-Ward family and his community.

Houlis-Ward recalled their friendship on Facebook, a day after Ed’s passing: “First my friends and family started commenting, which I expected, but then people I had no idea had remembered Ed from seeing him waving to them as he sat in front of his house years ago started commenting as well! And then a friend of mine chose to share my story without telling me, and there were approximately 200 more comments from people — some I knew, some I don’t — who had remembered Ed through the years, by passing his house, seeing him sitting outside in his lawn chair waving at the cars going by, their children also remembering the kind older gentleman saying hello as they crossed the street! As with the comments on my post, most people assumed Ed had passed away five years ago and were happy to know that he had not and that he had been cared for all these years. They all remember seeing his sign ‘ED’S OK!’ and commented on the fact that yes, he is, indeed, OK. I was overwhelmed with the kind words and comments that were written. I wish Ed could have known while he was alive how his smile and wave had made an impact on so many lives, but as I replied in my comments to everyone, I believe he was reading over my shoulder thrilled to know now!”

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Edward L. Fischer, 95, of Pompton Lakes, New
Jersey, formerly of Smoke Rise, Kinnelon, New Jersey, died peacefully on June 26, 2019. Fischer was born in Jersey City and lived in Smoke Rise for 48 years before moving to Pompton Lakes in 2001.

During World War II, he enlisted and served in the Army Signal Corps in the South Pacific.

He received recognition for his contribution toward the success of the first flight of the F-14A with his work at Grumman and later went on to have a successful engineering career with Lockheed Martin.

Edward was an avid tennis player and comedian. He is predeceased by his beloved wife of 54 years, Doris Coleman Fischer. He is survived by his adopted family Mike Ward, Loretta Houlis-Ward, Michael Ward, Amanda Houlis, AnnaMarie Houlis, Victoria Houlis and Teddy Houlis of Pompton Lakes; his dear friend Drew Altorfer; and all the people who remember his smile and wave when driving past his home on Hurburg Turnpike. — The Stevens Indicator, 1 Castle Point, Hoboken, NJ 07030; 201-216-5161; alumni-log@stevens.edu

July 2019 — Friends, I plan to continue to serve as the class secretary, although I find that technology and computer updates have significantly exceeded my capabilities. I plan to continue my information gathering by telephone and letters. I hope that this will prove to be sufficient.

In this log, I am happy to share updates from several others.

An update arrived from Richard Kidder in early June: “Hi, Bob. Just a heads up that we are no longer in Washington State. We moved several months ago from Bellingham to the Phoe-nix, Arizona, area. They had the worst weather and snow back in Washington in over 100 years, and we missed it all. It is such a pleasure to wake up EVERY MORNING to blue skies! It does get warm down here, but with the 10-15 percent humidity, the only time you feel it is when you spend time in the sun. The sun is HOT! We are in the Sonoran Desert, which is beautiful. Driving here was interesting (1,700 miles). Driving across the Mohave Desert was fascinating. You see a mountain range ahead which looks as if it is 25 miles away. Five hours later at 75 miles per hour, it still looks 25 miles away. I can only think about long ago, when people crossed it in the summer with mules and wagons. My wife and I are sorry that we did not move here years ago. The weather is great, the cost of living is less, with a population of 1.6 million, and every business you can think of is here. We are north of the city, where the roads are wide and the traffic is nil. I might also mention that our health is better in this climate. I hope you are doing well. Best regards, Richard Kidder”

Bradley Wylie also checked in. “Just finished reading the spring/summer edition of The Indicator, including your nice article in our class log. Here’s my update. I enlisted in the active Naval Reserve in 1951. At the time, it seemed to offer some worthwhile benefits to me, but it meant monthly meetings in Jersey City and two weeks active duty in Newport, Rhode Island, in the summer. I didn’t realize at the time that I could be called up to active duty at any time or if I did, I must have felt that it was very remote. We lived in Barrington, RI, at that time, on Narragansett Bay about 20 miles from Newport. So, the sea is in my blood. In those days, Newport was a big Navy town with a big naval base and home to one of the destroyer squadrons of the Sixth Fleet. They also built torpedoes there on Goat Island, which now houses a high-class hotel and some luxury condominiums. Turned out it was working fine until January 1952, when they got short-handed for my rate and they said to report for active duty. I was unsuccessful in delaying the date, so I joined the fleet in Newport. Life as a torpedo man on a destroyer for a couple of years before returning to finish the last semester in 1954.

“I went to work for General Electric and worked in Plainville, Connecticut, then in Holyoke, Massachusetts (took the PE exam there), and in 1959 transferred to Somersworth, New Hampshire. One of my fellow engineers convinced me to take our MSME together at the University of New Hampshire. We graduated in 1964. In our class were a couple of naval officers from the naval shipyard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where they were building the new nuclear submarine, the USS Thresher. They almost had me convinced to rejoin with this new technology, but then the Thresher had that accident in 1963 (I lost a couple of civilian friends) just before we graduated, and that ended my desire to rejoin. I continued my career with GE and, after several more moves, I finally retired. And that’s my story. Brad.”

We are sad to report the passing of several classmates: Roger Beutner, Ed Kraft, Frank Kopp and Richard Sewell. Frank, who passed away on June 23, 2019, and lived in Pompton Plains, New Jersey, is survived by his wife Alma; his sons, David and Daniel ’81; and his sister, Audrey Lago; among other family. He had worked as a professional engineering supervisor with Kearfott Guidance and Navigation. Richard, of Benton, Maine, passed away on April 10, 2019. He worked with Raytheon for 39 years in the Boston area. At Stevens, he was a member of Tau Beta Pi and the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. Richard was very musical, as he sang with the Colby College chorus in Maine and in church choirs, and particularly enjoyed singing in Gilbert and Sullivan musicals. He is survived by his wife, Mary; his daughter, Audrey Sewell; his son, Robert; his brother, John; a granddaughter and a great-granddaughter. His sons, Richard, Jr., and David, and his granddaughter Rebecca Dugan predeceased him.

For the next Indicator, we will feature full obituaries for Ed Kraft, who was very active with Stevens, and for Roger Beutner. The entire Class of 1952 extends its deepest sympathy to our departed classmates’ family members and friends. — Robert F. Wolf, 3740 Broadview Road, West Lafayette, IN 47906-8608; (765) 497-3853; bobw3740@gmail.com

Alumni Weekend reunion, June 5-6, 2020

June 16, 2019 — Greetings, classmates from 1955. Wow, 64 years ago! Writing these lines is Richard Muller, invited to the job by long-term ’55 secretary Jim Spady, who well deserves our appreciation for his many faithful years as class secretary.

First, some secretary words. As we “old guard” grow even older, longtime friendships and memories take on special value. Give your thoughts a voice — they may open connections to another reader and, perhaps, renew a friendship. Write to me, I’m at home in Berkeley, California, and can be reached most easily using email to muller@berkeley.edu or, if U.S. mail should be appropriate, write me at: 1519 Oxford Street, Apt. H, Berkeley, California 94709-1542.

The Stevens news has something impressive in each new mailing from Castle Point. I’ve certainly developed an enhanced respect for the Stevens of today. The newly built and the impressive facilities now underway; the increasing faculty doing excellent work; and the captivating young Stevens students have
brought new vitality to the “Old Stone Mill.” I salute our President Farvardin, his faculty and his dedicated administrators for their achievements.

I was pleased to receive from Rich Cimera a message with impressive news about Rich’s long career with Kearfott, where he was the senior director for Guidance and Navigation for 59 years. His work with gyros led to a Kearfott family of these devices (the GYROFLEX GYROS) which, owing to their precision and reliability, have been used in every space shuttle ever launched by this country, as well as every Trident nuclear missile (U.S. main deterrent to enemy attacks), SRAM missiles, advanced cruise missiles, milstar satellites, B1 & B2 bombers, F-16 fighter aircraft, A7 aircraft, P3C navy patrol aircraft, and M1 A1 & M1A2 tanks (used in the Iraq War). Rich’s excellence in these impressive achievements was honored by his Outstanding Patent Award in 1973 from the State of New Jersey and Engineer of the Year Award from Singer-Kearfott in 1982.

Not mentioned above is the specific application of the gyros to the NASA deep-space probes which challenged Rich to build highly reliable gyros having very long lifetimes. At Kearfott, Rich assumed responsibility for gyros to guide the NASA space vehicles: Voyagers 1 and 2. These vehicles were designed and built by Caltech’s JPL and launched in August and September 1977 to carry out deep-space research. Now 42 years later, Rich’s designs in the Voyagers have accumulated 61,000 hours of operation and travelled 18 billion miles. Recently, JPL commissioned Rich to check whether the gyros might survive some additional intense operation and travelled 18 billion miles. Recently, JPL commissioned Rich to check whether the gyros might survive some additional intense heating and cooling. He worked part-time as a consultant up until six months or so prior to Alzheimer’s disease impacting his ability to think and reason.” — Richard S. Muller, 1519 Oxford Street, Apt. H, Berkeley, California 94709-1542; (510) 559-0866; muller@berkeley.edu

James A. Spady, 200 Locust Street, 8D, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-3917; (215) 922-1606; kinneyj@wharton.upenn.edu

July 19, 2019 — Well, you of course are reading this in early fall of the football season, in some cases, as in mine, envious of your grandchildren heading back to college, while I’m sitting on my front porch writing the log watching the summer at the shore fly by with 100-degree heat predicted for the weekend. As usual, class news is sparse at this time of year but we do have a couple of events to report on plus a bit of a tale of woe from the Bonner household that falls into the “word to the wise” department that we’ll include at the end, space permitting.

The events: The big one, of course, was the Stevens Awards Gala held at the Plaza Hotel in Manhattan. And it truly lives up to its promotion as a “Gala” with well over 400 in attendance, all in black-tie formal wear sipping and dining at the world-famous property. (I was a first time attendee and was duly impressed — though a funny personal story later.) It was a special night for the Class of 1958, it being the first time two members of one class received the highest achievement awards; also, three of the other awardees were women clearly in industry leadership positions. Richard Harries and Bob Fiocco were recipients of the Stevens Honor Award and the Stevens Distinguished Alumni Award (Engineering), respectively. The brochure provided for the evening gave lengthy summaries of their career accomplishments, which probably most of us never fully appreciated. They both gave wonderful speeches citing parents, family, spouses, friends and, most of all, the Stevens experience as being instrumental in their successful careers. Both had extended family and friends present. We had four representatives from the Class of ’58 present: Rich Harries and Carol, Bob Fiocco and Sue Ellen, Nick Mestanas and Jasmine, and your scribe Mike Bonner present alone since my wife has had some standing/walking problems lately and begged off. (I have to admit the saving of $500 per ticket also made me breathe easier.)

One observation I made though bears watching: There were a large number of all-female tables among the 400 plus. Apparently many of the female graduates remain in contact, through networking, etc., and are active in Stevens affairs. It is too early for them to be in the “Old Guard,” but I had an idea of giving them about a 5-year break (enter at 45 years) since they started late — it might give the Old Guard a shot in the arm (but they might insist on “young” Old Guard). One other observation: Having lived in the city in the mid-’60s we enjoyed the Plaza’s many venues — the Oak Bar, Trader Vics, high tea, etc., however, it seems to have lost some of its luster, after being bought out by foreign entities (for better or for worse, we understand it was also owned by Trump for a while).
The funny personal incidents — shortly after arriving at the Plaza by shuttle, I heard a snap — it was one of the elastics on my rented tuxedo trousers that broke off. I quickly grabbed for my pants! So I worked one-handed all evening being careful not to shake hands too vigorously, otherwise my jockey shorts would be on stage. Any photos may show my obvious concern. It’s funny, the guy in “the Dollar Store” swore by the fit...

A couple of short items: In late June, I received an email from Bob Fiocco; he and Sue Ellen had just returned from a terrific vacation in Italy: Florence, Cinque Terre and especially, Siena, which he and I had discussed. In some ways, he is glad he missed the “Palio” horse race around the town square — a famous but sometimes bloody event and always mobbed!

A pleasant surprise — Pat and I were participating in the Avon town garage sale, with our table behind our back fence on Sylvania Lane, when I heard my name called out. After some delay, I recognized Milan Sowis and Sandy. They live close by in Allenhurst, and their latest venture is to sample the Saturday morning breakfast brunches in the area, which brought them to Avon. This was one of the first years that they did not spend part of the winter in a rented condo in New York City — something I’ve always been envious of. Milan has some health problems sometimes affecting his speech — but, of course he has Sandy. (No offense intended, Sandy).

I received a short note from Nick informing me that we have two Class of 1958 scholarship recipients this year. They are Gabriella Tantillo (a repeat from last year and a computer engineering junior), and Juan Talon, a computer engineering freshman. I will obtain and include background information and photos of both in my next log.

Finally, a short version of the Bonner tale of woe. It began last winter during the coldest week when I came to admit our seashore bungalow-type house built in 1910 had little or no insulation in spots, especially the kitchen. So I (“we,” I think, but Pat has some memory issues) decided to renovate the kitchen and add a gas fireplace. But the bathroom was close by, so I added that, and why not the utility room and move the washer/dryer upstairs, also modifying the bedroom, but the back porch is falling apart so maybe a new deck. (To this day I swear it was the prescribed steroids I take in connection with my multiple myeloma!). Well the entire operation took 10 weeks with many workers trudging in and out at all hours (talk about an underground economy) with the Bonners eating off a hot plate, limited water, a finicky toilet and current kitchen materials all over the house. After 53 years, it is the closest we came to a divorce! So it is finished, looks beautiful, is functional, etc., and costs these days around six figures, but some of the pain lingers. The moral of the story: At 83 years old, do not proceed with such ambitious ventures, unless you have full written agreement from your spouse, watch those steroids, go away for the period, or best just buy an extra overcoat (not from “the Dollar Store”).

Sorry a lot of this is about the Bonners — so send me some news! — Michael F. Bonner, 329 Sylvania Ave., Avon by the Sea, NJ 07717-1242; mfbonner@optonline.net

June 12, 2019 — After dealing with Friday rush-hour traffic and crossing two rivers, Lynn and I arrived fashionably late at the Samuel C. Williams Library to join with the reception and dinner for the Class of 1959. There were about 20 of our classmates, many with their lovely spouses. Most of the faces were immediately recognizable, although admittedly I did need to take a peek at a few badges to connect the names. Here is the “official” list of the attendees provided by the Alumni Association: Gene and Brenda Anguil, Tony Arturi and Linda Berger, Dennis and Theresa Backus, Arnie and Betty Bahnsen, Lynn Berenbroick, George Bonnici, Byron and Rose Brooks, Leo and Camille Collins, John and Anna DiMeo, Jim and Joan Hansel, Curt and Susan Koster, Fred Paulson, George and Lynn Pezold, Frank and Nancy Scerbo, Klaus and Bessy Stanglmayr, Dolf and Maureen Strom, Doc and Rosemary Weich, Bill and Jane West, John and Esther Wyckoff (by the way I also have their addresses and contact info if you would like them).

It was amazing and wonderful to see and talk to everyone. Just one look and a few words were enough that those individual personality characteristics were right there – sincerity, honesty, humor even, after so many years. It was particularly heartwarming to see Klaus Stanglmayr, my freshman year roommate, who traveled all the way from Vienna, Austria, and was the oldest of those attending. And while we classmates were renewing friendships and swapping war stories, the women were also bonding and sharing their experiences. The reception and dinner were excellent but flew by almost too quickly. Leo Collins presented a substantial check ($2,896,588!) for the Class of 1959 Endowed Scholarship Fund, and President Farvardin welcomed the group and thanked our class for its efforts and dedication to support Stevens.

Saturday arrived too quickly, and we went to the “Flock Party” for lunch in the Canavan Arena (I think it replaced the Mott Fieldhouse). Our class took over three tables and continued to enjoy our renewed fellowship. I spotted a table with the editors and staff of The Stute and was welcomed by a number of very friendly young students. They had bound volumes of the papers including 1958/1959 Stute, so I pointed out some of my editorials, the cartoons by John dePillis ‘58, and the “Joy Spreaders” column by Doc Weich and Eddie Allen.

Walking around the campus you wouldn’t believe how things have changed. There are new buildings and construction going on everywhere. I was a little sad to see that Jacobus Hall is gone, but I’m sure that its replacement will be spectacular.

The day concluded with a “Party with a View” on the plaza of the Babbio Center with its beautiful view overlooking the Hudson. Not wanting to let go, a group of us went to a fine restaurant on Washington Street.

In closing, many of us had a bittersweet feeling that we may not see each other for our 70th Reunion. So let’s stay in touch and keep sending your letters to your class secretary so we know how you are dealing and have news for The Indicator.
John and Sharon married in 1968 and shared almost 51 happy years together. After he retired, they moved several times and also did a lot of RV traveling, even after he was unable to do much driving. Sharon did a lot of the “heavy lifting” and was an excellent support and caregiver for John.

“I am still rattling around in this house in Chenango Bridge (New York, near Binghamton) which is much larger than I need, especially since we added on so that we could continue to live here after Judy had her right leg amputated below the knee in 2011. We moved here in 1971, and although the closest family is Todd in Allendale, New Jersey, I can’t bring myself to downsize and sell. I really like this part of the country, and after 48 years it’s home! So unless and until it becomes unmanageable, I’m here for the duration!

“Hope all is well with both of you and your families. I’m looking forward to our 60th reunion next year, and hope to be there. Bob”

Here’s an exchange with both Bob and John Dalton:

“Bob, Thanks for passing along the sad news. I remember John as a gentle soul with a deep intellect. John.”

“John, You are spot on. He was gentle and quiet, but fun to be with, and always had a smile. It didn’t hurt that he and I were both interested in model railroading and enjoyed numerous Swisher Sweet cigars together! Bob”

Good to hear from you but sad it was bad news about John Gerstle. We are at the age when another obit is not surprising. If you get out of New York State and near Cape Cod, come and visit.

My grandson, Nicholas, just graduated from Union and he will work in Boston. He is staying with us till he finds an apartment in Boston.

I will publish any remembrances you have of John Gerstle. Email them to me. Don — Donald N. Merino; dmerino@stevens.edu

Last, but not least, special thanks go to the Reunion Committee: Leo Collins, Bill West, Tony Arturi and Fred Paulson for making this a wonderful and memorable reunion.

P.S. There is a Stevens website that has some nice photos. If you are computer literate, you may be able to access it by searching “Stevens Alumni Association Flickr” and find the AW19 Class of 1959 Dinner under the “Albums” tab. — George C. Pezold, 120 Main St., Huntington, NY 11743; (631) 271-8817; george.pezold@transportlaw.com

Alumni Weekend reunion, June 5-6, 2020

July 29, 2019 — Some email traffic from Bob Peterson and John Dalton on the passing of John Gerstle. “Don, Sharon Gerstle called Monday to let me know that John passed away on July 1, 2019, at about 1 a.m. He has had Parkinson’s disease for many years, and waged a hard battle with it. Early this year he was diagnosed with Valley Fever. Sharon said this is a lung infection, which is common to the area of Arizona where they live as well as in the San Joaquin Valley in California, but they were not aware of this prior to his diagnosis. She was calling from their home in Nevada (near Carson City, where Sharon has relatives). They had gone there hoping that his situation might improve, but it did not. Although John was a commuter (from Madison, New Jersey) and I lived on campus, we became good friends. When he married during our junior year, I was in his wedding party. We both attended Stevens’ graduate school, and his first job was in San Jose, California, and mine in Richland, Washington, so we were able to see each other out West. We both eventually moved back East and visited from time to time.

July 19, 2019 — Greets, ‘61ers. I’m writing this log in Rochester, New York, on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing: “One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” I’ve been “bach”-ing it here in Rochester since late June. Rita has health issues and stayed in Dallas to supervise the renovation of one of the bathrooms. Unfortunately, my mailbox or email inbox hasn’t been stuffed with fellow alumni news in the past half year, so you will have to bear my musings, so I don’t miss two class logs in a row.

I’m indeed happy that I haven’t received any news in the last year of the passing of a ‘61-er. Fred Dietrich and the ’61 Weekend Planning Committee tried hard to drum up support for attending the 2019 Alumni Weekend. I’m aware that some of the regular attendees had family health issues (me included) or other good reasons not to attend. For those of you who don’t use email, the following is what Art Ketterer wrote concerning same:

“’61 Classmate, For our 58th Reunion, the Class of ’61 was represented by Peter Brady, Fred Dietrich, Leon Hojegian and me. There is quite a bit to see and learn on campus. President Farvardin’s Annual State of Stevens address noted the following: The number of undergraduate applications is increasing, the average SAT scores of incoming freshman is increasing, the retention rate is up, and other indicators are on the rise. There is, however, one notable exception, participation in fundraising. But, we ’61-ers are NOT part of the problem. So THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

“In fact as of May 8, we were tied for best participation with ’63 at 33%. If you haven’t had the opportunity to contribute, please consider doing so now. We can be part of the solution. There’s no need to fund a floor or more on the new student center and residence towers, a ‘coupla bucks’ would do it.

“Physically the campus is undergoing significant improvements. Buildings are undergoing renovations. The Gateway Academic Complex straddling 6th Street, along Hudson, is coming to completion, and will provide classrooms, labs and office space. Work has begun on the three-story university center with 18- and 16-story residential towers above overlooking the New York City skyline. This will be located where Jacobus and Hayden used to be. (Hayden was one year old in ’57.) The campus will be an amazing place to visit. Any thoughts on how to celebrate would be welcome. Please note: Next year is the 150th Anniversary of Stevens and 2021 is our 60th! Art”

I’ve maintained reasonable contact with some of you over the year. Fred and Art, of course, and others because of similar interest or just by chance. In January, Rita inherited a bad cough with congestion from me that turned into extreme weakness and shortness of breath, and it was finally diagnosed as “AFib” (irregular heart rhythm). By chance, my back-up cell phone, which
I use as an alarm clock, showed Frank Abella’s name as a recent contact. I thought Frank had called me recently, so I returned the call. He hadn’t, but further “how are you’s” turned into finding out that Frank considered himself an “Afib” guru through personal experience. He was a fountain of knowledge on the subject and was very helpful and comforting to Rita on drug usage and what to expect. Rita was successfully treated with a cardioversion procedure, and now adds another two more drugs to her list of many others to maintain life.

I’ve also learned that fellow car guy Ed Messikian (a) is 4 to 5 years older than I am, (b) is an original owner of a ’63 Jaguar XKE, and (c) personally removed his engine and had it rebuilt and put it back in his car. That puts my efforts at getting my ’58 MB 220S coupe engine to turn over as small potatoes.

I maintain regular contact with William Krug, who lives with wife Mary in Richland Center, Wisconsin. Their home is a 35-plus-acre farm with house, barn, spring and an extensive garden that Mary has maintained for years. They have two daughters who live in Madison, Wisconsin, and a son who lives in Minneapolis. We share progress on DIY projects, respective health issues, and reminisce on politics, life in New Jersey, etc. Unfortunately, the past year for both of them resulted in health issues. Bill had colon cancer surgery in 2018 with a chemo follow-up and is doing well now. Mary recently had lymphoma surgery with antibody treatments and is also responding very well to the treatments. Wishing them continued good health.

I’m also in contact with fellow Beta, Larry Johnson, who lives in Nicholasville, Kentucky, a suburb of Lexington. He and Pat have also downsized. After waiting a year for his selected builder to open up a tract and start building his chosen model condo, they sold their house and are enjoying a simpler life, not cutting two acres of grass, not maintaining the pool, etc.

Hey, surprise me and fill my email in-box or mailbox. I can always make up stories about you if you don’t. Stay healthy and definitely make plans for our 60th in 2021. Jay. — Jay Wartell, 214-476-7780; letraw@yahoo.com.

‘62
July 19, 2019 — It was our 57th reunion this spring and on Saturday morning of Alumni Weekend, Alex Peck, Ray Kent and I gathered for breakfast with Attila, after which our class officers — president Dennis Blahut, vice president Ray Kent and I as secretary — attended our first-ever class officers’ meeting where we had an opportunity to meet and interact with the Development and Alumni Engagement staff and other administration officials. This was followed by the Stevens Alumni Association Annual Meeting where the SAA staff and volunteers discussed current programming as well as future goals and expectations for the association. President Farvardin then delivered the president’s 8th Annual State of Stevens address, in which he presented impressive statistics confirming the university’s continued progress.

Later, a number of us, including Pat and Frank Derato and Ray Kent, attended the annual barbeque at the Theta Xi fraternity house, where current and older brothers traded nostalgic stories of years past.

Dennis commented on that evening’s activities by adding, “I attended the Stevens Dinner Dance on Saturday night seated with Sondra and Alex Peck along with Sharon and Frank Perrotta. We had a pleasant evening sharing our memories of the campus as it was, the classes we took (lots of laughs about welding and lathe shop) and the professors we had, those we enjoyed and others, less so. We were especially proud to be there to see Bruce Boylan ’63 receive the Stevens Alumni Award for his enduring commitment and devotion to his alma mater and his lasting impact on the Stevens community. Bruce focused his acceptance speech on a tribute to Coach Irvin ’Buzz’ Seymour, who taught the two of us the game of lacrosse. Bruce attributes his activism in support of Stevens directly to the nurturing and guidance he received from Buzz as a student, a relationship that continued after Buzz graduated until Buzz’s passing and beyond to this day.”

Alex Peck shared the amazing story of his acquisition and installation of a Bridgeport milling machine to complement an already extensive and most impressive machine and woodworking shop in his basement. Alex wrote: “The remanufactured milling machine features a J2 head and 48-inch table with variable frequency drive (VFD) and 230-volt, single-phase power input. The motor is a 230-volt, three-phase Baldor Super-E, 3 HP Inverter duty motor with constant torque. The 600-pound mobile base to support the 2,200 pound mill was of my design and welded in my shop. We were able to remove the shop’s ground level, eight-foot sliding door unit in order to allow the riggers to successfully deliver and place the mill on the mobile base. My next addition may be a larger and better lathe with a digital readout (DRO)!”

I also heard from Vince Citarella, who said, “Thanks, Phil, for your message about the reunion and our upcoming 150th anniversary. I couldn’t make the Alumni Day this year, but I do expect to attend next year. Everything is good at this end. We have done a lot of traveling during the past 12 months: Australia and New Zealand last fall and Puerto Rico last winter, a cruise to the Canary Islands in the spring and, more recently, we attended our granddaughter’s college graduation in California, followed by a Disney cruise to Alaska with one of our grandsons. We are back now in Florham Park, New Jersey, until the next adventure! I offer kind regards to all our classmates.”

Now it’s time for others of our classmates to please take a few moments to send an email to me at pbkim25@gmail.com about your activities, projects, hobbies, family trips, etc., that would be of interest to all of us. — Phil Kimball; pbkim25@gmail.com

‘63
July 17, 2019 — You have all heard and read of Joe Polyniak’s passing this spring, but it still feels like a shock. Thank you, Joe, for all the work you and Jules Nagy did to unite the class with your notes and fund requests, and a “thank you” to Dick Magee and Tom Moschello for doing a superb job in recognizing their accomplishments in making the Class of ’63 number one again! (Editor’s Note: Panfilo Benjamin Tirabassi ‘62, far left, marched in the 2019 Commencement ceremonies and gave granddaughter Katherine Tirabassi ’19 her diploma. Cheering them on were Panfilo’s son Ben ’90, his wife Karen Anderson Tirabassi ’90 and their son, Benjamin Paul Tirabassi, who entered Stevens this fall.
A full obituary for Mr. Polyniak will appear in the next issue of *The Indicator*.

My request for info was met with far more than can be fit into this *Indicator* issue, so I apologize to the folks below for doing some editing.

John Tegetoff wrote: “Life is treating my wife and I well. We are retired as many of my classmates after selling my third company (First, a Night Vision developer, second, a Macintosh software developer and third, a computer security company). Stevens and the University of Chicago have prepared me well for my careers. We just moved to Wisconsin to help our family with my 92-year-old mother, and we are facing life’s problems like many of our classmates.”

Rich Fremgen says: “Seems only right that I provide something about what I have doing in the last 56 years after spending most of my career working for power generation companies. As a materials engineer, I worked for GE in Schenectady, New York, for 26 years... an opportunity to work on land base nuclear power components led me to Westinghouse in Pensacola, Florida. I retired when the Pensacola plant was closed but less than a year later was working as a consultant for Siemens doing metallurgical failure analysis and writing technical documents for the repair of gas turbines. (So I actually failed retirement!)”

“My wife (of 49 years), Nancy, and I have lived in Gulf Breeze, Florida, for 22 years where other people come to vacation. Pensacola Beach is just a bike ride away; therefore, our travel to other vacation spots is infrequent... We enjoy visiting our two daughters and grandchildren. Our younger daughter lives in the Denver area with our two grandsons, now 12 years old, who were born 10 days apart. Less than 2 pounds at birth, they are doing reasonably well considering their start in life. Our older daughter, a pediatrician in the Salt Lake City area, has a healthy 1-year-old girl.

“In early June this year, we did our third bike and barge trip, and this one was in southern France. We arrived in Lyon, toured the city for two days, went to the barge on the Rhone River in Avignon, then on through several cities in the Provence region. Enjoyed the local wine, cheese, olives and learned about the history of southern France. Most impressive was visiting the place where Van Gogh spent his last few years. I do prefer the white sandy beaches of Pensacola Beach over the stony beaches of the French Riviera.”

Les Cohen added: “I guess after so many years, I can tell where I have been hiding!... Started my career with GE in Schenectady, New York and, after 15 years, figured out that I wanted to stay in Maine (where we had been for the previous seven years) so I left GE and started to work for a number of small manufacturing industries. Somewhere along the way, I owned a regional industrial safety distribution and consulting business for about 10 years, then went back to small manufacturing organizations. In 2006 when the Maine snow was up to your you know what, my wife spotted an opening in her field (as a professor of education) in Singapore, and we departed for one year figuring we could tolerate anything for one year. While she professorized, I taught business at a number of colleges all over Southeast Asia and had a ball! Seven years later, our son and daughter-in-law told us they were moving to Seattle to start their careers. So we decided it was time to head back to the USA! But for an East Coast type who had gotten used to no homelessness, no gun violence, clean streets and not having to be concerned where you are walking at night (in Singapore), we are still getting acclimated to the culture shock! We are now busy with our latest occupation, STG (otherwise known as spoiling the grandkids).”

“Libby is still teaching courses (online) for the University of Maine system from which she retired many years ago, and I am busy trying to keep up with her! We both do some limited consulting, and quite a few volunteer activities (Seattle is a very active arena for migrant humanitarian efforts) and keep busy. Speaking of consulting and biking, any readers who are interested in biking (electric or otherwise) might want to look at Seattle-cycles.com, especially if they want to do much serious bike traveling. (No, I don’t get any rewards for this nor am I an ‘influencer,’ but I have never before come across such an innovative bicycle, pedal or electric. The designer/owner is a good friend of ours from Singapore and an internationally known Ph.D. professor of mechanical engineering.)”

“We still keep in touch with my SIT roommate, Bill Proskow, who has recently moved to New Hampshire with his new wife. I guess Libby and I consider our mutual hobby as traveling and are somewhere up around 100 countries.”

“To quote one famous comic, I am about to celebrate (?) “the 39th anniversary of my 39th birthday” just like many of you. Keep in touch!”

Janet and Dick Magee celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year with family and good friends. Dick shared this note and a photo that accompanies this log: “Several of the members of our monthly ROMEO club (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and their wives hosted a luncheon at Joe Weber ’64’s country club to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on June 14, 2019. A truly enjoyable time was spent by all, and Janet and I were touched. In attendance were: Helen and Ken DeGraw ’57; Janet and Dick Magee ’63; Nancy and Tom Moschello ’63; Penny and Joe Weber ’64; Holly and Marty Valerio ’68; Mary and Enrique Blanco ’72; and Maryann and George Johnston ’72.”

Finally, a note from Dick and Tom Moschello to thank the class for their generosity.

“The Class of ’63 has won the 2019 Castle Point Cup, the annual challenge to achieve the highest class-giving participation rate among their members, with an astonishing 60% participation rate (18% higher than the second-place finisher). Thanks to all the 86 contributors this year. This accomplishment continues the giving legacy established by Joe and Jules and is the fourth successive year that ’63 has won the trophy. Hopefully, all will again join us next year as we seek to win the 2020 Castle Point Cup.”

Again, thank you to all of you who’ve contributed to the Class of ’63 Scholarship Fund. Nev.

— Neville W. Sachs, nevsacheng@gmail.com

Don’t see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

'64 July 19, 2019 — Dear Class of ’64: Our 55th Reunion was very successful. Fourteen of us had our Class of ’64 dinner at Amanda’s Restaurant in Hoboken to start the weekend. Those in attendance were: Harmon Aronson, Peter Astor, Bob Bison, Art Block, Frank Jagisch, Ken Kempner, Nick Marchitto, Roger Nagel, Rick Nicotera, Bob Salfi, Ken Schauger, Joe Weber, Fred Zierold and myself. With some of our wives in attendance,
we had 22 people total. It was a great showing and, as they say, “a good time was had by all.” I saw Art Baily and heard that John Powers was on campus but they did not attend the dinner. Your Reunion Committee provided the best to commemorate our experience on campus. We, who have not been to Hoboken since the last big reunion, found construction all over the campus, and I toured some newer buildings that I had not been in before. Sitting in the Burchard lecture hall brought back memories of Professor Furst and freshman physics. There are new dorms being built along with new labs and classrooms. Those who remember Washington Street in the ’60s will not recognize the new gentrified city of Hoboken. There are now more places to eat than Town Lunch and the Blue Point.

As part of the reunion, we had hoped to increase our class giving participation to a goal of “55% for the 55th.” The generosity of our classmates’ participation rate was over 36% with a total of $200,000 raised. It was a lofty goal, and we thank all of our classmates who donated to the Class of ’64 Class Gift during this donation period. Kudos to Fred Horowitz, our class fund captain, for spearheading this drive.

Fred also writes: “On April 27, 2019, I attended the annual Stevens Scholarship Luncheon which brought together donors of family and individually named scholarships; supporters of class, Greek and affinity group scholarships; and the student recipients. Scholarships for the Class of 1964 for FY2019 were: Beata Mirtchouk, a freshman majoring in accounting and analytics, from Fair Lawn, New Jersey; Brendan O’Connell, a freshman majoring in computer science, from Vernon, New Jersey; Nicole Dominguez, a freshman majoring in biomedical engineering from East Hanover, New Jersey.

“When I arrived at the Howe Center, there were probably a couple of hundred people talking in small groups, and I wasn’t sure how I was going to meet any of our scholarship students. As luck would have it, however, I walked up to three students to make conversation, and one of them was Nicole Dominguez. I took this as a positive omen.

“So, we sat together for lunch, carried on a broad, engaging conversation, and I came away feeling that our class scholarship’s money was going to a truly outstanding student. Nicole was intelligent, articulate and had a good sense of what she wanted to do. Her interest in biomedical engineering had been enhanced by her introductory ME courses, and she’s starting to look at a career path focused on prosthetic design. Her description of the opportunities in this field gave me a new perspective on the mechanisms and design courses Professor Billick tried to teach us when we were undergraduates.

“The luncheon concluded with some short speeches from students, administration and faculty on the value of these scholarships, and I came away feeling really good about how our class’ scholarship is contributing. I look forward to next year’s luncheon.”

On a sad note, I need to report on the passing of two of our classmates, Don Williams and David Perlmutter. Mrs. Perlmutter wrote to the Alumni Office to apprise us of her loss.

Don’s daughter, Annette Williams Gustin ’85, provided the following not long before her father’s passing: “Donald Williams, my dad, is retired and has moved from Maine to Venice, Florida, to be closer to me. He still owns a metal fabrication shop in Skowhegan, Maine, and his partner Randy Wojcik runs and operates their metal fabrication shop in Union, New Jersey. Don has five grandchildren and one great-grandson, his namesake, DJ.”

On a local note, on Sept. 26, the Old Guard (that’s what we are now) held its fall luncheon.

Our very own Peter Astor, chair of the Guard, invites all to attend. This year, the speaker was scheduled to talk about the healthcare debates in Congress and in your local communities.

Please write and let me know how you are doing. We have many more alums out there and we want to hear from you. — Harley Graime; hgraime@att.net

Alumni Weekend reunion, June 5-8, 2020

July 19, 2019 — Welcome, classmates. It is mid-July in Boston, and it is also rather hot as I write this but it is hot in many places across the USA. Hopefully, it will be cooler as you read this class log.

Please let me remind you that our class will be celebrating our 55th anniversary in early June 2020. As I am sure you know, in 2020 Stevens is also celebrating 150 years since it was founded in 1870. By the time you receive the fall issue of The Indicator you should have received a letter about the ’65 reunion that will take place at Stevens during Alumni Weekend. I hope you responded to the letter, as we would like to emulate the very successful 50th reunion held in 2015.

I would like to have a lot of feedback from classmates about the letter but I feel the priority should be given to honoring three classmates that have passed away, Alan A. Janosy on June 20, 2019, Don Sexton on July 6, 2019, and Tullio Pitara, who I just learn died on March 7, 2018. Information was selected from obituaries, the yearbook and the booklets from the 40th reunion and the 50th reunion.

Alan Albert Janosy was born in Irvington, New Jersey, on July 10, 1943, and he died peacefully this past June after battling idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. As an undergraduate at Stevens, he was a member of Theta Xi fraternity and participated
in handball, soccer and the Rifle Club.

After graduating from Stevens in 1965, he stayed on and obtained a master’s in metallurgy in 1967 before he began his professional career at the Knolls Atomic Power Lab. Alan was metallurgical engineer/manager for General Electric and Lockheed Martin.

In 1969, Alan married Julia Cull and they moved to the Capital District and they later lived in Schenectady, New York, and East Lyme, Connecticut, but they lived mainly in Glenville, New York. Alan and Julia lived together for 32 years before Julia died. They had three daughters, Norah, Lauren and Alaine, who are all accomplished and devoted to the family. There are five grandchildren who are part of their large extended family.

Alan had a dry sense of humor, as shown by the phrase on his gravestone: “Live life to the fullest, it beats being here.”

Alan married Denise Polit in 2002, and they moved to Sarasota Springs, New York, in 2004. Alan retired in 2008 from Lockheed Martin/Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory. Denise consults on research methods and statistics and wrote college textbooks that were translated into five languages and are used by nurses all over the world. This assisted their extensive travels, as Denise was often invited to lecture and teach. More details can be found in the 1965 Link yearbook, 40th anniversary booklet and the Golden Anniversary Log from the 50th Reunion, if you still have them.

Donald F. Sexton was born on Jan. 11, 1943, and he died of a sudden heart attack. He is survived by Janet, his wife. He was a junior at Stevens and she was a nurse when they got married and lived in New York City. They were living in Punta Gorda, Florida, for the last ten years.

Donald was a member of Theta Xi fraternity and was assistant house manager and ball chairman for Theta Xi. He was active with The Stute as headlines editor and the Glee Club as senior manager. While at Theta Xi, he was steward for the kitchen activities. When the fraternity’s house chef, who lived in Newark, was having marital difficulties, Don and two others fixed up a portion of the Theta Xi basement to make living accommodations for the cook. Don could be fun loving but serious and thoughtful when things were difficult.

Don’s career was with Exxon and included setting up large facilities for producing polyethylene film in the U.S., South America and Europe. Jane and Don were able to spend time together during the establishment of the plants at different locations.

Tullio L. Pitaro, 74, of Jersey City, New Jersey, passed away on March 7, 2018. Tullio was born in Santo Stefano, Aprigliano, Cosenza, Italy, and immigrated with his family to Jersey City in 1955. He graduated from Stevens in 1965 then completed 12 credits towards his master’s degree in chemical engineering. At Stevens he was involved in varsity soccer, the American Chemical Society and was on the Dean’s List for three years. He enjoyed all major sports and was an avid Mets, Devils and Giants fan.

He began his career as a process design engineer at Exxon. Later, he worked for Foster Wheeler Energy Corporation in Livingston, New Jersey, before moving to Chemical Construction Corp. in New York City.

During the last part of this working life, he was a consultant with companies such as Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, Lederle Labs and Kuehne Chemical Company.

Tullio was the beloved son of the late Vincent...
I first met Tullio in 2014 when we were both members of the organizing committee of the Class of 1965 anniversary reunion. We both volunteered to contact classmates and encourage them to attend in June 2015. Tullio undertook contacting about 45 classmates. He was very dedicated and kept better records than I did. His work was very helpful in the reunion achieving a very good participation rate. I periodically contacted Tullio but, for the past year, had no success. When I searched for obituaries for Alan Janosy and Don Sexton, I also looked for Tullio Pitaro. I was surprised and saddened when Tullio’s obituary appeared.

We are at an age where I should not have been so surprised. Maybe this can be an encouragement to all surviving classmates to make a special effort to attend the 55th Reunion. June 5-6, 2020. — George Greene, 781-631-1323; gwgreene43@hotmail.com

Jerry tantalized me with a promise of future carburetors, drum brakes and especially computer-free vehicles. I still am interested in shipbuilding, vessel maintenance and repair, and especially investigations of maritime machinery failures, and continue to occasionally visit a few shipyards, to see the current state of shipbuilding.

“I have four grandchildren, all of whom are close by, and I see them as much as I can. Going with them to the town pool is great fun and watching their activities is very satisfying. I am still a political gadfly, getting involved in local, state and national issues. I have volunteered to serve a three-year term as a public member of an ethics committee that hears cases against attorneys who are accused of violating the State of New Jersey Rules of Professional Conduct. It is an interesting experience, very different than the engineering work. If nothing else, it keeps the mind sharp!”

“I keep thinking back to our 50th reunion, and still have a bit of trouble accepting that we are out of Stevens for that long. Over the years, as I have watched our class log slowly migrate from the back of The Indicator toward the beginnings of the class logs section, the realization that we are growing old remained to some degree abstract. The 50th anniversary reunion certainly dispelled that and drove home the fact that we are aging.”

Jerry tantalized me with a promise of future stories with photographs of “being on the sea trial of the Exxon Valdez, attending ship construction and repair on rivers in the interior of China, overseeing the repairs of failed shafting systems (usually the shearing of a dozen or so coupling bolts that are about 4-5” in diameter!?) and, of course, sailing on ships that were wadding across oceans while I was trying to figure out what ailed the ship.”

Bob Kopki writes, “Sue and I are well but experiencing some of the medical maladies associated with advancing age. We’re living on the beach in Boca Raton, Florida. We love it here and will probably remain here until they have to carry us away in a stretcher.

“The past 12 months was a crazy travel period for us. In June 2018, I went to Berlin to see a Rolling Stones concert. The Stones had 70,000 German fans on their feet, cheering for two hours. In September, Sue and I did a 14-day river cruise in Eastern Europe, stopping at numerous beautiful medieval cities. In October, we went to Mexico City for the annual ‘Day of the Dead’ Celebration. In January 2019, my son Rob and I spent 12 days on a 200-foot sailing ship, scuba diving in Indonesia. After the diving, I went on to Bangkok and Angkor Wat, then Hanoi. I was amazed at how nice the Vietnamese were to me. I felt no animosity regarding the Vietnam War. 2020 is shaping up to be another big travel year.”

Our class president John Spaziani writes, “Just back from Gettysburg (where John does Civil War reenactments). Let’s start talking about next year’s anniversary.” Stevens will celebrate its 150th year in 2020. Perhaps we can have a large gathering of our class to celebrate that birthday!

Be well, and perhaps next June at Stevens. — Jeff Seeman; jiseeman@yahoo.com

July 19, 2019 — Hi Guys, It’s been 15 months since our 50th, and I’m still waiting for those cards, letters and, more likely, emails with updates on what you guys have been doing, either for the last 15 months or over the last 20, 30, 40 or 50 years. I know ya’ll don’t want to hear about my family all the time, but I have to write something to fill up my 800 words!

As for the family, all I have to report since the last time is that my two youngest grandchildren are doing well, and will be about 20 months old by the time you read this. The total count to date is ten (four girls and six boys), but there is another on the way! Joshua, the preemie, is doing quite well. Miraculously, as a preemie almost 8 weeks early, he is now a normal 15-month-old. I could not believe the care he was given at the neo-natal care unit. You would never know he was born premature! That is all through the courtesy of wonderful neonatal care and therapy. So now, our daughter Emily is due to deliver another girl in the family in December of this year! I’m going to have to go back to work just to support the birthdays and Christmas presents for these kids!

So it’s on to alumni news. I promised that I would continue to highlight classmates who contributed to the log book for our 50th reunion, as space allowed. Next up is Frank Brice.

Frank was a science major at Stevens and then went on to earn an M.S. in computer science from Rutgers University after a stint with General Electric Company. His professional career included the following: Engineer, General Electric Company, Utica, New York,

Frank retired from IBM on Nov. 30, 2008, at the age of 62, having previously reduced his work schedule to four days per week at age 60, in a program that continued providing full-time pension credit. He wanted more time for himself and his family after a 40-year career, as his son was entering college to begin his own pursuit of computer science. He and his wife continue to live in the mid-Hudson Valley area of New York even after retirement. He says it is a great place to live.

He and his wife have travelled extensively across the U.S., both by car and train, and also to Canada (Montreal, Quebec, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Toronto and Vancouver), as well as the Pacific Northwest. They have also visited London and Ireland.

Sounds like you’ve lived a full life, Frank. I look forward to hearing from you again, soon, I hope.

Well, that’s about it for this log. You all will have recognized most of our classmates.

The year 2020 is the 150th anniversary of the beginning of Stevens in Hoboken, and if you are in the area or would like to return to our campus again this year, stay tuned to the Alumni portal and The Indicator to follow the schedule of events. Stay well, send us your stories and pictures to share, and we promise to continue keeping you informed about our class and Stevens in every Indicator going forward. — Ed Eichhorn, ed.eichhorn@medilinkgroup.com; Gerry Crispin, gcrispin@careerxroads.com

Alumni Weekend reunion, June 5-6, 2020

July 19, 2019 — Summer is here, and the Roma tomato plants are doing well. Most are over 6 feet tall and I’ve picked twice.

Bill Ledsham contacted us with some, yet again, sad news. But before we get to that we would like to discuss Alumni Day 2020. This year, the Class of 1969 reunion was pretty much a success. They had a dinner at a Hoboken restaurant on Friday night with about 60 attendees including spouses. A group went into New York City to the World Trade Center on Thursday. On Saturday evening, there was the Stevens Dinner Dance. Other options include a private cocktail hour at Stevens on Friday evening, with a dinner following, either on or off campus.

I encourage you all to let us know what activities or events you would like to see us have for our 50th reunion next year. Please send your preferences and thoughts to either myself (eagolebiowski@att.net), Jeff Katz (katzhaus@comcast.net), Howie Brecher (hsbrecher@gmail.com), or Tony Barrese (abarrese@stevens.edu). Tony is the interim vice provost for academics at Stevens and his on-site presence will be a tremendous advantage to our efforts. Don’t be shy, let us know!

I also encourage you to send in a current picture of yourself for publication either in this log or on our Class of ’70 site we use to send out information. This will allow others to see what you look like now, which is probably quite different than many years ago.

Now to Bill Ledsham, who can be contacted at silver944@comcast.net. Bill let us know that we have sadly lost another classmate, Warren Suggs.

Warren Paul Wallace Suggs. Warren and his family lived in San Clemente, California, and he passed away on Feb. 19, 2019, in Anaheim, California. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Carol (Bischoff) Suggs, and his son, Paul Lucas Wallace Suggs.

When he spoke, those closest to him knew it was always well thought out and from the heart. He was known, and will forever be remembered for his never-ending smile, kind heart and passion for life, and for his love of poker, music and the game of hockey. He thoroughly enjoyed cooking for friends and family, and will be forever loved and missed by those friends and, most certainly, by his family.

Warren and his family lived in San Clemente, California, and he passed away on Feb. 19, 2019, in Anaheim, California. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Carol (Bischoff) Suggs, and his son, Paul Lucas Wallace Suggs.

We used the obituary provided by Bill to help compose this tribute.

On behalf of the Class of 1970, we offer our sincerest sympathy to Warren’s wife and son, and we will cherish the short time we knew Warren and have fond memories of him, as a member of the Class of 1970.

Stay well and healthy and start to make plans to attend our 50th! — Eugene A.J. Golebiowski; eagolebiowski@att.net
As a workstudy participant, Vic had been member, both students and faculty. President requirement was to get signatures of existing being initiated into Tau Beta Pi. One but they did not have any positions either. interviewer also checked with Western Electric, appropriate departments. For him, that was Bell had a policy of matching candidates with the seemed to further enhance his strengths. Finally, a fantastic interview with AT&T. Every question one was a cause for joy. He remembers having job offers they had received. In our year, having engineers who had been laid off. The Apollo program had just ended, and was called the year of the Great Engineering Depression. The Apollo program had just ended, and there were many engineers who had been laid off and were now looking for jobs. In previous years, upperclassmen used to boast about how many job offers they had received. In our year, having one was a cause for joy. He remembers having a fantastic interview with AT&T. Every question seemed to further enhance his strengths. Finally, at the end, the interviewer told him that they had a policy of matching candidates with the appropriate departments. For him, that was Bell Labs. Unfortunately, Bell Labs wasn’t hiring. The interviewer also checked with Western Electric, but they did not have any positions either.

On a more positive note, Vic remembered being initiated into Tau Beta Pi. One requirement was to get signatures of existing members, both students and faculty. President Jess Davis was one of the faculty members. As a workstudy participant, Vic had been delivering mail to his office for three years. He brought his Blue Book with him on one of his mail runs and asked his secretary, Helen Traina, if he could get Jess’ signature. He expected her to take the book into his office. Instead, she ushered him into Jess’ office and introduced him. Jess then signed his book.

Victor’s story reminded me of my senior year and the wonders of getting #32 in the military draft lottery. Dan Bagnell somehow found an Army Reserve unit in Kilmer (near Rutgers) that had openings for truck drivers, so Rick Erk, Paul Gaffney and myself rushed down and signed up. It did make us lose a future opportunity to visit Vietnam, and we were forced to suffer through four months of Army basic training in Fort Ord, California — near Carmel and Monterey, and about one hour from San Francisco. Rick and I found an agency looking for car transport drivers, so we drove the car home cross-country and made it home around Thanksgiving.

Pat and I attended the annual Stevens Sigma Nu fraternity fundraiser hosted by Diane Young and Phil Crowley at their house in Far Hills, New Jersey, in July. Phil is committed to eliminating New Jersey as his principal residence and is planning to sell the house (some silly thing about New Jersey property taxes). The Palm Beach Gardens golf estate in Florida is to become his more than 50% residence. He will probably get a condo in New Jersey, since he is maintaining his New York law office and Diane is working in Pennsylvania. Eileen and Jim Morris were also there, keeping busy watching grandchildren and helping daughter Chrisy through some challenging health issues. A lot of the time was spent hearing stories of the current status of Stevens. Hayden and Jacobus have been leveled and groundwork is underway on the new Student Housing and University Center (SHUC), with twin dorm towers overlooking the Hudson and a number of meeting rooms and activity areas on the bottom few floors. Just over 1,000 freshmen are expected.

There are a number of off-campus Hoboken residences, with shuttle buses bringing students to campus. The SHUC is planned to open in 2021 and will provide almost 1,000 beds and should allow many more students the convenience of being on campus — with a pretty great view.

As our 50th reunion is now less than two years away (June 4-6, 2021), it would be a great time to let me know what you are up to, and include some anecdotes from your years at Castle Point. — William Stengle; wfs20hlm@aol.com

Victor Skowronski recalls that 1970 was the year of the Great Engineering Depression. The Apollo program had just ended, and there were many engineers who had been laid off and were now looking for jobs. In previous years, upperclassmen used to boast about how many job offers they had received. In our year, having one was a cause for joy. He remembers having a fantastic interview with AT&T. Every question seemed to further enhance his strengths. Finally, at the end, the interviewer told him that they had a policy of matching candidates with the appropriate departments. For him, that was Bell Labs. Unfortunately, Bell Labs wasn’t hiring. The interviewer also checked with Western Electric, but they did not have any positions either.

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metal working companies around New Jersey. Since 2001, I have been operating my own consulting company Maplewood Consulting. I am an expert in ISO 9001, Lean, Six Sigma, Supply Chain and everything related to quality. I teach at NJIT, Union County College, County College of Morris and Middlesex County College. I work for Quality and Productivity Solutions, JVS and NJMEP. I train unemployed students. I train company employees. I have no plans to retire.

“I live in Maplewood with wife, Marilyn. We have two daughters and two granddaughters. I get to Stevens on occasion. Looking forward to the reunion.”

Tom Haher (tomhaher@aol.com) kindly writes: “First, let me convey my thanks for your continued efforts in supporting Stevens and, especially, the Class of ’72. I always look forward to the class log in The Indicator, and I know it takes your hard work and devotion to maintain it.

“I retired in July of 2018 after 40 years in the practice of orthopedic spine surgery. I live in Syracuse, New York, where I maintain a small farm with my wife, Mary Jane. Our two sons live nearby so we are never lonely. I began a not-for-profit corporation named, ‘Unos a la Vez,’ devoted to the treatment of children with orthopedic disabilities in Central America and the Dominican Republic. It is a tremendous amount of fun, and I invite anyone interested in helping those less fortunate to join us. No experience in the health field required, just a willingness to carry supplies and set up the ORs. The organization we work with (ILAC www.ilac.org.do ) is also involved in civil engineering projects such as road and housing development, water resources, etc.

“I still visit Stevens on a regular basis as a member of the External Advisory Board for the Department of Biomedical Engineering. The new engineering curriculum is very popular with the undergrad and grad students. The department focuses on development of biological implants, monitoring systems, motion analysis, mechanical behavior of tissues and bone and much more. Dr. John Fahey ’73 (pediatric cardiologist and professor with the Yale School of Medicine) is also a member. For those who have not visited the campus recently, there are many favorable changes. Hoboken is now an extension of Manhattan, and new building is taking place both on and off campus. Benny Tudino’s ‘King’ Pizza still remains, as does Lou’s 8th Street Saloon.

“I keep in contact with John Corrado, who retired as a process / quality manager metallurgist from Phelps Dodge, now Freeport-McMoRan. He and wife, Lorraine, live in Bayonne, New Jersey. I enjoy reminiscing with him about our times at Stevens. I am sure everyone recalls the full course load and exams on Saturdays.”

We also were pleased to hear from Greg Siegel (gregsiegel@aol.com). “I finished my last job in February. At this time, I’m not sure if or when I might take another job. In March, I helped my daughter move from Orlando, Florida, to Providence, Rhode Island, where she started a new job. That part of the country is so beautiful. We had our annual Corvette event at the Texas Motor Speedway in May. The highlight of the weekend for me was being able to drive my car on the oval track. On June 8, we celebrated my younger grandson Garrison’s first birthday. It’s amazing how fast they grow. Both Garrison and his older brother Renner (3½ years old) are so much fun. I enjoy spending as much time with them as I can. My son, daughter-in-law and two grandsons live in Roswell, Georgia. I’m headed to New Jersey in late July for my niece’s wedding. Following the wedding, I’ll spend a week or so at our beach cottage in Seaside Heights, New Jersey. In between the traveling and other activities, I still find time to play some golf.”

Ed, Tom and Greg, we cannot thank you enough for making the time to write us and share your experiences with our classmates. The rest of you good folks, please also write us. Email us something — even a few sentences or perhaps a photo. Thanks! — Enrique L. Blanco; elbmcb@optonline.net; George W. Johnston; gwjohnstonjr@msn.com

’73 July 2019 — We recently heard from William “Boots” Miller, who reports, “I retired in June of 2016, and it cost me $100 to retire my PE license. My girlfriend from Tech days (Mary) and I are still married. Both of our children are married too, and we have three grandchildren. We live in Dothan, Alabama, the site of my last employer (Southern Nuclear’s Farley Nuclear Plant). Most of my co-workers were graduates of SEC schools and could not understand why I didn’t get excited about college football in the fall. Fun memory from work: A new supervisor was brought into engineering. She thought her job would be teaching the craft of engineering to the next generation. In her words: “The real job was to be den mother to a bunch of teenagers.” And that’s the news from Boots.

If you have news you’d like to pass on to your fellow alumni, please send an email to any of the class officers (fvastano@comcast.net, jmitro@comcast.net, acallendrello@gmail.com, blondina@optonline.net). No matter how brief an update, it is appreciated. And be sure to visit our Class of 1973 Facebook page. It can be found at https://www.facebook.com/groups/StevensClassof1973/.
On Saturday, April 27, Stevens held its annual Scholarship Luncheon. Our own Joe Mitro was asked to be a guest speaker and spoke elegantly about the Class of ‘73 Endowed Scholarship (see picture). The Class of ‘73 Endowed Scholarship Fund was established in November of 2017 by the class officers and the Stevens Office of Development to provide scholarships to students at Stevens based on their financial need and academic achievement. This scholarship fund will provide a lasting legacy for our class so we will be remembered in perpetuity, online and in print, by future generations. Due to an intensive outreach program conducted by our class officers earlier this year and the generosity of our classmates and friends, the fund has amassed more than $575,000 in cash donations, pledges and legacies to date. We have also had a successful matching program, which we initiated in February 2019 and will extend until the end of the 2019 calendar year. Watch for an announcement and details of the extension. We look to be on our trajectory to raise $2 million, which we want to achieve by the 50th anniversary of our graduation in June 2023. To facilitate donations and pledges to this worthy cause Stevens has set up a special website: https://stevens.edu/makeagift/classof1973

Also, we have found that legacies provide a unique opportunity to reach our goal. Alumni don’t need to make massive bequests to Stevens or neglect loved ones. As little as 10% of your estate willed to the scholarship fund can make a difference in the life of a deserving student. More information is available at the Stevens website under “Planned Giving.”

We are asking all our classmates to support the scholarship fund and help make our 50th anniversary at Alumni Day 2023 something really special.

— Anthony Callendrello; acallendrello@comcast.net; Francis L. Vastano; fvastano@comcast.net

July 19, 2019 — Stevens...the place where it happened! Where we first met as elite high school graduates.

Where a classmate became, and remains, your best friend after 49 years. Where the guys you joined in the fraternity remain close friends. Where, at a mixer, you met the young woman who would become your wife.

Where you worked hard to learn about your chosen profession. Where you created great stories of your college years. During our 45th reunion we met and shared memories of the extraordinary times we had together...at the place where it continues to happen. A separate reunion update was sent out a couple of weeks after the reunion. Please contact me if you didn’t get it, and I will forward it. Each class officer attempted to contact you personally and invite you to this once-in-a-lifetime 45th reunion. We appreciate immensely all the return calls, emails, and class scholarship gifts — thank you for connecting with us!

Updates from some class members not able to make it.

Hank Krafft: “I just moved to Bucksport, Maine, which is near Bangor. It’s a sleepy little town with a population of about 5,000 on the Penobscot River near the Atlantic coast. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bucksport, Maine.

“Most importantly, it’s a short hop from my daughter and her five children’s house in Ellsworth, Maine. Hopefully, this will top off my many years of travel and be a welcome place to retire.”

Charlie Pihokken: “After working at the Bayway Petrochemical Complex in Linden, New Jersey, for 44 years, I retired last spring. During that time, I enjoyed working for ExxonChemical and then Infineum, a JV owned by XOM and Shell. Over the past 15 years, I was happy to be able to recruit a number of Stevens grads to come and work there. The picture I have attached shows myself with my grandson Luc at The Point the day after my retirement celebration.

“My wife of over 30 years, Catherine, and I moved to Marblehead, Massachusetts, last year to begin our retirement in the Boston area to be closer to our daughter’s family and, especially, our grandson. We have enjoyed hosting many friends from the New Jersey area and look forward to doing more of that.

“For those who may be wondering, I remain very loyal to New York Yankees pinstripes, having more time for games at the stadium, as well as Fenway last summer.”

Peter Isolede sent regrets due to an out-of-town engagement and reported that he’s still in New Jersey and has been retired for two years. He has two sons: one lives in his town and the other is in Waikiki, Hawaii.

Bill Pepe also sent regrets, as he was traveling. He has been teaching ballroom dancing for years and doing so on a 17-day cruise from Florida to London. He planned to spend additional time in England afterwards. He has been retired for a few years.

Joe Faber reported: “I am living a quiet life with my wife of 29 years (Roberta) in Ocala, Florida (midway between Jacksonville and Tampa). I play golf about three times per week and try not to drink too much beer! I seldom travel, so will not be making it to the 45th reunion (maybe the 50th).”

John Buschmann: “Nice to hear from you. I’m sorry I won’t be able to make it to the reunion this year, but I live in Tennessee and it will be a long trip to Hoboken. Hopefully, I will be able to make it to the 50th reunion.”

Tony Luca is in North Carolina. He is the vice president of Technology for Finite Matters Ltd., which provides software, consulting services and information management systems.

Jerry Zalewski was unable to attend due to family obligations but sends greetings to all. He is principal consultant and owner of Zynergy LLC, working primarily with industrial ventilation systems.

Bob Burke reports that he has retired after working for many years as the principal market development analyst for ISO New England, which coordinates, analyzes and oversees the electricity transmission system for this region. He has enjoyed spending his winters in Florida.

The Class of ’74 celebrated their 45th reunion this spring at Castle Point.
to most from our decade, it puts us well behind a couple notable classes. The Class of 1972 is closing in on $250,000 in their class fund and the Class of 1980 is almost to $150,000. Let’s all get behind a push to raise our class fund to $75,000 by our 45th class anniversary in 2023. Any amounts are worthy. Simply note ‘Class of ’78 Endowed Scholarship Fund’ on your donation, and your gift will be credited to the class account.”

On the personal side, Ron reports: “Of all the natural forces we learned about in physics while at Tech, one powerful force we never discussed was the pull of grandchildren. Ginny and I recently moved from Colorado Springs to Owasso, Oklahoma, to be closer to family. Matt, my oldest, and his wife have two of our granddaughters nearby, and we are five hours closer to my middle son Tim and his wife in Kansas City. They both recently celebrated graduations from ultimate degrees in their fields. Our daughter, Rachel, was married last September and she and her husband Wyatt are planning a move to Oklahoma in the next few years. Ginny and I are looking forward to more time with family, particularly since my employment with Community Bible Study has morphed from full-time to part-time for the foreseeable future. If any of you are traveling this way, be sure to let us know.”

And, finally, I received the following from Jim Weatherall.

“On May 22, 2019, the Société de Chimie Industrielle awarded our International Palladium Medal to Pierre Brondeau, president and CEO of FMC Corporation. The medal was presented by me in my role as president of Société de Chimie Industrielle, and Peter Young, chairman of the Award Committee. We had over 350 attendees at this black-tie event, which was held at The Roosevelt Hotel in New York City. Several Stevens alums attended, including my wife, Maureen MMS ’78, as well as several current Stevens chemical engineering and chemistry undergrad and grad students.

“Earlier this year, our son, James Owen Weatherall Ph.D. ’09 and his wife, Cailin O’Connor, Ph.D., published their latest book, The Misinformation Age: How False Beliefs Spread, through Yale University Press. The book has done well, makes for a very good read, and they have been enjoying doing interviews with the not-fake-news media!

“Our daughter, Katie Weatherall, VMD ’08 is now in the third and final year of a residency for equine sports medicine and surgery at Auburn University’s Large Animal Teaching Hospital. (Go War Eagle!) She’s looking forward to launching her career as an equine surgeon!”

Thanks for the updates, Mike, Ron, and Jim!

— John T. Jarboe; jjarboe1@comcast.net

‘79 July 15, 2019 — Guest log from Al Voza:

Hello, everyone. I have been meaning to write for over a year now. On March 3 of last year, I was married to a wonderful woman, Lynn. We went to Italy for our honeymoon starting with a Rick Steves tour. We arrived in Venice a few days early to have time to adjust to the six-hour time change. We learned how the Vaporetto system of water ferries operated and headed out on our own to see some sites not on the tour.

Then the tour started with three days in Venice. Our tour guide, Martin, arranged for an add-on gondola ride one night. As an added surprise, Martin had an accordion player and singer accompany us on a twilight canal ride. Since we were newlyweds, they serenaded with the love song, “Volare.” Very pretty, riding around on the water at night, with the lights reflecting off the water.

Then we headed to Florence for three days, where we saw many museums. The guides explained the use of color. Many paintings were flat. Over time, the artists started using vanishing points to give a normal perspective to the paintings. Also, the ancient Romans seemed to invent time travel. It was very common for the artist to paint himself into the crowd in the painting of a scene from hundreds of years previous.

On the bus ride to Rome, we stopped at a sixth-generation family-run vineyard on top of...
a hill overlooking the town. We learned how
different wines are used throughout the meal to
accentuate the food being served.

In Rome, we visited the Parthenon and
Colosseum. The columns of the Colosseum were
cast in sections. Iron rods were used as dowels
between the sections so they stayed in place on
top of each other. The columns withstood many
earthquakes. Then, during the Metal Age, people
started chiseling into buildings to remove the
iron bars. In future earthquakes, the sections of
the columns slid off of each other since the iron
bars weren’t there to stop them. This explains
why the Colosseum collapsed.

We had a second tour that took us through
Naples, Pompeii, Sorrento and Capri in just
three days. As we were finishing up in Capri,
our tour guide, Marco, had us catch the early
ferry back, as the weather was worsening with
10-meter waves. There was a school class trip
on board. As the ferry would rise and fall, they
would all yell, “Weeee!” It was like riding a
rollercoaster, but on water. Meanwhile, back in
New Jersey, the worst snowstorm of the season
was occurring.

If you came to Alumni Weekend this year,
you met Lynn. About 20 people from our class
showed up for the 1979 reception on Friday
night. We woke up early on Saturday to see the
Macy’s Balloons field training. I have worked
on the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade float
crew for 40 parades so far. I was able to walk a
balloon around the field once before. This year,
we arrived early enough for the training class,
and Lynn also got to walk a balloon around
the field. There was a big variety of food at
Saturday’s lunch. The Class of ‘79 gathered
around one table to talk. Unfortunately, because
we woke up so early for balloon training, we had
to head back to the hotel to take a nap. Everyone
said they were attending the Saturday night
dinner dance. Somehow, we never found each
other. We did meet a nice couple from the Class
of 1977 and her husband. Lynn and I had a good
time dancing. (We met ballroom dancing, but
that is another story for another day.)

Overall, it was a nice weekend away for the
two of us. Good friends, good food and good
weather. I encourage everyone to come out for
Alumni Weekend in the future. — Doreen Y.
Foster; doreenyyfoster@att.net

Don’t see your class log listed? Send an update to
alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.
government can serve and protect public health and the environment is to protect whistleblowers and hold government officials legally responsible for failing to do so. By denying the anthropogenic causes of Climate Change, especially since the science has been indisputable since the 1980s, is nothing less than a crime against humanity! Hope most of you agree.”

Patiently working through at least two re-writes and updates, Gloria M Ron-Fornes shared these updates:

“On December 14, 2018, our youngest son, Adrian was accepted to Stevens as an early decision (ED) candidate to start his college journey in the fall of 2019, which makes him a member of the Class of 2023 (unless he does co-op, which he is very interested in pursuing). He is planning on studying computer science and is particularly interested in artificial intelligence. Adrian has a broad variety of interests beyond technology. He loves the arts, especially literature and music. Adrian loves to program but he is also a violinist, a singer and has been on stage as an actor and dancer for quite a number of years now, too. Over the last few years, he has also been involved in the Summit (NJ) High School literary magazine and this past year was the editor in chief, having contributed to the magazine as a writer, photographer, digital artist and artist! The arts provide a great balance in his life, and we love to see him tell stories through his music, writing, art and acting. In his college search, he was very selective and only really seriously considered three to four schools! After attending the Stevens informational tour and doing his online research, Stevens quickly moved up to his No. 1 choice, which led him to apply ED. Of course, I was thrilled to have one of my sons feel the same connection to Stevens that I felt oh so many years ago. However, beyond just the joy of having one of my sons at my alma mater, my husband and I really felt this was the right fit for him. I have been following Stevens for all these years and love the evolution that our president has brought to the university. After attending a recent philanthropy celebration dinner and hearing the dean of the College of Arts & Letters speak, I felt Stevens could really fulfill both of Adrian’s passions — computer science and the humanities/arts. Stevens not only provides him the excellent education and challenge he wants in his chosen field of computer science, but he can also pursue his love of the arts as extra curricula or even as part of his academics. The internships and co-op options are also a great fit for him. And, of course, as his mom, it’s great to have him a train stop away from home.

“So, a legacy mom who majored in math/computer science when there were few women in the field is joined at her alma mater by a new generation son pursuing computer science!”

“Brandon, our oldest, is a rising junior at Rutgers studying theoretical physics. He is planning on applying to grad school to pursue his Ph.D. right after his undergrad degree is complete. He has been involved in research with CERN since his freshmen year and is really enjoying his chosen area of study. He eats, sleeps, and does physics all day long! He loves it. This past year, he was recognized by Rutgers with the Mary Winger Wheeler Physics Award and as a Goldwater Scholar!”

“This fall, I’ll have my two boys in college! A great joy for us all and also a pull to the heartstrings, as our nest is empty for a while. I know I’m probably one of the last of our class to...
STILL have kids in college, ha!

"I had another monumental experience last fall. After 54 years, I finally went back to Cuba where I was born. We visited my one remaining cousin in La Habana during the Thanksgiving break. Though we have seen her many times over the last few years, it was quite a different experience to actually land in my homeland and walk the streets with my cousin, visiting the place where I lived and where my mother grew up and where my parents started our family. It was an emotional journey, and I'm so happy we had this opportunity to visit with my sons and husband.

"Retirement has not slowed me down one bit. I've been retired from IBM since 2014! Besides my family and travel, I have been very active in the community and continue to find interesting ways to get involved and contribute. I was very involved in organizations related to school but have turned those over now that both my boys are out of the Summit public school system. Life also has thrown a few health-related curve balls at our family and so I am faced with new challenges as a caregiver that I was not expecting at this point in my life.

"So that's a bit of news from me...more after our summer vacation!" — David L. Ritter
texritter58@gmail.com

'84 July 2019 — Our president Bill Accardi writes in about Alumni Weekend.

"I hope everyone is having a great summer and that no matter where you were on Alumni Weekend, you raised a glass to the 35th anniversary of our graduation. It was a glorious weekend in Hoboken with flawless weather (really!). It was equally great to catch up with those of us that could make it. I think I shared more time with some folks that weekend than we shared while we were students! I thoroughly enjoyed catching up with Adil Bhanji, Rich Myers, Kevin Long and John Yavorski. As always, it was good to see the impressive '84 ladies I’ve kept in touch with over the years (hyphens added for clarity): Joy Marie Lisa-DeBlock, Joanie Dougan-Murphy, Nina Rogacki-Pepe and JoAnn Piersa-Bereton (who has THE coolest job working for MLB, see below). Also, totally enjoyed chatting with a few other '84 folks who are frowning as they read this because I didn’t write their names down:... We are getting old... Add that to catching up with my Alpha Sig brothers and friends from other classes, and I am hoping I can make it back before 2024.

I'm also hoping 2024 is the year as many of us as possible can make it back to celebrate our 40th. We have an '84 class group on Facebook and on LinkedIn (https://www.facebook.com/groups/StevensTechClassof1984/, https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1899/), so please join us and keep yourselves in the loop. Let's see if we can get 50-plus classmates back for our 40th.

"One additional shout-out to Clarelle (Charles) DeGrafffe, who was featured in a super article on the stevens.edu website, Stevens Institute FB page, and in the Spring/ Summer '19 Indicator. A warm, very personal story of perseverance and success. Check it out. It is always great to see how our '84 classmates have progressed in our lives and put our mark on the world.

"Until next time, all the best to each and every one of you and your families. Have a happy and safe summer. Chat soon, be well!"

JoAnn Brereton wrote in saying: "Yogi Berra won the most World Series rings, 10 of them, and he unretired to play for the Mets in 1965. Unfortunately, I will not be able to win your Mets tickets, as I am not eligible to win baseball prizes of any sort given that I am an employee of Major League Baseball. I started working for MLB four years ago, leaving IBM after 31 years. I'm a director of Software Engineering there. My team does stuff like run the MLB Amateur Draft, and we manage the contacts, injured list and all manner of other things spelled out in baseball’s collective bargaining agreement. I’m loving my new job with baseball and plan to work there as long as they’ll have me.

"My husband, Tom, and I have two kids. Mike is 24 and graduated from the University of Rhode Island. He’s an environmental specialist in New York City. Kathleen is 20 and will be graduating from Marist in January 2020 with a degree in fashion merchandising and business. So not quite empty nesting yet, but working on it!"

JoAnn had the correct answer, and was the first to reply and abdicated the jackpot prize of scout seats to all the 2019 World Series games.

Frank Petrucci had the correct answer and was a few hours behind JoAnn. Frank got second place and was treated to Yankees vs. Red Sox scout seat tickets in London (Yankees swept) plus Subway Series (Mets and Yankees split). I hate these subway series splits. I sent in a MLB suggestion to upgrading the subway series from 2-2 format to a 2-2-1-1 format and once a team gets four wins, the series ends.

Nelson Perez wrote in saying,

"Hi Bob and Fellow Classmates, Time for a long overdue update on my existence. Where to begin? I tried my hand at an early retirement at age 39 but realized it was fraught with tremendous risk as my net worth at the time would only last me about 20-30 years depending on how much I spent. So, I went off and started a consulting business and that did fairly well, took full advantage of all the tax shelter benefits. I hung that all up after another 10 years and have not worked a day since. I started focusing all my efforts in learning to invest and now am pretty much set. To get there, I have been living very frugally but now I have a new dilemma. What do I spend my money on? I’m such a minimalist that I can’t even envision what to do with it all. I started to think of whom I might give it to after I leave this life. I first looked at family but that didn’t work out very well. I have pretty much decided to leave it all to charity, I don’t consider it mine anymore. Interesting, huh?

"So, Adil Bhanji was right after all, I was not cut out to be an engineer (at least not long term). I did enjoy it, though. And it, pardon the pun, has paid some nice dividends.

"You know what I learned from Stevens? I discovered I’m a fixer, not just a problem solver. In fact, throughout my career, I was called upon to fix other engineers’ faulty work or to turn around failing projects/programs. At first, I found those requests highly intimidating as most of the faulty work came from engineers with advanced degrees and many more years of experience than I had (and would ever have). My managers would push me to ‘just do it.’ And, what I usually uncovered was poor quality, poor attention to detail, etc. I also discovered I had a knack to see things that others did not. So, as you can imagine, my respect for advanced degrees started to wane.

"I still remember my first task out of college. I had to fix a test plan that got rejected three times by our Air Force customer. The original author had three degrees, including two master’s degrees. I spoke with him briefly, he warned me this was the most difficult customer he’s ever had to deal with. I wasn’t too thrilled about it. But I begrudgingly did it anyway. It was to test some electronic warfare thing-um-a-jig. I had one month and delivered a 2-inch thick document. When I drove out to the base and before I could even get in a word edgewise, the customer ushered me into a soundproof vault, built like Fort Knox. And, as soon as the door closed behind
burned out. I had been working seven days a week, 15 hours a day for seven years. That, plus all the travel, took its toll and I had had enough of engineering! (Actually, I lasted six more years, more challenges, more successes but not really any happier.)

“Anyway, back to reality. I no longer drive a car nor even own a car. My last car was a used first-gen pure electric BMW i3 but some idiot caused an accident that totaled it. The DC area has caused me to lose more cars to accidents than anywhere else I have lived and that was the last straw. So, I just ‘walked away’ from driving altogether. It’s been about nine months now and I’ve pretty much adjusted to it. It comes with great health benefits. I’m now gearing up to get my bicycles back on the road to extend my range and overall mobility, but friends also give me rides every once in while. I’ve become a full-on vegan and have been doing intermittent fasting. It’s a challenge adopting/adapting to either one of those lifestyle choices, but I finally got used to it and don’t even think about it anymore.

“I have an Australian Shepherd who’s 15 years old. Mulberries are now in season, and he can’t get enough of them. That dog would eat himself to death if I let him… Hope all is well with the rest of you. Nelson Perez.”

Another MLB piece of history: The Mets have had the best catchers of all time. Yogi Berra, Gary Carter and Mike Piazza, three Hall of Famers. Together, they have 1,100 home runs, 4,000 RBIs, 40 All-Star games, 15 Silver Sluggers and 3 Gold Gloves. Most of these were earned while playing for New York even though some were for Expos or Dodgers.

MLB trivia question: Which New York Met left-handed pitcher won more games than any other left-handed pitcher in the history of the game? — Robert P. Confrancisco; rconfrancisco@gmail.com.

Joe Cooney checked in and relates that he’s been married for over 27 years to Ann Hayes, an attorney at Canon USA. Joe and Ann have three children: Melissa, a sophomore at Wake Forest, Allison, a high school senior at Sacred Heart Academy, and Christopher, a seventh grader. They reside in Locust Valley, New York, and after a long career as an engineer at Verizon and HP, Joe is currently SVP of Business Development for Unity, a top New York City electrical contractor, recently purchased by ENGIE, a global energy company. Joe stays in touch with several fellow ’86ers: Mike Connolly, Jim Roberts and the elusive John Doddy.

Giuseppe D’Alessandro Update: “After Stevens, I completed my MBA at Columbia business school and embarked on a career in marketing. I had the privilege to work for many great global marketing companies: Philip Morris, Coca-Cola, Pepsi-Cola, L’Oreal, ConAgra. More recently I have concentrated on working for mid-size companies and in launching my own company.

“I got married shortly after business school to my wife Shaunn and had a daughter, Sofia. We lived in New York City until 2007, then moved to downtown Chicago, where we currently live. My wife and I are now separated, but we are still best of friends. Sofia is now 21 and is a senior at Indiana University, Bloomington.

“I am very physically active, I try to complete

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Vitals

Births
To Sona and Ryan Donovan ’06, a son, Rhett Richard, on May 29, 2019.

Marriages
Katherine Jecmenica ’92 to Brian Shaw on Feb. 25, 2019.

Obituaries
F.G. Frazer ’49 8/3/19
R.F. Schneider ’49 7/5/19
R.E. Fairchild ’51 4/17/18
E.L. Fischer ’51 6/26/19
R.E. Beutner ’52 5/3/19
F.A. Kopp, Jr. ’52 6/23/19
E.E. Kraft ’52 3/24/19
R.N. Sewell ’52 4/10/19
C.J. Kovarik ’55 6/6/19
J.A. Gerstle ’60 7/1/19
K.V. Margotta ’62 3/19/19
D.A. Perlmutter ’64 10/17/18
D.J. Williams ’64 3/31/19
A.A. Janosy ’65 6/20/19
T.L. Pitaro ’65 3/7/18
D.F. Sexton ’65 7/11/19
F.J. Wancho ’66 1/27/15
W. Suggs ’74 2/9/19
W. Christensen, Jr. ’76 3/3/19

Graduate School
D.G. Slear, III M.Eng. ’79 4/21/19
M.R. Czajkowski Kudela M.S. ’83 11/30/18
at least one marathon and one triathlon every year. I am also very much into painting and designing and hope to have an art show one of these days. I love food, and when I am not cooking it, I am exploring for great restaurants around the world.

Bob Malupin has been at Verizon for over seven years, having the pleasure of working on 4G LTE and now the next generation 5G NR technology. He is at the Waltham, Massachusetts, location. Being in Massachusetts, he had an opportunity to work at Raytheon on the Patriot Missile Defense System. He is also a volunteer as the chairman of the IEEE Communications Society, Boston Chapter. He has twin boys, Adam and Matthew, age 12, who are in sixth grade. He is presently living in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

Bob Ungar writes: “Given I’ve never checked in before, I suppose I have a lot to write about. Here are the highlights. After graduating with an EE degree, I took a job writing software for Raytheon and have stayed with software ever since. I then moved to GTE Government Systems and worked on a small part of NORAD, culminating in a three-month field assignment in Colorado Springs, Colorado. While there, I was lucky enough to do some work inside the Cheyenne Mountain complex while spending most of my time on Peterson Air Force Base (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheyenne_Mountain_Complex). I then switched from government defense to commercial, with a move to Boston Technology to work on voicemail systems. Boston Tech was a good run, but now married, we decided to relocate back to New Jersey to start a family. I found a great small company called GARI Software, a subsidiary of Investment Dealers Digest. At IDD, I formed a close relationship with three of my co-workers. This spawned a 25-plus-year friendship/partnership. We formed a new company together, which was subsequently purchased and bankrupted by the internet bubble. Out of the ashes, we formed another company called Acquire Media and ran that way for many years until December of 2017, when it was purchased by Newsycyle Solutions. It’s been a very interesting journey with many ups and downs. Post acquisition, I’m now VP of Development for Acquire Media, a subsidiary of Newsycyle Solutions. My wife Jen and I were married in 1990 and have two children. Our daughter is about to turn 24 and is an elementary school teacher while our son is a junior at Rutgers. Best wishes to all!” — Debi Motler; dmtot419@gmail.com

Bernard Boerchers ’87, with his son, Zachary, a Stevens student, and Attila at Castle Point.

A moment from the Class of ’89 reunion this spring.
Daniella Kranjac ’99, second from right, received the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award during Alumni Weekend this spring. Congratulating her, from left, are Valentino Ivezaj ’15, Michael Cahill ’15, Daniella’s husband, Richard Ferraro ’98, and Olivia Schreiber ’18.

Weekend as an alumna. She graduated Stevens with a B.E. in biomedical engineering. She is now working as a process improvement engineer at Stryker in Mahwah, New Jersey. On my end, I have been global aerospace products sales manager for ITW CCE for about two and a half years now. Similar to my previous position there, just a heck of a lot more traveling. All is good with our family."

Subhendu Ghosh: “After graduating and then getting my MBA at McGill University in Montreal, I had stints with AT&T International, Stevens and Qwest Communications before joining Red Hat in 2006. I spent eight years as product manager for RHEL, managing the growth of Linux in the enterprise computing market. Customer interactions took me across the world from Europe, Australia, Japan and India. I left Red Hat and joined Bank of America in 2016 to help them with their cloud transformation efforts.

“I am intermittently in touch with Steve Lowe in New Jersey, Darin Kalashian in Massachusetts and Scot Pritchard in North Carolina. I recently bumped into Andrew Strear ’87 at a conference after he joined a bank in Atlanta. Last summer, my wife Maureen and I took a trip to Norway in the summer, stopped over in Dublin and had dinner with Mike Murphy M.Eng. ’82 Ph.D. ’87 and Mai Tan ’86 M.S. ’95. Remember Mike from all the circuits classes?”

One of the attendees at the reunion was Dan Friedman. He kindly submitted an update as well. “I returned to Stevens and received a master’s in computer science in 1992 and from there it was on to the former Belcore, where I worked in software development. I later worked at Verizon in a variety of IT roles, including support for employees using assistive technology, a webcast platform for leadership meetings and enterprise operations support. Currently, I work for The Paciello Group as a member of the SaaS team, which is led by fellow Class of ’89-er David O’Neill. Each job has been very different but very rewarding professionally!

“I have been married since 1994 to Karen Vuong ’92 and we have two sons, aged 16 and 21. We have lived in Middlesex County, New Jersey, for 26 years. I enjoy outdoor activities such as biking, jogging, and discovering the many places in New Jersey for the family to spend time outdoors!

“In addition to David, I have also met up with Ed Trieste ’90 a few times in recent years. We are fortunate to have platforms like Linkedin, which has allowed me to reconnect with other Stevens alumni.

“Glad I got the chance to attend this year’s reunion, looking forward to the next! And thanks to you, Bill, Subhendu, Scott and Shant for putting it together so nicely; all the rest of us had to do was show up!”

Thank you so much, Dan! It was truly a pleasure to serve our class. Personally, I had a blast reconnecting with so many folks. It was as if time stood still and we were all back at school without the hassle of homework. My only regret is that the evening passed by WAY too quickly, leaving me wanting more time to catch up with everyone. Several classmates observed that as we age, we realize connections such as the ones we have with our fellow alumni are unique and precious. Thank you again to everyone who made it to our 30th reunion or contributed from afar! Hope to see you or connect soon. — Dawn Madak; dawnmadak@me.com

1 Friends reunite during the Class of ’89’s 30th reunion this past spring. 2 The Class of ’89 enjoyed a fine turnout for their reunion; here they gather for their big group shot. 3 Joe Berberian ’87 and other Stevens classmates gathered at Joe’s house in summer 2018, just one of their mini reunions. Read more from Joe in the ‘87 log. 4 Another moment from the Class of ’89 reunion this past spring.
We have some exciting news! The 20-Year Reunion for the Class of 2000 is next June, and we’re shaking things up. Since it’s typical to graduate from Stevens in either four OR five years, we don’t graduate and have reunions with all of our friends that we came in with, and we also don’t see the friends in other classes while we were there, and so we’re doing something about that.

If you were a Stevens undergrad between 1995 and 2000, you are invited to the Class of 2000’s reunion! #TheYearToComeBack

Please help us spread the word — the dates are Friday, June 5 and Saturday, June 6, 2020. The festivities will occur on or around the Stevens campus. Stay tuned for details, as we hope you can all make it!

A Reunion Committee is being formed and intends to plan some nostalgic and fun surprises for us. If you’d like to be involved, please contact us (marybeth.lynch1@gmail.com and/or aimeealonso@optonline.net). The committee will generate ideas, and the Alumni Office is our partner in executing the events. We will be having quarterly video conference calls beginning in the fall as we “start the reunion before the reunion.” #TheYearToComeBack

We would love to hear from each of you so we can all begin to catch up on the last 20 years! Here’s some quick updates for you...

Marybeth Lynch made the leap from employee to entrepreneur in 2016, starting a management consulting firm called Excelerate BioPharma Consulting. The company focuses on the life sciences industry (biotechs, pharmaceuticals, medical devices). They solve the operational and commercial challenges life sciences companies face to get their groundbreaking therapies to market quickly and safely while maximizing patient impact.

Marybeth also moved to Boston in 2016 and is glad the winters haven’t been too bad. What warms her heart is being an aunt, and she has one nephew and five nieces in New York and New Jersey. She gets back to visit them as much as she can, since they grow up so fast. Her whole family has gotten together for a week at the Jersey Shore every summer for decades. Living away from New Jersey now, those family vacations are that much more special to her and just so much fun!

Aimee Fries Alonso has been working as a solution development engineer for Honeywell International for the past nine years. Her work includes infrastructural renewal and energy savings projects for the private and public sectors. Prior to joining Honeywell, Aimee worked as an HVAC designer/validation consultant for ten years. She recently became a licensed Professional Engineer in New Jersey! She is also a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accredited professional and a certified energy manager.

Aimee has been married to another Stevens alum Eddie Alonso ‘97 for 13 years. Even though their time overlapped on campus, Aimee and Eddie did not know each other at Stevens. They met when Eddie was part of the interview team that hired Aimee right out of school. Aimee and Eddie started dating, almost 19 years ago, when they were stationed in Puerto Rico for a work assignment. Aimee and Eddie live in Bridgewater, New Jersey, with their two active children — Abby, 12, and Ethan, 7. The children do everything from competitive cheerleading, tumbling, softball, band, student council, Girl Scouts, drama club, travel soccer, travel baseball and Cub Scouts.

Several life changes in the last year for Christine Kaltsis (now Kiefer) — married, moved and started a new job, all within a month. Phew! Happily married to Dave Kiefer, she has moved to Westfield, New Jersey, with daughters Elena and Vicki, and stepsons Max and Alex. She is also now working for L’Oreal in Clark, New Jersey, where she is responsible for the compatibility approvals of new/modified formulas and...
Friends — among them WCPR alumni—gather at the annual Beer Tasting at Alumni Weekend.

Alumni and students meet at the Stevens Scholarship Luncheon this past spring.


Stevens School of Business alumni, faculty, staff and friends marked the school’s 15th anniversary during Alumni Weekend.

Keith Cassidy ’09 was honored with the Harold R. Fee Alumni Achievement Award. Congratulating him, from left, are President Nariman Farvardin, Michael Cahill ’15 and SAA President Vicky Velasco ’04.

Don’t see your class log listed? Send an update to alumni-log@stevens.edu or call 201-216-5161.

Here’s some great baby news from Ryan Donovan! “Ryan and Sona Donovan announce the birth of their son, Rhett Richard Donovan, on May 29, 2019, at Stanford Hospital in Palo Alto, California. His sister Gia, age 21 months, was very excited for his arrival. The four of us live in Santa Clara, California, and are getting adjusted to all of the demands of two children! When I’m not busy with the kids, I am busy tinkering in the garage and also developing medical technologies. I currently work for a startup that is developing a device-based treatment for hypertension (high blood pressure). Cheers, Ryan.”

June 3, 2019 — The Alumni Office learned of the good news that Suzanne D’Addio was promoted to principal scientist – Discovery Pharmaceutical Sciences, at Merck. Suzanne earned her Ph.D. from Princeton University and is a Stevens Alumni Association director.

包装所有护肤和化妆品。——Marybeth Lynch, marybeth.lynch1@gmail.com; Aimee Alonso, aimeealonso@optonline.net

1. Friends — among them WCPR alumni—gather at the annual Beer Tasting at Alumni Weekend.
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Stevens Metropolitan Club

The Stevens Metropolitan Club held its annual meeting on June 26, 2019, at Cavalino’s restaurant in Guttenberg, New Jersey. Attending were: treasurer Joe Schneider ’46, secretary Don Daume ’67, members Tom Bentey ’63, Tom Moschello ’63, Dick Magee ’63, Joe Weber ’64, Bob Dent ’66, George Zacsek ’66, Marty Valerio ’68, John McDonnell ’72, Anita Lang and newcomer Matt Eisenberg ’69. Nominations Committee Chairman Valerio recommended the existing officers plus John McDonnell as representative to the Stevens Alumni Association to serve again for the 2019-2020 season. A motion was also passed to meet during the summer in July and August. Finally, a motion passed that the SMC donate $1,000 to the Anita Lang scholarship fund at Stevens for the year 2019. — Don Daume ’67

For upcoming meetings, call 201-216-5241.

Stevens alumni clubs have been very active throughout the year and across the country. Some moments from 2019, clockwise from top: the Houston Club welcomed Stevens President Nariman Farvardin in June for his State of Stevens address; the Stevens Alumni Association’s “It’s a Shore Thing” summer gathering in July on Long Beach Island, New Jersey, was hosted by Paula and Ed Eichhorn ’69 and Sandra and Howie Brecher ’70; the Southern California Alumni Club enjoyed an outing to the Mullin Automotive Museum, Oxnard, California, in May; the Central Florida Alumni Club marked its kick-off event at Café Murano in Altamonte Springs, Florida, in April; and it was an evening of bowling and beers in March for the Wisconsin Alumni Club at the Estabrook Beer Garden in Milwaukee.
Ten years ago, I was sitting in my room at Phi Sig sorority, contemplating what I wanted to do with my life. It was the summer before my junior year, and I just couldn’t quite picture myself sitting behind a desk, working a 9 to 5 job. I was a naval engineering major, so that led me to wonder what jobs the Navy had that might suit me. After some research, I settled on the Nuclear Propulsion Officer Candidate Program, applied, and was accepted. I was on my way to becoming a nuclear surface warfare officer.

Once I graduated, I reported to Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, and began my naval career. The morning I got there, I had no way of knowing that in three short months, I would be moving to San Diego and, just a month after that, I would be heading out on my first deployment. The only thing I knew was that I had no idea what was ahead of me.

Between then and now, I have been fortunate enough to have truly seen the world. I have been on three deployments to the Middle East, moved five times, been to 14 different countries and circumnavigated the globe. I have driven ships and operated nuclear reactors. The adventure has its price, though. I have lost touch with far more people than I wanted to and have missed weddings, funerals, birthdays, holidays and reunions, all in the name of country. Fortunately, I come from a Navy family so they all understand how the military life works and are the support system I need. They know that I can go radio silent at any point for days or weeks at a time and that I’ll resurface when I can. It’s a hard thing to explain to someone who’s never experienced it: You’re on call 24/7, you can’t really talk about the things you’re going to do and sometimes even about the things you’ve done. Some things you don’t want to talk about. Time seems to stop when you’re training or on a deployment, only to keep going for the rest of the world. You are abruptly reminded of that when you pull back into port and learn everything you’ve missed in the weeks or months you’ve been gone.

For all the things that make the military life a tough one, there are plenty of things that make it worth it. You appreciate the little things; getting a package from home is better than Christmas on deployment. Every day you work and serve alongside people from every different background imaginable. You form indescribable bonds with them that can only be explained by the fact that you put your life on the line for someone you just met, and they do the same for you. You spend hours standing watch with these people, swapping sea stories and realizing that they are the only people who truly understand what you’re going through. That bond never goes away.

Eight years later, I sit here reflecting on everything that has happened. I am back in Newport and every day I see the young men and women going through the same things I went through. I can’t help but ponder what they’re thinking and remember that they are like I was, and can’t possibly know what’s in store for them. I’m preparing to go back out to sea. So many things have changed since the last time I was here, but one thing hasn’t: I still don’t know what is ahead of me. — Claire Eudy ’11 M.Eng. ’11

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